



# *THE FLYFISHER NEWSLETTER*

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October - 2020

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## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

YAY!! Back to level 1! A long awaited return to our “new normal”. With any luck, fishing will become a more regular pastime and a work buddy reports a great day out near the Noises on Sunday (October 3rd) with a good catch and surrounded by diving gannets, dolphins and a Brydes whale.

Pretty encouraging for the salt water fly fishermen (and women).

October 1st saw the usual enthusiastic crowds at Lake Tarawera and our own Fikret Chinassi had a very successful session targeting browns at the Ohau Channel including a nice 10lb entry in the club Brown Trout competition. Speaking of browns, Fish and Game have released numbers of mature Brown Trout into Parkinson's Lake which is one of the dune lakes south of Waiuku and within a comfortable drive of Auckland. It might well be worth checking it out.

Of some concern, are a number of recent press reports suggesting that the New Zealand Fish and Game Council have "softened" their attitude towards commercial trout farming, which previously had been vigorously opposed. Your committee has requested some explanation regarding this apparent "change of heart" and we are currently awaiting a response.

Back to fishing, it seems to me that temperatures and the associated insect activity are both on the rise and birds are nesting at least a month earlier than would be the "normal". That would suggest that the opportunity to engage in some of the beautiful art of dry fly fishing could also be closer at hand than we might otherwise have expected. A hot summer has already been predicted by a number of meteorologists so now would be a good time to make sure the fly box is well stocked with mayfly and caddis imitations. I would also keep alert for the buzz and click of cicadas which are the harbinger of hot weather and are also one of the favourite prey of those big lower Tongariro browns.

Personally, I am particularly keen to further my marine fly fishing activity given the unbelievably convenient location of the Hauraki Gulf and foreshore. While saltwater fly fishing has been established now for some time, particularly in the USA, it is rapidly gaining in popularity here in NZ and over the last 3 weeks, I have met 3 practitioners all of whom do most of their fishing locally. None were aware of our club so I immediately extended an invitation to each of them to come along to one of our meetings and to hopefully become members.

Remember to check your diaries with the end of the year "rushing" up on us. As mentioned previously, I have organised the club trip to Lake Otamangakau for the first weekend in December.

Thursday 3rd to Saturday 5th returning home on Sunday 6th. As in past trips, some members use alternative accommodation but if you are interested in staying at our "traditional" venue of Tongariro Holiday Park, please contact me so that I can confirm numbers, arrival times, etc. to Greg and Donna, the proprietors. It is only a 5 minute drive from the lake. My contact details are on the last page of this newsletter.

Hope to see you all at the RSA on the 20th.

Dave Symes - President

## **FISHING REPORT**

### **Auckland / Waikato**

Judging by his You Tube video, Club Member Johan Kok had an absolute ball in one of the many small 'local water' streams. I lost count of how many fish took his flies. This is a great time of year to make a dash down country to the Waikato or the Coromandel and enjoy some great dry and dropper fishing before the stream water temperatures rise too much and make the fish sluggish during the day.

John Dernie and I headed out to the Waiuku Lakes 10 days ago and were pleasantly surprised by some nice Rainbows and Browns. At only 1.25 hours from home I would thoroughly recommend it as a place worth visiting.

### **Rotorua**

Reports coming in from the lower Ngongotaha, below the state highway bridge, are that there are a mix of fish available. Mostly stale fish that have been in the river a while but still the odd freshy to be caught.

In the Lakes, Okataina has definitely been the pick from the reports I am hearing with some absolutely lovely fish being taken. Personally I find Okataina produces the very best eating fish of the region. Lake Rotoiti is a mixed bag for the Jiggers, with our own Russell Nelson heading out with Pat Swift and really struggling but then Laurie, Kerry and myself headed out and managed to get amongst a few nice fish. A quite bizarre situation as Russell is a very accomplished jigging angler and Pat Swift is quite possibly the best in the country whereas Laurie, Kerry and I are absolute beginners. Undoubtedly normal service will resume on the next trip.

Our resident big fish man, Fikrit Chinassi, was down at the Ohau Channel on opening day and managed 11 to the net including a ten pounder. On that day the terns and shags were working the channel hard as there was a big run of smelt up into Lake Rotorua. So if you see the terns working then throw out a smelt pattern. You just might hook a whopper.

### **Taupo Region**

With Lake Rotoaira, Lake Otamangakau, and many of the rivers close to Turangi now open, plus of course the Taupo tributaries, the Turangi area is well worth continued fishing effort despite the main runs of Rainbows petering off. It is still fishing well!



*Dave McLellan out with Roy on a COLD Lake Rotoaira last month. Photo courtesy of Roy Richardson.*



Neil with a prime 5.5pd Tongariro Brownie. He and Barry where down there recently and managed to hook into a few lovely fish. Photo courtesy of Neil Smit.

## **Saltwater**

Although the spring work ups have started out deep there are still some fun Snapper and Kahawai around in the shallow water. Russell hooked into a number in around 6 metres of water with the Pink and White Clouser pattern doing all the damage for him.

## **Fishy Tales**

- If you do have a report, success story, or anecdote to share then just send it to [iconpromote@gmail.com](mailto:iconpromote@gmail.com) . Happy Fishing and Tight Lines – Freddy Da Fish.

## **NSFF SUBS ARE NOW DUE FOR 2020~21 YEAR**

The annual subs for the year, 2020 ~ 21, for the North Shore Flyfishers Inc are now due. Please pay to:

North Shore Flyfishers Incorporated - A/c: 12-3209-0190179-00.

**Please ensure your surname is in the Payment Details.**

**The subs are as below and discounted if paid by 31st July 2020.**

**Adult** \$80.00 discounted to \$40.00 if paid by 31st July 2020

**Family** \$90.00 discounted to \$70.00 if paid by 31st July 2020

**Junior** \$30.00 discounted to \$20.00 if paid by 31st July 2020

## **REMEMBER**

**To get the discount the subs must be paid by the 31st July 2020**

## **LAST CLUB NIGHT**

Last month we had a social get together online due to the lock down restrictions.

## **NEXT CLUB NIGHT – 20<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 7.30 PM**

This month we will be having yours truly talking about fishing the Tongariro. Access points and how to get there, some advice on the odd pool or three, best times of year and hopefully some tips that you can use. Hope to see you all there.

## **WHY WE FISH**

*To be successful, flyfishers must live in a floating world away from the routine duties and schedules of life. They adjust to the flow of the water, the way of the trout. They are wholly preoccupied with finding a fish that will, for a few minutes, join them in the dance. It is a ballet between partners - anglers and fish - and set to the pace of the fly above and the trout below. The water moves, but the world stops.*

*M R Montgomery - The Way Of The Trout*

## **CHANGES TO CONTACT DETAILS**

Committee members organising club trips and similar events are finding that the phone and email information that we hold for some members has become out of date. If you have changed your address, landline number, mobile number or email address in the last year or so and have not passed the new details on to NSFF, could you please advise Barrie Barnes by email, his email address is [barrie@flyfishinginxs.kiwi](mailto:barrie@flyfishinginxs.kiwi) .

## **FISHING BUDDIES SOUGHT**

The intention is to display a list of names of Club Members that are keen on finding a 'buddy' to go fishing with, either on a regular basis or just for a day. In essence it's a fly-fishing dating service...

<b>Name</b>	<b>Availability</b>	<b>Contact Details</b>
Ron Blair	Anytime, has a 14.4 Marco with 60hp etec Evenrude for serious fishing Salt or Fresh	home 09 834 8841 mobile 0275 006 336 <a href="mailto:ron.blair@xtra.co.nz">ron.blair@xtra.co.nz</a>
Les Rose	Retired and is happy to take another person fishing during the week. Has a small 2 person boat.	home 09 4183634
Graham Carter	Lives in Hamilton, keen on weekday / mid-week trips.	021 026 00437 07 855 1833
Lloyd Altham	Has 12' Pontoon boat /15 HP Honda. Available most time, but prefer weekdays.	Mob. 021 0295 9167 Home 09 420 3120 <a href="mailto:email-lloyd@skysupply.co.nz">email-lloyd@skysupply.co.nz</a>
Matt Meikle	Available both week days and Weekends	09 908 1909 027 285 7521
John Rust	Anytime. Keen to give it a crack.	021 648 991

Barry Schultz

[joan10@live.com](mailto:joan10@live.com)

09 415 4919

Has a 551 MacLay with a 90hp  
merc used mostly for SW fishing.

09 4159692

e-mail [bardot@xtra.co.nz](mailto:bardot@xtra.co.nz)

Also a 6.5 mtr motorhome that  
provides transport, accommodation  
& meals etc. whilst camped riverside  
or beach front, plus is currently  
being fitted out to carry a three person  
inflatable with a 4 hp motor.  
Prefer weekdays or multi day trips  
away in the motorhome.

Gary Bolstad

Keen to get out Stream, Lake or even  
Saltwater fly-fishing. Has both Fish &  
Game and Taupo season licences so keen  
to go almost anywhere. Retired so free to  
go most of the time.

Mobile 022 379 3070

[gd.bolstad@gmail.com](mailto:gd.bolstad@gmail.com)

So, if you are keen to find someone to share the cost and the fun of a fishing expedition  
with, then send in your details and we will get it all started. Send details to  
[iconpromote@gmail.com](mailto:iconpromote@gmail.com)

022-379-3070, and my best email address is [gd.bolstad@gmail.com](mailto:gd.bolstad@gmail.com).

## **CLUB TROPHIES**

**Brown Trout Trophy** – This is awarded to The Heaviest Brown Trout caught by a Club  
Member during the year – May 1<sup>st</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> April. Current holder is **Simon Hoole**.

**Chain Snore Trophy** – A fun award given immediately after any Club Trip to the person  
who has done the ‘funniest’ thing over the weekend. If nobody has had anything like this  
happen it may be awarded to the worst snorer.

**Ian Hunt Memorial Trophy** – Heaviest Trout caught fly-fishing by a Club Member  
during the Pupuke Challenge Competition. A competition run every year to promote the  
Lake Pupuke fishery. This was not held this year due to Covid lock down. Current holder  
is **Lucas Bathurst**.

**I Love Flyfishing Trophy** – Awarded to the Club Member who has caught the most  
species of Saltwater fish fly-fishing over the year – 1<sup>st</sup> May to 30<sup>th</sup> April. Current holder is  
**Russell Nelson**.



**Rodd And Gunn Trophy** – This is the Club Competition which takes place over two days. One Day on a Lake and one day on a River. Current holder is **Simon Hoole**.

The Lake part of the competition has its own Trophy, the **I Love Flyfishing Stillwater Trophy**. Current holder is **Simon Hoole**.



*Fikrit with his next entry for the Brown Trout Trophy. A 10pd Ohau Channel ripper.  
Photo courtesy of Fikrit Chinassi.*



## **QUOTABLE QUOTES**

*The fly-fishing world is approaching this kind of jazzed-up consumer nightmare. It's as if now you can just purchase at a fly shop the kind of skill and instinct it takes to become a fishing god. Or rent some space on a pay-for-play lake and catch some huge genetically-engineered pig; Step right up, get your picture taken with a fish too stupid to know the difference between living and dying. - This fly-fishing game is one you have to earn; you can't buy this game.*

*Randall Sumner*

## **"BROWN TROUT TROPHY" COMPETITION RULES**

Winning fish will be determined by weight.

Verification by partner where possible and/or by photograph.

Details to be provided to any committee member.

Competition period May 1st to April 30th. Prize awarded at AGM in May. Winner's name and weight of fish to be published in June club newsletter.

## **NORTH SHORE FLY FISHERS CLUB SALT WATER FLY FISHING COMPETITION RULES**

The "essence" of the competition is to encourage club member participation and in the process, to award a winner's trophy to the individual who catches the greatest number of salt water species. It will run from 1st May in one year to 31st April in the next year with the trophy awarded at the following AGM. For the full rules please refer to the Club Website [www.nsff.org.nz](http://www.nsff.org.nz)

## **FLY TYING INSTRUCTION**

This is on a postponement at present as our instructor Johan is expecting a baby very soon and can't commit to being able to do the online instruction.

Stay tuned for more details on how this will progress over the summer.

If you would like to see the videos of the Flies that have been tied just go to <http://www.nsff.org.nz/> .

## **CLUB TRIPS 2020**

February –Ngongotaha River and Rotorua Lakes

March – Whanganui River – Club Competition Trip 2020

March – Lake Otamangakau

May – Ngongotaha River and Rotorua Lakes JUNE 2020

July – Tongariro and Tauranga Taupo JULY 2020

November – Lake based Club Competition Trip – NOV 2020

December / January – Tuition weekend (Held if enough ‘novice’ anglers are interested)

December – Lake Otamangakau – DEC 3<sup>rd</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> 2020

The NSF committee arrange various Club Trips over the year to different parts of the country. If you would like to be involved, or have an idea for a trip please let one of your committee know.

## **TUITION TRIP FOR NOVICE ANGLERS - EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST SOUGHT**

In the past the club has periodically offered a two day course on “Approaching a Stream” for novice anglers. We can organize this again for early next year provided enough members wish to attend. It includes an overnight stay near the river of choice.

Tutors will be experienced anglers from the club. On the Saturday, after an initial discussion on gear, those taking part will go off to various sections of the river in groups comprising one tutor and two or three course participants.

### ***Course content***

The course will broadly cover the following:

- A run through of rod and tackle requirements, setting up the line, knots and rig.
- A basic understanding of what flies represent what food.
- Reading the river, identifying the likely water in which the trout will be lying and choosing the appropriate rig, plus useful tips and techniques regarding casting, mending and retrieving line to ensure that the fly is presented as naturally as possible.
- Working your way through a pool methodically.
- Striking, playing and landing the trout including handling and release.
- Basic fishing etiquette.

On the Sunday, participants have the opportunity to put some of what they have learnt into practice.

This short course is intended to assist members with limited angling experience by improving their chances of catching trout.

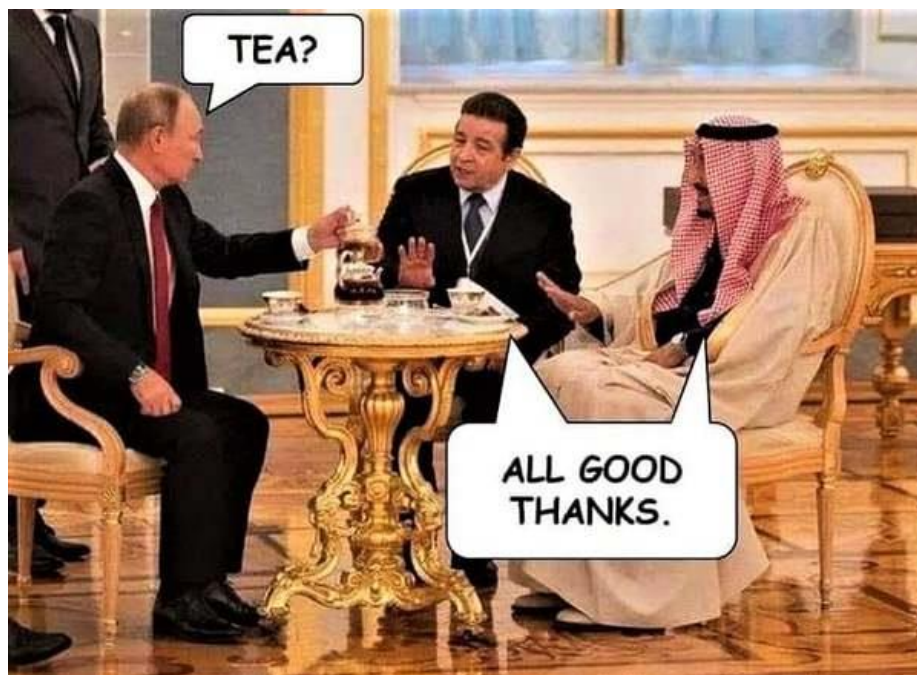
### ***Cost and enrolment***

The cost of the course will need to be determined. It will include one night's accommodation near the river, a contribution towards tutors' costs and possibly a shared dinner (BBQ or similar) on the Saturday night. Transport and additional food requirements to be met by the individual participants. Transport can be informally coordinated if required.

The course is open to paid-up members of the club. Places will be allocated on a first come (with payment) first served basis.

Please reply to any of the Club Committee Members if you would like to attend. All their email addresses and phone numbers are on the last page of this Newsletter.

### **JOKE OF THE MONTH**



## **HOW TO STOP THE DREADED FLY FISHING BIRDS NEST**



### **Does This Look Familiar?**

Just about every angler has created this tangled artwork at some point, some more than others. I'm pretty good at untangling knots because I get more practice than the average angler from my guiding, but even this one required me to break out a fresh leader and completely re-rig. If you find yourself untangling knots more than you're fishing, try fixing the problem by following these five helpful tips.

#### **1. Watch your forward cast and backcast when false casting.**

"In the film *A River Runs Through It*", Jerry Siem (one of the casting stuntmen) never watched his backcast. It's important to note that his fly casting skill level ranks among the best in the world, which allowed him to get away without doing this. It's also pertinent to point out he was casting a single dry fly in the movie scene, not a tandem nymph rig with split-shot and a strike indicator. Could he have made the same casts in the movie with a tandem nymph rig without tangles, of course he could, but that doesn't mean every other angler out there should try to mimic him. The majority of the best casters in the world watch their backcast, especially when they're fly fishing in areas where casting room is

limited. Your first step to limiting the number of tangles you create on the river is to watch your forward and backcast diligently. Your timing will be better, you'll find you won't need to make as many false casts, and you'll keep your flies out of the trees and bushes.

## **2. Cast with grace, not with power and muscle.**

Many fly anglers out there cast their fly rod much harder than they need to. So hard in many cases, that they end up overloading the rod and also get an out of control sling shot effect with their flies. Let your fly rod do the work by executing a smooth pick up of the fly line starting at the 8 o'clock position (rod tip close to the water), then begin loading the rod by smoothly accelerating the fly rod between ten o'clock and 12 o'clock. Make sure you're stopping your rod quickly for both your forward cast and backcast, not slowing down to a stop. This will have your fly rod stopping at its fastest point at the end of the casting stroke, which will transfer your power effectively from the fly rod down through your fly line. Focusing on these casting mechanics will help you cast more graceful, and you'll find it much easier to keep your fly rod traveling in a straight line path, and that will allow you to form efficient loops. Slow down and don't rush your cast either. Left Kreh, is one of the best fly casters in the world at demonstrating how to make a graceful cast to get the most power out of a fly rod. If you want to see what I'm talking about just search him on YouTube.

## **3. Make sure you're pausing long enough in between casts.**

So you've managed to accomplish the first two steps with ease, but as you work out more fly line that's needed for longer presentations, you begin to feel your fly cast falling apart. Chances are, if this is happening to you, it's because you're not lengthening your pause between casts as you work out more fly line out the end of the rod tip. The more fly line you cast, the longer it takes for your loops to straighten out. This is a very common problem among novice fly fishers, who often maintain the same length pause whether they're casting 20 feet or trying to cast 50 feet. Again, make sure you're watching your forward and **backcast** as you work more fly line out, and always match length of your pause to the amount of fly line you're casting. Focusing on this area of your cast will eliminate the majority of your tangles.

## **4. Widen your casting stroke slightly so your loop size becomes wider.**

You can really cut down on creating tangles if you widen your casting stroke slightly. Your loops will become larger, and you'll be able to get away with more imperfections in your casting stroke, which will make it more difficult to create tangles.

## **5. When possible water haul and roll cast.**



If you don't have to make long cast to pull off good presentations and drifts, try using a water haul or roll cast. Both casts do not require a backcast and that will decrease your chances of creating tangles by 50%.

Keep it Reel,

*Kent Klewein*

***Gink & Gasoline***

[www.ginkandgasoline.com](http://www.ginkandgasoline.com)



*Barrie, Mike, Lloyd and Simon hit the Tongariro a few weeks ago and despite some average weather managed to get amongst the fish again. Photo courtesy of Simon Hoole.*



## IS IT POSSIBLE TO LOSE THE PLOT?

**YES! The National Council of Fish and Game has decided to open up shooting and angling to privatisation.**

**We refer members to also read the detailed the article below by the Piscator group.**

The National Council of Fish and Game at their August 2020 meeting voted to advise the Minister of Conservation to approve changes to the Wildlife Act to legalise private Pheasant Preserves according to minutes forwarded to members of our Executive.

This was against the advice of their Chief Executive (CE). I quote from draft unconfirmed minutes supplied to NZFFA “*CE stated that if the NZC agree to let a discrete group set rules they want on a particular game bird we are giving away Fish and Game’s control and that precedent has the chance to flow through to other areas*”.

He further stated that “*it is the thin end of the wedge if you allow a small group of people to continue this and allow people to charge for access to a game bird*”. In case licence holders think this is just a pheasant issue they should note the words of former chairman Lindsay Lyons (Eastern) who suggested “*this is one of the most significant decisions this council will ever make*”. He noted that **this has the potential to impact all fishing and hunting resources where there is a requirement to cross private land**. That private land will potentially include all of the hydro canals which are now owned by the power generation companies. **Clearly they do not rate the advice of their CE.**

The Fish and Game governance manual states “*Fish and Game are opposed to the commercial use of the wild sports fish and game resource*”. We need to look at the flow on effects from this as this is a keystone moment for the commercialisation of sports fish and game birds. Dave Harris (Southland) states on the F&G website that “I see a need to act against capture of the fishing and hunting resources for private gain at the expense of the general public. I also see a need to ensure that fishing access is still available to New Zealand anglers”. At the meeting he reportedly further warned that pheasant preserves will be viewed differently to other hunting from a social licence perspective and are a grave threat to Fish and Game. When a councilor supported changing the legislation to allow such privatisation the Chief Executive went on to remind them that F&G do not control the process DOC does and “*if it goes to parliament we would have to argue to a select committee why a trout or a duck is different to a pheasant in terms of a recreational resource.*”

Noel Birchall (Northland) reportedly noted that this issue goes back to the whole premise of how acclimatisation societies started; because people coming to NZ wanted to have

access to the species that were only available to the elite or with fee in their home country. He suggests this debate is not about licence income but our standing with licence holders that recognise how this organisation started. Lindsay Lyons went on to suggest that the 'wedge' started to form when preserves wanted to move on to mallard ducks and that the next thing will be trout.

**Despite all this wisdom the council went on to vote for changes in the wildlife and Conservation Acts that open up the sports of angling and game bird shooting to privatisation.**

Furthermore a councilor who had declared a conflict of interest in preserves was still allowed to vote. The result was a five to five tie. It came down to the Chairman's casting vote. The minutes state that the Chairman Paul Shortis (Wellington) went against established convention, of the chairman's vote supporting the status quo, and voted to change the legislation thus allowing privatisation. Is that not grounds for censure?

The same meeting then went on to consider Fish and Games' stance on trout farming. An absolute no to trout farming has always been a fundamental foundation principle for the Federation of Freshwater Anglers. We are completely committed to detailed and extensive dialogue between the National Council and anglers right across the country, not just regional councils, before any softening of the stance is even considered.

In the agenda of the meeting, on page 101, the CE provided the council with a list of recommendations para 29(1-4) and para 30(1-4). We understand that after a show of hands the council agreed to bypass the recommendations in para 29 which the CE stated were two fundamental issues that underpin the whole debate.

Sadly however the NZC appeared to be unwilling to endorse unanimously 29(1) and 29(3). **ie that game birds and fish don't attach to land title and that no-one shall charge for access.**

However, had they reinforced these two basic principles of Fish and Game it would have been difficult to vote for anything other than option 1 when it came to voting in para 30. This agenda, all 230 pages, is available on the F & G website. We ask members to email the National Council and give your "vote" on:

1. Whether you support their decision to seek amendment of the governing Acts of Parliament to allow Pheasant Preserves. Noting it opens the door for parliament to do the same with ducks and trout.
2. Whether you would vote for the continued opposition to trout farming.

The email addresses are: [nzcouncil@fishandgame.org.nz](mailto:nzcouncil@fishandgame.org.nz), Chairman [paulshortis55@gmail.com](mailto:paulshortis55@gmail.com), and Chief Executive [mtaylor@fishandgame.org.nz](mailto:mtaylor@fishandgame.org.nz).

The Federation has filed an Official Information Request with the National Council of F & G for the notes taken at that meeting. We will keep you informed of the outcome.

Rex N. Gibson  
Secretary, NZFFA.



*As usual Simon displayed that dedicated enthusiasm of early starts and late finishes to his Tongariro fishing days. Here he is with the fruits of his success. Photo courtesy of Simon Hoole.*

## **AN EXTRA BIT OF HUMOUR**

**Joe Namath**

I never drink water because of the disgusting things that fish do in it.

**W. C. Fields**

Don't worry about avoiding temptation. As you grow older, it will avoid you.

## **AUCKLAND WAIKATO FISH AND GAME REEL LIFE – SEPTEMBER**

### **We Want Photos Of Lake Whatihua Fish**



*Lake Whatihua with peripheral weed beds.*

Parkinson's Lake was recently stocked with over 100 adult brown trout for those of you that are near Auckland and looking for an easy spot to take kids fishing. Now is the time to fish the dune lakes before they get too hot, just chuck out a small float with some bait and relax.

Lake Whatihua near Waiuku should also have plenty of fish and if you get one, we want to hear from you.

Lake Whatihua is difficult to fish due to the weed around the edges but it is perfect for a float tube or small kaya if you can be bothered dragging one down the hill.

The lake has not been getting a lot of pressure so please let us know how it goes if you fish the lake.

### **Prosecution Updates**

Three unlicensed anglers have been prosecuted recently in the Hamilton district court and all have received fines over \$1000 and forfeiture of all their fishing gear.

Staff would like to thank the NZ Police for their help in apprehending two anglers on the upper Waihou that were also charged with drug and weapons offences.

Tight Lines - Adam Daniels, Auckland Waikato Fish & Game.

### **EASTERN FISH AND GAME REEL LIFE – SEPTEMBER**

*Right: Henry James is happy with his Tarawera rainbow caught on a downrigger earlier this year. Photo Peter Vossen.*



The new season is now just around the corner and anticipation for opening day in the Eastern Region is building.



Lakes Tarawera, Okataina and Rotoiti are centre stage in the Eastern Fish & Game region with hundreds of boaties planning to hit the lakes bright and early on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> of October 2020.

Opening day on the Rotorua lakes is certainly different! It is as much a celebration of trout fishing as it is a serious fishing venture.

Anglers use the opening to catch up with old friends or colleagues and make the most of quality family-together time.

The fishing can be very productive too if you work at it – the fish have been rested since the closing on June 30<sup>th</sup> so tend to be a little more naïve than usual!

We usually recommend shallow trolling to begin at first light then move gradually out to deeper water and deeper fishing methods as the sun gets up.

Typical spring weather often dominates the day so trolling, as opposed to jigging, is often a good choice of its windy.

The fish will be spread throughout the depths from the surface at dawn and looking to feed on smelt, right down to 30m or more later in the day.

Down rigging or jigging will be the best choice if the fish are deep, but keep your options open and try a few different methods to see which works best on the day.



*Opening day can be about making family times happen! Shane Montgomery and granddaughter MacKenzie on a quiet Rotorua Stream.*

It can be worthwhile packing a spinning rod equipped with something like a black toby or soft plastic – you never know when the opportunity to have a cast at a fish will happen, even while boating.

Our handy 12 page ‘Boat Fishing for Trout’ brochure can be downloaded from the Fish and Game website. It is full of handy tips on rigging your tackle, lure selection and methods for boaties.



The regions lakes, how to get there and what to use are also covered in the downloadable guide, it can be downloaded from the Fish and Game website.

Print copies of both, plus a number of other handy guides, are also available from your licence agent or the Eastern Fish & Game office.

Our backcountry waters too deserve a mention here, rivers and streams throughout the region have been rested nicely and spawning is mostly over.

Winter has been reasonably mild but critically we haven't had damaging floods for the second winter in a row so expect fish populations to be boosted.

Nymphs and wet flies should be productive for a few months until terrestrial activity encourages dry fly action.

### **Special Note Re Hopuruahine And Mokau Stream Regulations**

A small regulation change comes into effect at the start of the season regarding the Hopuruahine and Mokau Streams at Waikaremoana.

Fishing downstream of the landmark poles (yellow, black and white pole about 2m high) will now be open to fly and spin fishing all year.

Upstream of the poles remains fly fishing only and the season remains 1 December to 30 June.

Special issue 51 of our Fish & Game Magazine featured a misprint and stated the season upstream of the landmark poles begins 1 October – this is incorrect!

The season upstream of the landmark poles commences 1 December.

### **Check, Clean, Drain And Dry This Opening!**

It's really important that we all look after our fishing resource – so this opening, please, take care with pest weeds and potentially pest fish species.

All you have to do is follow the mantra; Check, Clean Drain and Dry to prevent the spread of invasive weed and fish species around our lakes and rivers.

Datawatch tagged trout can now be entered online.

Entries go into the draw to win one of 20 free whole season fishing licences.  
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/QCH5ZR6>

### **Eastern Region Fishing Diaries – All Lakes And Streams**

Fill in your fishing diaries here to help us manage the Eastern Fish & Game region.  
Participants go in the draw to win a \$100 voucher from Kilwell:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/QRSD7D3>

Tight lines - Mark Sherburn, Eastern Fish & Game



*A Day Well Spent.  
Photo courtesy of  
Jack Russell.*

## **FIVE TIPS FOR FLY FISHING IN THE WIND**

Chris Dore – [www.manictackleproject.com](http://www.manictackleproject.com)

If there's one word to describe our season in the South so far, it's windy.

With rivers issuing from the alps, it's rare to fish a calm day and you can't always get away from the wind. You often have to simply deal with it, especially during spring.

With more comprehensive material on this subject elsewhere on this blog, here's an additional fast five to keep things fresh in your mind and get you on the right track for dealing with springtime gales.

### **1. Relax Your Grip On The Fly Rod**

Ignore your instinct to fight the wind. The moment you grip your rod tighter, tense your muscles and start punching your cast its game over. That same, relaxed, good form fluid stroke you were using earlier on will still turn over now. You just need a few modifications. Relax your grip.

### **2. Lengthen Your Casting Stroke**

For greater acceleration, think of it as throwing a ball. For a short lob to a friend, your hand only travels a short distance. If your friend is at the far end of the park, your hand travels a much greater distance allowing for greater acceleration and distance. Think speed, and not power to avoid punching the cast.

### **3. Rotate Your Casting Stroke Late**

Imagine your casting stroke as being similar to throwing a javelin. Accelerate the rod backwards and forwards maintaining the same angle before turning it over crisply at the very latest stages of the stroke.

Relax the hand as you pull the rod butt forward, squeezing the grip to turn things over right at the end.

### **4. Aim Your Casting Arc Low**

Don't allow your line to straighten too high above the water. Once the energy and momentum leaves your line you are at the mercy of the wind. Aim at a target maybe one

foot above the surface. Simply keep your elbow low by your side throughout the cast to naturally accomplish this, and throw a higher backcast / lower forward cast.

## **5. Add A Haul To Your Cast**

Keep it late, keep it straight, make it zippy. Hauling directly increases line speed and when the Nor Wester howls, line speed is good.

## **LABOUR AND NATIONAL SNUB OUTDOOR RECREATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES**

*Press Release by Council of Outdoor Recreation Assns of NZ (CORANZ) – 9/10/2020*

The two major political parties Labour and National have shown disinterest in the outdoors and the environment judging by both parties failure to respond to an election questionnaire says the Council of Outdoor Recreation Associations of NZ (CORANZ).

CORANZ sent a 14 question charter to all political parties almost four weeks ago, inviting responses.

CORANZ chairman Andi Cockroft said the failure by National and Labour was most disappointing. Nor did the Maori Party respond.

“The utter discourtesy is in reality a snub to well in excess of a million New Zealanders who enjoy recreation in the outdoors, whether it be tramping, fishing in fresh and/or saltwater, hunting and so on,” he said. “Labour and National’s indifference is more marked by the fact they were reminded of the need to reply. In addition, CORANZ delayed closure by three days and yet they still failed.”

Andi Cockroft said in contrast, the response from most minor parties had been good.

The Outdoor Party scored 100%, followed by Aotearoa Legalise Cannabis Party also on 100%, New Conservative at 89% and New Zealand First at 82%.

Surprisingly ACT scored 46% and the Green Party just 39%. TOP scored mid-range 50%. A CORANZ panel comprising “politically uncommitted” members assessed the responses. The CORANZ panel’s assessment of the Green Party’s response being well down at 39% probably reflected its shift in policy emphasis from environmental issues to a more centrist social philosophy plus ideology infiltrating its ranks said the panel.

“For example the Greens dismissed the need to plan New Zealand’s population future when that is so fundamental to environmental issues plus the party is heavily influenced by the anti-introduced ideology of Forest and Bird,” explained Andi Cockroft.

### **Illogical Phobia**

As a result the Green Party supported the use of the eco-poison 1080, dismissed viewing trout and deer and other ‘introduced wildlife’ as valued species and did not agree with a review of the Department of Conservation and its priorities.

“They unfortunately are still hung up on the anti-introduced phobia. Illogical because humans are introduced as are farm stock, vegetables and grasses,” commented Andi Cockroft.

CORANZ’s election charter comprised 14 questions on river quality, firearm issues, foreign ownership, the value of deer, trout and other fish and game species, sea fisheries mismanagement, restructuring the Department of Conservation, erosion of democracy, treaty issues and “macro-issues” such as the need for a population policy and measuring the nations progress by a “well-being” based Genuine Progress Indicator (GPI) thus replacing GDP based solely on monetary values.

One of the panel, former CORANZ chairman Tony Orman, said the environmental strength of minor parties which were not in Parliament, should be remembered in future elections. New Conservatives and the Outdoor Party were particularly impressive.

In addition voters should consider current parties performances when recently in a position of management in parliament.

“For example, while they may have promised in 2017, did they deliver on pledges?” he added. “What was National’s performance like in its eight years before 2017?”

Population planning for the future, ignored by the Green Party, was a particularly vital issue and vital to the issue of global warming by climate change.

“Government’s approach to global warming is by way of free market ideology with tradable carbon credits and a carbon sequestering criteria that does not count any vegetation under five metres high, a bizarre rule as many New Zealand trees and shrubs are under five metres height – reportedly a UN ruling,” he said. “Governments still haven’t realised people cause emissions by way of using automobiles and jet aircraft and other practices. More people means more emissions.”

### **Vital to Vote**

CORANZ urged all New Zealanders and particularly those who enjoyed the outdoors, to vote.

“It’s imperative and it’s urgent because each three years between elections sees a slide downhill in terms of the environment and outdoor recreation,” said Andi Cockroft.

It has been estimated a million New Zealanders enjoy the outdoors in one form or another such as sea or freshwater fishing, hunting, shooting, tramping, 4 wheel driving, mountain biking, canoeing and others sports. A Horizon survey a few years back revealed fishing had five times more participants than rugby.

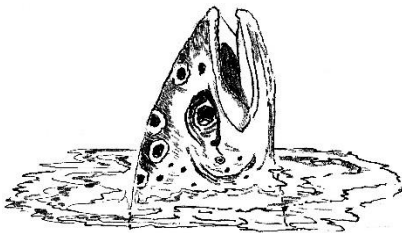
“Outdoor recreation is not a small self-interested sector but the major sporting activity for most people,” said Andi Cockroft.

Contacts:

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Tony Orman 03 5777875

### **HUGH CREASY'S COLUMN**



There had been a fresh fall of snow on the tops, and the water was cold. A pair of mallards escorted their little ones away from danger – not from any human presence, but from a cruising harrier that made attack runs at the family, trying to break them up. Harriers are not courageous predators. They much prefer a ready-made meal – road kill or small rodents that do not have the benefit of protective parents of considerable size. The duck and drake were doing a pretty good job getting their young to the river, where they scuttled into the water, one by one, though a tardy youngster unaware of its potentially fatal hesitation, stopped to nibble a leaf of mint. The harrier dipped in flight, ready to stoop, drawing a sharp quack from the mother duck and the youngster plopped into the water.

The harrier had young of its own, safe in a nest in a patch of riverside raupo. They were a well-fed pair, thinly feathered over a coat of grey down. It would be a few weeks before the oldest fledged and the harrier parents kept a steady supply of insects and small animals coming to the nest. It would seem to be a waste of energy to pursue a resistant prey, when the road a few hundred metres away, was continually scattered with dead animals, and the nearby paddocks were scattered with lambs. In any flock of sheep there were bound to be victims of chill winds. Mammalian births are fraught with danger and the corpse of a cast



ewe provides a long-term feast for carrion eaters, so why chase a little bundle of down that would give up a tiny shred of protein if taken to the nest?

Perhaps the riverside surroundings had produced so much food that the harrier had leisure time to spare.

Its own young consisted of an heir and a spare. The spare, would gradually lose condition as the larger of the two feasted and grew, until the day of its first flight, when the younger was either dead of starvation, or took on an unsteady flight that bode badly for its survival.

Prince Harry is not alone in the cut-throat game of sibling rivalry.

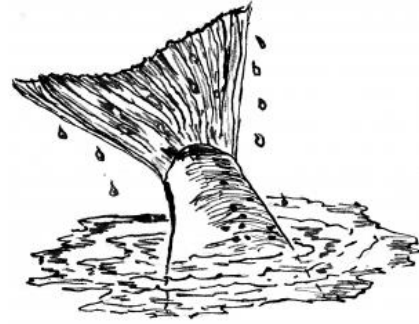
Ducks rely on fecundity for survival. A mallard duck can lay up to 10 eggs in a nest. The duck must be decidedly uncomfortable in the spring, carrying all that weight, and oh, the relief when the nest is full and the uterus is empty. Survival rates are low, because ducks are stupid. Ducks are stupid because they spend very little time protected in a nest and there is not enough room in their heads for a decent-sized brain. The only way to overcome stupidity is to produce enormous numbers of young, which ducks do very well.

These were the musings of a frustrated angler, who arrived at the river only to find it discoloured with snow melt and unfishable. Observations of wildlife from a position of ignorance can come up with some peculiar ideas. For instance, we know that ducks, once they have finished bringing up their young, begin to moult, and to do so retire to sheltered places in swamps and woodland because they are too embarrassed to be seen in public. Forests full of bald ducks boggles the mind and it would be most unsporting to shoot these blighted birds when they are in a state of undress, which is why the duck-shooting season is so short.

Trout have their periods of disadvantage when the desire to procreate befuddles their already limited intelligence, and anglers must resist the temptation to drag them out of the water. They taste terrible because their passions cause them to lose weight. They neglect their food in favour of baser appetites and it's only sporting to leave them in the water until they recover. They will taste much better after rest and recreation.

In the near future the sun will once again shine, the river will clear and there may be a period between spring and summer when the river's bottom will be free of slime, giving good grip and inspiring confidence. The intrepid angler will ply his or her rod in sparkling, clear water and tempt fit and fat trout to come to the fly.

Trying to fish fast, dirty water is a dangerous business, unless you can do it from the bank. However, it may be that a spinner cast into pocket water behind boulders will pull a fish from an otherwise hopeless position. The angler although fishing blind, has an advantage in that neither can the fish see the angler.



The odds are even, and if there's trout in the river the trip may not be wasted.

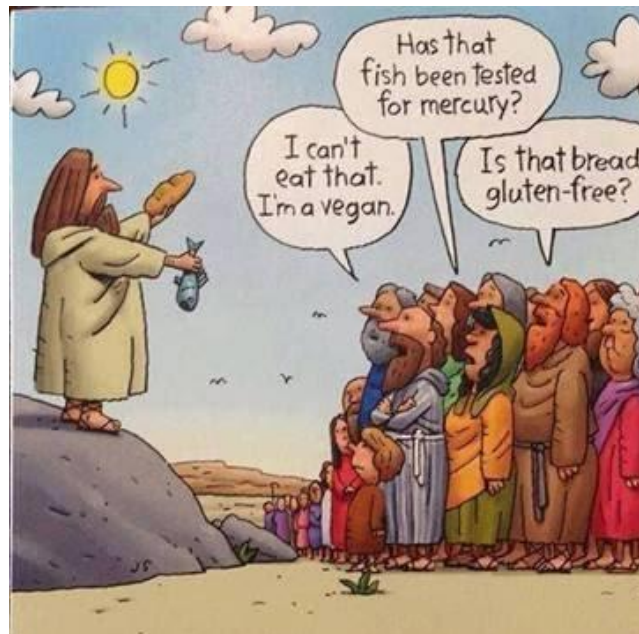
### **EDITORS NOTE**

Vote. Even if like me you feel bereft of any positive feelings about any of the parties then still vote regardless.

We in the western democratic world live in a time that has almost never been seen in recorded human history, a time where every citizen, man woman or other, has the right to have their opinion count and be heard. Get out and vote and make your opinion heard.

Apathy is the death of all good things, but especially freedom.

### **FISHING FUNNIES**



(Opinions expressed in this Newsletter are those of the individual contributors and not necessarily those of North Shore Flyfishers Incorporated)

## **MEMBERS FEEDBACK**

We, your committee, are always trying to give you what you want.

## **But are we??**

In order for us to do our job properly we need to have your feedback, positive or negative. For example, have you been on a club fishing trip? Did you enjoy yourself? What would you change, if anything? Club nights – what would you like to see more of? Less of? In short, talk to us.

The contact details of all your committee members are listed at the end of every newsletter. So if you have something on your mind let us know.

Thank you - Your committee

## **NSFF CLUB MERCHANDISE**

Cap – \$15.00 Inclusive of GST

Green or Beige, one size fits all, with embroidered badge.

Embroidered Cloth Badge - \$7.50 Inclusive of GST

Brushed Brass Metal Pin Badge - \$12.50 Inclusive of GST

If anyone is interested in purchasing these products please either place an order at Club Nights.

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**Meetings held the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 7.30pm:**  
Birkenhead RSA, Recreation Drive, Birkenhead, North Shore City

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## **NORTH SHORE FLYFISHERS EXECUTIVE**

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**North Shore Flyfishers Incorporated**