

"Ripples"

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

February 2016



www.southlandflyfishingclub.org.nz



Southland Fly Fishing Club

Editors Choice Tippets

SLIT FOAM PATCH

This type of fly support is a nice solution for fishermen. Just attach this foam patch to your vest or rain jacket with the small zinger and you will be ready for fishing day with your favourite flies ready to be used.. Very practical, easy to use - a great solution!

Technical Details:

7x10cm Ultra dense foam patch

Horizontal slots system

Dark grey colour for a better contrast

Ergonomic small quality zinger to attach the patch

Available from troutline.ro



Cover Photo: Johnny Mauchline



Excellent fly and photograph by William Anderson

AROUND THE CLUB

To all you Facebookers!

The Clubs Facebook page is nearly meeting a milestone. 485 likes so far so not many to go to get to the 500 mark.

Don't forget that you can post photos or content directly onto the Club page as a visitor. Your contribution may well help get the numbers up.

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

John Gierach

Fishing Report by Redtag



Fishing has been awesome over the last few months with low water and good summer weather in the river opening up pools that are normally in-accessible.

This gives access to certain spots that have good fish rising to mayfly and emergers which is always an experience in these 'new waters'.

Even when the flies are not hatching the fish have been out and if you can sight fish them you are always in with a chance.

Some of the tributaries have been fishing well with willow grubbers out and about. I have been using a few different flies and techniques to catch these selectively feeding fish. It is always a technical challenge to cast to them and determine which fly to use.

As well as that it is 'understanding' the trout's 'mentality'. Getting in the groove I call it. Can we think or out-think a trout? I don't know but I do dream about these situations.

Maybe it is akin to replicating great sporting teams visualisations like the All Blacks who visualise the end result they are seeking. I know I do and the confidence that builds in my belief that the trout will take my representation of their food works. The other side of this equation is one of repetitive presentation and hoping for the best in what you offer. Good luck with that!

A case in point is that a good friend of mine that is possibly one of the best fly fishermen in NZ told me of a situation where he missed the most simplest of observations as to what and how the fish were feeding.

Often we do not take the time to contemplate and observe but insistently plough on regardless. I have been there many times.

I am going to London and Manchester on business in March so unfortunately I am missing out on fishing time on the river.

However I have booked a day Atlantic salmon fishing on the Murthly 2 beat of the River Tay for my 86 year old father and myself.

Tight lines





Paper Giclée Prints: “Giclée” is defined as a printmaking method using an ink-jet printer for photographic images of paintings to produce high-quality reproductions. In giclée, the ink is sprayed on to your choice of media in millions of colours utilizing continuous tone technology, retaining all the fine detail of the original. Etymology: French ‘sprayed ink’

Available from admaddox.myshopify.com

Anglers Angry at Carp Farm Proposal for Taupo

"Anglers around Taupo and throughout the country are angry about the proposed Grass & Silver Carp farm at Taupo which has already been approved by DoC and Fish and Game" said Alan Simmons leader of the NZ Outdoors Party.

Mr Simmons said "that the proposal had largely fallen under the radar during the Xmas holiday period with public notices only appearing in a national daily newspaper outside of the region, but as the proposal has become clearer anglers are now showing anger with the proposal.

The Federation of Freshwater Anglers which represents thousands of fishing club members around New Zealand is horrified by the proposal and has strongly objected to the Department of Conservation.



Silver Carp are regarded as a highly invasive species all over the world and are causing huge problems in some countries requiring massive extermination efforts as has happened in the United States. "Why can we not learn from other countries mistakes?" asked Alan Simmons.

"While we are assured the fish cannot escape, they do, and have everywhere they have been introduced and once in Lake Taupo they will destroy our wonderful clean lake and trout fishery.

The NZ Outdoors Party is vehemently opposed to any Silver Carp farm anywhere near lake Taupo" said party leader Alan Simmons.

Silver carp breed by swimming up rivers to lay their eggs in huge numbers and because they have no stomach they eat endlessly on plankton, the same food that smelt eat, with smelt making up 99% of the trout diet, anything that affects smelt affects the whole multimillion dollar trout fishery which the people of Taupo rely on for a living.

Mr Simmons said "the fish grow to a huge size, like 40 plus kilos and a fish of that size consumes a lot of plankton in 24 hours. Known as the jumping fish in the USA as they leap up to 3 meters from the water when startled they are an extremely difficult fish to catch as they are plankton eaters.

Mr Simmons said "he just cannot understand how the Department of Conservation could allow any such proposal that would endanger the pristine waters of Lake Taupo. I recall being told by officials that the catfish which also is an invasive species would not impact on Lake Taupo and would not thrive. Now they are seen in huge schools of several thousand fish. Those same officials are now telling us Silver Carp farming is safe and that the fish cannot escape, regardless nothing is stopping a human from transporting some a few kilometres and letting them go as they did with the catfish."

"If someone from Gisborne wants to farm grass or silver carp at Taupo for the Asian live fish Market in Auckland then let them do it in Auckland and not next to one of the worlds most pristine and beautiful lakes."

"The proposal also is seeking consent to open fish out ponds for the Asian tourist again putting the established fishery at risk just to please an Asian tourist culture. It is the New Zealand culture and way of life we should be showing off!"

Alan Simmons called on all anglers to urgently voice their concern to the Minister of Conservation immediately before she approves the farm which is supposed to be in the next few weeks.

Press Release: NZ Outdoors Party

Mararoa by Dave Harris



A photo of the Mararoa River above Boundary Hut where it was completely dry recently. Who stole the river?

A photo from a Lodge trip in February 2013



A photo from a lodge visit from February 2013

From the President by Dave Harris

Our annual Fly Fishing course is over for this year. As usual we had a good turnout and I am sure all the participants learnt something about fly fishing. We had a great turnout of Club members for the Sunday session. Thankfully the rain during the week had not made the river unfishable and I was surprised how clear it actually was. I would like to thank all those who helped out with the course. Without you we would not be able to run it.

I hosted course tutor Mike this year and as a result took him and Chris McDonald out for an evening fish on the Mataura on the Saturday evening. Unfortunately the fish were hard to find and there were very few rising but a few came to the net.

On the Tuesday after the course I headed up to the top of Mavora with Cole Shirvell. Our plan was to stay three nights at Careys Hut, then walk to Boundary Hut for another three nights and stop for another night at Careys Hut in the way home. We took the boat to travel up the lake instead of driving the 4WD track as I didn't want to scratch my truck and it is still on road tyres.

All went to plan and we had a great time. The Mararoa River was quite low but was clear but there was not a great number of fish. The further up you went the less water there was until we actually reached a point where there was no river flow at all (at least above the stones). There was flow again above this point and we both caught fish above the dry section. We also fished the Windon Burn but this was on the only overcast day we had and spotting was very difficult. Overall the fishing was good with all fish caught on dry flies but with the very low flows some places it was more like still water fishing than river fishing. Most notable was the lack of rainbows with only three landed and these were all below the Windon Burn confluence.

The most noticeable thing about the area was how many people there were. I had expected quite a few over Waitangi Weekend but these were mainly day trippers to the area or camping at the bottom of the North Lake. There were a lot of trampers in the area, mainly walking the Te Araroa Trail. Most of these were overseas visitors. The ones that shared huts with us were from Korea, France, Germany and Wales as well as a few Kiwis. These people seem to only eat noodles and I can't help thinking we have sold off our wilderness for the profits on a few packets of noodles. Unfortunately it is only going to get worse as the Te Araroa Trail gets more popular (and it will).

BBQ on the River—Tuesday 23rd—6pm

Meat and Salads supplied

Usual place, Coalpit Road, on the Mataura

Please let Chris know numbers coming by Monday night, he has to get the food, 0274237016

Name This Stream Competition

One correct answer last month. The correct answer was the Otamita identified by Ian Michelson.

So a new picture this month by Johnny Mauchline.

Answers by email only please to service@eis.co.nz Correct answers will be placed in a draw for a \$10 Hunting & Fishing voucher sponsored by EIS. If you have a photo of a Southland stream you would like to include in the



competition please email Editor.

the



Coming Events

(MM=Monthly Meeting, CM = Committee Meeting)

- 23th Feb [MM] --- This meeting is "On the river" --- BBQ Tea about 6pm
1st Mar (CM) Fly Tying
6th Mar  **Club Day Trip**, meet at Fish & Game 7am
19/20th Mar  Mavora Boat Trip (Dave Harris)
25th-29th Mar Easter
29th Mar [MM]

Club Contacts

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Items for publication must be submitted to the editor, prior to the 10th of the month
- Librarian Ken Brown, Invercargill
- 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, 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

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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