

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

# NEWS LETTER

SINCE 1955



## YOUR COMMITTEE FOR 2012

|                             |   |                            |
|-----------------------------|---|----------------------------|
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| <b>Immediate Past Pres.</b> | Graeme Shirley, 37 Gunbar Drive, Tauranga         | graemarl@xtra.co.nz        |
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| <b>Committee</b>            | Stuart Connolly, 498 Riddell Rd, Auckland         | stuart.connolly@xtra.co.nz |
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| <b>Hon. Accountant:</b>     | John Billing, 15 Cutfield Road, New Plymouth      | 06 758 8821                |
| <b>Hon. Reviewer</b>        | Mack Butts, 10 Penrhyn Rd, Epsom, Auckland        | 09 630 0663                |

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## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

It is with sadness that we advise the passing of Neil Cameron. Neil has been an active member of this club for many years and twice held the position of President. He was passionate about the welfare of TALTAC and had made many wonderful and lasting friendships with club members. A number of whom attended his service in Hamilton last week and the numbers in attendance were testament to his popularity and to the wonderful man he was.

I am sure a number of our members will have come across Aussie Bob during a visit to the Club. Like me, a number of you will have fished with him or shared a meal with him. We were advised recently of the passing of our Aussie Bob. Bob was killed in a level crossing accident recently, in Australia. Those who know Bob will remember him for all sorts of reasons. I can see him in his bright striped poly props and his skinny legs. A gentleman who appreciated any left overs offered on our departure (he stayed for about 6 weeks at a time) quietly fitted in and really loved being at TALTAC.

If you have a picture of Bob, or a wee story you would like to share, please email it to me so that we may share with the rest of our members in the next newsletter.

Also in this issue a few words that I received from Graeme Shirley speaking about Bob.

I am sure I speak for us all in offering our condolences to Mary and Tom on the recent passing of Tom's mum.

A very big thank you goes out to Russell Bee and Ian Merson. They have completed the installation of the new wood burner. Thanks Pauline for cleaning it up after installation. Russell has built a seat at the end of the veranda outside the drying room. Hopefully that will help to stop folk walking off the end of the veranda.

Some selected trees have been removed from behind rooms 1, 2 and 3 thus allowing more sun and light into those rooms and the fly tying end of the lounge. Many thanks to Steve Dickson, a job well done.

Someone said to me the other day as they were leaving the club, "you will need to bring a screwdriver with you to the club each time you come" I said "why" he said "so that you can tighten the handles on the pots when they are loose." I thought that quite odd. Surely anyone could tighten the screw on a pot if it needs tightening. A knife or spoon handle would do the job. Maybe that was a compliment and that women can do anything. Little did he know that I always have a screwdriver set in the car.

It was suggested that in the summer, we hold a Junior Anglers weekend. I think this is a great idea. Do you have a youngster who you might like to bring to the club for a weekends fishing? My thoughts are between the age of 8 and 15. We would be keen to hear from you if you are interested.

It is great to see the younger generation getting into the spirit of things at the club. Peter Maguire emptied the wood shed and swept it out and reloaded with the fire wood on hand in readiness for the next delivery. Good on you Peter and many thanks.

The annual mid- winter dinner was another success with about 19 in attendance and a number attending for the first time.

Take care out there and Tight Lines.

Marion



As you will have read in Marion's report we have lost two very special members of our club in the past couple of months, Neil Cameron and Bob Joblin.

The club has been very busy over the past little while. We have had the lounge renovated, with a new coat of paint, some repairs to the plaster work, new drapes and other bits and pieces, it looks great. Thank you to Marion and her very capable team of helpers.

With a great deal of thought and help Russell Bee and his right hand man have supplied and offered assistance to our plumber with the installation of a new wood fire in the lounge. It is awesome. Also Russell has made a seat on the verandah, opposite the drying room. Hand made with timber milled on his property. Wow. Thank you Russell.

Following requests from members the committee has approved the insertion of their contact email addresses. We will endeavor to retain both postal and email. We will ask/ beg our wonderful publisher John Morgan to 'make' it fit. Watch this space.

Should you have any requests or ideas about the club please ask. The only stupid question is the one you don't ask. The committee is there for you and work very hard on your behalf but they need to know what you want.

We still have some copies of The First Fifty Years of TALTAC available. \$20.00 per copy plus \$2.00 postage.

Would the person who borrowed the TALTAC vest from the kitchen and forgot to return it, please do so. No questions asked.  
Make it a rule of life never to regret and never to look back. Regret is an appalling waste of energy; you can't build on it; it's only good for wallowing in.  
Brian Barsdell has spent a great deal of his golf time assisting us in the collection of overdue or outstanding subscriptions. Your response to the letter sent out by Brian was amazing; your support is appreciated Thanks to you all. Let's keep on track so Brian can play more golf. Thank you Brian.

If you 'find' an Angler out on your travels and you believe they would make a great club member it is 'your' responsibility to introduce them to the facilities and arrange the paper work. Giving someone my phone number or email address is not how it is done. You must nominate the person and support getting that nomination seconded. Club policy states that I am not permitted to nominate anyone to the club; I am not a member, therefore sending them to me directly is of no help. This is your club. Thank you.

### Assistance with TALTAC website.

The Management Committee has recently registered and protected [taltac.org.nz](http://taltac.org.nz) as our domain name and the company we have hosted the domain registration also offer web site hosting services.

We are seeking assistance from any of our members who have web site set up experience to help us get a web site established and operational. We are thinking of something relatively simple to start with – probably a set of static pages with TALTAC information and contact details at this stage.

If you can help in any way please contact me with your details.

Autumn was a mild one with good runs of brown trout moving through the Tongariro. This is a highlight of anglers visiting here to fish now. The thought of getting a 6-8 lb brown is drawing a few anglers in. It appears there were some good runs of rainbows that came through in the Autumn which saw the delta fishing well at times as these fish moved.

The general consensus of anglers spoken to were that the rainbows in the Autumn were in good condition. A few smaller ones hanging around with some rainbows up to the 6-7lb mark. Most around 3-3.5lb and some nice hens around 4.5lb.

As we moved into the Winter the weather ended up being very dry and frosty. Most anglers tend to struggle in these conditions however this provides slime on the rocks and the aquatic life such as Mayflies and Caddis and they love this slime. Those reluctant to try fine diameter fluorocarbon and small natural nymphs will struggle. Mid July saw a good 590 cumec flood which dislodged a lot of these insects and some great fishing was to be had the week after this flood with the majority of anglers actually reporting catching something.

Note must be taken that changes to the river will occur after these floods and keeping up with the changes is an important part of your fishing. Some changes have been made below the Swirl Pool due to the river channel being straightened by the Regional Council to help relieve gravel and sediment build up below the Tongariro River bridge. Changes have been reported in the lower river.

The Waiotaka River has been popular this year with anglers as the access is fantastic and it is a great river for the older angler, novice or young angler to fish. Worth a look if you would like to see something different.

Not too many reports from the Tauranga-Taupo River. Appears the tracks have been reported damaged from the last flood.

A reminder that Lake Rotoaira opens in just over a month (1 Sep 2012). Daylight savings begins 30th September and Lakes Otamangakau and Kuratau open 1 October 2012.

Spring is not that far away. The Spring fishing is quite an exciting time of the year to fish in the Taupo Fishery as the smaller lakes open up and we then start to see the first of the dry fly fishing in the form of Mayfly hatches and evening rises. The down side is that the weather can be unstable in terms of lots of wind and flooding in the rivers, however the opening of the small lakes means that you have plenty of alternative fishing locations.

Spring means there is generally a good population of fish in the rivers which is the bonus (depending on the flooding), the down side to this is you have to wade through quite a few hungry kelt / recovering fish to get the fresh run ones. The bonus of the kelt / recovering fish is that they usually go nuts for the evening rise and if it is action you are after then they will certainly give you this.

The days are getting ever so noticeably longer at present. Many will be thinking "roll on summer!".

## MIDWINTER XMAS DINNER

Another successful mid winter dinner was held on Saturday 14 July with about 20 Club members in attendance.

### Menu

Roast pork  
Scallop Potatoes  
Selection of salads  
Macs special Yummy sausage dish  
Kumara Salad  
Chicken legs  
Peas  
Trifle  
Bread and butter pudding  
Apple pies and numerous other contributions  
Mulled wine

Colleen and Pauline were head chefs for the evening with various deputy chefs in waiting. There was a certain amount of Mulled wine pre tasting before it was decided it was "just right" The table was set with white cloths and Xmas decorations and fairy lights around the walls. All in all a happy evening had by all.



## FLY TYING CORNER

*Tidy up of the fly tying corner in the lounge.*

We will shortly have a fly tying cabinet installed in the lounge. One similar to the one in this picture. The cabinet has shelves for storing fly tying materials. When the doors open a light comes on and shines directly onto your vice. It has a glass top for easy cleaning but we do suggest that you place something onto the glass top prior to fixing your vice.

Happy fly tying



## A THANK YOU

I wish to send a "HUGE" thank you to a very merry band of workers. John Bain, Brent Swift, Dave Nicholls, Pete Blakeman, Kerry Cooper, Peter Maguire, Bernie Cuttance and a very special thanks to Ryan Bruce who came along after the event and swept up the mess the boys had made.

They stacked 6 cubic metres of firewood in an hour, and said it was the most fun they had all week. You guys rock.





## NEIL CAMERON'S EULOGY

For anybody who doesn't know, I'm Rolf Bergman – one of Neil's fishing mates and Kathy has asked me to say a few words in memory of Neil on behalf of all those fisher persons who also knew Neil as their fishing mate.

I think Neil would be surprised if he saw so many people gathered here to mourn him. Neil was, after all, a quiet man. He liked the solitude of fishing. He liked to be one with nature. It wouldn't occur to him that he was so popular, that he will be missed so much. Yet, the very fact that so many have gathered to celebrate his life says much more about him, and his kindness, than mere words.

As I am standing here today, I realise how lucky I am to have had Neil as my fishing mate and friend. There are no words to express his influence in my life and the great times that we have had together. I have been fortunate in being Neil's fishing mate for more than 20 years and I wouldn't be wrong in saying that what brought us together was our love for trout fishing in NZ's rivers and streams ... good single malt whiskey ... and later ... Gin & Tonics. In the latter years, we always used to have one, or two and sometimes three G&Ts – mind you it was always to rehydrate our bodies after a good day's fishing on one of our favourite rivers like the Rangitikei River or the Waipapa River. I also personally think it stimulated Neil's appetite for food – because, as you all know, he sure needed to put on a bit of weight too!

What is it that we remember when we think of Neil? I think everyone who knows him very well would agree with me on this. He was the kind of person that never complained and was always positive and full of life in a quiet sort of way. Not any high-fives or loud greetings from him, but instead a friendly smile and a warm: How are you doin'?

Neil was always a man that was caring, willing to give a hand – and also later, grateful to hold on to my hand as we waded across deep and fast crossings on our rivers. He loved his family and



was deeply devoted to Kathy and the kids. Neil was also a great friend to many of the members at TALTAC – Tongariro and Lake Taupo Angling Club. TALTAC was a second home to Neil. It was a place for him to relax and catch up with friends – both fishing and non-fishing friends – and to venture out for some fishing.

Neil won't sit on the river bank anymore. Nor will I be able to seek shelter with him among the pine trees out at the Delta of Tongariro River for a cup of coffee and a piece of Christmas cake. Neil won't tell any more fisherman's stories. But trust me mate, I will retell some of the stories. For example: About the great day we had Waipapa River in 2005 when every fish in the river wanted your fly. Or how you made the perfect cast – straight as an arrow – across the big broad river, with the perfect drift and how you then hooked and landed that BIG rainbow on a small dry fly in the upper Rangitikei River in 2009. And though Neil won't cast his fly again ... and he sure could cast that fly further than many of us ... You will always be a role model for us, somebody to try to copy as we cast our flies to a sighted fish.

Neil's death was rather sudden, but his life was not brief. His memory will always be with us. I will miss my fishing mate dearly, BUT I am – like all the others who have gathered here today – so grateful for having known you.

Neil always had a special way to release a fish when he had landed it and put it back in the water. Some of you who had the privilege of having fished with him would know what I'm talking about, but some of you may not. So ... let me explain:

Neil wasn't into kissing a fish before he released it ... instead to celebrate and thank the fish for having given him a great fight ... when he had it back in the water ... he always clapped his hands as the fish swam away to its home in the river. So if you wouldn't mind joining me, I would like us to do the same for Neil as he is now about to swim away from us....

So off you go, Neil, off you go ... and thank you for all the great times! I will forever be grateful for spending 20 years of my life with a friend like you. Because a friend like you don't happen often in a lifetime. Neil will forever live in my memory ... AND I WOULD SAY I SPEAK FOR MANY WHEN I SAY ... IN OUR MEMORIES!

Thank you mate!

## OBITUARY - OZZIE BOB

Over the years I got to know Ozzie Bob fairly well, we fished together on many occasions, I stored his fishing gear rather than shift it backwards and forwards across the ditch and we corresponded on the odd occasion, and he always sent me photos of our days on the water. He was a very keen Club man and from time to time he would take me aside and make suggestions for the benefit of the members. He also was not slow in doing the odd job such as sweeping the drying room out etc.

I think I will always remember Ozzie Bob for his passion for eating trout and the various ways of cooking them. I am sure most members will remember him frying a trout and smearing it with of all things, marmalade!!! He got a lot of comments over that from those present.

A good Club man was Ozzie Bob.

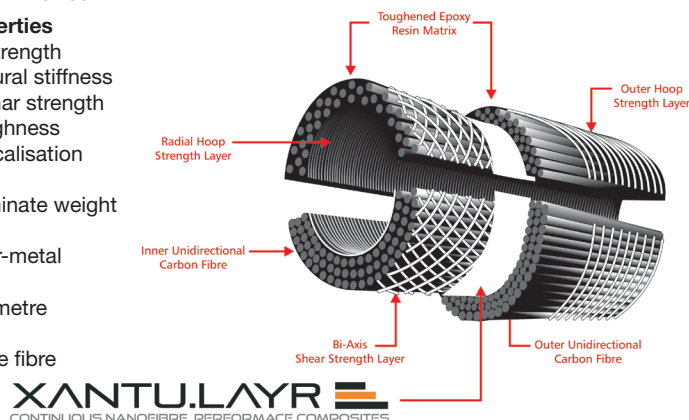
Graeme Shirley

## KILWELL XANTU ROD BLANK CONSTRUCTION

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## MEMBERSHIP 2012

### TALTAC MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FOR 2012

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).

|   | 2012 Subscription | NZFFA* Levy     | Amount   |
|---|-------------------|-----------------|----------|
| <b>Life Member</b>                                |                   | <b>\$3.00</b>   | \$ _____ |
| <b>Adult</b>                                      | <b>\$40.00</b>    | <b>+ \$3.00</b> | \$ _____ |
| <b>Couple/Family</b>                              | <b>\$55.00</b>    | <b>+ \$6.00</b> | \$ _____ |
| <b>Junior</b>                                     | <b>\$ 5.50</b>    |                 | \$ _____ |
| <b>Subscription arrears, if any</b>               |                   |                 | \$ _____ |
| <b>Donation to Club funds</b>                     |                   |                 | \$ _____ |
| <b>TOTAL - for which cheque enclosed herewith</b> |                   |                 | \$ _____ |

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, handyman, locksmith, you name it, we might be able to use it.

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

## TALTAC The First Fifty Years of the Tongariro and Lake Taupo Anglers' Club Turangi 1955 – 2005

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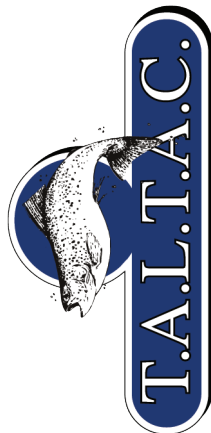
TALTAC's preferred method of communicating with the members is by email.

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3. It's easy to communicate your ideas and comments on to the committee
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Please help us by emailing your contact details to [taltac@extra.co.nz](mailto:taltac@extra.co.nz) and don't forget to send us an update if you are changing email addresses.

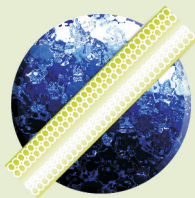


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## Casting a line just got easier

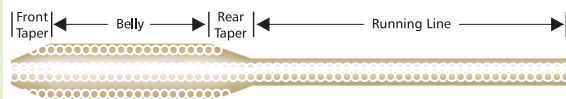


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|-----|------|----------------|-------|---------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| WF6 | 0.5' | 7.0'           | 27.0' | 6.0'          | 55.0'           | 40.0'          | 95.0'           |
| WF7 | 0.5' | 7.5'           | 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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