



# **HASTINGS ANGLERS CLUB**

## **NEWSLETTER**

**JULY-AUGUST 2007**

**[www.hastingsanglers.org.nz](http://www.hastingsanglers.org.nz)**



### **This Issue:**

**Club Nights and Club Trips**

**Presidents Report**

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## **Club Nights July-August**

### **Wednesday 4th July**

#### **Knife and Scissor Sharpening Demonstration**

Come along and learn the techniques required to have razor sharp fly tying scissors and knives

### **Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> July**

#### **Fly Tying Night - Nymphs**

At this meeting members will be shown how to tie the popular Pheasant Tail and Hare and Copper patterns. All materials will be provided.

### **Wednesday 1st August**

#### **Winter Fishing**

This meeting will have a series of speakers sharing their knowledge on where and how to fish at this time of the year.

### **Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> August**

#### **Fly Tying Night – Dry Flies**

At this meeting members will be shown how to tie patterns like Royal Wulff, Humphy and Hair Wing designs. All materials will be provided.

## **Club Trips**

### **Saturday 7 - Sunday 8 July**

#### **Working Bee at Patangata Lodge.**

Not a lot to be done so once the work is finished we hope to get in some good winter fishing.

### **Wednesday 22 August – Sunday 26 August**

#### **Mohaka River**

Conditions allowing we hope to put a trip together within this period. Those interested contact Paul Elstone or Murray Boaler.

## **PRESIDENTS REPORT**

### **Winter is here with a vengeance**

Most rivers have remained discolored over the past couple of weeks because of rain, snow, rain and more snow but we desperately needed it. These conditions will enable the spawning runs to run up all tributaries of our major rivers and hopefully 2007 should be a great spawning season. The cooler wet weather has increased water flows, cleared waterways of weed and rubbish that generally appears over the warmer period of lower flows. I expect fish to be in prime condition in the lead up to spawning- in fact, many fish may already have 'run-up' during the fresh over the past couple of weeks. So I guess it's that frustrating "sit and wait" time until the rivers clear.



### **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.

Hall bookings have been fantastic for this season, in fact its use will set a record.

Even the New Zealand Fly- fishing team plan to use it once a month.

We are organising another working bee at the Hall for the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> of July. It would

be great if we had a turnout like last year when over 16 members turned up for some part of the weekend. The grounds need a general tidy up and the perimeter a good spray. We plan to finish off the pathway from the wood shed and Bar-B-Q area to the porch. A big thank you to Dave and his wife for the many trips that had to be made bringing the paving stones down. We are planning to lay new vinyl down in the newly refurbished shower and toilet areas and hopefully the area leading from the doorway through to the storage area next to the second bathroom.

We are waiting for an estimate but when finished will make a huge difference to the entrance to the hall. Those of you willing to help can you please contact me at phone 06 8799649 or see me at the next club night. If two or three wheelbarrows could be brought along this would help things immensely. There will be no fee for staying the night, just bring along something to eat and a sleeping bag. If there are enough inquiries I can book a meal at the Patangata Tavern next door, just let me know.

Remember all Lodge bookings to Brian Cottington – phone 06 8768626

## **Club Nights**



We have been fortunate to have some fantastic speakers over the past 2 months. Many thanks to those members who have supported these evenings. All meetings were thoroughly interesting and worth that little extra effort in organising. Brian Cottington and Murray Boaler will again be organising the new Fly Tying evenings along the same format as last year. The simple step by step instructions by these two will help members tie some fabulous looking flies. Please come along to these evenings and you will find just how easy the art of fly tying can be – sometimes !!!!!!!!

## **Annual General Meeting**

This years AGM will be held in SEPTEMBER. As said in past newsletters I know these are a chore but it is so important that members have a say in the running of their Club. Hopefully we should have things done and dusted in an hour. For those of you who may be interested in joining the Committee please get in touch with any Committee Member. We would love to see more fresh faces.

## **Commonwealth Fly Fishing Champs**

The Champs are still going ahead in April next year. For those members who may be interested in becoming controllers please get in touch with Murray Boaler. It would be fair to say that the Committee has been frustrated in regards to the slowness on how things have been coming together. This has been no fault of theirs. Anyway the programme is not far away from being confirmed.

## **Lloyd Struthers New Zealand Team Selection**

Lloyd has been selected for the NZ Fly Fishing team that will fish in the 2008 World Champs which will be held in Rotorua the week prior to the Commonwealth Champs.

Over the last ten years Lloyd has represented NZ in previous World and Oceania competitions and most members will be aware that Lloyd has had selection for the 2008 champs as his goal for a long period of time.

To qualify, Lloyd finished in the top ten at the nationals at the end of March (an achievement in itself) and he then had to return three weeks later to fish off against these top ten anglers to establish who would be selected for the five member NZ team. Lloyd finished fifth overall after both the nationals and fish off points were tallied up and now is in training for the 2008 event.

The club congratulates Lloyd on his success and wishes him well for the competition.

## **Looking Forward**

We have a couple of winter trips planned for those hardy souls who enjoy their winter fishing.

Don't forget the working bee at Patangata in July.

Lastly enjoy your winter fishing.

Tight Lines

Mark Hyett  
President

## **CLUB CAPTAINS REPORT.**

No Rain for months, rivers low and clear. Now that I have time to go fishing the rivers are high and dirty. Who knows when the rain will leave us? Went to the Mohaka River today, greenish colour when we arrived, very dirty an hour later. It was good to see the level up after being low for so long. Hopefully the winter fishing in the Mohaka will start to fire up when it clears; I hope so as I am going for 4 days in a week's time. Where else can you go fishing at this time of the year and not see another angler all week?



Gary Kemsley was guest speaker at the club the other night. Great to have him along as he is always good value. He talked about fishing at Tutira and his observations there over the last few years. He makes everybody feel good by suggesting that we know as much about the lake as he does. However nothing could be further from the truth as he fishes it more often than all our members put together! How many club members go and fish the Lake all night or get up to go fish at 4.00am, the man is keen!!! No doubt he has sparked interest among those members there to go and give Tutira ago. It worked on one member anyway. Yesterday when the Mohaka got dirty I carried on over the hill and spent a few hours at the Lake. After Gary's talk I felt much more confident fishing the Lake. Tried a few different methods and almost thought I knew what I was doing. We managed to catch a fish a piece. So thanks Gary I really did learn a lot from your talk.

With all the rain and rise in river levels I would hope that the trout can now access much of the spawning areas that until now they have not been able to ascend. I would imagine that all the de-watered sections in C.H.B. now have a good flow. With all the upper reaches now closed for the winter lets hope the trout get on with a good reproductive season. It appears that more trout are spawning in the main River stems, especially in the Waipawa River. Some large reeds appearing before the summer season closed.

I often wonder how many anglers take advantage of the wonderful winter fishing available in the H.B. region. Many anglers head over to the Taupo Region for the winter runs and fishing can be really great there if you happen to be





there at the right time. However for many that means fishing at the weekend when large numbers of anglers descend on the region. I am not keen on waiting in line to fish any given pool so I seldom leave the H.B. region where you can have the rivers pretty much to yourself. Yes it can get very cold out there but that is quickly forgotten when you get onto some excellent condition fish. How good are the fish? Go find out for yourself!

I know we go fishing to catch fish but there is some great scenery out there. We often take the beauty of the surroundings for granted. Have you ever fished the big pool beneath the organs? It is a privilege to fish in places of such beauty. Let's look after these places.

We are always seeking ideas for Club nights, if you have any suggestions please make them known to a committee member. All suggestions will be gratefully received. We don't want to be repeating things too often. New members too often come along and listen quietly but are reluctant to ask for tuition or someone to take them fishing, if you want help or information you just need to ask. As already said people like Gary Kemsley are always willing to come and share information and their observations with the Club.



Brendon Mathews was along to the Club awhile back, can you get any better information on the Taupo region than that? We were grateful to have him along. Evenings where members can get involved and ask questions and debate things are always good. I like to go away and think about things. Try out new ideas on the river and see if new ideas/techniques work for me. Sometimes it is hard to change if you have been doing something for a long time. Will I catch more fish and will I enjoy fishing in that way? How much weight can I cast and still enjoy casting? Sometimes it is easier to change the type of water we fish. That's it from me, I need to tie some more flies for next week. There's fish out there to be caught, big ones too!

Cheers

Murray Boaler  
Club Captain

## **FISHING THE LOWER MOHAKA-PART TWO**

Well as I suggested in the last story about the lower Mohaka, Maria and I did get on the water again the next weekend. We again went in at Patuwahine in light drizzly rain but a clear river. We had a club raft, a dry box for a change of thermals and the camera, the chilly bin with thermos etc and a bag of assorted fishing gear. One of the good things about rafting and fishing is that you can easily take more gear as long as you keep it dry. I am experimenting with a different seat for the raft which allows room underneath, for a waterproof container and the chilly bin sits neatly in front of the seat.



This photo shows the necessary equipment. Waterproof box (on seat) chilly bin, dog, companion, raft, rods and a very nice stretch of water. Obligatory cuppa underway. Noticeable in the photo is Maria wearing the breathable waders and jackets that were purchased via the club a while back. This gear is so good I doubt we would have bothered to do the trip without it.

At the end of 6 hours on the river we were dry and warm, even though it had rained for at least three hours. It was at the point this photo was taken that the river rapidly coloured, it literally changed before our eyes as we had lunch, until I thought it was only worth spinning or wet lining. Spinning was more effective.

As it was pretty green we rafted down a fair way without fishing and were very surprised to find as we approached the viaduct area that the river was clearing rapidly. In the last mile to the viaduct it cleared completely. This is the second time I have seen this on this section of the Mohaka. Below the bridge for the next 2 km's or so the water was great, but the day was getting on so we missed some magnificent water and had to push on to our rendezvous.





On this trip we noticed two possible exit or entry points roughly half way through the trip. One is private which I will follow up to see if I can get access. The other is just below the road bridge where there is a bit of a track cut up the side by a Fishing Access sign. Access at either of these points would make for some very good fishing. If anyone has information as to access in this area or is interested in a bit of fishing around there please give me a call.

I will be organising with the club some trips next summer into this area so hopefully we can get a few bods along.

Paul Elstone

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