



NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2019



Next Meeting: Monday 25th March

Waikato Sport Fishing clubrooms - Grantham St

Guest Speaker: Nigel Juby

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

**Cover - Who is that masked man? Ian Wilde on a hydro lake mission.
Photo: Derek Burtenshaw.**

AND COMING UP

Sunday 31st March - Junior Fishing Day Te Koutu Lake Cambridge

12th-14th April Salt Water Trip Papa Aroha

25th-28th April Tiger Hunt Lake Rotoma

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Gyotaku
Colin Tan

Presidents Comment

Competition Night held on the February Club night was well attended and the three competitions offered provided opportunity for plenty of friendly banter and entertainment with a bit of education thrown in.

Casting on the grass in a swirling wind, running out of light – rubbish result for me, however a new champion for both variants was determined, the weigh net check revealed the most common net brand was, on average very accurate, and the fly-tying materials ID had its own challenges.

All in all those who participated had fun and were rewarded with a “random” choice of prize to take home, thanks to all who contributed towards the event’s success, full result details are included in this newsletter.

I took the opportunity to catch up with Mary from TALTAC on my way home from last weekend’s Ota trip (see trip report in this newsletter), she passed the comment the Hamilton based members are always the most pleasant to deal with as lodge visitors, keep it up guys.

You will have received a reminder from Gavin on the Fly Tying survey, please take a little of your time to make a submission and help determine the future of this component of the Club’s activities.

This month’s guest speaker will be Nigel Juby, he will be giving a presentation on fishing the Tekapo canals, hopefully with pictures attached, see you on the 25th.

Cheers

Ray

"Some of the latest techniques originate from the match circuit where the rapid switches of method are necessary in order to catch the greatest number of trout within a finite amount of time. Extremely proficient anglers will make several switches of flies, techniques and tackle within short spaces of time and by doing so will maximise their catch rate in order to beat other anglers in a competition. This has also tended to become the norm in non-competition fishing because anglers seem to think that they are losing out if they do not catch huge numbers of trout. With a few variations, it is possible to stick with a single method - as long as you find pleasure in using that particular method - and to reap adequate rewards for your efforts. You may not catch over "60 trout in a day" as someone I was in conversation with recently claimed to have done, but then what pleasure is there in that?"

ROGER FOGG

Club News

The above quote sums up my fly fishing philosophy or perhaps my rationalisation for sticking with my beloved soft hackles/wee wets on our local streams or a box of streamers and mini intruders on the Tongariro. Some days I think I might catch more if I was using a Euro-nymphing technique - but I'm not a hyperactive angler and would I enjoy myself anymore? I delight in the rhythm of casing my double handed rods and tactile experience of the take of trout on a tight line. They say that every dog has its day and boy do I have some days, a box of flies some leaders a few sink tips - a single method may not work for everyone but it's worth a try.

Enough about me, (I haven't a lot to report on this month), as Ray mentioned the focus of last meeting was the casting and other well organised competitions. Derek continues to test our fly tying knowledge by preparing 20 different feathers and furs and challenging us to identify them. There were some interesting specimens to identify, nothing so exotic as Himalayan yak pizzle hair, but it was challenging. So well done to Malcolm on winning that one.

The weigh net accuracy test put to rest for all time the "who caught the biggest 4lb trout in November debate". You will remember that Rick Bradley caught 2 4lb fish in November and Treasurer Richard caught 1; Richard claimed he caught the biggest 4lb trout as he provided photographic evidence of his catch. As it turns out he may be correct because scientific testing, the weigh net accuracy test, has conclusively proved the Rick B has the most wildly inaccurate weigh net in the club! Orange Blaster material that one.

We have a couple of great trips coming up - Russell has organised a non bait, lure only salt water trip based at Papa Aroha on the 12-14th of April, (note to self; pay Russell deposit before he boots you off the trip). On the 25th-28th of April Derek has organised a trip to Lake Rotoma where we will pursue the fabled and elusive Tiger Trout. A brook brown trout sterile hatchery cross breed found only in Rotoma. These are both new trips so big ups to Russell and Derek for putting in the effort to organise these. Please feel free to organise a trip contact a committee member if you have an idea for a trip.

HAC Casting Champs – February 25th 2019

Results

Accuracy

	Total Score	Elapsed Time	
Gareth Godfrey	2	1.12	1st
Tim Anderson	2	1.45	
Brian Apps	2	1.48	
Peter Gault	1		
Ray Pryor	1		
John Tuplin			

Distance

	Maximum Distance (m)	
Brian Apps	26.5	1st
Gareth Godfrey	24.8	
Tim Anderson	20.4	
Ray Pryor	19.2	
Peter Gault	15.8	
John Tuplin	7.5	

Note! Very challenging conditions for all competitors due to the wind.

Contact

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Taupo Rod & Tackle

FLY SHOP



Lake 'O' Trip (Summer Trophy Trip) – the second one.

News from the region was 'still no rain' – it can't possibly be as bad as the 1st trip could it – we had little in the way of fish to beat!!! All our 'budding anglers' were pumped; flies tied, lines cleaned, salads thought about for the barbecue on the Saturday evening and were packed and raring to go.

News was promising – rain on the Friday – was that really the forecast! – But how much rain!?

Dave Gribben and myself travelled down from Cambridge and stopped off for a coffee at Whakamaru and sat outside to enjoy a nice coffee and home baking in the sunshine – no sign of rain here!!

All of us arrived at TALTAC, apart from Russell and Nigel due to work commitments.

A quick lunch, boats getting prepared and suddenly rain – enough to put a stop to preparations.

Bugger David said "the window was wide open and the mattress is wet – we said close it up and it will be dry by the evening", such was the temperature.

When writing a trip report you can only do it from your perspective of what you see and 'hear about later' – apologises if I missed something.

Up to the lake we travelled, and on crossing the outlet Dave and I noticed the 'no flow' indication with slimy weed present in the canal – oh dear, this is looking ominous!!

There were a few boats mulling around, but typically the fish were not showing.

Guy at the ramp said "it was awesome last night with large hatches of chironomids and sedges (caddis); they apparently landed 7 nice trout between 5-8lbs. (should have been here yesterday – I have heard that so many times!! Haven't we all!!)

Dave and I tried numerous experimental tactics, all to no avail. (again)

Our members did land a few fish (very few), but nothing to sing and shout about that evening.

Meals were an assortment of concoctions that night, as we discussed tactics and waited for our 'guru' Nigel to arrive and offer us a 20 minute 'run-down' of what to do. Thanks for that Nigel.

It's surprising after a few wines how to comprehend Nigel and his version of tactics we should be using for the Saturday – although he was actually pretty well correct - - "it's going to be a hard day" he said!!

Sure enough we had the evening rain that was promised in the region and on crossing the canal that next morning there was a good flow of water heading out of the lake. I fished with Gavin that morning (we were sharing boat partners for this trip) and as Gavin was new to boat fishing this lake I decided to get amongst the weed and try fishing the inlet – not a sign of brownies in the shallows – where are they?

Okay Gavin they are there most times – another day! As we get to the current of the inlet we see slightly dirty water and a flow – hasn't been like this for weeks and weeks - - have to persevere here for a while.

Change of flies, change of depths - it's not that deep anyhow! Nothing!! 'Another few more casts' I said and next second Gavin is into a fish – bloody green 'Woolly Bugger'. Rainbow had a large head,

and obviously hadn't eaten for weeks (maybe months) 'skinny as' but a fish – donked; “could be the winner” Gavin said. I asked “do you want a photo” - - I won't tell you what Gavin said!!

We left the area and tried numerous spots, and I landed 3 small fish on nymphs. Just with lunch beckoning, we decided to fish a small drop off near the island - - Gavin is in; better fish this time and after a couple of feeble efforts from me to land it (the second fly caught on the net string twice) Gavin landed what turned out to be the second biggest fish of the day – a 3.68lb rainbow.

Lunch was a little subdued, few fish landed by everyone. A number of 'lost fish' though.

Clair asked the kids to make lunch that morning and asked if she could have a 'surprise' in hers.

There was - - absolutely nothing – heaps of laughter with that one - - well done kids!

When we discussed the various flies fish were landed on – I think everyone was different and often on droppers – OK, maybe the 'squirmy wormy' had hooked a few. (Nigel's choice and advice for all)

My next boat partner was David; new to the lake and the tactics I wanted to do straight after lunch. Often a good time to try this with little surface activity; you need to 'go deep' – long leaders and a team of 3 wet flies – the heaviest on the point hey Dave!

Dave learnt that earlier with a HUGE nylon mess after deciding to put the heaviest fly on the dropper.

I set my rod up after lunch, and cast out after showing David the leader and foam indicator set up.

Obviously David is asking questions and I turned to help and get him organised.

David looked up and shouted, “Your rod” - I immediately swung around and saw the rod bouncing across the boat heading off towards the lake - made a quick grab for it and lifted - - felt good too for 8 seconds! Felt rather solid too; bugger!! – another day!!!!

Ray was unlucky in the morning losing 3 trout in succession, the first one being rather feisty. He decided to look at the fly after the 3rd dropped fish – Oops – a straightened hook. Lesson for us all: always check your flies after losing a trout and be prepared to re-tie. Anyhow, Ray was thoughtful over lunch, obviously perplexed over the mornings events, but was determined to 'get on the board'. He landed a great rainbow early in the afternoon, nice condition and apparently after gutting, it was pink as.

(You didn't drop down to Lake Taupo for a fish did you Ray!)

Everyone rushed back at 5pm, quick showers, then a beer or two; and then it was time to try and remember how to put the salad together that the wife usually does!!! We ended up with a great selection of tasty salads and desserts – Dave's homemade 'Apple Crumble' a huge success – apparently was the only reason the Jubu 'clan' came on the trip – or was it Russell's homemade chicken liver pate!!

Discussions resumed regarding the fishing; what tactics did you try, etc., etc.

Finally the results and prize giving: yes, everyone on this trip got a prize.

22 trout were landed for the trip and 18 caught on the Saturday (obviously the rain helped)

Ray ended up with the biggest trout, well deserved and weighing in at 4.34lbs.

Best flies that worked were the 'San Juan worm' and a white tungsten beaded chironomid pattern.

I can't remember any 'orange blaster' stories either for the trip – OK, maybe I will remember to put the fuel cable into its connection next time!! Thanks Russell for reminding me!!!

A very enjoyable trip guys; next year will be better fishing I'm sure.

Dishes were done, rubbish bags cleared, rooms cleaned - - Mary was very complementary and has no problems when we can all come again to TALTAC. Thank you.

Cheers - Derek



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The only photos I have received of the Ota trip involve people eating, drinking and lying around. Therefore I have to wonder about claims of 18 fish caught by the 14 participants when there is no evidence they were on the water at all!

Photo by Derek

Photos by Peter Gault



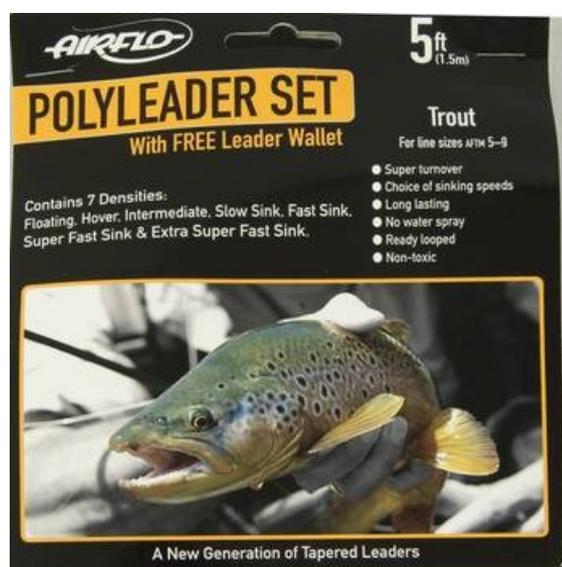
Things I wouldn't want to be without

Early in my trout fishing career I carried enough gear to sink a ship, my vest was so heavy I got RSI from carrying it. Over the years I have adopted a more minimalist approach and don't carry much "just in case" gear. However there are some things I wouldn't be without; here's a few of them.



Shark tooth line cutter keeper, do just what they say; keep the line on your spool and have a very effective cutting blade attached - brilliant. You can get them at Fish City and Taupo Rod and Tackle.

Airflo call them Polyleaders Rio call them Versileaders, they come in a variety of sink rates and lengths. Wouldn't be without a few; great for getting wee wets down a bit to sub-surface feeders or attach a fast sinker to your floating line when you're walking back down stream and fish a little woolly bugger on your way back to the car.



Scissor forceps, put it on a retractor and you've got 2 tools in 1. What's not to like?



Tippet rings. Great for attaching to the end of Poly leaders to tie your leader to or for other leader building purposes. Not so great for droppers, I think they tangle more than surgeons knots, Gavin thinks so too!

Do you have anything you wouldn't be without? Let me know I'll put it in the newsletter.





March Hare
Wet and
Hare's Ear
Flymph



Going Barbless

I recently met Barrie Barnes who runs the I Love Fly Fishing retail website at the Reel Recovery weekend where he was acting as a River Buddy and I was nurse for the weekend. Barrie is a strong advocate for using barbless hooks on our local streams to avoid damaging juvenile fish when releasing them, (something I'm sure we're all guilty of). He said he would send me some sample hooks to try and true to his word a week later a courier parcel containing a sample of Czech nymph, wet fly, nymph, dry fly and caddis hooks turned up. Around 80 hooks in all, needless to say I was like a kid at Christmas and got to work.

I'm a confirmed wet fly/soft hackle guy and tied up a bunch of favourites - orange and partridge, that's about as old as patterns get, Holy Grail, thanks Derek, and the Hares Ear Flymph, this pattern will catch fish anywhere. Check out the pattern below .

<https://www.youtube> I honestly believe you can catch fish anywhere with these 3 flies, sometimes I use a sinking polyleaders to get them a little deeper although the weight of the Holy grail is usually enough.

If you want to try some of Barrie's hooks you can find them here

flyfishinginxs.kiwifly-tying-hooks-materials-tools-glues-paints-etc

I have recently added another fly to my repertoire , I actually have a few more, I call it the March Hare wet because I didn't quite have the materials for either a March Brown or a Hare's Ear so I made a composite as they seem fairly similar, hence March Hare, (I may be mad as one LOL).



I really enjoy tying and fishing these simple flies tied of natural mobile materials, (although I do add the tiniest amount of UV dubbing of the bodies of some.) They are a joy to cast as they are light and fish seem to love the subtle movement of fur dubbing and soft hackles. You also feel connected to the traditions of our sport knowing some of these patterns date back hundreds of years, they have survived that long because they work; even on fresh run Tongariro rainbows. I use a sink tip on one of my spey rods for fishing wee wets/soft hackles on the Tongariro; it's a work in progress.

I'll report back how I go barbless.

Charlie.



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Dave Winchcombe Cup

Month	Name	Weight	Rainbow or Brown	Where caught
June	Andy Vanner	5lb 4oz	Rainbow	Tarawera
July	Gavin Hall	5lb	Brown	Tongariro
August	Rick Bradley	2lb 8oz	Brown	
September	Derrick Burtenshaw	5lb	Rainbow	Tongariro
October	Malcolm Cowie	5lb 12oz	Rainbow	Otamangakau
November	Derek Dobson	5lb 4oz	Rainbow	Taupo
January	Malcolm Cowie	5lb	Rainbow	Taupo
February	Brian Beamiss	5lb 3oz	Rainbow	Rotoiti

HAC Trip and Event Calendar

Monday 25th March	HAC Meeting - Nigel Juby; Fishing the Tekapo Canals	
Sunday 31st March	Te Koutu Lake, Thornton Road, Cambridge - Junior Fishing Day Out	Gavin
1st April	HAC Subscriptions are due for 2019/2010/ HAC Committee Meeting	
12th-14th April	Salt Water Trip Papa Aroha	Russell
April 25th - 28th	"Tiger Hunt" Lake Rotoma	Derek
April 30th	HAC Meeting - First Aid for Fisher Folk	Charlie , Colin Tom
May 6th	HAC Committee Meeting	
May 27th	HAC Meeting - AGM	

Gamin Cup

Month	Name	Weight	Rainbow or Brown	Where Caught
April	Gavin Hall	6lb 4oz	Brown	Whakapapa
May	Glen Streeter	4lb 13oz	Brown	Arapuni
August	Derrick Burtenshaw	3lb 4oz	Rainbow	
October	Glenn Streeter	7lb	Brown	Karapiro
November	Rick Bradley	4lb	Brown	Whanganui
		4lb	Rainbow	Whanganui
	Richard Wagstaff	4lb	Brown	Waikato
January	Gareth Godfrey	4lb 8oz	Rainbow	Waihou
February	Gavin Hall	3lb	Rainbow	Waipapa

Orange Blaster

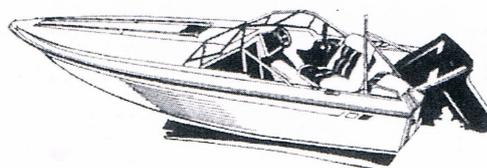
Month	Name	Problem
April	Rick Bradley	Hooked a shag while SWF fishing, cut his leader inside rod tip to release shag, leader got caught in rod tip, shag disappeared with rod tip in tow,
May	Malcolm Cowie	Parked jet ski around the back, went to tow it away. Noticed things didn't feel right when he got to the bottom of the drive. Still had the calliper lock on the trailer attached.
July	Gary Preston	Locking himself out his house, climbing through bathroom window, slipping on the bath - kaboom - knee in a brace, so traumatised he forgot to advertise fly tying.
September	Richard Wagstaff	Dropping his boat off the trailer onto the ramp at the Arapuni Lodge while attempting to extricate himself from a potentially difficult situation on the ramp!
October	Dave Gribben	Lost his car keys somewhere on the Whakapapa River, after 4 hours searching gave up and contacted Derek B who "broke" into Dave's house and couriered him a spare set of keys.
November	Derek Dobson	Gate crashing a marriage proposal on the Hinemaia
January	Gavin Hall	"Quad bike breakdown" 16ks from the road in the Whanganui headwaters with 2 kids on board

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ARAPUNI LODGE

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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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