

Spring 2011

  
*New Zealand*  
BACK COUNTRY  
GUIDES



2011/12 Fishing  
season opens 1st  
Oct



## SPRING NEWSLETTER 2011

**Season opening, Winter Season, Earthquake, Great News about the spring creeks, Methven Summer School, magazine articles, Win a Fishing Trip.**

### Season opening.

The 2011/12 Fishing Season opens in a few weeks on the 1st October. This winter was one of the mildest for many years up until mid August and then we had an amazing polar blast for several days that saw the whole country blanketed in snow. Despite the polar blast, the local rivers are in very good condition, with low clear water, and pre season reconnaissance has indicated good numbers of trout.

### Winter Season

This winter has been one of the mildest for many years. That is up until 2 weeks ago when we had a major polar blast that covered the whole country in snow! Because the weather has been mild, conditions for hunting have been excellent and we have been watching a number of quality free

range stags. The tahr have been cooperative and chamois numbers are healthier than in previous years. If you are interested in a summer chamois trophy, Jan/Feb 2012 will be a good time for a summer hunt.

### Christchurch Earthquake

Late last year we experienced a massive earthquake, and then just to make matters worse, early this year we had another major quake. The earthquakes were centred in Christchurch causing considerable damage to both commercial and residential properties. Sadly there was also a large number of fatalities. The CBD of Christchurch is mostly gone, damaged or demolished, and the face of Christchurch will be forever changed. The good news is that Christchurch is now undergoing a major rebuild that

will take a number of years to complete. Fortunately Christchurch International Airport was undamaged and our tourism infrastructure is still up and running.



**Ben with a nice trophy bull** taken on a recent mid winter hunt. Ben was given a fully guided hunt for his 21st birthday and despite some very trying conditions, we were successful in securing this trophy after 3 days of hunting.





Above pictures...

Top: Christchurch Cathedral, post earthquake.

Middle: Win a 4 day fishing trip with NZ Backcountry Guides.

Bottom: Summer school students, practicing their technique on a local rivers.

### Spring creeks opening!

This year we will again be able to fish a number of the iconic spring creeks throughout the Central South Island. These spring creeks were closed several years ago because of the risk of possible infection by the invasive algae – Didymo. After careful deliberation and repeated requests from anglers, Fish and Game have decided to reopen the spring creeks for the coming season.

### Methven Summer School

I have been invited to tutor at the local Summer School. Methven has hosted a Summer School in early January, for the past 15 years. For this year I will be tutoring a Flyfishing course for beginners and another for more experienced anglers. This is an excellent opportunity for beginners to learn how to cast, and some of the basic's to get them started in flyfishing for trout. Check out the link - <http://www.methvensummerschool.co.nz/>

### Australian and International Trophy Hunter Magazine

Early in my guiding career I wrote a number of articles about fishing and hunting for some of the new Zealand outdoor magazines. Recently I have been writing some technical articles for the above magazine, the first 3 on tahr hunting. If you after a good read, check out the link - <http://trophyhuntermag.net/>



All confirmed bookings up until 31st Dec 2012 go in to a draw for a fully guided, 4 day fishing trip for 2 fishermen. One chance for each day booked - the more days you book, the more chances in the draw. Conditions apply.

Thanks for taking the time to read our latest newsletter, to find out more or contact us go to: <http://www.nzbackcountryguides.com/>

A quality spring creek brown

