

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



# NEWS LETTER

SINCE 1955

*Wishing you all a very happy  
& safe Christmas & all the very best  
for the New Year.*





## YOUR COMMITTEE FOR 2012

<b>President</b>	Marion Hall, 2 Fernwood Court, Wellington	marionrainbow@xtra.co.nz
<b>Immediate Past Pres.</b>	Graeme Shirley, 37 Gunbar Drive, Tauranga	graemarl@xtra.co.nz
<b>Vice Presidents</b>	Rob Martyn, 1/30 Pleasant Rd, Glen Eden, Auckland	rob.martyn@gmail.com
	Ken Haines, P.O Box 88 012, Clendon, Auckland	kennin@xtra.co.nz
<b>Committee</b>	Stuart Connolly, 498 Riddell Rd, Auckland	stuart.connolly@xtra.co.nz
	Robyn Gray, 8 Surrey Street, Wilton, Wellington	r_gray@clear.net.nz
	Barry Waite, 1473 Rangiuuru Road, Te Puke	barrywaite@xtra.co.nz
	Graham Whyman, Town Centre, Turangi	sport.life@xtra.co.nz
	Liam Burt, 1449 Rangiuuru Road, Te Puke	tony.burt@xtra.co.nz
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<b>Secretary/Manager</b>	Mary Nisbet, 239 Taupehi Road, Turangi	taltac@xtra.co.nz
		07 386 5573
		OR 07 386 8879
<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

Hi Club members

You may recall reading in the last issue that we were asking for those who wished to participate in the kids fishing weekend at the Club to let us know. Well we have since held that event and could not have asked for a more successful weekend.

11 young anglers ranging from 6 years of age to about 13 attended along with grandparents, parents uncles and aunts to support them. On Friday night it was not long before most of them were lingering around a fly tyer watching and learning.

Graham McIntyre had produced (beautifully turned) 12 priests and then on Sunday morning engraved the names of each child into them. Wellington Fly-Fishers kindly donated a sun hat for each child, I made fish carriers, Robyn donated a head torches and the "goody bag also contained sweet, a bottle of water and a small fly box with flies tied by Graham and myself. Saturday morning started with casting tuition and then off to a spot on the river with their mentors for the rest of the day. The weather was not great but none of the kids were bothered by that. In the evening at about 5pm we met back at the Club. It was just so great to see all of these kids either tying flies or playing cards. The lounge was a hive of industry. After a communal dinner we did the lucky draw for a fly rod, reel and line donated by Hunting and Fishing Wellington, a Fly box and a cap donated by Mark Reid.

Requests are already coming in to run another one next year.

Lining up for dinner kids weekend

Mark and Robyn assisting with casting

kids fishing Taltac



Continued  
page 4





Hang on tight Christie



Girls first trip with oldies



Happy winner kids weekend TALTAC

DOC has confirmed that the bulls that were wandering through the track between the bottom of Graces Road and Smallmans have been round up and removed. More than one or two of our members had met with these beasts on the track. Ask Brian Barsdell. I had mentioned the Bulls to DOC a while back and apart from the danger of meeting them on a small track, was the issue of dirty dairying. However, an official complaint was made and the matter dealt with. I must admit I had seen the hoof prints and would not like to have met them on that narrow track.

I attended a meeting recently at which Bryce Johnson, CEO, Fish and Game was Guest Speaker. Bryce's presentation was most informative. As you are aware we are facing on-going threats to access some of our fisheries. Through The Walking Access Commission Bryce confirms there is legislation in place to challenge this. To find out more I recommend that you visit <http://www.walkingaccess.govt.nz/>

Did you fish the big O on opening day? We are always looking for an article for the magazine. Your stories are welcome.

Time will not permit sending out another newsletter prior to Xmas so on behalf of myself and the Committee, we wish you all the best for a very safe and fun time during the festive season.

I look forward to meeting more of you next year wish you all the very best for 2013

Marion Hall

## CLUB NEWS July 2012

As always I wish to extend my most sincere thanks to all of you who work with so much pride and effort to keep our club looking great.

There are special people who need to be mentioned, I know they don't like. But our friend Athol from up North loves and respects our club so much he keeps a radar detector under his bed, just keeping everything on 'track' and gets up at 5.00a.m to vacuum his room. That is pride. Well done Athol.

We have a few things still not happening as per my requests. I try not to ask for too much but cleaning up after yourself, returning keys and generally showing pride in your club is not too much to ask. This includes the cottage, if you stay in there you clean up. This is not a motel. Come on.

"But" the biggest problem at present is those of you who still insist on giving complete strangers membership application forms then heading for the hills. No, completely unacceptable. If you are going to provide an application form or nominate someone – follow it through or forget it!

Some of you have been enquiring about the club vests; they are still available the contact details to purchase one is Don Bayliss Clothing Co, Te Puke telephone 07 573 7888. You will need to contact the company direct. They will deliver.

Don't forget that subscriptions for 2013 are due on the 1st January. Thank you.

Smile time: "Cash, Cheque or charge?" the retailer asked after folding items the woman wished to purchase.

As she fumbled for her wallet, he noticed a remote control for a television set in her purse.

"So do you always carry your TV remote?" he asked.

"No" she replied, "but my husband refused to come shopping with me and I figured this was the most evil thing I could do to him legally."

Remember to keep your words soft and sweet, just in case you have to eat them!

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a very happy and safe Christmas and all the very best for the New Year. May your New Year be filled with good health and happiness.

Thank you to all who have helped and supported me over the past year.

## WANTED COVER PHOTOS

If you have a shot you think worthy of being on the cover of the TALTAC News Letter send, with your name and a brief description, to [big.m@xtra.co.nz](mailto:big.m@xtra.co.nz)

**Reminder AGM 2013:**  
To be held on Saturday 23rd February 2013  
at TALTAC clubrooms.  
Meeting 5.30 p.m  
followed by dinner.

## GRAHAM WHYMAN'S REPORT

We have now moved into the early part of Spring. Good runs of rainbows have been coming through the rivers over the last month or so. Plenty of anglers have been heading up to the Tauranga-Taupo river to fish over the last few weeks. This appeared a little lean in the earlier part of the year but anglers must be reminded that the rainbows are generally running in numbers in the Spring.

The Waiotaka River has been very popular this year since the access has been improved due to the removal of the Willows from the S.H.1 road bridge right up to the Prison Boundary. Once again this has been popular with novice anglers, young and the older angler who finds it a river that can be coped with in terms of the smaller size. Some very nice fish has been reported caught out of there this year.

The Tongariro has had more anglers heading out over the last few weeks. Some are starting to notice the odd rising fish during the day and the evening rise is just starting to kick off. Some nice sunny weather would be good to warm things up to really get this going. Anglers will now notice that more rainbows are being caught than browns. The browns tend to run over late summer / autumn and this is when the bulk of them will be there with the first few small runs of rainbows starting in February with a bit more of a pulse coming through April / May coinciding with the wetter weather and the bulk of rainbows running September through to November. These earlier run fish should turn to spent fish which will provide you with the dry fly action during the day and in the evening as these fish once spawned will be hungry and are trying to feed to put on condition as quickly as they can.

Be wary of possible flooding in the Spring as the weather warms up as this can alter the populations of fish. For the boat anglers this is good as this should push these spent fish out into Lake Taupo to fatten up for the Christmas / New Year period. Sometimes these floods push more spent fish downriver into town and these are then in the eyes of the Mayflies and Caddis !

Few boats have been out over the Winter period on Lake Taupo but in general those that have been out have had little trouble in catching fish with some very nice fish reported caught by the boaties. Also this year it seems quite a few browns have been caught by the boaties.

Lake Otamangakau opened on 1st October. General reports for the opening day were few anglers out first thing with most reporting mostly recovering fish. Generally the fishing improves with the weather with many preferring to head that way late December through to March. This gives the fish the time to put the condition on ( and the temperatures to warm up!). Some nice fish have been reported caught but also quite a few small ones.

The Department of Conservation released 5,000 fingerlings this year as an experiment to see what happens to these fish. These have been marked just behind the eye with a pink marker (see picture) and another colour greeny / blue. Anglers are reminded that if they catch one of these marked fish, report it to the Department of Conservation fisheries team as to where it was caught, how long it is, how much it weighed etc !



## CASTING FOR RECOVERY RETREAT COMING TO TALTAC

The weekend of the 8th 9th and 10th February 2013 will see the Casting for Recovery Retreat take place at TALTAC. We hope to host between 8 and 10 participants.

Casting for Recovery (CFR) provides retreats at no cost to participants, which allow people whose lives have been profoundly affected by breast cancer to gather in a beautiful, natural setting and learn to fly fish.

It offers participants an opportunity to experience the peace and solitude and the chance to be in the moment that fly fishing provides. The retreat also incorporates a range of other services to promote well-being. The 2.5 day retreat weekend is one of fun and support with the mission of trained volunteers being that of empowerment and achievement to whatever level participants are capable of.

Already we have sufficient volunteers from TALTAC who have offered to help with casting tuition and a half day guiding on the river. Some have assisted with previous CFR weekends and have enjoyed it so much they have offered again. Also the lovely ladies in our club who don't fish have offered to help with food preparation and preparing the meals required over the weekend. Robyn Gray and Marion Hall will be working closely with the CFR NZ Executive Director between now and February and during the course of the weekend.

Tongariro National Trout Centre is also involved and has approved the use of the fish out pond and facilities during the weekend. So whilst the ladies will have the chance to fish the Tongariro they will have the opportunity to feel the excitement of having a fish on, although from the kids' pond.

We would like to thank all of those who have offered their support and kindly made donations. If you would like to donate or help in anyway (baking, tying flies etc) to this very worthwhile cause, please email Robyn at [r\\_gray@clear.net.nz](mailto:r_gray@clear.net.nz).

Bank account details: ANZ Casting for Recovery - 010527 0119833 50. We will send a receipt but please advise your details.

The Club is booked out for the weekend Friday 8 February and Saturday 9 February for the participants and volunteers including a nurse.

Visit [www.castingforrecovery.org.nz](http://www.castingforrecovery.org.nz) for further information

All the Best  
Robyn Gray





## THE ITALIAN JOB by Sparse Gray Hackle

One day toward the end of March there were three Italian gentlemen booked on a local water, and following several emails and phone calls my services were requested for the day. It turned out that one of their wives had bid for the day at a charity auction and, having no interest in fishing herself, gave the day to her husband and a couple of his friends. Needless to say, none of them had heard of fly fishing, but said that they were looking forward to a day on the river and would bring plenty of wine and a barbecue and enjoy themselves regardless of the fishing.

I can usually tell what kind of a day I'm going to have a few moments after meeting the punters, and it was immediately obvious that this was going to be a fun day with absolutely no pressure to catch a lot of fish. I had a cigarette lighter in one pocket and a bottle opener in the other and knew that these were probably going to be the only essential tools of the day.

The three Italians, rather suspiciously and somewhat nervously, eyed up the fly rods that were leaning against a nearby tree. You could see they had never used one before, and when I told them they should be holding the cork bit and not the thin end, they decided to open the first bottle of red and perhaps they would watch me for a while.

Well, we had a splendid day and while we may not have troubled many fish, the water was lightly frothed by their efforts at mastering this 'fly fishing lark'.

It was all good fun and they told me that it didn't matter that they hadn't caught a fish, but as we were walking back to the car one did say it would have been nice to feel a fish pulling on the line. I thought that these blokes deserved some excitement and searched thru my fly box for the 'never-fail' fly. I tied it on and roll cast it to midstream, slowly lifting it back to the surface with several small trout following closely behind. One of them took and I struck into it, before handing the rod to one of the startled Italians. He played the fish to raucous shouts of encouragement from his friends and whoops of laughter as the 2lb trout was netted, photographed from every conceivable angle and then returned to the water. They were amazed at the size of this monster fish and couldn't believe there were such leviathons in the river. I remember thinking to myself that I can only hope they never fish some parts of New Zealand where 2lb trout are used as live-bait.

That small capture made a nice end to the day and we were all very pleased as we walked slowly back to the car for perhaps another glass of something before saying goodbye. As we walked along the bank I noticed a large trout lying in front of a rock. I pointed out the fish to my Italian friends, who after a minute or so of looking claimed to see it, but I'm not sure that they could. I told them that the fly we had just used to catch the 'monster' would be offered to this fish.

I roll cast about 10 feet upstream of the fish which was lying in about 6 feet of water directly below where we were standing. As I lifted the fly the fish flicked its tail and it came like a torpedo. I remembered the 3lb leader and pulled the fly out of the water as the fish's tail folded through the surface film. The Italians nearly jumped on to my shoulders and stood staring at the water, not quite believing what they had seen.

I cut off the leader and replaced it with 10lb and retied the fly. I went thru the same procedure and again the fish came for the fly, although, this time I let him have it and lifted sharply into him. Then all hell broke loose, with me running, the fish leaping, and the Italians jumping up and down and bumping into each other, not knowing what to do. None of them would take the rod and leaped back in horror as I offered it to them.

The fish performed five or six magnificent jumps, taking about 20 yards of line as it roared off upstream with the Italians and me in hot pursuit in what must have looked like a sketch from the Benny Hill Show. It then turned and sped back downstream and, although I held it for a few seconds, it disappeared into the next pool.

I stood on the bank with three Italians and a fly rod nearly bent double, and a small reel

screaming in protest as our magnificent fish took it down to the backing. I was in two minds as to whether I should phone somebody for help - perhaps the fire brigade for me and a couple of ambulances for the Italians.

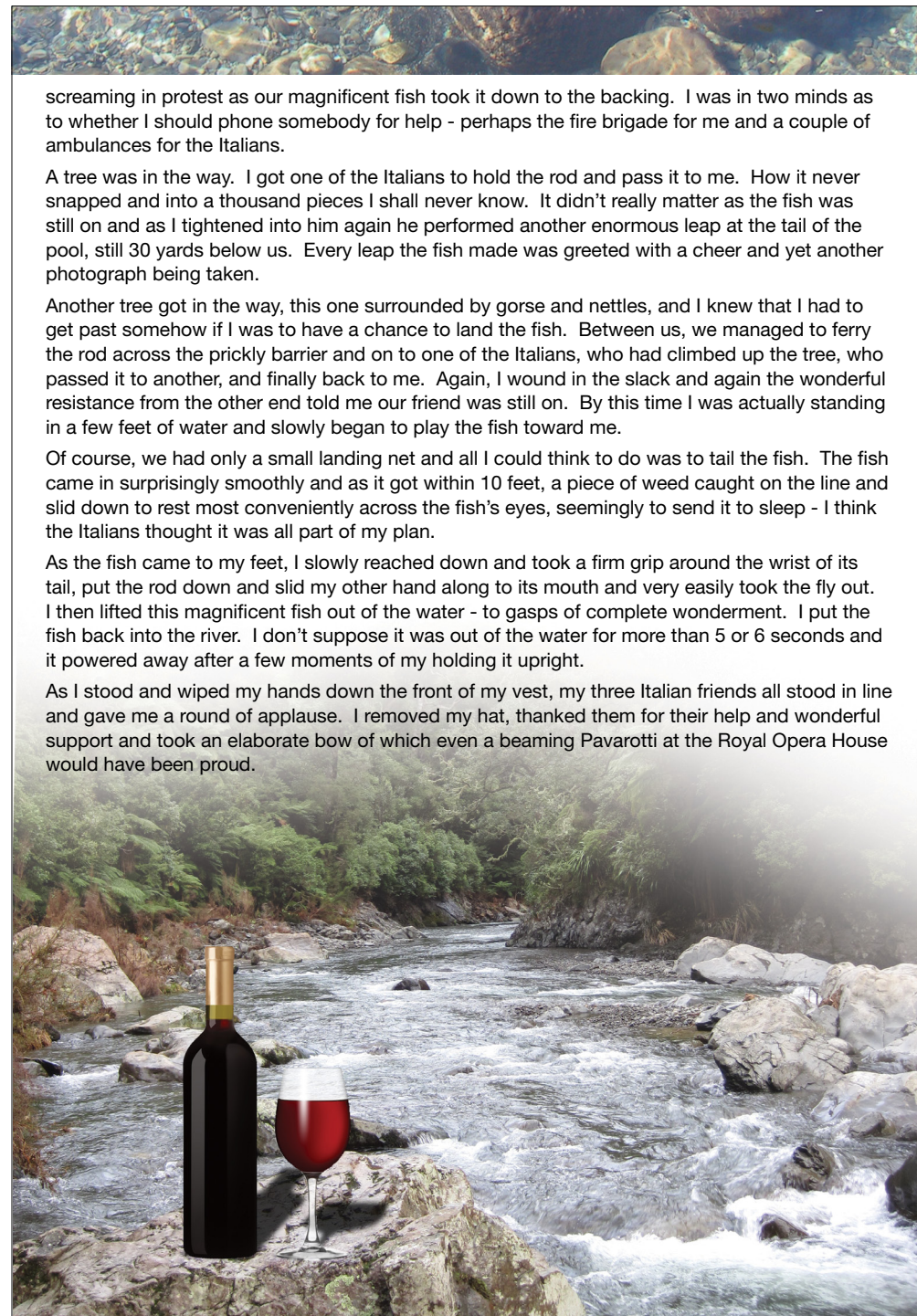
A tree was in the way. I got one of the Italians to hold the rod and pass it to me. How it never snapped and into a thousand pieces I shall never know. It didn't really matter as the fish was still on and as I tightened into him again he performed another enormous leap at the tail of the pool, still 30 yards below us. Every leap the fish made was greeted with a cheer and yet another photograph being taken.

Another tree got in the way, this one surrounded by gorse and nettles, and I knew that I had to get past somehow if I was to have a chance to land the fish. Between us, we managed to ferry the rod across the prickly barrier and on to one of the Italians, who had climbed up the tree, who passed it to another, and finally back to me. Again, I wound in the slack and again the wonderful resistance from the other end told me our friend was still on. By this time I was actually standing in a few feet of water and slowly began to play the fish toward me.

Of course, we had only a small landing net and all I could think to do was to tail the fish. The fish came in surprisingly smoothly and as it got within 10 feet, a piece of weed caught on the line and slid down to rest most conveniently across the fish's eyes, seemingly to send it to sleep - I think the Italians thought it was all part of my plan.

As the fish came to my feet, I slowly reached down and took a firm grip around the wrist of its tail, put the rod down and slid my other hand along to its mouth and very easily took the fly out. I then lifted this magnificent fish out of the water - to gasps of complete wonderment. I put the fish back into the river. I don't suppose it was out of the water for more than 5 or 6 seconds and it powered away after a few moments of my holding it upright.

As I stood and wiped my hands down the front of my vest, my three Italian friends all stood in line and gave me a round of applause. I removed my hat, thanked them for their help and wonderful support and took an elaborate bow of which even a beaming Pavarotti at the Royal Opera House would have been proud.





## A WORK OF ART



Mary Ann France rang Marion earlier in the year and asked if she would like a quilt and if so what would I like to see on it. Well it had to be a fishing quilt didn't it. This is the result, a real work of art

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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).

	2013 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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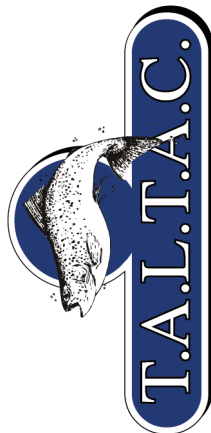
TALTAC's preferred method of communicating with the members is by email.

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
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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.

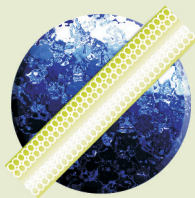


New Zealand  
Turangi 235311



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## Casting a line just got easier

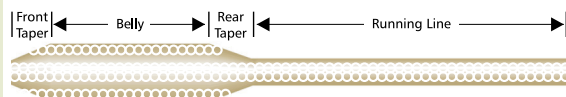


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WF7	0.5'	7.5'	28.0'	6.5'	58.0'	42.0'	100.0'
WF8	0.5'	8.0'	29.0'	7.0'	56.0'	44.0'	100.0'
WF9	0.5'	8.5'	30.0'	7.5'	54.0'	46.0'	100.0'



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