



CANBERRA ANGLER'S ASSOCIATION Inc.

GPO Box 2237
CANBERRA CITY ACT 2601

<http://www.canberra-anglers.asn.au/>

Newsletter – Aug 2013

Coming Events

Next Meeting – Annual General Meeting – Wed 14 Aug – 8pm as usual at Raiders Weston Club. There'll be special raffles, lucky door prizes and don't worry, all executive positions have at least one nomination already!

"Back to Buckenderra" – Fri-Sun 23-25 Aug – organised by Damien..

Fly Tying – Fly Tying – to be confirmed

NSW Fishing Licence Fee Increase

From <http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/aboutus/news/all/2013/fishing-fee-increase>

22 Jul 2013

The cost of dropping a line in will increase from September 1, with the price of a fishing licence going up, Department of Primary Industries (DPI) Director Recreational and Indigenous Fisheries, Peter Turnell, said today.

"The recreational fishing fee structure has not been revised since 2005, and this small increase is in line with the Consumer Price Index (CPI)," Mr Turnell said.

"Recreational fishing in NSW has been greatly improved through the programs that have been rolled out as a result of the contribution made by anglers through the recreational fishing fee.

"The recreational fishing fee [Trusts](#) have funded numerous additional projects and ongoing programs that have seen both the inland and saltwater recreational fishing experience enhanced.

"The projects increase in cost in line with CPI, and it is now time to make the necessary adjustment to the fee so we can continue improving recreational fishing in NSW."

The changes to the fees include:

- 3 day fee increase from \$6 to \$7;
- 1 month from \$12 to \$14;
- 1 year from \$30 to \$35; and the
- 3 year fee increase from \$75 to \$85.

This is the first increase to the recreational fishing fee in 8 years.

Fishers are required by law to pay the NSW Recreational Fishing Fee and carry a receipt showing the payment of the fee. This applies when line fishing, spear fishing, hand gathering, trapping, bait collecting and prawn netting or when in possession of fishing gear in, on or adjacent to waters.

"Fishers can be assured that their contributions have been put to best use for the recreational fishing sector," Mr Turnell said.

"We have worked to a five year Recreational Fishing Trust Investment Plan, surveying over 70,000 recreational fishers on priorities for expenditure, and involving recreational fishers in assessing applications for funding.

"Detail on the programs and projects funded through the recreational fishing fee can be found on the Department's website.

"Fishers can pay the recreational fishing fee on-line, over the phone, or by visiting one of the many sales agents around the State.

"The newly established Service NSW which is part of the government's commitment to provide easier access to a variety of transactions adds to the available payment arrangements. You can find out more on the [Service NSW website](#) or by calling 13 77 88 at any time day or night seven days a week.

"The money raised from the sale of the recreational fishing fee helps us keep our precious fisheries resources in top condition for future generations."

More information

- [Recreational fishing](#)
Media contact: Sarah Wright 6391 3686 or 0427 075 167

Cooking Corner

A recipe for those of us who love slowcookers. Jason Q's slowcook version of meatloaf (will be added to our recipes page on the website – always looking for more). Ian, Peter, sounds like something we could make when we go to NZ.

Slow cooker Meatloaf made 'bloke' easy all whilst you're on the water fishing!

Ingredients...

1 cup of bread crumbs
500 grams minced beef
1 finely chopped onion
2 pinches Italian seasoning
2 pinches of salt
2 eggs
1 clove minced garlic
3 good squirts of tomato sauce
1 dollop of Dijon mustard
1 pinch of pepper

Do this...

1. Fold two strips of foil long enough to fit from the top of the cooker, down inside and up the other side leave a 5-10cm overhang on each side. This will act as a handle when removing loaf!
2. Combine breadcrumbs, mince, onion, Italian seasoning, salt, eggs and garlic in a bowl.
3. Mould your loaf to fit into the cooker.
4. Place into cooker.
5. Mix together tomato sauce, mustard and pepper. Spread over top of loaf.
6. Cook on low for 5-6 hours.
7. When cooked, using the foil over hang, pull loaf gently out of the cooker and place loaf on warm platter.
8. Remove foil and discard.
9. Allow loaf to rest for 10mins before slicing

Alternatives/ additions...

Can add a cup of sliced mushrooms, peas or corn if desired...

Try BBQ sauce instead of tomato

Two Articles on Kit

Jason Q (the new co-editor of our newsletter) has promised to develop a segment on "gear". To start it off, here is a review on fly floatants. This review will also be available on the main home page in our new "gear" segment.

Desiccant, GINK or oil...?

What floats your ~~boat~~ fly's....?! There are many fishing companies producing a product that claims to float your fly. What are some? Where do you start? And how do you best use them?

Fly floatant comes in a number of forms; paste, gel, desiccant, liquid etc. All are designed to repel water and keep your fly materials from absorbing water, to keep them afloat like the hatch you're trying to match.

Liquid or paste type floatant's work best when applied to a dry fly straight out of your fly box, no punt intended! After a number of fish or fishing in rough waters these kinds of floatant's allow your fly to become water logged and stop doing their job. A downside to these types of products is that you can drown or over dress your fly causing the hair and feathers to stick together, in turn the fly becomes less buoyant. The fly can appear less 'natural' or leave an oil slick around the fly reducing the effectiveness of your imitation. If you happen to over dress your fly the only thing you can do is wipe off the excess using your shirt or hanky and let the fibres of the fly to dry.

A common name on the market for liquid, gel or non-silicone floatant's is GINK. My father tells me it's been around for as long as I have, 29 odd years. Gink has taken a generic name for any gel, liquid type floatant.

My experience with GINK and other non-silicon based floatant's is nothing short of what is to be expected. Off the shelf GINK is thick but with sun or body heat it quickly turns to a liquid. The trick for new players is to avoid over applying it to your fly. The bottle of GINK in my sling bag is years old and as an old saying goes 'a little, goes a long way.' I have tried Loon Aquel and Loon claims it has 'scent-masking pheromones'. I didn't have the bottle long enough to verify the claims before tripping up on the Thredbo and walking the Eucumbene River and not being able to find it ever again....

Desiccant or crystalline powder is designed to remove water. It is similar to the 'Hippo Desiccant Dehumidifier' used in wardrobes, or the little bags you find in your new shoes that suggest DO NOT EAT. The desiccant fly fisher's use is a very fine dust like substance.

Fly desiccant companies have developed small 'shaker' bottles where you drop your fly in the powder, close the lid and give it a shake. Others have developed a small nail polish style applicator and you brush on the powder to remove all moisture. Using either method, your fly will come out covered all snow white. You'll need to blow on it, flick the fly with your finger, or quickly make a few false casts to remove the excess before presenting it onto the water. If you are fishing a snow flake caddis this can work in your favour because your fly is covered white!

Desiccants do eventually fail you, as the fly becomes too water logged. You will have to change out your fly allowing the old one to dry naturally. I have found desiccants work better with big dries such as Royal Wulff's, Adams etc. Desiccants are not so good for emerger patterns where you need the abdomen to penetrate the meniscus.

Another option that may be suitable to add to your vest is CDC oil. CDC stands for 'Cul De Canard', which is French for "Duck Bottom". CDC oil is used on a fly made of CDC feathers. The feathers are actually from a duck and are located close to their preen gland which is located on the back of the duck. Naturally the feathers are very buoyant and float effortlessly without the need for artificial floatant's. I will only use the CDC oil on fly's tied with CDC. I apply the oil well before the fly is fished, generally once I have completed the tie and it's still in the vice.

Some brands of desiccant I have used to date are Loon top ride, Orvis Hy-flote and Frogs Fanny, which are all great products. My preference is Frogs Fanny as it has a brush applicator (the others don't), and in my experience it lasts longer. I have in the past opened the Loon and Orvis bottles on a day with a moderate breeze and lost half the contents into the air. I will admit desiccant is a little bit more expensive and on a good fish-catching weekend you can go through a bottle.

There are a number of other fly dressings that claim to shed water but must be applied to your fly long before the fly touches water. These are often called "permanent floatant's". I use a product called "Watershed" but I have only used it whilst tying up dry's on the vice. I believe it makes the fly's float a little longer before becoming water logged.

I am of the opinion both types of floatant's and the CDC oil has a place in your vest. I start by 'ginking' my flies before the session and as they become water logged I brush them up with desiccant. I immediately replace flies as they lose their skittish life-like movement or not ride high upon the meniscus like the real thing.

I hope my experiences shared above may assist you in the coming dry fly season.

[Wet a Nymph Fly Fishing,](#)

Jas



Articles on Kit Part 2

Randy gave out a small handout after his recent talk on knife sharpening and related matters. Randy also provide some material on fly sharpening available at <http://midcurrent.com/experts/sharpening-hooks-get-the-point/> He has kindly offered a Club rate for knife sharpening at Moruya Markets: Tru Edge Sharpening

Tips for Keeping Your Kitchen Cutlery Sharp (from <http://www.sharpeningsupplies.com/>)

Once you have sharpened your kitchen knives, keeping them sharp is as important as the sharpening itself. The normal wear and tear of just using your knives will dull them over time but a few simple tips can keep those edges sharp longer.

Use the right cutting board.

The choice of cutting boards can dramatically improve your knife's ability to hold an edge. The best choice for keeping your knives sharp is a wooden cutting board. The wood is soft enough that it does less damage to your cutting edge. The best cutting boards have the end grain facing up in a butcher block style. This style is durable but allows the knife to slide between the vertical wood fibers.

The next best cutting board surface is the plastic cutting boards. These cutting boards are relatively easy on knife edges and are practical to use. Unlike a wooden cutting board, the plastic boards can be tossed into a dishwasher to sanitize it. These cutting boards are also available in many sizes and are priced economically.

The last choice in cutting boards would be the glass or marble cutting boards or cutting directly on ceramic plates. These cutting surfaces are just too hard for knives. Constant chopping and slicing on these boards will dull even the highest quality kitchen knives.

Properly Clean Your Knife

The process of cleaning your kitchen knives often results in unnecessary dulling. The biggest culprit is the dishwasher. In a dishwasher, the knife edges are much more likely to come in contact with other silverware or ceramic dishes. This banging around will cause small imperfections in your knife edge and dull it over time. The solution is to wash your knives by hand. Washing knives by hand also saves the handle material from the soaking and the high heat of a dishwasher. When washing knives by hand, avoid the temptation of soaking your knives in your cleaning water, in addition to possibly damaging the wooden handles, sharp knives are not something you want lurking in your cloudy dishwater. In addition, after your knife is properly washed, it's important to dry your knife thoroughly before putting it away.

Storing Your Knives

Storage is another unnecessary culprit in dulling knives. A knife block (store them sharp side up!) or other knife holders are a last, but important step in maintaining sharp knives. Without proper storage, your knives can end up in a drawer where they can get banged around and dulled. Sharp knives can also expose you to unnecessary risk of cutting yourself while rummaging through your drawers.

Proper Knife Usage

In order to keep your knife sharp, it is also important to avoid using it as a pry bar, hammer, screwdriver or any other tool. Knives should only be used for their intended purpose... cutting!

Tips on Caring for your Scissors (david@scissorsmith.com)

1. Wipe off the blades after each cut using a clean, slightly damp towel. Wipe carefully in a direction *away from*, not towards, the cutting edge. **Always store your scissors away from children's reach.**
2. After each day's use, clean and dry the scissors carefully. Wipe off the blades and the ride (the C-shaped area on each blade near the pivot screw) before putting the scissors in a safe place for the night.
3. At least once every week, following their cleaning, put a drop of scissors oil (clipper oil works nicely, too) around the pivot screw while the blades are fully open. Wiggle the blades for a few seconds so the oil will soak into the bearing (which is under the screw). Wipe off the excess. Put a small drop of oil on the ride and wipe the excess down the blades, moving your fingers away from the cutting edge.
4. If the scissors become nicked, don't force the blades closed. Separate them slightly, close them and send them to a qualified repair source. A nicked pair of scissors cut poorly and can become more damaged with use.
5. Be especially selective about sharpening services. Incompetent sharpening can permanently ruin your scissors. Remember, **a bad haircut will grow out, but bad sharpening is forever.**