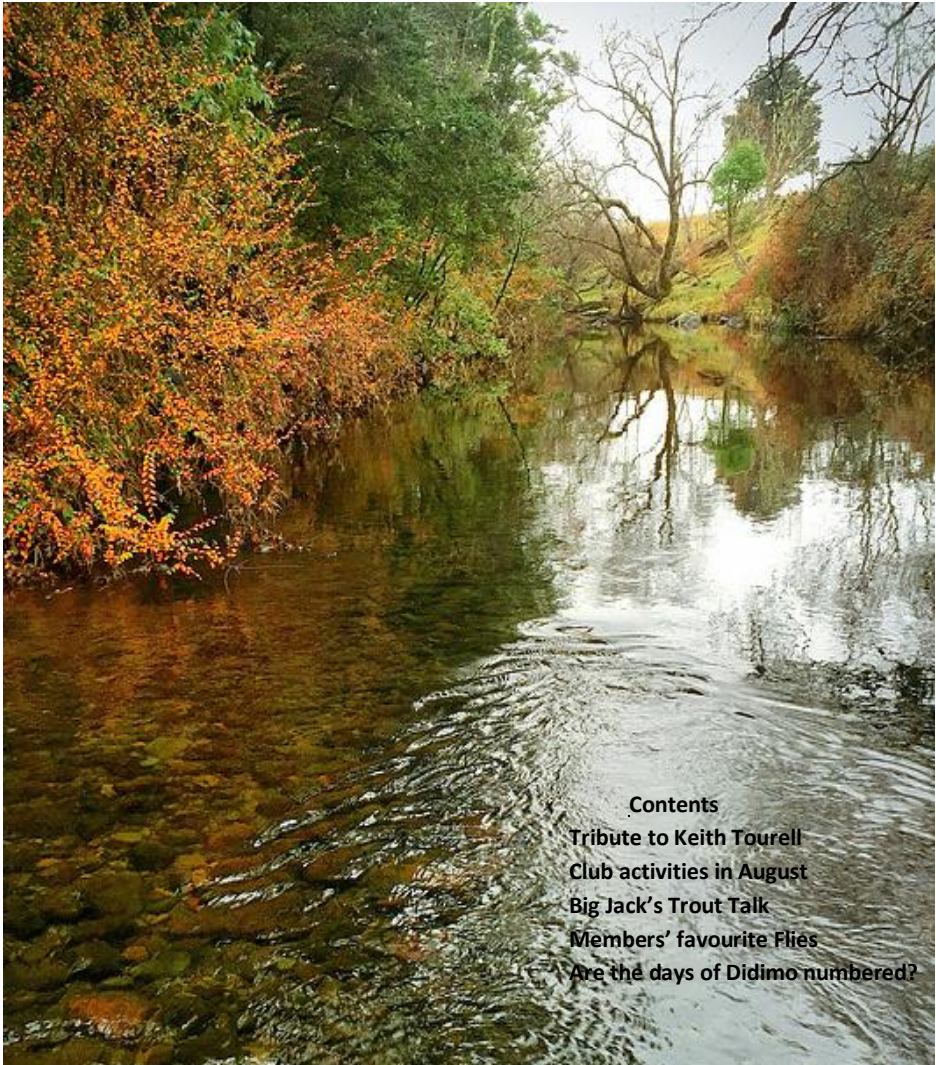


THE HUTT VALLEY ANGLER

Newsletter of the Hutt Valley Angling Club Inc
Issue No 414: August 2016



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Editorial

Winter is well and truly upon us, which brings long periods of being couped up indoors. At times like these, one of the best things to do is get the fire going, fortify yourself a glass of your favourite poison, get out your fly tying materials and dream up new patterns for the coming season. In this month's issue, Tim Trengrove has given us food for thought with his article on members' favourite flies. There are no absolute rights or wrongs when it comes to predicting what a trout will eat, but that's all part of the fascination of our chosen sport. And as always, members are invited to share their ideas, so if you have some patterns which you would like to show others, please don't hesitate to email them through for inclusion in the newsletter. All the best,

Chris Kuchel

President's Piece

On 1 July we lost a very important club member.

His name was Keith Tourell. Keith was the founder of the Hutt Valley Angling Club and without him and his vision we wouldn't have a club. Keith in his younger years as we got to find out at his funeral, was a keen outdoor person who was into everything that looked like fun. It was moving to listen to his children speak at his funeral and it gave us an insight into how much he was loved as a husband and father. Those of us who were fortunate enough to meet and be guided by him can call ourselves the privileged ones.



John Millar, John Olds and Mike Travis spoke on our behalf at Keith's funeral and they spoke from the heart. The club will move on and we are taking some steps to ensure that Keith's legacy carries on beyond our own lives. It

was moving to be at July's club night and listen to Bill Harris speak after he was presented with the Keith Tourell cup.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Alice and Keith's family. Keith will be sorely missed by us all.

Ross Goodman

Tribute to Keith Tourell

In the early part of 1975 Keith Tourell met with other keen anglers, Barry Dunkley, (President of WAS), Mort Midgley, Ron Bickerstaff, Fred Norman and Bill Auld to discuss the possible formation of a club. As a result an advertisement was placed in "The Upper Hutt Leader" for a public meeting to be held on 30 September in the Woman's Division of Federated Farmers hall (now known as The King Lion Hall). It was attended by 36 persons and an inaugural committee elected. President: Keith Tourell, Secretary: Ian McDougal, Treasurer Gordon Sage, Committee: Peter Clarkson, Terry Bramwell, Ron Jenkins and Mike Newman. The Senior subscription was set at \$5.



It is with sadness that we mark the passing of the man who so enthusiastically formed the Hutt Valley Angling Club and paved the way for so many to benefit from the club over the last 41 years. With his passion for fly fishing and even deeper passion for people, Keith drew together experienced anglers and novice alike in the pursuit of the sport and friendship that went with a common interest.



Club trip to Pahiatua



Keith at Lake Otamangakau



Keith and friends at Springvale



Keith organising summer programme
WGRC

A fine brace from Lake Taupo





Hooked up in the Major Jones Pool



Keith welcoming new president Ross Goodman, July 2015



Keith's wife Alice at the HVAC 40th birthday celebration 2015

He has been responsible for so much in the club and continued to think of the club and the good of its members right up to his death despite his failing health. We owe him a great debt and will seek to continue the club with the same passion and dedication he showed.

Rest in peace Keith, gone from us now, never forgotten and always appreciated.

Members can sign a book of remembrance on the HVAC website.

This book will remain open until 8 August 2016

August Activities

8th Club Meeting - King Lion hall 7.30pm

14th Casting Clinic – Belmont Domain 10.00am

16th Committee meeting 7.30pm

31st Fly tying – Community House 7.30pm

Club News

Donation to Neurological Foundation for Keith Tourell

The committee has agreed to make a donation of \$200 to the Neurological Foundation. Club President Ross Goodman said that in doing so, we are meeting the family's wishes. Members are also invited to make individual donations if they wish. Cheques can be posted directly to:

The Neurological Foundation of New Zealand, PO Box 110-022 Auckland 1148, or submitted at the August club meeting. These will then be forwarded on behalf of members.

Keith was a strong advocate for encouraging female anglers and young people to the club. He also had a passion for conservation and environmental issues. The committee will also explore ways to keep Keith's legacy alive and ensuring as far as possible that his vision is continued into the future.

Next club meeting

Members will probably have noticed that the website has been given a major face-lift this year. At the August club meeting, Steve Doughty will give a presentation to describe its new features.

This will be followed by a presentation from Dan Waechter on "Reading the Water". Chris Kuchel will then give an overview of short line nymphing techniques which will relate nicely to Dan's presentation.

Presentation of the Keith Tourell Cup

At the July meeting, Bill Harris was presented with the Keith Tourell Cup which is awarded for the the heaviest fish caught in New Zealand outside the Wellington region. Bill's 9lb 4oz fish was taken at Lake Otamangakau.



Casting Clinic - This month's casting clinic will be held on Sunday 14 August at Belmont Domain. Be there early, ready for a 10am start.

The co-ordinator is Ian Lawson. If you want to attend, please sign up on the clipboard at our monthly meeting or register on the website. Registration allows us to have instructors available for all attendees and who we contact if there is any change in meeting arrangements.

Fly Tying Meeting -31 August 7.30 p.m. in community meeting rooms off Logan Street.

This month GLOBUGS and BOMBS. Some club members will be making their winter pilgrimage to the Taupo rivers and if they intend nymphing they will need to have a few of these in their fly box. Globugs are best dressed on a curved grub hook so that the ball of fluff which forms the egg shape does not prevent hook-ups by filling the hook gape. In most instances the globug

is dressed as an unweighted 'fly' so that it will bob and dance close to the heavily weighted bomb that is used to sink both flies to the bed of the river.

We will make both unweighted and weighted globugs at the meeting. Globugs are commonly tied " truck and trailer" style off the hook of the bomb on a dropper of 150- 400mm. To view how to tie Globugs on Youtube just enter 'globug egg pattern' in your computer's browser.



The club wishes to thank member Robin Bound for his very generous donation of high quality fly tying materials. These many items will be added to our club Fly Tying Kit and will provide our members with an improved stock of materials to be used at our regular meetings.

Library News

The library is open from 7.00 on Club nights. Please make sure that all books and DVDs are checked out and returned through Ajit in the normal way.

Raffle Winners in July

Congratulations to Maureen Burgess for winning the Green Trout Guiding entry. John Olds took away the box of flies and Steve Doughty won the Hunting and Fishing voucher. Monthly winners of the Green Trout Guiding raffle go into the annual draw for a fantastic trip with Jim Rainey. You've got to be in to win, so make sure you buy your ticket each month at club meetings.

Photo competition

This month's winner is Krystal Smith, who takes away the \$15 Fishscene voucher. Her winning photo "Autumn Makotuku" is on the front cover of this month's newsletter. Jeff Wood from Fishscene is the sponsor of the monthly photo competition. Members are encouraged to support our sponsors.

Fish of the month

Congratulations to Bill Harris for his fine 4lb 13oz rainbow jack, taken on Lake Rotoaira.

Next club trip

No club trips are planned for during the winter months. The next planned trip is to the Tukituki for our second joint fishing weekend with the Hastings Club and is scheduled for 12/13 November.

A trip to the Rangitikei with the Hastings Club is proposed for December but accommodation has yet to be finalised.

HVAC annual subscriptions are now due

Last date for renewal payment is 31 August after which new membership fees apply.

The best way to pay is through Internet banking. There is a link on the front page of our website (it is orange) to renew your HVAC subscription. The bank account number is at the bottom.

Mike Nansett will be overseas for most of August and part of September (back for club night In September). Subs are due 31 August, so it would be great if you can pay these before the 5th of August so that Mike can bring your HVAC CLUB and DISCOUNT card to club night on the 8th of August. He will not be taking cash or cheques on the 8th of August as he will be flying out the next morning so will not be able to bank these.

The Club website address is www.huttvalleyangling.org.nz If you have not been in for a while, check it out. Steve has done a great job on the website so you are encouraged to have a look.



TROUT TALK

By Big Jack

A few tips this month:

- If you are changing a fly try not to do it in the middle of the river – first, you could drop the fly and second, and worse, you could drop the fly box in the drink, unless you attach it to your clothing which I have found to be a very good idea. If you are fishing on a cold day your cold fingers may lose their grip on the fly box and it's all over (or all under). Use some light chain or cord and a safety pin and keep safe those 100 or so flies you have spent hours tying.
- If you are changing a fly on the river bank, pick a clear spot if you can.

If you drop it, it's much easier to find the fly than in grass or among rocks. Because Murphy's Law dictates that the fly will always find the crevice between the rocks and in grass they are almost impossible to find.

- Always assemble your rod starting with the tip. Why? Because if you start at the butt end at some point you have to put the rod on the ground where it could get stepped on or scratched or filled with sand.
- Ever had a wading stick that won't come apart? After you've used it for the day, take it apart and stand the sections up somewhere where they can drain and dry. When they have, spray them with a silicone spray and put them loosely back together.
- Try to avoid putting a reel on your rod over a hard surface (garage floor or any other hard area). Again Murphy's Law dictates that you will always drop and damage it.
- If you have a made up rod in your car, make sure that you take it out first and put it away last. That way it's out of the way and less likely to get damaged.
- Carry a Council rubbish bag or two in your car. Cheap and great for wet boots and waders. To dry out the bag put it over the rake/broom handle in the garage.
- Carry some spare clothes in the car for that inevitable day in the winter when you take a swim. Believe me, it's well worthwhile.
- Monofilament line has come a long way in recent years. Line of 4kg breaking strain is the same diameter as 2.7kg line used to be 10 years ago. I have some 9.7lb line that, at 0.23mm diameter is the same as 6lb line I have. There is an advantage in fishing with strong line that has a diameter of 0.20mm or less. And remember to check your knots and line at regular intervals. It can get weakened from rubbing on rocks and fish's teeth. It also gets weaker after a while so the jerk-test

(not you, the nylon!) is always useful.

- Try making a simple boot dryer. The one below was made from bits and pieces lying around the garage. Boots drain and dry quickly. But don't leave them out in direct sunlight.



PS: As everyone knows we recently said farewell to Keith Tourell. At his funeral one of our members reminded me of a short piece I wrote for the newsletter following my first trip in September 2003 to the Tongariro with Keith and others. I dug it out and it's re-produced below.

Things I learnt from my first Tongariro trip

- The Tongariro is not as scary as people make out – until you fall in.
- You can catch fish in the Tongariro without getting your feet wet.
- Wading the Tongariro is quite safe – as long as “Tramper” Tourell is the leader.
- Getting up at 5 am is only sensible in Turangi.
- Like a woman shopping, Ken Simpson leaves all his fish catching to the last moment.
- There are at least 1,000 ways to tangle a fly line and leader.
- Bombs have no preference as to which part of the anatomy they attach to.
- John Millar's head makes a good bomb fly box – my little finger serves

the same purpose for a woolly bugger.

- [Dr] Keith Tourell is an expert at removing flies from various parts of fisherman's anatomies.
- Bill Harris likes walking so much he returns to the car in a 3 km loop.
- John Boon finds the Tauranga-Taupo carpark conducive to napping [while waiting for Bill].
- Some Aucklander's are just as intolerable in Turangi.
- The TT has more snags than a sausage sizzle.
- You always lose your best flies to a snag.
- Rainbows in the Blue Pool are only interested in sex.
- And finally:

Apart from the fishing the company is probably the most important – thanks guys (especially for the assistance), a really enjoyable 4 days.

Members Favourites

By Tim Trengrove

We tried something new at our club fly tying nights. Instead of tying more established patterns, we asked members to share their favourite patterns. These are the flies which they used successfully in this last season.

There are stories that go with the flies and hearing about how and where they were used can be as interesting as the designs. So as to fit 3 flies in for the evening, flies needed to be tied within 5-6 minutes. Having readily available materials was also an advantage.

Mike Nansett started the session with a beadhead nymph.

Hook. Grip 12480BL #14
Bead. Gold 2.8mm tungsten
Thread UNI 8/0 black
Lead wire. .010"
Rib. UNI Extra small gold wire
Tail. Bunch of pheasant tail
Body. Tying thread
Wingcase. Pheasant tail
Thorax. Blended hare's ear and mask.

Tying instructions.

Place the bead on the hook, wind the lead toward the bead then make a tapered body with the tying thread. The rib and tail are tied in at the back of the hook then the thread is wound forward in touching turns, keeping the pheasant tail on top of the hook. The pheasant tail butts are lifted at the thorax area and a thorax made by inserting the hare dubbing into the split tying thread. The pheasant tail butts were then tied over the thorax, creating a wingcase and tied off.

Mike showed us his well ordered fly box with variations of this pattern. Different coloured and different sized beads are used with various coloured thread. Some flies have two beads. Usually just one fly is fished but sometimes a second fly is tied off the bend of the first fly.

Next up was Dan Waechter demonstrating his Dragon Fly adult, the fly which won him Best Individual Fly at the last inter-club tying competition. Dan assured us it was not difficult to tie but there were some concerned faces looking on. Part of the success in tying the fly is having the parts prepared in advance. The wing template, extended body and glass eyes. The result is a striking looking fly, just as the naturals are.



Dan's Dragonfly

The last fly was tied by Ian Lawson, an unweighted nymph.

Hook. #14 1X long barbless nymph

Thread. Standard size

Tail. 8-10 pheasant tail barbs

Rib. Fine silver wire

Thorax. Dark seals fur

Tying instructions

Run the tying thread from behind the eye to the end of the hook shank. Tie in the tail shorter than the shank. Tie in the rib. Bring the tying thread back to the thorax region in open spirals. Wind the pheasant tail clockwise in touching turns to the tying thread then tie them off. Wind the rib back anti-clockwise in open turns and tie off. Form a dubbing noodle with the seals fur and tie a tight, short collar. Pull any stray fibres forward and whip finish.

Ian fishes this fly off a short dropper, above a weighted fly. It is the fly that catches the most fish.



Ian Lawson's unweighted nymphs.

The second night saw us tying John Old's very successful Rangitikei Red and John Millar's unweighted Nesameletus imitation which had 3 striking Golden pheasant tippetts for the tail.



Nesameletus nymph (Landcare Research).

Tomas Fichtner bravely demonstrated an Adams Irresistible. The pattern demands a high level of skill and Tomas did very well with it. He usually covers the tail with masking tape to protect it while trimming the deer's hair body.

Rangitikei Red.

Hook. #14 grub hook

Bead. Gold 3mm

Thread. Black 8/0

Tail. Bunch of pheasant tail barbs dyed red

Rib. Red fine wire

Legs. Synthetic red flash

Thorax dubbing. Coarse black dubbing with red flecks

Flash back. Red tinsel



Read John's full description of his Rangitikei Red in the December 2015 Newsletter.

Thank you to the club members who tied their favourite flies and we hope to have more Member's Favourites in the future.

Are the days of didymo numbered?

By Doug Stevens www.nzfishing.com

Unbeknown to most anglers, some research by a Kiwi and two Canadian scientists has the potential to be the silver bullet we have been looking for to control and possibly remove didymo from our waters.

Didymo as we know became the scourge of many waterways in New Zealand over a decade ago. While it is not known where it originated from, it suddenly bloomed in many rivers (and now lakes) making the angling experience less than optimal to say the least. In a very short space of time this invasive alga spread across and smothered the beds of many waterways. Not only was it unsightly and unpleasant but it also altered the rivers eco-system in ways we are still coming to terms with.

No other organism has been such a disaster to our fishing as the appearance and rapid spread of didymo.

What we know about didymo makes it highly unusual. Didymo is an algae that prefers clean water with low nutrient levels – often the most pristine rivers and lakes we like to fish. It multiplies rapidly yet is a fragile organism easily killed by dilute concentrations of such things as bleach or even dishwashing liquid. And it can be spread by a single drop of infected water.

Yet there are some strange aspects to didymo. It cannot survive in spring creeks and has never been found in any North Island river.

Itinerant anglers have long been blamed as the main agents of its spread. A large scale bio-security “Check, Clean, Dry” campaign was launched in 2004 and then abandoned in 2008 when it became apparent that stopping the spread was not feasible. Felt soled boots were found to be able to harbour

didymo for weeks and so were banned. And wardens were stationed at the interisland ferry terminals (but not airports) to ensure no infected gear crossed Cook Strait.

It is doubtful to say the least that these haphazard responses were effective and no angler (or kayaker, 4-wheel drive enthusiast or hiker) did not bring some infected gear to the North Island.

So why is didymo not in the North Island?

The short answer is the presence of phosphorus in the water.

If a river has more than 2 parts per billion (and yes that is billion not million) of phosphorus present, didymo will not bloom. The North Island which has a large percentage of volcanic soil has a high level of natural phosphorus present. The South Island which has limited volcanic soils and low natural phosphorus levels so can sustain didymo. (Banks Peninsula is an exception being of volcanic origin and the rivers and streams there are didymo free). Ah, I hear some of you exclaim – but what about the super-phosphate the farmers put on their soil? Surely that contains phosphorus that will leach into the waterways and so inhibit didymo.

The answer is that this is true – where super phosphate does leach into the waterways didymo is inhibited. But where rivers and streams exit a clean lake (think the Buller, Clutha, Gowan and Waitaki as examples) didymo flourishes. Lakes allow phosphorus to settle out so when they flow into the headwaters of a river there is usually very little phosphorus present.

Cathy Kilroy from NIWA, one of the foremost researchers into didymo, states that didymo cannot become established in the North Island. The naturally occurring phosphorus present in the water in the North Island stops it. The Tongariro and other such waters are safe. And if a way could be found to allow the diffusion of phosphorus into infected waters in the South Island, then there is a good chance that waters in the South Island could at the very least, have didymo controlled to a manageable level. Cathy does sound some warnings however and for further information we suggest you read the summary of her findings on www.nzfishing.com.

But I am sure all anglers will agree that this is great news and worth celebrating. We need to support the scientists such as Cathy Kilroy at NIWA

and encourage them to continue this valuable research which will benefit all water users, not just anglers.

We at www.nzfishing.com are putting forward a petition to have Fish & Game's Council consider revoking the felt sole ban for the North Island in the first instance.

And if it is found that didymo can be controlled, we will also be pushing for this ban to be extended across the country. If you wish to read more about this research and to keep abreast of developments, please visit nzfishing.com and sign up for the newsletters. This is possibly one of the most positive developments in our fishing history since those first trout were released.

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In its 11th year, RISE is celebrating a decade of bringing the best fishing entertainment to cinemas around the world. Audiences can look forward to stunning footage from Iceland, Australia, New Zealand and the USA presented in high definition on the big screen. It's the biggest kick-off to the fishing season there is!

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Tickets available online or at the door.

Screens at the Lighthouse cinema Petone 8pm to 10pm
On Wednesday 7 September 2016.

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Phone Jim Rainey (06) 382-5507

Kawhatau Valley Road, RD7, Mangaweka

office@greentroutguiding.co.nz

www.greentroutguiding.co.nz

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**Jill and Tony
Sammons**

471 2537
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CLUB CONTACTS

President	Ross Goodman	(04) 233 0087
Vice President	Mike Nansett	(04) 586 5659
Past President	Steve Doughty	04) 527 7799
Secretary	John Olds olds@paradise.net.nz	(04) 934 4150
Treasurer	Mike Nansett	(04) 586 5659
Committee	Damian Bengree	(04) 938 3372
	Thomas Fichtner	021 0736 210
	Ajit Jogi	021 235 9168
	Chris Kuchel	021 036 7639
	Colin Lewis	(04) 568 2117
	Krystal Smith	(04) 822 2882
	Rob Winwood	(04) 566 1817
Buddy Programme Coordinator	Ross Goodman rgoodman@globe.net.nz	(04) 233 0087
Casting Coordinator	Ian Lawson lawsieig@gmail.com	(04) 563 5486
Librarian	Ajit Jogi	(04) 238 2304
Newsletter Editor	Chris Kuchel chriskuchel357@gmail.com	021 235 9168
Newsletter Publisher	Grahame Kitchen grahame2@paradise.net.nz	(04) 971 6696
Fishing Diary Holder	Rob Winwood shepauto@xtra.co.nz	(04) 566 1817
Club Web Site	www.huttvalleyangling.org.nz	
Club email address	huttangler@hotmail.com	
Club Mail address	PO Box 40135, Upper Hutt, 5140	

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