

CHRISTMAS 2014

The Burley Line

Christmas Edition



CAA Member - Richard and son land a quality carp during the CAA Christmas Party!

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Newsletter of the **CANBERRA ANGLER'S ASSOCIATION Inc.**
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President's Message

Just a short note:

Thanks to all members of the CAA for their support to the club and its members over this year. I hope that you all return safe and well, and have a great Christmas break with family, friends and fishing.

For those who have the chance to fish, may your lines be tight and the periods in between bites short. Respect the resource; but have fun with it.

Please drive safely for those that are travelling. I look forward to a successful 2015.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Geoff

From the Editor

Whilst perusing December's newsletter, it occurred to me if CAA had ever had a 'Special Christmas Newsletter Edition'?

Through speaking with various vintages of Anglers in the Club, they all agreed there'd been no such thing to the best of their knowledge.

So here it is the Inaugural 'Christmas Edition - CAA Burley Lines'.

This edition sees a number of reports that can't wait for January release; you may even wish to plan a trip over the break to these places

I wish you Merry Christmas and plead for safe travels over the period.

FISH ON!
Jason Q

Canberra Anglers Association Thanks You

Canberra Anglers Association and its members wish to personally thank the following businesses and persons for their extreme generosity, services and contributions made throughout 2014.

- Anglers Art Woden
- Pratt's Tackle Box Belconnen
- Tackle World Fyshwick
- Mr Shane Jasprizza (CRFA)

The Editor apologises in advance if CAA has failed to personally recognise you in this announcement.

Trip Reports - Brogo Bass Outing – November

With a gloomy weather forecast Alan and I met up on the shore of Brogo Dam ready to catch bass. Plan A was to use flies, plan B was lure fishing, plan C was bait and plan D was to eat the bait, go home and take up golf instead of fishing.



Left: Allan with his handy craft shade sail!
Secret be known... It's a special satellite dish for his onboard fish finder!!
Nicely concealed Alan, secret is safe with CAA members only!

We both had kayaks which were perfect for the location and there were many others on the dam fishing from Hobies and a few power boats which fished at the far reaches of the dam which suited us fine.

After losing an un-tethered rod overboard on Friday, we visited Bermagui midday Saturday for a cheap replacement then had lunch at the Seafood Café literally over the water, spotting cruising fish, wondering if the seafood platter would make good bait. We recommend the same next year (minus losing a rod) for lunch and a crack at salt water fish during the hottest part of the day at Brogo then back for the evening rise.



NOTE:
"With the exception of Official Club Policy or Official Reports the views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the Canberra Anglers Association"

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CAA Christmas Party

The Christmas Party held at Black Mountain Peninsula Wednesday 10 December and was well represented with most members been able to make it along. Someone however forgot to tell the weather it was not so welcome that afternoon/ evening!

Thank you to those that attended, and especially Geoff who arranged an amazing pavlova – To die for.

Cover picture of long absent member Richard attended our rather wet December BBQ meeting at Black Mountain Peninsula.

Richard has been distracted from fishing by the arrival and growing up of his son - the BBQ gave him the opportunity of mixing both. Richard's youngster can be seen pulling in one of the 8 carp caught by the developing carp fisherman Bill.

Congratulations and thanks were exchanged between Bill and the 'carp guru' Charlie.



The Editors Christmas tree!
Look closely and you'll find a few Jindy/ Eucumbene specials...

CAA's Vice President breaks his silence with an all exclusive tell 'most' interview with newsletter Editor – Jason Q

Greg: Did you get my text, Mate?!

Editor: Certainly did Grego! How does it feel to have a fish on the board for season 14/15?

A very pretty Rainbow... Very excited to hear about techniques, location etc. Mate, tell us EVERYTHING, we're just dying to know!

Greg: You know it's funny; I am a man of few words. It was this simple right, – I was on 'a River Somewhere' fly fishing using a dropper rig. You'd be familiar with this type of rig?

Editor: Actually I am, and I think I taught you that one... So tell us what fly did the damage?

Greg: The secret fly was the one that 'matched the hatch'.

Editor: Right, and...?

Greg: Yeah

Silence..... Then Laughter!

Editor: What'd your wife say when you told her you'd caught a fish? She didn't believe you did she!?

Silence.....

Greg: Nah!!!!!!!

LAUGHTER and more LAUGHTER!!!!!!

Editor: You want a beer?

Greg: Mate, rum if you have it

Editor: Never thought you'd ask!

Below: Greg's healthy specimen from one of Australia's prettiest waterways



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**Bill's Trip Report – Jindabyne 12-14 December
Including various photos from those members that attended – thank you!**



Above Ian making some 'sexy' loops on the Thredbo.

Right: A beautiful cruiser JQ stalked and subsequently spooked before even presenting a fly!



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Well it was certainly an eventful weekend for some, a bit frustrating for others.

There was almost universal commentary from Saturday (indeed Friday) fishing that while there were quite a large number of smallish (say 10cm) fish in the rivers - many slashing (and some hooking) on large dry fly indicators - there seemed to be a dearth of fish of any size. A couple in the order of 30cm were captured by Ian and Lyall (latter was measured at 32 cm). A few larger than that were hooked but managed to evade the net, in particular for one champion (perhaps 60cm) taken by Jason M on Saturday afternoon who jumped out of the net 3 times.



Above: Geoff making 'loops' in some tight surroundings

Friday night was somewhat cold with no fish rising and only one being taken by Jason Q in spite of all the methods being used.

Saturday night was much more successful with three fish (largest 35cm brown to Jason Q and two for Jason M in order of 30cm including a notable brook trout).

Sunday saw many head home. Bill and Ian surveyed the lower Thredbo with one good fish sighted from the road bridge but proving impossible to tempt with fly.

It is a shame that no other fish of good size were seen in this part of the river. The silver lining is that the number of small fish in the river suggests things will be better in the future - especially as few cormorants were seen. The top photo of Ian shows a good flow of the Thredbo Arm of the lake where we started our fishing.

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The event was remarkably well supported by club members with much socialising over a beer and chocolate mud cake (provided by Geoff - many thanks). We particularly welcomed the presence of Angie and Michael on their first outing. Was also nice to receive an SMS on Saturday morning from new member John (while I was knee deep in the Thredbo) "I'm in Jindabyne, where is everyone?" - quick exchange saw him arrive

One footnote from Bill - for sale, Hardy fly rod. Slightly used but with only one minor item missing.



Top: Geoff mid battle... FISH ON!
Above: Jason M the perfect 'net man'



Above: Geoff with his capture

Supplementary from Geoff:

Jason M and I went back to the Thredbo with an intent to only fish a few hours and then head to the Moonbah. However, with the cloud cover coming in, the humidity and the temperature being up we fished well through the day. Catching several fish and losing some others.

The big fish were there but not always feeding where expected. Managed to hook and land several on both nymphs and dries, with the dries being large.

Once the wind picked up, it appeared to shut everything down, however the insects were everywhere, but the fish not playing the game, most only rising once.

Stopped to look at the bridge pool on the evening, but there were only small fish rising at this stage, as the hatch was inconsistent, the cool breeze really turned it all off. That said, a more successful day than Saturday due to the cloud cover.

Supplementary from Jason M:

Saturday saw a late start to the fishing on Thredbo River with an unsuccessful treasure hunt. The water was high (although it had dropped about 1m), so wading was tough - Saturday saw a couple of drips in the chest waders, and Sunday 7 or 8 waterfalls down the waders. Hence, much of the fishing was waist to torso deep.

Mid Saturday saw a couple of strikes- first a foam Stu's dragonfly/grasshopper pattern, then on a CDC greendrake, and one on a cream nymph. A cast tight around a fallen tree back to the bank ahead saw the indicator drop almost straight away, and a nice brown was on. Being torso-deep in water, fast flowing at the end of the pool and before the next run, it was a gamble which way to drive the fish. A few tail dances, avoiding some deep sharp rock erosion, and I maneuvered the fish towards the bank. Not happy with being in the net, he eventually made it between a dead sunken tree against the bank, thumping into the branch for about a minute before dislodging the fly (deep water between us prevented dashing across). At least there was a good five minutes of fun, and the fish had just about given all the fun it had left.

With rising fish over the other side, a few struck at the Bert's Better Brush, including one strike which pulled the line from my retrieving hand. Eventually a small rainbow was landed onto the rock.

Saturday night was then a bit easier, and following Nathan's advice from the December BBQ earlier in the week, after a few missed strikes, a slow twitched mud-eye bagged a nice 34.5cm brown, followed by a 28cm brook trout, making three species for the day. All went quiet with the sun, and cleaning the trout found their bellies mostly full with tan-coloured beetles like which frequent Ginninderra Creek.

Sunday was a return to the lost fish, with it spotted again but no luck in getting a strike. Geoff broke the drought with some nice fish, and I settled for a nice little brown. Reminiscent of my previous day, Geoff had a nice fish on in the rapids, and battled to keep it out of the sharp rocks, eventually losing it when it swam under and over a sunken tree. Despite resting there for a few minutes after breaking off, it couldn't be coached into the landing net. Also spotted were a red bellied black snake, bats, fox, deer, and a rambling wombat (maybe looking for a drier home).



Jason M – Saturday evening rewards.
A Jindy Brown and Brook Trout



Left: Jason M's
Brookie from
Jindabyne

Below: Taken
from 'Fish from
here' sign
above Gaden
hatchery

Supplementary from Jason Q:

My notes for others based on lessons learned and what worked over the weekend:

- Tippet to be no less than 7lb on the Thredbo river and learn to cast 16ft (if indicator nymphing);
- Tippet to be no less than 10lb on the lake;
- Bring and wear ear plugs when sleeping in a cabin with Bill;
- Check beneath rocks to gauge a size and colour of the nymphs, but when in doubt fish hook sizes 18 and smaller;
- Put sunscreen on the tops of your ears when wearing a cap...;
- Buy a life proof case for the iphone 6plus (when available).



Merry Christmas
CAA Members and Guests

