



NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2020



Next Meeting: Monday 30th November

Waikato Sport Fishing clubrooms - Grantham St

Christmas Bar B Q 7:00pm Meeting 8pm

Speaker - Mike Davis; owner Hunting and Fishing Rotorua. Demonstrating some new G Loomis rods and other interesting stuff!

Cover - Colin Tan, river helper, with Reel Recovery Participant Tongariro river.

AND COMING UP

Summer Trophy Trip - 22nd - 23rd January TALTAC

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Don't forget we have flies for sale at \$1 each



President's Comment – October 2020

Our October meeting was enjoyed by a smaller than usual audience who received a close-up viewing of the mysteries of Spey casting presented by Charlie followed by a broad overview of the regular content and fly-fishing information potential available on our HAC Facebook page which was presented by Gavin. Interested members raised a number of in-depth questions on both topics which were answered informatively by Charlie and Gavin, increasing the value of the evening to those present.

Our November Club night on the 30th is the last meeting for this year which we will run as a “social event” again (barbeque and a beer for members), our guest speaker will be Mike Davis from Hunting & Fishing Rotorua. Mike will be available from 7pm on the night to demonstrate a selection of the latest rods (come and try your hand with state-of-the-art gear), following a quick summary of Club activities Mike will then present on Rotorua Lakes, soft-baiting for trout, and saltwater fly fishing for “Kingis”.

This will be a great opportunity to wrap-up our fishing year so please make the effort to attend.

A revived trip to Lake Aniwhenua (organised by Derek) was squeezed in this month, only four intrepid explorers braved the wilds of Murapara, see later in the newsletter for Derek's trip report.

This month's scheduled club trip is Craig's TT trip staying at Kereru Lodge on the 13th & 14th, we can look forward to a verbal trip report at the Club night on the 30th.

Your committee has developed what is becoming a fairly-full list of Club activities for 2021, check out the areas of interest to yourself further on within this newsletter and let your intentions be known to Derek asap.

See you all at the next meeting –Stay Safe out there.

Ray

Brian Beamiss and Richard Wagstaff - Aniwhenua



Trout-fishing, unlike most other sport, is suited to all degrees of men - to the working man, or to the hard worked lawyer, medical man, merchant or literary man, all of whom may find in this a means of taking a much needed holiday in the country.

Trout Fishing and Sport in Maori Land Captain G D Hamilton 1904

CLUB NEWS

A few weeks ago Brian Apps turned up at our place with a 1994 limited edition, (2500 copies), reproduction of the original Trout Fishing and Sport in Maori Land; it was in pristine condition; he had found it on one of his regular rounds of Hamilton Op Shops and bought it. Having an original copy, I don't know if you realise Brian has one of the most extensive collections of fly fishing books in the country, he asked me if I wanted the one he had just picked up; of course I said yes. Of great interest are Captain Hamilton's 5 flies, all soft hackled wet flies, and his method of fishing them. They are as relevant now as they were years ago and I have a half formed idea in the back of my head of tying and fishing them!

As Ray said we had a smaller than average turn out at the last meeting, although given it was Labour Day it was surprisingly good. It was great to see Harris at the meeting and hear that he is getting time to get some fishing in despite running his business in lock down city, (Auckland).

After delivering my presentation on trout spey at the last meeting I did notice the effectiveness of this method on recovering fish on the Tongariro that are feeding heavily on caddis nymphs is a bit limited so I'm experimenting with a nymphing set up on my lightest trout spey rod. Can't wait to get to some big water and try it! Especially after seeing my friend George pull good numbers of fish out of the T on caddis a few weeks ago. Here is a link good article on [trout spey by Whitney Gould](#).

Speaking of the Tongariro the reason I was down there was to take part in the Reel Recovery fishing retreat for men living with cancer. George and I went down a couple of days early to scout out the water; read go fishing. Colin Tan came down on as a river guide as can be seen from the cover shot. It is always a humbling experience to take part in the retreats and a privilege to be a small part of those guys journey through cancer. They are invariably positive and have a fantastic weekend. The other take away, when you sit down and talk, is that we are all affected by cancer. There are very few people who don't have someone in the family with or recovering from cancer. For males it's prostate and bowel cancer; go and see your GP and get checked. If you wait for symptoms to occur you may have left it too late.

At our last meeting the usual suspects, Craig, Gavin and Derek, gave reports on the Whakapapa, Mangatutu and Awakino rivers which are all fishing well. Derek reported that the Hamurana and Ngongataha Stream mouths on Lake Rotorua are also looking good. (Don't forget that the Ngongataha opens above State Highway 5 on December

1st) . I hear the Waimakariri is getting hammered, particularly around the bridge, and the competition guys are thrashing it this weekend.

We had some nice fish reported last meeting. Russel got the Dave Winchcombe monthly fish with a 5lb Tongariro brownie and Chris Corbett won the Garmin with a 61/2lb Whakapapa rainbow. Craig scored a nice 51/2lb brown on the Whakapapa as well.

The Orange Blaster went to Rob Gordon this month. Rob came down to TALTAC to take part in the Spring Election Special trip. His idea of waders was his divers wet suit pants and booties, he took his inaugural dip in the Tongariro and his snoring was so bad that his room mate ended up sleeping in the lounge. After catching his first trout on the Tongariro, falling and discovering that people wear waders and not wet suits for a reason Rob got very hungry and had to eat a steak the size of half a calf to recover..

STOP PRESS!

The lot of an editor is not an easy one, I'm not one to grumble but when you're sitting at home getting the newsletter sorted and you ring someone up for information and they tell you about the great fish they just caught life seems well A little unfair.

Derek - Ota, at least he answered his phone then sent me sent me a photo I suppose.



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Taupo Rod & Tackle

FLY SHOP



Lake Aniwhenua Trip

We decided to leave a decision for this trip very late in the piece as the lake is so dependent on the weather. Luckily the weather forecast didn't include much rain that week and it turned out to be quite pleasant in the end. We stayed at Aniwhenua Fishing Lodge, which is Glenn Ballenger's house right by the ramp. Very adequate for up to 8 singles, plenty of hot water and with the area under the house very good for storage of rods and wet gear. Glenn is ONLY available by phone – computers and cellphones are unheard of in his era!! Anyhow the 4 of us who ventured over had heaps to eat and there was even a television to watch the news – very civilized.

We all arrived Friday lunchtime so it was off for a fish to 'check it out'. Up past Ryder's Bay and into the even shallower water – opps stuck - - wasn't like that before we recall! Back towards the dam, opps stuck again on weed – mustn't cut that corner next time!



Derek enjoying some fishing not stuck in the weeds.

Back at the house we tallied up and tried to see what the fish were taking? That was a conundrum in itself – a green thing, a brown thingy; well nobody was giving much away there were they! I caught a couple on a cased caddis fly and a variety of nymphs, but really small lures seemed to work best and a orange bead helped. Richard seemed to do best with hooking into fish – not always landing them though. He was using a sinking line whilst the oth-



A nice brownie caught by Ray

Over the two days we landed 15 fish, but to be honest nothing over 3lbs really and a lot had 'shag marks' on them. Richard and Brian decided to stay and fish the lake again on Sunday morning with another 5 landed. Ray and I moved on to try out Rerewhakaaitu on the way home. We decided to fish the 12/14ft water just as the weed drops off to the deeper water – always the prime spot on this lake. We landed 3 and Ray 'lost' the best fish of the weekend – jumped a few times to check us out and then spat the hook!! And there you have it – the best fish got away again!! Isn't that why we go back fishing as no two days are the same, and the unexpected happens frequently.

Derek

Richard and Brian making the most of the calm conditions.

Photos by Ray



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Euro/Czech...now Kiwi Nymphing – By Rob Vaz Oct 2020

Recently I have been promoting Euro/Czech Nymphing not because it is the only method however it is another string to the anglers bow, very effective in catching fish and a whole new way to get excited about fly fishing while re-discovering water that you may have found void of fish. These techniques now form a longer list of names Modern nymphing, Spanish, French and I've coined this personally in my backyard Kiwi Nymphing and why not! As a previous competition angler representing NZ, I have seen many variations of these techniques although the same essential principals apply.

Firstly a few points:

THE SET UP usually involves smaller lighter reels, longer rods anything from 10 foot to 11 foot. 2,3,4 weight fast action rods and essentially light fly lines low diameter (000). The fly line then running into coloured sections of high vis or bi/tri coloured leader (same diameter all the way through) this forms the very important sighter. The sighter replaces what we commonly call the strike indicator i.e. wool or a dry dropper set up. From the hi vis leader I run the appropriate tippet depending on the size of the river, its volume, previous knowledge of the size of fish and the type of water. I find the business end is using the correct strength tippet and strong barbless hooks to detect takes.

GOOD CONTACT. I notice when guiding people and finding success is determined by an ability to detect and respond quickly to takes, many times slack line results in the lack of contact to the fish or a poor hook set. Maintaining a good tight line allows for instant detection of a take. I was once told fish do not have hands so they use their mouth to taste and feel food. Within seconds a fish can take in and spit out your fly. Using the correct rod angles not over casting will help maintain good contact.

READING THE WATER: A key aspect to any fishing is the ability to fish productive water by reading the river, understanding where fish will be lying in all types of conditions. For example when the river is swollen after rain fish can hold closer to a bank, for me it is about reading the speed of the water and targeting water where fish can move in and out of to find food and shelter. Hydrology is the aspect of learning to read micro currents, how the nymphs drop into a piece of water and drift. Importantly to maintain a natural looking fly coming down stream representing the normal nymph cycle.

CHANGE YOUR FLY: It can be easy to keep the same set up and fish all day...yet miss a heap of fish because your fishing too heavy or too light. Always adjust your flies to suit the depth you are fishing or use the appropriate weight to suit the conditions. And realise its not all about the “bling” of the fly pattern more about the size, silhouette and weight.

Go out and have some fun!

Rob Vaz

Rob designed and constructed our website, is a Hamilton local and has been associated with our club for many years. He is an all round good guy and highly experienced guide.

Rob will be running some Kiwi Nymphing clinics locally and has offered reduced rates to club members, get in touch with him by email or phone, details below:

robfishnz@gmail.com

(0)27 641 4106

Here are a few YouTube tutorials he has put together for those of you who haven't seen them or want to take another look.

[Tongariro Kiwi Nymphing](#)

[Kiwi Nymphing 1](#)

[Kiwi Nymphing 2](#)

[Kiwi Nymphing 3](#)

Rob with a nice brown taken Kiwi Nymphing.



Here's a link to Rob's website [robfish](#)




Cruz Godfrey shows Dad Gareth how to catch big fish with this impressive Waikato carp.

Gareth with a couple of nice browns from the Whanganui - Whakapapa system.



Russell puts some finishing touches on the Arapuni Lodge roof. You will note the scaffolding and other OSH features the team employed to ensure a safe work place. Thanks to John, Glenn and all others involved for their hard work. The Lodge is available for rent to members and their families at a very reasonable rate; see add later in the newsletter.



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The Tongariro is full of well mended fish that can't get enough of the plentiful caddis in the river; or a well tied imitation nymph or emerger. This one is ready for release.



At our last meeting Craig Fredericks mentioned one of his favourite flies for fishing locally is the Copper John. Now when Craig says that he rates a fly you should sit up and take notice! He likes to fish it 600 - 800 mls beneath an indicator in a hopper dropper set up.

The Copper John has been around for about 30 years now and is one of those iconic patterns, kind of like a latter day pheasant tail or hares ear. Its' creator was John Barr and below is an article by him including a step by step pattern of the fly, (sorry about the embedded adds).

[Tying the Original Copper John](#)



Here is a great video of the pattern from Tightline. Of course both these patterns are pre UV resin and use epoxy that require a resin and hardener to be mixed then cured. I don't know anyone who still uses this, so if you want to tie some use UV resin!

[Copper John](#)



Dave Winchcombe Cup

Heaviest trout caught outside Auckland Waikato F&G region

Month	Name	Weight	Rainbow or Brown	Where caught
June	Beth Wagstaff	7lb	Brown	Tongariro
August	Kane Seward Stephen Martin	4lb 8oz	Rainbow	Tongariro
October	Russell Jennings	5lb	Brown	Tongariro

My mate George demonstrating why I should be more flexible and have a nymphing rig up my sleeve for when the trout aren't interested in swung flies, he comprehensively out fished me.

He also proved we could wade across the tale of the hatchery pool. I wouldn't recommend it if you are not a confident wader, are a little challenged in the height department, the river is running high or you don't have a large companion to anchor yourself to.



Gamin Cup

Heaviest trout caught in Auckland Waikato F&G Region

Month	Name	Weight	Rainbow or Brown	Where Caught
August	Gavin Hall	5lb 12oz	Rainbow	Waihou
October	Craig Corbett	6lb 8oz	Brown	Whakapapa

HAC Trip and Event Calendar

14/15th November	Lake Arapuni Working Bee - The cleaning is done; now time for the painting!	John Spence (if wet it will be deferred to the following weekend)
28/29th November	SSFNZ Lake Aniwhenua Competition	SSFNZ
Monday 30th November	HAC Meeting - Guest Speaker is Mike Davis of H & F Rotorua + casting + barbecue	Begins early at 6.30pm - Ray Pryor
14th December	Committee Meeting - 7.30pm at Sport Fishing Club	Sport Fishing Clubrooms
December	Day/Evening trips to Lake Rotorua Stream-mouths (more to follow by email)	Derek Burtenshaw
22/23rd January	HAC Summer Cup - Kuratau Lake staying at Taltac - Trip 1 (note new venue)	John Davidson (booked for 10 - boat fishing)
Monday 25th January	HAC Meeting - Guest Speaker is Rob Warne: local fishing at Waikato and Waipa rivers	Ray Pryor
Monday 1st February	Committee Meeting - 7.30pm at Sport Fishing Club	Sport Fishing Clubrooms
5/6/7th February	HAC Summer Cup - Kuratau Lake staying at Taltac - Trip 2 (note new venue + long weekend)	Derek Burtenshaw (booked for 10 - boat fishing)
Monday 22nd February	HAC Meeting - Guest Speaker is Felicity from Walking Access NZ	Ray Pryor
Monday 1st March	Committee Meeting - 7.30pm at Sport Fishing Club	Sport Fishing Clubrooms
20/21st March	Lake Arapuni Competition - Boat fishing	Te Awamutu Fish and Game
Monday 29th March	HAC Meeting - Guest Speaker	Ray Pryor
Monday 5th April	Committee Meeting - 7.30pm at Sport Fishing Club	Sport Fishing Clubrooms
Monday 26th April	HAC Meeting - Guest Speaker	Ray Pryor
Monday 3rd May	Committee Meeting - 7.30pm at Sport Fishing Club	Sport Fishing Clubrooms

For all enquiries regarding the trips/events and bookings please
call Derek on 0212897070 or email at :
djbert@xtra.co.nz

Proposed Trips :

Lake Arapuni staying at the Lodge - 'Triploid Trout' Competition

Mohaka River Trip - probably late March/April

Lake Rotoiti 'jigging trip' - late March/early April

Lake Rotoma 'tiger trout trip' - late May

Orange Blaster

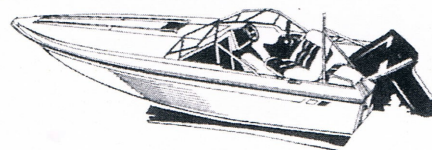
Month	Name	Problem
July	John Davidson	Having his phone not only ring but chatter uncontrollably during the meeting.
August	Harris Mian Richard Wagstaff	Crashing into rocks, excited commentaries, use of profanities and having far too much fun in the filming of Lake Karapiro Fishing Trip
September	Richard Wagstaff	Forgetting to change his watch for daylight saving and turning up late for the meeting with the petty cash.
October	Rob Gordon	Confusing wet suits and waders, falling into the Tongariro, reaching new heights in the snoring department.

JOHN SPENCE -MARINE SERVICES-



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ARAPUNI LODGE

The Hamilton Angler's Club owns this facility on the South Western end of Lake Arapuni on Landing Road. It can sleep up to 10 and is fully self contained. There is a boat ramp adjacent to the Lodge for easy launching of small craft and a good swimming beach.

It's an ideal spot for some relaxing fishing or a family weekend away.



RATES

\$10 per person per night or \$50 a night for exclusive use of the Lodge to club members.

CONTACT

John Spence , Lodge Administrator - 07 871 7711 / a/h 07 871 8707

spencemarine@xtra.co.nz



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Craig ran his annual trip down to Kereru Lodge on the Tauranga Taupo recently and Peter Gault sent me the following photos. No report as yet but from the Facebook photos it looks like everyone had fun, fish were caught and no doubt a few good yarns were spun over the bar b q .



Richard appears to be enjoying his retirement, he's getting out and fishing at every opportunity.

Why is John D grinning fiendishly? Is it because he is carrying 2 rods like some sought of competition angler and is catching twice as many fish as everyone else? Or maybe it's because of Richard's fly choice?



Apparently carrying 2 rods works because John pulled a number of fish out of this pool.

Looking after your investments- Or would you rather be fishing?



A fly fisherman himself, Mark Etheridge, knows his answer but as an investment advisor with Craigs Investment Partners, Mark also knows that in today's fast-moving investment world there's no such thing as set-and-forget investments.

Successful investing requires a disciplined approach, sound up-to-date advice based on quality research, and effective portfolio management.

So if you would rather be fishing -

Call Mark Etheridge on (07) 959 7107

or email: mark.etheridge@craigsip.com

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