

“Ripples”

The Official publication of the Southland Fly Fishing Club. The club was founded in 1974

July 2024



www.southlandflyfishingclub.org.nz



*Southland Fly
Fishing Club*

President's Annual Report by Dave

President's Annual Report 2024

Another season of fishing is over. The season was off to a bad start with significant flooding just over a week before opening day. From there on spring was relatively dry but very windy, making fly fishing difficult. Things didn't improve much as we moved into summer with the very windy conditions continuing. Summer also saw a fair bit of rain and variable river levels and this continued into autumn. Not a great season by any measure.

Our annual casting day was held at Queens Park as usual on the Sunday before the season opened and attracted an acceptable number of people, both members and nonmembers.

We held our normal fly-fishing course with our usual tutor Mike Weddell from Mosgiel again this year. Once again, we received generous sponsorship support from Invercargill Hunting & Fishing and Manic Tackle. We thank them for their support and trust that people will support them in return. The course was fully subscribed again this year but two didn't show on the day. Another was called in at the last minute so we had 15 on the course. The Mataura River was low and in good condition for the course. Fish were very hard to find during the course with only a couple being landed. Thanks go to all those who helped out on the course.

Thanks also go to those who helped out with the running of the Club - Chris McDonald continued his duties as Secretary Treasurer, doing a good job as usual, Gerda Johnstone for her duties as Vice President, David Murphy continued as custodian for the Lodge and has ensured it is up to scratch and Chris Cowie who continued as Club Librarian.

The Lodge working bee was just a bit of a cleanup this year. However there were issues with the water with the water line having been ploughed up by the farmer. A temporary supply was sorted but this will need to be fixed before next season. The Lodge was used late summer by our overseas members returning with the borders reopening and there were a some other groups who had not used it before that enjoyed time there.

The number of fish entered in the Club competition was again low this year. There were two members who put in a card every month. There were only three fish over 5lbs this year with the largest being 6¼lb. The fly-tying competition attracted less entries than last year. Three members entered a fly each month. The junior trophy will awarded this year as we had four juniors who took part in Club activities with two being quite active. This is the first time for several years this trophy has been presented. The photo competition was held as usual at the June meeting. A reasonable number of photos were entered this year. Congratulations to those who took out the trophies this year in the annual competitions. Sponsorship of the fish and fly-tying competitions was from Invercargill Hunting and Fishing.

As normal, some of the monthly day trips were cancelled due to weather or river conditions. Those who did go on the Club trips enjoyed themselves and caught fish in all sorts of conditions. This year we had several shift worker/retiree mid-week trips but support could have been better.

All four weekend Lodge trips received little support but all went ahead. The May trip was successful in that two fish bigger than any entered in the Club competition were caught.

We had fly tying days in August and June. There was an acceptable turnout for both. Those who attended the fly tying managed to tie a reasonable number of flies. We had our annual dinner following the August fly tying day with reasonable support.

Finally, I would like to thank our sponsors – Invercargill Hunting & Fishing and Manic Tackle for their continued support.

Cover Photo by Gerda

Sunset at Lake Alexandrina. This is Gerda's winning photo from the Scenic section of the annual photo competition.

Annual Competition Report by Gerda

Annual Competitions 2023-2024

Fly-Tying

Entries in the fly-tying competition were down somewhat this season with 18 flies entered over the 5 months averaging 2 and 3 mostly per month but spiking with 7 in August. There is a clear winner again this season scoring 21 points. Flies entered were all of a high standard and will be greatly appreciated by new members who benefit from them. This is a great winter activity for making new flies for the coming season as well as learning new skills.

Fish Competition

This season we had a total of 32 cards entered, well up on last year which were 16. We had 26 Browns and 6 Rainbows. The brown's size were: 5 under 3lb, 10 under 4lb, 8 under 5lb and 3 over 5lbs. The rainbows ranged from 1 ½ to 4 ½ lbs.

All fish caught came from Mataura, Aparima, Garston, Oreti, Te Wae Wae, Waituna, Worsley, Te Anau Basin, Waiau and the Pomahaka.

The flies used this season to catch these fish were; Royal Wulff, Woolly bugger, H&C Gold, H&C Black, San Juan Worm, Nymphs Black & Gold, Parachute Adams, Hen, Diving Beetle, Green Stonefly, and a Willow Grub.

The winning Rainbow which weighed 4 ½ lb, 21 inches long and was caught in the Te Anau Basin hooked on a Royal Wulff. The winning Brown weighing in at 6 ¼ lb, 24 inches long caught on a Green Stonefly in the Upper Oreti. Compared to last year the condition factor of these fish was slightly up at 56.35

Again, this year two members managed a fish each month. The winners total at 32lb, up from last season, and the runner up managed 22 ¼ lb. The total weight of fish caught this season, well up from last season was 114 ½ lbs.

Photo Competition

The annual photo competition was held at the May meeting. There were three different winners and in the Action section there were three photos from two members that received equal votes. The Scenic, Trophy and General sections all had a clear winner.

Annual General Meeting - July 30th

Southland Fly Fishing Club (Inc)

Notice is hereby given that THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of this Club will be held on Tuesday 30th July 2024 at 7:30pm.

AGENDA

Apologies

Minutes of the 2023 AGM

Matters Arising

Chairman's Report

Annual Accounts

Election of Officers

Signatories to Bank Account

Presentation of Trophies

General Business

C McDonald
Club Secretary

2024 - 2025 Calendar

We will be finalising the Club 2024 - 2025 calendar at the August Executive Meeting on August 6th. If you have anything you would like to add to the calendar or any dates you would like to influence come along to the meeting and make your suggestions.

Annual Photo Competition



The annual photo competition was held at the June meeting. There were a reasonable number of photos entered in the four categories: action, trophy, scenic and general. There were three photos that received equal vote in the action section while the other three sections had clear winners.

Action 1st= by Chris. Dave landing a brown on the Upukerora.

Action 1st= by Dave. Simon hooked into a good brown on the Von River



Action 1st= by Dave. Chris hooked up on the Aparima River

Annual Photo Competition (cont)



Trophy 1st by Dave. Cole with a brown from the Waitangitaona River.

General 1st by Dave. Southern crested grebe on its nest at Lake Alexandrina.



Competitions by Gerda

We had four parachute dads favourite flies entered in the Fly Tying Competition for June. Gerda's and Dave's flies received equal votes. The fly for July is Dave's CDC emerger as shown on page 6 of this ripples.



Gerda's and Dave's parachute dads favourite from the June competition.

Club Dinner - 6:30pm, August 10th

The Club Annual Dinner will be held at the Foundry Restaurant, Waikiwi Tavern, on August 10th starting at 6:30 pm. If you are coming please let Dave know (027 201 6722) by the prior Thursday evening so he can confirm the booking with the restaurant. No gift exchange this year under orders from..... See you there.

Click here for menu <https://www.the-foundry.co.nz/>

August Competition Fly by Dave

CDC Emerger

The fly for August is quite simple but should be effective especially on the Upper Mataura when the fish are rising. When fishing with it, don't put any floatant on it as the CDC feathers will float naturally and you want the abdomen to hang down in the water.

The hook used is quite light so that the fly floats reasonably well. I used 8/0 thread but you could use 6/0 as this would build up the body more quickly.

This fly will be demonstrated at the August executive meeting, not the July meeting as the July meeting is the AGM and prize giving. It will also be demonstrated at the August Fly Tying Day if required.

Materials

Hook	Black Magic F16
Thread	Unithread gray 8/0
Ribbing	Fine gold wire
Wing	CDC feathers



Run the thread down the hook.



Tie in the gold wire.



Carefully line up three cdc feathers so their tops are even and tie in about 2mm from the eye.



Trim the cdc feathers along the hook. Try and get this sloping down to the hook. This will help build up the body.



Build up a tapered abdomen with the tying thread.



Wind the gold wire forward and tie off. Put a couple of wraps of thread in front of the wing so it stands up about 45° and then whip finish.

Fly Tying Day - August 10th

We are holding a fly tying day on August 10th at Fish & Game, 19 Eye Street, Invercargill starting at 9:00am and going until 4:00pm. You don't need to come all day, just pop in when you have time and leave when you are ready.

If you have not tied flies before but would like to have a go this is a good opportunity to learn from scratch. You don't even need to have your own gear and materials as the Club has three sets of gear and quite a few materials. There will be members on hand who can run you through fly tying from the start.

If you have tied a few but would like to learn a bit more there will be some experienced fly tyers there who should be able to help you out.

Coming Events (MM=Monthly Meeting, CM = Committee Meeting)

30 th July	AGM	Election of Officers, MVM, Prize Giving - (Supper)
6 th Aug	CM	Arranging the calendar for the next season
10 th Aug		Fly tying day – Fish and Game 9:00am - Meal at night
10 th Aug		Club Dinner—Foundary Restaurant 6:30pm. Let Dave (0272016722) know if you are coming
18 th Aug		<u>Club Trip (winter)</u> Fish & Game 9:00am
27 th Aug	MM	

Club Contacts

- Address **Southland Fly Fishing Club, PO Box 1689, Invercargill, New Zealand**
- Website www.southlandflyfishingclub.org.nz
- President Dave Harris, 30 Baxter Street Invercargill (027 201 6722) daveharris823@gmail.com
- Secretary Chris McDonald, 334 Racecourse Road, Invercargill (03 217 3733) mcdonald.ccnd@kinect.co.nz
- Vice-President Gerda Johnstone, (022 166 1149) gerda.johnstone10@gmail.com
- Editor Dave Harris daveharris823@gmail.com
Items for publication must be submitted to the editor, prior to the 10th of the month
- Librarian Chris Cowie (027 236 9576)
- Lodge Custodian Dave Murphy, 35 Brown Road, Invercargill dmurphy@southnet.co.nz (03 230 4698) or (0276752324)

Club items for sale

Metal Badges \$15 ea.



Cloth Patches \$12 ea.



Club Meetings

The club meets at 7:30pm on the last Tuesday of each month (except December) at the Fish & Game building, 17 Eye St, West Invercargill, Invercargill 9810. [The February meeting is on the river.](#)

Executive Committee meets on the first Tuesday of the month following the general meeting, except for Dec/Jan, includes fly tying, so come along and bring your gear if you want help with a fly—all members welcome.

Club Resources

The club has an extensive library of Books and Videos, contact the Librarian

A blow up Rubber Boat and a set of five Radio's, which can be borrowed by club members, contact Chris McDonald.

Club Sponsors



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