



NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2020



Next Meeting: Monday 28th September

Waikato Sport Fishing clubrooms - Grantham St

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

Speaker - Dr Adam Daniels; Fish and Game Auckland/Waikato Fishery Manager.
The season ahead, local fishery prospects and news.

Cover - Five and three quarter pound of Waihou rainbow caught and photographed by Gavin Hall

AND COMING UP

October 7th - Basic Fly Fishing Course, Hunting and Fishing.

October 16th & 17th - Spring Fling TALTAC

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



President's Comment – August 2020

The August meeting was well attended with a number of our newer members present, our guest speaker Gareth Godfrey providing a fair bit of detail on the behind-the-scenes workings of the Commonwealth Fly Fishing Championships which were run early March on central North Island waters. Hinging largely on the efforts of volunteers there was a need for “military-like” precision in the organisation of shuttles, controllers, boats, and competitors (with the weather playing the game) to ensure a fair result at the end. Gareth's Bronze “Team NZ” medal was evidence of a pleasing result.

The visit to Hamills Te Awamutu on the evening of Wednesday Sept. 9th was well attended by 17 interested club members, following an intro to their extensive stock of both fresh and salt fishing gear by Dave Hudson their fresh water “expert” Rob Warne provided detailed info a range of local fishing spots (lake, river, streams) and the best approach to take as far as season timing and flies to use in each of the different environments. This was most valuable info, especially for the recently new club members who were present. It is most likely Rob will speak again on a club night early in the New Year.

By the time this newsletter goes to press the first of the “Beginners Clinic's” for nine of our new members will have been run by Charlie, Derek, and Gavin, we will be calling for other club members to assist in the next phase with coaching “stream side” – date to be advised.

A further means for members to contribute to the club is a working bee at the club Lodge on Lake Arapuni scheduled for the 10th & 11th of October (Sat. PM and Sun. all day), see notice in newsletter.

Our guest speaker for the September Club night on the 28th will be Adam Daniel (F&G Waikato/South AKL.) who will provide comment on the “F&G Review” currently underway, plus an update on current fishing conditions and fish numbers on local waters.

For those who have not looked there for a long while, take a peek at the HAC Facebook page, there has been a lot of activity recently with some very interesting posts by Colin, Gavin and Kane.

I hope to see you at the next meeting – Even though it is now Covid Level 1 Stay Safe out there.

Ray

“They say people travel in order to experience the enormity of the world, but there's also something to be said for being mindful of the enormity of your own home region.”

John Gierach

Club News

With the opening of the new season just around the corner on the first of October I felt the quote above was relevant. We often think of far flung angling destinations and spend significant amounts of time and money getting to them. But how much thought do we give to our local fishery? While preparing for the introductory course to local fishing that we ran for new members this week I did a quick count of streams in region. Between the Waikato spring creeks and the Waipa tributaries there are 15 streams within 45 minutes drive of my house in Hillcrest. Although the majority of fish are not big, by NZ standards anyway, they are plentiful and offer opportunities for fishing to spotted fish that can get quite technical, some great nymph and wet fly fishing and a variety of dry fly opportunities. And if it's bigger fish you are after they are there, you just have to look for them. Check out the photo of the 53/4lb fish Gavin caught in the Waihou last month, it was the winner of the Gamin Cup for the month. I got taught a lesson by a couple of good size rainbows in some skinny water in a creek where I wasn't expecting fish of size recently. If it's big browns you're after then check out the Waipa tributaries later in summer, some very decent fish move up out of the Waikato to chase cicadas and spawn; some of them are seriously big. They are not plentiful but they are there if you're prepared to put in the time.

Sure you might have to knock on a few farmers' doors to get access and be prepared for some refusals, but in the long run it's worth it. And that's just locally, within a couple of hours we have the King Country, Rotorua Lakes and Taupo fisheries - talk about spoiled for choice!

Speaking of the Introduction to Fly-fishing night, what a great evening. We had 8 very enthusiastic participants, Shigeru, Jake, Dirk, Peter, Rob, Doug, Nathan and John attending. That represents around 10% of the club membership!

Derek did a great job of describing the kind of tackle required for local streams, trout diet and tactics employed with Gavin and I helping out where needed.



In October we will have 1-2 mentoring on stream for each participant. To achieve this we will need some volunteers to assist us to take out one or two of the participants for a day on a local stream to show them some basic skills. It would be really appreciated if a few of you would put your hand up to give us a hand. Please contact Derek, Gavin or me if you are able to help or email me. Weekdays or weekends.

As I said Gavin once again caught the biggest fish in local waters with a 53/4lb rainbow, (obviously seems there are no browns above the Okoroire waterfall), in the Waihou. Kane and Stephen tied for the Dave Winchcombe Cup with a 41/2lb rainbow caught during the Winter Trophy Trip on the Tongariro. Food for thought isn't it when the Waihou is producing bigger fish than the Tongariro!

Harris Mian and Treasurer Richard were unanimous winners of the Orange Blaster for Harris' YouTube feature; Lake Karapiro Fishing Trip. I'm not sure why we awarded it, was it Harris' highly excitable, "Oh my god Richard I've hooked a fish" narration, Richard's sometimes wayward navigation CLUNK! "I think we hit a rock", or just the general up beat and slightly wacky adventure? What ever, I can't wait for episode 2. If you missed it you can see it on the Hamilton Anglers Club Facebook page.

If you are a fly fishing purist skip this paragraph. I was reading the 2020/21 Fish and Game Regs and discovered that you can now fish all waters on the Rotorua Lakes with a spinning rod. Fantastic, I think I will be spending a bit of time over there next autumn flanging a bit of hardware around and a couple of rigs that are going to send me straight to fly fishing hell. Mind you I wouldn't imagine we'll be seeing spinning rods on the Tongariro anytime soon!

With my interest piqued in Tenkara fishing I have been checking out a few sites on the interweb, OK quite a few, and came across this clip. I had to share it because, let's face it, most fly fishers take themselves far too seriously and the one's on social media generally raise prattism to a high art! This guy is refreshingly funny. [Piacere Tenkara](#)

Last Committee Meeting Excerpts, August 2020

- The President, on behalf of the Club, sent a submission to the F&G Council Review Panel outlining our thoughts on the F&G review.
- It was proposed to have a working bee at Arapuni Lodge on the 11/12th of October for general clean and tidy. All are welcome to assist.
- Dr Adam Daniel, F&G, will speak at our next Club meeting on local fishery, surveys etc.
- The purchase of a sound system to help our speakers to be effectively heard by all members was approved.
- Our beginners clinic program is being finalised with 8 participants registered to date.

Hardie.

Taupo Rod & Tackle

FLY SHOP



Contact

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HAC Winter Trophy Trip – August 2020

After a bit of disruption due to Covid restrictions causing Taltac to shut its doors alternative accommodation was found in Turangi (John sorted 3 in a motel and Kane sorted 5 in an Air B&B) and the intrepid anglers headed South to do battle on the Tongariro.

Friday afternoon gave most a chance to push in between the swarm of anglers already on the banks and get a feel for the water conditions, some successful in landing fish with wet-lining being the winning method although some of us had success with indicator nymphing. Conditions were not too bad starting off cloudy with rain threatening but it progressively got darker as the afternoon passed and light rain meant most had wet gear to try and dry by the end of the day.

Competition day (Saturday) kicked off dry but cloudy with not too much wind, pairs of anglers headed off to their preferred spots (decisions based on the level of success from Friday afternoon), I was fishing with Russell and we headed to a spot above the Bain pool for the morning then up to The Boulder and the bottom of the Sand pool during the afternoon. The sun came out during the day and threatened us with a bit of sunburn in pretty-well perfect conditions.

The Trophy was shared by Stephen and Kane who both landed 4.25lb rainbows.

A total of 20 fish were landed on the day by our 8 anglers.

An enjoyable meal together in the evening finished off a good day's fishing.

A number of anglers got down to the river early on Sunday morning before having to tidy up accommodation and head home, again fish were caught which added to the success of the previous days, thanks to John D for organising another great event.

The results were as follows:

- John D 6 Fish
- Kane S 4 Fish
- Stephen M 3 Fish
- Terry G 3 Fish
- Ray P 2 Fish
- Russell J 1 Fish
- Ken C 1 Fish

John D - he who caught the most showing how it's done.



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Ken, John and Russel; starting to look a little crowded.



One of Ray's fish, (above), and one of John's fish, (right). Not as big as Gavin's Waihou fish, just saying.





Russell pulling one out of the sticks.

Words and photos Ray

When I was getting a few things sorted for the club the other day I rang Derek Burtenshaw, yep Derek we all know him. I first got to know Derek a long time ago when I did a beginners fly tying course with the club. I still remember those lessons, “more than 2 wraps of thread to trap materials are wasted” for instance. Derek is a consummate fly tier and fly fisher. He is extremely knowledgeable about all things fly fishing. But much more than that he is the life blood of Hamilton Anglers Club in many ways. For decades, yes decades, Derek has been on the committee quietly and, at times, not so quietly organizing trips, the library, the sales tables, fly tying courses and constantly thinking of ways the club can improve the experience we offer members.

He is a great communicator and spends a lot of time on the phone ensuring that the things that need to get done get done. He is also concerned for the welfare of the club members.

Derek probably knows more about the history of the club than any one else these days, maybe we should convince someone from the university to do a history of the club before Derek loses the plot!

I guess what I’m trying to say is how much we collectively owe to him for keeping our club alive and healthy and I would just like to say thank-you Derek on behalf of us all.





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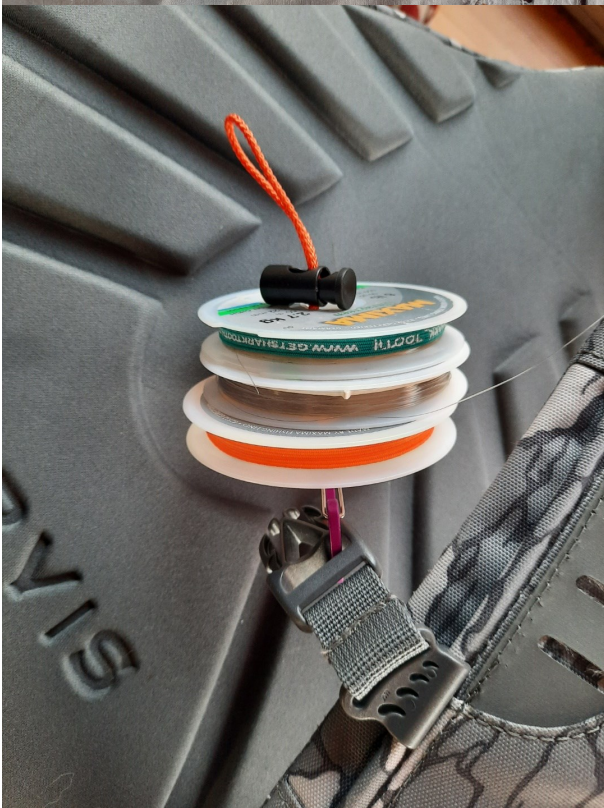
Cheap as Chips Tippet Dispenser

I saw this idea on-line the other day and thought “I can make that.” I had a some nylon cord lying around and we always have a few of those cheap carabiners you get from Macpac and Kathmandu, they make great key ring holders. I picked up some spring toggles from David’s Emporium, they’re 50 cents each and I’ve used a couple in making a rod carrier on my sling pack.

Anyhow check out the pictures to see how to make the cheap as chips tippet dispenser.



- Tie a loop of line to the base of the carabiner
- Thread spools then toggle through loop



- Attach to sling pack, vest or where - ever you choose.



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Derek rang the other day to ask me if I had heard of a Swiss CDC Multi-Clamp. I had to admit I hadn't but quickly realised this was the latest go fast doo-hickey for holding materials in if you are making dubbing loops. Naturally I was all ears. Funny how someone discovers that a chip bag clip is great for holding materials for dubbing loops and before you know it the chip bag clip has evolved into the Swiss CDC Multi-Clamp. Derek sent me these links.

[CDC Multi-Clamp](#)

You can't buy them in NZ and they're not exactly cheap. Of course Derek has ordered one.



The Big Arapuni Lodge Clean-Up

10th and 11th of October

Lodge Co-Ordinator John Spence requires some club members to assist him to give the clubs lodge at Arapuni a Spring Clean on the above dates and complete the following.

- Wash and clean the roof
- Wash and clean painted timber surfaces; gable ends, barge boards etc.
- John Spence will provide scaffolding, water blaster, ladders and some cleaning supplies. Participants are requested to bring other cleaning supplies

John will be working Saturday morning and leaving for the Lodge at lunch time but if participants are available earlier they can pick up the Lodge keys from Johns workshop in Te Awamutu earlier.

John will be staying over-night on Saturday; others are welcome also.

There are plans for another working bee on the 14th and 15th of November.

If you are available please contact John on:

07 871 7711 work

07 871 8707 after hours



"It's just a hunch, but you may have the power set too high on your pressure washer."

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



Bob loved the outdoors. Wound up with quite a collection.

Gamin Cup

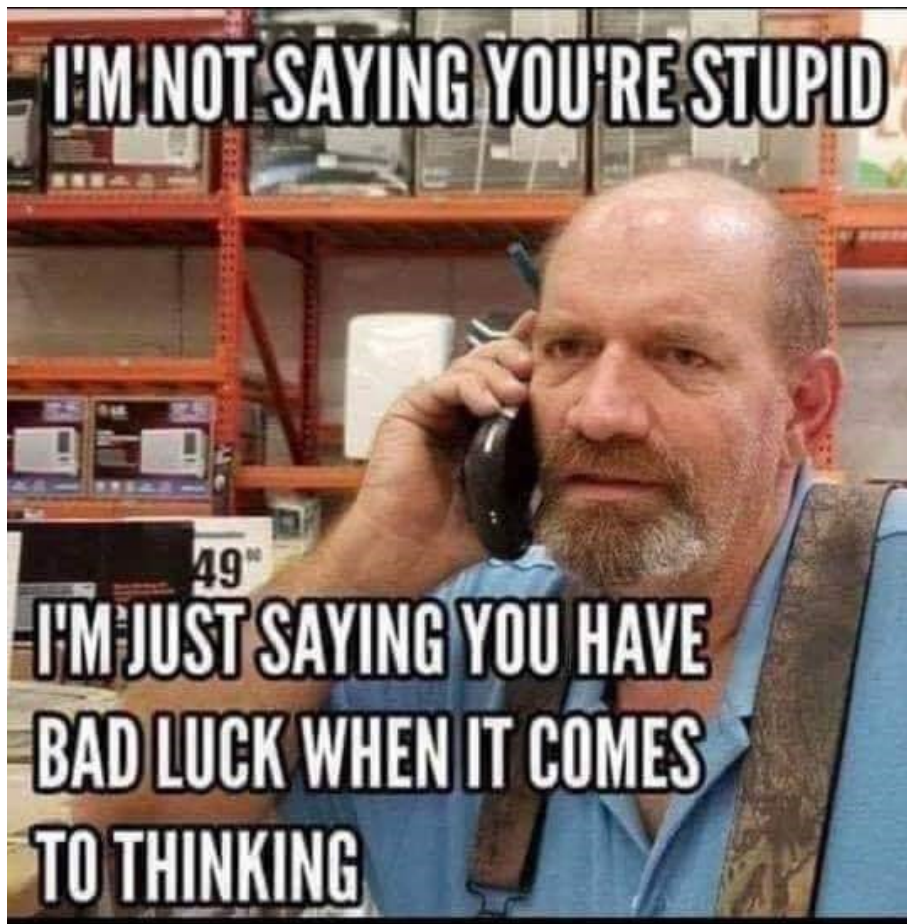
Heaviest trout caught in Auckland Waikato F&G Region

Month	Name	Weight	Rainbow or Brown	Where Caught
August	Gavin Hall	5lb 12oz	Rainbow	Waihou

HAC Trip and Event Calendar

26/27th September	SSFNZ Waihou River Competition	SSFNZ
Monday 28th September	HAC Meeting - Guest Speaker is Adam Daniel of A/W F&G - latest local fishing	Ray Pryor
1st October	New Fishing Licence required to fish all NZ waters - apart from Taupo Region	Don't Forget
Monday 5th October	Committee Meeting - 7.30pm at Sport Fishing Club	7.30pm at Sport Fishing Club, upstairs
7th October - Evening	Basic Fly Fishing Course at Hunting and Fishing: Manic Tackle presentation	Stephen Martin
16/17th October	Taupo River Trip (more to follow) staying at Taltac	Charles Friedlander (will book for 10)
October/November	Casting Clinics begin again (more to follow)	Charles Friedlander
24/25th October	SSFNZ Wanganui River Competition	SSFNZ
Monday 26th October	HAC Meeting - Various Speakers from the Club - details in the magazine/ website	(Labour Day) Ray Pryor
30/31st October	Trip to Lake Aniwhenua, staying at a local house by the ramp, boat fishing.	Gareth Godfrey (will book for 8)
Monday 2nd November	Committee Meeting - 7.30pm at Sport Fishing Club	Sport Fishing Clubrooms
7/8th November	SSFNZ National Pairs Competition, Lake Rotoaira	SSFNZ
13/14th November	Trip to the Tauranga Taupo River staying at Keruru Lodge, Motuopa	Craig Fredericks (has booked 3 cabins for 12)
28/29th November	SSFNZ Lake Aniwhenua Competition	SSFNZ
Monday 30th November	HAC Meeting - Guest Speaker is Mike Davis of H & F Rotorua + casting + barbecue	Ray Pryor
7th December	Committee Meeting - 7.30pm at Sport Fishing Club	Sport Fishing Clubrooms

Jokes courtesy of Russell, (from the fit for public consumption file.)



Orange Blaster

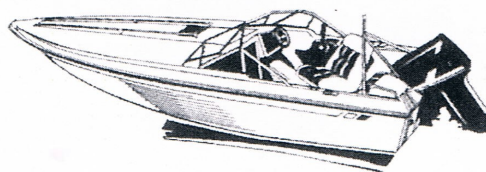
Month	Name	Problem
August	John Davidson	Having his phone not only ring but chatter uncontrollably during the meeting.
September	Harris Mian Richard Wagstaff	Crashing into rocks, excited commentaries, use of profanities and having far too much fun in the filming of Lake Karapiro Fishing Trip

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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