Kids Fish Out September-Spring is here!

This month's Fish Out came along quickly and we were well prepared but it was Father’s Day so many Anglers were not available due to plans already made. The bookings were going along nicely and by the time the day came around for the fish out the bookings had reached over 200 kids for the day. Again, the weather was kind to us all with a warm start in the morning and a good day ahead for all to enjoy their fishing.

Peter did a stellar job of organizing all the shopping again and we both loaded our cars with all the gear needed for Sunday morning. This time we had a lighter load as we did not need all the drinks and were using up the last of everything.

I was not sure how many would turn up to help but had asked a few new teachers to come along to fill the gaps. Everyone knew their jobs and just went about setting up and this seems to only take a while as we are all well used to the set up. Barbara and Deb from Whakatane set up the kitchen while Christof and Stephen set up for the Barbeque then Heidi looked after the registration. The Tokoroa young guns Graeme and Stu arrived on cue with the fish out as usual much-appreciated guys. Then Colin and Ian helped out with the tackle and tying. I was hopeful that there would be plenty of members for the fish out but it was clear we were going to be short members for the day and we only had a brief moment to talk about rules and safety before we got on with the day's fish out.

We decided to start quickly with Fly training and then cut down as the day went on. The fish from the onset just did not want to co-operate and were very shy. There was also a lot of tree fishing which meant rods needed to be changed quite often with constant repairs for the fly but plenty of kids having fun. We had our first tagged fish caught by Mujtaba Ali aged 9 from Auckland, then another Evie Sell aged 7 from Waioma. As the day went on some members needed a break from the pond and it was hard to find any replacements. Thankfully Sandeep arrived and was able to slot in and also Mark and myself as this was near break time and still a big queue of happy children needed to catch a fish. Ray and new apprentice Stephen did a smashing job at the fish fileting as the fish were bigger and everyone wanted their fish cleaned to take home. The atmosphere was good and the crowd got all excited when a fish was pulled out much to the relief of the parents. It was a real hive of excitement. I was happy that there were two more tagged trout for the first-time fishing Askey Lee aged 8 from Rotorua and Fraser Filipo aged 8 from Auckland who both received a free fishing rod from Kiwell.

It was a long day for all and it seemed like lots and lots of kids at the end. We had 4 tagged rainbow trout and 193 trout for the day. Thank you for turning up everyone and helping our club grow into the club that we want to promote with fishing and fun. We had a lot of feedback from the public on how happy their families enjoyed the day. But most of all your interactions your laughs with the public were welcomed by many a job well done

Also, a big thank you to Mark and his crew at Fish and Game for all the help and support.

And our sponsors Kilwell,

Till next month

Thank you

Brendan Davis