



NEWSLETTER

MAY JUNE 2020



Next Meeting: Monday 29th June

Waikato Sport Fishing clubrooms - Grantham St

Cup of Tea/Coffee and Socialise 7:15pm Meeting 8pm

Speaker - Barrie Barnes of I love Fly Fishing; on the Whanganui River and his tackle business.

Cover - Kids Fishing Day

AND COMING UP

July 27th - AGM

August 21st & 22nd - Winter Cup Turangi

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Point of release - Ray P



President's Comment – May 2020

There is now good news on three fronts, you will all be aware we have switched to Level 2 Lock-down allowing greater freedom to travel to your favourite waters, the group gathering size has been lifted to 100 which allows us to schedule the next Club-night for Monday the 29th of June, and Level 1 is just around the corner.

The guest speaker for our June meeting will be Barrie Barnes of “I Love Fly Fishing”, Barrie is a keen fisherman, fly fishing guide, and successfully runs an on-line fishing equipment business as well. Barrie will have a few good fishing tales to tell and a bit of gear to show us plus a few vouchers as gifts, please make an effort to attend to make his trip down from Auckland a welcoming visit.

Our Club AGM is now scheduled to be held on Monday 27th July, preparations are now underway to sort out the Club Awards and Trophies, our guest speaker is yet to be confirmed for this event.

Also for those who had not caught up with the advice on-line, the Rahui which had been applied to the Waikato and Waipa rivers has been lifted (thanks to Nigel for the early heads-up), so look out fish!

For those members yet to renew their memberships there is now the facility to complete this via the HAC website, click on the [Home](#) page, then click on the [Membership](#) icon to access the forms, paying on-line works well, Malcolm has new cards available for all, get yourself up to date now.

I look forward to catching up with you at our next meeting, in the meantime -

Stay safe.

Ray

There's one definition of fly fishing that describes it as "a more expensive and frustrating method of catching fewer fish", and two handers can take this to another level.
Peter Morse on Trout Spey.

Club News

Firstly you'll notice there is a theme in this week's newsletter re Take a Kid Fishing. Thanks to Colin, Steffen and Gavin for your contributions. You will also notice that this is a combined May/June edition, partially due to lack of meetings and Covid and partially owing to me scratching around for contributions. Thank goodness for those consistent contributors who keep this newsletter alive.

I ran into Ken Collier in Taupo Rod and Tackle recently, he had been celebrating his 80th birthday down that way with family. Happy birthday from all us Ken - you're a role model to us, (not so), young folk.

Winter Trophy Trip - I believe this will be happening on the weekend of the 21st and 22nd of August now that Delhi Davidson is back in action. Keep an eye out for details coming your way.

NZ Federation of Freshwater Anglers - have invited us to send nominate a member to their national committee. If you are interested in representing the club and Central North Island anglers interests on this body contact Hardie Teusse. You can check their web site here, [NZFFA](#).

I am looking forward to our speaker this month. Barrie Barnes operates a great on line tackle shop at [I Love Flyfishing](#) but he also has a wealth of knowledge on his favourite river, the Whanganui, which he is going to share.

Tea Duty - seems they missed out in April it looks like Geoff Mears, Derek Dobson and Brian Beamiss are on Tea Duty this month. We will need a new list of volunteers for the coming year, please give me your names next meeting.

Contact

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The story on the next page is true, there were some odd goings on in Riverlea during and shortly after the lockdown.

The Chinese Carp Fishing God

During the Covid lockdown our family had a couple of stories running on Google Groups. The idea being that we all contributed a sentence or two a day. With the grand kids fertile imagine in play the stories were based on The Ghost of Chesterman Road and The Witch of Cobham Drive. There were lots of supernatural goings on, as you can imagine, with one theory being young boys being inside for an extended period with too much computer time had opened a portal to another realm and allowed unseen forces to slip through.

Fast forward to the first freedoms of level 3; Brian Apps and I are on the banks of the river at Malcolm Street practising our spey casting, socially distanced of course, hard not to with an 11-foot plus rods There was also an old Chinese gentleman who frequents the Malcolm Street Beach and is a successful carp angler present. He has very limited English but as fellow anglers we manage to communicate our appreciation of our sport and I admire the hefty carp he captures.

There we were the carp angler sitting on the bank watching his rods. Brian and I practising Snake Rolls, off the left shoulder Snap Ts and Perry Pokes while discussing the merits of various line grain weights and shooting line materials as two handed casters are want to do. There was warmth in the late Autumn sun, little wind and the ducks were dabbling in the river. We were at peace with the world and, it appeared, not about to be struck low with Covid 19.

This moment was shattered by the arrival of a woman with three children, two boys and a girl somewhere between 4 and 8 years of age I would guess. Next thing they start throwing rocks into the water where the carp angler's lines obviously were. In his best English he shouted HOY!! and was ignored. In slightly better English I pointed out to the woman that her children's rock throwing was disturbing the gentleman's fishing and perhaps they should move; to which she responded, "my kids just want to have some fun". She then turned her back and they continued their rock throwing.

Tiring of this big boy wandered into the river followed by smallest child shortly after. And then little boy suddenly toppled, as if pushed by an unseen hand, falling into the river. Mother, who I suspected is one of those overprotective types, rather than saying to big boy, "grab your brother and pull him in" rushed into the river in a panic and grabbed little boy. In the process she managed to scare little boy who started bellowing like a lost calf and got herself soaking wet.

We now have a wet mother and wet upset child, what else can they do but leave? As they marched off back to the car peace returns to the river bank, and I'm sure I heard an Oriental chuckle from the wispy clouds, a Chinese Carp Fishing God had travelled through the Riverlea portal it seems.

Charlie.

Taupo Rod & Tackle

FLY SHOP



TAKF – Perch

Firstly, a big thank you to Gavin and the other club members that have sparked this interest and have enabled quality daddy daughter time.



This fishing exposure has led to her coming in a possum pack and fly fishing with me once this year. Although my wife and I have decided to start her on this interest a quite a young age. She has had a fishing licence since she was 18 months old.

If you want to have a nice day out fishing with your kids, then fishing for perch is perhaps the easiest freshwater fish to catch in my opinion. They are prevalent in all our local lakes (including turtle lake at the Hamilton Gardens), which means easy access and coffee after. They are usually in the shallows which mean you don't have to cast very far. They can be found in schools which means once you find one, casting to that area again will usually result in another hook-up. Importantly, they are voracious and are susceptible to all methods (dependent on your local regulations) from worms, small softbaits or flies.

Equipment

Licence; Light spin rod or a child's spin rod; small net; hip pack to contain your bits and pieces; backpack of clothes, food and treats.

Nice to have are folding chairs, a bucket to fill with water for the perch to reside in for the duration of the trip.

Methods

There are many different methods and I won't go to them in detail as a quick search on the internet using the key words below will give you detailed steps. The 4 methods that have worked well for me are:

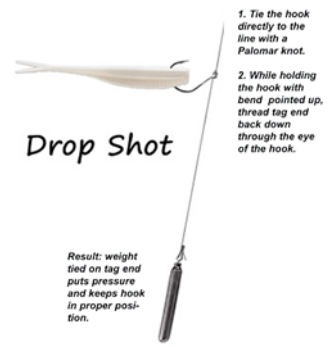
1. Drop Shot

My Favourite method, the depth is constant, the bait can be softbait, or worm.

Slow twitch retrieve. The circle style hook means the fish usually hooks itself.

2. Softbaiting

You will need light jig heads and small soft plastics. However, these are not entirely necessary, I have used a light ball sinker tied directly to a hook. A twitch retreat usually does the trick you can cover the water well.

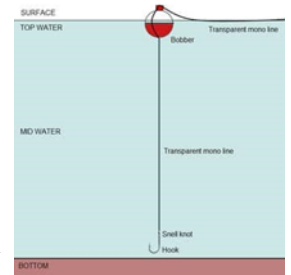


sary,
and



3. Float with a worm.

The most basic and easy method requiring very little attention. Do use a small split shot near the hook to sink the bait down to the right level.



4. Running ledger rig

The running rig is useful for both bait and also wetflies. Again, another simple yet effective rig. This rig if used with a bait needs monitoring for bites. If used with a streamer style fly, it can be jigged back like a softbait.

In general, just remember its not about fishing, its about the kids having fun and sometimes, you may have to stop fishing and do something else or even go home.

Colin Tan—with help from his number one fishing buddy Lucy.



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One of the last events the club held prior to the advent of C 19 was the highly successful Kids Fishing Day organised by Committee Member Gavin Hall. Gavin does a fantastic job with the assistance of Adam Daniel from Fish and Game and sponsorship from Hamiltons of Te Awamutu. Catch rates were down this year with the 36 kids participating catching around 25-30 perch. Check out the photos of the happy anglers below.



Boys Day Out

The wife decided to leave town for a few days and headed to rainy Dunedin to catch Elton John live in concert, so I decided the rest of the house was having a boy's day out fishing.

I called Eastern region fish and game, in search of some local knowledge. After explaining that I have two very competitive twin boys mad keen on fishing, they helpfully suggested my best chances of getting into some action would be trolling outside the Awahou stream mouth or spin fishing from the boat outside the 200m buoy.

Boat and wagon loaded up, and the boys were fizzing about a day's fishing. Arggh the tackle box was missing my trusty pink Tassie, no worries we grabbed some cheap pink nail polish and crisis averted.

We arrived at the Hamurana boat ramp an easy 90 min drive from home. Upon arriving a local kindly showed me his successful lure colour for the morning then advised me that I was two hours too late and should have been on the water at 6am.

After trolling and letting the boys practice spin fishing for a while, I noticed none of the other anglers nearby were not having much luck either. We drifted out and started to notice the fish were hanging around the 12ft depth mark. That's it, out to deeper water we went, to let the pink Tassie out with two colours, then trolled back in over and around the 12ft mark. I've found that when trolling, a lot of my hook ups come after turning or giving the motor a small burst of throttle, just enough to present the lure in a different way. Well it worked.



Reels screaming and kids shouting with excitement, Keaton winds and winds, then gets a rainbow to the boat. Measured and dispatched humanly ready for the chilly bin. Lines out again back over the same ground. The reel once more starts screaming, the kids start too. This time Tristen leaves the rod in the rod holder and just starts winding, it puts up a fair fight but is soon joining his mate in the esky.

Goals for the day achieved, back to the boat ramp for a swim and caffeine top up for the skipper. The kids fished golf balls out of the shallows while I put the boat on the trailer and prepared for home.

Tight lines and free golf balls

Steffen Grimm



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Dragon Flies - - 'Papa Roach' Pattern

Gary was President at the time and came along one evening during a fly tying course and taught us how to tie up some useful lake patterns. Success had come to Gary when winning the Summer trip earlier that year, so a lot of members showed up hoping for a few tips. I was busy getting materials ready for everyone and didn't get the opportunity to sit down and tie up the 'Papa Roach' Pattern. During the 'lockdown' I found it being tied up via a Utube clip during a Durban (SA) Fishing club meeting, [Papa Roach](#) , and thought about tying a few up myself, naturally changing it around just a little. (as you do from time to time!!!)

My mind wandered back to when Rob Vas and Braedon Clarke were just 'young fellows' and they tried out some dragonfly patterns on Lake Rerewhakaaitu at Homestead Arm and were blown away by the sudden hits the flies received – had a ball. Dragonflies are predominant during Spring and early Summer and to a trout must seem like a 'pavlova' – enticingly large and juicy!!

Dragonfly patterns are like damsel patterns - - HEAPS to choose from and interesting to tie up. The main criteria is that you want the fly to 'hover' over the weedbeds and so heavy beaded flies are out of the question as far as I'm concerned. The 'La Giaconda' was all the rage a few years back and an easy fly to tie from John Giacon in Auckland. As you can see by the pictures, browns and olives are the dominant colours, with eyes, legs and body shape featuring prominently. Sizes vary, far different to the damsel nymph which is always around 20mm. Dragonflies can be 40mm long down to 15mm, but I like the bigger patterns.

As you are probably aware by now I am a fan of Canadian patterns for Lake 'O', especially Phil Rowley Patterns. His book came out 20 years ago now and I was probably one of the first to get a copy sent to me. Over the years, even Phil has changed the dressings of patterns slightly as he becomes familiar with new materials – or gets given them!

Utube is a vast source of information these days as the list of patterns increase weekly with even more unusual fly names to add to your vocabulary!!



Are they worth tying up? You bet they are. The retail stores are quite limited with NZ dragonfly patterns and as you know it's nice to catch a fish on your own creation.

The South African pattern which features predominately is the 'Papa Roach' which has abundant movement and a really great shape when in the water.



Here are the details:-



Some RULES when tying the fly to help make it swim properly - - -

1. Use LARGE black plastic bead chain eyes – the BIG head is 1/5 of total body length.
2. Use standard wet or 1x short shank # 6 hooks. The fly is basically an extended body pattern, with the hook acting as a keel. Don't worry about short takes – the fly is not meant to be stripped.
3. The thorax /wing case feathers must be tied in a tent-like style that sheaths and controls the strip of Zonker fur. This is the unique style and tying step that sets this pattern apart.

4. All the material and parts (with the exception of the dubbing around the head) is placed ABOVE the hook shank, so the shank forms the flat base of the fly.
 5. Select a grizzly (contains guard hairs) Zonker strip with short fur fibres. Remember this is your abdomen already done and dusted.
 6. NO, it is not tied in any other size. If you want to fish a smaller one you can choose from a host of other dragon patterns.
 7. ALWAYS fish this pattern connected with a loop knot to the tippet and with a slow retrieve.
 8. Remember this pattern looks a whole lot better suspended in the water than in your vise.
- Lastly, stick to 10/12lb fluorocarbon tippet.

Dressing

Hook - : # 6 wet fly or 1x short shank hook

Thread - Olive Danville 7/0

Abdomen - Olive Grizzly Zonker

Thorax - Olive UV Ice dub (maybe add some brown)

Wing case - 2 x 2 olive mallard flank feathers (or olive partridge if you have some)

Eyes - Large black plastic bead chain (Spotlight)

Legs - Olive Flexifloss (or mottled dark olive rubber legs)

Head - Dubbing to match abdomen



Some notes on the thorax dubbing:

The thorax dub is just to fill the empty space in front of the zonker fur inside the mallard flank tent. You can very loosely dub the ice dub around the hook shank and then brush it out and upwards, orientating the strands around the upper half of the fly. What I normally do is clump dub the ice dub on the top half of the shank, then brush it out to form soft veil around zonker. Clump dubbing is a technique developed by Scott Sanches to create a shaggy thorax very fast – using longer fibred synthetic dubbings. Simply fold the dubbing around the tread and place the dubbing where needed – almost like you do with placing and tying in rubber legs.

Another similar fly is the Murray Peddar [Crafty Roach](#)

That's a lot to take in, but do tie a few up and give them a swim in the Spring/early Summer at your favourite piece of water. Takes are not subtle, so hang on to your fishing rod!!!

DEREK

My latest fly tying discovery has been tube flies. I bought a [frodin flies](#) tube fly kit recently. I got the kit from I Love Fly Fishing; you can find them here on [Barrie's web site](#).

I modified the size and colour of a few patterns I found on YouTube to make them more trouty and intend to give them a swim on the Tongariro next weekend. Here are links to some of the patterns.



[Scandi Style tube fly](#)

[Easy tube fly](#)

[Wicket's Chingaso Tube Fly](#)

These are just a few - there are heaps more.
Charlie

Here's a link to a [composite loop zonker](#) streamer from Derek. I reckon it would be a killer on the Tongariro!

John Spence has been out fishing at Arapuni again and scored these 3 nice fish. Check out the condition of that maiden fish at the bottom, it's an absolute rugby ball! Not sure about the ice cream though, don't think it would go too well with trout.



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In keeping with the kids theme here is a photo of my grandson Ruben taken on the Tongariro last year; note the bare feet, it was winter! We were down staying at a friends place and had been up the mountain, to the National Trout Centre and he wanted to see Poppa catch a trout - no pressure. I decided to take him to the Breakfast pool as it is easily accessible, plenty of room to play and I often pick up a fish there. Interestingly rarely more than one. Anyway on this day I managed one so we were all happy, except the trout I imagine. Now he wants me to take him out on a boat so he can catch a kingfish, the yellow eyed mullet and other small fry out at Raglan are no longer good enough.



'Out of Lockdown' specials now on the fly board for Members only



Not to scale – but representative of new flies on the fly board for members at only \$1.00 each

Dave Winchcombe Cup

Month	Name	Weight	Rainbow or Brown	Where caught
April	Gavin Hall	8lb 8oz	Brown	Tongariro
May	Andy Vanner	6lb	Rainbow	Tarawera
June	Kane Steward	5lb 8oz	Rainbow	Tongariro
July	Andy Vanner	9.01lb	Rainbow	Tarawera
August	Ken Collier	4.95lb	Rainbow	Tongariro
September	Rick Bradley	4.6lb	Rainbow	Tongariro
November	Ian Wilde	8.4lb	Rainbow	Otamangakau
January	Derek Dobson	8lb	Rainbow	Rotoiti
February	Gareth Godfrey	11lb 8oz	Brown	Otamangakau

Gamin Cup

Month	Name	Weight	Rainbow or Brown	Where Caught
April	Gavin Hall	5lb 8oz	Rainbow	Waihou
June	Gavin Hall	4lb 8oz	Rainbow	Ngakoaohia
November	John Spence	3lb 8oz	Rainbow	Arapuni
February	Gavin Hall	9lb 8oz	Brown	Arapuni
March	Chris Corbett	4lb	Rainbow	Waihou

HAC Trip and Event Calendar

We will have a new calendar out next month - watch this space.

How Big Is Glenn's Fish?

Glenn caught this brown trolling on Lake Arapuni. John Spence decided to donate a prize to the person who can estimate to the nearest gram the weight of Glenn's fish.

The prize will be to the value of a monthly club raffle.

The winner will be announced at the AGM in July so it's your last chance!

Entries to the editor chasnanne@gmail.com



Orange Blaster

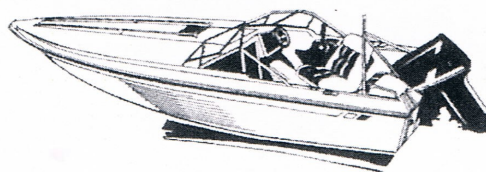
Month	Name	Problem
April	Russel Jennings	Shortening Terry Goupillot's fly line by running over it with his outboard motor.
May	Andy Vanner	Breaking his rod tip in the car door and getting as far as Taupo before realising he had his TALTAC room key on him.
August	Ken Collier	Forgetting to renew his license , getting pinged by the DOC ranger on the Tongariro and having his rod confiscated.
October	Ken Collier	Sitting down while wading a little deep Euro nymphing
November	Colin Tan	Leaving his cell phone on his running board only realising this when blue tooth failed.
March	Covid 19	For disrupting everything including the fishing.

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