

# The Burley Line

May 2015



*Nathan with an early Eucumbene River spawner – 55cm and 4.2lb. Caught on a hare and copper nymph*

## **In This Issue:**

From the Editor's desk, Coming Events, The Latest Accessory for the Sharply Dressed Man, A 'Gorey' Tale, Tips From Members for Members, CAA Fly Casting Discovery Journey, CRFA News, Monaro Acclimatisation News, NSW Council of Freshwater Anglers News, NSW RecFish News, Book Review – Dry Flies Of The Fleurieu Peninsula, Cooking Corner, Gear Review, For Sale, Notable Fish Recorded, April Meeting Outcomes.



**Newsletter of the CANBERRA ANGLER'S ASSOCIATION  
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## From the Editor's Desk

After calling for commentary from the club on the newsletter, the response has been notable for the overall silence. Please email [newsletter@canberra-anglers.asn.au](mailto:newsletter@canberra-anglers.asn.au). JQ and I seek your comments on how we are doing and what we should do differently.

## Coming Events

**Next Meeting** – 13 May – usual time of 7:30pm at Raiders Weston Club. Speaker is Stefan on his recent trip to Alaska.

### Next Events:

22 – 24 May – Tumut. Co-ordinator is Stefan. Please RSVP by 30 April to allow the committee to make a decision upon the club contribution to the outing, although members will be able to book (subject to availability) after this date.

27 May – planned for usual time of 7:30pm at the Raiders Weston Club. Pattern is yet to be determined but closer to the day briefing material will be on our [fly tying page](#).

## The Latest Accessory for the Sharply Dressed Man

Seen at a recent wedding.

Jason Q asked that his picture be captioned *“Don't ever let an opportunity pass you by, always take your rod... You just never know when it could come in handy!”*.

Seems it was a mate's wedding and the bride had said “No fishing rods at the wedding, sick of Mick fishing blah blah etc etc!!!!”. Jason wanted to prove that he was game!

(Editor: not sure how he was able to continue double hauling the fly line, but I note he's worked out how to double haul on the beer!)





## A 'Gorey' Tale

Seems Ian just can't stay away from New Zealand – or perhaps it was just that his February trip saw such drastic weather that he needed another chance. Regardless, four intrepid travellers recently spent 14 days in 'The Brown Trout Capital of the World' – Gore in New Zealand's Southland fishing the Mataura River. It is a locale that many of the club are very familiar with and rarely fails to deliver good fishing.



Peter, Lyall, Bill and Ian had generally wonderful weather giving us the opportunity to fish most days. A couple of days of rain did lead to the Mataura rising and getting coloured, but going upstream and also onto the Waikaia provided alternatives. Two days with local guide Barry Perkins (<http://www.flyfishmataura.co.nz/>) got our eye in, provided some great tutoring and especially hints on dealing with the rising fish. A great fortnight and highly recommended for everyone.



*Ian channelling Jason Q's photography*



*Peter hard at work*



*Bill with one of 5 fish taken on the dry in one pool*



*Lyall with 'best of the day' – caught on the dry in 6 inches of water.*



## Tips From Members for Members

At a recent outing, Greg W offered up the idea for a new column for Burley Lines. His thoughts were that there are many very skilled anglers in the club and they might be willing to share a tip or two. In due course (when we have a few more) we may establish a webpage collection, meantime I've asked a few folk to make some contributions. The first is from a relatively new member – Leon. Please send your tip to [newsletter@canberra-anglers.asn.au](mailto:newsletter@canberra-anglers.asn.au) – it doesn't need to be lengthy, a paragraph or two is sufficient.

*Fly fishing for trout is more my passion. Doing it for carp is more a substitute when time is a constraint. I am 'blessed' with a few carp-infested urban lakes close to home. Blind flogging the water has never worked for me. Neither has casting to carp seemingly napping in the sun. Here are instances when I have had some success.*

*On hot sunny afternoons, carp could be seen near the surface of the water in front of Bunnings at Lake Tuggeranong. (Before the construction activities there.) You could see their thick yellow lips closing and opening probably feeding on something near the surface. To me they were challenging me to land a fly right on their lips. I find a bit of white fluff superglued on to a small dry fly hook nonthreatening enough to fool them.*

*Carp can often be seen in stormwater drains. Either a pom pom on a size 16 hook or a wooly bugger can do the job. Both have to be cast in front of the fish (around 3 feet). If the fish does not come to the fly, you should slowly drag the fly close enough for the fish to see. In the case of the wet fly, you should pause after dragging within vision. The pause is when the wet fly (pom pom floats) sinks in front of the fish. If the fish is still there and not eating the fly, you should twitch the fly and stir some dirt on the bottom. Pause, twitch and stir are moments the fish takes the fly.*

*If the fish shows no interest and is still there when the fly is sitting on the bottom, you can do a fast long strip. This is another moment when you can get a hook up.*

*P/s carp fly fishing is addictive. Be warned.*

*Leon*

## CAA Fly Casting Discovery Journey

On the same Goodradigbee trip, Greg W recommended that the club should provide a resource for newcomers – to sort of take them on a 'learning discovery' right from the start... What is Fly Fishing? Learning everything right up to the casting weekends in September where the person can put it all together, and then to the Lyle Knowles weekend on the Eucumbene River (or perhaps a side visit to Providence Flats). Jason Q has taken up this challenge and is preparing a series of tutorials.

*Over a series of articles I wish to transfer some of my knowledge and understanding of fly fishing and the tackle associated with the sport, to the point you are able to arrive at the first CAA casting event and appreciate the basic principles, fundamentals and terminology. From*



*there a CAA Casting Instructor will take charge of your learning that will see you evolve into 'dark art' of fishing.*

*For many of us winter is the time to rest and recuperate, perhaps prepare maps and equipment for the coming spring, restock fly and tackle boxes, maybe even spend time drinking mulled wine at one of the many local 'watering holes' whilst talking rubbish to people we don't know! If the latter is the preferred option then this is the perfect opportunity to make the effort to meet someone new and introduce them to the art of fly fishing and of course our club CAA.*

*I am by no means a Certified Casting Instructor, I've not fished world class fly fishing events and I'm certainly not being paid by the likes of Sage, Rio and IFish. I am however a die hard fly fishing nut of many years with rod in hand experience, and I catch my fair share of fishes. The information and advice I offer is to provide you with confidence, not competence!*

*Bring on CAA September's casting!*

### **What is fly fishing?**

*The most significant characteristic of fly fishing is that the weight of the line carries the hook through the air, whereas in spin and bait fishing the weight of the lure or sinker at the end of the line does this job. This technique is particularly suited for casting very lightweight "bait" out to the fish, especially when this item is expected to float (eg to emulate an insect on the surface of the water).*

*I'll leave the history lesson for another time, but fly fishing has been around for a very long time – around 15th Century to be somewhat close, but what would I know I was born in the 1980's!?!*

*This month's issue (click [here](#)) covers some of the basics of what kit you need to start; a discussion on rods and the associated lines with an explanation of the different line profiles and different rod actions. There is also a discussion about reels in particular the drag system.*

*Future issues are intended covering:*

- *Setup of Rod, reel, line and knots – fly line to backing, reel etc, leaders and formula, braided loops, making your own welded loops, sighters etc*
- *Casting tips – basic concept – timing, types of casts, loading, power applications etc..*
- *Locations/flyies (Snowy region/ local salt) Incorporating Lake/river styles of fishing – stripping techniques, mends, nymphing – Indicator – long lining etc..*

### **CRFA News**

Still working on resolution on ACT Government policy on stocking in local waters. Watch this space. CRFA has also been engaged with a University of Canberra research program into cod in the Murrumbidgee – specifically exploring the utility of angler reporting for estimating cod populations.



### **Monaro Acclimatisation Society News**





While CAA is not a member/sub-branch of the Monaro Acclimatisation Society, their activities are of significant interest. We've not been advised that their web site is now functional. Go to <http://www.monarofishsociety.org> to learn more. The link has been added to our "[Useful Links](#)" page. In this context, the March 2015 Gaden Hatchery monthly report has been received and can be provided to members interested. The report covers current fish holdings as well as outlining fish stocking activities out of Gaden.

## NSW Council of Freshwater Anglers News



Full issue for April is [here](#). One hot topic:

### Snowy Hydro installs cloud seeding generators in KNP

Snowy Hydro is installing a network of 23 cloud seeding burners along the western edge of Kosciuszko National Park. The generators are designed to seed clouds that are likely to produce snow down to 1400 metres as they pass overhead. The NSW government fast tracked its approval after 10 years of work by Snowy Hydro, which claims there is overwhelming evidence that the process does not harm the environment. The studies have also dismissed concerns that taking extra moisture out of clouds in one location may rob those downwind of rain. Some environmentalists are still worried.

## NSW RecFish News

Full issue for April is [here](#). One hot topic:

### Fishing licences to go digital

In March Fisheries Minister Katrina Hodgkinson announced that the government will oversee a transition to digital licensing over the next four years, including a range of common licences, such as NSW photo cards, boat and fishing licences, and eventually drivers' licences. Over time, this means that people will not need to carry around multiple licences in their wallets. People will be able to choose whether they would prefer a digital licence on an opt-in basis. Physical licences will continue to be available.



(Editor – not sure what the implication is for non-NSW residents – we'll keep an eye out on this).





## Book Review – Dry Flies Of The Fleurieu Peninsula

The following book review has been provided by Jason Q.



After promising in the March Newsletter a small snippet of an inherited ‘gem’, I’ve inadvertently been side tracked by life...!

The book I share today was passed to me by a very close relative - Marie Hoffmann (‘Mau’ as many knew her). She was wife to late Percy Hoffmann (‘Parda’ as I knew him) who was a very passionate and proficient fly fisherman, and a very influential member of the NSW Council of Freshwater Anglers where he was recognised as Life Member. Percy was also involved with the Monaro Acclimatisation Society in the early days with stocking and research efforts within the Monaro system.

But I digress!

Authored by Raymond T Brown and published 1985 whilst living in South Australia. This book is an extremely limited release of only 30 signed hard copies, and 5 Deluxe leather bound Edition.

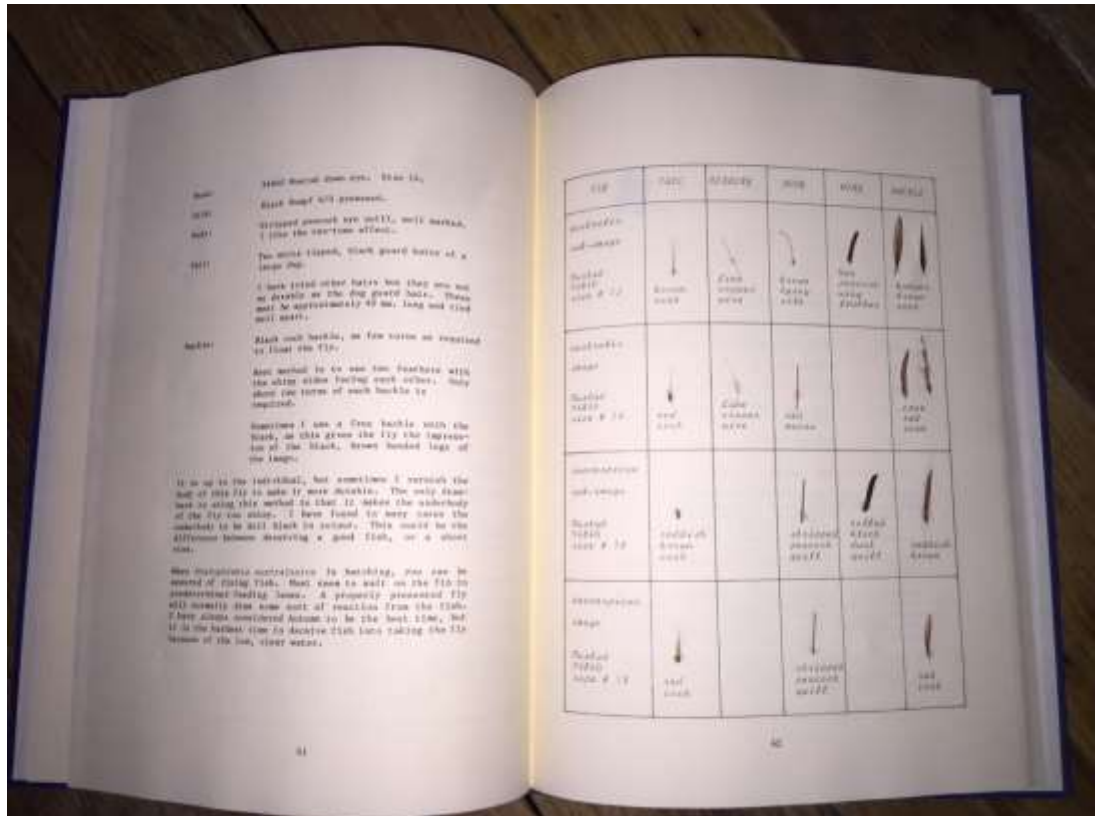
Firstly, Dry Flies is because the book is primarily devoted to dry fly fishing and in the Peninsula he fished dry exclusively. Secondly, Fleurieu Peninsula is a peninsula located south of Adelaide very close to the beach with very special trout streams only a short drive away.



The book was written with the intent to supply Flyfishers with knowledge of the aquatic invertebrate that reside streamside of our favourite fishing locations. Many of us draw blank on the subject of entomology, yet know so much of the development and creation of such creatures from our vises. Quite the paradox really!?

Ray provides intimate recipes with real pieces of feather, fur and fibres individually glued to the pages that make up the imitative patterns.

The book also details on leaders, bamboo rods, snippets of travels to various rivers and of course loads information on bugs and the characteristics that need to be considered when tying their imitations.



Something that sticks with me and I quote from Ray - "Flyfishing at its best is not merely catching fish, the flies, the long rod, casting and the surroundings, all contribute to the compleat appreciation of our sport".

Ray now resides in Cressy Tasmania and I've been in contact with him as he likes to know who owns and where his books are circulating the world.

This book is not available from the CAA library, but one day you may just get an opportunity to view this piece of sought after literature!

## Cooking Corner

### Ian's Famous Canadian Pancakes:

After being enjoyed on a number of New Zealand trips, finally Ian has been prepared to share his secret recipe. It is on our [Cooking Page](#). Further contributions are always encouraged.

## Equipment Review

These can be found in our [Gear Review](#) page on the web. Have you recently got some new kit – are you prepared to share your observations with the rest of us? Contributions from members on any items they've been using are welcome please.



## For Sale

From Randy:

*“My father-in-law's gear, very good condition”*



Simms 10, felt sole. \$25



Glacier Glove, large. \$25

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

## Notable Fish Recorded

Angler	Species	Length	Method	Location/Event/Date
Nathan	Cod	68cm	Fly	Yerrabi Ponds, 28 Jul
Nathan	Brown	56cm	Fly	Lake Eucumbene, 3 Aug
Jason Q	Brown	53cm	Fly	Lake Eucumbene, 13 Aug
Talia	European Carp	Various to 65cm	Bait	LBG
Barry	European Carp	Various to 65cm	Bait	LBG



Newsletter of the Canberra Anglers Association – May 2015

Charlie	European Carp	Various to 65cm	Bait	LBG
Peter K	European Carp	67cm	Fly	Lake Tuggeranong, 23 Sep
Alan	Brown Trout	50cm	Fly	Lyle Knowles, 11 Oct
Steve	Brown Trout	47cm	Fly	Lyle Knowles, 11 Oct
Bill	European Carp	60cm	Bait	LBG, 13 Nov
Lyall	Bass	28cm	Bait	Brogo Outing, 28-30 Nov
Alan	Bass	28cm	Bait	Brogo Outing, 28-30 Nov
Jason Q	Brown	35cm	Fly	Jindy Outing, 13 Dec
Jason M	Brown	34.5cm	Fly	Jindy Outing, 13 Dec
Jason M	Brook	28cm	Fly	Jindy Outing, 13 Dec
Jason M	Brown	34.5cm	Fly	Jindy Outing, 13 Dec
Lyall	Rainbow	32cm	Bait	Sponar's Lake, Jindy Outing, 13Dec
Peter	Brown	59cm	Fly	Lake Eucumbene, 26 Dec
Greg S	Carp	60cm	Worm	LBG natives outing, 18 Jan
Richard	Carp	66cm	Corn	LBG natives outing, 18 Jan
Peter	Carp	78cm	Soft plastic	Lake Tuggeranong, 21 Jan
Jason M	Yellow Fin Bream	33cm	Bait	Moruya, 25 Jan
Jason M	Flathead	53cm	Bait	Moruya, 26 Jan
Peter	Rainbow	2.5cm	Fly	Lake Eucumbene, 2 Feb
Jason Q	Brown	57cm	Fly	Lake Eucumbene, 7 Mar
Lyall	Black Bream	25cm	Bait	Tuross Coastal Outing, 21 Feb
Lyall	Tailor	31cm	Bait	Tuross Coastal Outing, 21 Feb
Bill	Rainbow	35cm	Fly	Goodradigbee Outing 7 Mar



Jason Q	Unspecified trout	“30 fish weekend. All averaged 3lb, largest at 6.3lb”	Fly	Lake Eucumbene, Easter
Nathan	Brown trout	55cm and 4.2lb	Fly	Eucumbene River 19 Apr 2015

## April Meeting Outcomes

### Outstanding action items from previous meetings:

1. Lyall to assemble all non-fly tying library books for pricing. Members requested to bring books to the May meeting.
2. Geoff to clear Bill’s draft briefing note for new members and ask Kelly to prepare a flyer/pamphlet for printing.
3. Geoff again called for suggestions or views on the club boat, inviting e-mails or discussion.
4. The committee also recalled for suggestions for outings and what members want out of the club. These can be emailed or provided to the committee members. It was asked that these be considered and collated by the June meeting to allow the committee to propose some discussion at the June meeting to then influence the 2015-2016 calendar, due in August at the AGM.

### Completed action items from previous meeting:

Bill has updated the CAA website to include a note that fish caught in privately stocked waters, apart from CAA outings, do not qualify for trophies.