



THE FLYFISHER NEWSLETTER

December 2024

IN THIS ISSUE

- Page 1 - Presidents Report
- Page 2 - Fishing Report
- Page 5 - What's Happening – Club Nights / Events
- Page 9- Club Trips
- Page 11 - Where The Ocean Meets The Sea
- Page 12 - Trout Recipes - Fish cakes and croquettes
- Page 13 - Tips and Tricks
- Page 14 - Club Facebook Page
- Page 15 - Fish and Game Northern Reel Life December
- Page 17 - Fish And Game Auckland / Waikato Reel Life December
- Page 18 - Fish And Game Eastern Reel Life December
- Page 22 - Trout Flies- Tie Or Buy?
- Page 24 - General Club Information Plus Committee Members Contact Details

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The imminent arrival of Christmas signals the end of yet another year in the life of North Shore Fly Fishers Club. A time to spend time with family and friends and of course, plan those summer fishing trips, both near and far. For the fresh water anglers, the warm temperatures mean the frantic insect hatch has begun while for marine fisher folk, the baitfish schools are starting to show up. All in all, the opportunities to “wet a line” are endless!

Our end of year club meeting on the Wednesday 18th December, will as usual, be catered and include door prizes but in addition, we are planning to have a reverse auction as well.

For the uninitiated, a reverse auction is essentially the opposite of the traditional auction where bidding goes up to a conclusion. In a reverse auction, an initial value is stated and is then progressively reduced until a bidder raises their hand and buys the item.

The committee has already assembled several items but members are also invited to bring along things they would like to dispose of. The proceeds could then be kept by the seller or donated to club funds which is probably what will happen in most instances.

All of the offerings will be assembled on display with lot numbers prior to the auction to give everyone a chance to decide what, if any, they would like to bid for. In order to run as “smooth an operation” as possible, we will record both the seller’s and buyer’s names and the price with the method of payment by mutual agreement. In other words, some of the smaller transactions may be by cash on the night but it is envisaged that most would be by bank transfer including any that comprise a donation to our club funds.

For those of you who would like to bring some items along, it would be appreciated if you could arrive around 7.00pm and bring the items down to the meeting venue so that we can set up the display of goods and respective lot numbers.

Otherwise, I look forward to catching up with everyone who can make the meeting but for those who can’t, have a great festive season and “tight lines “for your upcoming summer break.

Dave Symes - President

FISHING REPORT

Auckland / Waikato

The Ohinemuri is still fishing well and regular bouts of rain are keeping it fresh and lowering the water temperature, so it is well worth a visit.

Also Waipa tributaries are all starting to see fish moving up into them from the Waikato as it heats up to uncomfortable levels.

Rotorua

Hans has been getting some fantastic fish from the shore in the late afternoon at Lake Tarawera. His secret has been variation. If they are not taking on the floating line try a

sinking tip, if that doesn't work try a faster / slower retrieve. He also says that at least half of the fish are wild and not Fish and Game released fish.



Hans with a 4.1kg (9pds) Tarawera monster! Photo courtesy of Hans Sabrowski.

The Rotorua tributaries opened again on December 1st and Kerry, our other roving Rotorua reporter, visited just before this rain. He says there were plenty of Trout in the river but getting them to bite was another thing altogether. Also a number of them they were starting to pair up in a pre-spawning mode.

Taupo

Taupo is a mixed bag with a bit of everything going on! Reports from the Lake have been saying that jigging is getting good results with the hole off Omori the standout.

Lake Otamangakau has some spectacular fish but getting them to bite is hard work. Also the alpine nature of the weather up there has meant being prepared for all eventualities, from flat calm and hot to blowing a gale with horizontal rain. The fishing has been a parallel of this with little bursts of action with long quiet periods. Damsel flies and Blood Worms getting the most success. Also, there are a lot of BIG fish in the shallows but they are hard to catch! (A late report, with the warmer weather the Lake is fishing exceptionally well now.)

The Tongariro is still getting the odd fresh run fish and a few big Browns are being seen. Most fish have been recovering from spawning and small, size 14 to 16, Hare & Coppers / Pheasant Tails / Caddis have been getting the best results. On top of this there is always the possibility of an evening rise happening just before and after dark.



A Big O rainbow still showing some signs of the spawning season, but it put up a heck of a fight. Come the March Club Trip this will be an absolute cracker! Photo courtesy of Peter Schierhout.

Saltwater

No report from the salt. What's happening out there folks.

Fishy Tales

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

LAST CLUB NIGHT

Last month we had Brian Young talking to us. It was a very enjoyable Meeting and thank you once again Brian.

NEXT CLUB NIGHT – 18th DECEMBER 7.30 PM

This month we have our Christmas function. As usual it will be catered and include door prizes but in addition, we are planning to have a reverse auction as well. See Dave’s report above for a full explanation of the Reverse Auction. This is sure to be an enjoyable evening. We hope to see you all there.

Also, don’t forget, we have changed the Club Nights to the third Wednesday night of the month.

WHY WE FISH

I had 13 weeks off and I would pack up the family and drive to some mountain retreat where we could be together and fish all day. I loved it. I needed it.

Perry Como

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 .

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...

Name	Availability	Contact Details
Ron Blair	Anytime, has a 14.4 Marco with 60hp etc Evenrude for serious fishing Salt or Fresh	home 09 834 8841 mobile 0275 006 336 ron.blair@xtra.co.nz
Les Rose	Retired and is happy to take another person fishing during the week.	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 email-lloyd@skysupply.co.nz
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
Derek Robinson	Retired available most times keen to do Waikato streams and most other things.	Ph 4437311 Mob: 0212 595 371 pamanddek@outlook.com

CLUB TROPHIES

Brown Trout Trophy – This is awarded to The Heaviest Brown Trout caught by a Club Member during the year – 1st April to 31st March. Current holder is **Fikrit Chinassi**.

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. Current Holder is **Tim Ross!**

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. 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 – 1st April to 31st March. Current holder is **Johan Kok**.

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. The Winner this year is **Johan Kok**.

The Lake part of the competition has its own Trophy, the **I Love Flyfishing Stillwater Trophy**. The winner of this year's event is **Duncan Frew**.

The winner of this year's River section is **Duncan Frew**.

QUOTABLE QUOTES

A man may fish with the worm that hath eat of a king, and eat of the fish that hath fed of that worm.

William Shakespeare - Hamlet Prince of Denmark

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 April 1st to March 31st . Prize awarded at AGM in April.

Winner's name and weight of fish to be published in May club newsletter.

NSFF 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 April in one year to 31st March in the next year with the trophy awarded at the following AGM. For the full rules please refer to the Club Website www.nssf.org.nz

NORTH SHORE FLYFISHERS DVD LIBRARY

Over the years the Club has purchased some videos and been very fortunate in having a number more donated for Club Members use. There is almost certainly something there that will appeal to you. So if you would like to borrow one just let any Committee Member know (contact details are on the back page of this Newsletter).

Club Videos

Flyfishing with Dave McLellan June 2015 (15 DVD's)
New Zealand FlyTying (with John Giacon) A Tight Lines Ltd Presentation (2 DVD's)
Tie A Fly with John Morton The Master Fly Tier
Blue Water Fishing Techniques (ITM Fishing Show) Matt Watson
New Zealand Trophy Waters (Volume 6) Bruce Masson A Deep Stream Production
New Zealand Trophy Waters (Volume 7) Bruce Masson A Deep Stream Production
Running Down The Man A Felt Soul Media Production
Advanced Fly Casting Doug Swisher Essence of Fly Casting
Chasing Silver (Tarpon fishing in Florida) Howard Films. Com
How to Succeed on Reservoirs Part 1 Boat Tackle, Tactics and Flies
How to Succeed on Reservoirs Part 2 Boat Tackle, Tactics and Flies
How to Succeed on Small Stillwaters Part 2 Stalking Patterns and Techniques
NZ Fly Fishing Adventures Going Remote Mike Kirkpatrick
NZ Fly Fishing Adventures Going Remote Volume I Nelson District-Mike Kirkpatrick
NZ Fly Fishing Adventures Going Remote Volume 2 West Coast-Mike Kirkpatrick
NZ Fly Fishing Adventures The Distant Browns of Emerald-Mike Kirkpatrick
The Manic Guide to Fly Casting Rene Vaz
Fly Fishing in NZ
Stealth with a Fly-NZ Wilderness waters Dean Bell Fly Fishing
SoulFish 2 Global fly fishing Adventures with April Vokey and others
Gulf Harbour Outdoors with Geoff Thomas NZ fly fishing for Trout and Salmon
Salt Water Fly Fishing Game Fishing
Bugs of the Underworld Lisa Cutter
NZ Fly Fishing MP4s Youtube Video's (4 discs)
Snapper Secrets (vol 2)
Fly Fishing in NZ (fishing Clips from Mobil Sport on TV3)
How to Fish Rapala Lures
Essential Patterns with Oliver Edwards Vol 1
Fly Fishing For Reservoir Trout (at Pitsford) Bob Church
Trout Secrets with Geoff Thomas
Fishing in Fiordland
Wee Wets and Small Drys



Lake Otamangakau on a fine day, nothing beats it...unless the wind is howling. Looking back down the northern arm of the lake. Photo courtesy of Peter Schierhout.

CLUB TRIPS 2025 - 2026

February – Ngongotaha River and Rotorua Lakes – FEB 21st 22nd 23rd 2025

March – Lake Otamangakau – MAR 28th 29th 30th 2025

May – Ngongotaha River and Rotorua Lakes – MAY 2025

July – Tongariro and Tauranga Taupo – JUL 2025

August – Tongariro – Club River Fishing Competition – AUG 2025

September – Tauranga Taupo – SEP 2025

November – Lake based Club Competition Trip – NOV 2025

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

December – Lake Otamangakau – NOV 2025

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.

FEBRUARY CLUB TRIP TO NGONGOTAHA AND ROTORUA AREA

This February Trip to fish the Ngongotaha River and the Rotorua region is on the weekend of Friday 21st , Saturday 22nd , Sunday 23rd February. We will again be staying at the Paradise Valley Lodge. Costs will be \$125.00 each, which will cover 2 nights’

accommodation in the lodge and a BBQ on Saturday evening. If you want to come down on the Thursday, as many of us do, then simply add \$55 to make it \$180.00.

Also, a variety of private rooms are available as well.

If you are keen just let me know which nights you can make ASAP and then pay your money to the Club in any of the normal ways.

- internet banking to the Club's bank account: North Shore Flyfishers Incorporated ASB A/c #: 12-3209-0190179-00 (please include your name and the word Ngonga as a reference);
- Or by Cash on the November, December or February Club Nights

Duncan – 021 648 956 – iconpromote@gmail.com

This Trip is almost full so please let me know ASAP.

MARCH CLUB TRIP TO LAKE OTAMANGAKAU

I am proposing the weekend of 28th 29th 30th March (Friday, Saturday and Sunday) with a number of us arriving on Thursday the 27th.

While it is predominately a boat fishery, the Te Whaiu (inlet) canal which can be fished from the shore, and particularly the “holding” area immediately above the road bridge, offers a big range of casting positions. Just be aware that with an altitude of some 2,000 feet above sea level, the conditions can go from warm and pleasant to bleak very quickly!

By March, the Trout are BIG, fat and in prime condition, with lots of insect activity, providing some fantastic fishing activity. Costs will be \$55 per person per night.

The Accommodation is your own little room with 2 beds, 1 for sleeping and the other for your gear.

There are shared cooking facilities.

I have “penciled in” 8 cabins at Tongariro Holiday Park so if anyone is interested, please let me know ASAP.

Dave Symes - Ph: 09 486-6257 - Email: dssymes@xtra.co.nz

JOKE OF THE MONTH

Here is an actual sign posted at a golf club in Scotland UK:

1. BACK STRAIGHT, KNEES BENT, FEET SHOULDER WIDTH APART.
 2. FORM A LOOSE GRIP.
 3. KEEP YOUR HEAD DOWN!
 4. STAY OUT OF THE WATER.
 5. TRY NOT TO HIT ANYONE.
 6. IF YOU ARE TAKING TOO LONG, LET OTHERS GO AHEAD OF YOU
 7. DON'T STAND DIRECTLY IN FRONT OF OTHERS.
 8. QUIET PLEASE...WHILE OTHERS ARE PREPARING.
 9. DON'T TAKE EXTRA STROKES.
- WELL DONE. NOW, FLUSH THE URINAL, GO OUTSIDE, AND TEE OFF

WHERE THE OCEAN MEETS THE SEA

By Graham Little

For many years I camped in the far north at Matai Bay. I had the same site for 17 of those 25 years. My children became adults over the 5-6 weeks Christmas holidays, Camping that long, one had to be comfortable, My tent was 25x15, and with drop down sides enclosing the kitchen it had 3 rooms, Full fridge, wardrobe, lounge etc. And of course for several years the 20-foot sea nymph with 200 horse black mac on back. I loaded all gear in the boat. I had a big US SUV, 8 liter. Towing was no issue.

Family would come fishing occasionally, mostly they liked being hurtled about the bay on the big rubber tire I had as water sport. We never took up skiing. So I spent lot of time

nosing about Cape Karikari, Doubtless Bay and the shallow spot further north. Many of those days were just meandering.

This was one of those days. I had fished north side of islands of Cape, caught couple of Kahawai, went into Karikari bay to a spot I knew held snapper, got a couple for dinner, then went bit further north to mouth of Rangiputa Harbour. Parked for a bit resting in the sun until half dozen good sized Kings turned up one took the fly, I judged about 15 kg, I was on 6 kg tippet, sure enough when I tried turn him, he broke off. I was relaxed, not in mood for a lengthy careful wrestle.

I headed home about 3.00pm. Sea was flat, like bowling alley flat.

I turned the cape, and the day turned magic. It was a dead straight line. On the right, land side, was clear, but green regular ocean. The line, which I drove down, was about 3 inches wide. On the left was deep ocean clear, crystalline, green blue. I tested the ocean water it was very warm.

I actually cut the motor and sat for a bit, marveling at nature and how wonderful it can be, and how privileged I was to witness such a sight.

The line extended all the way, and just ducked past the point entrance to Matai. Couple of times I revved hard, to see if I could get the two to mix, I could not see any effect, It felt like two blocks of concrete nestled side by side, on one side the beach, On other the deep ocean current, dead flat, still, the whole environment was still, I knew it was close, warm and why we got the fish we did out of Bay of Islands, but to witness it, be part of it as was for an afternoon, one of those days expecting nothing, then nature turns on one of its miracles.

TROUT RECIPES - FISH CAKES AND CROQUETTES



Recipe, courtesy of Rotorua Anglers Association

Ingredients

300g smoked trout or salmon
600g mashed potatoes
2tbsp of breadcrumbs
1tsp salt
A handful of chopped parsley
1 tsp fresh thyme
Pinch of cayenne pepper
Good pinch of white pepper
Hot oil for baking

For crumbing

1/2 cup seasoned flour (salt, pepper or any seasoning you prefer)
1 beaten egg mixed with 2 tbsp milk.
2 cups breadcrumbs. Panko crumbs are good.

Method

Boil potatoes. When cooked, drain in a colander or strainer cover and let dry for 5 mins, to avoid too much water being left. Then mash.
Break up smoked fish and place on a paper towel to soak up any excess oil.
Add to the potato along with chopped parsley and thyme and pepper
Add 2 tbsp breadcrumbs to stir to make a firm mix.
Roll into cake shapes or cylinders for croquettes. Crumb them by passing them through flour, the egg mix and the breadcrumbs.
Keep refrigerated for about an hour to firm them up. until required.
Fry in the hot oil until golden brown.

TIPS AND TRICKS

At an earlier Club Meeting we had a session all about Tips and Tricks that we might choose to use with our fishing. With that in mind we will use this section for any helpful little Tips that anyone may have that can benefit us all. So, if you have a quick Tip that you are happy to share just let me know on iconpromote@gmail.com .

- 1) Minimise your false casting. So often we keep going with our false casting for far too long, striving for that perfect feel and extra couple of feet. Better to let the final cast go as soon as you feel the rhythm is good rather than keep going. Every time

you false cast it just adds another thing that can go wrong, not to mention the longer your flies are in the water rather than the air the more fish you will catch.



A beautiful fat Coromandel Rainbow on a stunning summer day. What more could you ask for. Photo courtesy of Andrew MacPherson.

CLUB FACEBOOK PAGE

Some of you will already know that the Club has a Facebook Page. It has been underutilized for a while and this is just a reminder to those who already know and information for those who didn't know until now. The link is below, and also on the Clubs Website

<https://nsff.org.nz/>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/217979378948826/members>

Please do join the page and post away, it really is a case of every post will encourage others to post and before we know it the Club will have a thriving online presence.

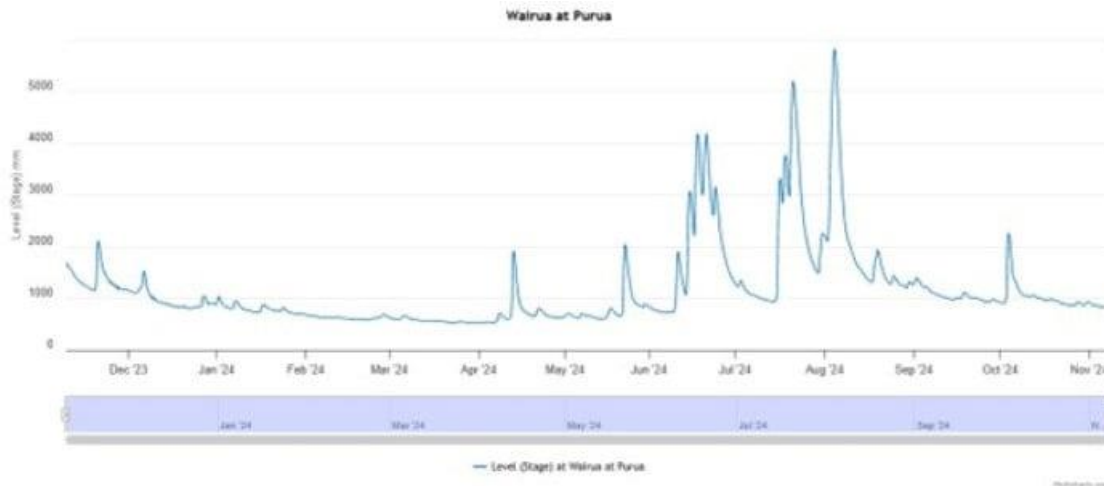
FISH AND GAME NORTHLAND REEL LIFE DECEMBER



2lb Rainbow caught in the head waters of the Kaihu River.

River and stream update

River levels are low for this time of year. Water clarity is good. The fish are tending to lie in deeper shaded pools as the temperatures finally warm up. Fishing has been productive thus far. Sinking Rapala style lures get down into these deep pools closer to the fish hiding in the depths. If fly fishing at the moment a classical Northland technique is to use lures (Rabbit/Miss Simpson/Red Setter etc) with a floating line and drift the lure over the weed beds as the fish tend to hide underneath. This is not sight fishing just cast in a likely spot and see what emerges.



Reservoir survey

Every year Northland Fish and Game stock three reservoirs as “put and take” fisheries. In the past these have produced reasonable sized fish in the 3-4 pound range. However in the last several years fish size has dropped considerably. We have accordingly reduced stocking rates. On a recent survey of Lake Manuwai it appears that there is very little aquatic vegetation apart from some riparian reed beds. The waters have also suffered from algal blooms which could have been having an impact.

In spite of this our May releases have almost grown into legal size being in the lake only 6 months. It seems that it is the older age groups that struggle to put on size and weight. A gut analysis revealed that the majority of the invertebrates available are midges and other flying insects. So well worth using dry flies (blue blow fly, green beetle, royal wulff and midge imitations) to get the job done.

Regulation Changes

No changes to the regulations. All our waters are open year round to all permitted methods.

We need your help!!

If you catch any trout in Northland can you please weigh and measure the fish. Then send that information to us either via email or messenger. Any size fish will give us useful information on the health of the fishery. Don't worry we will keep your prized spot secret. Any fish catch data submitted will go into the draw for a whole season licence or family licence.

Take the Family Fishing

The new season commences on Saturday 1st October 2023. The family licence is by far the best value for money licence on offer. A family licence can be made up of two parents

or grandparents and up to four of their children or grandchildren under the age of 18. This licence can also be used anywhere in NZ, except the Lake Taupo fishery.

For more information about the new seasons licences check out our website: Please select here <https://www.fishandgame.org.nz/freshwater-fishing-in-new-zealand/fishing-licences-and-regulations/>

FISH AND GAME AUCKLAND / WAIKATO REEL LIFE DECEMBER



Karapiro Dam Rainbow trout caught on a soft bait.

Some nice rainbows below Karapiro

Fishing in our Northern lowland rivers is still good but time is running out to enjoy one of the best seasons in a decade on the Ohinemuri. If you have missed out on the action don't worry it is just time to go up in elevation to the tributaries like the Waitawheta. Fisheries Manager Adam Daniel visited Karapiro dam this weekend, and the caddis fly rise had the rainbows on the hunt. Soft baiting or fly fishing is a great morning or evening option this time of year but time is running out so don't wait.

Although the Waikato River is still fishing well fish will soon begin their migration back into summer thermal refuges. If you like fishing the Pirongia streams, the upper Waipa and Mangatutu it is time to intercept those fish migrating up the river over the next couple of weeks.

Summer trip planning

It is time to start planning your summer road trip and we want to encourage you to not to go directly to the Whakapapa, you should stop at some other rivers on the way. Please see our [travel guide page on the Auckland/Waikato Fish & Game web site](#) for some good ideas and the [Outdoor Access Maps](#) for over 100 locations to fish in just the Auckland/Waikato Region. Before you go check out the Flowrate.co.nz for river conditions.

Our staff picks for driving south are:

- Upper Waihou (Whites Road)
- Awakino River (Gibbon Road)
- Ongarue (Ongarue Stream Road)
- Whanganui River

FISH AND GAME EASTERN REEL LIFE DECEMBER



Scott Tamblin with a good Rotoiti rainbow

With water temperatures rising, the Eastern region’s fishing opportunities are hotting up. Most of the Rotorua lakes currently have surface temperatures between 16 and 18 degrees Celsius and we are still getting some colder evenings and the occasional brisk southerly wind.

Even so, Tarawera and Rotoiti are both showing indications of an early thermocline forming. The [thermocline](#) is layers of differing water temperatures. They become more apparent during the heat of summer and as the lakes become warmer, and they can produce concentrations of trout and their food. If you want to learn more about the thermocline and its effect on trout have a look at Boat Fishing Tuition below.

Speaking of the Big Rotorua lakes – the fishing has continued on the good start we saw at opening day. The 2-plus year old rainbows (Lp and Lpad fin marked) are in the best nick we’ve seen for decades and they will continue to improve all the way through to late autumn 2025 when they will be at their prime. The usual assortment of methods is picking up fish. Jigging and softbaiting is productive between 15m and 25m and trolling will work up until the thermocline develops more and most of the fish go deep, but for the meantime shallow trolling and harling early and late will be productive.



Lake Rotorua’s famous cruising brown trout are now well and truly on the move. Good fish can be seen hunting baitfish in the shallows from the Ngongotaha mouth all the way past Hamurana and along the northern shore to the Ohau Channel. These fish are rarely easy to catch, but very rewarding when you do. Floating lines and smelt flies, bully patterns or smaller nymphs like damsels are a good place to start. As we roll into December expect the stream mouths to become the preferred habitat of these big fish.

Jamie Anso of RotoruatROUT NZ with another cracker Lake Rotorua brown

The upper section of the Ngongotaha and Waiteti streams at Rotorua and the Mokau and Hopruahine at

Waikaremoana will open to fishing on December 1st. Our team has been doing access work at all these areas to ensure you can get to the water you want to fish. Please carry your licences with you at all times.

And if you are venturing out to fish one of our many lakes don't forget this is the season damsel flies are highly active. Their larvae in particular are a favorite food of stillwater trout with their wriggly swimming action being hard to resist. A slow jerky retrieve under a floating line around weed beds and vegetation that extends above the surface is the key.



Damsel fly larvae are very energetic swimmers

Lake Okataina

Access to Lake Okataina can be obtained for fishing 7-days per week. An MPI Controlled Area Notice is still in place for the lake and anglers must wash their boats before going to the lake at The Wash Place, 338 Te Ngae Rd, Rotorua. Proof of wash (via a scan) will gain access to the lake.

Access hours: Monday - Thursday 6:00am to 8:00pm

Friday to Sunday: 5:00am to 8:00pm. Overnight stays are allowed.

Do The Trout Keep Fooling You?! - Boat Fishing How-To

We are again putting on our popular Boat Fishing How-to, talk and demonstration, from our premises at 1130 Paradise Valley Road (the trout hatchery) on Saturday, January 4th starting at 10.00am and running for about two and half hours.

The event will provide information on how to be more successful trout fishing from boats, cover some basic trout biology, various methods of fishing, lots of tips and tricks and finish with a demonstration on how to fully de-bone a trout and hot smoke it. It's all basic, non technical stuff – so if the trout keep fooling you and you want to be more successful fishing from your boat then come along.

No bookings are required, it's all free, plus we'll be giving away a few spot prizes! For more information contact Mark, msherburn@fishandgame.org.nz



Be more successful fishing for trout

Datawatch Tagged Trout

Tagged trout can now be entered online. Entries go into the draw to win one of 10 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>

TROUT FLIES- TIE OR BUY?

By Al Simpson (From the NZFFA Newsletter) - (abridged)

Within the sport of fly fishing, one may pursue a number of avenues beyond the fishing itself. One may choose to build rods, explore the vast fly-fishing literature, or travel the world in search of streams and different fishing cultures. But the most commonly pursued avenue is the tying of flies.

After dropping a hundred dollars at a local fly shop for a handful of flies, many anglers think that tying their own flies will save some money. Unfortunately, that is not the case. There is a significant start-up cost, and always new things to try. As author John Gierach put it “And of course more often than not, trying out new and different patterns meant buying new hooks, materials, tools, and books, or, later, instructional videotapes, all of which kept the day when I’d start saving money by tying my own flies perpetually out in front of me like a carrot on a stick”.

Art Form?

But there are good reasons to tie our own flies. Some take fly tying to an art-form, producing flies truly worthy of framing and mounting on a wall. But lacking both the skill and patience to do so, I tie my flies to fish ’em. And I believe that doing so has made me a more observant, better angler.

There is nothing like a frustrating day of fishing, filled with refusals by fussy trout, to cause one to critically reassess everything from the presentation to fly selection. If the analysis leads one to think it’s the fly, then one needs to either buy or tie some different flies. I think that tying allows me to tweak refused flies more readily than searching for alternatives in the fly-bins of the nearest fly

Go-To Flies

I try to answer these questions by tying a chosen pattern with variations of some of the characteristics noted above. Then I fish them rigorously, watch their behaviour in or on the water, and of course, note the trout’s receptiveness. Eventually, I settle on a pattern, which becomes a “go-to fly”, until the trout seem to be ignoring it. Then the whole process begins again.

Every tier of flies goes through this process, which results in a tier’s unique box of “go-to flies”. Usually they are not unique enough to carry a tier’s name, but they are stream-tested, and fished with confidence. There is also the pleasure of landing a fish with one’s own creation.

For me, tying flies is a nice way to pass some time in the evening, especially when getting ready for a day of fishing. But more importantly, it causes me to be critical of my fly fishing, which in turn helps me become a better fly-fisher.

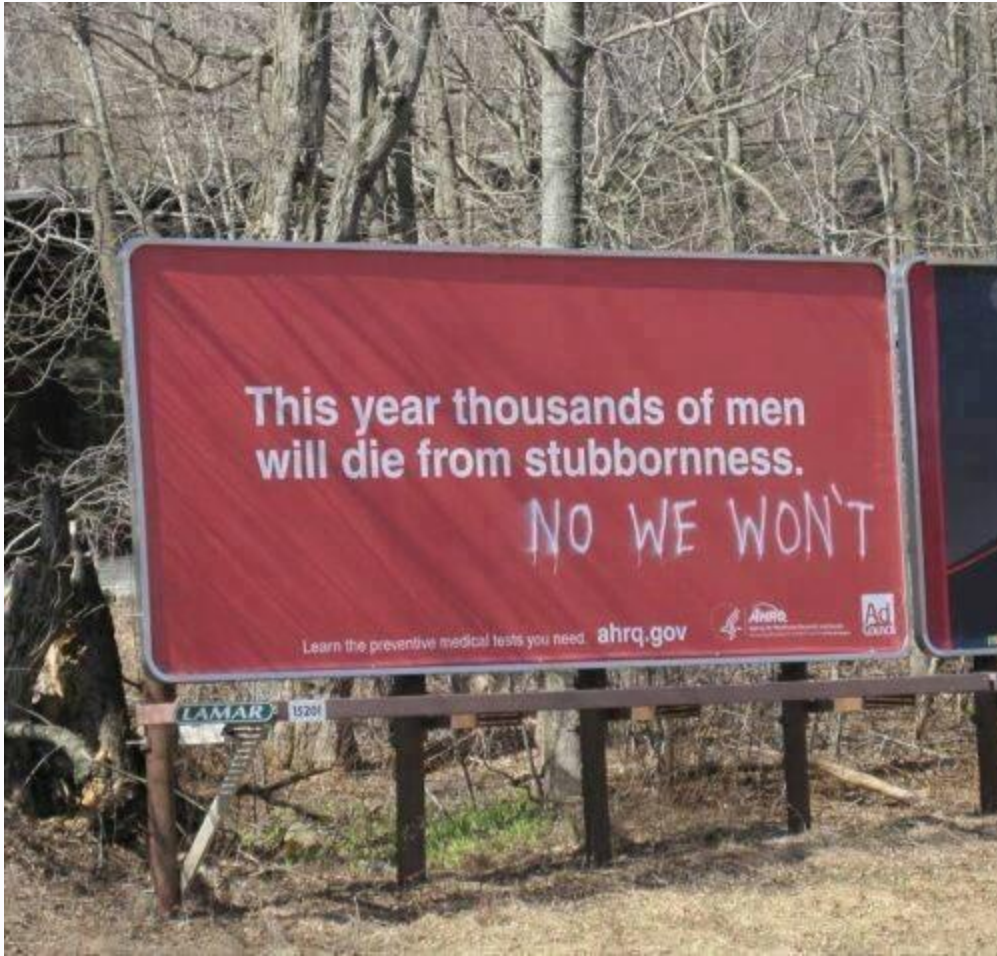
If still buying flies, but wishing to advance your game, try tying your own flies. It is a rewarding aspect of fly fishing.

Footnote: Simpson Fly Fishing is a US website dedicated to the sport of fly fishing for trout. It contains monthly articles, hundreds of photos, several instructional videos, equipment and book reviews. Hook into it!

Master fly tier the late John Morton's "Little Annie", an intricate 'art form' creation of the dragon fly nymph. Ideal for lakes? But flies don't have to be complex to catch trout. Often simple flies e.g. Hare and Copper nymph, are very good.



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 place an order at Club Nights.

Meetings held the 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm:
Birkenhead RSA, Recreation Drive, Birkenhead, North Shore City

NORTH SHORE FLYFISHERS EXECUTIVE

Club Patron – Dave McLellan

President - Dave Symes 486-6257 Takapuna

president@nsff.org.nz

Secretary - Mike Martindale 020 445 4337 Takapuna

secretary@nsff.org.nz

Treasurer - Barrie Barnes 021 925 006 Glenfield

treasurer@nsff.org.nz

Magazine - Duncan Frew 021 648 956 Torbay

iconpromote@gmail.com

Committee – Allen French 021 1018 838 Birkdale

a_bfrench@hotmail.com

Members Maurice Parlane 021 650 692 Northcote

maurice.p@newwayz.co.nz

Neil Smit 021 274 5625 West Harbour

neil.smit@sew-eurodrive.co.nz

North Shore Flyfishers Incorporated