

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



Kia Ora and Greetings from Wentworth Heights

There is some truth in the saying that the older you get the faster time passes, and maybe time does fly when you are having fun. We certainly have enjoyed the last fishing/B&B season, it just keeps getting better.



*Stuart's 70th Birthday*

part of two 70<sup>th</sup> birthday dinners here at Wentworth Heights. In early March Dennis, and then a week later Stuart, with their lovely wives Lois and Vicki along with other fishing friends celebrated these milestones.

Early in the season (over a glass of wine in Te Anau after a great day fishing the Upuk) we decided we would look into getting a sign made incorporating our business names and a statue of a Brown Trout. We had seen a corrugated iron Rainbow Trout at the Tongariro Trout Centre in the North Island and after lots of emails, photos, planning and

A huge thank-you to all our guests and clients for your continued loyalty and support. Your reviews have resulted in Wentworth Heights B&B receiving a 2014 Trip Advisor 5 star Certificate of Excellence Award for the 3<sup>rd</sup> year in a row. We have had another great season and once again \$2 from every room night has been donated to the Gore Arts and Heritage Centre to help support the good work they do.

There have been several highlights over summer. Returning guests are always a pleasure and this year we were stoked to be



*Brownie*



*Steven on the Otamita*

changes, “Brownie” arrived in a wooden crate weighing 250kg. He now takes pride of place in the driveway to welcome guests.

The second half of the fishing season was a mixed bag weather wise, with high water in the last week of December, middle of January and February then a good run through until the last few days of April.

As has been the case most years since the

Mataura River below the bridge in Gore has been open for the extra month of

May, we got short changed only making it to the 20<sup>th</sup> before heavy rain, (mostly up country) followed by a snow dump saw high water, and then a few warmer days resulted in a major snow melt. You would have sworn it was September or October ( Spring) looking at the colour of the water. In the 8 years that the lower river has been open there has only been one season where we got to fish until the very end of May.

Some of the smaller streams have fished really well while the Mataura was out of action. It was a blast taking guests onto the Waimea, Otamita and other nearby streams to stalk rising fish with a #18 Adams.

We did have some awesome dry fly fishing over the last couple of months....if you were lucky to strike the right day (YOU SHOULD HAVE BEEN HERE LAST THURSDAY!!!!) It was patchy however with one day of great dry fly action then several days until the next big hatch came along. In the meantime the nymphing on most days more than made up for it.



*Stewart on the Waimea*

Amongst the highlights were helping quite a few clients new to flyfishing catch their first fish and also several fishermen land their first NZ trout after trying their luck in other parts of the country without success. It has been great to catch up with so many returning fishermen, some for their 6<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup> time in Gore. There are still plenty of new spots to explore for those repeat offenders.

Prospects are looking good for the coming season opening on October 1<sup>st</sup>. The weather experts are predicting a warmer than usual winter with average rainfall for Southland. They are also predicting an El Nino pattern for summer. This normally means very dry conditions for the North Island and Eastern South Island with average to above average temperatures predicted for Gore.

16 June 2014



*Upuk Brown*

We are already looking forward to next season with solid bookings to date. No doubt there will be new fishing tales to tell over a quiet single malt after a great day on the river.

Tight lines and dry socks

Cheers  
Diane and Barry.



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