



ROTORUA ANGLERS ASSOCIATION

SEPTEMBER 2026

KIDS FISH OUT AUGUST 2026



PRESIDENTS REPORT

David Hutchison

Our AGM is to be held in clubrooms on Thursday, 8 October 2026 at 7pm. The incumbent President will report on our club's achievements over the past year. Not all our members can be present and as this newsletter reaches a wider audience, I will utilize it to provide an insight into both our achievements for the past year and the efforts of our members who make this all happen.

Club members have had a number of group trips to various locations e.g., Lake Rerewhakaaitu, Hamurana Stream mouth, surfcasting trips, Motu River mouth, sea charter boat trip plus many outings to fish Lake Okareka, Okataina, Tarawera or chase big browns at night to mention but a few! There is also the forthcoming Whirinaki trip, two nights away in a wilderness camp!

The successful fisherfolk enter our monthly competition and also our annual trophy awards. Our trophy coordinator keeps track of this throughout the year. Your committee is currently organising the prize-giving luncheon for late October or early November 2026. We will advise as soon as the date and venue are confirmed.

Our regular Friday night club nights are a great opportunity to socialise with other members. We are constantly reviewing the content of these evenings. Our monthly pot luck dinners are well attended. Daylight saving will see these dinners become BBQs with the club providing a selection of meats. The club night raffles run by our resident game master are now, by popular demand, meat packs. News flash! There may also be mystery prizes for upcoming raffles. Our bar manager and his team run the bar most capably. To be a bar manager you must first pass an examination. It is important to acknowledge the effort put in to run the bar for our members.

Within the wider community, we have a long and valuable partnership with Eastern Region Fish and Game. A dedicated team in our club manages and coordinates a myriad of details to ensure that the Kids Fish Out is a success. Based on average attendance, we provide a unique experience for approximately 800 children each year. This is a huge undertaking for the club, requiring more than 25 members and community volunteers to donate an entire day four times a year.

Our 2-day weekend A- Z Fly Fishing courses enjoy an excellent reputation with high attendance rates. Two members/tutors are the key to continuing these courses coupled with the other members who assist. The club also supports a life member who is the co-ordinator of the Stream Team which holds a weekly working bee to maintain and improve track access to the Ngongotaha stream. This undertaking has the support of Lakes District Council which provide plants. Club members individually volunteer to work within this team.

Funding club activities and building maintenance is a constant challenge. Our top income streams are the Kids Fish Out, A-Z Fly Fishing course, and our second-hand gear sales managed by a skilled member. Our treasurer manages our finances and reports to the committee which meets monthly to manage all the club affairs. Please consider standing for election onto the committee. There are many other members and their families who contribute to our club. Thank you all, for showing up, putting in the effort laughing a little, and partaking in the many conversations which we all enjoy.

THE FLYTYER'S DESK

Tying the booby fly

Colin Cox

1. Hook size: Your choice, but I recommend a size 8.
2. Start the thread behind the eye. Allow 5 mm for the foam eyes.
3. Lay the thread to the rear of the hook.
4. Tie in marabou tail about the length of the hook.
5. Tie in body material of your choice, for example, chenille.
6. Wind forward to the front of the hook.
7. Secure the foam eyes and take the thread over and whip-finish.
8. Secure with super glue.

Fish on a sinking line with a 50 cm trace.



HAMILLS

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PUT THESE EVENTS IN YOUR DIARY

Kid's Fish Out

September 6th

October 11th

November 1st

A. G. M: at the clubrooms on Thursday,
8th October 2020 at 7pm.



HAMILL'S MONTHLY WINNERS



Trophy manager Gwen, presenting Brendan with the Hamills monthly award.

OUT THERE DOING IT



Above, A good condition factor for his age. The fish looks pretty good too.

Right. Roger demonstrates his versatility as a fisherman



September 4th **club Night**
September 6th **Kids Fish Out**
September 11th **club Night**
September 18th **club Night**
September 25th **Pot Luck Dinner**
A.G.M October 8th, 7pm. Venue to be confirmed.

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FAIL SAFE MARMALADE

In last month's issue we published a recipe for lemon curd. This month, the focus is on grapefruit.

It seems that every other back yard has at least one grapefruit tree, laden with fruit that is destined to rot on the ground. This recipe only requires six grapefruit, so it's not going to make a huge difference to the total harvest, but you can make as many batches as you wish, and freeze them. I pack them into zip lock bags placed flat in the freezer.

Ingredients

6 grapefruit

1kg sugar.



Directions.

1. Wash the grapefruit and remove any scarring or blemishes on the skin.
2. Cut into quarters, remove the seeds, and place the fruit, skin and all, into a food processor. Cut into small chunks. Use your own judgement here. You can have really chunky marmalade, or process it down to a virtual mush. Of course, if you don't have a food processor, you can slice the fruit with a sharp knife.
3. Transfer the pulp to a large pot and add the sugar. Bring to the boil for about twenty minutes, stirring the mixture occasionally with a wooden spoon. It tends to spatter a bit, so be careful.
4. Once the marmalade begins to thicken, test a small amount on a cold spoon. If it jells on cooling, it's ready.
5. Remove from the heat and pour into jars. This recipe will produce about six small jars.
6. The marmalade will have a shelf life of at least six months if you keep it refrigerated.

FLICK ,THE LITTLE RED BOAT

David Hutchison

As grey nomads and keen fisher people, we wanted a boat that was budget-friendly, easy to use, and we could carry with us.

We searched the market place and come up with two New Zealand made inflatable pontoon/ catamaran boats. Both were 4 meters in length, had an open bow, could be packed down into two

easily carried kit bags and capable of being powered by a 9.9hp., two stroke motor We settled on the Tru-Kit, with its welded seams rather than glued and constructed from the sturdy Valmex fabric. It was made by made by a company in Coatesville, north of Auckland.

For the next two years we explored lakes of the South Island and fished up the Clutha River from Lake Dunstan. The boat proved more than adequate. As our fishing in the South Island evolved, we realized we needed to make some changes to the boat's configuration. We bought a trailer kitset from Save Barn Rotorua, and modified it to enable us to transport our boat to various fishing locations with ease. The boat is now used regularly on the Rotorua lakes. During the Christmas 2025 holiday, it was trailered up north and we fished the many Keri Keri inlets with good success.

Overall our boast is very useful, practical and stable, far more suitable than the two kayaks we had prior to this.

The modifications we have made to the boat include:

6 x Railblaza rod holders,

A Lowrance Hookup fish finder (an absolute must have)

2 x Pedestals & fold down seats

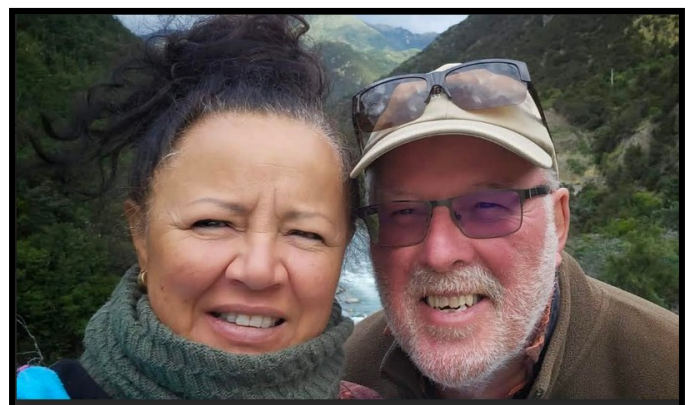
Rubber flooring fitted over the inflatable floor

1 x Permatrim to improve the boats overall performance

Trailer built and modified to suit hull

Electric air pump

Tight lines from the wandering fisher folk



TROLLING FOR TROUT: UNDERSTANDING THE LEAD LINE

What is a lead line? It is a lead-weighted fishing line.

It has a lead-core line, which is a specialized braided nylon or Dacron line with a thin lead wire running through its centre. This design adds significant weight and stiffness allowing anglers to troll lures at precise depths.

Colour and length: Each solid colour block on the line equals 9.14 metres of length.

Depth rule of thumb: When trolling at a standard speed between 1.5 and 2 knots, using a low-resistance lure like a woolly bugger fly, a toby, or a Tasmanian devil, each colour of lead core sinks you about 1.5 metres deeper into the water column.

Common trolling depth. 3 colours out: Reaches roughly 4.5 metres deep which is perfect for the airport run on Lake Rotorua.

Factors that change your depth. Troll Speed: Slower speeds allow the heavy lead centre to sink deeper, while faster speeds lift the line higher

Lure resistance: Heavy-bladed or high-drag lures create water resistance that keeps the line running shallower than the standard 5-feet-per-color rule.



STREAM TEAM

There was a beautiful stretch of the Ngongotaha stream that held a promise of good holding water for trout in the summer. The problem was a thick infestation of blackberry which made it unfishable. The Stream Team worked around 32 man-hours to clear the weed. A big thank you to the volunteers from the Rotorua Anglers Association who turned up help clear the area. The ongoing plan is to monitor and poison any regrowth, burn the piles of debris and then plant out native grasses and shrubs next autumn.

