

February 2011



## Steve Williamson's Trout Tales



### Special Interest Articles:

- Change of date for beginner fly fishing school.
- Weekend Fishing Courses.
- Exploring Khancoban Weekend.

### JUST A REMINDER

This newsletter does not contain any fishing reports – for the very latest updates you need to either go to my web site or subscribe to my weekly fishing reports by e-mailing me with a request to be placed onto my Fishing Report e-mail list.

*Steve Williamson's Trout Fishing Adventures.*

## Steve's Comments



Well the holiday period is now over and I can say I did enjoy this past month. Not quite as busy and a little more relaxed, maybe not so good for the bank balance but a good month anyway. The cooler weather was a good start

and the heat at the end of January certainly brought the lake alive with people enjoying water sports and this showcased the Snowy Mountains as a fantastic alternative to the coastal beaches – not so crowded as the coast but just as many things to do if not more.

The fishing overall was great and I am looking forward to the next couple of months as I think the stream and river fishing is going to be fantastic for both lure and fly.

On the lake the trout have been deep and that means that we have been in the middle of the downrigging season and whilst not as good as previous years it has still been great with very fat rainbow trout about 1 kg being the average fish caught.

Well I hope to catch up with you all soon but for now, after 36 days without a day off, I am heading down to the coast for some serious sleep and maybe some fishing!



*Kristian and Keith White and Cristian Mapstone with some of the fantastic rainbow trout we have been catching this season and the fish are getting bigger!*



*Are we the lucky country or not?*

## Steve's Monthly Whinge!

Can you believe our Prime Minister when she put a disaster levy on taxpayers whilst she spends 5 ½ Billion in foreign aid each year?

If I didn't see this for myself I would not have believed it.

This is a disgrace in the times when Queensland, Victorian and NSW people are in desperate times of need.

More people know about this the better.

I see our beloved prime minister - in all her generosity

Is going to..... wait for It .....

..... give a \$25,000 interest free loan to those unfortunate AUSTRALIAN'S affected by the floods in Queensland plus wait for It ..... \$1,000 for every affected adult & \$400 for every child of said

family..... **this makes me all warm and fuzzy when our Prime Minister can also give:**

**Gillard pledges \$500M to Indonesia for Islamic schools.**

<http://www.theage.com.au/national/500m-school-deal-for-jakarta-20101102-17ce6.html>

**Gillard promises \$160M to Vietnam for new bridge.**

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/stories/2010/10/31/3053197.htm>

**Gillard offers \$45M to aid Indonesia for climate change.**

<http://www.news.com.au/breaking-news/australia-offers-indonesia-climate-change-aid/story-e6frku0-1225968805023>

I have to ask how long are we going to put up with the total mismanagement of our country by our incompetent politicians?

One party is as bad as the other – so who do you vote for?

**It will also be an interesting state election next month!**

### **WATER SKI RACES**

Yes apparently I managed to single handed chase away the National Speed and Water Ski

Championships off Lake Jindabyne this January!

**GREAT JOB STEVE!**

Well some would say that! Apparently I have cost the township millions of dollars in revenue since the water skiers decided to take the event to the Hawkesbury River.

If this were true it would be OK and most anglers would be cheering for joy.

In fact the races were canned in Jindabyne mainly due to the fact that they had a very busy calendar and most ski racers were finding it difficult to find the time and money to come so far to Jindy not to mention it's a hard place to tow a big boat if you're coming from the southern states.

Then there is the fact that funding from the Snowy River Shire Council had also dried up and there was no other local support for the event. To be honest the last couple of years when the race course was down at the South Arm of the lake I had no problem with the event and actually supported it, but did the town actually benefit from the event in the first place?

## Beginner Fly Fishing Weekends



My beginner fly fishing weekend dates have now been set for 2011

As usual there is limit to the number of participants.

**The dates are – 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> February 2011**

**Prices are – \$390 per person.**

This weekend takes you from the very beginning of rigging up and covers both lake and river fishing techniques. If your interested then send me an e-mail and I will send you a complete itinerary and booking sheets.

As always numbers are limited.

If you can get 6 people

together you can always book a private fly fishing weekend.

Again e-mail me if you're interested and I will custom a fly fishing course to suit your needs.

One day courses are also available and we even tailored corporate fly fishing events to your needs.

## Exploring Khancoban – Fly Fishing long weekend.

This weekend is being set up for those fly anglers that would like to explore the other side of the Snowy Mountains. As many rivers, streams and lakes will be explored over the weekend as we can, but at a relaxed pace to ensure you also have time to take in the beauty of the Khancoban area.

You do not have to be an expert fly angler as instruction will be provided for those that still need some help and I can also provide all rods, reels and tackle if required. I have also employed the services of Neal Bennett's who has lived and fished the area for over 35 years. Neal is a retired member of the Professional Fishing Guides and Instructors Association and he will be showing us some of his favorite fishing locations on the Swampy Plains, the Mitta,

the Indi and Upper Murray Rivers and he has also exclusive access to wilderness waters, previously closed to anglers. Your accommodation at Queens Cottage in Khancoban will be trip back in fly fishing history. Queens Cottage was built in the 1950's to provide accommodation for her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II when she visited the Snowy Mountains Hydro Electricity Scheme, to officially open the Snowy 1 Power Station.

Purchased by the late Mike Spry in the 1990's, is was always Mike's dream set up Queens Cottage as an exclusive fly fishing lodge. Mike was the grandfather of guiding in Australia. Queens Cottage has recently been purchased and renovated by Andrew and Anne Laycock, previous

owners of the Khancoban Hotel. Andrew and Anne will be taking us back in history showing us some of the memorabilia from earlier days of Queens Cottage and Mike Spry's personal fly fishing collection.

Andrew and Anne will be our hosts on Saturday evening's dinner.

**DATES are-**

**18th, 19th and 20th  
February 2011**

**18th, 19th and 20th  
March 2011**

Numbers are limited to 6 and there are only 3 places left for the first weekend tour.



Above- 4 star private motel accommodation for guests on our 3 day tour.

Below – Fishing the Nariel River



## New Fishing Package - 4 people – 8 hours Fishing and 2 nights accommodation - \$980

New for this season is a package that may suit a group of anglers or a family that not only wants to participate in a little guided fishing but also have time to look around the area. I provide two 4 hour fishing trips with the methods of your choice and provide 2 nights accommodation at our own 3 bedroom

self contained flat. You can choose a mornings trolling or maybe a little fly fishing or lure spinning and we provide all tackle. Extra nights accommodation can also be booked if required. If you would like to book you will need to call 0264561551 during shop hours and mention this

package. Subject to availability of accommodation.

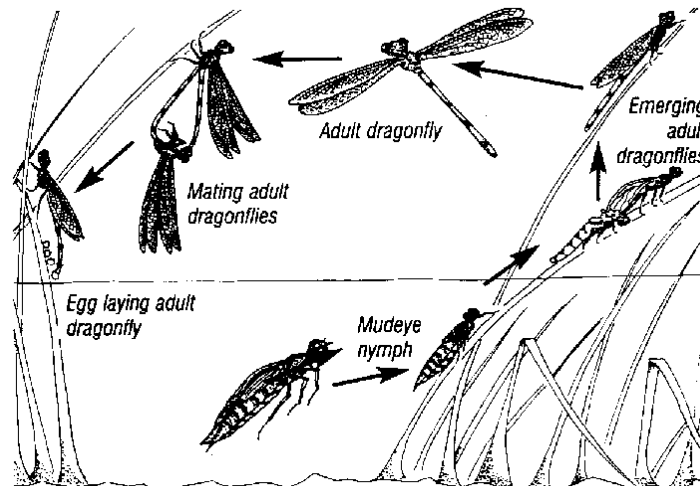


*“Two 4 hour fishing trips with everything supplied and 2 nights accommodation for 4 people for \$980 or \$245 each.”*



Not the best way to collect mudeyes.

## 'Beware the Mudeye Monster'



Dragonfly life cycle.

Mudeyes are the nymph of the dragonfly and are top trout bait if you can get them. Most tackle shops sell mudeyes as bait, but since they like to breed in still water like dams and anglers collect them usually from farm dams, they have been hard to get with the drought of recent years. This year with so much water about the dragonflies have been busy laying eggs and so expect next spring summer to be fantastic fishing with mudeyes under a bubble float.

## New Stuff



### Gulp Crickets

Just before the Christmas break, Pure Fishing released the new Berkleys Gulp Crickets which were all the rage at the time. Unfortunately we couldn't

get the stock and so all we could do was listen to the stories about the success of other anglers that had been using them. We now that the holiday season is over we now have stock and so we are currently looking at testing these little soft baits out.

We would love to hear your stories if you have had any luck. There is 4 colours or flavours and the talk is that they are great mudeye imitations. If this bait is anything like the Powerbat putty is should

be very good.

Give it a try next time you are down and if you talk to my staff I am sure that they will do you a special deal if you promise to report back on how you went.

Use them under a bubble float like you do a suspended mudeye and make certain you put line silicon on your line to reduce the surface drag of the line when you get a bite. This help stops the fish spitting out the bait when they feel drag on the line.



## Snowy Mountains Fly Fishing Weekend

The very popular Snowy Mountains fly fishing weekend is a great way for those that have just learnt to fly fish or those that want to learn more about the best locations in the Snowy Mountains and how to fish them. Over the weekend we head off to as many locations we can close by and learn how to fish the

location and then have a fish and then onto a new location. If you want to learn how to get to more locations this is your chance to explore some of my favourite spots. The whole weekend is spent on the water (weather permitting) and you get to learn some of the secrets to catching

more trout from the experts. There is a very strict number of places available and I am already taking bookings so be quick if you want a place. Special accommodation deals are also available. [If interested the only date left this side of winter is 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> March.](#)




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[We also cover the use of side planers at our downrigging course!](#)

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## 1 Day Downrigging Course

There will ONLY be one "Learning how to use a Downrigger" course in 2011. The date is in November 2011 and the cost is \$150. The course is VERY limited with numbers, so if you want to book you had best book early. During the day we cover

everything from boat set up to using sounders and side planers. This course is perfect if you want to bring your boat along to solve any problems you have and if your going to purchase a boat then you must come to the course so as you can meet and talk to other

anglers about their boats and set up. The course is being held in November so as you can be set up ready to go so as when the downrigging starts you too can enjoy catching so many fish you have to throw the rest back.

### WE HIRE :

Rods – spin & fly  
Downriggers  
Lead lines  
Sounders  
Trolling motors  
Electric Motor  
Fly Vests  
Fly Jackets  
Waders  
Landing nets

## Jindabyne's Complete Tackle Hire Service

There is no doubt that Steve Williamson's Tackle shop has the largest range of trout fishing tackle for hire possibly in all of Australia. We specialise in hire and even have an 2hp outboard motor in case your motor trolls too fast or your trolling motor breaks down and yes we also have a transom mount electric motor for hire as well. For the fly angler we have

everything you could want including a fly vest fully equipped with all accessories to make your days fishing as easy as it gets. We even have vests for spin anglers and can also provide lures on a 'you loose you pay' basis. If the fish are deep then we can rent you a lead core line or a downrigger when the trout are at their deepest in the summer months.



**News from Jindy Trout Society.**

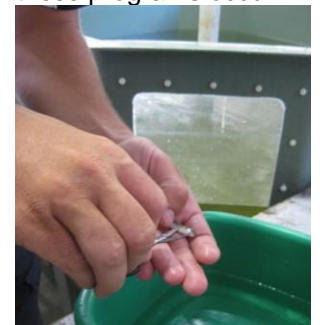
If you love your trout fishing then you should become members of the Jindabyne Trout Society and have some say in the future of our fishery as well as help out with the stocking program and also with fin clipping at Gaden Trout Hatchery. If interested give Eric an email on [mbu47937@bigpond.net.au](mailto:mbu47937@bigpond.net.au)

**New Line Bins at Paddy's Corner**

'Tangler' bins for discarded fishing line were recently placed at Paddy's Corner on the Thredbo River by myself on behalf of the Jindabyne Trout Society and Steve Samuels on behalf of the Monaro Acclimatisation Society. It was great to see that over the holiday season these bins have been used and so far for more line than rubbish.



Finclipping baby trout was recently held at Gaden trout Hatchery as part of the research program as to the survival and condition of the trout after release. If you would like to help out with programs such as this then become a member of Jindabyne Trout Society and they will let you know when these programs occur.



**Great Day at Lake Crackenback Carnival.**

Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> January saw the inaugural Lake Crackenback Carnival Day and we were there to organise a fishing competition from the lake and also a casting competition to help raise money for the Starlight Foundation. Rapala and Gladiator along with Tasmanian Devil lures sponsored the event and they

must be thanked for helping out this very worthy charity. Market stalls, helicopter rides and also a mountain bike event were just a few of the other things that were happening on the day. 6 tagged rainbow trout were released into the lake by staff at Gaden Trout Hatchery and it's no surprise that no one

managed to catch one of the tagged trout on the day, but one has been caught (and released again) since the event and so the prizes are still all up for grab for any guests that stay at the resort or visitors that register at the resort reception before fishing during daylight hours only. The Carnival will again be held in January 2012.

## Catch More Trout!

SUMMER FISHING. "You can't catch trout in the heat of summer!" is a common remark you hear. What a load of rubbish! Some of the best trout fishing occurs in the summer months. On Lake Jindabyne, you will need some deep trolling hardware if you are going to troll in the middle of the day, but you will still catch fish surface trolling an hour before and after sunrise. By mid morning, you will need to fish deeper and 'leadcore' lines at 3 to 4 colours (30 to 40 metres) or 'downriggers' from 5 metres early to 10 metres

deep will get some great fishing in. Best lures will be the 'Tasmanian Devil' numbers 50 'Frog' and 36 'Yellow wings'. When you see the 'dragonflies' about you know it is 'Mudeye' time on the lake. The mudeye is the nymph of the dragonfly and they are found in all clean waterways, especially where there is a little weed about. Bait anglers just love mudeyes and when they are suspended about a metre and a half under a float above weed beds on Lake Jindabyne, they are just deadly tucker for trout.

Some of the best areas for mudeye fishing on Lake Jindabyne are 'Hatchery Bay', 'Hayshed Bay', 'Wollondibby Inlet' and 'Waste Point'. We can't forget about summer as being one of the best 'dry fly' times on our rivers and streams. When the grasshoppers are about near the rivers you just can't go wrong as the fish can't resist them. Some of the best dry flies for summer fishing are 'Snowy Mountains Hopper', 'Royal Wulff', and you would be mad if you didn't have a yellow 'Humpy' in your fly box.

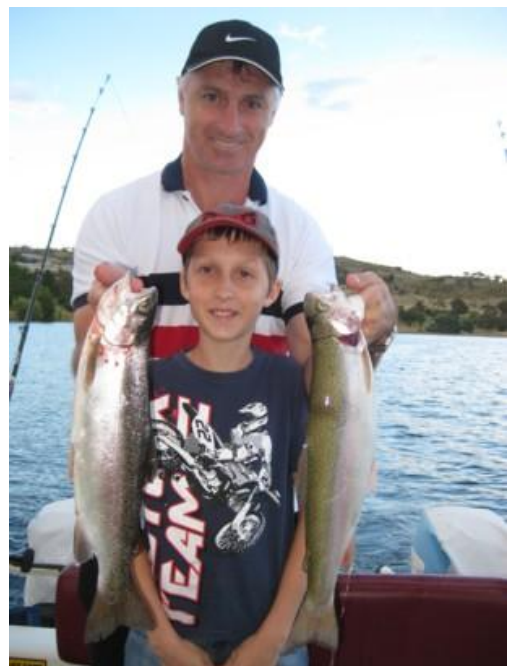


*Amanda says that downrigging is one way you can guarantee a feed during the heat of summer!*

## Fish of the Month

Brendon and Lachlan Cope had a great morning trolling with me during January and managed some very big rainbow trout mostly caught on Steve Williamson Personalised Tasmanian Devils.

Lachlan wins a Tasmanian Devil Lure pack which he can pick up next time he is in Jindabyne.



**Steve Williamson's  
Trout Fishing  
Adventures and  
Tackle Shop**

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.au

**We're on the Web!**

See us at:

**www.swtroutfishing.  
com.au**

## Shop News

Now with the holiday rush over we look at our stock levels and anything we are overstocked with we put on sale, so when you drop in have a look around as Nathan and Adam have my permission to do deals.

## GIFT CERTIFICATES

Remember all it takes is a phone call and a credit card to have a personalised gift certificate sent. Gift certificates are valid until they are used and you only have to pay for

This year Easter is very late in April and so I would expect some good fishing although it should be cool in the mornings. Start to stock up on your minnow lure and glow bugs for the Easter fishing trip and lake trollers should look at the winter lure

colours like pinks and oranges. Meanwhile we are just about to receive our order of new Tasmanian Devil colours I have developed for Autumn fishing. Also don't forget your copy on my new book when you drop in.

any price increases that may occur if the certificate is not taken within 12 months of the purchase date. You can always organise a gift certificate and have the recipient call us at a later date to customize

their own trip. Gift certificates can be sent by post or e-mailed so you can print it out yourself, if you need one in a hurry. Just give us a call during shop hours on - 02 64561551

## *About Our Organization...*

Steve Williamson's Fishing Adventures operates 364 days a year and we specialise in teaching anglers and non anglers the art of trout fishing on Lake Jindabyne and surrounding rivers and streams.

From simple methods like bait and spin fishing to more complicated methods like boat trolling and fly fishing. Large groups and corporate groups are our specialty.

Whatever your needs just give us a call and allow us to quote for any fishing trip you might have in mind. We also teach saltwater fishing techniques on the south coast of NSW at Merimbula and Pambula.

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