

“Ripples”

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

July 2018



www.southlandflyfishingclub.org.nz



*Southland Fly
Fishing Club*

Editors Choice Tippets

We are borrowing - No, taking - From the future

We have a period ahead of us as a farming sector, and for all New Zealanders in fact, that will bring about change at a level that none of us have ever experienced. A significant amount of effort will be required of all of us if we are to meet the requirements New Zealand has committed to under the Paris Agreement on climate change. My wife and I are dairy farming at Winton, Southland, milking 1100 cows. Throughout my 21 years of farming and in the generations that have farmed before us, there has been a major drive to increased production. This has been necessary to maintain profitability, in an attempt to at least sustain, but also, hopefully grow our businesses. However, much of this has been done with a focus on production, rather than the overall



Dean Alexander meets climate change minister James Shaw

sustainability of the farming industry. When talking about overall sustainability I am thinking about profitability, animal welfare, the people we employ, the natural environment we farm in and the communities that we live in. Over the past decade, in particular the last 4-5 years, I believe we are now more aware of this overall sustainability. I know I am. When asked to become a climate change ambassador, I was at first a little reluctant to put myself in the public arena on such a significant issue. I definitely wouldn't call myself a greenie, but like most farmers I have a passion for looking after the environment we farm. One of the motto's I attempt to live by is "leaving things better placed for future generations". Until recently I felt I'd lived by this motto. However after attending a two-day climate change workshop in Wellington, run by DairyNZ, I am starting to think given what we know now - most of us have failed big time. I'm often sceptical of future modelling predictions, but it's hard to argue with the science showing the damage we've done to the planet over the past 200 years. There were two pieces of information that stick in my mind from the workshop. Firstly, a graph showing the levels of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere over the last 800000 years, measured through ice cores. These levels remained relatively static until the last 200 years, when they approximately doubled. This drastic increase coincides with the industrial revolution and the burning of fossil fuels. The other was the fact that even if all countries meet their ambitious commitments under the Paris Agreement on climate change, we still won't achieve the target of less than 2 degrees increase in earth temperature above 1990 levels. This failure would put at risk the world passing the tipping point where we may not longer be able to reverse or minimise the damage that's been done. I left the workshop thinking what can I do to change this? We are all only just starting this journey and I just hope I have the courage to take the necessary action. It's not too late. I am hopeful that science and technology will help us on this journey. However, I am a realist and know that we need to get smarter and more efficient with everything we do. With the agricultural industry being responsible for 48 per cent of New Zealand's emissions, we need to take responsibility and make a significant contribution to reducing our environmental footprint. We can't carry on living the extravagant, wasteful lifestyles we currently do. We need to stop just talking about the issue and start serious action now. Like most of you, I am not even sure of what changes I will make. However, I am looking at the way I live and do business and asking myself that question. A phrase that I recently heard is "instead of inheriting from the past we are actually borrowing from the future". I would like to adjust this and state that we are actually taking from the future. If we were borrowing from the future we would be intending to give it back. If we don't take action now there won't be anything to give back. The beneficiaries of this will be future generations. Are you prepared to experience this pain to give our children and their children the future they deserve? Much of this decision making is going to be made by government. However, we do get to voice our opinion. The government has recently released a discussion document on the Zero Carbon Bill which will be passed through parliament later in the year. I recently sat down with my family and watched the award winning documentary *Before the Flood* starring Leonardo De Caprio, who is the World Climate Change Ambassador for the UN. As it neared its end, I looked across the room and couldn't help but think, what have we left for our kids and their kids? What can I do to change this? If you do nothing else at this stage, can I suggest you watch this documentary, it will be a start of your journey.

Dean Alexander is a Southland dairy farmer and climate change ambassador for the dairy sector.

"People get the Politicians and fishing tackle they deserve."

John Gierach

Annual Photo Competition

The annual photo competition was held at the June Meeting. There were 31 entries in 4 classes.

Class winners were:



Scenic: Johnny Mauchline



Action: Dave Harris



General: Dave Harris



Trophy: Dave Harris

RISE FLY FISHING FILM FESTIVAL.



This spring, the annual tradition is back to salute the impending summer. The world's most extensive fishing film festival, hits theatres on the New Zealand leg of its 2018 worldwide tour celebrating its 13th year of bringing fly fishing films to the big screen with global adventures and big fish galore.

Be inspired as RISE Fly Fishing Film Festival, hits theatres across NZ serving as a stage for the best Kiwi and Australian filmmakers in the industry to premiere their latest offerings and allowing the fishing community to share their passion for the sport by attending film screenings countrywide.

Gore show : St James Theatre. Monday 13 August 7:30 - 9:30 pm

Annual Competitions Season 2017-2018

Fly Tying

Entries in the fly tying competition were up a little on last year with a total of 33 flies entered over the five months. We had nine people who entered the competition and but only two people managed a fly every month. As usual there were some fine flies produced by the members. The votes were spread around although one member managed first or first equal on three of the five nights.

Fish Competition.

Fish numbers entered in the last season's fish competition were up a little on last year's entry with 48 fish entered, 37 browns and 11 rainbows. Early returns were much better than later, reflecting the weather and river conditions. There were 8 fish 5lb or over this season caught by 4 members. These fish were all browns. These came from the Wairaki River (2), the Oreti River, the Waikaia River (2) and a Mataura tributary (3). These fish were caught on adams (2), brassie, dads favourite, green stone fly and not given (3).

Only four members entered a fish every month and this is up on last year. The winner's total was 33lbs, down a little on last year. Second and third were again quite close. The winner's fish came from a Mataura tributary (5), the Mataura and the Pomahaka. They were caught on CDC emerger. willow grub (2), dads favourite (2), a blow fly and an adams.

The heaviest brown was down on last year at 6½lb. Heaviest rainbow was the same as last year at 4¼lb. Best condition factor was down on last year at 66.15 and was a brown from the Waikaia.

Photo Competition.

The annual photo competition was held in June but the number of entries was a little disappointing.

Fly Tying Competition

Six people entered parachute adams flies in the June competition. Chris McDonald's fly (picture on the front cover) received the most votes and Murray Buchanan won the draw. The fly for July is the damsel mink (see last month's Ripples) and the fly for August will be the Spotlight fly. Materials for the Spotlight fly will be available at the July meeting.

Annual General Meeting

The AGM and annual prize giving will be held at the next meeting on Tuesday 31 July.

The following motion has been received for voting on at the AGM.

Lodge Fees

Lodge Fees be set as follows

	Per night
New Zealand Resident members	\$15
New Zealand Resident non members	\$20
Overseas members	\$20
Overseas non members	\$30

The Annual Prize Giving will follow the meeting.

Presidents Annual Report Season 2017-2018 by Dave Harris

Another season of fishing is over. Hopefully you all managed to spend plenty of time on the river or lake and caught a good number of fish.

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 until we had a withdrawal at the last minute. The weather leading up to the course had been fine and warm with the Mataura River too low and too warm. This gave us more room for casting training on the river but made fishing very difficult.

Our annual casting day was moved to Donovan Park this year as Kilwell had organized a casting day the same day to allow anglers to try their fly lines. Once we found out about this we arranged to join them rather than hold our own event elsewhere on the same day. The weather didn't co-operate with gale force winds and the turnout was not impressive.

We had fly tying demonstrations on two Saturdays in September at Hunting and Fishing (2) and also took part in the Hunting and Fishing Annual Fishing night. At the night we had a promotion in conjunction with hunting and Fishing and signed up 12 new members that night. Thanks to those who helped out with these.

Chris McDonald continued his duties as Secretary Treasurer, doing a good job as usual.

David Murphy continued as custodian for the Lodge and has ensured it is up to scratch. The Lodge was recladding was finished and work started on painting the window frames. The Lodge was well used during the season with good patronage.

Johnny Mauchline continued as editor for the Ripples this year with assistance from Les Ladbrook.

Les Ladbrook continues to look after the club web site, keeping it up to date. This web site contains vital contact information, newsletters and the club calendar but will not be available in the future so we need someone else to look after the web site.

Simon Budd continued as Club librarian.

The number of fish entered in the Club competition was up slightly on last year and again probably reflected the fishing conditions during much of the season, good early on but more challenging later in the season. There were four members who put in cards every month. The number of big fish was down on previous seasons and the size was also down with the largest being 6½lb. The fly tying competition attracted few more entries than last year from more members. Only two members entered a fly each month, down on last year. The junior trophy will not be awarded this year due to the lack of juniors. The photo competition was held as usual at the June meeting. Numbers were down with just three members entering. Congratulations to those who took out the trophies this year in the annual competitions.

Sponsorship of the fish and fly tying competition was from Invercargill Hunting and Fishing.

Again 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.

The weekend trips did not receive much support at all with some cancelled or changed to one day trips.

We had fly tying days in August and June. The August day attracted about the usual number of members but the turnout for the June day was better than we have had for some time. Those who attended the fly tying managed to tie a good number of flies including most of those required for next year's fishing courses. The annual Club dinner that followed the June fly tying day was the usual fun night and those who attended enjoyed their dinner and exchange of gifts. There was a good turnout to the dinner.

I would like to thank those who helped out with running the Club during the past year. Special thanks go to secretary/treasurer Chris McDonald for his ongoing work, Johnny Mauchline for keeping us all informed with his excellent newsletter, Les Ladbrook for looking after the website, David Murphy for looking after the Lodge and Simon Budd for his work as Librarian. Thanks also to all the other committee members for their support during the year and to the members who helped out on the fishing course and fly casting day.

Last I would like to thank our sponsors –Corys Electrical, Invercargill Hunting & Fishing and Manic Tackle.

Coming Events

(MM=Monthly Meeting, CM = Committee Meeting)

- 31st July [AGM] Election of Officers, MVM, Prize Giving - (Supper)
7th August (CM) Arranging the calendar for the next season
5th August Fly tying day – Fish and Game 9:00am
12/13th August  Club day out, fishing practice – Dave Harris 027 201 6722
29th August [MM]

Club Contacts

- Address **Southland Fly Fishing Club, PO Box 1689, Invercargill, New Zealand**
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Items for publication must be submitted to the editor, prior to the 10th of the month
- Librarian Simon Budd
- 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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