



HASTINGS ANGLERS CLUB

NEWSLETTER

MAY-JUNE 2007

www.hastingsanglers.org.nz



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Club Nights

Wednesday 2nd May

Trent Petherick

Trent is a partner with local law firm Gresson Grayson and a keen angler. Amongst many topics, Trent will attempt to explain in “Angler Language” the many legal “fishhooks” that apply to public and private land and how this affects you as an angler seeking access to and along our rivers. He will welcome your questions on such legal issues.

Wednesday 16th May

Brendon Mathews

Brendon is the author of *'Volcanic Trout: A Complete Guide to Fishing the Taupo Region'* which was released in 2003. He is going to share some of his extensive knowledge of the angling opportunities in the Taupo region with a special focus on fishing the rivers during the legendary winter runs.

Brendon will also have signed copies of his book for cash sale on the night at a special club members price of \$40.

Wednesday 6th June

Craig Foss, MP for Tuki Tuki Electorate

Our local MP has kindly made himself available for the benefit of club members. Craig will explain the implications of the recently released Public Access Report but is keen to gather information from members on issues which have specific relevance to anglers within his electorate.

Wednesday 20th June

Gary Kemsley

Gary is one of New Zealand’s foremost identities in the sport of fishing. He has experienced and written on many aspects of both freshwater and saltwater angling and is currently the Lower North Island Area Manager for CD Rods, the fishing section of Composite Developments Ltd.

President's Report

The Indian Summer is here !!!!!

At the time of writing this newsletter the rivers are generally clear with very little weed for this time of the year. Perhaps we were a little lucky to have a quick fresh through most systems a couple of weeks ago. This managed to recharge the river systems and I think may have cleared some weed from the bottoms as well. Anyway from what I have heard all rivers are clear and holding good numbers of fish in good condition. However, we do need the rain and fairly shortly at that.

I managed to get in a days fishing on the Tuki Tuki a couple of Sundays ago. We didn't leave home until 8.30 am so we were both preparing ourselves on how we were going to fish with the weekend hoards. To our utter amazement there was not one person on the river at Tamaumu. I looked up to thank the gods and proceeded to start fishing. The cross wind that came up from about 11.00am made casting a little difficult but it was just great to get out on the river after some considerable layoff. The fish were in lovely condition which made for some fabulous sport. All in all it was a great day to be out fishing. It is also great when you can enjoy the day with a good mate, thanks John. It was my third outing for the season.

The cooler weather has slightly increased water flows and cooled river temperatures, this should bring on some very good fishing over the next couple of weeks as the trout actively feed so they can condition themselves for winter and of course their spawning runs to the tributaries.

Patangata Lodge



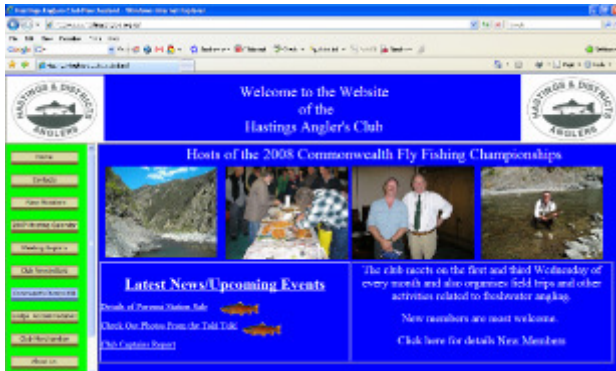
This facility is a huge asset to the club and the best thing in its favour is that it is only 25 minutes away. The Lodge has been heavily booked over the past two months which has been very pleasing. The chimney will be cleaned over the next few days as there appears to be some kind of blockage, no doubt a large birds nest.

Guys, there is a vacuum cleaner and other cleaning aids, please use them and think of others after your stay at the Lodge, it only takes half an hour. Please note that the Lodge cannot generally be booked out exclusively by one group.

The Lodge Custodian can make an exception if the Lodge can be fully booked out for a specific event.

With the onset of autumn and good fishing it is essential that Lodge bookings for this period are made with the Lodge Custodian, Brian Cottington.

Club Web Site.



Please keep your eye on the website as information is being updated all the time. You are able to view the clubs newsletters there and the newsletter will also be sent via email to those members who have indicated that they would prefer it this way. This will be a big benefit to the club as

there are large savings in printing and mailing costs by using this method and it will also be a quick and efficient way to communicate to members.

For those members who do not have computers your newsletter will still be mailed out to you.

Hugh McDowell Evening

This was a great success with over 100 people turning out. The Venue was great, many thanks to Lindisfarne College for the use of their School Hall and a huge thank you to the boys involved with parking etc. We managed to raise over \$1200, many thanks to those who supported the auction during the evening.



A special vote of thanks must go to Derek Quillam who accommodated Hugh during his visit to the Hawkes Bay and took him for a quick fishing trip to Lake Waikaremoana. On behalf of the Club thanks Derek for your generosity.

Trout Cooking and Tasting Evening



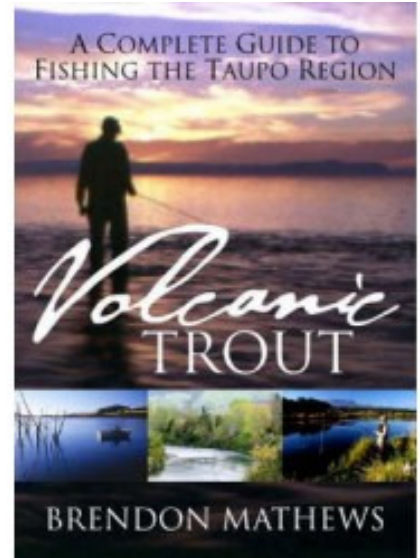
This is always a good club night. Thanks to Murray and his merry band of “hunter gatherers” we had plenty of fish for the evening. The tasting was great, tough luck for those of you who couldn’t make it because there was more for the rest of us! Murray your Trout Pate was delicious !!

Looking Forward

Please note that we have some interesting guest speakers for May. Trent Petherick, talking on Public Access and Brendon Mathews who is the author of Volcanic Trout.

In June our guest speakers are Craig Foss, MP for the Tuki Tuki electorate and Gary Kemsley, Trout guru extraordinaire !!!!!

So as you can see there is something for everybody. Please support these evenings.



Tuki Tuki River Action Committee

The Committee donated a sum of \$500 to David and Bills group to help defray some of the legal costs this group had incurred over their fight with the various Councils involving the oxidation ponds at Waipukurau, Waipawa and Otane. If any member would like to make a personal donation I know the group would love to hear from you. Members can contact John Scott who now lives in Taradale or David Renouf who lives in Ballantyne Road, Hastings.

Thank you to John Schollum

John has been turning out the newsletter for some years now and with his busy work schedule has had to relinquish his position of editor. The newsletter doesn't just put itself together, it does take a few hours to finish each issue and as we know John is rather fastidious and likes the job done properly. We only hope that you get the chance to go fishing a little more often. John, on behalf of the Club I wish to say thanks for the tremendous job you have done year in and year out on bringing the news to Club Members.

With May just around the corner please check your Fishing License on where you can legally fish from the 1st of May and watch out for the Duck Shooters.

Tight Lines.

Mark Hyett

CLUB CAPTAINS REPORT.

The last two months seem to have flown by. Not much rain locally however some rain in the ranges has lifted the river level. Fishing has been great. I heard the other day that there is a lot of fish up around Tamaumu, News flash! There's a lot of fish everywhere. You don't have to go far to find pools containing good numbers of fish. The fish seem to all be in great order. The increased flows and cooler water temperatures are more to their liking.



Over the last two months I have managed to get away fishing a few times. Marty took me to the Taruarau overnight. We stayed at the historic Shute's Hut. The walk down from the Comet took a couple of hours, the walk back up the next day took a bit longer!! Fishing was good, well worth the walk. Excellent company, four of us went and we had a lot of fun.



I also had a few days at Glenfalls on the Mohaka with members from the club. The first day saw Marty, his son Sam, Paul Elstone and myself raft down to Jock Sutton Rd. We caught some great fish and lost others. It was an excellent day, more rafting than fishing as we had a lot of water to cover for an afternoon. That evening saw Barry Daly arrive to join us for the next couple of days. The

next morning Colin Joll arrived as well. Barry, Colin, Paul and I headed off in the rafts while Marty and Sam fished closer to the hut.

A great feast was cooked up that night followed by some interesting debate!! The wine helped things flow along quite nicely. The following day the four of us rafted down from Jock Sutton Rd to the bottom of Aurora Rd, the section around the horse shoe that goes past the Organs. Fishing was hard in the morning but really got going in the afternoon with everybody catching fish.





Paul and I headed home that night while Barry and Colin stayed another night. Next day they caught some fresh fish for the Club night that evening. For me it was a great trip and I feel privileged to have shared such great company.

My boys and I have also been out locally to the Tuki Tuki. Most times catching plenty of fish. It has been nice not having to put up with the floating weed that we normally have.

The Club night with Hugh McDowell went very well. Thanks to all involved in making it such a success. The club seems to be going through a quiet spell at the moment. We have had some good evenings but attendance has been poor. There are some good speakers coming up, I hope we can get a few people along.

Brendon Mathews, a Fishing and Hunting guide from Taupo is our next speaker. He is the author of the book '*Volcanic Trout: A Complete Guide to Fishing the Taupo Region*'. This should be a very good night as this man really gets about.

We are fast approaching the end of the summer fishing season, get out and enjoy it while you can. Don't forget to check the winter restrictions. There are plenty of places to still go fishing over the winter. The Mohaka is always good in the winter and Tutira is always worth a visit, particularly for some night fishing.

Cheers

Murray Boaler

Summary of Committee Meeting Held 24th April 2007

Minutes of last meeting read & passed

Matters Arising

Paul Elstone asked if a summary of the minutes could be put into the newsletter as this would allow clearer communication with members on the decisions that the committee made. Committee decided to publish summary of meeting.

Accounts.

Read & passed

Lodge Report

It was noted that the fire was not drawing and so a chimney sweep has been contacted. Also the fridges were dropping the RCD, Brent Simonsen to be approached for advice. Next stage of renovations is to be a low dividing wall between dining area and true lounge to allow us to vinyl dining area, hallway and 2 bathrooms.

Newsletter

John Schollums efforts over a number of years was acknowledged. Discussion was held over a new format with the advent of the website. New format will evolve over a period of time with feedback from members.

General Business

It was suggested that we should have a membership drive and try and get more members along to club nights.

Letters to be sent to John Schollum (Newsletter) and Derek Quillium (Hosting Hugh McDowell)

Marty asked if the club would purchase a projector screen for club nights (quotes to be sought). Murray Boaler requested funds to purchase fly tying equipment for up coming club fly tying nights (quotes to be sought) .

2008 Commonwealth Champs

These are still on track even though we are still waiting for definite format from the national body SFFNZ.

Brian Cottington

April Fish and Game Council Meeting

The new Council elected at the end of last year is settling in. With a few new members it takes a while for every body to get to know each other and their fishing and/or hunting background.

At last weeks meeting we were finally able to elect a Chairman for the next year. The Chairman's position will be elected annually. Bruce Bates was elected by the toss of a coin as the vote was tied 6/6.

At meetings a reasonable amount of time is taken up with the Managers report and the Finance report. These give councilors an opportunity to ask questions about what is happening in any particular area of operations.

Of interest to Anglers are three areas. Didymo, Taharua / Mohaka water quality and the sale of Poronui Station.

Didymo

Hopefully you are all aware of what this could do to our rivers and lakes if it spreads to the North Island. A lot of work has been done to make the public aware of Didymo and to get plans in place for an incursion response. Trials have taken place with Chelated Copper to deal with new incursions. A report on the trial is yet to be released.

Taharua River Water Quality

This is of real concern. In October 1999 consents were granted for Dairy conversions including spray irrigation of wastes onto land, within the pumice-based Taharua catchments. Monitoring data collected since 2001 suggests dissolved nitrogen concentrations are increasing within the Taharua River and reports indicate the fishery is in decline. Dairy farming is increasing in this area with cow numbers set to grow rapidly. This is of concern and F&G are putting pressure on the HB Regional Council who administers this area. The Mohaka has a water protection order on it which the council must respect. If they don't take action then I feel that this may end up in the Environment Court.

Sale of Poronui Station

The sale has gone through with a very positive outcome for public access. Access signs and pamphlets will be produced.

Shortly the council will be looking to gazette the Anglers Notice. No changes are proposed at this stage and we have not had any changes proposed from anglers. If you have anything to put forward contact the staff at the office.

Murray Boaler.

Fishing the Lower Mohaka

I recently had an opportunity to raft a section of the Mohaka that I had been trying to get into for some time. It seemed everytime I was ready to go the weather was uncooperative or our contact was unavailable.

The section starts about 3.5 km above the road bridge on the Wairoa road and is fairly well down in the valley so a warmer day is preferred as it can get a bit cool in the almost gorge like country.

Our friend Becky organised access through the Mohaka forest to the river at Patuwahine, the point that the talked about dam would be constructed at. Our pick up vehicles were left on private land at the shingle works further below the road bridge. Security is a bit of an issue unfortunately. We left two vehicles locked in at the forestry road and set off in three rafts. This was not really a fishing trip, more a bit of an explore but I did manage to include my spinning rod.

The river as we start off is quite stunning, with good runs dropping into some lovely but large and deep pools. Plenty of good water but not much opportunity to cross here without a boat or a swim.

The first km or so from here is runs and pools and then slowly changes into a wider river but with quite clearly defined drop offs on one side or the other. It continues like this pretty much to the viaduct and bridge. I was surprised as we moved down the river how shallow it became in places, quite crossable in many spots but of course no foot access unless you can get about like one of the many goats in this area.

After we had passed the first few runs I put the spinner in action and very quickly had follow-ups. Sitting in the raft I just cast into the odd spot and was rewarded with many strikes and a good number of hook ups. The most productive stretch was leading to the viaduct and it was common to get more than one strike per cast. The fish were mostly of reasonable size, in the 2 to 5 lb range.

The section under the viaduct has some nice water but we had no time to stop. I am sure there would be some nice fish around the cars and the oven making really nice hidey-holes. The viaduct and bridge foundations have some interesting holes around them and nice runs coming off there.

We stopped for lunch just below the bridge and had taken nearly two hours to get this far. There is access here but it doesn't seem to get much pressure, but then I would be reluctant to move far from my vehicle. There are very definitely fish here. It is well worth a visit.

We carried on about another 2.5 kms and the river opens up a bit more and is slower again in places but with some superb holding water and the spinner still turned up fish. I was surprised at the number of fish that took the lure within 10 ft of the raft, I don't think it bothered them at all. By the time we got to our vehicles the day was just beginning to cool so it was pretty good timing. Total time on the river was about 4.5 hrs without any real fishing so it's a reasonable trip. Summer time with plenty of light would be great. We stayed in Shearer's quarters about 8 km up Putere road so not too much travelling when here. I will be doing this section again next summer so will organize a couple of club trips because it a great piece of river that doesn't get much attention.

In fact it was so good Maria and I are going to raft it again next weekend with one raft and two rods. Probably take lunch too, and the dog!

Paul Elstone

HASTINGS ANGLERS CLUB

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