

# The Burley Line

Aug 2014



*Alan braving the weather during the "June Chill" outing.*

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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](mailto:newsletter@canberra-anglers.asn.au)



## Coming Events

**Fly Tying** – Wed 23 July. Mike will be leading the lessons and the fly is a foam winged Madam X hopper. More information is on the [fly tying page](#).

**Peter Hayes' Talk** – Fri 8 Aug. As at Fri 11 Jul, Nathan tells me a number of club members (including some recent recruits) have signed up but places are filling fast – only 8 spots left. There is a [flyer](#) on our website. Also, if you are interested in joining me and Jason M for a pre-talk dinner that night, contact [secretary@canberra-anglers.asn.au](mailto:secretary@canberra-anglers.asn.au).

**Next Meeting** – Wed 13 Aug – 7:30pm at Raiders Weston Club. Annual General Meeting and trophy awards.

### Next Events:

Sun Sep 7, 14, 21 – Fly Casting on lawns of old Parliament House. Please promote this event using [flyers on the website](#).

Wed Sep 10 – replacing normal meeting, lure making down by the lake – details to be advised.

## June Chill – Eucumbene Outing Report

Having recently returned from a number of years in Singapore, Lyall has to be admired for his determination to get out fishing – regardless of weather. He's provided this excellent report of what turned out to be a reasonably successful trip.

### Rainbows at Anglers Reach June Chill CAA Outing



As forecast, the weekend of 28 and 29 June was a tad cold at Lake Eucumbene. With the weather so poor Allan and Lyall decided that it was more important than ever to hook up a fish to make the weekend worthwhile. In fact we made it a long weekend, driving down on Friday morning.

After stopping at the car park at Providence Portal to check out how far the walk was to the lake we checked in at Anglers Reach Caravan Park, ensuring that there was a heater in the cabin assigned to us. It turned out there was also a clothes drying cupboard which was to be used extensively after the frequent squalls to dry jackets and gloves before the next foray.

The fishing at Anglers Reach was a matter of trying every method in the book then sticking with what worked. Flies, bait (natural and artificial) and spinners were all experimented with.



A small green celta took a legal sized rainbow not far from Anglers Reach Caravan Park in Long Plain Inlet and then a bardi grub and worm landed another in the same inlet. At one point a nice sized rainbow was hooked up and jumping but spat the hook. In less time than it takes to say *oncorhynchus mykiss*, the bait on the dropper had been taken and there was a tug on the line. Unfortunately there was no hook up but at least the fish were clearly there.

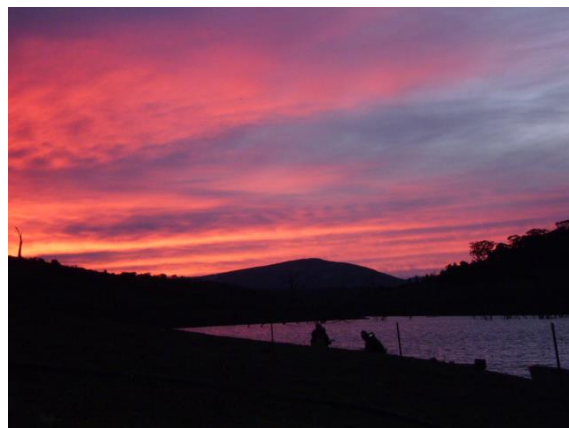
Having checked in with Bryan Pratt before the trip, we were armed with Lime Twist Power Bait ('sounds like a good name for a cocktail') and Chunky Cheese flavoured Gulp (who makes up these names?). As fishermen do, we tried to analyse the difference between the Power Bait and Gulp, apart from the flavours of course, as both are Berkley brand, both are manufactured by Pure Fishing inc. 1900 18<sup>th</sup> Street, Spirit Lake, Indiana. It was one of those deeply philosophical discussions which went on for hours ...



As it turned out Chunky Cheese worked wonders. Allan fished the inlet up to the Anglers Reach boat ramp and at around 4.00 pm started landing fish after fish into the darkness on Chunky Cheese with the fly rod getting a work out but not yielding any joy. It was enough to have us both fishing into the night then back there before dawn. As a particularly bad storm rolled down the opposite bank of the lake and approached us, we stuck it out until all we could do was turn our backs on the lake and on-coming storm and hold the fishing rods backwards hoping for a bite. At the point we decided we were no longer

having fun, we returned to our warm cabin and the drying cupboard, looking out at the sleet.

The afternoon saw us back at the boat ramp, with Allan landing more rainbows and chief photographer Lyall snapping the evidence. We fished into the night again until the sleet and wind made a tactical reverse advance necessary. The horizontal sleet reflected in the headlamps which made direction finding back to the cabin a challenge. I joked that we would be telemark skiing down to the boat ramp the next morning –





bad move – I should have kept my mouth shut.

Sunday morning we awoke to a white carpet of snow, children sliding down the hill on sleds and doubt in my mind whether the Ford Falcon would be able to make it up the hill and back to Canberra in the snow. By checkout time, enough four wheel drives had driven the road to leave two wheel tracks to follow even though it was still snowing.



The best fish of the weekend was Allan's 48 cm rainbow and curiously, all fish landed over the weekend were rainbows which was not consistent with all the recent fishing reports. We concluded that all the brown trout must have already begun their journey up the rivers and creeks to spawn, leaving only rainbows for the few winter fishermen silly enough to brave the weather.



## Fisher's Watch

Member's may have wondered what the "Fisherman's Watch" with its 1 800 phone number on the back of our membership card was all about. The latest newsletter from Recreational Fishing Alliance of NSW has an item all about this service – including its name change. This is the service we should be using if we spot some illegal fishing activity – am aware that Jason Q had some experience of this during the river closing period.

### Interactive voice response system boosts Fishers Watch

In June 2012 NSW DPI implemented a new interactive voice response (IVR) system to the Fishers Watch 1800 number (1800 043 536). This system operates outside all business hours and two days a week during business hours. Previously when calls were made to the Fishers Watch service outside business hours the caller could only leave a message which would not be picked up until the next business day.



NSW DPI built the IVR system in house and were able to integrate it into the main compliance business information system called 'Nautilus'. The IVR system operates by requesting the caller to leave a message about the activity and stay on the line to use a menu to identify whereabouts the activity is taking place. The system then constructs SMS/Email notifications and sends them direct to the officers based in the area. There are some other features built in to also let the caller identify those calls relating to fish kills and abalone/rock lobster theft so that other specialist fisheries staff are also notified.



If the officer has been issued a smart phone/tablet (many now have been) they can listen to the message direct which is attached to the email as a recorded file, or if they have a non-smart phone they can log in to the IVR direct via a phone call and listen to the message that way. They can then initiate a response which could include calling the informant back and/or attending the scene immediately. Afterwards they can then use the internal 'Nautilus' system to value add to the record which may include making file notes, attaching files or sending notifications to other officers with an interest in the report. The information then performs an important intelligence role when reviewing compliance problems around the state requiring attention.

Since its inception, the system has led to a many very good outcomes which have involved people reporting illegal activity and fisheries officers being able to respond very quickly because they happened to be located in the area. At times this has been in full view of the caller.

Fisheries Officers obviously don't work 24 hours a day/365 days a year so they can't guarantee that the message will be immediately received. Also some callers leave the message but don't stay on the line to record the location so it may not be forwarded to the affected officers until the next business day. However fisheries officers will return the call when possible if appropriate: the system allows the caller to confirm if they would like to be contacted and if so identify the correct number.

There is also an on-line report form.

<http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fisheries/compliance/report-illegal-activity>

Fisheries ask that you record the following information before reporting:

- Type of activity
- Time, date and location of activity
- Number of people and any descriptions
- Registration numbers of cars and boats.

## The Things You Hear About When Travelling

I was wandering around Eumundi markets during my recent travels when I spotted one gent wearing a polarfleece with a fish badge – looking more closely I saw it related to a past fishing competition in New Zealand. I fell into conversation by mentioning that our good friend, ex-President and generous sponsor Dr Bryan Pratt was in New Zealand at that very moment engaging the 'traditional opponent' in a fishing competition. The gent identified himself as Graeme Baylis and related a tale about Bryan running into trouble with the quarantine officials during the trip they shared. Seems Bryan was keen to show the kiwis how to catch snapper on soft plastics and he had brought some in his luggage. There was some concern as to whether



his soft plastics were to be declared as food – “only for a fish” was Bryan’s response, however the New Zealand position on nuclear powered craft entering New Zealand was almost enacted when Bryan described the soft plastics as “Nuclear Chicken”. Graeme did say they eventually got through the gate, but it was a close run thing.

## Upper Murrumbidgee Demonstration Reach

At our June meeting, Shane Jasprizza (President of CRFA) spoke on CRFA (presentation is available [here](#)), but also invited Antia Brademann facilitator of the Upper Murrumbidgee Demonstration Reach, along with Peter Saunders from Bush Heritage Australia’s site at Scottsdale on the Murrumbidgee. Antia provided a very informative presentation but also invited us to assist the aims of the two organisations (ie to help restore the health of the upper Bidgee). The UMDR are undertaking substantial effort to understand the habits of the carp in this region in order to identify ways we can reduce their impact and assist the restoration of natives such as the Macquarie Perch. Note that much of the research and knowledge on European Carp comes from the low areas around the Lachlan and below – very different to our environment.

There are a number of initiatives that CAA are hoping to assist with:

- Angler’s Diaries – a number of avid anglers have been identified to participate in the Angler’s Diary program. Antia has indicated that records from trout anglers in the upper Murrumbidgee would still be welcome as there has been suggestions that some carp have been caught up as high as Adaminaby. Jason Q has volunteered to be one of the anglers, but also to collate any reports that individual anglers in the club might offer. Email your reports, per the information sought in the diary, to [bidgee-reporting@canberra-anglers.asn.au](mailto:bidgee-reporting@canberra-anglers.asn.au)
- On-line reporting, in due course there will be an on-line web portal to report feral fish – will keep folk apprised as information comes to hand. CAA may be invited to be part of the testing of the website.

Date:		Name of angler:			
River name & nearest landmark:			Location (please be specific):		
Time fishing started: .....am/pm		Weather (please tick all relevant):			
Time fishing ended: .....am/pm		<input type="checkbox"/> Sun <input type="checkbox"/> Wind <input type="checkbox"/> Cloud <input type="checkbox"/> Showers <input type="checkbox"/> Rain			
River height/flow (please tick one):			Habitat (please tick one):		
<input type="checkbox"/> High <input type="checkbox"/> Medium <input type="checkbox"/> Low <input type="checkbox"/> Flood			<input type="checkbox"/> River (pool) <input type="checkbox"/> Lake (open water)		
			<input type="checkbox"/> Lake (reefs) <input type="checkbox"/> Wetland		
Target species:			Fishing method & no of lines:		
			Lure: Yes- (Type:.....)		
			Bait: Yes- (No of lines:.....)		
Fish	Species	Length*	Weight	Photo taken?	Fish tag ID or comment**
1	Keep/released?	ft/measure?	lb/weight?	Y/N	
2	Keep/released?	ft/measure?	lb/weight?	Y/N	



- Tagged carp – photos are in the presentation of what they might look like, but if by chance you do catch one of the 30 tagged carp, please take some notes and return the fish unharmed. They are only few in number and are carrying an expensive audio beacon that will be used to track where the fish are travelling.
- Regional carp-out – at this time the Australia Day event in Southern ACT is not a formal CAA outing, but our engagement is sought. More information closer to the date. Support from anglers in our club is sought by identifying suitable locations for the Carp Out – this is being run by Southern ACT Catchment Group. Perhaps Charlie's carp interest group might like to do some explorations away from their current favoured spots.
- Support the studies into Macquarie Perch – an associated study in the upper Bidgee – see <https://www.facebook.com/macquarieperch>.

Antia's presentation, along with information on how we are going to assist, is available on our [Useful Links Page](#). Please lend a hand. UMDR website is [www.upperbidgeereach.org.au](http://www.upperbidgeereach.org.au).

## Nathan's Report

When asked how the fishing went at Pejar Dam, Nathan responded:

From: Nathan  
Sent: Monday, 14 July 2014 10:00 AM  
To: Secretary CAA  
Subject: Re: how did you go?  
Hi Bill,

Pejar was very quiet. Not a touch all day...tried every fly and setup possible!

Did catch a nice cod on fly I tied at yerrabi pond the other night though. I didn't measure or weigh sorry. Estimated to be around 8kgs and 70cms. Caught at around 10:30pm on an absolutely freezing night!

Cheers,

Nathan





*The fly that did the damage*

## 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.

Jason Q has provided a review of a rather innovative strike indicator from New Zealand and this has been put up on the web.



## 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).



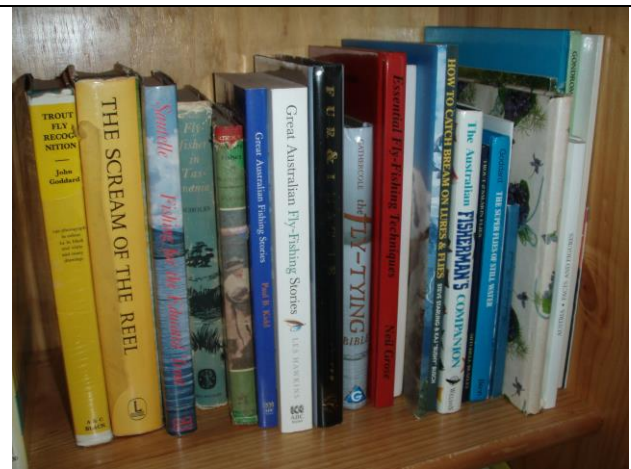
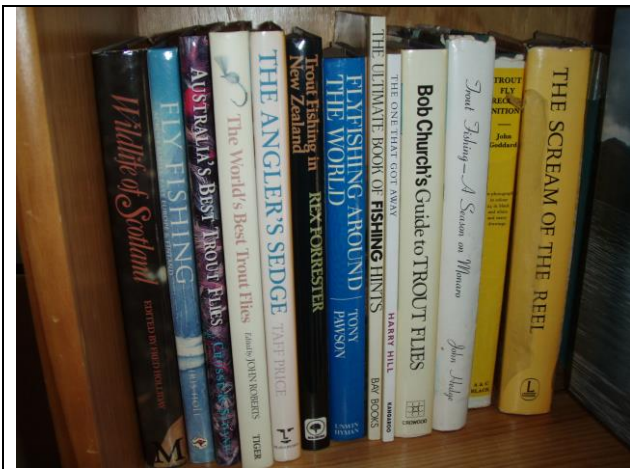


Newsletter of the Canberra Anglers Association – August 2014

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. As at 11 Jul, Nathan confirms they are still available. She also has a number of old beach rods for sale.

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

The 2013/2014 trophy period is complete. No fish recorded yet for the 2014/2015 period.

Angler	Species	Length	Method	Location/Event/Date
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## June Minutes - correction

My apologies, seems I left the date of 14 May on the June minutes published in last month's newsletter. The minutes should have been headed 11 June.



## July Minutes

### MINUTES OF CAA MEETING 9 July 2014

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

Members present: Bill, Jason M, Barry, Mike, Ray Alan, Greg S, Lyall, Bruce, Shane and Stefan. Plus two new members Peter H and Gary.

Apologies: Peter K, Greg W, Kelly, Nathan, Jason Q, Randy, Ian and Donkin.

The meeting was preceded by a talk by Shane on the Capital Region Fishing Alliance. Shane had also arranged a very worthwhile talk by Antia Brademann on the Upper Murrumbidgee Demonstration Reach. This showed us a number of opportunities for CAA to engage. More details are recorded in the August newsletter and on the web

#### Minutes

Minutes were read and accepted.

#### Matters Arising

Noting the high cost of the minimum order of badges, members will be contacted to determine the level of interest from members in buying CAA badges. This would reduce the number that the club would need to purchase. Depending on the outcome of the survey, committee will seek concurrence to conducting a combined purchase, or propose alternative solution to the life member badge situation.

A lucky door prize for attending members, with bonus tickets for volunteers, will be running and drawn at the end of the AGM:

- opportunity to spend \$100 at one of your favourite tackle shop that supports Canberra Anglers
- a complimentary night with the club on a CAA outing enjoying the friendly atmosphere, warm banter, and a chance to delve into the tactics of the weekend
- a quality fishing shirt, donated by Bassman Spinnerbaits
- Rapala tackle belt donated by Jason Quirk.

Like last year, an additional raffle will be running at \$2 per ticket, or 3 tickets for \$5.

- First prize is a pair of UHF radios to tell all the club about the fish you caught.
- Second prize is a copy of the Predator fly fishing DVD.
- Third prize is a copy of The Source - Tasmania DVD.
- Fourth prize is a copy of the book Fishing Flies - A practical guide to the craft of fly tying.
- Fifth prize is a great book called Distant Waters - The Greatest Fly-Fishing Worldwide.



Prize of a fly rod/reel/line combo donated by Bryan Pratt has been confirmed for the Fly Casting raffle. In addition flies will be minor prizes. Planning is afoot for a special prize on the first weekend noting it is Father's Day.

Total outlay for all of the above is \$240 (similar to last year where income was around \$1,000)

Club boat permits have arrived. A small (less than \$20) list of maintenance items were identified.

Draft program was disseminated by email. The following changes were progressed:

- Australia Day Long Weekend – add in notification of the Regional Carp Out – not expected to be a formal CAA outing, but rather opportunity to participate in the UMDR event.
- Stefan proposed (and volunteered to organise) a 'Back to Buckenderra' outing 29-31 Aug 2014.

Bids for the Freshwater Fishing magazines were closed with Jason Middleton winning with a bid of \$50. We await finalisation of the bid for the Fly Life magazines.

### **Correspondence**

Nil.

### **Treasurer's Report**

\$2956 at bank. \$100 cash. Still await the reissue of invoice for PO Box (\$173). Books are ready for audit. Awaiting confirmation from Mark Flint that he can audit the books. Shane Jasprizza volunteered as fall back.

### **General Business**

Nil.

### **Outing Update**

No outing this month.

Reminder was given of 23 Jul fly tying – Mike is leading the class which will tie a Madam X foam wing hopper. More information will be provided later.

### **Fishing Reports**

General discussion was had around the table.

Jason M  
Treasurer

Bill  
Secretary