The Burley Line

July 2014



Steve, a study in concentration – using the artisan split cane rod that he constructed.

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Newsletter of the CANBERRA ANGLER'S ASSOCIATION

Inc.

GPO Box 2237 CANBERRA CITY ACT 2601 http://www.canberra-anglers.asn.au/

Contributions to be emailed to newsletter@canberra-anglers.asn.au



Coming Events

Fly Tying – Wed 25 June – Tom Jones.

Next Outing – 28/29 June to Eucumbene, organiser and specific location to be advised.

Next Meeting – Wed 9 July – 7:30pm at Raiders Weston Club. Shane Jasprizza, President of the Capital Region Fishing Alliance (we're foundation members) will speak on its role and recent activities.

Tumut Report

Stefan authored this comprehensive report on the club outing to Tumut 16-18 May.

<u>Trip report – CAA May outing to Tumut</u>



Catching my only trout this season late on Sunday morning topped off a perfect weekend. I had given myself a section of river to prospect and was moving midstream in badly leaking waders (from a bad experience with a barbed fence the day before), casting upstream and following the fly downstream. The fish took my nymph on the uptake, an induced take on lifting the rod. Just shows that while the fly is in the water it is possible to attract a strike. A small but good struggle ensued in landing possibly Kelly's lost fish of a day earlier (see further on). A gallery of local steers were certainly impressed by my efforts.







So here's the report.

Tumut always shows its best colours at the end of the fishing season, good enough reason to head to the valley for some late season trout. The May outing was based at the Blowering Tourist Park with mien hosts Mary and Ron, who made us again feel most welcome.

With a roll up on Friday night, we were able to settle around an open fire and discuss fishing strategy for the following day. Alan took the chance to tie a few sure fire "shaving brush" pattern flies over a few calming ales. By this time the hot chestnuts, warm spice wine and "Batlow" Mars bar apples done over hot coals (Yum! see recipe page) were ready. A bit of banter around a roaring fire before turning in for a good nights sleep on a full moon night was all that was called for. Snoring all round!!!





A generally warm morning greeted us on Saturday and by a leisurely predisposition, we all spread out along the nearby river frontage for a day of fishing. Under a pleasing sky and lovely autumn colourings in the trees, the day held good promise. Where else would one want to be? I headed off for some fishing photography.

Reports had indicated the availability of fish. The river was running low, so access to good runs was easy. Kelly and her faithful acolyte Simon were soon prospecting viable waters. Persistence and accurate casting gave Kelly a strike from a reasonably sized fish. She was unable to tame its hectic upstream run and the fish escaped. Not to be deterred, another couple of casts later another strike was elicited from the same water, this time with far better results. A well proportioned rainbow trout came to hand. It had taken a small black nymph tied below a dry.





Steve meanwhile had moved further downstream and worked hard for some success, He was able to raise a nice fish from somewhat deeper water in a bend of the river using his exquisite own made cane rod. It was a joy to see that old school material casting loops of perfection, equal to any produced by modern rods. What satisfaction must be felt in landing a fish with a tool of one's own labour?



Alan found the going tough, fishing most of the day without result. Maybe he had released the genie at Eucumbene the previous day and luck was not going to hold two days straight. Discussion was though, that the heavy bait fishing over summer may have depleted the fish lies. Hopefully a winter rest will replenish the river. Alan had noted that to his knowledge only one local farmer restocked this river frontage. It may be of use to investigate the viability of our club doing something toward this situation.



Owen covered a lot of water, but the fish eluded him. He saw the usual lazy snake and pods of large carp. Hopefully the latest research into gender alteration will rid us of this pest from prime trout waterways.

After a perfect day, what else to do but retire to the in town Oriental Hotel for some good country fare. The menu offered generous portions of local prime beef or fish dishes, a great choice to go with some interesting micro brewed beers on selection. A good evening was had by all!

This outing is always well worth the slightly rough drive through the Brindies. Hope to see more of you all back next year.



Argentina

Randy spoke about his Argentina trip at the February meeting. He has provided some notes placed in our "Special Places" section.

Report on Fishing Eucumbene River During Spawning Run

Have received a number of reports – Peter K's email below may sum it up.

Sent: Thursday, 5 June 2014 6:01 PM

To: Secretary CAA
Subject: Eucumbene River

Hi , went down to the Eucumbene river today and managed to land 7 fish biggest was 59 cms and smallest was 53 cms. Managed to drop another six with one which would have been my best ever on Fly. All the fish landed and three of the dropped fish were on a muppet (weighted glow bug). Lots of people around spinning and fly fishing with most of the fish I saw caught were taken by fly fishermen. Attached are photos of the 58cm and 59 cm. The 59 cm really gave me curry and took me quite a while and a lot of running before I managed to land her. She is the one photographed with the tape measure lying in the grass.





Late in the season Jason Q had limited success in hunting down his 10 pounder, but got some including these two – surprising diversity in colour noting they're both from Eucumbene catchment. Help me here guys, is this a gender effect?





Even with the high/fast water encountered this closing period, Eucumbene was offering some sight fishing opportunities – or was Jason hunting up the little tributaries?





His after work trip to Pejar apparently produced only this evocative image:



Trout Forum - Cooma 29 May

Peter K and I attended. I'm still considering my own observations, and am conducting an email conversation with DPI. I'm also talking to MAS about how best that a club like ours can have our thoughts recognised in the trout fishing management such as the Recreational Fishing Freshwater Trust Expenditure Committee which, in part, controls use of our NSW fishing licence fees. Meantime Peter Gibson provided the following comprehensive report to CFA membership. (By the way, 'limnology' is the study of inland waterways in case, like me, you didn't know).

Chasing rainbows

The Snowy Lakes Strategy Working Group met at Jindabyne on 28 May 2014 and NSW



Department of Primary Industries (Fisheries) managers and researchers met on the following day to discuss the outcomes, before presenting to a three hour public meeting of about 120 people convened by Fisheries at Cooma on the evening of 29 May. Not surprisingly, the main topic over the couple of days was the recent downturn in the rainbow trout fishery which, after some spectacular seasons in both Lake Eucumbene and Lake Jindabyne, has delivered two very disappointing spawning runs and poor shore-based rainbow fishing over the past two summers.

Rainbow fishing has been difficult but anglers using electronic fish finders say they are seeing many fish deep in the lake and are still catching rainbows when trolling. This isn't much comfort to most anglers who are only equipped to catch fish from the shore. The 'catchability' of rainbows underpins not just recreational angling 'customer satisfaction' (very important in a fishery stocked with fish the anglers have paid for with their licences) but also to a local economy that as long ago as 2001 was estimated in a report by Dominion Consulting to be worth around \$70 million to the region every year.

Curiously, the brown trout fishery seems to be unaffected, with this year's spawning run described by many as the best in over 20 years. Whether this winter's rainbow run will again be poor remains to be seen over the next few months—last year the run was barely adequate to provide the numbers needed for stripping for the Gaden Trout Hatchery annual breeding program.

It's happened before

So, something has happened to the rainbows, and no one knows why. This isn't the first time we've had this problem, indeed the Snowy Lakes Strategy Working Group was formed around 2001 in response to a similar decline in the rainbow fishery in the late 1990s. The management response to that crisis was the <u>Snowy Lakes Trout Strategy</u>, which included population monitoring based on fin clipping to identify the yearly releases of fry, followed up by annual sampling of spawning run fish to determine the numbers and condition of each release year. This underpinned a stocking regime of 50,000 rainbows in Jindabyne and 150,000 rainbows in Eucumbene, plus 100,000 Atlantic salmon and up to 100,000 brook trout in Jindabyne. This seemed to be working well until the last couple of years. (No brown trout are stocked into either lake and no fish at all are stocked in Tantangara.)

Presentations to the Snowy Lakes Strategy Working Group

Cameron Westaway, Fisheries' Senior Fisheries Manager Inland, fronted both the 28 May management meeting of the Snowy Lakes Strategy Working Group and the 29 May public meeting at Cooma and said that at this stage no one knows the reason for the recent problem with the rainbows with any certainty.

In both meetings he explained the present strategy and management regime, then Jamin Forbes (Senior Fisheries Technician with Fisheries) presented on methods and results for population assessments, including an overview of the results from the past decade of fin clipping and monitoring, which seemed to indicate things were going smoothly until quite recently. (Mr Forbes has recently completed an extensive angler catch survey on the Murrumbidgee River and his methods may well be rolled out to do a similar survey on the Snowy Lakes if creel monitoring is stepped up.)

Dr Michel Dedual from the New Zealand Department of Conservation and the principal Fisheries Scientist working on Lake Taupo had been invited across from New Zealand for advice and presented on the management regime on Lake Taupo. The Taupo fishery has benefited from many decades of research into fish numbers and size (dating back over 100 years), and also constant research into fishing pressure, catch effort, creel data and angler satisfaction. When asked what are the absolutely essential management tools he has at his disposal, Dr Dedual answered the creel surveys and the fish trap data—the Snowy Lakes fishery does not have a current creel survey and our trap data is more limited.



Despite its reputation as a world class fishery, Taupo has its own problems and the solutions are just as elusive. It was noticeable that despite the far more intensive management of the Taupo fishery, Dr Dedual's graphs showed a continuous decline in fish size as well as a recent and rapid shift in the spawning run habits: 10 years ago the fish spawned throughout the entire year with a peak building in June and lasting through to November; now the fish are not running at all in many months, the spawning run doesn't start until July, peaks in October and by November is dropping sharply. It seems the reasons for this late and compressed spawning run are not understood.

The public meeting at Cooma

The public meeting at Cooma on the evening of 29 May lasted three hours and basically presented the same information as the Snowy Lakes Strategy Working Group saw the previous day. The presentations seemed too detailed and complicated for many in the audience but nonetheless there were well-informed questions, particularly related to research priorities.

Questions at the meeting included querying why monitoring and creel surveys undertaken by Fisheries from the 1960s through to the 1980s were not kept up (Mr Westaway explained that they were overcome by other priorities at the time and the format of the surveys may have had statistical problems); whether too much money was being spent on natives at the expense of the salmonid fishery; whether Gaden Trout Hatchery staff were releasing fish in such a way that ensured good survival rates; and whether the opening of the season on the spawning rivers should be delayed so that the rainbows (which sometimes spawn well into October and even November) would be better protected. There were several questions about the effect of Snowy Hydro's cloud seeding program (Charlie Litchfield, Environment and Lands Manager at Snowy Hydro Limited, told the meeting that no traces of silver iodide had been found in the lakes after independent analysis by the National Resources Commission). Some questions were asked about whether adjustment of size limits and catch/bag limits are needed, and there were also questions about whether Atlantic salmon and brook trout are out-competing rainbows (despite the fact that neither of the latter two fish are present in Eucumbene).

But the main questions were about why more money isn't being spent on the research and monitoring that this recent crisis has shown to be necessary. Mr Westaway told the meeting that he would like to spend more money on research across *all* freshwater fisheries, but that the funds (which would normally have to come from the licence-funded Recreational Fishing Freshwater Trust) were simply not available for doing all the research that he would like and that alternative funding streams, such as direct sponsorship of research by universities through donations by fishing clubs, needed to be considered.

Engagement with and communication to anglers was mentioned in both Mr Westaway's and Dr Dedual's presentations. Questions from the floor of the public meeting revealed how ineffective this has been in the past. It was obvious that many people had little or no knowledge of the stocking process and the involvement of volunteers through the acclimatisation societies, and many had no engagement with Fisheries through websites, newsletters, social media and via fishing clubs. Considering that those interested enough to attend the meeting were probably better-informed than most anglers, the lack of knowledge is worrying.

There also seemed to be an expectation by some that the fishery could somehow return to the 'good old days', with little understanding that past research and data is no longer reliable or relevant, especially in the light of varying environmental conditions, fishing pressure, limnology and other changes.

Conclusions

The conclusions reached by Fisheries during and after the Snowy Lakes Strategy meeting, and then presented by Fisheries to the public at the Cooma meeting, were "1) improved spawning run monitoring is needed, 2) productivity/limnology research is needed and 3) creel surveys are needed,



each of which must be cost effective". Comments from the public at the Cooma meeting will presumably be taken into account before these conclusions are finalised.

Improved spawning run monitoring

There needs to be continuing and improved monitoring and data collection from spawning runs as well as research into the overall population of fish in the lakes (keeping in mind that the fish encountered during the spawning run don't necessarily represent the overall population).

Productivity and limnology

There needs to be research into the limnology and biological productivity of the lakes. The lakes are constantly changing: shorelines are eroding and becoming more gravelly, fine sediments are gradually settling to the lower parts of the lake, recent droughts may have affected shoreline productivity, climate change is already affecting temperatures and weather in the Snowy Mountains, the dead trees are gradually disappearing, ski field development might be affecting the water quality in Jindabyne...and so on. These are just some of the factors that affect the lakes' biological productivity from the bottom of the food chain all the way to the rainbows at the top, and such changes may have affected the rainbows' diet, causing them to change feeding habits.

Creel surveys

Creel surveys are needed—not the old fashioned self-administered surveys which are scientifically unreliable, but tightly controlled surveys such as Fisheries' recent Murrumbidgee River survey.

Cost effectiveness

Whatever research initiatives are undertaken need to be cost effective. The NSW fishing licence fee of \$35 per annum currently delivers about \$4.15 million into the Recreational Fishing Freshwater Trust (that's 30% of the total licence income, the other 70% goes into the Recreational Fishing Saltwater Trust). These funds have to be spread across the entire NSW freshwater recreational fishery and obviously can't fund a lot of extensive and expensive research programs. The special NZ fishing licence required *just for Lake Taupo* costs \$90 per annum and about 42,000 are sold, raising roughly \$3.75 million for that fishery alone, although under special legislation, the government makes a payment equivalent to half of the annual proceeds from boating and fishing licences to Ngäti Tuwharetoa, the traditional owners. At a quick glance it looks like the Taupo managers have roughly same amount as we have for the entire NSW freshwater fishery to spend just on Taupo.

Any research initiatives also need to be structured so they are not only sustainable and affordable over many years (which will be difficult given the frequent changes in direction from politicians and bureaucrats) but they will also need to allow for fast review and adjustment. The problem is too urgent and too important to the local economy to treat it any other way.

All of the above initiatives were already prioritised in the current <u>Snowy Lakes Trout Strategy</u> (see the final page of that document) but have been in various stages of implementation, planning or postponement, subject to funding becoming available in the future.

What can you do?

- If the Snowy Lakes fishery is important to you, make your views known to the Recreational Fishing Freshwater Trust Expenditure Committee. Lobby the committee to prioritise research spending to address this important fishery—committee member details are at www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fisheries/recreational/licence-fee/trusts/rfftec/about-rfftec.
- Stay in touch with the issues by being engaged with fishing organisations, Fisheries NSW newsletters, fishing forums and blogs.
- Support the businesses that depend on the Snowy Lakes—tackle shops, camping grounds,



guides, etc...they all suffer when the fishing isn't good.

- If you have a fishing business in the Snowy Mountains, promote and share alternative fishing methods that suit difficult conditions. If you've got clients and customers that are catching fish, share the information. Keeping it top secret won't do anyone any good in the long term.
- Let us know what YOU think by replying tofreshwaterfisher@viridia.com.au.

What is happening next?

Fisheries NSW is reviewing and updating the Snowy Lakes Trout Strategy document and expects to complete this in coming weeks.

Trapping of the winter spawning run of rainbows at Gaden Trout Hatchery on the Thredbo River should start around the end of July, and the size of this year's run will be critical—it will either reveal that the problem is as bad as most people suspect, or if the run is normal, that the rainbow population has not changed, but that their feeding patterns have.

Funding of the research that is needed will become a hot topic in coming months. The Snowy Lakes are the premier trout fishery in NSW so we would hope that some priority will be given to the research. (Recommendations about any expenditure from fishing licence monies are made by the <u>Recreational Freshwater Fishing Trust Expenditure Committee</u> and endorsed by the <u>Advisory Council on Recreational Fishing</u>, before going to Minister for Primary Industries for final approval.) We expect that additional avenues of funding will also be explored by Fisheries.

Fisheries intends to make some sort of public report in coming weeks once they have mulled over the issues.

We will keep you up to date through this newsletter, through our Facebook page atwww.facebook.com/nswcfa and anglers can also follow the Fisheries NSW Facebook page atwww.facebook.com/NSWDPIFisheries .

Peter Gibson

Senior Vice President NSW Council of Freshwater Anglers Member of the Snowy Lakes Strategy Working Group Member of the Gaden Trout Hatchery Management Committee

Darwin Fly Rodders

Darwin Fly Rodders club has invited us to share website links and extended an invitation for our members to engage when they visit. See our <u>useful links page</u> for the link and a note from Darwin Fly Rodders Secretary.

Welcome back Lyall

It is with a mixture of sadness and joy I announce that our Singapore Chapter has closed – Lyall has arrived back in Canberra and is keen to join for the June outing.



What's Happening in Victoria

We've had some members starting to explore northern Victoria and so the following from Victorian DEPI may be of interest:

Fish stocking

Over a two-week period in mid-May, Fisheries Victoria stocked more than 81,000 trout and salmon into the following 14 inland waters to improve recreational fishing opportunities thanks to funding from the State Government's \$16 million Recreational Fishing Initiative and recreational fishing licence revenue.

- Lake Hume (8,275 brown trout)
- Cairn Curran Reservoir (8,370 browns)
- Tullaroop Reservoir (7,500 rainbow trout)
- Lake Bullen Merri (11,825 Chinook salmon)
- Lake Purrumbete (11,800 Chinooks)
- Devilbend Reservoir (5,000 rainbows)
- Pykes Creek Reservoir (5,000 browns)
- Hopkins River (4,000 browns)
- Lake Narracan (3,000 rainbows & 3,000 browns)
- Upper Coliban Reservoir (2,000 browns & 5,000 rainbows)
- Lake Hamilton (2,000 browns & 3,000 rainbows)
- Holland Creek (1,100 browns)
- Ryans Creek (550 browns)
- Mooroopna Recreation Reserve Lake (50 advanced rainbows)

Trout and salmon stockings will continue through winter while water temperatures are low and better suited to the release of cold-water species. For more about fish stocking, including stocking summaries from last year, visit http://www.depi.vic.gov.au/fishing-and-hunting/recreational-fishing/fish-stocking



Freshwater anglers are reminded that the trout fishing season in rivers officially closes at midnight on Monday 9 June, after the Queen's Birthday long weekend and re-opens at midnight on Friday 5 September 2014. The closure protects spawning trout and gives wild stocks a better opportunity to reproduce.

Although the streams and rivers close during winter, anglers can still fish for trout and salmon in Victorian lakes and reservoirs, which remain open year round.

Fisheries Victoria stocks more than 130 lakes annually with trout and salmon so there are still plenty of great inland fishing opportunities on offer while the rivers are closed.

Lakes worth a visit during winter include:

- Hepburn Lagoon
- 2. Tullaroop Reservoir
- 3. Lake Purrumbete
- 4. Lauriston Reservoir
- Lake Eildon
- 6. Lake Bolac
- 7. Blue Rock Lake
- 8. Lake Hume
- 9. Lake Wendouree
- 10. Eildon Pondage
- 11. Bellfield Reservoir
- 12. Lake Fyans
- 13. Moorabool Reservoir
- 14. West Barwon Dam
- 15. Rocklands Reservoir
- 16. Lake Toolondo
- 17. Wurdiboluc Reservoir
- 18. Newlyn Reservoir
- 19. Upper Coliban Reservoir
- 20. Barkers Creek Reservoir

Brook trout bag limit remains five per day

Recreational fishers are reminded that the daily bag limit for brook trout is five per person in all Victorian waters. Recent false information being circulated in social media claiming there was no bag limit for brook trout in the Rubicon River in North East Victoria is completely false and without foundation.

Brook trout are not a listed species of trout as they belong to the genus of salmonid fish known as char, which originates from North America. However, brook trout are subject to specific regulations that place a bag limit and possession limit of five fish per day, with no minimum or maximum size as opposed to other listed trout species.

Anyone who sees or suspects illegal fishing is urged to contact the 24-hour fisheries offence reporting line 13FISH on 13 3474. Rules and regulations governing the fishing of trout and salmon in Victorian waters can be found at www.depi.vic.gov.au/fishing







Kind Donation for AGM Raffle Prize

Jason Q has kindly donated a hip pack as part of the raffle prizes for the AGM. Don't forget to put Wed 13 August into your calendar





Cooking Corner

Available on our <u>Cooking Page</u>. Stefan has provided the recipe for "Batlow" Mars Bar Apples Tumut style road tested at the May Tumut outing. 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.

The major items for sale are from Frances Aschenberger (long term member Fred's widow). There is a large collection of fly tying materials that would particularly suit a new fly tier setting up, but there are items that have wider interest. Bryan Pratt has provided suggested costings at a very modest price. Frances' phone contact was phoned out to members. Some examples next:



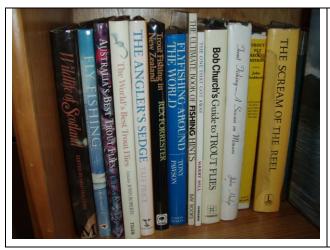








She has books too, but these have not been costed – please offer a fair price.





Frances has two fly rods: a brand new Loomis IMX 9' #7 two piece (\$450 – Nathan tells me this would be \$700 or \$800 new) and a good condition Sage SLT 9' #6 two piece (\$350). These are with Bryan Pratt at the Belconnen store, phone him or Nathan at Pratt's Tackle 6251 7733. She also has a number of old beach rods available.



Randy has the last of his items for sale:



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

One item from Stuart:



Donation to the club shall secure the boots.

Size 8 with socks, but with neoprene booties suitable for size 7.

I am a size 8.5/9 but over time the leather has shrunk and my foot has spread. Still very serviceable.

Regards

Stuart.

Notable Fish Recorded

As at 13 June 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
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
lan	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 Q	Brown Trout	57cm	Fly	Bondi Forest Lodge outing 11-13 Apr
Nathan	Rainbow Trout	60cm	Fly	Pejar Dam 18 May
Geoff	Brown Trout	65.5cm	Fly	Thredbo 5 Jun
Mark S	Brown Trout	65cm	Fly	Nimmitabel 6 Oct
Charlie	Carp	66.5cm	Bait	Lake Burley Griffin 13 Mar



Jason Q	Brown Trout	8.5lb	Fly	Eucumbene River (Providence Flats) 23 May
Peter K	Brown Trout	59cm	Fly	Eucumbene River 5 Jun
Peter K	Brown Trout	58cm	Fly	Eucumbene River 5 Jun
Peter K	Brown Trout	53cm	Fly	Eucumbene River 5 Jun

June Minutes

MINUTES OF CAA MEETING 11 June 2014

Members present: Bill, Peter, Norm, Greg W, Kelly, Mark S, Nathan, Steve, Owen, Jason M, Jason Q, Charlie, Barry, Randy, Mike, Ray and Geoff.

Apologies: Alan, Greg S, Ian and Stefan.

The meeting was preceded by Nathan speaking on the various technologies of fly lines.

Minutes

Minutes were read and accepted.

Matters Arising

Bill and Peter attended the Trout Forum in Cooma. More information will be included in July newsletter.

Life badges etc raised at last meeting has been considered by committee and judgement is that the \$1000 approximately to buy the minimum number is too excessive for an outlay. Committee will examine and propose a more supportable proposal.

In Stefan's absence Kelly, Owen and Steve provided some feedback on the Tumut outing. More information in newsletter.

Correspondence

Nil.



Treasurer's Report

Account Balance stands at \$3010. PO Box payment of \$173 remains outstanding. Payments were made to renew Internet domain name, web hosting and the batteries

General Business

Trophies – a number were returned tonight. Secretary needs to track down remainder.

Concern was raised last year regarding the cost of raffle prizes at fly casting and especially AGM. Treasurer assured members that costs were fully recovered and profit made. Committee is looking for ideas for prizes. Similarly, cost for drinks/nibbles at AGM is anticipated to be less than \$200 and has been planned for in the club budget for this year.

Club boat Lake Burley Griffin permit is about to be renewed. Regulations state that there is to be no financial gain from the use of the boat on the lake. Since the \$5 per day/\$50 maximum cost to members is for cost recovery these will remain even for Lake Burley Griffin use. In addition, electric motor, battery, battery charger and battery box has been assembled. This can be hired with the boat or separately for an additional \$5 per day/\$50 max.

Fly casting will be brought forward one week to avoid the Canberra Long Weekend (Family and Community Day Mon 29 Sep), thus it will be Sundays 7, 14, 21 Sep. Kelly volunteered to develop fliers. Geoff is continuing to explore final weekend on water and will renew the approach with Eucumbene trout farm after Bill's discussion with owner at Canberra Outdoor Show.

Suggestions and volunteers for outing co-ordinators are sought over the next two weeks. At the meetings, it was suggested that Koorabri be moved into March. Committee will develop a draft program and email out for approval at July meeting (in order to have cards printed for AGM in August).

CAA was given a large donation of books and magazines. One key element was magazines which the committee has decided is not appropriate for our small library. In the absence of other interest being articulated, President has sought to purchase the extensive Fly Life collection and will offer a price. The other major collection was Freshwater Fishing and this will be offered for sale via bids from members. In the absence of bids it was suggested we donate to some waiting room with a 'compliments of Canberra Angler's Association' and phone number etc as a promotion

Geoff has been approached for comment in the context of urban in-fill development along Ginninderra Creek below the dam. Please pass any points to him.

Geoff was also approached by the Central Coast Fly Rodders with the idea of possible joint events (as supplement to our normal program). He will explore further. Similarly, we've had an approach from Darwin Fly Rodders for mutual recognition on websites and possible hosting if individuals visit each other's cities.



Outing Update

Outing program has a 'to be advised' June trip. It was decided this should go ahead on 28/29 June. Looking for a volunteer to organise. Location is Lake Eucumbene but no specific location decided upon – likely not Buckenderra noting the big fish are likely to be up closer to the river.

Fishing Reports

General discussion was had around the table. Some success with the spawning run.

Geoff Bill President Secretary