

T.A.L.T.A.C.

NEWS LETTER

SINCE 1955



MEMBERSHIP



TALTAC MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FOR 2011

I/we wish to retain membership of TALTAC and enclose subscription(s).

I/we wish to resign membership of TALTAC (please return your security key, should you have one, and your deposit will be refunded).

	2011 Subscription	NZFFA* Levy	Amount
Life Member		\$3.00	\$ _____
Adult	\$35.00	+ \$3.00	\$ _____
Couple/Family	\$50.00	+ \$6.00	\$ _____
Junior	\$ 5.50		\$ _____
Subscription arrears, if any			\$ _____
Donation to Club funds			\$ _____
TOTAL - for which cheque enclosed herewith			\$ _____

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____

Tel No.(pr.) _____ (bus.) _____

Occupation ** _____

Other Skills** _____

*The New Zealand Federation of Freshwater Anglers - the voice for all concerned freshwater anglers!

** The Club would like to have a database of skills/occupations which members are willing to offer should the necessity arise, i.e. painting, gardening, building, plumbing, electrical, accounts, handyperson, locksmith, you name it, we might be able to use it.

Please send all payments to TALTAC, P.O Box 149, Turangi.

YOUR COMMITTEE 2011



President	Graeme Shirley, 37 Gunbar Drive, Tauranga	07 544 4578
Immediate Past Pres.	Brian Barsdell, 12 Strange Grove, Matua, Tauranga	07 570 1553
VicePresidents	Marion Hall, 2 Fernwood Court, Wellington	04 477 0061
	Rob Martyn, 1/30 Pleasant Rd, Glen Eden, Auck.	09 813 4570
Committee	Stuart Connolly, 498 Riddell Rd, Auckland	09 575 8669
	Robyn Gray, 8 Surrey Street, Wilton, Wellington	04 475 9572
	Barry Waite, 1473 Rangiuru Road, Te Puke	07 573 8534
	Adrian Rickards, 15/30 Ambassador Glade, Orewa.	09 427 9559
	Graham Whyman, Town Centre, Turangi	07 386 8996
	Tony Burt, 1449 Rangiuru Road, Te Puke	07 573 7670
	Ken Haines, P.O Box 88 012, Clendon, Auckland	09 264 1181
	Charles Andrews, 567 Featherston St P. North	06 357 0793
Secretary/Manager	Tom Watson, 15 Ann Street Hamilton	07 849 6744
	Mary Nisbet, 239 Taupehi Road, Turangi	07 386 5573
		OR 07 386 8879
Hon. Accountant:	John Billing, 15 Cutfield Road, New Plymouth	06 758 8821
Hon.Reviewer	Mack Butts, 10 Penrhyn Rd, Epsom, Auckland	09 630 0663
Postal Address	P.O Box 149, Turangi 3353	Clubhouse 07 386 7562

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PRESIDENTS REPORT



Hello to all Members,

Where has the year gone! They reckon that time goes faster as you get older. Bugger it!!!! Here we are nearly half way through the season, with the runs about to start getting anglers excited about the next few months.

In reality there are good fish to be had in the area NOW.

The Tongariro River has produced some fantastic fish condition wise, and certainly the size has improved greatly on the last few years. On my last visit to TALTAC I was very impressed to note that several anglers who had fished in the waters outside the Taupo district made the effort to clean their fishing gear in the Didymo drum that is provided at the Club Rooms.

Well done guys - keep up the good work.

Also I noticed the very conscientious Aussie who spent some considerable time and effort in cleaning the gas hob after using it - well done Little Phil!! You can come again anytime!!

Your Committee is continually thinking of ways to keep the standard of accommodation up to scratch, and after doing the fish cleaning room; we are looking at upgrading the Ladies ablution block, which we hope will be done in the near future. If any Member has any thoughts or ideas on improvements, please get in touch with me or Mary as we are only too happy to assess the project. We can not stand still otherwise we are going backwards!!

Elsewhere in this newsletter there is a report on the submission that TALTAC made on behalf of its members and anglers in general, on Environment Waikato's submission to extract metal from the Tongariro to help with flood controls. While we don't demonstrate a high profile locally, we are still very concerned at providing the best possible fishery for anglers, and will keep working to ensure that this happens.

Just one point that I wish to make in regard to nominating members. You MUST know the person as you will be answerable if for some reason he or she does not meet the standard that the Club expects of its members. It is not acceptable to meet somebody on the river without previous knowledge of him or her, and nominate them for membership - it can lead to too many complications!!

Look forward to catching up again in the future - tight lines,

Graeme Shirley
President.





As you will have seen from the last update the committee has been very busy with improvements around the club and they haven't finished yet. The fishing cleaning room is a huge success, far more user friendly. A very special thank you to those who gave so freely of their time to make this not only a successful project but one that comes in under budget. Well done.

A special mention must go to Ian Merson, he not only traveled from Napier armed with his trusty hammer, he also was able to get a massive discount on the roofing products from B R Roofing and Walling Co in Napier. Great stuff.

The committee recently approved a donation of \$1,000.00 to the New Zealand Red Cross in support of the victims of the Christchurch Earthquake. We have had a response back from the Red Cross thanking TALTAC for the generous donation but also stating that all of the funds received will go to the people affected with nothing taken off for administration or salaries. Well Done Red Cross.

We had a call from a club member in Whangarei Andrew Blake, requesting accommodation and offering to pay for it, for a family that he was supporting following the loss of their home and work place in the Christchurch earthquake. Andrew was trying to get the family to Pihia where he had arranged a home and work for the family. With over half the trip under belts they arrived, with prior approval, absolutely shattered at TALTAC where they stayed for one night free of charge. The family was overwhelmed by the kindness and support extended to them by the club but in particular the members who were staying there that night. That is what our club is all about. Thank you.

A very important note for all club members:

Subscriptions will increase as from the 1st January 2012 by \$5.00. A Family/Double membership will be \$55.00 and a Senior membership will be \$40.00, Junior membership will remain unchanged. NZFFA levies remain unchanged. Your support with this transition will be appreciated.

Did you know the last increase in subscriptions was in 1991?

It is that time of the year again. Yes, the Mid Winter Christmas dinner will be held to the clubrooms on Saturday 11th June. There is still room available. Great food, great fun and great company.

Adrian Rickards has worked very hard on producing a comprehensive history of TALTAC, he has supplied two copies of a draft and asks that members view it and supply him with any amendments/additions/alterations that they find. Adrian wants us to have it right and to do that we need your support. The draft copies can be found in the club lounge along with all Adrian's contact details.

"Everyone is a genius at least once a year. The real geniuses simply have their bright ideas closer together."
George Christoph Lichtenberg

DO WE HAVE YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS?

TALTAC's preferred method of communicating with the members is by email.

1. It saves the club money on newsletters and notices
2. It's quick and saves a lot of time for our hard working club manager
3. It's easy to communicate your ideas and comments on to the committee
4. We can send 'Short Cast' newsletters to keep you informed

Please help us by emailing your contact details to **taltac@xtra.co.nz** and don't forget to send us an update if you are changing email addresses.

FISHING REPORT MAY- SPORTING LIFE



It has been an interesting year so far. We had quite a wet period over Christmas and New Year which upset the boaties out on the Lake over the holiday period. Things were not the same as in the past !! There were no smelt there were no fish the lake level was very high. I was wondering if the copious amounts of rain put a layer of sediment just above the bottom where the jiggers previously had caught fish but this time struggled. I saw smelt in the Tokaanu Tailrace most of January when others had seen "none". The early boat fishing does not seem to have been very productive but it looks like things have come on quite late now with most boaties reporting some very nice conditioned fish with some spewing out smelt. As I am writing this the boat fishing out on Lake Taupo has improved with some good catches reported in terms of numbers and condition of fish.

Part way into January or February two anglers came to see me and said they had seen nothing caught and were struggling, so I said that you had to actually think about what you were doing and ran them through a few basic common sense things for jigging. Off they went and about a month later I caught up with one of those anglers and asked him how they had got on after they had spoken to me. He said the next day after speaking to me they had got 15 !!!

Also on the 23rd of January there was a sizeable flood in the Tongariro. This had a few different effects. One, it pushed a lot of recovering rainbows out of the river which if they would have stayed in the river were good for the dry fly. It also knocked some of the browns back downriver, of which they seemed to come back reasonably quickly although in smaller numbers and thirdly this pushed a lot of juvenile rainbows back downriver that were all around 8 inches (20cm) long from the upper reaches into the town pools and also the flood blew a lot of these juveniles back into Lake Taupo which boaties mistook for small fish and that the fishery was in trouble. Just remember you need babies before you get adults !!! One angler commented that he has not seen a trout hatch as a 6lbder yet !!

The results of this were lots and lots of juvenile fish caught in the Tongariro over the summer months. They were quite aggressive and were easy to catch on the nymph. A little further into the summer and they were aggressively taking the Parachute dry flies to provide some good fun action. When you saw the numbers of juvenile fish it makes one wonder at the fish producing capabilities of the Taupo Fishery contrary to what some believe !!!

The good thing about the 23rd January flood is that this will have blown a lot of the older recovering fish back to Lake Taupo to feed up. This year we should see a mixture of new younger fish around 41-43cm in good condition and possibly a few older fish which will be the longer ones in much better condition as well. The cicada dry fly fishing was what I would call a normal year. A few big browns around this time but the absence of the hungry recovering rainbows made the sport a little lean. The browns have been rather fantastic over the period of January to May and continue to draw anglers to fish the Tongariro albeit that some have done extremely well on the browns and others have not even seen one !!

Lake Otamangakau seems to have been very popular with anglers once again this summer with some very good catches of good conditioned fish reported. Rainbows of 5-7lbs being a fairly constant figure. The other thing has been the increase of anglers spin fishing up at Lake Otamangakau. This has provided a safer sport when the wind has increased !!! Just recently some anglers have found the going a little tough possibly as the weather has started to cool.

Lake Otamangakau has been quite popular this summer with the feeling that a lot more anglers have headed up that way this summer as word spreads of some good fishing and good quality fish.



A SHORT HISTORY OF POLARISED SUNGLASSES



My first experience of polarized light began with butterflies, back in the middle of last century, before TV, and nature films by the million. When I was 12 I was lucky enough to have been given a very good Leitz microscope by an old biologist. My father had an old pair of Polaroid sunglasses that were very scratched by sand in the Pacific war. These I demolished, and cutting up the lenses I put one in the eyepiece and the other beneath the microscope stage, in the condenser. Then peering at some butterfly scales on a slide, I rotated the eyepiece. The effect was better than any magic show. The scale simply pulsated in a kaleidoscope of colours.

Not surprisingly, as soon as I started trout fishing, I had to have a pair of Polaroids. Being short-sighted, these had to be clip-ons. You could get these in grey and dark green. The grey ones were best for low light. But they scratched easily, ridiculously easy in fact, so that I accumulated a whole draw full over about 30 years. Then, about 15 years ago, I bumped into an Australian fisherman on the river who had a pair of polarising prescription glasses. Next Monday I was into my optician, to see if he could make me a pair. He obtained a whole series of glass disks, of different colours from pale yellow to dark green. Essentially, the polarising film is in the middle, like a sandwich, and the lenses are cut from these disks. After a quick trip to Maitai River in the lunch hour I chose the pale yellow disk and a few weeks later I was the proud owner of a pair of prescription polarising sunglasses. These have served me well for many years, but, as one gets older, even ones near-sight starts to go. So then it was a matter of obtaining a pair of those clip-on magnifiers. These are great, but when they are up, which is where they have to be when actually fishing, they tend to stick out a bit too far. My casting style resembles that of a frog in a blender and I've even had the line catch on them when trying to cast into a howling southerly on the Tongariro.

In the meantime, my deteriorating sight has meant getting vari-focus glasses for everyday use. And of course, these are now plastic and the lenses themselves much smaller and lighter than my old uni-focus Polaroid glasses. However, technology came to the rescue again, about 8 years ago, with the fit-over Polaroids that are worn over my normal glasses. Now it's a case of wearing two sets of glasses at once. This too is a hassle, especially when it comes to taking them off in the field. So it was still a case of the worst of two evils; wearing two pairs of glasses at once or back to my clunky old heavy uni-focus glass Polaroids with flip up magnifiers.

So, a year ago I went back to my optician. Can you make me a pair of vari-focus glasses with light plastic lenses like I wear everyday, but with a polarising effect? Two weeks later he informs me that no such technology existed in Australasia. Too bad. Then I saw an advertisement by Optilabs in England (www.prescriptionsportsglasses.co.uk), via their NZ agent, Centrefire in Dunedin sales@centrefire.co.nz, for prescription var-focus, plastic lenses. Sounded good! After I obtained all my prescription details from my optician and sent them to Optilabs, my new glasses turned up in about a month. There are several frame styles available, but I chose the aviator style frames with covered sides. All up, they cost no more than a normal set of glasses. These do not exactly make one "look cool", but who cares, no fisherman ever did, and they are great, for they cut out all the sidelight, but without restricting the frontal view. Of course every pair of vari-focus glasses, polarising or not, has the "centre" of the lenses in a slightly different place, so it is a matter of adjusting to this every time one puts them on; but no worse that swapping from my vari-focus normal glasses to my clunky uni-focus polarizing glasses.

I have used my vari-focus Optilabs polarising glasses for a couple of seasons now, in conditions ranging from cloud to full sun, and even into dusk. I can honestly say that they are the best solution to spotting trout that I have ever come across. It is hard to imagine technology coming to my rescue again, at least not with regard to polarized light anyway.

And just to keep you right up with the play, I hear such glasses are now available from your optician in New Zealand

What is polarised light? Daylight travels in waves oscillating in all directions of three-dimensional space. Where light strikes a non-metallic surface such as water it often reflects primarily in a horizontal plane. This creates a high concentration of glare. Polarizing filters removes light polarized at 90° to the filter's polarization axis that is light traveling horizontally, while allowing the light oscillating in a vertical plane to its direction of travel to reach the eye. If two polarizer's are placed atop one another at 90° angles to one another, there is minimal light transmission. In this way, if you have one pair of polarizing glasses, you can test the unknown pair by rotating them to see if the amount of light transmitted is reduced.

Oh, and back too butterflies, scientists now believe that partially polarised light reflected from the multi-layered scales on their wings are used as part of their mate selection.

Peter Williams



Environment Waikato Resource Consent – Tongariro River Gravel Extraction

Many of you will be aware that last year, Environment Waikato (EW) applied for resource consent to extract gravel from the Tongariro River. There were in fact two consent applications, one for land use arising from river bed disturbance resulting from the proposed gravel extraction and other flood protection activity and the second, a water use permit arising from any need to divert and / or temporarily dam and divert water to facilitate the proposed gravel extraction and flood protection activity. Both consent applications applied to the Tongariro River from 100 meters above the Hydro Pool down to the main and secondary river mouths.

Shortly after EW filed these consent applications a flurry of communications appeared claiming that the proposed gravel extraction would mark the “end of sport fishing in the Tongariro as we know it” and that none of the sport fishing clubs or other advocate organisations, including TALTAC, cared or was doing anything about the EW proposal.

In fact the TALTAC Management Committee was in the process of analysing the EW resource consent applications with the intent of making a well informed submission to the consent hearing process, which we consequently did. The club President also attended the resource consent hearing and made further oral submissions, along with other concerned parties. As a result, we are pleased to be able to report that a number of positive changes to the resource consent conditions were made to the final consent approval.

Primary Purpose of the Consent Applications

The primary purpose of the EW resource consent applications is to enable flood protection for Turangi Township and down-stream landowners. The control methods applied for to achieve this include erosion control works, vegetation removal and gravel extraction. As such any gravel extraction is a consequence of flood protection work, not a direct “commercial operation” to source gravel as has been suggested by some critics.

The location of the consent application includes the length of the river from 100 meters above the Hydro Pool to the river mouths. This is necessary since it is the flood protection performance of the Tongariro along this part of the river that will determine if the river overflows its banks and floods the township (either side of SH1) and the land of local land owners downstream of the township.

It is also important to acknowledge that TALTAC not only has significant interests in the maintenance of the sport fishing potential of the Tongariro but that we are also a land owner with significant building assets that will benefit from sound flood protection along this length of the river.

None of this type of activity is new to this part of the river, and many of you will remember the remedial work, including gravel extraction, that was undertaken after the 2004 flood to parts of the river just down stream of the Hydro Pool and below the Bridge Pool. Large flood events have tended to bring huge volumes of rock and gravel into the lower part of the river bed, especially below the SH1 bridge. If you imagine the cross section of the river as a shallow “U” shape, the flood carrying potential is essentially determined by the cross sectional area of the U. Once the bottom of the U fills with gravel and rock the cross sectional area of the U decreases. When this happens, the maximum flow capacity of the river also decreases resulting in the river overflowing its banks during a storm event. The EW resource consents essentially sets out “trigger” points for the depth of the “U” cross section of the river. Once gravel reaches these triggers gravel is then extracted to restore the depth of the U. This is most likely to be required below the SH1 bridge.



Overall, it was decided that TALTAC should support in principle the need for the EW resource consent applications, but also make submissions to tighten up on the conditions of any consent granted so as to ensure protection of the rivers sport fishing potential and also to minimise impact on native fish species.

Our main concerns were:

The term of the consent sought was 35 years which we believed to be far too long and did not allow for appropriate consideration of improvements to flood control techniques.

The period of permitted operation was proposed to be 1 October through 31 May each year. We believed that this operational period would put native Koaro spring-time spawning activity at risk and also put brown trout spawning runs at risk for early season spawning activity. We proposed that the permitted operational be limited to the summer months only.

The third area of concern was around appropriate consultation with angling organisations on the annual plan of proposed work EW wanted to carry out, which in the initial proposal was limited to local Iwi. We proposed that as a minimum the Taupo Fishery Advisory Committee be added to the list of consulted organisations for each annual plan.

Final Resource Consent Conditions

As a result of submission made by TALTAC and others organisations, the conditions and terms of the consents have been significantly and positively amended. The term of the consents was reduced to 20 years. While this is longer than we had hoped for there is provision for an annual review of consent conditions should any effected party consider there was appropriate grounds to seek such a review. This can be achieved by application to body granting the consents (EW) provided such notice is within the notification period detailed in the consent conditions. It is worth noting that since EW is both the applicant and the consent grantor in this case, that EW maintains completely separate processes for these roles.

TALTAC is now explicitly named as one of the parties that must be consulted by EW on every annual plan of proposed flood protection activity for the Tongariro River. This should enable our members to be well informed as to the details of any proposed flood protection work.

The operational window has been restricted to the period from 1 January to 31 March each year to minimise impact on sport and native fish populations.

There are strict conditions on the amount of suspended solids (silt) that is permitted during any flood protection operation, including gravel extraction to the extent that within 100 meters down stream of any such activity there must be no visible change in the visual clarity of the river (and a black disk visibility of at least 1.6 meters).

All debris and gravel extracted must be removed from the river and its flood plain.

Overall, we feel that these conditions result in a good balance between carrying out necessary flood protection work and protecting the interests of our members in terms of minimising the environmental impact on the river and the sport and native fish populations and minimising the impact on recreational sport fishing in terms of access and disruption as a result of in river flood protection works.

Tongariro National Trout Centre Children's Fishout Information.

BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL

Saturday 4th June, (Queens Birthday) Wednesday 27th July,

Wednesday 12th October, & Monday 24th Oct (Labour weekend and the day after Rugby World Cup Finals!!!)

Pond Opening Hours for children's fishouts

The pond will be open between 09:30am and 03:00pm, rain or shine.

Fishout Bookings

To book for one of our Children's Fishouts, please contact us on (07) 386 8085 between 10:00am and 3:00pm (1st May to 30th November) and between 10:00am and 4:00pm (1st December to 30th April). Alternatively you can email admin@troutcentre.co.nz

If

If you can grin and joke when not a fish will rise
And prospects seem as far off as the skies.
Or you can pack your gear and travel umpteen miles
And come back empty handed wreathed in smiles.

If you are joyful when snagged and lose your cast
To find that the length of nylon to be your last.
Or, having journeyed far, be content to find
You've left your lunch, fly box and reel behind.

If you receive a catalogue and scan it page by page
Nor feel the urge to spend a whole months wage.
And, on a perfect holiday, you say without pang
I'll help in the garden dear, fishing can go to hang.

If you say, perhaps my love you'd like the day in town
I've got hardly any gas but I'll run you down.
We'll bring your mother too, collect her on the way
The dear old thing, we'll fetch her home to stay.

If you say, the weather's clearing, dear, I'll rise at dawn
And spend the day mowing and trimming the lawn.
To ease the burden, dearest, of washing day to you
I'll help you with the washing too.

If you survive Summer days, so mercifully short
And swear the 'prospects' deserve no second thought.
And the big fish that bested you last year
You never idly think he lingers there.

If you're one of those that always takes
The limit and whose tackle never breaks.
Can journey to any stream at any time or date
And catch ten fish all over five pounds in weight.

If you can do these things you're quite a trier
But not so much an angler, as an angling liar!

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OBITUARY- John Buxton

"John Buxton, Lower Hutt. TALTAC member since 1982, died suddenly 31/3/2011, est age mid 70s. Was of the "old school" first came up to Turangi via a Road services buses in the early 1950s & flycamped at the camping ground that was at the Red Hutt car park, got his boots frozen with ice "no waders", and used to punt across the tail of the Major. "no swing bridge"

When economic conditions improved, stayed at the 2 story house, also stayed in by the Queen mother's in what is now the abandoned fishing camp next to the dairy & sport shop on Tuapehi road. Also stayed at the motor camp at the mouth of the Tauranga Taupo, fished that river, regularly used their smoke house and had lots of smoked fish sent back to Wgtn via Road services most of which he donated to the elderly.

Taught lot of people fishing including us, and introduced many youngsters to TALTAC and dare we say it to those "anti TV members of TALTAC" enjoyed with us some of our first TV - a 26" black and white majestic in the old cottage out the front & when the club house was nothing more than old shearers quarters in a paddock with few houses around.

He knew the late Bob Gibbs well and used to dryfly fish with him at Lyndsey's farm in the Akatawaras, the Wainiui stream & near "Mc Curdies" castle where the moonshine came into the Hutt river. As a result nymphing was no problem to him, & always fishing short lines of the side of banks. He regarded the "fresh run" high condition factor 3lb fish as the Tongariros prime.

A humanist & great quartermaster to keep costs down for a group trip. He will be sorely missed & your spirit will live on every time we are at the head of the Major or tail of the old Island pool, thinking of those magic words when wet lining.

"are you moving down John??"

Dave Johnston & Frank Glover



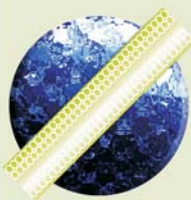


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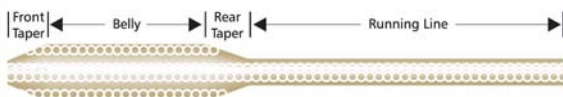
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WF7	0.5'	7.5'	28.0'	6.5'	58.0'	42.0'	100.0'
WF8	0.5'	8.0'	29.0'	7.0'	56.0'	44.0'	100.0'
WF9	0.5'	8.5'	30.0'	7.5'	54.0'	46.0'	100.0'



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