

“Ripples”

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

August 2023



www.southlandflyfishingclub.org.nz



Southland Fly Fishing Club

President's Report by Dave

In spite of it being the off season, it has been a pretty busy time. We had the Club AGM and prize giving at the end of July. We had prizes donated by Invercargill Hunting & Fishing, so thanks to them for those prizes. See competition results below, but it is fair to say none of the trophies were won by anyone that had not won them before.

The next event was the August Fly Tying Day and our Annual Dinner followed that night. A week later and we were at the Boat Show promoting the Club and the Fly Fishing Course that we are holding in January. The following Sunday was supposed to be a day out fishing and we had keen members. We were planning to go to the Te Waewae Lagoon but the weather forecast was for some rain and quite strong winds so this was cancelled. Hard to know if this was the right decision as the weather in town wasn't as bad as forecast.

We will continue to be busy next month with September having more Club activities than any other month of the year. Before we get to September, we have our August Monthly Meeting. Normally in August we go to Hunting & Fishing to see what they have for the new season, but this year we have moved that back to September as stock is still slow to arrive. Instead, we will have Cohen from Fish & Game along to talk to us about changes to the regulations for next season as well as proposals for the Upper Mataura.

In September we have two fly tying demonstrations at Hunting & Fishing (September 2nd and 16th), The International Women's Fly Fishing Day on September 9th, A Club Trip on September 10th, a Lodge Working Bee on September 17th, a Casting Day on September 24th and finally our Monthly Meeting on September 26th will be at Hunting & Fishing. Hunting & Fishing are having their Angler's Night on September 21st.

Once we get through all of that it is almost time to go fishing with the season starting on October 1st, a Sunday this year. By then you will need to have all your gear sorted out, flies tied, and all your chores completed so you are allowed to go fishing.

AGM and Prize Giving by Dave

The Club AGM and Prize Giving was held at the end of July. Most of the Officers were returned to the same positions they had held previously except Gerda Johnstone replaces Julie Cook as Vice President and Gerda also takes over Competitions.

2023/2024 Executive

President	Dave Harris	027 201 6722
Vice President	Gerda Johnstone	022 166 1149
Secretary/Treasurer	Chris McDonald	03 217 3733
Editor	Dave Harris	027 201 6722
Librarian	Chris Cowie	027 376 3769
Lodge Custodian	Dave Murphy	03 230 4698
Competitions	Gerda Johnstone	022 166 1149

Committee:

Julie Cook	027 630 2949
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2023 Trophy Winners

Presidents Trophy (Largest brown)	Chris McDonald
Allan White Trophy (Largest Rainbow)	Chris McDonald
Bill Brown Trophy (Best condition factor)	Dave Harris
Master Trophy (Best total for season)	Dave Harris
Arthur Gorton Trophy (Fly Tying)	Chris McDonald

Fly Tying Day and Club Dinner by Dave

We had our second Fly Tying Day of the off season on August 5th. We had a total of five people along although never more than four at any one time. It was great to have new junior member Zanda along and he was going really well tying more flies for the day than anyone else. A fair bit of time was spent on the diving beetle, the competition fly for August. Most were struggling with this but some good versions were tied. As is normal there was quite a bit of swapping of materials as members tried flies they hadn't tied before.

We had the Annual Dinner that evening and a good meal was enjoyed at the Foundry Restaurant by 11 members and partners.



Julie, Gerda and Zanda hard at work tying flies



Julie turned up with rainbow trout finger nails!

International Women's Fly Fishing Day

The International Women's Fly Fishing Day is being held on September 9th. While this is outside our normal fishing season, Club members have had an outing the past few years to celebrate this day. Plans are not finalised at this stage but there is likely to be a fishing outing, probably to the Te Waewae Lagoon but that will depend on the weather. Contact Julie Cook (027 630 2949) for details.

Casting Day - September 24th

We are holding our annual Casting Day at Queens Park Cricket Ground on Sunday, September 24th starting at 1:00pm. Come along and get your casting arm all sorted out for the coming season.

Lodge Working Bee - September 17th

We have the Lodge working bee on September 17th arriving at the Lodge at 9:00am. No specific tasks at this stage but there will need to be a clean up inside and probably some weeding outside.

Cover Photo by Julie

Gerda, Chris & Dave on the Club Stand at the Boat Show. As is normal, Chris talking, Dave tying and Gerda hiding in the corner.

Boat Show by Dave

As we have done in the past, we had a stand at the Southland Boat Show on the 12th and 13th August.

Friday afternoon saw six of us meet up at Fish & Game to load up screens, photos, tables, chairs etc needed for the stand onto Dave's trailer. It was off to the Stadium to set up and this year we were able to get everything in via an emergency exit very close to our site. This was much better than days gone by when we had to transport all our stuff the full length of the Stadium on a trolley. The stand was set up in no time and we had an extra table this year that allowed more people to tie flies.

We had four people to man the stand, Dave, Gerda, Julie and Chris, although they came and went as it suited them. We had quite a bit of interest in the Club as well as the upcoming Fly Fishing Course. We ran out of flyers for the course on the Saturday and then ran out of the next print run on the Sunday. Those that stayed to the end on Saturday managed a drink and a couple of oysters courtesy of the organisers.



The show was reasonably busy on Saturday but had wound down well before the 6pm finish time and the same happened on Sunday with most people starting to pack up well before the 4pm finish time.

It didn't take four of us long to get all the gear onto the trailer and them off again at Fish & Game. We had to hurry as it had just started raining and we didn't want to get anything wet. Lucky the trailer has a cover.

Thanks to Chris, Gerda, and Jule for manning the stand and to David and Murray for helping with set up and takedown of the stand. Thanks to Fish & Game for the use of their screens, table, and chairs for the stand.

Gerda and Julie tying flies at the Boat Show

The Club stand waiting for people to arrive.



A Day to Take a Tourist Fishing by Chris

Early March the new phone rang. It was Alister, the American I had recently met in a sports shop in Taupo. His camper van tour of NZ had got him to Southland and wanted to know if I could take him fishing.

Arrangements were made and I met him at Winton on the Saturday. His wife and 3 year old daughter headed to Invercargill for the afternoon while we headed to the Aparima.

I was under instructions to get him back to Invercargill on time so he could go out for dinner. Facing no chance of an ice cream on the way home we had one on the way out. Alister had heard of Orange Chip ice cream and it surpassed all his expectations. He said he had better not introduce it to his daughter unless he wanted to stop at every shop that had an ice cream sign.

Apparently dinner plans changed and now I was to drop Alister to the Otautau pub at 6pm as it was only a few kilometres downstream from where we were fishing. Alister was not quite prepared for this change and faced the problem of wading in the clothes that he then had to wear out for dinner. I told him he could wade trouserless if he could handle the sandflies but he had to leave his trousers on if he was commando or wearing a thong.

We set up and started fishing upstream. Alister fished the deeper water while I fished a smaller run. Alister hadn't fly fished for several years but had no trouble picking up his casting memories. After moving up the run a fish took my nymph. It was on for a while but eventually it became a mid stream release.

Further up the river became braided. I stalked up one braid and thought I saw a smudge on the bottom. It shifted from side to side so I cast to it. The fish was feeding and moving quite a bit but soon took the nymph. A short fight and a 2 3/4 pound trout was on the bank. Alister admired it and considered it to be a "big" fish.

Alister headed upstream to a nice corner pool with a gravel bank and some willows. It also held several trout that he could see. He unsuccessfully thrashed that pool without putting the trout down until it was time to go. So no luck for Alister but he enjoyed being on the river and casting to sighted trout. Surprise, surprise, I dropped him off right on 6 o'clock just as his wife arrived. On time to and from a fishing trip. That's not likely to happen again.



Alister enjoying his Southland fishing



Chris with his "big" fish

Competitions by Gerda

Just three flies entered last month in spite of the parachute adams being a popular fly locally. Dave's fly was the winner on the night.

The August fly is the diving beetle as shown in last month's Ripples (good luck with the biots).

The September fly is the timberline emerger as shown below. This is the last fly for this year as we will be back to the fish competition in October.



The three flies entered in July

September Competition Fly by Gerda & Dave

This is a fly from Peter Gathercole's "The Fly-Tying Bible". We have used different dubbing to suit what most will have.

Materials

Hook	Black Magic A14
Thread	Unithread 6/0 gray
Tail	Grey marabou
Dubbing	Hares ear dubbing
Rib	Fine gold wire
Wing	Grizzle hackle tips
Hackle	Brown cock hackle



Run Thread to the bend of the hook.

Tie in marabou tail.

Tie in gold wire pulling across away from you so you don't distort the tail when you start winding it.

Dub abdomen. Take the dubbing well forward as the wing and hackle are right at the front.



Wind gold wire forward with even turns, tie off and trim.

Tie in hackle tip wings.

Tie in hackle.

Wrap hackle twice around keeping it right at the front. Tie off, trim and whip finish.

Subscriptions

Subscriptions are now due. The cost is the same as last year, Senior \$30, Junior \$10 (under 16 on 1st of July) & Family \$40.

Please pay your subscription fee to the Southland Fly Fishing Club Inc: SBS account 03 1355 0796655 00 Use your surname and initials as reference.

Coming Events (MM=Monthly Meeting, CM = Committee Meeting)

29 th Aug	MM	Fish & Game speaker
2 rd Sept	Demo	Fly Tying demonstration @ Hunting & Fishing
5 th Sept	CM	Fly tying
9 th Sept	Fishing	International Women's Fly Fishing Day
10 th Sept	Fishing	Club Trip (winter) Fish & Game 9:00am
16 th Sept	Demo	Fly Tying demonstration @ Hunting & Fishing
17 th Sept		Lodge Working Bee
21 st Sept		Hunting & Fishing Angler's Night
24 th Sept	Sunday	Casting Day at Queens Park 1:00pm
26 th Sept	MM	At Hunting & Fishing

Club Contacts

- Address **Southland Fly Fishing Club, PO Box 1689, Invercargill, New Zealand**
- Website www.southlandflyfishingclub.org.nz
- President Dave Harris, 30 Baxter Street Invercargill (027 201 6722) dcharris@southnet.co.nz
- Secretary Chris McDonald, 334 Racecourse Road, Invercargill (03 217 3733) mcdonald.ccnd@kinect.co.nz
- Vice-President Gerda Johnstone,(022 166 1149) gerda.johnstone10@gmail.com
- Editor Dave Harris dcharris@southnet.co.nz
Items for publication must be submitted to the editor, prior to the 10th of the month
- Librarian Chris Cowie (027 236 9576)
- 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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