



# NZFFA January 2022 Newsletter

{name} - Welcome to Your Newsletter

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## Season's Greetings to All

### *Editor's note*

We hope you had a good break and enjoyed the festivities despite all the challenges faced in today's world.

We did take a much needed break, with no December issue: sorry if that was a disappointment but we are all volunteers here.

Now invigorated and refreshed we head into 2022 with the sad news we are in the "Red Traffic Light" regime - which if it unfolds as promised should not unduly interfere with your plans.

Wishing you all a safe and prosperous New Year.

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## Introducing a New Feature:

Letters to the Editor.

*If there are issues you would like to share with others, or raise publicly with the NZFFA Executive, then here is a forum just for you.*

*Naturally comments under various posts are always warmly welcomed as well*

Send contributions via e-mail to [editor@nzffa.com](mailto:editor@nzffa.com)

*To start the ball rolling, our own Secretary/Treasurer David Haynes had this published last month in Farmers Weekly:*

Dear Editor

There were no surprises in the *MPI's Water Availability and Security in Aotearoa New Zealand*. The Advisory Group interests included forestry, irrigation, dam builders, ECan and a consultant for mining, grazing and water harvesting so the revelation of our need for more water storage was as sure as night follows day.

Water storage is a euphemism for dams, abstraction and irrigation, much like 'waste management solutions' is for rubbish collection. Those who campaign on the concept of river water being wasted as it flows out to sea cannot or refuse to see the impacts of extracting water from rivers. There are a myriad lessons to be learned from our seemingly unquenchable desire to consume freshwater at the expense of rivers – here are three:

**The Rakaia River**, which supplies the Central Plains Water Scheme and the Barhill Chertsey Irrigation Scheme, is now a shadow of its former self – Since the BCI irrigation scheme and Stage II of CPWS have been completed salmon runs have declined to 10% of expected numbers, the once thriving sea trout fishery and its associated Stokell's Smelt native fish have been destroyed, along with considerable declines in endangered Black Billed Gulls and White Fronted Terns. Side braids are now dry shingle and engulfed in vegetation and the river mouth has shallowed which increases flood events at Rakaia Huts.

**The Rangitata** is a victim of the Diversion Race and South Irrigation take-offs. A NIWA eFlows study of data from 2001 to 2020 concluded that 'flood harvesting' results in fine sediment being deposited on the river bed. Effectively, the irrigation schemes have weakened the ability of the river to flush out its natural high sediment load out to sea during flood events. The impacts on aquatic larva, fish spawning habitat, and feeding and the hapua are not good.

**The Opuha River** suffers the tragedy of irrigation storage trumping ecosystem health. Low summer flows exacerbate Phormidium (toxic cyanobacteria) and Didymo growth. Opuha Water Ltd themselves

admitted, in 2019, that “the health of the ecosystem in the Opuha River had been degrading since the Opuha Dam opened in 1998”, as indicated by “excessive algal growth” and a decline in insects. Opuha Water Ltd confirmed that “Artificial freshes are generally only released in wetter periods, when lake levels are above average.” That is, when they are least required.

Private irrigation schemes are effectively alienating the public resource of rivers, leaving them denuded and debilitated. Whilst we can build more dams, canals and the irrigation schemes, we cannot build more rivers.

### **David Haynes**

Secretary & Treasurer



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## **Trout-rivers advocacy lauds end to Wairau River threat**



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NZFFA secretary David Haynes of Nelson said the "virtual victory" had come after twenty years of public opposition and over \$1 million spent by Fish and Game and a lobby group Save the Wairau. "Congratulations to Save the Wairau for their tenacity, imagination and toughness to stand up to what would have been a highly ecologically destructive scheme," he said. "Nelson Marlborough Fish and Game are also to be congratulated."

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by TrustPower, sought to take two thirds of the river's flow and divert it along a 47km canal by passing a public river known for its quality trout and salmon angling as well as unique wildlife values.

The resource consent expired this winter and TrustPower sought to have it extended, arguing they had undertaken sufficient work on the scheme to allow for such an extension. However, Marlborough District Council deemed otherwise and pointed out that none of the consent conditions required prior to any construction had been done.

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## Fly Tying

# Rainbow Warrior Nymph

Here's a pattern from the US which should go well on rainbow trout in the Tauranga-Taupo, Tongariro and other Taupo rivers. And rivers like the Rangitikei, Waiau, Ruakituri etc., The Rainbow Warrior despite its flashy looks, works well for selective trout it is said and of course for feeding pocket-water fish too.

This pattern is easy to tie and very effective.

The Warrior's flashy body and red thread hot spot don't imitate anything in particular, but that is a good thing. Fish can mistake it for many food forms.

Creator Lance Egan says "The bottom line....don't worry about "why" fish eat it. Just be happy they eat it. Tie a few for your nymph box and I'm confident the Rainbow Warrior will be productive enough to keep you tying them."

The pattern is:-

- **Hook**: TMC 2457 Caddis Pupa, Nymph Hook - 16
- **Thread**: UTC Ultrathread 70 Denier - Red
- **Bead**: Plummeting Tungsten Beads - Nickel - 3/32" (2.3mm)
- **Tail**: Nature's Spirit Ringneck Pheasant Center Tails - Natural
- **Body/Wingcase**: Pearl Tinsel - Large
- **Thorax**: Wapsi Sow Scud Dubbing - Rainbow



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## Summer Insect Windfalls for Opportunistic Trout

by *Tony Orman*

Summer particularly in the South Island, can bring hard, hot, trying conditions for trout fishing. Those same soaring temperatures, at times towards 40 degrees Celsius, also provide trout with a couple of opportunities for veritable feasts. Cicadas start to emerge after New Year and trout are quick to seize the opportunity to grab the mega-sized meal of any cicadas that bumble into the water.

Last summer Lawrie and I went fishing in the upper Wairau River. It's wonderful wilderness country. Just being there is a delight. Although it is truly wilderness with its plunging, exuberant river, beech forest and the rearing outline of the mountains, the access is ridiculously easy by a road between St Arnaud and Hanmer Springs.

Lawrie and I trundled our way up valley, stopped at a bend, assembled gear and walked to the river. Immediately we spotted a very good fish, working away at its feeding in the typical brownie lie in front of a boulder.

I left Lawrie to try for the big fish while I crossed the river. I like to fish the side that most anglers, by habit, don't fish. On the way up, the buzz of the cicadas was loud through the beech forest. I vowed I'd try a cicada pattern.

So I started with a cicada and a dropper of a stonefly nymph. What an abomination to cast! Well for me anyhow. A brownie sidled up under the cicada, and I missed the take completely. To hell with a dropper! Off it came and I fished a cicada. Five metres upstream I spotted a good fish, again in front of a submerged boulder. The fish came up to the cicada, I murmured "Angelina Jolie" and I was hooked into a feisty brown, that came up out of the water, once, twice then dashed across river and the fly came away.

Disappointed I reeled in and as I did, noticed the fish come back towards me and then upstream, to resume its original lie. And the fish was finning, obviously returning to its feeding mood.

Well the cicada failed to get a second response and who could blame an upper Wairau fish that can be so damned spooky after having flies tossed at them 7 days a week by other anglers and

mostly a procession of guides and clients?

A bit further upstream, I saw a fish slant up to the surface and then it was gone down into the swirling bubbles. The cicada drew a response from it and I landed a second, just a shade smaller than the first.

The cicada is a much neglected pattern yet trout go dotty over it in midsummer. I should heed lessons more because I remember many years ago on the Wairau downstream near the Branch River confluence, finding a fish feeding like crazy. I cast and cast and cast, nymph after nymph after nymph to it until it finally took a big Hare and Copper nymph size 8. In the stomach were over a dozen big fat, juicy cicadas. The big Hare and Copper had passed for a drowned cicada.

As I gutted it and found over a dozen big cicadas in it, I realised the cicadas were chirping away like crazy. I had failed to listen for the clue.

On the Matakītaki River near Murchison, I found trout feeding on the surface in a long slow pool. I hauled a Muddler Minnow out of my fly box and tied it on. It's a versatile fly, effective as a streamer-lure in some situations and also as the Americans call it, a "hopper" pattern, i.e. imitating a grasshopper. I took a couple of other trout too.

That Muddler Minnow proved just the ticket on that and other days.

Then last season I was again reminded of that day and the importance of cicadas for mid-summer trout. I found a fish on the Wairau River by the Renwick highway bridge cruising up and down feeding. Luckily this one was not selective. It took a pheasant tail nymph and because I needed just one trout for a dinner evening, I took it. Imagine my surprise when about 20 cicadas were revealed in its stomach.

Also this season just passed I was down in Central Otago and the trout were taking cicadas there. Over the winter tying up a few cicada patterns, is a good way to plan for next summer's inevitable cicada windfall.

Cicadas are a must in the fly box. Look what Norman Marsh wrote in his classic book "Trout Stream Insects in New Zealand". "May the back country angler tread in peril of fishless days who does not include in his repertoire of trout flies one that at least looks something like a cicada," he wrote.

You can tie up a cicada imitation yourself along the lines of the

Muddler Minnow. I think it's probable a cicada imitation doesn't have to be exact. It's more the suggestive style rather than exact imitation that's needed. In any case, there's some excellent, very life-like imitation flies in most tackle shops.

In fishing the river you can fish just a cicada pattern "blind" just prospecting water.

My doctor, a keen and adept fly fisherman, told me of fishing Marlborough's Wairau River one hot morning last summer. The cicadas were singing loudly. There was no visible trout activity but feeling not like walking a long way to cover several pools, he just fished promising-looking, riffle water with a cicada pattern, a floating line, upstream and just as you would a nymph. Using an indicator, two metres above the fly, he landed several, good hefty brown trout. from the one pool.

Drowned cicadas are always likely to be in the current, particularly if there's a wind to blow the insects in. Windfalls of big tucker like cicadas are relished by trout One cicadas is worth in bulk, quite a few dozen mayfly nymphs!

So you can fish a cicada pattern as a semi-drowned presentation or sitting on the surface as a dry fly.

The other windfall for trout in mid-summer is the willow grub. In the warmth of summer, willow leaves overhanging most rivers, get a blighted appearance with small red blisters appearing. It's easy to give the blisters a glance and put it down to heat blisters. However it is in reality, the home of a small light greenish-yellowish coloured maggot-like grub, the larva of the willow gall sawfly.

It is known to entomologists as *Pontania Proxima*. But forget the Latin name. Trout don't know Latin so it doesn't matter to them.

When the grub emerges from its home it gently drops on a silken thread to the ground, or onto the surface of a river because so many willows thrive along river banks, overhanging the water.

I first encountered the willow grub on a Hawkes Bay stream, the Maraetotara. I found trout, a number of them under willows, feeding on the surface. Thanks to a friend's advice, I learned it was trout feeding on willow grubs. Pedro's favourite pattern was a size 16 pale lemon coloured grub with the merest suggestion of a hackle at the head.

The dropping of the willow grubs occurs in mid to late summer depending on the season. Trout can become very selective once they latch onto willow grubs lowering onto the water. The late Norman



Marsh was under no illusions when he wrote in his fine book "Norman Marsh's Flybox" that "once trout lock onto willow grubs they become very selective and it is the devil's own job to catch them."

"During the later summer months if trout consistently refuse various artificials it is very likely they are sipping willow grubs."

The point to note is that the trout may not necessarily be under willows either!

The small yellowish larvae can be washed downstream and near the surface as a waxy coating keeps them about the surface.

Norman Marsh's dressing in "Trout Stream Insects of New Zealand" involves brown tying thread, at least a size 16 - but preferably 18 - light gauge hook, a primrose silk body and a head of brown thread. Since the grub has a small dark head, a turn of peacock herl may be worth incorporating, while I personally favour a very brief (half a turn?) of small hackle, perhaps blue dun.

Trout feeding selectively on willow grubs are often, but not always, under willows. On occasions I have climbed a willow tree on the Motueka River and virtually dapped a willow grub in the path of a cruising fish. Once hooked, then it requires a fair dollop of dexterity to keep the trout on and climb down and net the fish. But it can be done - I know!

First hook your fish, then worry about landing it, I say!

Similarly fishing in under willows require a short, flick or roll cast. It is certainly very challenging trout fishing but isn't that what trout fishing is all about?



© Cicada - big juicy mouthful for summer trout

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## Fly tying - Top trout patterns

by Peter Langlands, "Fishing Website"



Peter Langlands says creating really effective flies is a lot simpler than many tyers would have you believe...

In recent years there has been a lot of activity on the internet about new trout fly patterns. However, while some patterns are highly refined and will occasionally work when more traditional patterns don't, I believe there are just a few basics to tying effective trout flies. The following work well for me...

Stick to natural colours. I like to use brown, olive and green colours when tying trout nymphs. Try to blend the dubbing into a variation of colours to make the nymph look even more natural.

Give Life to the Fly. Next, add some soft-hackle fibres to your nymph, as they will give the fly more lifelike movements in the water. In my opinion, Hungarian partridge feathers are the best soft-hackle feathers available. Not only are they very soft, they also have a variegated colour that imitates the intricate markings on the insects' legs. I add a collar of soft hackle on many of my nymphs – especially on lake nymphs and a dragonfly pattern I designed. I really like marabou, because the outer tips have soft edges that really put a lot of life into fly patterns and it comes in a wide range of colours. I often tie a collar of marabou on nymph and snail patterns. My marabou-collared black and peacock snail fly is especially effective for tempting slowly cruising browns that give the fly a second look. Of course marabou is especially good when used to tie the Woolly Bugger, a highly effective lake-edge lure.

Sparse Nymphs go Deep. There are times when heavy, sparsely-dressed nymphs are needed to maximise your sink rate, such as when nymphing to trout sitting in deeper water affected by complex currents. These fish have avoided being caught by other anglers because their offerings did not go deep enough for the trout to see it.

This is when ultra-heavy nymphs that sink fast into the strike zone are a huge advantage, allowing you to put the nymph on the trout's nose and minimising the chances of the fly dragging past, or the fish being spooked by excessive casting over it.

**Beads Sink.** Tungsten beads are ideal for adding weight rather than bulk, but you can also use tungsten sleeves and cone heads, or wraps of lead, to increase the sink rate. Tie your flies in a wide range of weights, organised by weight and size in your flybox, so that you can quickly select the right fly for the depth. Be sure to use minimal dressing on your nymphs though, as a streamlined shape allows them to sink faster.

**Segment Difference.** Trout are highly visual feeders that can spot tiny insects drifting past. New Zealand trout are unusual in their ability to reach large sizes on a diet based mainly on small insects that they can see in our clear flowing rivers. In addition to movement and colour, the pattern on flies is important. Having a segmented appearance incorporated in the nymph's design can make a big difference; I find a black and white 'zebra' pattern on the abdomen of many nymphs is very effective in attracting the trout's attention. Also, by ribbing a nymph you will create a segmented pattern that makes the fly look lifelike. Having repeating, naturally-coloured patterns on lures, such as a Mrs Simpson, give the illusion of increased movement and make the fly look more lifelike.

**Pecker Head.** Another feature to try adding is a 'pecker head', which is simply a small piece of cream or yellow coloured fine chenille with a burnt tip. This produces a very effective body when tying caddis-nymph patterns. A white pecker head is also lethal when tied on the front of a horn-cased caddis imitation fished in discoloured waters.

**San Juan Worms.** Tied from a range of ultra-fine chenilles, San Juan Worms have also been very effective for me in recent years – the worm flies are not commonly used, so by presenting them you may get a snap from trout that shy away from more conventional patterns. Constantly designing and tying new trout flies keeps fly-tying exciting for me.

**Improvise.** I like to tie naturally coloured flies, and find that improvised materials often work well. For example, a stretched audio-cassette tape makes a strong and natural-coloured ribbing, and when only partially stretched makes an ideal material for tying a Horn-cased Caddis, a simple but effective nymph. The fur and feathers from a wide range of road-killed animals and birds also make good fly-tying

material, so spend all your money on top quality hooks, not materials! Finally, if you have a surplus of materials, why not swap them with the surplus other fly tiers may have? There is a wide range of social media groups in New Zealand, where people share their fly-tying experiences. Winter is a great time to spend with mates discussing fly patterns for the next season and for building up your trout flies collection. All you have to do is remember the few basic rules that need to be included when tying the various patterns – then let your imagination run wild!

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## The Philosophy of Fly-Fishing

*By John Knight*

Introduction: John Knight is a writer and editor living in New York. His writing has appeared in the New York Times, Nautilus, the Los Angeles Review of Books online, and elsewhere. This fine essay has been abridged

When I was seventeen, I drove to Missoula, Montana, to learn how to fly-fish. The town is one of the best places to fish in the country. Rivers with names like the Bitterroot and Blackfoot crisscross the valley harboring trout the size of walrus. I spent that summer learning to cast and looking for the eddies and pools where fish might be lurking. I tried a thousand different flies and a hundred different rivers, and though I tensed my entire body to be ready for a strike, though I was living with a friend who made his living as a fishing guide, in three months I didn't catch a single fish. Not one.

Published in 1653, Izaak Walton's *The Compleat Angler* might best be described as a curiosity cabinet of a pious Renaissance naturalist. Framed as a dialogue between a veteran angler, *Pescator*, and his eager student, *Venator*, the book came recommended by practiced anglers and seemed to promise some bit of knowledge I was lacking. Next to descriptions of fish were poems by George Herbert.

Alongside a cheery round of fishing songs, I found instructions for making fishing line from horse hair ("take care that your hair be round and clear, and free from galls or scabs or frets"). I discovered that it was better to be "a civil, well govern'd well grounded, temperate, poor Angler, than a drunken Lord," and that the clever

angler would keep about two thousand black beetles alive through the winter in a firkin.

My curiosity was pricked, but I doubted I was becoming a better fisherman. Modern fly-fishing is so different from what Walton practiced in the seventeenth century that the similarities perhaps begin and end with the fish. Whereas we have a cornucopia of expertly tied artificial flies, floating nylon line, and evolved casting techniques, Walton didn't even have a reel—he just used a stick with hair tied to the end. To entice the trout, he might employ a fragrant oil; to seduce perch, he would select a minnow, a feather, or a cork, though he would not dare to try his luck before the mulberry trees were in bud. It seemed more like witchcraft than fishing.

What the hell was this book?

I put it aside and kept fishing. But a few years later, while I was on a river in Idaho at dusk and found myself in the middle of a tremendous caddis-fly hatch, an answer occurred to me. Caddis flies, like many aquatic insects, pupate in little husks attached to rocks in rivers. At the right moment in the summer, they emerge as flies, swim to the surface and take off, but not before pausing to dry their wings. They do this by the thousands and, as Walton puts it, they make the trout "bold and lusty."

It had been a beautiful but mostly unsuccessful day. Two golden eagles perched on either end of this stretch of water like sentinels, and I had spent more time watching them than catching fish. But when the sun went down, the river exploded. Suddenly I was surrounded by bugs and the water began to boil with trout snatching them from the surface. I tied on the best caddis-fly imitation I had and started getting lusty bites with nearly every cast. The sky grew darker, bats darted over my head, some even making passes at my fly, and then one of those enormous eagles dropped down like a vision and skewered her dinner.

This is what the angler does. He observes and tries to imitate the world around him. He chooses the fly of a similar size, pattern, and colour as those bugs he sees rising; he flicks his line back and forth over his head to lay his nearly weightless bait down without too much of a splash along the riffles where the fish are feeding. He notices the direction of the wind; he matches the length of her line with the depth of the water; he waits for the afternoon to cool off and rises early to beat the morning sun. He fishes little midges in the spring and thick hairy buggers in the summer and slim nymphs in the fall. He sees the

natural world as a puzzle he tries to solve, and his success is measured absolutely: when the surface breaks, the fly disappears, and he feels that unmistakable tug.

That night in Idaho, I stood in a river long enough to notice what was happening to it, to become a part of it. Walton is in the same boat, constantly trying to figure out where he is and what goes on there. He is a student of nature, in all its bizarre connections. To us, this naturalism might merely be an admirable skill, but Walton truly means it as art.

Not only does *The Compleat Angler* re-create a fishing trip by outlining the enormous amount of knowledge the fisherman must juggle but it suggests that catching a fish, through imitating nature, is art.

What I have grown to admire in Walton's book most is the wonder he brings to the world, the way he converts the mysteries of the river into a tangible fish on his line. In Walton's esteem for all the odd particularity of the fish and its environs, he seems to be attempting to merge two worlds that exist only in opposition to each other—the terrestrial and the aquatic.

We know hardly anything of the vast empire that exists just below the surface of the water, but we know just enough that with a bit of study, a dash of faith, and a great deal of patience, we can, occasionally, break through. In these moments, the angler is the link between one world and the next. What could be more artful?

This might also help explain the disproportion between the amount of time I spend fishing and the number of fish I catch. Most of the time I hook only enough trout to keep me believing that I'm not chasing some myth, and even then just barely. Yet I find great solace in the sport. I delight in a day on the river, noticing all its features, trying to join its small dramas.

The real task of fishing is not to try a thousand different flies and wade up to your ears; it's to understand that you're a stranger here. For all our prodigious technology and equipment, the necessary humility of a day spent fishing finds the angler reckoning with a world in which he has few answers and very little control.

If these also happen to be the very circumstances of our lives, the measure of success lies not in dominance but in finding a place within what we don't fully understand.

I suspect Walton knew this well, for his own life was not a pleasant one. In the decade preceding the publication of his book on fishing,

England endured two civil wars that upended political, social, and religious life. Walton was on the side of the old guard, a Royalist and an Anglican who risked his life to support the increasingly unpopular monarchy at odds with the Presbyterian majority that eventually came to power. His personal life was hardly any better: He married his first wife in 1626, but by 1642, she and all their seven children had died. He married again, in 1647, and lost yet another child in 1650.

In this context, Walton's apparently lighthearted dialogue starts to take on the contours of a pointed social tale and perhaps even a plea for escape. His characters are portrayed as goodly Anglican gentlemen, spouting off John Donne's poetry and quick to back up their praise of angling with examples from the Greeks, Romans, and Apostles about what an honourable pastime it is.

Fishing comes across as a sport of great cheer and friendship, a "Brotherhood of Anglers" who gives thanks for what little they have and the wondrous works of divine nature.

In service of this essay, I reread Walton's book and then went fishing. I drove to the Neversink River, a fifty-five-mile stretch of riffles, pools, and falls that is one of the East's best trout waters. It was an early fall day and I had the world to myself.

The sun slanted through the trees and the water was still warm from summer. I watched dragonflies cruise over the surface and a bald eagle fly overhead. I sat a time on the bank and tried to see the bugs floating above the current or resting in the grass; I turned over a few rocks and looked for bright green larvae sequestered in their husks.

I thought about how Walton would have crept along the water's edge, dipping his art projects in to the deeps, or how he might have stuck this woolly caterpillar or that little frog onto a hook.

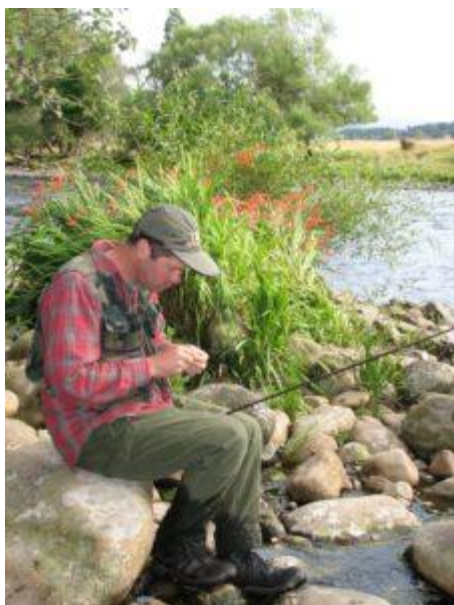
I walked up and down the river, tried caddis flies and nymphs and flying ants. I floated lures on the top of the water and sunk beaded hooks into pools. I saw a fish jump and threw my line to just the same place. I picked apart a tangled line and watched the bugs and birds fly. I was quiet and contemplative.

And I didn't catch a single fish.



© " I stood in a river long enough to notice what was happening to it, to become a part of it."

Photo Tony Orman



© " I sat a time on the bank and tried to see the bugs floating —I tried caddis flies and nymphs — and I didn't catch a single fish."

Photo Tony Orman

*Editor's Footnote: Sun Tzu "If you wait by the river long enough, the bodies of your enemies will float by."*

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## Postings From the Website



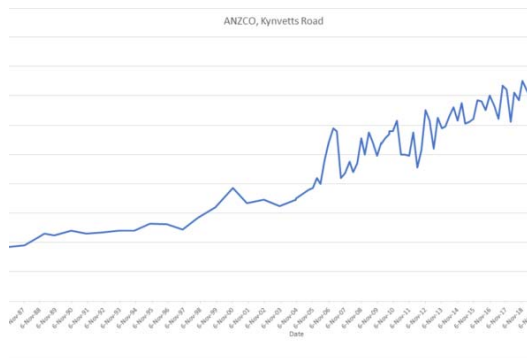
Some of our more recent posts from the website (see <https://nzffa.com>)



**Access- The Need for "Three Little Words" Languishes Due to Inertia**

by Tony Orman If you go trout fishing, a landowner is not permitted by law, to charge you a fee to go fishing. It's all to do with "The Section...

**Read more...**



**Nitrate Contamination of Freshwater is not just about the risk of "blue baby" deaths**

by Dr Peter Trolove, President NZFFA New Zealanders deserve to be better informed about the risks to human and environmental health from increasing levels of nitrate pollution from New Zealand's...

**Read more...**



### **An Unhappy New Year!**

From the Land, Air Water, Aotearoa, LAWA website recreational water quality Canterbury. (Site visited 3rd January 2022) Caution Advised ASHBURTON RIVER off Boundary Road 65.7 km Issued: 08 Dec 2021...

[Read more...](#)



### **Canterbury's Conflict and Confusion With ECan**

Conflict and confusion continues with Environment Canterbury's changes to the Canterbury Land and Water Regional Plan CLWRP (Plan change 7 and Plan Change 2). Dr Peter Trolove, president of the...

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### **COME HELL OR HIGH water**

byDylan Evans Introduction by Dr. Peter Trolove As president of the NZFFA I am thrilled to be given permission to post this article by Dylan Evans, a 2021 year 13...

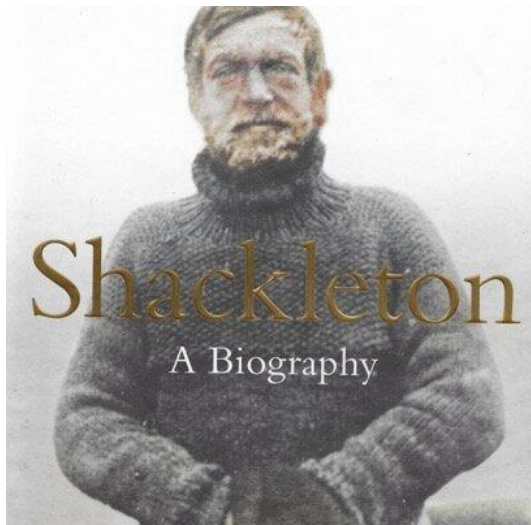
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### **Well-deserved recognition for a life time of volunteer work and advocacy for the Rakaia River Fisheries**

Bill Southward was a popular recipient of the Ian McCrory trophy for the volunteer of the year award at the December Annual General Meeting of North Canterbury Fish & Game....

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**An Engaging Book About a Great Polar Explorer**

Book Review "Shackleton" by Ranulph Fiennes, published by Michael Joseph (Penguin, Random House NZ) Price \$38. Reviewed by Tony Orman Let me say at the outset, "Shackleton"- a biography on the...

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**TrustPower Corporate "Scandalous" Take of Rakaia River Water Questioned**

Special Report TrustPower a NZX corporation, has allegedly been selling water to irrigators outside limits laid down by the 2013 amended Rakaia Water Conservation Order (WCO) says the New Zealand...

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**Making Money out of nothing at All**

Trustpower's unlawful budgeting of Lake Coleridge's "stored water" Canterbury anglers have seen a collapse of both the recreational and native fisheries in the lower Rakaia River since the Rakaia River..

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**Book on the Delights of Dark, i.e. Nights**

Book Review After Dark subtitled "Walking into the Nights of Aotearoa" by Annette Lees. Published by Potton and Burton. Price \$39.99. Reviewed by Tony Orman Night is as certain as...

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The opinion pieces and submitted articles are provided for your interest and information. They do not necessarily represent the views of all of the Executive members but are seen as vital to promote active debate around the issues that fit the aims and objectives of the Federation.

If you have not already done so feel free to comment on any of the articles on our website. The discussions always open up many valid points.

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