

"Ripples"

The Official publication of the Southland Fly Fishing Club

The club was founded in 1974

February 2014



www.southlandflyfishingclub.org.nz



Southland Fly Fishing Club

Editors Choice Tippets

'Spot X' just got easier to find

Working with the Walking Access Commission, Fish & Game NZ has re-vamped the maps on its website to provide its angling and hunting licence holders with invaluable access information. The Commission's highly regarded Walking Access Mapping System (WAMS), which provides layers of public access details, has been integrated into the maps on all 12 regional Fish & Game homepages. The maps have colour-coded keys identifying not only formed and unformed (paper) legal roads, but also the opportunities for anglers and hunters to access conservation land, public reserves, Crown land and other areas. Fish & Game communications manager Hamish Carnachan says "WAMS has had a profound impact on opening up access opportunities to public places because it clearly shows where you're legally allowed to go, thereby removing any doubt or contention with land-owners. "Embedding the WAMS system into our own website was basically our answer to the question, 'How do I get to Spot X to fish?' "And now that we've mobilised our website for smartphone and tablet users, they can easily check whether they have legal right of access to a particular fishing or hunting ground when they're out and about, provided they can get a network connection." WAMS shows land over which the public has walking access. WAMS is an online system using geographic information system (GIS) technology to provide views of the legal boundaries, which can be viewed against either topographical maps or aerial/satellite photographs.



ResQLink on Special

At 153g and topping just 11.4cm, the ResQLink+ is the smallest buoyant Personal Locator Beacon available today. Small enough to easily be carried in a pocket, clipped to a backpack or stored inside an inflatable life jacket

With three levels of integrated signal technology - GPS positioning, a powerful 406 MHz signal, and 121.5 MHz homing capability - the ResQLink+™ quickly and accurately re-lays your position to a worldwide network of search and rescue satellites. A built-in strobe light provides visibility during night rescues. On special at Hunting & Fishing. Great if you break a leg!



Cover Photo—2014 Fly Fishing Course members & helpers



An exceptionally well tied fly and photograph

Around the Club

John Morwood and the Tassie Devils are doing it in bonza style at the Lodge. The Aussies are apparently getting all the good fish! Hopefully they are not putting them all on the Barbie! You just cant trust these West Islanders.

From the manager of Mt Nicholas station apparently there was 17 anglers on the Lochy in 1 day last week! This is not unusual he said. Multiple helicopters and guides. Backcountry fishing at its finest! No room for the ordinary Kiwis then? He was happy to accommodate our request for access and an accommodation package but said 'you will be wasting your time'. Surely these sensitive fisheries need protection from this onslaught. Fish & Game should regulate this water.

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

John Gierach

Fishing Report by Redtag



With a respite to very unsettled weather conditions it has been good fishing over the past month. The river has been below datum and fishing well.

Fish have been gorging themselves on willow grubs and they are an excellent challenge to cast the fly to often at no more than a rods length away. If you get it right it is an exciting way to fish. Presentation and timing is the key to these fickle feeders.

There have been some tremendous hatches of mayfly on the river recently with fish rising freely to duns and emergers. Clouds of flies at times all over the pool with literally hundreds of fish rising. Where do they all come from all of a sudden? I have had great fishing in the riffles of an evening with fish lining up gulping down mayfly in the fast water. Wee CDC emerging nymph and dun patterns are the go.



Plenty of action in the quiet backwaters and ponds with damselfly enticing the trout to perform acrobatics in jumping clear out of the water to catch them hovering above. A red or blue CDC damselfly fished dry and cast in front of cruising fish can bring a instant reaction with the fish launching themselves towards the fly at full speed.



A 7lb trout was caught by a local at Pensioners Corner by hand! The fish was lying in at the edge of the bank and was found to be blind. Surprisingly it was in excellent condition.

Further afield most rivers and streams are fishing well although the Hamilton Burn and the Waimea could benefit from a top up. Reports of cicadas in the highland streams and lakes which should provide plenty of action in the right conditions.

Tight lines!

Fly Fishing Course 2014

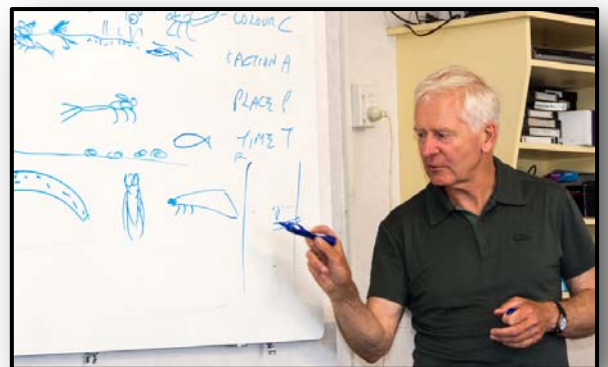


This year's fly fishing course orchestrated by fly fishing guru Mike Weddell was held on 1st and 2nd February. We had 17 participants on day one and 16 on the river on day 2. This year we managed to get the weather and the river conditions to cooperate. However the fish were generally uncooperative – bugger. Just don't tell that to Callum Affleck and David O'Brien who had a double hook up during the casting session and both successfully landed their fish. Several others had hook ups as well so it was disappointing that the fish were uncooperative during the afternoon.

While the fish didn't cooperate enough to be caught a number of good fish were sighted and cast to during the afternoon – some for quite a considerable time before they finally spooked.

Casting to a good fish for 30-40 minutes is much more fun than just practicing your casting – just ask Neil and Jason.

It was really satisfying watching the improvement in everyone's casting from the first session at the James Hargest sports ground through the morning casting session on the river and the afternoons fishing. By the end of the course this was probably the most competent group we have had for some time.



Thank you to everyone who helped out at the casting session and on the river. A special thanks to our sponsors Manic Tackle, and Hunting and Fishing for the wonderful assortment of products they donated to the participants, and Goat Head for the Sole Spikes. [The winner of the Fly Vest was Hillary Haggerty \(Photo on the website\)](#)

By Chris McDonald

Trout Grub by Johnny Mauchline



Willow grubs — How do you imitate them?



Damselfly — How do you imitate them?

From the President by Dave Harris

Well after a poor January weather wise February has started out great for fishing.

We had the fly fishing course the first weekend and the Sunday on the river had perfect weather and river conditions. I am sure those who were there enjoyed the day out and hopefully will have many good days of fly fishing in the future.

The day after the course Les and I headed up to Mavora Lakes Park for a few days fishing. The plan was to fish the Mararoa River above North Mavora and the Windon Burn and a significant amount of walking was included in the plan. We had fine weather most days but the wind did tend to come up in the afternoons making spotting fish and casting a little challenging at times. We had some great fishing, mostly dry fly, although it looks like the cicadas were just starting to fly when we left. There will be a full report on our trip next month.

The next Club event is the night on the river on February 25 at Coal Pit Road. If you are going out after work let Chris McDonald know so that he can arrange enough food for the BBQ. I will not be able to make this event as my plan is to be fishing in North Canterbury and Marlborough. Again I will report on this in the next Ripples.

Dave

Mavora Boat Trip

The Annual Mavora Boat Trip is scheduled for March 15/16. I will be taking my boat and can take two others. I plan to be away as early as possible on Friday March 14 (after work) to get up there before dark. If you are keen to go let me know.

Dave (03) 2156068 or 0272016722



Name This Stream Competition

Last months photo of a stream did not bring any responses, so it is in again,

Answers by email only please to service@eis.co.nz

Correct answers will be placed in a draw for a \$20 Hunting and Fishing voucher sponsored by EIS.

If you have a photo of a Southland stream you would like to include in the competition please email the Editor.



Coming Events

| | | |
|-------------|------|--|
| 25th Feb | [MM] | --- This meeting is "On the river" --- BBQ Tea about 6pm |
| 4th Mar | (CM) | Fly Tying |
| 9th Mar | | Club Day Trip, meet at Fish & Game 7am (Leader is Linz Withington) |
| 15-16th Mar | | Mavora Boat Trip (Dave Harris) |
| 25th Mar | [MM] | Dave Harris & Les Ladbrook – February expeditions |
| 1st April | (CM) | |

Club Contacts

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- Librarian Jarred Martin, 33 Willis Street, Invercargill jmjavamartin@gmail.com
- Lodge Custodian Rick Gerrard, 44 Watt Road Otatara, 03 213-0920 (H) or txt 0275984322

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, 159 North Road Invercargill. [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, Jarred Martin.

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

Club Sponsors



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