



ROTORUA ANGLERS ASSOCIATION

August 2026

Presidents Pen

The next AGM is at the clubrooms on Thursday 8 October at 7pm. The date has been pushed out to accommodate both our accountants' work schedule and the availability of committee members. Mark it in your calendar and we look forward to seeing you there.

We are now seeking nominations for the role of Club President. This is very much a community-facing role and one which is ably supported by the Treasurer, Secretary, Committee members, Club Captain, and Event Coordinators who manage the operational side of the Club's activities. The president roll has become more demanding as awareness of the Rotorua Anglers Association has increased due to our online presence. It can be a challenging and time-consuming role with communication demands via phone and email necessitating basic computer skills. If you are passionate about our club, our angling community, supporting our sponsors, and have been engaged in Rotorua long enough to understand the uniqueness of our club and community, then please talk with members of our club. We would welcome your nomination.

Lake Okareka has proved to be the go-to place to fish this month. Several of our club members have enjoyed success fishing of the jetty, from the shore, or out on the lake in a boat. So, stay positive as the opportunities for the angler are close by!

Please don't forget to submit your catches in our monthly club competitions via our website. It is easy and as quick as!

Tight Lines.

August 1st Kids Fish Out

August 3rd Fly tying 7pm club rooms.

August 7th Club Night

August 14th. Club Night

August 21st. C

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THE FLYTYER'S DESK

Back by popular demand

A number of club members have shown interest in this fly pattern, published only a few weeks ago. It has to be one of the easiest patterns to tie, and is being fished with very good results. The variation here is the two-tone coloured slushie fire, available from Hamills, Rotorua .

The "Slushy" or "Fruit Salad" pattern is a highly effective, bright UV blob/egg pattern quickly gaining popularity in New Zealand. Tied to imitate drifting roe, it's often fished suspended under a strike indicator in clear water.

Materials needed:

- **Hook:** Size 10 or 12 wide gap curved grub or Czech nymph hook
- **Bead:** 7/64" or 1/8" brass or tungsten bead (optional, but helps it sink faster)
- **Thread:** Hot pink or neon orange, 70 denier
- **Body material:** Slushie two-tone fibre, available at Hamills Rotorua
- **Tail (optional):** Tiny amount of crinkle mirror flash



Step-by-step tying instructions:

1. **Prep the hook:** Slide the bead onto the hook and secure the hook in your vise. Start your thread directly behind the bead and create a thread dam to secure the bead in place.
2. **Add tail:** Tie in 3-4 strands of crinkle flash just behind the bead and trim them to extend slightly past the bend of the hook.
3. **Tie in slushie fibre:** Strip about 5 mm of the fibres from the end of the material to expose the core. Tie the exposed core directly behind the bead.
4. **Wrap the body:** Wrap the thread back down the hook shank. Begin wrapping the slushie fire forward, making sure to sweep the fibres back toward the rear of the hook with each wrap so they don't get trapped.
5. **Finish:** Wrap the fibre to the bead, tie it off securely, and snip any excess. Whip finish and add a drop of head cement or super glue to your thread wraps.



OUT THERE DOING IT



Gordon had success euro nyming Paradise Valley.



Despite numerous health set backs, Harvey demonstrates that where there is a will there is a way.



David and Marie fished Lake Okareka. Guess who had the biggest smile.

PUT THESE EVENTS IN YOUR DIARY

Kid's Fish Out

August 2nd

September 6th

October 11th

November 1st



WHIRINAKI WEEKEND

The Rotorua Anglers Association has booked the Whirinaki Education Camp for two nights. The accommodation consists of three bunk houses, each containing ten beds.

One bunk house will be designated women only.

Check in is 2.00pm on Sunday 29th November

Check out is on Tuesday, 1 December at 10am

Details are available. via the attached website link



<https://www.doc.govt.nz/parks-and-recreation/places-to-go/east-coast/places/whirinaki-te-pua-a-tane-conservation-park/things-to-do/whirinaki-recreation-camp/>

The cost is \$15 per head for the full weekend. Note, accommodation only.

Bring your own food. There are plenty of outdoor cooking facilities.

Bookings to the Club Secretary with confirmed payment to Rotorua Anglers Association's bank account.

38-9014-0578816-00. Tag payment as Whirinaki.

You don't need to be fisherman to enjoy this special weekend with friends and family. You could just kick back and relax, or enjoy an accompanied walking tour, available by arrangement.

THAT SINKING FEELING

Gavin Corbett

I recently attended a talk on fly fishing, presented by one of New Zealand's top young anglers, Ollie Basset. He covered the techniques needed for conventional nymph fishing with an indicator, and the more recent enthusiasm for Euro nymphing. Ollie especially caught my attention when he discussed the paradox of fishing a floating line that is sinking. He suggested three steps that could help an angler catch more fish when fishing with a floating line, indicator and nymph rig.

First, make sure that your fly line is wiped down clean and treated with any of the fly line cleaners available in tackle shops. Ollie noted that over time a neglected fly line would no longer float on the surface of the water. With a change that is almost imperceptible, it would begin to settle half submerged just a few millimetres below the surface. The result was that a lot more force was required to break the water tension when mending a drift, or when lifting the entire line off for the next cast.

Second, Ollie remarked that most of the indicators that he saw +anglers using were oversized for the task required. Some indicators he witnessed were the size of small budgies. And yes, they were easy for the angler to see but they also created a lot of drag or resistance while casting. Another issue was that a small or tentative enquiry from a trout would often go unnoticed because a much stronger tug was required to move a large indicator floating on the surface. He favoured the New Zealand strike indicator system because he could control the amount of yarn being used and the depth that the nymph reached.

Third, Ollie stressed the need to keep your indicator floating high. Allowing it to become waterlogged and half submerged defeated the whole purpose of using an indicator. He recommended an initial treatment of the wool yarn with a minimal amount of gel flotant followed by subsequent treatment with any of the dry powder silicate available from tackle shops.



Gel flotant for dressing indicators



New Zealand strike indicator



Dry powder silicate

EASY AS LEMON CURD

Drive anywhere around the Bay of Plenty and you will see lemon trees, laden with fruit, which for the most part, are under-utilised.

This is a simple recipe because there is no need to separate the egg white from the yolk. The delicious lemon spread can be prepared in under half an hour.

It's a tangy spread for the morning toast, a topping for ice-cream or just enjoyed by the spoonful, straight from the jar.

Ingredients

3 eggs

1/2 cup lemon juice

3Tbsp lemon zest

1 cup sugar

60gms butter.

Method

1. In a small pot, whisk together eggs, lemon juice, zest and sugar. Cook over a medium heat, stirring constantly with a wooden spoon until the mixture thickens, about ten minutes.

2. Reduce the heat to low and add the butter, stirring to combine. Cook for a further two minutes and then remove from the heat.

3. Allow to cool. It will thicken as it cools.

4. Pour into small jars.

The curd will keep in a fridge for up to a week. It can be frozen if you are making any quantity.



STREAM TEAM

The core members of the Stream Team were delighted to have three volunteers, Roger, David and Gordon from the Rotorua Anglers Association to assist with a planned winter planting. A large patch of blackberry had been painstakingly cleared over the preceding months and was ready to be planted out with two hundred native trees, shrubs and grasses. The plants were supplied and delivered by Environment Bay of Plenty and it took only a couple of hours or so to have them carefully planted in the prepared ground. It was a very satisfying and rewarding morning. It reminds me of the proverb, "Blessed is he who plants trees under whose shade he will never sit."



CLUB LIBRARY BOOK REVIEW

David Hutchison

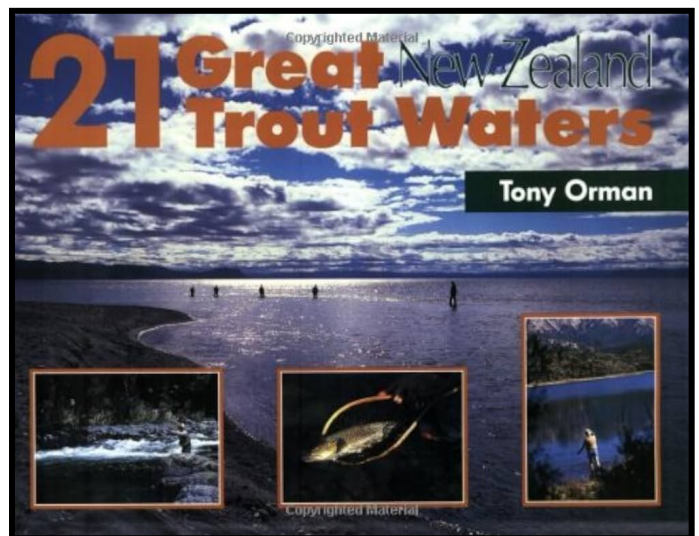
I regularly view our club library from afar. So the plan here is to make time to review the books that have caught my eye and share my thoughts.

The book chosen this month is *21 Great New Zealand Trout Waters* by Tony Orman.

Tony's book was first published in 1993. It deals with 11 rivers and lakes in the North Island and a further 10 in the South Island, a number of which Marie and I have yet to visit. Reading this book has inspired me to seek new destinations.

I am sure you will recognise names listed in the index. The book's content makes for interesting reading with detailed descriptions providing a valuable resource to both new anglers and experienced anglers alike. The hand-drawn maps, pictures of insects and photos of landscapes give this book an added warmth and empathy, a dimension that is missing from so many fishing books these days.

The hand-drawn illustrations appear to be very accurate and the references to places and people will bring back fond memories for some members. It is as if you were having a conversation with the author about a shared passion. I found this book to be an easy read and well written.



HAMILL'S MONTHLY WINNERS

Roger Bowden and Nigel Clark were the successful anglers for the months of June and July.

The trophy manager reports that there appears to be a lack of interest in entering fish caught for the monthly competition, and would appreciate feedback as to how the competition could attract more entries.



TIP OF THE MONTH

Roger Bowden

It is a good idea to practice your casting skills in the winter to ensure you have a head start when the new season opens in October. Get your fly rod out and either practise on the lawn or on many of the available waters that are still open. You might even catch a fish while you are there. Lake Okareka, Blue Lake, Rerewhakaaitu and Lake Rotorua all offer excellent practice water

Here are some tips to keep in mind.



Watch your line and leader as the loop unravels. If the rod is held completely vertical while casting, the loop will also unravel in the same vertical plane, allowing the line and leader to roll out in a straight line. If the rod is held out to the side the loop unravels on a similar plane as to what the rod is held, allowing the line to curve away in the same direction. Casting in a straight line will be more accurate if the rod is held vertically. If you have ever bowled a cricket ball you'll understand this! We can now use this knowledge to our advantage. If we want the line to curve a little right, angle the rod tip to the right or to the left to make it curve left.

A good way to practice accuracy is to imagine you are throwing a dart. Put your right foot forward if you are right handed, left if left handed. This blocks and steadies the upper body when making short, accurate casts. Keep you rod vertical and sight along the rod as though throwing a dart. You may find when you try this that the rod ends up catching the line when the rod is vertical. To overcome this problem, make sure you stop at the 12 o'clock position on the back cast .

Good casting is something that needs to be learned and refined. It takes practice. And it's best to practice away from the distraction of fishing. The focus should be totally on what your rod is doing. All fishers owe it to themselves to be as good a caster as they can be and to master the basic art of casting.

Treat your fly rod with care and respect. Regardless of the dollar value, you owe it to yourself to treat it with TLC. Always wax your ferrules before insertion with either bees wax or just ordinary candle wax. This will ensure the ferrule always stays attached while fishing and prevents wear.