

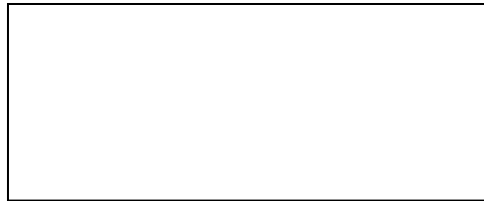
October 2017



Established in 1949

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NZ Registered Magazine



Canterbury Anglers' Club (Inc.)  
P O Box 16-778 Hornby  
CHRISTCHURCH 8441

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**Club Night: October 17th, start time of 7:30 p.m.**

Our guest speakers are Gregg Terras and Greg Gilbert from the Canterbury Surfcasting Club. More info on page 4

## Canterbury Anglers Club Inc.

### Executive

President	Ian Joseph	(03) 354 0331	<a href="mailto:ianjoseph792@hotmail.com">ianjoseph792@hotmail.com</a>
Vice President			
Secretary	Liz McDowell	(03) 355-7709	<a href="mailto:clubadmin@canterburyanglersclub.org.nz">clubadmin@canterburyanglersclub.org.nz</a>
Treasurer	Barry Swaney	(03) 310-6834	<a href="mailto:swaney@xtra.co.nz">swaney@xtra.co.nz</a>
Immediate Past President	Gary Batchelor	021 02361004	<a href="mailto:marilyn.batchelor@clear.net.nz">marilyn.batchelor@clear.net.nz</a>

### Committee

Bill Bennett	(03) 356-3461	<a href="mailto:wdbennett@xtra.co.nz">wdbennett@xtra.co.nz</a>	Graham Cargill	(03) 358-2129	<a href="mailto:gandygargill@xtra.co.nz">gandygargill@xtra.co.nz</a>
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Fred van Slooten	(03) 358-2223	<a href="mailto:fredvs@slingshot.co.nz">fredvs@slingshot.co.nz</a>	Paul Centofanti	021 072-8485	<a href="mailto:browntrout7@outlook.co.nz">browntrout7@outlook.co.nz</a>
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Garry Hill	(03) 322 6206	<a href="mailto:garryjohill@xtra.co.nz">garryjohill@xtra.co.nz</a>			

### Convenors

Activities	Mark Taylor, Fred van Slooten	Fish of the Month	Garry Hill
Building	Garry Atkins, Warwick Burton	Hut Bookings	Gary Batchelor
Club Archives	Fred van Slooten	Membership	Dave Sherriff
Club night	Graham Cargill & Garry Hill	Trophies	Garry Hill
		Welfare Officer	Bill Bennett
<b><u>Out of committee convenors</u></b>			
Magazine Editor	Andrew Wells ph. (03) 332-8459	Librarian	Grant Holmes

### Life Members

Bryan Coulter	Ted Gilliver	Len Isitt
Alan Lynn	Richard Marles	Ken Twyman

**General club meetings:** 7.30 pm on 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month except December & January

**Meeting venue:** Waimairi Lions Club, 338 Avonhead Road, Avonhead, Christchurch 8042 (the cricket club/ tennis club entrance).

**Committee meetings:** The Committee meets on the Monday following the Club Meeting, currently at a private residence since the Fish and Game rooms are not available for our use. You are welcome to attend – please contact a committee member for details of the meeting venue. There is also a Committee meeting on the last Monday in January.

### Club trips, events

Trip	Based at	Date	Convenor
Richard Marles Challenge	Otematata	7th – 8th October	Mark Taylor
Take a Kid Fishing	The Groynes fishing lakes	15th October	Fred van Slooten
High Country Opening	Lake Coleridge	4th November	Mark Taylor
Chidgey Shield	South Rakaia	26th November	Garry Hill
Salmon/ Sea run fishing	Don Brown Lodge	10th & 11th February 2018	Mark Taylor

# The (Anglers') Angle

October 2017

The Official newsletter of The Canterbury Anglers' Club (Inc.)

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## Editors bit

The new season has opened and so has the heavens – typical of our spring, but the rain is good for the garden. While the rivers settle you will be able to get out and get the lawns and vegie patch under control, and still have time to wash the car before the rivers clear up. And if they don't clear in time to go fishing Sunday – never mind – as boy do we have a great day in store if you have some free time...

Take a Kid Fishing is on this Sunday, and we need all the assistance we can get on the day, helping kids catch (for what will be many of them) their first fish. Join us at 8:30 am on Sunday the 15th at the Groynes fishing lakes. If you haven't been before, then bring a pair of gumboots, your landing net and a fisherman's priest. A pocket knife doesn't go astray either. Most of the requests for help are to sort out tackle, tying on spinners and hooks and handing out bait, plus netting fish and letting a few go. It's an enjoyable day out, and you can guarantee a few laughs during the course of the day.

Our last couple of club nights should be worth attending – details on page 4.

The magazine is a bit skinny this month – Paul and Rex are clearly out enjoying the new season, so I have had to bulk it out with something I started writing a while ago.

Thanks again for the contributions and photos this month, and please keep sending them in.

*Andrew*

[andrew.wells@xtra.co.nz](mailto:andrew.wells@xtra.co.nz)

## President's Report

Took a nostalgic trip on the 17th of September out to the Selwyn area. First of all going to Coes Ford where not long ago it was bone dry, but on the day I was there it was clear as a bell. It was flowing really fast and about a foot deep over the road crossing, you could see where there had been quite a lot of flooding and the camp and toilets were closed.

Next went to the Lower Selwyn huts where my father used to have a bach, where we used to spend a lot of time fishing, hardly knew the place as it's been covered in corrugated iron. There was a really good flow of water and very clear, last time I was there it was really dirty and unfishable.

The recladding of the house at Rakaia went really well with about 12 club members there on the Saturday. We had most of the cladding put on the Thursday with one coat of paint on. The meals and scones prepared by Grant Holmes was really welcome – thanks Grant. Warwick put up a woodshed between the fence and the garage so now all the wood can go under cover. When the weather picks up we can go down and put another coat of paint on the roof and paint the soffits and around the windows, but that can be in the near future.

Since then have been down to Benmore and Aviemore with Bill B. We caught about 17 fish between us, all really good fish where one of mine was 5.4lb, weather was really good.

Take a Kid Fishing is on the 15th October so hope we get a few members there to help on the day.

Cheers,

*Ian Joseph*

**President  
Canterbury Anglers Club**



Action on Lake Benmore last weekend at the Richard Marles Challenge

**Next club meeting:  
October the 17th: 7:30 pm**

**Closing date for articles and info in the next issue:  
5th of November**

## Club trips & activities

### Club night program

**October club night:** Tuesday the 17th.

Greg Terras and Greg Gilbert from the Canterbury Surfcasting Club will be attending, speaking about all manner of surfcasting: type of gear, tackle, rigs, set up & equipment used, fish species, methods, baits, not forgetting the popular locations, times and tides.

Followed with a tech question/answer session . . . Sounds like a full on night!

**November club night:** Tuesday the 21st.

The end of year pot luck dinner – most likely an early start.

*Graham Cargill + Ian Joseph*

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### Club trips

**October: Take a Kid Fishing.**

TaKF is on Sunday the 15th October. The CAC look after one of the larger lakes on the day and we need volunteers to assist the kids on the day. If you haven't been out on one of these days before give it a try. Give Fred van Slooten a call if you want to know any more.

**November: Two events on - High Country Opening; Saturday 4th November and Lake Brunner; Show weekend Thursday 16th to Sunday 20th (3 nights)**

For the Lake Brunner trip we are staying at Ruru a couple of km before the Moana - this is the third year at this location. We have more beds (up to 12) and plenty of parking. The place has a bit of charm with some nice internal wood panelling to set the scene. Names into the events book and call Fred van Slooten for more info.

**The Chidgey Shield surf casting competition** is being held at South Rakaia on Sunday the 26<sup>th</sup> of November, and we hope to put 1 or 2 teams in the event.

We are hoping to have a weekend at the Rakaia Lodge 10th and 11th February 2018, as well as a week-long trip to the Nelson Lakes early March 2018. If anything takes your fancy put your name in the events book at clubnight, or ring the organiser for more details.

*Mark Taylor*

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### Hut Bookings

The new online booking system for hut bookings is now running [on our website](#), so please have a look at it before ringing Gary Batchelor, to see if a bed is available at your lodge of choice.

The method to make a booking is very easy – click on the date that you want to go in and then on the date that you want to leave (tip – if the dates that you are looking to book are broken over the end of a month, then click the arrow (IE: Nov >) top right to move to the new month), that will populate the check in and check out dates, then complete the details asked for which is the number of persons going in, your name, email address and a comment (IE: “Double bed please”, “Double for me and Paul can have the bunk room”, or “We will take the whole place please” being some examples), then lastly click on “book now”. If you have done it right you will notice a message saying “Your request has been successfully sent. Please wait for approval.”

That will generate an email back to you to confirm the process has worked, plus send one off to Gary B. He will confirm as soon as he is able to. If you have made an error just let Gary know, and he can cancel the booking, and while you are doing that you can re-book the correct dates or lodge making sufficient notes so that he knows which booking is correct.

If you don't have a computer then it's the old fashioned way – ring Gary Batchelor on 021 0236 1004.

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### Life Members

#### Life membership has been awarded to the following members:

Mr Don Brown	1963 - 1985	Mr Richard Marles	1989 -
Mr George Bligh	1977 - 1990	Mr Alan Lynn	1991 -
Mr Bert Danielson	19?? - 2006	Mr Fred Nicoll	1993 - 2013
Mr Ron Kennedy	1981 - 2014	Mr Bryan Coulter	1993 -
Mr Doug Mackenzie	1981 - 2004	Mr Barry Holmes	1994 - 2014
Mr Vic Mehrtens	1981 - 2008	Mr Don Neale	1999 - 2014
Mr Barry Brightling	1981 - 1998	Mr Ken Twyman	2006 -
Mr Eber Hollander	1981 - 1987	Mr Kevin Lynch	2011 - 2015
Mr Ray Ramsay	1984 - 2001	Mr Len Isitt	2013 -
Mr Al Creedon	1986 - 1991	Mr E (Ted) Gilliver	2015 -
Mr Joe Chidgey	1987 - 2010		

### Excerpts from the minutes of the last Committee Meeting

- Finance: \$5000 term deposit has been rolled over. Membership lists will be updated soon as most subs have been paid.
- Huts

*Rakaia:* Roof just needs a second coat, round the windows needs to be finished and the carpet put down. This will probably only take 2 days. Thanks to those who donated building materials for the weekend. The section looks quite tidy now.

*Cass:* The trees in the back paddock make it hard to mow the grass – might need to take some of the trees out.
- General Business

*TaKF:* October 15th. The weed is a problem – there is a working bee this Saturday to help remove as much weed as they can before the event.

*Welfare:* Richard Marles came to the last club night, being on the eve of his 90th Birthday. Mark T has been to visit Ngaire Wilkinson and she has lots of support.

*Fish of the month:* Garry has sent out a new form for consultation. Discussion took place about sea fishing – should there be a category for sea fish, and catch and release. Moved: “There will be 3 specific categories for Fish of the Month – Trout, Salmon and Salt Water Fish.”

### Fish of the month

Fish of the month this month goes to Ian Joseph with a 5.4 lb rainbow from Lake Aviemore.

*Garry Hill*

### Recipe corner - Fillets of Moeraki Cod with Tomato Sauce

This recipe has been inspired by our recent trip to Moeraki and the catch of fresh blue cod we all came home with. Now, everyone is pretty busy these days, so this recipe can be put together in very short time indeed and is flexible enough to allow you to put your own “touch” on / in it! This recipe will be enough for two people.

Season your fillets with salt & pepper – your choice - pan fry, grill or bake to your preference. Flexible option is to coat fillets with breadcrumbs or egg before cooking.

- 4 / 6 Fillets of Cod
- Tomato Sauce
- 4 x Ripe Tomatoes Chopped (sub small tin of chopped tomatoes if desired)
- 1 x Small Red Onion Finely Chopped
- 1 x Red / Green Chilli Pepper Deseeded and Finely Chopped (Optional)
- 2 / 3 Cloves Crushed Garlic
- 1 x Good Pinch Dried Basil
- 100mls White Wine
- 1 tsp. Sugar
- 1 tbsp. Sliced Black Olives (Green Olives also good)
- Splash of Cooking Oil and Knob of Butter

Method:

1. Heat a pan on the stove, add oil and butter.
2. Cook Onion, Basil and garlic gently until onion becomes translucent and soft.
3. Add Wine and sugar – bring up to simmer and hold for 2 – 3 minutes.
4. Finally add Tomatoes and Olives and bring the sauce back to simmer.

Serve your cooked fillets of fish on, over or beside this sauce – nobody will judge you! This recipe will taste great with all sorts of fish and awaits your interpretation!

*Garry Hill*

### September Club Night

The club speaker on September 17th was one of our own members Paul Centofanti, who spoke about catch and release of fish. The video he showed was very interesting, in the way the fish was carefully brought to shore and then handled by wetting your hands and putting it back where it was caught. I think quite a few members were trying to work out where the video was taken.

C&R does work – on Bills boat we are using a new net and single hooks with great success, which we will be discussing soon.

Thank you Paul for the good presentation.

*Ian Joseph*

### Take a Kid Fishing working bee

With the Take a Kid Fishing event coming along, (Sunday 15th October), the Trust that runs the event spent a day looking at how to clear the Groyne fishing lakes of the intrusive oxygen weed that was out of control.

A resultant call was put out for Club help, and as Fred was out of town I joined Garry Hill and Pat Cahill on site. With many other Clubs members and the Chch City Council Rangers, we set about our work. A long metal bar on a wire rope was taken to one end of the lake on a dingy and thrown over – then dragged back to the shore by car. HUGE loads of weed were dislodged and then dragged back to shore by one method or another, then forked into a heap on the shore. A contingent of P.D workers were on hand to load a double-axle trailer and remove the heaps. By lunchtime they had removed 5 loads from the top lake alone.

At 12.30 pm the Rangers put on a BBQ lunch and coffee, and after another hour or so we had done pretty well with at least another 5 loads of weed to go on the trailer, and time was called.

All this work and effort most likely because some clown emptied out his fish bowl into the lake. The City Council are looking at two ways to eliminate the problem, one being a cloth on the lake bed and the other as a spray. The spray is very effective on the weed, (don't know about the fish) but the down side is that the weed needs light and warmer water to grow before it can be sprayed, which is generally on or around the same time of the year as the TaKF event is run.

Thanks to all the participants on the day, and REMEMBER that our Club looks after one lake on the day, and you are welcome to come and help us. Come and meet your fellow members.

*Gary Batchelor*





## Coleridge Brass Monkey 2017

The forecast during the week looked ominous, to the point that Bruce Rule put out an early warning of a pending cancellation. The gap in the weather pattern seemed to improve as the week progressed, and Saturday looked to be reasonable. Thursday night and the trip was on. Great. What a good decision it was, as the weather on Friday night through to Saturday early evening was calm as. A bit cool as a frost did settle on Saturday morning but that was a small price to pay.

Beds were at a premium but as always, it works out. Paul and I planned to double shift the beds by fishing all night, and heading in after the boaties had left. A couple had stretchers and as luck would have it, a late cancellation meant we gained an extra bedroom, so we all had beds of sorts.

With all the recent rain, the Harper and Wilberforce were in moderate flood and very dirty. The Harper had broken out above the diversion, so the flow down the riverbed into the lake was high but not excessive. This created a nice boundary between clear and dirty water.

Paul and I had a look at the Lake Friday afternoon to get the lie of the land. Coleridge was very low with the drop off close to shore at the Harper end of the lake. We had a fish until it got dark, with a few salmon being caught albeit they were fairly small.



We headed to the Shearers quarters to catch up with the rest of the team and fill in the registrations. The CAC contingent consisted of 7 members, combined with 3 from the Rainbow Club who last year were allowed to compete as an affiliated Club. Bruce Rule and Billy Huffman from Ferrymead did most of the organising, and this set the scene for a fun weekend.

Paul and I went out to the lake close to midnight with the temperature around 6 degrees. Pretty warm in comparison to most years although this turned into a light frost by dawn, when we went back to the Shearers Quarters, to find the remaining cars well frozen. Fishing this year was more successful than most years. I landed a total of 7 rainbows and 1 salmon returning all but one trout.

After staying out till the sun rose it was time to call it a night, and let the boats head out. They had a successful morning landing good numbers of small salmon.



Richard Baird had some good success catching a number of salmon all around 1kg. For lunch they stopped on O'Rourke's Fan. Richard paired up with Campbell Lintott, and between them landed 24 salmon for the weekend.

Craig and Phil along with Blair came back to a flat beach with amazing weather and heaps of snow at 1200 m. Mark, Grant and our new President Ian went out on Taylormaid and also had good success on the Salmon.

Back at the prize giving my largest Rainbow was a good fish that was 2.125kg gutted and gilled. Enough to win the CAC Coleridge Brass Monkey Trophy, however it was 75 grams short of the winning fish that took out the Coleridge Brass Monkey Trophy. Bones won this with a Rainbow trout of 2.200 kg caught from a boat. There is also the Team Haggitt Trophy,



competed for by teams of 3, which can be from shore, boat and combined club members. Each member weighs in their heaviest fish, and the weights are combined. Paul and I along with Alan from New Brighton, had the pleasure of winning this coveted trophy. After the prize giving quite a few headed home, however most of the CAC team stayed.

Later in the evening, the predicted Southwester came in so this limited the shore fishing for Saturday night and Sunday.

Another great weekend and I expect most of us will be there again next year.

*Fred van Slooten*

## Moeraki Trip

### September 4th & 5th

As this was a Sunday Monday fishing trip, myself and 3 other passengers (Murray, Russ, and Ray) left Christchurch on Saturday afternoon bound for Moeraki. South of Timaru we had to take a very long detour inland as there had been a big accident, but finally made it to Oamaru where we meet up with other fellow fishermen at Scott's Brewery for a taste of their brew. From there we headed south to our accommodation at Moeraki and then a drink and meal at the local before bed.

Sunday morning saw us all on the wharf at 7.30am ready for our charter boat Sirocco to take us fishing. The Sea had a moderate swell and fishing was fairly difficult with sea perch being the flavour of the day. Gary Hill managed to hook a large fish and in the excitement of the moment threw his rod and reel over board!! We needed an uplifting moment.

That evening we caught the shuttle which took us to the Hampden for an evening meal.

Monday morning dawned and this was a 7:00 am start with conditions looking more promising for a successful fishing morning and this proved itself so. On board was an extra fisherman Lance Morrison and he managed to catch quite a smorgasbord of fish.

Over all a lot more fish were caught and this meant we all came home with approx. 6 kg of fish fillets each.

A very enjoyable and successful weekend.

*Mark Taylor*

*Garry Atkins*

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## Richard Marles Challenge

I travelled down to Bills place on Thursday arriving about 3-45pm to find Bill, Bruce, Ian and Heather out on the lake fishing. It being too late to join them I chilled until they got back. Mark, Grant and Pete arrived later. We socialised for a while, had dinner and turned in.

Next morning (Fri) we went to Lake Aviemore taking Mark's and Bill's boats. Some nice fish were caught with Heather netting a 5.9lb rainbow. Paul C and Athol McLeod fished from the shore.

After lunch we fished Benmore in front of Bills place with very little luck. We returned to Bills to find Colin had set up camp. Len and Barry, the Gary's (Hills and Batchelor) and Alby Scott arrived later. More lie telling then a reasonably early night.

Saturday we again went to Aviemore it was blowing a very strong and COLD southerly with the lake being quite rough. Fishing was hard work with limited success.

In the afternoon we tried Benmore again, with the same results as the previous day.

The best tally for Saturday was Rex Gibson fishing from shore with 8 fish caught.

Gary Hill once again supplied a fantastic meal for dinner.

Sunday morning was back to Aviemore still southerly but not as hard or rough.

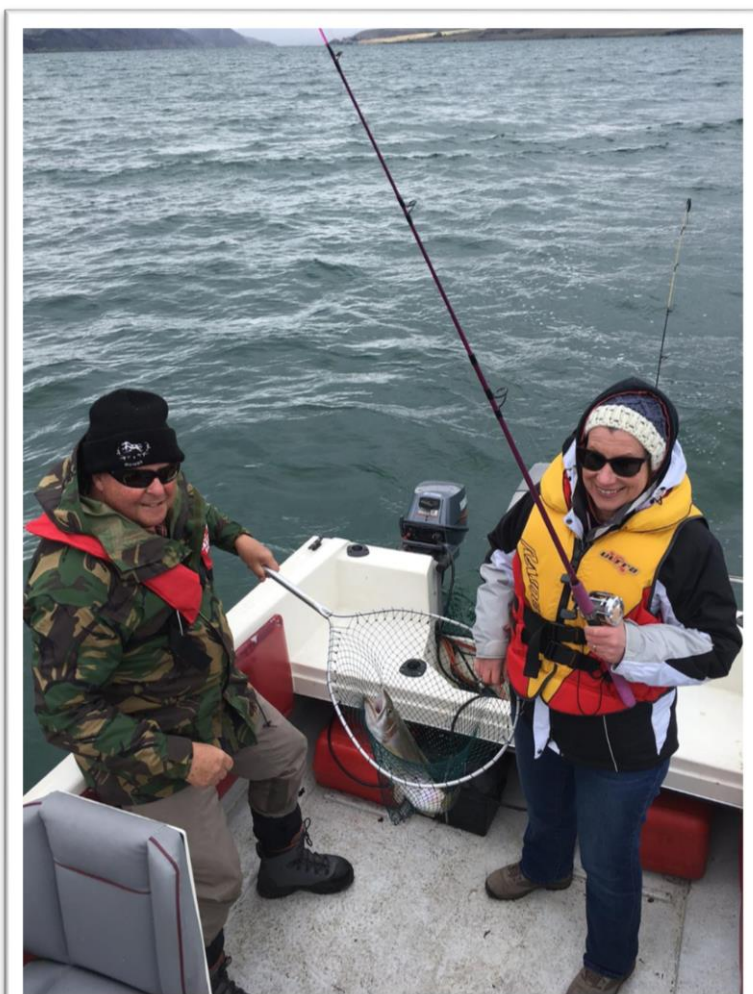
Most people caught fish (some more than others). We stopped fishing at noon and went back to Bills for lunch and de-brief. With a total of 14 fish Liz Mc Dowell was presented with the trophy by President Ian.

I would like to congratulate Mark for organising another great weekend, I also want to give a special Thank You to Bill for his outstanding hospitality and to Gary for supplying the wonderful meals.

## *Ross Maher*

**Right top:** Liz and Athol with some action on board Reel Busy

**Right:** Demonstrating his best C&R technique, Ian shows how to do it (excuse the thumb in the picture).







**Above:** Pre dinner socialising

**Right:** BBQ action – Garry H and Ross Mahar providing commentary to Paul C.

**Below:** Essenbe in the foreground, with Taylormaid and Reel Busy in the background on a bumpy Lake Benmore. The only boat not in the shot is X-Terminator.







**Left:** Liz with one of nine she caught on day one, the fish she is holding went 2.15 kg

**Below:** To the Victor – the spoils. Ian J presents Liz with the Richard Marles Challenge Trophy.

A feller's glad to be a friend,  
 Out fishin'.  
 A helpin' hand he'll always lend,  
 Out fishin'.  
 The brotherhood of rod and line  
 An' sky an' stream is always fine;  
 Men come real close to God's design,  
 Out fishin'.  
 A feller isn't plotting schemes,  
 Out fishin'.  
 He's only busy with his dreams,  
 Out fishin'.  
 His livery is a coat of tan;  
 His creed, to do the best he can;  
 A feller's always mostly man  
 Out fishin'.  
 Author: Edgar Guest

These brook trout will strike any fly you present,  
 provided you don't get close enough to present it.  
 Author: Dick Blalock



## THE THREAT



Didymo is an invasive species that can form massive blooms. Thick growths can adversely affect freshwater fish, plant and invertebrate species by reducing the number of suitable habitats.

If you require more information please visit:

**[www.biosecurity.govt.nz/didymo](http://www.biosecurity.govt.nz/didymo)**

To report a suspected find of didymo please call 0800 80 99 66

## Alphabet Trout

I saw this done in that excellent publication, the [NZ Trout Fisher](#) many years ago, and immediately started to think about my own "Alphabet Trout". I started to write this shortly afterward and in the ensuing time have had to edit it several times to delete some of the better details. What goes on, on a fishing trip, stays on a fishing trip... which made the choice of photos somewhat difficult too?

**A is for the Ahuriri River**, the first place I caught a trout on a fly. I was fishing with Keri and two friends on a Nor 'west afternoon on New Year's Day 1998, and the poor unsighted and misguided 1 lb. Brownie took my Stonefly offering with complete disregard for its life. Lucky for it, it was released as soon as I got it to the bank. We retired to the Omarama Pub shortly afterward to get out of the wind, but mostly to celebrate that all four of us had hooked up that day.

A could also be for the Ashburton River, as it's a river I have spent some time on. The fishing can be very good – and very average. Some seasons it is stacked with searun's and yet other seasons it has very few fish in it. My best days fishing was with Kempy on a day where we fished the south branch up towards the first bridge. For a while we were level on 3 or 4 each and then he just pulled away with a 10 fish day. The fish that day were all a mirror image of each other – 4 to 5 lb. and recently searun on a day where we fished nymphs and dries from mayfly imitations to classic willow grubbing.

Another A is the Acheron which IMHO is a far better river than the Clarence into which it flows north east of Hanmer. Fish and Game has negotiated access along the Molesworth Road early season so give it a go one day. It gets a wee bit of pressure from guides in the region, but fortunately the Upper Waiau is starting to get a reputation as a large fish river so that may take some pressure off the Acheron. If only those tourist anglers knew what I do...

**B is for Lake Benmore**, the favoured lake fishing location for many a CAC Club Member. I can well remember the first time I fished the lake and caught a wee brownie within 30 minutes too. To be fair it didn't figure in my fishing plans for several years (being a long way away and out of the way home) and really not until some friends persuaded us to go to Twizel for Labour weekend in 1998. From that point we started to visit the Ohau C arm on a regular basis, usually trolling or harling in the old river channels between Haldon and Black Forest mostly lining up our runs on Mt. Cook to the west, and some trees beyond the Black Forest homestead to the east (no GPS then) and fishing no deeper than 20 metres. After exhaustive testing (read many days in the boat with the only distraction being to remove the hook from fish, and to open another beer) we found that the Black Toby reigns supreme. Occasionally we would venture off to the Haldon Arm too.

Like all fisheries it can be good and bad, but it is generally a very productive fishery having a higher catch rate than even Lake Taupo. When I joined the fishing club Greg and Grant took me out to the Ahuriri Delta and showed me another aspect of this fishery. The first day I went in with them, we walked into the Ahuriri River Mouth, and decided the best way forward would be to grab a snack before proceeding. Grant had already peeled off some line and deposited a nymph in the lake at his feet, before he put his rod down to locate food. He was disturbed from his search for a snack by the sound of the ratchet on his reel, as a brown trout took off with the nymph – and his rod too.

Incidentally – one of the biggest fish I have ever seen (short of a canal monster) was in Benmore. Athol and I were heading back from the Delta and as we got to within 10m of the creek that the track follows, we spooked a very large fish that was sitting in the creek mouth. It turned and made a break for the lake, hitting my leg above the knee and in doing so nearly knocked me over such was its size!

**C is for the Clutha River**, which below the outlet has one of the highest fish counts of any river in New Zealand but it doesn't spin my wheels. Instead I prefer the water behind the Wanaka Airfield or downstream of Luggate. Both offer high fish counts even if you can't always see your target. It's very easy to just fish downstream on a medium sinker with a woolly bugger or nymph upstream Tongariro style with a large

indicator. While the fish population is mostly small rainbows sometimes you will get a few larger browns too. An added bonus if you fish behind the airfield over Easter every second year, you will get to see a good portion of the air show as the aircraft taking part quite often transit down the river to get around the airfield. I have noticed that access is harder to get in this area – as in drive in access, but there is now a popular cycling track along both sides, so take your hint from there.

The Clarence (**shown left** at the outlet of Lake Tennyson) is one of those rivers that can be frustrating. First you have to get the weather right – anything other than an easterly will result in you finding a northerly funnelling





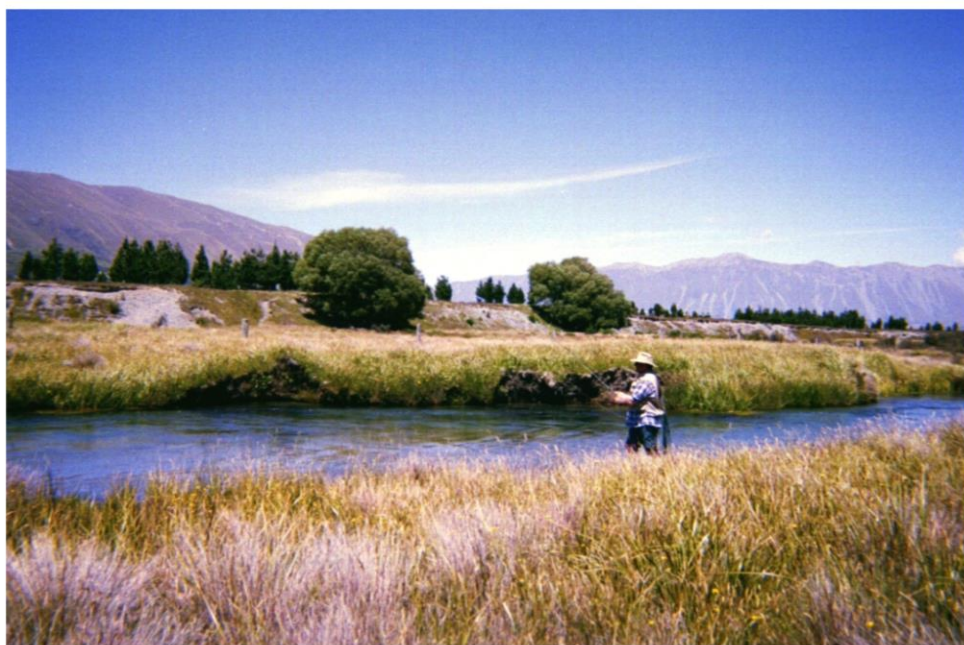
downstream. Second is that you have to locate a fish that hasn't seen a lot of anglers because otherwise the first cast will put the fish down. But – get a good day and a fish that hasn't seen a lot of imitations and it is a great place to go. If you target the outlet from Lake Tennyson there are very high numbers of small fish which fight well on light tackle. Not many people know that it also supports a salmon run as well, with the junction of the Acheron downstream from Hanmer being a good place to head to bag one. Ask Athol McLeod about his last salmon caught there...

**D is for Deep Creek.** There – I've named it, the cats out of the bag. A spring creek system rising out of the Rangitata River close to Mt. Sunday AKA Edoras the capital of Rohan in the Lord of the Rings and just 30 - 50 minutes' drive and a short walk from the Club Lodge at Clearwater.



**Above and left:** Happiness is a high over the island, and being first on the bank of Deep Creek with a fishing mate. These were taken in 2005. Sadly the stretch on the LHS has now been dewatered due to the actions of the landowner.

The fishing at Deep Creek can either be excellent or frustratingly bad depending on just how many anglers and guides have been for a wander along its banks. The trout population fluctuates, peaking in April when it is closed to fishing as they follow the spawning salmon up river. There are other factors that affect the fishing; the ever present Nor'wester being one, and the fact that the landowner has diverted a good chunk of the water down an old water course so as it doesn't wash out his fence



and the diversion has no holding water in it, and then there is the Didymo... But it does hold some large fish and if you can get a cast to them before they see you - its game on.

**E is for Lakes Emma and Emily,** both close to the club hut at Clearwater. Both share the same brackish water colour which is usually suspended sediment as they are both quite shallow – Emma is 3m at its deepest, and Emily is 2m at its deepest. Emma is probably the more popular of the two being close to the road into Clearwater. DoC has recently upgraded the track from the road into this lake, making it easier to drive down to. Before the proliferation of Japanese imports it was possible (I am reliably informed) to get the family car down to its shore. The fishing in Emma can be fickle or very good. Graham and I recently had a 5 fish afternoon there where all the fish were near identical 4 lb. females probably looking for partners to spawn with.

Emily requires a little more work to get to – but you can almost drive right up to it as there is a public easement to it over Castleridge Station. A word of warning, stay on the visible track when close to the lake (so when the track stops going dead ahead but veers uphill, don't be tempted to cross the 30m of ground to where the track is again visible passing through the tussock), otherwise you will find a boggy patch in no man's land... Then park at the gate midway along the fence and walk southwest to get to above the swamp where it is at its narrowest and





then jump from one patch of grass to the other to get to the lake. The main species in Emily is the Brook Trout *Salvelinus fontinalis* and in Emily they get to Trophy size proportions. The late Alan Davies caught a 6 lb.er which when mounted made for an impressive sight. I have come tantalisingly close to landing one, so another visit soon is a must.

**Left:** Emily from the gate

**F is for the future – literally.** I have been to the Fraser River one night nearby Alexandra only to find the creek that I had gone over in winter was now dry, due to water abstraction. I didn't want to head up to the Fraser Dam either having heard it was too rough for my then 2WD vehicle. I have been to the Fox River north of Punakaiki, but only to white bait it so that doesn't count. There is a Freshwater River on Stewart Island that has caught my

attention. Are there trout down there? A visit to Falls Dam near St Bethan's (to fish it next time but) is a probable one day. One river I have got close to visiting is Fish Creek near the top of Haast Pass on the Makarora side. The fishing in the Makarora Valley is so good and the sand flies so vicious the further up you get, that I have never got past Kiwi Flat. The Fish River is on my "to do" list, as one of my nephews has informed me that it does indeed have fish in it.

**G is for the Grey River.** Around Stillwater access is easy and the fish numbers are good as there are quite a good number of searun's that stay put once they get that far upstream. Just fish the edges and likely lies and you will have a great day. During the whitebait season have a look closer to Greymouth – off the end of Golflinks Road where access is also easy.

G is also for Lake Georgina - which nowadays is generally a lake I only fish on High Country opening day, as it seems to have got very popular. The best opening day I recall was 2006 – for more reasons than one. Fish and Game had rescued 650+ fish from the Harper Diversion before it was shut down for maintenance (if I remember rightly it was the same weekend as the Coleridge Brass Monkey was on), and had put them into Georgina. Opening day was consequently a cracker – but I also managed to lose a fly box that day while running to get a picture of Athol landing a fish. Never mind, that's why you pay insurance isn't it?

**Right:** Athol - Lake Georgina opening day, 2006. This picture cost me a fly box

To be fair there are a lot of rivers beginning with the letter G that I have yet to tackle. I don't count fishing the junction of the Glenariffe Stream and the Rakaia River for Salmon back in the 80's. One day I will get up there to fish the stream for trout.

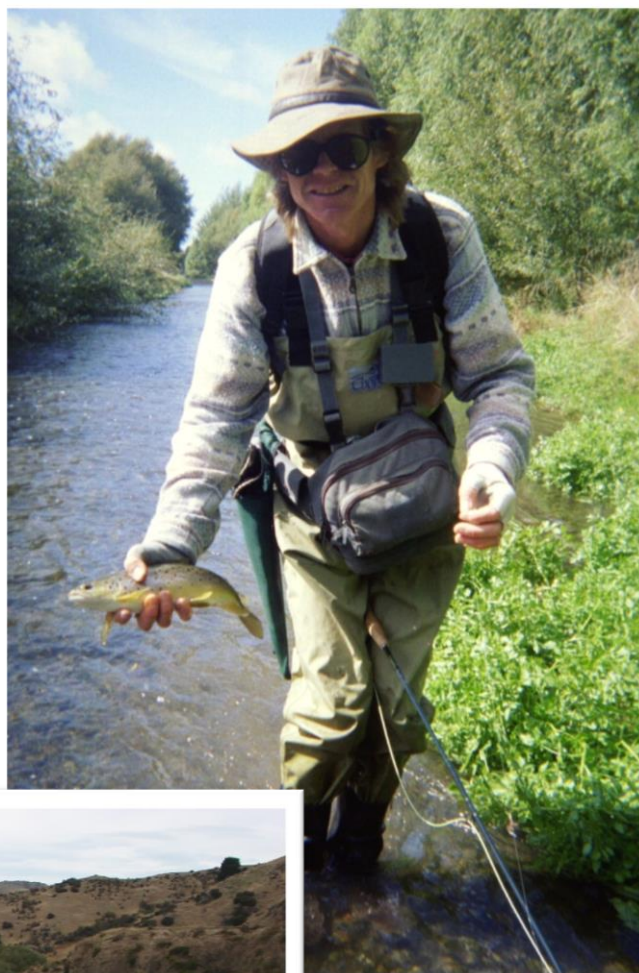




I have driven over any number of Gorge Burn/ Gorge Creeks/ Gorge Streams from one end of the island to the other – never fished any of them but the one beside the road into Te Anau looks fishy.

The Green Burn is a tributary of the Hamilton Burn deep in Northern Southland. Where it runs alongside the Mossburn/ Wrey's Bush Road it looks for all the world like one of our Mid Canterbury spring drains, and just like them it has small brown trout in it. Last time I saw it was on a bright spring day with a good covering of snow on the nearby Takatimu Mountains early in the new fishing season in 2005. One day... The Grebe River in Fiordland is now on my radar too, thanks to a mention from Dave Witherow in his book, *Open Season: An Anglers Life in NZ*, and I am wondering if the Grebe Tarn in South Canterbury has a trout population? So much fishing to do and so few sickies I can throw!

**H is for the Halswell River**, where I served my time fishing for "acclimatised species". Unfortunately the hungry perch that inhabited the river beat the trout to my Mepps spinner every time. To be fair the perch were bigger than the trout we saw during the day (night fishing was only for eels) and as we soon found out the perch were better eating. The taste of that very first trout caught by my youngest cousin lived up to its name of Mud Fish... Since I have taken up fly fishing the Halswell is back on my radar being only 15 minutes from home. It is tough getting a day when the river is clean enough to sight fish however.



Another river that I came to love was the Hinds River, which before water abstraction and the increase of nitrates in the water, was a stunning river to fish. It was the first ever place that Greg Kemp took me to fish, and I came away hooked on small stream fishing. I still remember Greg's voice when he looked at my (in those days one of two fly rods I owned) rod of choice that day, and in a matter of fact voice told me that I could dispense with the fighting butt for the day... He had a 10 or 12 fish day and I may have got 3 – but I was hooked forever on small streams.

The Hurunui is another river on most North Canterbury angler's radars. The river flow generally matches that of its northerly cousin, the Waiau – but some days it will surprise you remaining clear when the Waiau flows dirty from slips above the junction with the Hope. The population has always seemed to be small to medium sized fish – at least there are generally plenty of them. All brown trout although Fish and Game did locate one lonesome rainbow during a drift dive in recent years. And with so much fishable water there is something for everyone on offer. Alas since angling became the hip thing to do in our little corner of the south pacific, you can no longer guarantee your solitude – unless you pick a spot where access is restricted mind you. It's also reasonably dependable for salmon – so much so the locals will not tell you about "their" fishery at all. Mums the word - but Dave McD, Warwick Burton and Athol can tell you some stories.

Part 2 next month.

*Andrew W*

**This page, Top:** Kempy a long time ago when the Hinds had water. **Above:** Keri studying the beat of a cruising trout, Hurunui River backwater.

## Creasy's Column

By Hugh Creasy

I am persuading myself that a want has become a need. My waders definitely leak. I could wait for summer when the water is warm and I can dispense with waders altogether, or I can bite the bullet and splash out on the latest technology that may or may not be better than last year's model but at a considerable increase in price. I am always suspicious of prices that end in 99. There is no such thing. Retailers using such trickery with pricing are playing mind games. Can they be trusted? It is a silly ploy. Put the correct price on an item and your probity will be admired.

And that's just the price tag. Go a little deeper into the ticketing and labelling and you come across terms that link various products with space age science that will wear, if not forever, then for considerably longer than anything you've used before. Reels carved from solid blocks of miracle metals, rods imbued with magical powers to cast a line as lines have never been cast before, and leaders that fish can't see.

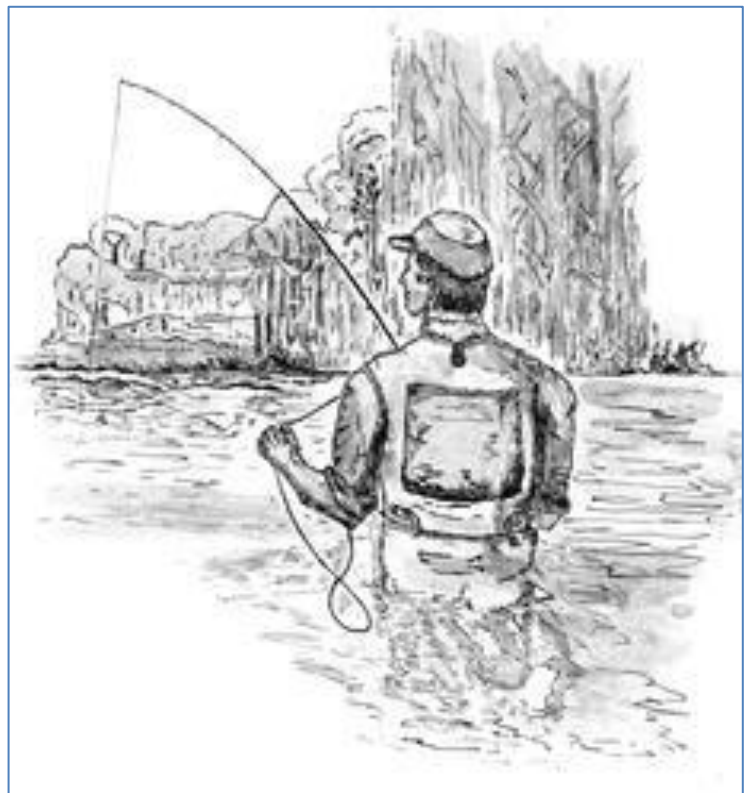
Now, if all that were true you might begin to wonder how our antecedents ever caught a fish at all. Silk lines cast with bamboo or greenheart rods, catgut leaders (pity the poor felines) and waders that consisted of stout leather boots with hobnails for grip. Yet anglers caught fish.

It was sport for the wealthy, and rods, reels and lines were made by hand and cost a fortune. Bamboo was split, silk was spun by busy insects and catgut was extracted most unpleasantly from the stomach and arteries of dead cats. Even hooks were made by hand. Fish were caught on some of the trickiest waters in the world. Chalk streams ran clear and skill of presentation led to the taking of the fly, and gentle pressure led to a fish's netting.

Technology has made things easier. Rod diameter and flexibility make casting a relaxing exercise rather than a debilitating labour of love.

Anglers are optimists. They have a belief that every visit to a river will result in fish caught in sunny weather, with low, clear water and easy wading. At this time of year it's more likely to be violent winds, icy showers and wind knots. There is an upside – slime has yet to build and wading is safer.

Technology has made it possible to develop rods and lines that will punch a fly into the wind. Waders and underwear defy the cold and spring fishing can be most rewarding. I am optimistic enough to think so. Purists will never resign themselves to the modern version of fly fishing. There are still those who use cane rods, though silk lines and gut leaders are a rarity. Flies, though, can be simple and made of natural materials, including the cotton used to tie them. There are few flies simpler or more successful than the pheasant-tail nymph, and the hare's ear nymph comes a close second. Spider patterns get slightly more exotic and their brown partridge hackles are getting hard to come by. Even rarer is seal's fur used in old patterns, and jungle cock hackles used for the eyes used in salmon flies and early matuku patterns. The matuku is now protected and the poor old jungle cock has neared extinction as a result of anglers' pretensions.



Hackles for dry flies have spawned an industry, with a number of chicken breeders producing designer roosters of gaudy glory and marvellous hackles. Hares and rabbits are good to eat and their ears and fur are a bonus. Pheasants are delicious and their tails and body feathers serve a multitude of flies. In fact, there is hardly a bird in existence that hasn't contributed its feather to the angler's efforts to imitate insects and small fish.

Purists feel the benefit of using materials derived from nature. There is a certain smugness in their demeanour. "I am a friend of mother earth," their body language signals, which is somewhat at odds with the remains of dead birds carried in their fly boxes.

While the thrill of catching trout is a motivating stimulus, the quieter reward is the gentle observation of the natural world and the revelations that come with increased knowledge. Fishing is just another form of hunting, and any good hunter knows the value of studying the habits of his prey and its surroundings. With many hunters the revelations that come as a result of observation replace the instinctive need to hunt. Trout are simple fish of enormous complexity, and so is the sport of their pursuit. You can catch one with a worm on a bent pin, or you can spend hours fashioning flies as close to reality as it is possible to get. Both will result in fish caught, but without some knowledge of the prey and its surroundings success will be limited.

The most successful anglers can read water and see fish. That's harder than it seems. Seeing fish, and casting to them requires practice. It may be shadows or logs or fish-shaped stones that you cast to, before the sideways snap of a fly taken makes the heart beat faster as the battle is enjoined.



## Club Trophies

### The annual trophies competed for by financial Club Members are:

Adams Brown Rooster	The heaviest fish caught by a junior, on a club trip
Anniversary Trophy	The best photograph taken by or of a club member (see convenor for full rules)
Ashby Berg Cup	The best conditioned rainbow trout, caught by a male member
Benmore Trophy	The best-conditioned fish caught on the Alf Palmer Memorial Trip
Bryan Coulter Trophy	The heaviest fish on rod & line, on a Club Boat Trip
Canal Trophy	The heaviest fish caught in the Waitaki Hydro Canals
Coleridge Brass Monkey Trophy	The heaviest fish caught during the Coleridge Brass Monkey Competition
Conservation Cup	For conserving the fish population on the Alf Palmer Memorial Trip
C.R.Ogier Cup	The heaviest salmon caught by a club member
Cromb & Merritt Shield	The best conditioned brown trout, caught by a male member
D.C.Wilson Shield	The heaviest fish caught in surf, on rod & line
Drewery Cup	The heaviest trout caught by a club member
Fly Anglers Shore Trophy	The heaviest fish caught by a shore based angler on a fly, on the Alf Palmer Memorial Trip
Junior Delegate's Trophy	The junior member who catches the heaviest trout, on Junior Day
Kevin Lynch Trophy	The member of the Alf Palmer Memorial Trip Team, who caught most fish
Lady Isaac Trophy	The heaviest Salmon caught at Rakaia whilst staying at the Don Brown Lodge
Marles Benmore Trophy	The heaviest trout caught on the Alf Palmer Memorial Trip
NZ Farmers Cup	The best-conditioned trout caught by a lady member
Richard Marles Challenge	The most fish caught on the Richard Marles Challenge Weekend
P.G.Ellis Cup	The best-conditioned trout caught by a junior member
Salt Water Lure Cup	The heaviest fish caught on a fly, in the sea
Secretaries Trophy	The heaviest rainbow trout caught by a club member
Spackman Cup	The heaviest trout caught on a Club Trip

## Hut Fees

### Fees for the Club huts are as follows:

<b><u>Member's</u></b>	Flat rate: \$20.00 per person per night if you are willing to share with other members. To book the facility exclusively for yourself, or your group, then refer below. The rate for children is: Under 5 yrs. free, 5 - 18yrs. - \$10 ( accompanied and booked by a senior member)
<b><u>Accompanied non-members</u></b>	As for club members
<b><u>To book a hut for yourself</u></b>	Clearwater and Cass = \$50.00 per night (maximum) Rakaia = \$100.00 per night (maximum)
<b><u>Caravans/campervans on site:</u></b>	Casual = \$15.00 per night, plus \$10.00 for each additional person Long term = by arrangement with the Committee.

## Hut Rules

1. Huts may only be booked by financial members of the club.
2. Bookings may be made, no more than 90 days in advance.
3. The Club member who makes the booking must be in residence when the hut is used and is responsible for the behavior of guests and any damage, should any occur.
4. Only one hut booking can be made at any one time.
5. Any damage must be reported immediately.
6. Empty gas bottles must be returned to the booking convener for refilling.
7. At peak times – Christmas to 15th January and all long weekends hut bookings shall be considered exclusive, but will be subject to a ballot if more than one party wants to book. The ballot shall be held 60 days prior to the occupancy date.
8. Through the balance of the year bookings shall be on a first come basis.
9. Bookings can only be for a maximum of seven days.
10. All hut users to take note of specific instructions on the safe use of equipment in the huts as detailed in the manuals provided in each facility.
11. Intentions books are placed in each hut, please use them, it may save a life.
12. If the lawns need mowing when you are staying at any of our lodges, it is expected that you mow them. Fuel cost for the mower will be reimbursed. The reward for mowing them is that you can shout yourself a beer when they are done.

**Canterbury Anglers Club (Inc.): Membership application & renewal form**

Please tick the appropriate box:

Are you ☐ A new member

Or ☐ An existing member

Type of membership (tick one)

Fee: (All less \$10.00 if paid prior to the 1<sup>st</sup> September)

<input type="checkbox"/>	Junior (under 16 years)	\$40.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Intermediate senior (16 to 20)	\$45.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Senior (over 20 )	\$70.00
<input type="checkbox"/>	Family (principal adult/partner & dependant junior children attending secondary school up to and incl. Yr. 13)	\$75.00

**Magazines will be distributed by email, please confirm your email address below unless the following applies:**

- Require magazine by mail as I do not have a broadband internet connection (tick the box)

☐

- Require a hard copy of the magazine - \$20.00 surcharge for this applies to the above subscription (tick the box)

☐

Name:

\_\_\_\_\_

Address:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Post code:

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone:

Fax:

Mobile:

\_\_\_\_\_

Email address:

\_\_\_\_\_

Family members: (please list partner's name, and dependant children's name and D.O.B.)

Which of the following types of fishing do you do?

<input type="checkbox"/>	Trout - spinning	<input type="checkbox"/>	Salmon - spinning	<input type="checkbox"/>	Sea - boat
<input type="checkbox"/>	Trout - fly	<input type="checkbox"/>	Salmon - lure	<input type="checkbox"/>	Course fishing
<input type="checkbox"/>	Trout – trolling/ harling	<input type="checkbox"/>	Surfcasting	<input type="checkbox"/>	White baiting

**Payments:** Please return this form and remit with appropriate amount to the Treasurer at a club meeting, or post (cheque only) to:

Canterbury Anglers Club Inc., P O Box 1602, Christchurch Mail Centre, Christchurch 8140.

Direct credits can be made to: 11-7800-0048004-11. Please include your name for reference.

**Canterbury Anglers Club (Inc.): Competition entry declaration form**

**Member details**

Name:

\_\_\_\_\_

Address:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

I hereby declare that on:

\_\_\_\_\_

I caught on legal tackle a:

(Specify species)

Details of fish – weight:

Length (trout only):

Tick if applicable:

(all that apply)

☐  
☐  
☐

Club trip

Caught in the surf

Boat trip

☐  
☐

Junior on juniors day

Junior - other time

**Witness name:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Date:**

\_\_\_\_\_

Details of scales and date checked:

NB: To enable the Trophy Convenor to determine which trophies you might be eligible for, please detail where the fish was caught.

**Signature of Angler:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Date:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Received by Trophy Convenor:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Date:**

\_\_\_\_\_

Declaration to be forwarded to the trophy convenor as soon as possible after each catch. Entries for the current season close on the 3rd Tuesday in June. Any individual can only win fish of the month once in each financial year.



**Sunday 15th October, 2017**

The Groynes picnic grounds, off Johns Rd, Belfast, Chch  
A free morning event for all children; it's on wet or fine.

**The Isaac Conservation and Wildlife Trust** has once again generously donated hundreds of salmon which will be released into the lakes at the Groynes. Come and enjoy a fun kids' fishing day.

No registration or fishing licence necessary (North Canterbury Fish & Game provide a whole-of-site licence for the day). Adults may assist, but are not permitted to fish. **Please no fishing before 9am.**

**9am to 1pm**

Isaac Take a Kid Fishing is for children **12 years and under**, with one lake especially for the under-8's where each child has a short one-on-one session with an expert angler (there is sometimes a queue for this). We have some rods, tackle and bait for loan in the morning, so don't worry if you don't have any gear. At all four lakes, skilled anglers from fishing clubs will be there to give advice and help.

**1pm to 7pm**

All children (under 18 years old) can fish, but from 1pm will need their own gear.

**Learn to clean and cook your catch**

Phil Keen, our "Executive Chef", will be there with his hot plate and some brilliant ideas for quickly turning your fish into a tasty dish. Phil also does filleting demonstrations.

**Safety**

Watch for cars approaching from both behind and in front, and be vigilant if you walk behind casting anglers. Please no dogs. To avoid accidents we ask that people not use long, surf-casting type rods or heavy weights.

**General**

There will be caravans on site with food and drinks for sale plus a raffle with some great prizes.

Every year since 1988 volunteers, fishing club members and many kind businesses, organisations and individuals have worked to put on Isaac Take a Kid Fishing. The Kids Fishing Charitable Trust (Charity #2168069) is our funding and governance body and we would be pleased to speak to anyone about donations. For more information, please contact Trust Chair Dave Denton by email at [dmdenton@xtra.co.nz](mailto:dmdenton@xtra.co.nz)

The Isaac Conservation and Wildlife Trust is the principal sponsor of Take a Kid Fishing. Information about this trust and its conservation activities can be viewed at [www.isaacconservation.org.nz](http://www.isaacconservation.org.nz)



**For more information**

Email: [takeakidfishingnz@gmail.com](mailto:takeakidfishingnz@gmail.com)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/TakeAKidFishingNZ/>