

# The Burley Line

May 2014



*Ian's grandson Connor with his first carp*

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**Newsletter of the CANBERRA ANGLER'S ASSOCIATION  
Inc.**

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## Coming Events

**Next Meeting** – Wed 14 May – 7:30pm at Raiders Weston Club. a mate of Charlie's (Nicholas) will be speaking on lightweight lure angling (for trout and bass amongst others).

**Next Outing – Tumut** – Fri 16 to Sun 18 May. Stefan is organising.

**Fly Tying** – Wed 28 May.

## April Outing Report

Well, the weather caused significant concerns over what fishing conditions would be like, and more importantly what condition the river crossing might present. In the end, Greg W made a brave call and decided it was too risky to take ourselves onto the other side of the river with no alternate route home. Jason M's suggestion that we return to Bondi Forest Lodge was explored and with a flurry of emails and text (some unfortunately misdirected ... we still are wondering who received these) the decision was made mid-morning on the Friday to head down to Bondi Forest.

Jason M and your faithful editor headed down Friday lunchtime – after a couple of false starts as I remembered things I'd left behind! Steve and Alan left Canberra mid afternoon and came down via the “scenic route” – no truth to the rumour that they saw Tullamarine Airport in Melbourne! Greg W and Jason M arrived early Saturday. They too had a circuitous trip – Jason M's reputation for poor directions was reaffirmed.

Rain continued most of the weekend and fishing was hard with Alan and Steve only hooking up with one fish each – Jindy Horror (ie different fly to the Jindy Special that Jason M had recommended to your correspondent!). Jason Q arrived and landed a fish on cast 3 and 5! Magic fly for the day was an old fashioned one – Alexandra pictured below).

Fishing continued slowly with all but Jason M having success. All fish were in the range 50cm to 60cm both browns (in really good condition) and rainbows. Jason M and I took some time out and headed into Victoria to try our hand with stream fishing – more like chocolate milk than water in the creeks so we'll need to revisit in better conditions.

The accommodation was excellent (albeit the fire a trifle smokey) and certainly worth a revisit in due course.



*Alexandra*



*Jason's 60cm brown*

## **Goodradigbee Fishing report**

From Jason M.

Sent: Sunday, 20 April 2014 8:46 PM

Subject: Goodradigbee Fishing report

Gents,

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Feedback from my WJFC mates & from me at Wee Jasper after a day trip yesterday:

Bugger all being caught. River was milky soup last Sunday (when we would've been at Koorabri) and still on Tuesday. River now looking quite nice, but not really any fish. Report of one kid catching a 8cm trout, and apparently one camper somewhere got a 27cm trout.

We couldn't even catch a carp (Carey's was looking very barren of them through the clear water) - photo of the junior anglers attached. Thought I saw the start of a hatch, but it went pretty quick. Campers at Swinging Bridge didn't see a rise all week.

At least my tubed BBQ worked well - some juicy snags for lunch by the river.

Jason M



## **An Observation from Mike**

The Editor received an email from Mike expressing some concern from an incident he experienced on Lake Burley Griffin – a salutary message here:

What a great day! I had finished up Karen's USA taxes, and I needed a treat. I went out to Lake Burley Griffin to try for the legendary and elusive "LBG Bonefish". Thank, you Charlie for the



guidance! Stuart came out to test his fly casting. He's got some tight loops and a very good presentation. However this is not about my success at the "Bonefish", nor Stuart's fly casting prowess.

This is about a coot that came by for a free nibble. At first glance, it had an injured leg. The coot could swim, in the water well enough, but it could not walk on land. Stuart's keen eye indicated that the poor bird might have gotten caught up in something. I thought that it had a broken leg. I caught, and picked the bird up, and as Stuart had surmised, it had gotten tangled up in some **fishing line**. The bird was completely hobbled, or "hog tied", as us Texans would say. The circulation in one of the bird's toes had been cut off, just like a tourniquet had been applied. Thanks to Stuart's skill with a sharp knife, he cut the fishing line off the coot's legs and feet. When released it went on its way, although still limping, but a whole lot happier.

Some fisher person had just thrown their cut off line or leader material out into the water. This material does not degrade, in the natural environment, and will be there forever. Granted this experience was with a lowly coot, but imagine if that line had gotten caught in your boat motor lower unit seal? How much would it have cost you to have it repaired?

When each and every one of us is out fishing, "we" represent all the fishermen, and fisherwomen. Be the example you would want to be proud to represent. Don't throw your line, leader material, and trash in the water. This is the only environment we have. If you pick up three pieces of trash as you are out and about, the lakes, rivers, and streams will be three times cleaner than when you arrived.

"Leave nothing but your tracks."

Tight lines to all.

Mike

Edited by Stuart

### **"Charlie's Carp Crowd"**

Interestingly, Charlie had a related incident, except in this case a waterfowl dived, chased and hooked itself on Charlie's bait.

The guys have been making this carp fishing a weekly event – Mike and Stuart have been along recently. As a side story, a Chinese visitor has been fishing alongside the guys (using a rod lent by Owen actually). He has no English and of course none of the CAA members has any Chinese language skills. Today was his last day in country and he brought a short

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note in English from his daughter (who he has been visiting here in Canberra). The note explained who he was and his appreciation of the kindness of Charlie and the others welcoming him into the carp fishing circle. We were all quite moved by the note and perhaps there has been a bit of international goodwill established.

Barry has provided a couple of reports:

Sent: Thursday, 24 April 2014 10:59 AM  
To: Secretary CAA  
Subject: Catch

Last weeks catch was rather disappointing?  
Charlie 1 Carp (Had to leave at 3:0pm  
Peter 0 lost a few baits.  
Ian 0  
Conner 1 His first fish and a good one.  
Barry 8  
Best fish being 63cm.

My best Carp so far is 66cm caught on the 2nd April.  
There was a westerly blowing last week and the Lake eddy was rotating clockwise, perhaps that effected the bread/corn scent drift? We were all using the same rigs and the mix from one bucket.

The only variable that could account for unbalanced catch is I was fishing on the eastern side of the group. Perhaps it was a hot spot for Mr & Mrs Carp? Hope to see you there today. I have made up some extra bread baskets, so



we can rig you up and you are right to go Bill.  
Best Regards, .... Baz



And more recently – hmm, Barry manages to forget to report your trusty Editor was there and landed a 60cm carp himself!

Sent: Thursday, 24 April 2014 8:08 PM  
Subject: Re: Catch

Hello Bill,

Today went well.

Charlie on 2

Pete 3 with 2 bust offs

Baz 9 with 3 bust off's, The last one at 6:30pm hit so hard it pulled the rod out of its holder with the bait runner function set to the lightest drag! It then did a big run, .. turned back towards shore, ... broke the surface a long way out and exploded away with a big bust-off! (7kg fluoro, rod about 70 deg, light drag!) these buggers are powerful!

I think the prize of the day was the Mirror Carp. It looked beautiful swimming, was very powerful for its size and very solid. Quite different to any carp I have seen? (40cm estimate)

We also think we have found the reason I'm catching so many fish; I am using an opened tin of corn that sits in the fridge.

It has a slimy mucus coating. This could be a good attractor?

Pete started using it and hooked up straight away.

I can see no other reason as we all use the same bread/corn mix and land our baits in the same area.

Just before the final bust off, both my rods went off at the same time, then Peter's rod went off.

There was a fellow from Tamworth watching all the action, so I handed him Peter's rod.

Pete got one of mine in, the second got busted off again!

Peter tied on another rig after he was also busted, It was in the water for only a couple of minutes when it took off, Peter only had it on for a few moments and busted off big time! We just stood there looking at three rods with their rigs all gone!

Pete: "There are some big fish in here!"

I'm re-rigging all rods with 15kg fluoro, we are just losing too many good fish!

I'm also going to design another cage to achieve better distance in windy conditions.

The wind died off just after you left and our casting distance doubled and the fish came on fast and furious.

I'm aiming for a 70cm, I'm sure they are there!

Let's try again next Thursday. (Or any good day)

Best Regards, ... Baz



*Barry's mirror carp*

## Free "Don't put your life on the line" DVDs now available again



NSW Rec Fishing once again have stocks of their updated 'Don't Put Your Life on the Line' fishing safety DVD. This edition of the DVD has an upgraded rock fishing video with numerous translations into every language we could think of, it also has the freshwater and underwater safe fishing videos AND the brand new safe boat fishing video!. Secretary is getting a number to bring to the May meeting for distribution amongst members, but plenty more are available if needed.





## **News from NSW Council of Freshwater Anglers**

### ***Crown road closure applications now ONLY online and in local papers***

In August 2012 the NSW government started to clear a backlog of applications to convert Crown roads to freehold. This includes many 'paper roads' that could provide important fishing access to the public. Initially NSW DPI was monitoring the flow of applications and notifying angling groups including the NSW CFA of any applications that could lead to loss of fishing access. However the number of applications has now increased dramatically and NSW DPI has stopped notifying angling groups due to lack of resources to cope with the avalanche.

The NSW government launched an online service showing the applications at

[www.lpma.nsw.gov.au/crown\\_land/roads](http://www.lpma.nsw.gov.au/crown_land/roads)

The roads notices are searchable by date, locality and local government area. The information will remain online for the full 28 day submission period for each proposed road closure. The maps contain information to clearly identify which roads are being offered for sale and closure, without revealing the identity of landholders or applicants.

Anglers must monitor the website and their local newspapers (the only place the government is obliged to advertise proposed closures) so they find out about closures in their area. If you don't watch this situation and quickly lodge objections when necessary you could lose valuable access to your favourite places.

*(Editor's note: The website is a little tricky. Click the "draw polygon" button, then click the shape you want to draw, then draw on map).*

*If you have any interest in Blackburn Creek, you may want to check out*

[http://roads.crownland.nsw.gov.au/road?advert\\_id=321274633](http://roads.crownland.nsw.gov.au/road?advert_id=321274633) )

### ***Public forum on Snowy Mountains Lakes trout fishery***

Fishers are invited to attend a public forum on the Snowy Mountains Lakes trout fishery with Department of Primary Industries (DPI) managers and scientists in Cooma on 29 May 2014.

DPI Inland Senior Fisheries Manager, Cameron Westaway, said some fishers have reported reduced catches of rainbow trout in Lakes Jindabyne and Eucumbene during the past two years. "While brown trout catches have continued to remain stable in the lakes and the brown trout spawning fishery has been excellent, we have received reports of lower rainbow trout catches from some fishers using traditional surface and shore based fishing methods – while other fishers have reported good catches using deeper trolling methods," Mr Westaway said "Various theories for



these changes in catch rates have been suggested by the public. These fisheries provide significant social and economic benefits to the region and we are committed to their long term success. The forum will give fishers the opportunity to hear about the current trout stocking program, management practices, and updates on research. Leading New Zealand scientist Dr Michel Dedual from the Department of Conservation in Turangi will provide insights into the iconic Taupo trout fishery which has also experienced changes in catch rates of rainbow trout in recent times. Importantly the forum will enable DPI managers to gain feedback from the fishing public on some of the most popular trout fishing locations in NSW. This feedback will assist DPI and the angler based Snowy Lakes Strategy Working Group who provide direct advice on the management of the fishery. Interested fishers are invited to attend the free forum at the Cooma Ex-Services Club at 6:00pm on Thursday 29 May 2014.”

Fishers are also reminded that it will be a great opportunity to fish the Thredbo River and Eucumbene River trout spawning runs before the trout closed season begins on 10 June 2014.

### ***Commencement of trout spawning season***

Fishers are reminded that the annual trout spawning season commences in the Snowy Mountains from 1 May 2014.

Department of Primary Industries (DPI) Inland Senior Fisheries Manager, Cameron Westaway, said the annual trout spawning season fishing rules apply to the Thredbo River and its tributaries and the Eucumbene River and its tributaries (upstream of the Lake Eucumbene dam wall and including Providence Portal).

“Restrictions are in place from Thursday 1st May to provide protection for early spawning trout while also providing fishers with the opportunity to catch a trophy sized trout,” Mr Westaway said. “The Eucumbene River in particular has provided excellent fishing for large brown trout over the past two years. A minimum size limit of 50cm, daily bag limit of 1 and possession limit of 2 trout will apply to these waters from 1 May to the end of the Queen’s Birthday long weekend on Monday 9 June. Anglers will be permitted to use 1 attended rod and line with up to 2 hooks with artificial flies or lures and up to 3 treble hooks attached to any lure is permitted. Fishing gear rigged for bait fishing is prohibited.”

The annual closure on fishing in trout streams throughout NSW will then be in place from Tuesday 10 June 2014 allowing brown and rainbow trout to breed uninterrupted until the trout fishing season re-opens on the October long weekend on Saturday 4 October 2014. Trout dams remain open to fishing throughout the year.



“The minimum size limit of 25cm, daily bag limit of 2 and possession limit of 4 trout will again apply to the Thredbo and Eucumbene Rivers when the season opens in October,” Mr Westaway said. “While 150,000 rainbow trout have been stocked into Lake Eucumbene and 50,000 rainbow trout into Lake Jindabyne each year for more than a decade, it is important to provide increased protection for brown and rainbow trout during their annual spawning runs.”

Fisheries officers will be patrolling the Thredbo and Eucumbene Rivers to ensure that fishers are abiding by these rules.

All fishers are reminded to respect other users, use facilities provided, dispose of any rubbish or refuse responsibly and not interfere with other fishers by parking or camping too close to the water (where permitted) when fishing these rivers.

### ***NSW Government releases Crown Lands Legislation White Paper***

The state government has released a White Paper proposing changes to the management of thousands of Crown land parcels in NSW.

The paper is proposing changes to how tens of thousands of parcels of Crown land are managed in NSW, including an audit and valuation to determine the cost and benefits of retaining them for community use.

The paper proposes transferring management of thousands of pieces of land used for local purposes - such as reserves, surf clubs, parks, sports fields and pony clubs - from state to local government management.

It also proposes an audit and valuation of Crown land. Crown land currently covers 42 per cent of the state and the proposed review will look at the lost 'opportunity cost', i.e. the reduction in value if the land continues to be held for community use rather than sold to the private sector for development.

Market rent would be used as the default value for Crown land use, with rebates and waivers applied 'where appropriate'. However, the government says it has no intention of forcing organisations such as sporting clubs to pay market rates.

The White Paper is out for public comment until June 20 see:  
<http://www.haveyoursay.nsw.gov.au/consultations/crown-lands-legislation-white-paper/?date=2014-03-28>

## **Cooking Corner**

Available on our [Cooking Page](#). More recipes from members welcome please.



## Equipment Review

These can be found in our [Gear Review](#) page on the web.

Contributions from members on other items they've been using are welcome please.

## For Sale

Any fishing related items that members would like to advertise here, please email [newsletter@canberra-anglers.asn.au](mailto:newsletter@canberra-anglers.asn.au).

Randy has some items for sale:



Snowbee felt sole boots, Used, but still good sole. \$10 or best offer.



Rod And Fly backpack. Not used often enough, in good nick, \$75. Mine does not have hydration unit (Camelback), but easy to slot one in. Normal retail \$135

## Notable Fish Recorded

As at end of 26 Apr 2014, following notable fish have been recorded for the 2013/2014 season.

Angler	Species	Length	Method	Location/Event/Date
Damien	Brown Trout	53cm	Bait	"Back to Buckenderra" 23-25 Aug
Jason Q	Brown Trout	51cm	Fly	"Back to Buckenderra" 23-25 Aug



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Owen	Brown Trout	45cm	NR	7 Gates 11 Oct
Jason Q	Rainbow Trout	46cm	Fly	Lake Eucumbene 12 Oct
Sam	Brown Trout	62cm	Fly	Lyle Knowles 12-13 Oct
Sam	Rainbow Trout	40cm	Fly	Lyle Knowles 12-13 Oct
Peter	Brown Trout	59cm	Fly	Denison (Eucumbene River) 31 Oct
Nathan	Murray Cod	85cm	Spinner Bait	Yerrabi Pond 2 Dec
Damon	Murray Cod	65cm	Surface Popper	Casuarina Sands 3 Dec
Ian	Brown Trout	52cm	Mudeye under float	Jindabyne outing 14 Dec
Jason M	Flathead	38cm	Soft plastic	Coast outing 21-23 Feb
Mike	Flathead	40cm	Bait	Coast outing 21-23 Feb
Mike	Flathead	38cm	Soft plastic	Coast outing 21-23 Feb
Owen	Australian Salmon	48cm	Bait	Coast outing 21-23 Feb
Owen	Flathead	43cm	Bait	Coast outing 21-23 Feb
Alan	Brown Trout	53cm	Fly	Bondi Forest Lodge outing 7-10 Mar
Jason M	Rainbow Trout	47cm	Fly	Bondi Forest Lodge outing 7-10 Mar
Barry	Carp	66cm	Bait	2 Apr
Bill	Brown Trout	50cm	Fly	Bondi Forest Lodge outing 11-13 Apr
Jason	Brown Trout	57cm	Fly	Bondi Forest Lodge outing 11-13 Apr



## **April Minutes**

### **MINUTES OF CAA MEETING 9 Apr 2014**

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

Members present: Bill, Jason M, Jason Q, Peter, Alan, Ian, Norm, Greg S, Greg W, Kelly, Glenn, Mike, Mark S, Nathan, Barry, Steve, Stefan and Stuart.

Apologies: Owen. In addition; Charlie, Geoff and Randy apologised for having to depart after the talk.

The meeting was preceded by Randy speaking about his recent trip to Patagonia.

#### **Minutes**

Minutes were read. Secretary acknowledged the efforts of the Assistant Secretary for the past two meetings.

#### **Matters Arising**

The meeting confirmed that we will not pursue the NSW Fisheries Dollar for Dollar stocking program this time. Interest lies more with stocking within the ACT.

Tumut Outing will proceed 16-18 May. Due to this being so close to the May meeting a show of hands was called for so that Stefan could get a guide on cottages required. On a related matter, an error in the membership card program was identified. May meeting will be 14 May not 11 May as printed – ie still second Wednesday of the month.

Next Fly tying will be 23 Apr – Jason M will conduct and key materials will be provided.

#### **Treasurer's Report**

Account Balance stands at \$3389.95. PO Box payment of \$173 remains outstanding. An error on the part of Treasurer and Secretary internally transferring between CAA various accounts meant our cheque bounced. A dishonour fee of \$9 was charged. This prompted a discussion on why CAA is operating multiple accounts. Explanation given was related to the better interest rate, however Stuart was unconvinced of the value of this extra complexity.

(Subsequent investigation shows that for similar, or lesser, balances we earned almost \$50 interest last year versus less than \$10 in previous years. Moreover, the BSB and Account Numbers publicly advertised for electronic payment by members are for an account that cannot transfer money out – thus improving e-banking security.)



### **Outing Update**

**Goodradigbee Outing.** Greg W is concerned about safety issues arising from the impact of recent and continuing rain on the river crossing. Decisions will have to be made.

**“Thursday Carp Get-together”:** Barry reported that the afternoon outings primarily hosted by Charlie have been extremely successful with around 100 fish over the past 3 sessions.

### **Fishing Reports**

Jason Q spoke of his recent trip to Cairns and successes.

Glenn spoke about his recent time in Tasmania.

Alan bemoaned continued hard times fishing locally.

Greg W  
Vice President

Bill  
Secretary