



2013

LURE

The Year in Review

Reel News from the Tautuku Fishing Club | December 2013 | Issue 37

January

- Bruce Moody appointed President of the New Zealand Salmon Anglers Association (NZSAA)
- Record numbers of Salmon caught off the city wharf reported

February

- Murray Muir celebrates his birthday in style at Jackson Bay, West Coast
- Turtles are spotted off the coast near Taieri Mouth

March

- Geoff Rowlings, President of the NZ Recreational Fishing Council gets behind 'FishingFutureSearch'
- 'Paua to the People' formed due to concerns over paua over-harvesting

April

- Roz Nelson, secretary of the NZ Sport Fishing Council takes a walk down memory lane
- PWC lend a helping hand to Salmon City

May

- The Paua issue explodes - Jono Bavin, member of 'Paua to the People' provides an update
- Tim Shadbolt talks childhood and commercial fishing management

June

- David Haynes appointed NZ Federation of Freshwater Anglers President
- Grant lodged to help towards Tautuku clubrooms restoration



Salmon artwork by Ben Girola - graphic artist, travelling man, free spirit and all round good fella.
bengirola@gmail.com

Quotable & Notable

"I'm supporting a Charity or Home. Yeah, give me another TUI !!!"

- Bruce Moody, President NZSAA on recreational anglers over fishing

Derek Morrison, legendary Otago coastal photographer, releases amazing '**Dunedin Light - Seasons**' book.

Get yours: www.ridemedia.co.nz

"May I say, the beer and rum tasted extra good that night..."

- Murray Muir, Club Captain

"We are being hammered by bureaucrats."

- Willy Leferink, Federated Farmers Dairy chairperson, comment on New Zealand's regulation industry

First time through the Taieri Mouth Bar!

First time Groper catch!

First time Monster Coutta catch!

**Mark Fraser - Club South Island
Spearfishing Champ - three firsts**



July

- Trish Rea provides insight into the NZ Sport Fishing Council's fishing management work
- News from the Salmon Hatchery - 200,000 plus eggs hatching & well

August

- Pete Everitt & his wife Dianne, go to Twizel to visit family and go fishing in a 'secret' spot
- Foraging around the Otago coast proves fruitful for Lure producer

September

- All-round legend Brian Turner spins a yarn of growing up and fishing around Otago
- Tautuku Presidents Report 2012/13 season released

October

- Miranda O'Connell FISHinFuture Search attempts to chart a strong future for NZ fishing
- Ignite Consultants Jeremy and Hannah promote Salmon City

November

- Kelvin Wright - ex Club Captain moves to 'Taradise' and buys a Kayak for the interim
- Lure producer freaks out when computer melts down; still gets Nov issue out, Pres oblivious !

"Commercial fishing is vital to our local economy but we have to manage our seafood resource in such a way that recreational fishermen can maintain our kiwi lifestyle."

- Tim Shadbolt JP. Mayor Invercargill City

"The Newsletters are fantastic, and I am so very proud to be part of the Club. You are doing a tremendous job."

- Alastair Mcalpine, Life Member, Brisbane

"The biggest battle we have is anglers apathy. Someone once said 'Anarchy is only bred when good men do nothing'."

- Norrie Day, Legend Angler

The Dunedin Community Salmon Trust reports that 250,000 Salmon eggs have been 'put to bed' @ the Sawyers Bay Salmon Hatchery this month. **June 2013**

"It's pretty gutting really - it's the first confirmed positive sample of a waterway west of the divide"

DOC freshwater ranger Lyndsay Murray on the the invasive freshwater algae didymo found in Fiordland's Large Burn valley

"...it has quickly become apparent that our fight is to stop what is supposed to be ours from being taken - namely fresh water."

David Haynes, President New Zealand Federation of Freshwater Anglers

"I am driven by a strong belief in self responsibility, a belief that the whole is greater than the sum of its parts and an ability to look for the positive. Underpinning these drivers is a love of the outdoors and a desire to contribute to a future that my children and their children's children can enjoy."

Miranda O'Connell

FISHinFuture Search - Project Manager

NEWSFLASH!

As we gather together for Christmas with our families, we reflect on the gathering that took place prior. The Minister of Primary Industries, Hon Nathan Guy's decision is to keep the 'status quo' of our coastline Paua areas. We now enjoy the Paua gathering for our Christmas meal!

This is an example of persistence in bringing everyone involved together at the table with the governors of our land.

As a team, we have made this happen. Thanks to you all.

Brett Bensemman representing Tautuku Fishing Club Dunedin & Haast Inc, Dunedin Community Salmon Hatchery Trust Inc, Green Island Fishing Club, Our FishInFuture Inc and the New Zealand Sports Fishing Council with the Paua negotiations.



President's CORNER

Wow, another year is about to pass!

When one seeks a major story for our front page of the Lure newsletter, time is of the essence. I must thank Roz Nelson, Secretary, NZSFC, Miranda O'Connell, Projects Manager, Our Fishing Future Inc, David Haynes, President of NZFFA, Bruce Moody, President, NZ Salmon Anglers Assoc, Mark Connor, President NZSFC, Geoff Rowling, President, NZRFC, Trish Rea, Fisheries Management, NZSFC, Tim Shadbolt, Invercargill Mayor, Dave Cull, Dunedin Mayor, Brian Turner, Otago's Poet & Sports Journalist for their major contributions over this past year - contributors who are outside our club membership. Also thanks to those who are connected to this prestigious fishing club and have contributed articles & photos - Many Thanks!! Very much appreciated.

I believe in our children's future for future preservation of our fishing resources for Recreational Fishing - that's why I have supported 'status quo' (also our club); for our PAU 5D fishery area - (Note March 2013 Lure issue). The Paua issue gained momentum when both City Councils plus Mayors of Dunedin & Invercargill voiced their submissions to the MPI & then an active support arose; with our NZ Media taking notice! The ecosystem of this unique fishery has to be preserved for future Recreational Fishers.

We saw a concerned group of 66 Recreational Fishers representing the huge number of our 1.2 million fishers gathering to 'pave' the way for ALL FISHERS of New Zealand, covering Shore, Sea, Rivers & Lakes of this Fine Country. This NZ body; compliments our Club connections to NZSFC, when we as a Club, fish for Sports Fishing Trophies. Trying to get NZSFC & Our Future Fishing Future Inc; together for the 'common cause' has been very hard to achieve. Even with 'personal attacks'; I still know, both parties should 'get around the table'. We are all passionate fishers & should bury the hatchet of the PAST! We are there for our children & grand children & our Country!

It's been a busy Year for our Club - covering needed

ground & building maintenance, increasing our Club Revenue, building Club profile not only within Dunedin, but to all New Zealanders & overseas fishing clubs, giving back to our Club Members re: our recent Christmas Joy & Good Well, Fishing Competitions, Free BBQ events, and children events. We are a financial Club; making 'things happen'. We have come a long way from 8 years ago of considerable restraints; to viable options in moving ahead. In moving ahead we have the restoration of our Club taking place early next year & end of March, thanks to the hard work of a dedicated few Club Members in making this happen..

Your Club Fishing Committee of Murray Muir, Russell Moylan, Paul Fogarty, Grant Hutton & Nathan Pitcher; has put in place various fishing activities for 2014; starting with the Christmas Classic, Read Marine Blue Cod Hunt & a Ladies Fishing Competition. There are MORE to COME! Social events for 2014 will also be forth coming.

Thanks to all Club Members that stepped up to the plate in helping towards our recent successful Christmas Doo! I shouldn't have ask members to help - it's up to members to offer!

Yep - It's not What the Club can do for you! It's what you can do for the Club!! Where have I heard that before!!!

Sunday afternoons/evenings are becoming more popular at the Club - take note of Ron Johnsons "Puffer Fish" from Papa New Guinea; that has been donated to our Club. Thanks Ron.

Enjoy your quality time with your families & friends - take care on our roads & waterways - Tight lines.

Best Wishes over the Festive Season of 2013.

Cheers,
Brett.



Canary in the Coalmine

Because trout can only survive in cold, clean, unpolluted water, when we see them dying off we know immediately that something is wrong with the water quality. They're an indicator species, measuring the quality of rivers and gauging man's destruction of cold-water ecosystems, probably the most precious aquatic resource on earth.

For, although 75% of the earth's surface is covered in water, more than 97% of that is salt water, unfit for irrigation, industry or human use. That means that only 3% of the world's water is fresh water – but 75% of that is permanently locked in polar icecaps and mountain glaciers, so nearly all of the remaining fresh water is underground. Less than 1/10,000 of 1% of the world's fresh water flows in streams at any one time! And, very, very few of these are trout streams, the rarest of all aquatic resources. In fact, less than 1/1,000,000 of 1%, yes, that's ONE MILLIONTH OF ONE PERCENT of the earth's water flows in trout streams at any one time. Think about that, because if we continue to abuse them like we did the whales, the bison, and the passenger pigeons, soon they'll be gone and when they're gone, they're gone forever because God's not making any more these days.

So it's not just anglers who need trout; all of us do. Just as miners used canaries as an early detection system for dangerous underground gasses, we need trout as guardians of our cold, clean water; we need them as an indicator of our environmental abuse because we all need the cold, clean

water and wild places where trout live.

I get angry when big greedy concerns want to steal yet another trout stream for ANY reason, whether it be for hydro-power, irrigation, watering stock, cooling, or yet another new subdivision. What they want to steal is a priceless, irreplaceable thing that belongs to ALL of us and NOBODY should EVER have the right to take it away.

So next time you hear of some outfit planning to "develop" or "utilize" a trout-stream near you, be alert and be alarmed, for these are almost always words used to disguise "destroy" and "steal", the real meaning of what's on the agenda. And then DO something about it before it's too late.

Hugh McDowell
Ngongotaha,
Rotorua



Salmon release – why fin clip?

A group of salmon enthusiasts - Salmon City Supporters, Salmon Anglers and University of Otago volunteering students – recently released just short of 12,000 salmon smolt in the Leith. The NZ Salmon Anglers have been releasing salmon for years, and typically do so in May/June. The most recent release was 'different', in that it was done in December. What are the issues to consider prior to a release?

For the Dunedin Community Salmon Trust, the key issue was simply to thin out the stock at the hatchery, especially ahead of the Christmas period. Every salmon smolt that is released has the potential to grow to something worthwhile on the hook – however, more fish in tanks means a greater need for space and water, and with the limits we face, increasing the number of fish for release into the harbour can only be realised by continuously thinning of stock. Other key considerations relate to food availability and the opposite, the risk for our fish to be prey for something else. We know rather little about both these food-related factors, and how they may change over time and between years.

Successful returns to the Otago Harbour (assuming a proportion of fish actually leave the harbour in the first place!) can be quantified by tagging. A common approach is so-called 'coded-wire tagging' (CWT), where a group of fish are all injected with a tiny bit of wire that is about 1 mm long – etched in the wire are combinations of grooves ("binary tag") that is specific for a particular group of fish. At the same time, the tiny adipose fin is removed with scissors, so there are outwardly signs that the fish has a CWT 'somewhere'.

The Trust unfortunately doesn't have a tagging machine – but we hope to borrow one that is in NZ and under repair at the moment. Regardless, with our latest release, we hope to find out whether fish released in the "off-season" (i.e, December – this is actually a time that the fish are developmentally

programmed to go to see – a process scientists call "smoltification" and that is hormonally controlled) will still give some good returns – we know that ~30% of the fish we released were fin-clipped (adipose fins from anaesthetised salmon were removed, and fish were placed in recovery tanks and then transported to the Leith release location), so we estimate returns on the basis of the number of clipped salmon caught in the harbour in ~ 2 years time. Therefore, if you catch a fin-clipped salmon, please let us know!

Dr Mark Lokman

Trustee and fish biologist ('what hormones do in fish') at Otago University

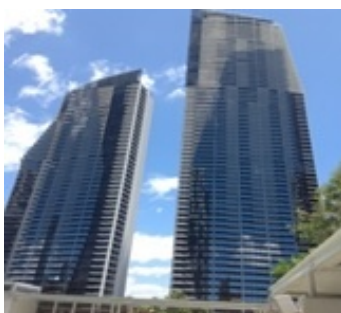




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Tautuku Fishing Club Christmas Day Out!!

Our Club entertained 75 Members, family & friends with music from the 'Super Glue' Band. Our Drummer Club Member; Stewart Springer was a 'hit' !!

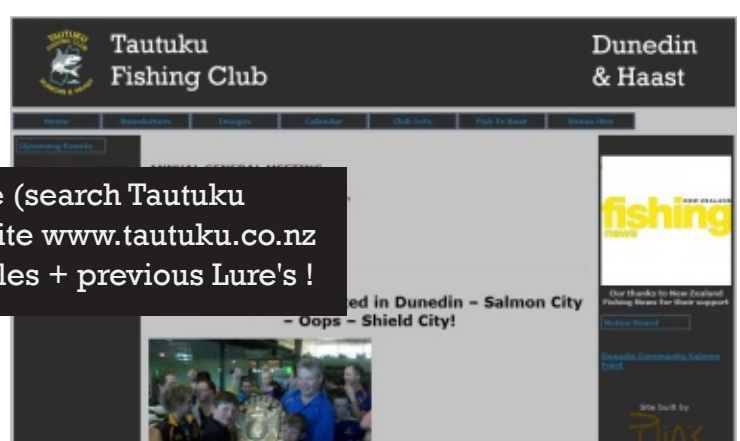
As was Santa, with free gifts for the 30 children.



Yes, there were also free drinks for the children. 'Santa's Lolly Scramble' kept the children young and old entertained.

A free BBQ for ALL was also a hit, cooked by our own Club Chefs, from the Hutton Family.

Great time had by ALL!
Ho Ho Ho !



But wait... there's more!

Another Salmon Smolt release – 37,000 transported from Clearwater Salmon Hatchery, Christchurch. The operation went well, all healthy & await their return in 3 Years time!!!

A Big thanks to both Benmore Salmon and the Dunedin Community Salmon Trust; in making 'things happen' here in Dunedin – Salmon City!!



More Effort Required on Clutha Salmon Restoration

Otago Fish and Game Council considered reports at its November meeting on the current status of the Lower Clutha salmon run and progress towards restoration. The Clutha used to support a major run of chinook salmon prior to the construction of the Roxburgh Dam in the 1950s. The size of the historic run has been estimated at over 30,000 returning fish per year with records of salmon spawning in lake tributaries such as the Hunter and Matukituki Rivers. The Roxburgh Dam stopped all that and the run quickly dwindled to less than 1000 returning fish per year.

In 2001 Contact Energy's resource consents to operate its Clutha dams expired and new RMA consents required consideration of adverse fisheries impacts and efforts to mitigate those impacts. Amongst other things Contact's consents include a condition requiring mitigation activities aimed at restoring a run of salmon into the Lower Clutha of 5000 fish per year. However the consents were tied up by appeals until 2007 when they eventually became operational. Since then Contact has undertaken an annual programme of activity aimed at enhancing fish habitat and increasing the salmon run. Central to the exercise is the annual release of salmon smolts which has gradually increased from 30,000 in 2010 to 150,000 in 2013. While the steady increase is pleasing Otago Fish and Game considers the smolt release levels need to more than double to achieve the target of 5000 returning fish and estimates that current annual run is probably more like 500 fish per annum. However the full effect of the first modest release of 30,000 smolt in 2010 is only beginning to be felt.



Fish and Game hopes to meet with Contact Energy in the new year to review the Lower Clutha fisheries mitigation programme and to accelerate its implementation. Crucial to the measurement of progress is information from salmon anglers who fish the Lower Clutha and Pomahaka Rivers from our annual telephone surveys and riverbank 'creel' surveys. So if you fish for salmon in the Lower Clutha but you haven't been surveyed in the past please let us know by contacting Helen Keeling via email h.keeling@fish-game.org.nz or by phone 03 4779076.

Niall Watson
Otago Fish & Game.

Elio's CLUB COUTTA HUNT !

Elio's CLUB COUTTA HUNT !

Reels were 'wringing' on our Dunedin Harbour & Coastline for the 'prized' Coutta !

Various children and adult fishers were seeking their catches from nine boats that participated in this Christmas Coutta Hunt! Not all caught their Coutta requirement; but caught other species for a feed!

Those that caught numerous Coutta's – only one could be weigh in per person. There were prizes for all Coutta anglers. Elio's Gun Shop of South Dunedin sponsored the major prizes; while Mitchell's Tavern of Caversham covered all other prizes with restaurant vouchers. Our Club appreciates these Dunedin businesses in giving a generous sponsorship. Fun was had by all, in good sea conditions – the children had a ball!!

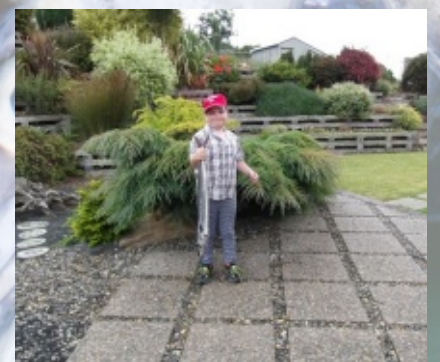
Results:

Children:

Jorja Hutton – 2.470 kg.
Liam Smith – 2.450 kg.
Mason Bergerson – 2.385 kg.
Jack Todd – 2.210 kg.
Keith Clearwater – 1.915 kg.
Zack Hibbert – 1.910 kg.
Jake Hibbert – 1.905 kg.

Adults:

Rakesh Pandey – 2.585 kg.
Grant Hutton – 2.465 kg.
Roger Kan – 2.325 kg.
Craig Smith – 2.285 kg.
Garry Paterson – 2.205 kg.
Murray Muir – 1.950 kg.
Leanne Smith – 1.940 kg.



Fergus Memorial Christmas Classic

This fishing competition will be run from Monday 23rd December 2013 to Sunday 5th January 2014.

Heaviest Fish.

\$100 Cash Prize, plus meal voucher from Mitchell's Tavern. PLUS: Receive the Fergus Mathieson Cup & miniature @ Club Prize Giving.

Additional:-

\$50 Cash Prizes for the following heaviest fish species: Groper, Blue Cod, Trumpeter, Jock Stewart, Salmon, Shark & Coutta. Skippers Points also up for grabs.

\$50 Cash Prize : Heaviest fish by a Junior.

\$50 Cash Prize : Heaviest fish weighed in by a Lady (full or associate Club Member).

Please register with Murray Muir by phoning 4558808, 021 481479 or Russell Moylan 4561162.

Prior to going fishing, you only have to register once.



Any Club Weigh Master can weigh your fish:
Additional to Murray & Russell – Other Club weigh masters are:- Warren Joyce 454 4184/027 4851695. Brett Bensemann 4557592/021 456772.

Ian Gunion 027 4881037. Ian Reeves 027 3197100. Ata Johns 487 8855.

Final weigh in and Prize Giving will be 6 pm Sunday 5th January 2014.

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fish to beat

Blue Cod – 3.315 kg Nathan Pitcher.
 Barracouta – Rakesh Pandey 2.585 kg
 Salmon – 2.820 kg Jorja Hutton.
 Groper – 6.995 kg Jack Todd.
 Sea Perch – 1.235 kg Nathan Pitcher.
 Ladies Trophy – 2.505 kg Blue Cod, Cate Bardwell.
 Junior Blue Cod – 2.335 kg Jorja Hutton.
 Junior Trophy – 6.995 kg Groper, Jack Todd.

Skippers Points:
 Non Game Fish.
 Mike Todd 1Pt.
 Nathan Pitcher 1Pt.
 Rakesh Pandey 1 Pt to the list!

Provisional Points;
 Nathan Pitcher 3Pts.
 Grant Hutton 2Pts.
 Mike Todd 2 Pts.
 Rakesh Pandey 1 Pt.



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Read Marine Blue Cod Hunt Sunday 26th January 2014

1 entry per boat/crew.

Your 3 heaviest blue cod gutted are to be presented to the weigh master, no later than 6.30pm.

Prize giving 7.00pm. **No entry fee.**

We have decided to open the competition to non club members providing at least one fully paid up member from the Tautuku Fishing Club is on board.

Latham from Read Marine has really come to the party with competition prizes.

1st prize \$250.00 cash.

2nd prize \$150.00 cash.

Latham is also putting together other prizes for us, to be presented on the day, 3rd, 4th, 5th and maybe more.

We will also have a \$100.00 lucky boat draw

(You have to be there to win)

Also - A Ladies Competition on the day – Heaviest Fish & Heaviest Blue Cod prizes.

Please Register with Murray Muir 03-4558808 ASAP; no later than Friday 24th January 9pm.

If I am not home please leave a message and your phone numbers so I can get back to you in the case of the competition being postponed.

We should know if the competition is on by Friday night.





Dear Brett, and fellow members of the Tautuku Fishing Club, Myself and the NZSFC Board would like to wish you all a merry Xmas and a happy and safe new year.

I know the club has had a busy year and always look forward to catching up on the clubs progress , activities and projects through the Lure Newsletter which you should be very proud of, always a great read.

Thanks to all of you who stood up and were counted on the Paua campaign. Those of you that stood solid and forced MPI and the Government to take a step back and reconsider their decision was greatly appreciated and there will be more of this to come as we stand up for our right to go out and catch a feed . The Fish belong to the people not MPI or commercial interests and all fisheries need to be managed sustainably for the benefit of all now and in the future not just for the export dollars. The Marlin

campaign and the continuing Snapper campaign in the North are great examples of what we can achieve if we all stand up and say enough is enough.

For those of you heading out on the water I hope you are blessed by the weather and Fish Gods.

Always remember Safety first , wear that life jacket especially when crossing the Taieri Bar and any other time when the conditions are marginal and always for the Kids.

We want to see all of your smiling faces next year.

Happy fishing and Tight Lines to all.

Mark Connor
President
New Zealand Sport Fishing Council Inc

Big Kahuna (Tuna!)

Mercury Bay Game Fishing club have just weighed the first major game fish of the season with a 114.6 Kg Big Eye Tuna caught aboard the boat Humdinger by Simon Brown.

This bodes well for their upcoming Valley Toyota Top Ten Tuna Tournament on 4th and 5th of January 2014.

Go to www.fishgrid.com to find out where they got it!



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