

## *Wentworth Heights B&B and Fly Fish Matura* Newsletter



# Fly Fish MATAURA

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Low Water On The Matura

Well here we are, past mid-winter and on the countdown to the start of the new fishing season. The past summer couldn't have been more different to the previous one with a couple of hot dry months through February and March. Some of the smaller streams became very weedy and their water temperatures rose to uncomfortable levels for brownies, resulting in many fish dropping back into the main rivers. Although the Matura River ran low for quite a while the night time air temperatures remained cool,

making for some good fishing and opening up some areas for wading that we

don't get to fish very often. Despite the low water February was our best ever month in 10 years of guiding for the number of fish landed. The only disappointment was that the mayfly hatches were patchy during this time and most fish were caught on nymphs. There were several days when a huge hatch would happen with great dry fly action then maybe close to a week would pass with hardly a bug on the water. Hard to follow sometimes!!

One of the summer's highlights was guiding Heide and Laurie from the U.K. for 2 days. Heide had put fly fishing on her bucket list after hearing about fishing expeditions from her Dad, Laurie and their sons over the years. First day on the water she landed one nice fish after playing it beautifully, dropped a couple of others and came home with "the fishing bug" On the second day Heide really got into the swing of things, landing 5 with another 4 hookups that didn't quite make it to the net. It was a real buzz to help her land her first trout and to see someone get really



Heide's First Fish

hooked on fly fishing. You can bet that the next time the family is off to Scotland for a fishing trip Heide will be first to book a spot on the water.

As the season wound down and we got into April the summer weather seemed to desert us rather rapidly with cold winds, including several days of easterlies which are always more difficult to fish on. Through most of the last month we were mainly back fishing with nymphs with the occasional day of rising fish. Overall it's been a very good season but a little disappointing for dry fly.



9lb Brown On The Tongariro

For us personally, we have managed a few trips to Te Anau and back to the Upukerora – still one of our favourite rivers. After big floods there earlier in summer the river has changed considerably. A few of our favourite spots including our “never fail pool” have gone but some awesome new pools and glides have presented and we experienced some of our most rewarding fishing there. The highlight of the season though would have to be in May during a couple of days in Turangi when Barry landed a brownie that tipped the scales at

just over 9 lb. It put up an impressive fight during which time I took an unintentional swim in the Tongariro River. Managed to save the camera but drown the phone!!

Once again it has been a busy season and we appreciate the loyalty of our guests. We especially thank those of you who have taken the time to write Trip Advisor reviews of your stay with us which has resulted in Wentworth Heights B&B being awarded a certificate of Excellence for 2013 to add to the one we received last year. There have been a few difficult times for us earlier in the year which makes you realize that no matter how much heart and soul you put into your business, your family mean the world and will always come first (thank-you Ellen for your understanding and support) Several guests also met my Mum who stayed with us while she recovered from a bout of ill health. She now thinks we have the best job in the



Bink And Jack....Great Guests

world and to Sue in particular, thank you for your kindness toward her.

A few new faces have been added to the “wall of fame” which is looking very impressive. Vicki, Bink, Allan, Robin, Terry, and Laurie, ...you are some of those who have made the cut. Our biggest compliment is always returning guests and this season has been no exception. New friendships have also been made and we are looking forward to welcoming many of you back again next season – none more so than Stuart and Vicki (we will celebrate that special birthday in



16<sup>th</sup> July 2013



Well Done On The Dry Vicki

style Stuart!) We also send our best wishes to several of our guests who have had a tough year with illness, either personally or with family members.

It would be fair to say we are enjoying some “downtime” – experimenting with new recipes (lamb rack with port and red currant jus being the new fav,) fly tying by the hundreds, and the usual off season house maintenance keeping us busy.

76 days until the start of the 2013/14 season.....we will be ready....bring it on!!!

Tight lines  
Diane and Barry



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