



# ROTORUA ANGLERS ASSOCIATION

*November 2024*

## Presidents Report

With the return of daylight saving, we moved to our summer schedule, an "end of the month BBQ"

For October, this event was combined with a "bring and Buy" This proved to be very successful, with a good club turn out, including three new members.

To top things off, we also celebrated Phil's 90th birthday. Congratulations Phil, and thank you for your generosity in putting money to the bar and "shouting" the room. It was great to see the clubrooms so lively and full of club members.

On Sunday the 3rd, we have the last of the Kids Fish Outs for the year. Many thanks to those who volunteered to help with these events.

After the failure of yet another gazebo, the committee has decided to invest in a heavy duty commercial model compete with club logo. Hopefully it will be ready for this last fish out

The monthly news letter will keep you informed about upcoming club activities. Summer will offer better fishing opportunities, so lets make the most of what our region has to offer.

## COMING EVENTS

**Nov.1st Club Night**

**Nov.2nd. Stream team. Meet up 9am at the container.**

**Nov. 3rd Kids Fish Out**

**Nov. 6th. Fly tying 7pm at the club rooms.**

**Nov. 8th. Club Night**

**Nov. 15th. Club Night**

**Nov. 15st. Committee Meeting**

**Nov. 22nd, 23rd, 24th, Club Weekend Otamangakau.**

**November 29th. BBQ at the club rooms.**



The Rotorua Anglers Association 2024 prize giving was held on Sunday the 20<sup>th</sup> of October, at the Rotorua Citizens Club.

The venue proved to be an ideal choice. We had the use of a private function area, a licensed bar, and a lunch menu that offered good choice at reasonable prices.

The committee had deliberately planned for a Sunday afternoon function in the hope that this would give club members more flexibility in planning their travel times.

This proved to be the case with a good attendance of club members.

Apart from the formality of the award ceremony itself, the luncheon proved to be an ideal opportunity for a catch up with fishing mates that we don't get to see that often

Fourteen trophies were awarded on the day, with some club members receiving more than one award.

Worth noting, is that there were a number of trophies for which no entry had been received. The moral of the story there is, that if you catch a half decent fish, enter it in the monthly draw. It could win a voucher from our supporter Hamills, and maybe a trophy at the end of the year.

The annual awards presentation is an important event on the club calendar and deserves the support of club members.

The 2025 awards will be the first to follow the new format, formulated by Gwen, our trophy manager, and approved at the recent A.G.M.

Full details of this will follow in another article.

# KIDS FISH-OUT OCTOBER

Brendan Davis

The third Kids Fish Out for 2024 was held on Sunday the 6<sup>th</sup> of October. It proved to be a much more rewarding and relaxing day for both the children, and the team from the Rotorua Anglers Association. The long queues and frustrations of the earlier event banished with better planning, a review of the flies being used, and by improving the technique used by the anglers on the pond.

Mark Sherborn from Fish & Game, club members Brendan, Piet, and Peter Corson spent some time on the preceding Saturday to try out some new flies and ideas. It was a good day of learning for all concerned. They trialed stone flies, a bigger pellet fly and a blood worm pattern.

All three of these patterns proved successful, though they did note that continually changing the pattern on offer to the trout, seemed to increase the strike rate.

Applying these lessons learnt, to the fish out on the Sunday, proved to be the key to quickly move the children off the pond with their promised trout borne aloft.

For this event, the club had bought a new set of digital scales. The significant improvement here was that the weight of the fish could be read by both the weigh master and the child.

A special mention of young Lile Davis who took on the role of weighmaster while also delivering cups of tea, pies and sausage rolls to the volunteers.

Thank also to Yulia Carson and Jacinta Low who did a great first-time job at issuing the fishing licenses at the front desk.

The Kids Fish Out is a major event on our club calendar, and I do want to acknowledge all the volunteers who played their part in such a lovely and kind manner. It is such a pleasure to work alongside you all.

We catered for 156 children on the day, with 2 children catching a tagged trout. The very last fish caught on the day is worth noting. George Coradie, aged eight, landed a brown trout weighing in at 1.3kg.



**George Coradie, eight years old, proudly displaying the 1.3g brown, caught with the last cast of the day.**



**Happy anglers with their catch proudly displayed**

## STREAM TEAM

The arduous work was over, the battle all but one.

What was once an impenetrable thicket of Blackberry, was ready for planting.

Thanks to the generosity of Lakes Consultancy, a local landscape design company, we had four hundred Carex grass's and twenty cabbage trees to plant on the cleared land.

The strategy was, that if we planted them, two or three to a square meter, the mature plants would provide shade, denying any regrowth of Blackberry ,the light it needed to flourish.

The four regular volunteers from the "stream team' plus a work party from the Rotorua Anglers Association had all the plants in the ground within three hours.

A satisfying conclusion to a project that has consumed many hours of volunteer time



# A to Z Tuition Course Judged A Success

A beginners fly fishing tuition course was conducted over the weekend of the twelve and thirteen of October.

It followed the successful format laid down by previous A to Z courses, the only variation being the number of mentors that helped present the course

Instead of having all the topics presented by one tutor, the task was divided among several club members, according to their expertise.

Day one, Saturday, was held at the clubrooms, with a mixture of theory and practical hands-on experience

The emphasis was on learning to cast a fly line. A challenging prospect given the strong breeze that whipped across the casting lawn,

To their credit, all the students became proficient by the end of the day, managing to cast to the target circle with confidence.

Day two, and the students met at the Eastern Fish and Game site, Paradise Valley Road.

Eastern Fish and Game had given permission for their facilities to be used, and a fishing license was issued allowing each student to fish for that day only.

The day began with morning of revision, and lot more casting practice, , with particular emphasis on the roll cast.. Toward the end of the afternoon it was thought that the students were ready to cast a fully rigged a line into the fish-out pond.

The class had been practicing casting without the encumbrance of an indicator and fly, so their first task was to set the rod up from scratch. There is nothing more valuable than hands on experience to drive home theory learnt.

You can imagine the excitement when all that theory and casting practice culminated with a fish in the net.

Barbless hooks, and a quick “wet” release meant that the fish were returned to the pond, thus meeting Fish and Game’s requirements.

A total of fourteen students completed the course, seven of them signing up as financial members of the club.

Feedback from all the students was incredibly positive, a real incentive to host more courses.

The interesting statistic is that more than half of them were from outside of Rotorua, and that many of them learned about the A-To-Z course, simply by asking google.

Try it yourself, you will be led to our very professional looking website, with full details about the course.



This course is an opportunity not to be missed. It is great value for money, the facilitators are passionate about the sport and their support was unfaltering, they even gave advice around local places to start safely and what gear was required.

What an awesome weekend, I thoroughly recommend it- and as someone who attends lots of courses and retreat experiences it gets a 10/10 for me!

Thank you so much Rotorua Anglers Club      Donna Leger. [pictured]

# EASY AS FISH CHOWDER

## Ingredients.

- 1 Tbsp olive oil
- 2 slices of streaky bacon
- ½ cup of corn kernel
- 1 celery stick, diced
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 1 ½ Tbsp of flour
- 1 litre of fish or chicken stock
- 200ml cream
- 4-6 diced potatoes
- 700g of fish diced
- 500g of mussels, scallops, or prawns
- 5cm leek, sliced
- 2 carrots, diced
- Nutmeg, small pinch
- 1 Bay leaf
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 100ml of white wine



## Method

Fry the bacon in a separate fry pan

Sauté the onion, leek, carrots, and celery in oil or butter for a few minutes.

Add a tablespoon of flour and stir well. Pour in the white wine and stir again for a few minutes. Then add the stock, nutmeg, bay leaf, salt and pepper and bring to a gentle simmer.

Add the potatoes and corn kernel and simmer until the potatoes are nearly cooked.

Add the diced seafood and cream and keep simmering until it thickens. If it gets too thick add more wine or stock.

Check for seasoning and serve.



# Rotorua Anglers Association Annual Awards 2024



Hamills Sport Trophy.	Heaviest rainbow trout caught by a male member.	Neal Hawes
Ken Nairn Memorial	Heaviest trout caught on lightest tippet	Neal Hawes
West Pac Trophy	Heaviest trout caught out of the district.	Neal Hawes
Jack Bell Memorial	Best condition factor caught by a male senior	Neal Hawes
Beamish White Honours Board.	Best condition factor	Neal Hawes
Presidents Cup	Heaviest trout caught over all	Roger Bowden
Jack England Cup	Heaviest Brown Trout caught by male senior	Roger Bowden
Dave Ellery Trophy	Best condition factor Brown Trout, male senior	Roger Bowden
Ces Taylor Cup	Best aggregate condition factor for a bag of four	Simon Aston
Rotorua Anglers Association	Sea Fish Trophy Best saltwater fish.	Gavin Corbett
Okeefe Trophy.	Best fish caught on a club trip	Marie Hutchinson
Okeefe Trophy	Best fish caught on a club trip	Richard Randell
Baz Jackson Trophy	Best newsletter article	Gwen Inskeep
Art City Award	Photo of the year	Graeme Dawber

# THE FLY TYERS DESK

## Simon Says

Tied by Peter Corson

Start with a 2 x long, size 10 hook in the vice. From behind the eye, lay a base of thread back to the bend of the hook and back  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the way up the eye.

Strip the fuzzy fibres of a peacock back feather and place it along the hook shank to form the tail of the fly. Use a pinch wrap or two to secure the peacock feather then adjust the length of the tail to be about the same as the hook shank. Fix the feather in with wraps back along the shank. Tie in a piece of purple ice straggle, about 15cm long, at the back. Bring your thread to the front of the hook and then wind the straggle forward, making sure the fibres go back with each wrap. Toe the straggle off about 3mm back from the eye.

Form a dubbing loop behind the eye. Insert a purple or dark ice dubbing in the dubbing loop and then spin the loop with the dubbing spinner tool. Wind the dubbing cord 3-4 times behind the eye as a hackle, manipulating the dubbing to the back with each turn. Tie off the dubbing cord with your thread.

Form a head for your fly, whip finish and clip your thread off. Brush the dubbing hackle back with a piece of Velcro. Add a touch of varnish and you're done. This is a good night fly, and a successful jiggling fly when fished near the bottom.



## PUT THESE EVENTS INTO YOUR DIARY

### Kid's Fish Out 2024

**Sunday November 3rd.**

This is the final fish out for the year, and a big contingent of children are expected.

We need twenty six volunteers to fulfil all the roles necessary to make the day a success.

Your help is much appreciated.



### Club weekend at Lake Otamangakau

**Friday 22nd November – Sunday 24th November**

Lake Otamangakau. is a small hydro lake in the Central Plateau. It can be a challenging, but hugely rewarding fly-fishing location due to the sheer size and superb condition of the brown trout and rainbow trout that inhabit it. Club members Neil Hawes, and Roy Coulson have fished this lake often, and have agreed to organize a club weekend. Fri-



# Trophy Time





