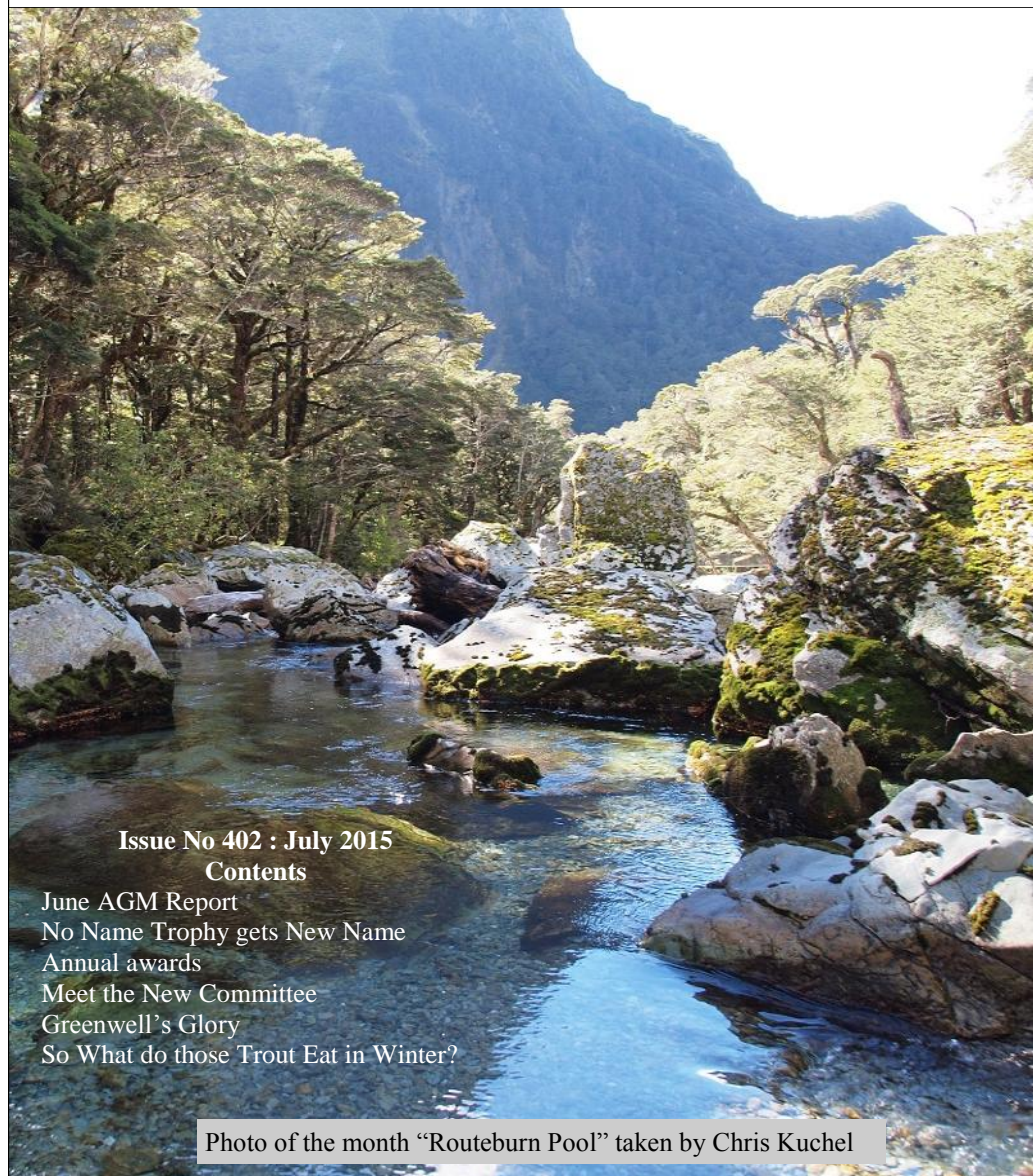


THE HUTT VALLEY ANGLER

Newsletter of the Hutt Valley Angling Club Inc



Issue No 402 : July 2015

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Photo of the month "Routeburn Pool" taken by Chris Kuchel

Editorial

The winter months are typically a quiet time for fishing on our local rivers. Maybe that's because we see very little surface activity and assume that there are very few nymphs on the bottom. Have you ever wondered what the trout are eating in winter? This month all is revealed in a very informative article written by Brian Jones, our resident expert on all things fishy. The Hutt River has been up and down like a yoyo over the past 2 months, but we do see the odd perfect day with clear fishable water and hardly a breath of wind. According to Brian, the sub-surface nymphs are there and the trout are eating them.

Tim Trengrove continues this month in his series on traditional flies... and guess what, they're fished subsurface. Coincidence? I suspect not. It's great to see club members willing to share their expertise with others. If you've developed a passion for a particular style of fishing or have something to share, please feel free to write an article for the club newsletter.

Winter is also the season for the AGM and for some members it can be a hazardous time. Rumour has it that Ian Lawson was in danger of doing his back in while trying to carry all of his trophies back to his car after last month's meeting. Well done Ian!

Chris Kuchel

Editor

President's Piece

It was good to see so many established members at the AGM as well as a good number of new and potential members in attendance. Some clubs I have been involved with often struggle to get sufficient numbers to hold an AGM and fill posts on the committee. As can be seen from Grahame's financial report, the club is in a strong financial position, which says a lot about the club and those who have administered it over the years. A number of experienced committee members have stood down this year, but true to form, they have offered to assist with running the club. Fraser Gibbs and John Olds have offered to assist on club nights. I will explain this in more detail at the July meeting.



Steve has been a great front-man on club night and his input at committee meetings is invaluable. Grahame has stepped down from the committee, but came along to the meeting in June, to help with the smooth transition of duties to the new committee members. He will continue to assist on club nights with the raffle, registration of new members and printing of the newsletter. Even in so-called "retirement" from the committee, Grahame continues to provide invaluable service to the club.

We are fortunate to have Mike take on the roll of Treasurer and Gary will become the new Secretary. Both of these rolls are essential for the club to run well. We also welcome Rob and Ajit to the committee. Rob will assist with the management of the King Lion Hall and Ajit with the Buddy programme.

The new committee will take a while to sort a few things out but as you can see, we are up and running with Chris producing a high quality magazine and John Millar organising fly tying classes for beginners. Maureen manages the library very well and Damian organises the club trips which are highly recommended. So you can see, we are in good shape!

At our first casting clinic after the AGM we had perfect weather, with about 10 persons turning up. The morning went well and there is a likelihood of the club getting a few more members as a result. The casting clinics are run by Ian with assistance from some of the other senior members. Winter is a good time to improve your casting skills and I would recommend you put your name down and come along. We are there to also give you some assistance on gear set-up and where to fish. This is supposedly a quiet time of the year for local fishing, but this is when the preparation work should be done for when the new season kicks off in October.

I hope to see you all at the club meeting in July, especially Keith, and to hear Strato speak in his new role with Fish and Game and also give a report on his latest fishing exploits.

Regards *Ross Goodman*

July Activities

- 13th Club Meeting – King Lion Hall 7.30pm
- 19th Casting Clinic – Belmont Domain 9am
- 21st Committee meeting – Community House 7.30pm
- 29th Fly tying – Community House 7.30pm
- 25th Copy for August newsletter

Report on June's Annual General Meeting

The AGM of the Club was held on Monday 8 June 2015 in the King Lion Hall, Upper Hutt. 36 members attended. The President, Steve Doughty chaired the meeting. He welcomed all members and guests to the 40th AGM of the Club. He also made mention of our two local life members; Grahame Kitchen who attended the meeting and Keith Tourell, who unfortunately was unable to attend.

Annual President's Report

Two years as President has come to an end and it has been an absolute pleasure to contribute to the club and its success during that time alongside a dedicated committee. The role of the committee is to facilitate for the health and growth of the club and of course without members participating in what we arrange, we do not have a club so thank you to all of you for your membership and participation.



I also think it is helpful to reflect as we come to the close of another financial year on the purpose of the club which is to promote the sport of angling. We do this in many ways and in the last year we have, as usual, offered many opportunities to members and potential members to develop your angling skills, find others to fish with and at times put our skills up against one another in our various competitions.

The year included many interesting insights from a wide range of guest speakers who have willingly shared their own journey and this continues to be a strong part of the club's activities. I said in my last year's report that we would hopefully have better weather in the coming season given the battle with wind and rain in the 2013/2014 season. We have had moderate weather in recent months and I trust you have managed to recoup some of those fishing days lost to the weather gods in the previous year.

At the heart of any well run club is communication. Our website has attracted a number of you who have joined in the last couple of years and allows us to keep you up to date with events. Our monthly newsletter is also an extremely important part of the club as it informs us of events; offers tales from angling exploits and broadens our understanding of angling as we engage the

information offered. I am also aware that such things can be taken for granted without realising that the research and time that goes in to preparing such an offering is immense. Therefore I want to thank John Millar for his long and tireless efforts as editor of the newsletter and especially as he hands the role over to Chris Kuchel. Chris will appreciate your contributions, stories and interesting facts so please keep them coming. The newsletter is a significant place to share interesting things with other members and I am sure is eagerly awaited by most at the beginning of each month.

While mentioning the newsletter I want to thank Grahame Kitchen. He does a sterling job of putting the newsletter in to the format you all see it in each month and he will continue to do this. This is and has been only a small part of Grahame's contribution as a life member and committee member. He has served us well in his role as treasurer and as Grahame retires from that role and the committee this year I wish to thank him along with the committee for his much appreciated efforts.

Also retiring from committee this year are John Olds and Fraser Gibbs. Both are past presidents and have made a significant contribution to the club. John is stepping down from the role of secretary from this meeting also and it would not be an exaggeration to say that that he has invested a significant amount of time and passion to the role and the club. So I also wish to extend our thanks to these guys as they retire from the committee. Grahame, Fraser and John have all indicated a desire to continue to support the club and committee in any way they can and I just want to express our thanks to them for doing this and I know their passion and expertise will continue to strengthen the club.

Steve Doughty

Immediate past president

Financial Report

Grahame Kitchen presented his report and the accompanying statement of financial performance. A copy of the report was available to members attending the meeting. Net profit for the financial year to 31 May 2015 was \$1,915.94.

The "No Name" Trophy gets a New Name

Prior to the presentation of trophies at the AGM, the President advised that the club finances have benefitted this year by an

amount of \$306.89 from the sale of fishing gear of ex-member Alan Gilbert. The Secretary has written to Alan thanking him for this donation which Alan wanted to be spent "for the benefit of the club". In that regard the committee has decided that part of the funds be spent on upgrading/replacing club trophies as appropriate. The committee has decided that the club's "No Name" trophy for the heaviest fish caught in New Zealand outside the Wellington Region be replaced with a cup and renamed the "Keith Tourell Cup" in recognition of life member Keith's work for the club over many years. This news was met with acclimation.

Presentation of Annual Awards

In the absence of Keith Tourell our other life member present, Grahame Kitchen, was asked to present the awards as follows:

Rex Chapman Taylor Trophy for the heaviest fish caught in the Hutt River or its tributaries.

Ian Lawson 5lb 4oz Brown:
Hutt River



Tisdall Cup for the heaviest fish in the Wellington Fish & Game Region (excluding the Hutt River)

Ian Lawson 9lb 1oz Brown:
Wainuiomata River



No Name Trophy (to be renamed the Keith Tourell Cup) for the heaviest fish caught in NZ outside the Wgtn region

Thomas Fichtner 9lb 11oz Brown:
Lake Waikaremoana tributary



Kernow Cup for the heaviest fish caught and released
Ian Lawson 8lb 10oz Rainbow Wainuiomata River



President's Trophy for the Club Championship based on the best 3 competition results
Ian Lawson



HVAC Literary Award for the article "Fishing the Hutt River Mayfly Rise – August 2014
Tim Trengrove



HVAC Photography Award for the photo "Lurking Below"
John Millar



Annual Green Trout Guiding Raffle winner
Peter Jacobson



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Meet the new committee

Congratulations to Ross Goodman (our new club president) and new committee members Gary Jacobsen (secretary), Mike Nansett (treasurer), Ajit Jogi and Rob Winwood. They will be joined on the committee by Steve Doughty (immediate past president) Damian Bengree, Maureen Burgess, Chris Kuchel, Ian Lawson and John Millar. John Olds has kindly offered to take on the financial reviewer roll



Ross Goodman
President



Gary Jacobsen
Secretary



Mike Nansett
Treasurer



Ajit Jogi



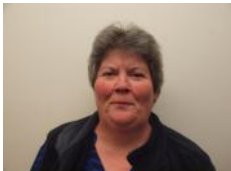
Rob Winwood



Steve Doughty
Past President



Damian Bengree



Maureen Burgess



Chris Kuchel



Ian Lawson



John Millar

Subscriptions now due

HVAC subscriptions remain the same as last year, the last date for payment being 31 August 2015. Internet banking is the preferred method of payment direct to the Hutt Valley Angling Club account number 02-0528-0246578-000 but Mike Nansett will happily accept your cheque at this month's club meeting.

Renewal fees are:

Family: \$45 Senior: \$35 Super Annuitant: \$25
Add \$10 if you want to receive a printed copy of the newsletter.
The junior subscription remains at \$10 whatever option is selected.

New members and fees paid after 31 August 2015 are:

Family: \$55 Senior: \$45 Super annuitant: \$35 and
Junior: \$10

Casting Clinic — Sunday 19 July 9.00 am

The co-ordinator is Ian Lawson. Our monthly casting session will be held at Belmont Reserve, weather permitting. If you intend to attend please sign on the clipboard at our monthly meeting or register on the website. Registration allows us to have instructors available for all attendees and who to contact if there is any change in meeting arrangements.

Fly Tying Meeting — Wednesday 29 July at 7.30 p.m.

Community house beside the Upper Hutt Medical Centre.

Fly of the Month – Fuzzy Wuzzy

This month we will be tying lure type flies. The Fuzzy Wuzzy is a New Zealand creation and may be taken as a Koura or a small fish if tied in hook sizes 2 to 8. If the fly is dressed on a smaller hook it may be mistaken for a water snail or a large fly.



Up-coming club trip

The next club trip will be to Turangi in August. This should be a prime time for some great winter rainbow fishing. Please register your interest on the clip board at the July club meeting or contact our trip co-ordinator Damian Bengree.

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Greenwell's Glory

– by Tim Trengrove

A recent conversation with a fly tying friend on the other side of the world found we share the same favourite hackle – Greenwell's. What has come to be known as Greenwell's is a hackle with a dark centre and golden tips. It can be used on a wide range of flies but the most famous today is the Greenwell's Glory. There are a number of materials that go together so well in fly tying it seems the materials were made for one another. Greenwell's hackle and Pearsall's yellow silk is a great example. Greenwell's Glory is one of the most simple and beautiful wet flies devised and still a great fish taker today.

Some of the old fly patterns have changed so much through the years, we don't know what original ties looked like but this is not the case with Greenwell's Glory. Do a Google search and you will find a range of designs, one of the nicest being Davie McPhail's excellent videos.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o7akiUJmLXM>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eEgCv6pU3RA>

This is where I thought the story ended until corresponding with fly fishing historian, John Shaner. John has kindly given his permission to include his own copy of an original Greenwell's Glory and explanation of it. I quote part of John Shaner's email,



One of my Greenwell's Glory ties.

Tim,

There is a photo of what is claimed to be, and I have no reason to doubt the claim, an original GG as tied by James Wright, the man who first dressed the pattern, in T. Donald Overfield's "Famous Flies and their Originators". This fly is in the possession of the Fly Fisher's Club. The B&W photo shows a wet fly dressed in typical period style with an upright wing, slim body, and short hackle.

The original dressing as given by Greenwell in a 1900 letter is:

Hook; No. 14

Wing; Inside of a blackbird's wing. (Substitute Starling wing quill)

Body; Yellow Silk

Hackle: Coch-y-bondhu

Overfield goes on to say; "It is generally agreed that the canon said at a later date that it could be ribbed with gold gimp, or wire. It will be noted that no mention of tails are made here, nor is there any reference made to the waxing of the silk to impart the olive hue. It has been argued that it was not possible to tie the gut to the hook, remembering that this was not an eyed hook, without waxing the silk.no doubt Greenwell forgot to mention the waxing operation when setting down the dressing. He certainly tells of it, and the ribbing, on other occasions."

The variations most certainly came later as fly styles developed in the 19th and 20th centuries. The combination of materials was a good one and was incorporated into different styles. There is speculation that the basic pattern predates 1854, the given year of its naming, and I believe this is probably true to some degree as the materials are common and harmonious and had most likely been used together before.

Here is a GG that I dressed although it is a little sparser than the pictured original in Overfield: it was not possible to tie the gut to the hook, remembering that this was not an eyed hook, without waxing the silk.no doubt Greenwell forgot to mention the waxing operation when setting down the dressing. He certainly tells of it, and the ribbing, on other occasions."



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As you can see, John Shaner is an excellent fly tier and offers a great insight into what early Greenwell's Glory flies looked like. The flat winged Greenwell's Glory flies we are more used to today fish well when worked downstream. For fishing upstream or in slower water, I prefer the older styled upwing pattern, as John Shaner tied here.

The history of the fly is charming and well worth you looking in to. I won't repeat that here but will point out an interesting matter. Canon Greenwell did not tie the original – James Wright did and Greenwell made much effort to acknowledge this. Living is an age

today where many fly patterns and even fly names have been misrepresented as originated by someone else, it is pleasing to see Canon Greenwell being so gracious about the tier of the famous fly that bears his name. James Wright is very well known as a Tweed salmon fly dresser and is reputed to have tied just one trout pattern. It sure was a beauty though and we are forever in his debt for creating the Greenwell's Glory.

So, What do those Trout Eat in Winter?

by Brian Jones

Winter - those cold dark days when most rug-up, eat roast dinners and tie flies. But what do the trout eat when there is no evening rise? No doubt that also concerned Dr K Radway Allen who back in the 1940s conducted the world's first study of the energy flow in a trout stream, the Horokiwi Stream (now the Horokiri Stream) which runs into Pauatahanui inlet. Where other countries might erect a plaque and preserve the stream as a national icon commemorating that NZ first, good old New Zealand instead put the cows in - destroyed the habitat and now plan for the remains to be put through a culvert as part of the new Transmission Gully highway. Never mind, that's progress.

And speaking of progress, since fishers still use pounds and ounces, we will stick with the measuring system Dr Allen used and not the new fangled metric system. What did Dr Allen find, back in 1940? Well a trout needs 1.23% of its body weight in food each day, just to survive, and for every 1lb increase in weight a trout must eat 4.2lb of food over and above maintenance diet. From this, and knowing the number and size of the fish in the stream, Dr Allen calculated that the Horokiwi produced about 14.5 tons of food (real English tons of the sort that Captain Cook used and that we abolished in the 1960's and not to be confused with the lightweight US ton either).

So, where did all that food come from? Dr Allen catalogued three sources of food:

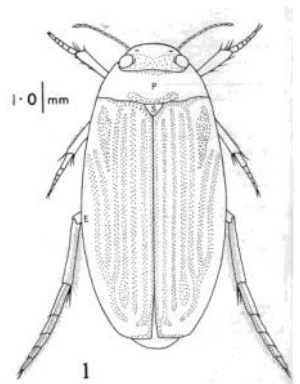
- Stream dwelling insects
- Insects and other small animals that fell in
- Small fish (because trout swallow their food whole, they don't bit or chew).

In summer, surface food made up 5% of the diet and only 2% in the rest of the year (see — dry flies are a waste of time and damned fiddly to tie!).

Small fish appeared in the diet of the trout when they were about 2 years old and make up about 20% of the diet (lake flies catch big fish??)

But — and it's a big but — 95% of the food eaten in the first two years and 75% of the food eaten thereafter consists of bottom dwelling food (Yup! - nymphing must be the way to go!).

Dr Allen calculated that each square foot of stream bed, on average holds between 300 and 1000 animals, weighing in total just $\frac{1}{16}$ oz (that's 1.7 grams for the youngsters among us), so the stream is (was) incredibly productive, and by the same token, trout work hard for a feed, which is probably why they snap eagerly at those big "cicada" flies!



Parnid beetle

First year	First few months	Midge larvae, mayfly nymphs
	Rest of year	Mayfly nymphs
Later Years	September - January	Cased caddis larvae Mayfly nymphs Snails (mainly Potamopyrgus sp.) Parnid beetles (Dec-Jan only)
	February - August	Cased caddis larvae (Olinga sp. only) Mayfly nymphs Snails

So, what to use in winter? Get out there with the old neoprene waders and fish nymphs resembling cased caddis larvae, mayfly nymphs, and snails.

Wot? Snails – do we have fly patterns for snails? Well yes, but they are not common view “Turbo snail” tying video on www.flyfishfood.com/2014/12/snail-fly-pattern.html



Turbo snail



P. antipodarum,
source: Wikipedia

Free ebooks to download

by Brian Jones

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<https://openlibrary.org/>

You don't have to register or login. There are a lot of free ebooks to read, but the site does include a lot of technical books, including fly tying. To access the books, go to the homepage and put "fly tying" in the search box on the top right. There will be about 400 books that come up. Then on the right hand column, under "zoom in", click on the "yes" under "Ebook". That will reduce the number by bringing up only the books (33 of them) that can be accessed online.

Now scroll down. You can download the ones that have a little "read" icon (an open book). They are mostly all out of copyright. They include Victorian jems like "Hale, 1892, How to tie salmon flies"; and "Ogden on fly tying, 1879"

Click on the book icon to read it online; or click on the title to open a new page with all the editions available, and the download formats. Be aware, some of the files are large (up to 11MB).

Enjoy

From the HVAC Archives

Following is extracted from the HVAC December 2003 Newsletter

Trout Yum Yum by Geoff Thomas

To my mind by far the best eating fish in New Zealand come from Lake Taupo: the firm fleshed, sleek rainbows from deep water. These maiden fish will have been caught either on deep trolling gear, or by fly fishing at the deep water mouths of the Tongariro or Tauranga Taupo rivers. Occasionally such fish will be taken at night from shallower stream mouths. These rainbows will not be too fat, and their flesh will be a deep pink, almost dark orange colour. Taupo trout which are taken smelting during the day are rarely such quality fish. Ninety per cent of them will have pale flesh and they are often slabs or kelts recovering after spawning.

Trout from other lakes in the North Island are not so firm of flesh and may be too fat, like many from Rotoiti and Tarawera. They will often have the orange flesh which indicates a diet of koura or crayfish, but the flesh is much softer.

Some of the icy cold, super-deep South Island lakes like Wanaka and Wakatipu also produce fine eating trout for the same reason as Taupo - the cold water and the diet - but these fish have a higher proportion of insects in their diet and consequently suffer a little when it comes to the table.

Some of the finest trophy fish have come from the artificial lakes like Aniwhenua and Otamangakau, but these have a largely insect-based diet and it does affect the quality of the flesh. The trout may be in superb condition and extremely fat and fit, but they do not compete against a top Taupo trout for eating or smoking. Such lakes are rich in nutrients, which is why they grow flesh so well, but it is the same water quality that contributes to the poor eating qualities of trout from that water.

Trout from wilderness streams and rivers are often regarded as prime fish, and some can be reasonable; but again the flesh is softer. We have eaten rainbows from the headwaters of the Rangitikei River in the Kaimanawa Mountains in the days when there was no pressure and the fish could be killed, but they are only

average, even when smoke cooked over a manuka fire. Such fisheries are fragile and the angler who releases his catch is demonstrating an approach that is far more responsible than the brief pleasure to be had from cooking the fish.

Baked Trout

This is our old favourite, simple and effective in keeping the fish moist, which is so important with all fish.

We split the trout open like a book, either from the back or along the stomach. If size allows, keep the head on and slit it also. This prevents the loss of juices from the neck.

Liberally sprinkle salt and pepper on both sides, with finely chopped onion. Leave the thickest part of the side with the backbone on clear of onion or it will be uncooked when the rest is done.

A two-kilo fish will take about 15 minutes of baking in an oven preheated to about 200°C, before the backbone can be lifted off. If the head is still connected, the backbone must be snapped before it can be lifted off.

We then spread butter liberally over both sides and spread the chopped onion evenly, and put the trout back in the oven for five minutes. The fish will be swimming in its own juices and will remain firm and moist. Options which can be added as a matter of personal preference include grated cheese, lemon juice, white wine and herbs like mint or parsley. Personally, I do not like to add strong flavours which disguise the delicate trout flavour.

The most important thing is start with good raw materials, a prime maiden trout from very cold water

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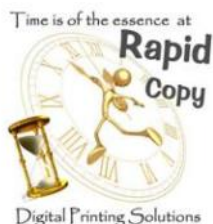
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