



THE HUTT VALLEY ANGLER

Newsletter of the Hutt Valley Angling Club Inc

Issue No 435: June 2018



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President's Piece

Those present at the May club night were treated to an excellent presentation from St John Wakefield on how to prepare for a back-country trip. Topics covered included what to take, how to carry it, navigation and safety. St John also gave some very useful and practical suggestions for locations in the Wellington region that would be suitable for those interested in undertaking their first overnight back-country trip. The whole presentation was yet another demonstration of the depth of knowledge within the club and we thank St John for his generosity in so willingly sharing some of his vast experience.

On the Sunday following last month's club meeting, a casting clinic and workshop had been organized at Belmont Domain. As it turned out, there were no takers for the workshop, so those present decided to take advantage of the sunny conditions and clear water and walk down to the river for a Sunday morning fish. Even though no fish were caught, a good time was had by all, with lots of useful tips and information being shared. After leaving Belmont, I put away the switch rod and headed up to Harcourt Park armed with my Czech nymph rod and managed to land a small fish which was a nice bonus. It just goes to show that when the fish aren't in a certain location, it pays to try another.

This month's club meeting is the AGM and I would encourage all members to attend. We have had a good response to our call for nominations for the new committee with some fresh ideas already being talked about, so please come along and support the club. That's all from me, take care.

Chris Kuchel

June Activities

Monday 11 th	Club Night, King Lion Hall, 7.30pm
Sunday 17 th	Casting Clinic, Workshop, Belmont Domain, 10am
Wednesday 20 th	Committee Meeting, Stokes Valley RSA, 7.15pm
Wednesday 27 th	Fly Tying Night, Stokes Valley RSA, 7.15pm

Club News

Next Club Meeting – King Lion Hall – Monday 11th June 7.30pm

The June club night is the Annual General Meeting.

Library News

The library is open from 7pm on Club nights. Please make sure that all books and DVDs are checked out and returned through Ajit in the normal way.

Fly Tying Night – Stokes Valley RSA – Wednesday 27th June 7.15pm

This month we will practise more essential fly tying skills that can be troublesome and daunting for beginners and even experienced tiers. Members are also invited to bring along their favourite patterns to share with other members.

Bound Shield Challenge for June

Members are asked to tie (at home) two examples of their favourite nymph pattern for local fishing. The two flies should be identical and tied on the same size hook.

Bound Shield Fly Tying Prize

A prize will be awarded at the AGM in June to the member who has won the Bound Shield most times since the monthly challenge began or who is considered the most improved fly tier during that period.

Photo Competition

Congratulations to this month's winner, Ian Lawson. Ian takes away the \$10 Hunting & Fishing voucher and his winning photo "Lady Day" is on the front cover of this month's newsletter. Thanks to Grahame Kitchen, sponsor of the photo competition

April Fish of the Month

There were no eligible entries for the month of April, but an honourable mention goes to Isla, Bill and Carolyn Harris' 7-year-old granddaughter, who caught her first fish in Lake Rotoaira.



April Raffle Winners

Congratulations to John Rochester for winning the Green Trout Guiding raffle. Gerry McKay took away the Hunting and Fishing voucher and Peter Parker won a fly box.

Club Trip - Fri 24th - Sun 26th August – Turangi Bridge Motel

Chris Kuchel has spoken to Phil McKeown who is keen to meet up and come out for a fish with the HVAC group. Peter Carty from Sporting Life has said that either himself or one of his guys will meet with us on the Saturday morning to give us a briefing and point us in the right direction

(for free). More info will be included in the July club newsletter, but this promises to be an exciting event!

Article by Dan Waechter

Dirty dairying, dams, council non-compliance issues, irrigation schemes, fishing guides and tourism, and a shrinking angler demographic are just some of the issues that Fish and Game are contending with on behalf of license holders. We all are aware of some or all of the issues as they are regularly covered in the media.

One project that Wellington Fish and Game has in place, but receives little exposure in the media, is Fish in Schools. The fourteen schools currently enrolled in the program each receive a tank, chiller, and filter system along with one hundred trout ova. The system is designed to replicate the conditions the ova would experience in the wild. The class is also supplied with a guide suggesting ways to integrate actions involved with looking after the ova into their class curriculum. The class actively monitors the progress of the ova, checking water temperature, conductivity, nitrogen levels, Ph etc. This work then becomes a catalyst for further projects in science, maths, art, literature and recreation.

Wellington Fish and Game has been very fortunate in getting a tank placed in Koraunui School in Stokes Valley. Dianne Christenson, the teacher leading the program, is very enthusiastic and is working with Wellington Fish and Game to enhance and expand the program. At her request, this year we will be adding a fly tying element and the class will get to go fishing at the Wellington Club's fish out pond.

Last year her class successfully raised and released fifty-two fingerlings. Apparently twenty-five, including students, siblings, parents and grandparents helped say good bye and good luck as the fingerlings were released at the confluence of the Stokes Valley Stream and the Hutt River.

This literature project from seven year, Lily makes it all worthwhile for me.

Growing Trout by Lily Ryan, Year 4, Koraunui School

“Yay”, today our alevins are growing to fish because they are getting older and their egg sacks are shrinking. I can't wait until we find our first fish that we can teach how to eat food, because right now, the alevins are fed by their egg sacks. It will also be cool when they can all swim up to the top of the tank. I wonder how many already know how to swim up to the top of the tank?

The alevins are fun to look at closely because you can think what they're thinking, doing, saying, playing or wanting. Alevins are interesting to watch grow to fish because you can see how much their egg sacks get smaller and smaller and smaller until they disappear. The egg sacks on each alevin will go away and when it does you have to teach every one of your trout to eat fish food.

I wonder what they look like now? “hooray”, they have grown again. Now they have got tiny egg sacks, about three or four millimetres fat!

Having trout is cool because you can use maths, writing, science and reading to figure out how many fish or eggs have died. You can also find out the temperature and conductivity of the water in the fish tank.

Right now, we have ninety-four alevins.

I have found out about the life cycle of trout. First the eggs are layed. Next, in a few weeks, they should hatch. Now they will be feeding off their egg sacks for a long time, until the egg sacks are gone. Then, if they are in a stream, they will feed on invertebrates such as mayflies, stoneflies and caddis flies. Then the process will repeat, over and over for years, months and days.

<p style="text-align: center;">Green Trout Guiding Sponsor of the Club's Guiding Raffle Phone Jim Rainey (06) 382-5507 Kawhatau Valley Road, RD7, Mangaweka office@greentroutguiding.co.nz www.greentroutguiding.co.nz</p>
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Any articles published in this newsletter are the opinions of the author alone and do not necessarily represent the views of the club as a whole or other members of the club.