



# *The Lure of Fishing*

*November/December 2014*

## **Matt's update**



Wind, wind, wind, we have had enough! The weather has unfortunately kept most boaties ashore over the past month, hopefully we have put that behind us now and will have some great weather for the summer holiday period. I would like to wish all club members, friends and families a happy and safe Christmas, and lets see lot's of great fishing pics!

The club is helping PHD student Simon Stewart with his research into the food chain in Lake Taupo. The aim of this research is to identify problems in the food chain which could be limiting the growth in our trout. Simon needs to collect samples of fin, flesh and liver from a large number of trout, and will be coming along to the Club weigh-in weekends to collect these samples. This type of research is essential for the future management of the fishery, so it's great to be doing our part to help out. Simon has offered to give a presentation at the club when his research is complete to explain his findings.

Tightlines

*Matt Pate*

**Club President**

# Lake Taupo Food Web Research

University of Waikato Doctoral Candidate Simon Stewart is undertaking a major study of the Lake Taupo food web. A substantial amount of funding has been awarded by the Department of Conservation to assist with this project. Simon needs as many samples of fish (with guts) as possible. He will take the liver and a sample from the fin and flesh and also needs to know how, when and where the fish was caught. You can email him at [simondstewart@hotmail.com](mailto:simondstewart@hotmail.com) if you would like to help in providing some samples.

If you would like to read Simon's latest update check it out at [www.taupofishingclub.co.nz](http://www.taupofishingclub.co.nz)



Simon taking samples during the November weigh-in at the Taupo Fishing Club



2015 TOURNAMENT

Friday 20th March - Sunday 22nd March

# Tournament information

Entry forms and information will be available shortly from the website or at the clubroom. We will email members and past tournament anglers when entry forms are available.

Entries will be limited and may close prior to the tournament date so make sure you get yours in early. There will be a \$5 discount to current Taupo Fishing Club members who enter before the early bird closes.

If you know of anyone interested in sponsoring next years tournament let us know, new sponsors are always welcome, and we appreciate all those who do help us out, as it is the sponsors that help to make the tournament such a success.

Tournament queries? email: [tournament@taupofishingclub.co.nz](mailto:tournament@taupofishingclub.co.nz)

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## Upcoming events

**Mercury Bay Ladies Fishing Tournament  
24th January 2015**

**Papa Aroha - 14th and 15th November 2015**

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## Smoke off!

Our first club smoke off was a great success, with 15 fish submitted for judging, and a crowd of about 40 who came along for tasting. The overall standard of fish was impressive, making it very difficult to pick the winners.

Judge Blair was very impressed with the high quality of all entrants, and

awarded first place to Cole McHale who walks away with a new UFO smoker thanks to Hunting & Fishing Taupo. Dave Lehndorf won the peoples choice award with a great pack of food and wine goodies from The Merchant of Taupo. Sylvia won the lucky entry prize with gear from Taupo Rod & Tackle and Shed Boss Taupo.

Thanks to all the entrants, sponsors and Colleen for the photos. This is sure to be a regular event from now on!





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## Merry Christmas!

Thanks to everyone who came along to the Christmas party on Saturday 6th December! We had a great night and it was awesome to see so many people there.

The Christmas raffle was drawn and the winners were:

1/2 Ham	Shelly Preston
Chicken	Dirk Hansen
Rolled Ham	Vanessa Ashwell

We also had a special prize of a bottle of Port which was won by Shirley Roundtree!

Have a great Christmas and see you in the New Year!



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**The last night for the Bar at the Clubrooms is  
Friday 19th Dec.**

**The Bar will reopen on Friday 9th Jan, 2015.**

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# Club merchandise

Arriving soon!

Caps will be \$20 each

Shirts will also be available

You can check out a sample of the shirts at the club

Order at the bar with payment at the time of ordering



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# Out there fishing!



Awesome 9.17kg snapper landed by Phill Andrews on Saturday 25 October at Amodeo Bay in Coromandel



Nice 7lb Salmon caught by Troy Nielsen at Twizel

**We would love to see your fishing photos!**

**Email** [editor@taupofishingclub.co.nz](mailto:editor@taupofishingclub.co.nz)

**Best fishing photo of the month will win a copy of  
NZ Trout Fisher magazine worth \$10!**

## **On the Lake and in the River**



Well the great lake has been giving Wellington a challenge for the title of the windy city this last month! It seems that each year the windy period just gets later and later... Let's hope it's all but over and the wild stuff settles down for December and January.

For those who have found a gap in-between windy periods, or a sheltered bay for the boat, fishing out on the lake has been really productive. Harling at either end of the day and lead lining have taken off again and are producing some nice fish down to 20m, and over the last couple of weeks there have been reports of some great jigging action in 20 to 40m. Harling flies that have fired well are the #8-10 Green Orbits and Yellow Ladies with small smelt patterns doing the damage jigging.

The brownies are back and I have had reports of browns being caught at either end of the lake front and at the Waitahanui delta. So get in there before first light...

At the Taupo Fishery Advisory Committee meeting earlier in November there was a lot of discussion on the size of smelt now being found across the lake and the impact that this might have on the fishery.

A number of fish are being caught full of very large smelt (7-8cm), twice the size of what we usually find, and it appears that there are fewer regular sized smelt around. The "normal" smaller smelt are apparently small because they are underfed and typically starving (the lake water is clear because it contains a lack of nutrients), and so the thought is that there has been a recent abundance of zooplankton for the smelt to feed on resulting in rapid growth. This is supported by the condition of trout being caught – the small, very well-conditioned trout also eat zooplankton and we are catching a high number in this category.

There is a downside to this though as the large smelt will now be in competition with the small trout for food – primarily small smelt and zooplankton, so we can expect a downturn in small trout condition in the short term. The upside is that the large smelt will be a food source for larger trout and the prognosis is that there will be an increase in the number of trophy trout next year while the food chain attempts to regain balance.

So the short story is that we might need to upsize our flies to match the hatch! I suggest you keep in touch with Mat as he will no doubt be stocking the right size flies for the job.

Tight lines  
*Craig and Gary*

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# Hook removal 101

Gary kindly participated in an impromptu demonstration on how to remove a fly from his face a couple of months back, and then repeated the exercise with one stuck in his hand a month later. Thanks for helping me hone my skills in tag and releasing the angler.

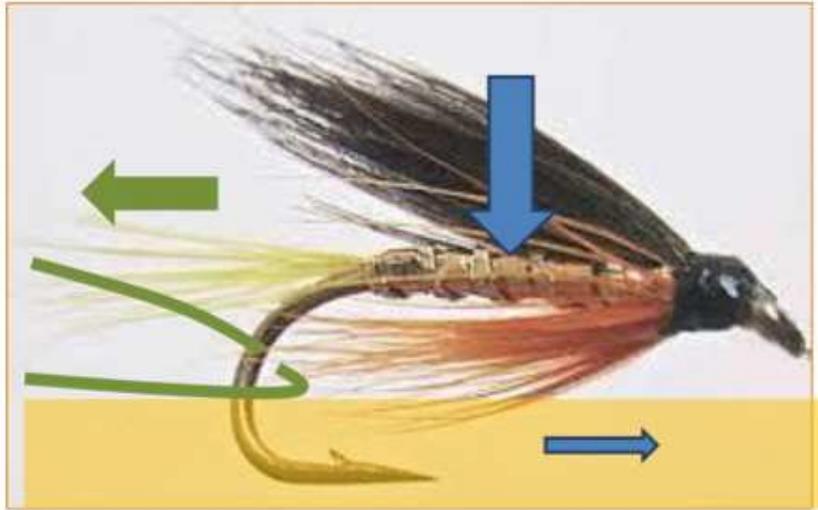
See this month's photos of the pin-up model, and remember step one from the steps below.

With all the jigging action about to kick in on the lake, and all those hooks on a line that might have an energetic fish attached to one, I thought I would share the painless technique for removing hooks from people or pets (and Gary). I never felt a thing, Craig.



## 5 Steps to get a fly out of your mate's flesh

1. Take a photo of the hook in your mate's face/hand..... Bragging rights are important.
2. Loop his fly or fishing line (shown in green below) under the fly body and hold the doubled fly line about a foot away from the fly.
3. Get the hooked fisher to hold the fly between thumb and forefinger, pushing down firmly (see big blue arrow) while also pushing lightly towards the eye of the hook (small blue arrow).
4. Ask if he wants you to count to 3 but then just jerk the fly line left (green arrow), while he thinks about it. Strike hard like you're hooking up a fish – the harder the better!
5. Find and reuse the fly as the blood on the hook should guarantee to attract the big one...



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## Weigh Masters Report

Club weigh-in is the first Sunday of each month, from 4pm at the clubrooms. Any fish caught that weekend can be weighed in.

### Weigh-in Results to November 2014

Craig Woolacott	18.41
Gary Preston	13.43
Debbie Colebourne	12
Andrew McHale	7.57
Quentin Colebourne	7
Shawn Sangster	5.22
Arne Rodsjo	2.41
Matt Pate	2.19
Sylvia Churchman	1.33

*NOTE - No January weigh-in. The first one for 2015 will be the first weekend in February.*

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# 2015 Taupo Fishing Club committee

<b>President</b>	Matt Pate
<b>Treasurer</b>	Leanne Nielsen
<b>Secretary</b>	Trudi McHale
<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	Ariell King

## **Committee members**

Andrew King, Shelley Preston, Margaret Minogue, Debbie Colebourne, Shaun Nielsen, Andrew McHale.

## **Life members**

Mike Fletcher, John Davis, Russell Rountree

## **The Taupo Fishing Club is Affiliated to:**

The NZ Sport fishing Council [www.nzsportfishing.co.nz](http://www.nzsportfishing.co.nz)

International Game Fishing Association [www.igfa.org](http://www.igfa.org)

NZ Federation of Freshwater Anglers [www.nzffa.net](http://www.nzffa.net)

NZ Recreational Fishing Council [www.recfish.co.nz](http://www.recfish.co.nz)

## **Committee meetings**

Second Tuesday each month, 6:30pm at the Clubrooms

**New members always welcome!**

**If you know anyone who wants to join they can email**

[info@taupofishingclub.co.nz](mailto:info@taupofishingclub.co.nz)

*Every Friday the clubroom and bar is open from 5.30pm, families are welcome.*

*There is a weekly raffle and a membership draw at 7pm every Friday.  
You must be present to win.*

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 [Website](#)