

ROTORUA ANGLERS ASSOCIATION

May 2023

NEWSLETTER



Rerewhakaaitu at the Ashpit Road campsite. Drone photo: Christo Wolfaard.

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Bar (temp)	Ian Fear	
Trip Coordinator	Gavin Corbett	021 226 3978
Catering	Vacant	
Trophy Coordinator	Gwen Inskeep	021 103 1254
Membership Secretary	Colin Cox	07 343 6282
Web Coordinator	John Olds	027 330 7581
Fly Tying Convenor	Vacant	07 343 6282
Fly Tying Beginners	Richard Hendriksen	020 4100 3071
Kids' Fish Out	Brendan Davis	021 105 5039
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Almoner	Terry Wood	07 345 5587
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Contribution Deadline: 20th of each month

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The content and comments in this newsletter are those of the authors or by participating members and not necessarily those of other Association members

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

As winter approaches, we now have some challenges from the rain. Due to the forecast, we missed the Stream Team activity for this month, but the sunny Rerewhakaaitu Saturday was superb. Brian knows this lake very well, and when he saw some ripples, he cast out and caught the only fish of the outing. The water is very high, right up to the bushes, and the posts that "keep us off the beach" are submerged 15m out from the side. So be careful of tripping over them. Christo used his drone to take some stunning pictures.

Thanks again Peter for taking on the fly tying. There were some email finger problems as Neal pointed out, because the "Craig's Nighttime" fly was first shown instead of the Scotch Poacher, which we duly tied on Monday. If you have any requests for Peter, please let him know. Neal also donated some of his flies to us, and most have disappeared from the bar counter. Also note that we still have some basic fly-tying vices from Colin for sale at a nominal fee.

Cormac, Marie and David have been fishing for Kahawai and snapper, so we should have someone vie for the sea trophy later this year. Harvey brought along his friend Simon, who is an experienced angler, who had recently landed a good brown at Waitete mouth. I hope he will become a member. Maurice and Sherryll have joined the bowling club at the Blue Baths and spend a lot of time enjoying this activity, so they will shift allegiance at the end of our season.

The leak in the storeroom ceiling indicates some loose roof screws. David has come up with an interesting suggestion to establish a building maintenance account. How about we open the clubhouse to other parties who don't have a place to congregate? We will look at the HIP brochure and contact CAB to identify suitable organizations that we can contact and discuss the situation. The RAA finances are still positive (we have a small surplus) and the committee keeps a sharp eye on this. We will need to take a vote at the AGM, so please give this some thought. It could include a non-fishing group too. Larry last arranged for a water blast of roof and walls, and the job that lies ahead is to now paint the clubhouse outside. The weather is a challenge, and our present members are not so able to do working bees anymore, so we will need to contract people, or approach the PD folks. We are still looking at a new TV bracket at the library side.

SCOTCH POACHER



Photo: Peter Corson

Peter Corson

This is a very popular night fly and can be tied in a full range of sizes from 6-14.

- Start behind the eye with a black thread and lay a thread base to the bend of the hook and back.
- Measure out a length of black squirrel tail that is about two and a half times the length of the hook and fix it in, working back to the bend of the hook.
- Tie in gold tinsel and orange chenille and bring the thread back to behind the eye. Orange wool can be used instead of chenille.
- Wrap the chenille or wool forward with close wraps and tie off, followed by open wraps of the tinsel.
- Lay 3-5 overlapped pukeko feathers over the shank of the hook, so that they protrude half to two thirds of the way to the end of the squirrel tail.

- The larger the hook the more pukeko feathers are generally used.
- Fix in firmly then add an orange hackle.
- Finish by building up the head to lay back and cover up any loose hackle fibres, then add finishing varnish.

Appreciate it in the daytime. It doesn't look as good at 11:15pm, but it does catch fish then.



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MAY-JUNE UPCOMING EVENTS and REMINDERS

Friday 26th May	Pot Luck dinner at the clubrooms. Bring a protein, veggie or pudding. Jumbo raffle. Eat at 6pm
Sat 27 May	Lake Okataina outing??
Sat 3 June	Stream team. Meet in Ngongotaha at 9am. Midday lunch
Mon 5 June	Fly tying at the clubrooms at 7pm
Friday 9 June	Drinks, snacks, raffle and lots of chat. 5pm start
Friday 16 June	Drinks, snacks, raffle and lots of chat. 5pm start
Friday 23 June	Drinks, snacks, raffle and lots of chat. 5pm start
Friday 30 June	Pot Luck dinner at the clubrooms. Bring a protein, veggie or pudding. Jumbo raffle. Eat at 6pm

FISH OF THE MONTH

No fish of the month was entered.

MAKING A COLD SMOKER

Roger Bowden

I have been interested in cold smoking fish since I was lucky enough to win a commercially produced cold smoker in the recent Interclub Tournament. I am using my Kiwi sizzler as the smoking box and heating the smoker for about 30 minutes to take the rawness off the fish then running the cold smoking unit for about 3 hours.

It struck me that these units are fairly basic, so I set out to make one. The main item I used was a stainless steel toilet brush holder, which are \$6.50 at Bunnings. Then I used a couple of aluminium tubes about 20 mm long and 10 mm in diameter. These are used to make a venturi inside the chamber to keep the wood chips smouldering and feed the ensuing smoke into the smoking box. The only costly item is the aquarium pump which is about \$40. (I am importing one thru Ali Express much cheaper than that.)

Tools required are a drill, hole saw bit, and some putty glue. Here are a series of photos showing the items involved in the construction. It is recommended to use medium manuka wood chips as sawdust will clog the venturi and stop it working after about half an hour. Also recommended is a butane burner (about \$6 from Mobil) to light the wood chips which can be pre-soaked in water or wine.



1271 Fenton St, Rotorua, 07 348 3147



A stainless steel toilet brush holder. Photo: Roger Bowden



Aluminium tubes. Photo: Roger Bowden



A venturi inside the chamber which keeps the wood chips smouldering. Photo: Roger Bowden.



Top: aquarium pump



Left: medium manuka wood chips

REREWHAKAITU AT THE ASHPIT ROAD CAMPSITE

All photos by Christo Wolfaard



BBQ. Left to Right: Jill Wolfaard, Piet Otto and Christo Wolfaard



Fishermen taken by drone



Fishermen taking a break. From left to right: Joe Taylor, Brian Taylor, Piet Otto and Ballarat angler.



Piet Otto. Fishing the land.

SEA FISHING



Marie Hutchison's best snapper from their time at Maraenui beach from 26 to 29 April 2023. Photo: Dave Hutchison

FISHING IN SOUTH AFRICA



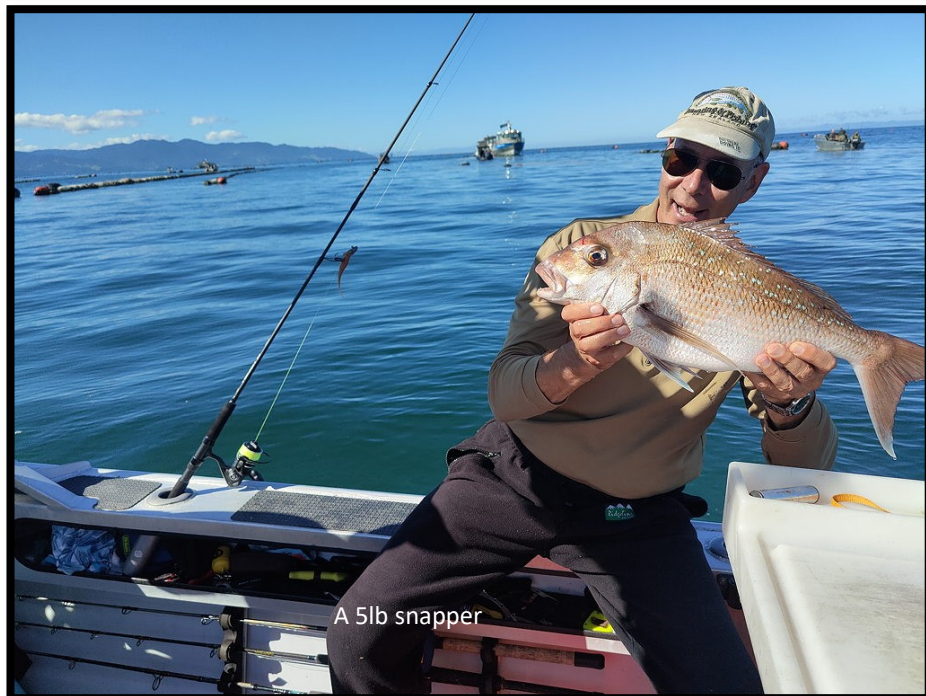
This is a photo of Christo Wolfaard's grandson in South Africa. His name is Juan Pierre. He is 3 years old and doesn't miss a chance to go bait fishing with his dad in the Vaal River. This is not his first carp but it's his biggest. Dad didn't weigh it because he had to take a photo and get it back in the water. The fish was caught in May on his dad's secret bait which is Eucalyptus honey slugger with blue gum muti turbo. Although Christo has no idea what that all is, it is interesting. (usually corn mealie porridge –Piet)

FISHING THE MUSSEL FARMS

A popular place to go sea fishing is the mussel farms in Hauraki Gulf out of Thames in the Coromandel. The fishing takes place as the barges pull the long strands of mussels out of the sea. Some mussels are damaged so they serve as burley, which the local fish love.



Roger Bowden with a 20 lb snapper.





Marie Hutchison's best kahawai from their time at Maraenui beach 26 to 29 April 2023. Photo: Dave Hutchison



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