

The Burley Line

Issue 105 – Dec 2015



A hungry Brogo Australian Bass fell for Steve M's foam fly

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

Jason Q is finding work, home and Treasurer duties have conspired to make it difficult to continue as co-editor. I'd like to thank him for the November issue he prepared in my absence (and all the previous ones he has undertaken). His support has been invaluable and perhaps things will be different sometime in the future. Meanwhile if anyone would like to undertake the odd 'guest editor' function you would be most welcome.

Let me take this opportunity to again thank those folks who continue to support CAA: Angler's Art and Pratt's Tackle Box; Raiders Weston; Tackleworld Fyshwick and Road Tech Marine. Please support these firms.

I welcome your comments on *Burley Lines* and what we should do differently. Please email newsletter@canberra-anglers.asn.au with comments and contributions.

Coming Events

Next Meetings:

Wed 9 Dec – end of year barbeque to be held at Black Mountain Peninsula with a CAA-sponsored sausage sizzle and soft drinks for members starting at 6:00 pm. Turn up as early as you like for pre-dinner fishing.

Next Events:

13th Nov to the 13th Dec. UMDR are running a month-long Carp comp on the Upper Murrumbidgee catchment south of the ACT. All entrants/families receive a brag mat and angler diary with their entries. There are prizes for the longest carp for adults and juniors (13 and under), longest mirror carp, mystery length and longest overall. The prize presentation is on the 13th Dec, at the Alpine Hotel starting at 3pm. Promo flyers and more details available from CAA Secretary.

Fri 11 Dec – Sun 13 Dec. CAA Jindabyne outing – please advise Secretary before 31 Nov. More information [here](#).

Message from the President

Merry Christmas!

Well, as the latest Burley Lines goes out, the cod season is opening and after Nathan W's great instruction last night we now have our boxes full of good flies for natives like Murray Cod and bass, and presumably yellowbelly. This was our last evening at Raiders Club until next February, so don't plan to turn up there until then for any club events.

I hear a few have also been out wetting some lines for trout, with some nice ones caught last weekend. This should be good practice for our upcoming Jindabyne outing, and don't forget Lyle Knowles in February, with the dry fly action currently heating up.



Merry Christmas to you all and have a happy and safe new year. As with the recent events even this week (freak winds, kayaker missing on the Murray, bus rolling near Goulburn, and the bush fires), be careful out there travelling to, from, and around your favourite fishing destinations. Even for Brogo we were looking at fire dangers, strong winds, and thunderstorms however the weather turned our way before we decided to leave and apart from some minor drizzle and wind to make it harder to get optimal casting, the biggest complaint was probably just a barking dog in a nearby campsite.

Speaking of Brogo, the 4 hour commute was worth it, even just to get out and wet a line. My junior angler also enjoyed spotting a water dragon basking on the bank, listening to the frogs, looking for fish in the clear water, seeing some wallabies, and even two wedgetail eagles with a rabbit (presumably roadkill) right next to the road – a real enjoyment of the nature around the fishing location, and much nicer than stressing about holiday traffic or fighting for casting room on a crowded bank.

For those who might have heard about A Day By The Lake in early December, CRFA (and therefore ourselves) have decided not to participate with a stall this year, primarily due to public liability insurance requirements. CFA also met last weekend to discuss road closures, including Dennison, but this overlapped our outing. Finally, don't forget our Xmas BBQ this month. We have some raffles, and will be putting some food and drinks on (I'm sure the details will be in the newsletter...). If I recall correctly, last year one of the winning fish was caught at the Xmas BBQ last year.

Finally, thanks to all the volunteers in 2015. It takes a lot to keep the club going with the events, casting, fly tying, outings, raffles and bbqs, not to forget coaching each other along to make us all better anglers. Looking forward to continuing this momentum in 2016 as the finish enjoying our first seventy years and move into our seventy first.

Casting for Recovery

Angie filed a report on the recent (successful) auction, plus some news about their Christmas raffle. Please support this worthy cause. More details see Angie or contact Secretary CAA.

Casting for Recovery ACT's first fundraising auction was held at the Croatia Deakin Football Club with both CAA & ACTFF members attending, and contributing to make it a fantastic evening. We launched the Christmas Raffle, and takings from the auction, gold coin entry and sale of raffle tickets totalled just over \$1800 for the upcoming CfR Retreat.

Thank you very much to Canberra Anglers and members for ongoing support!

Cheers,

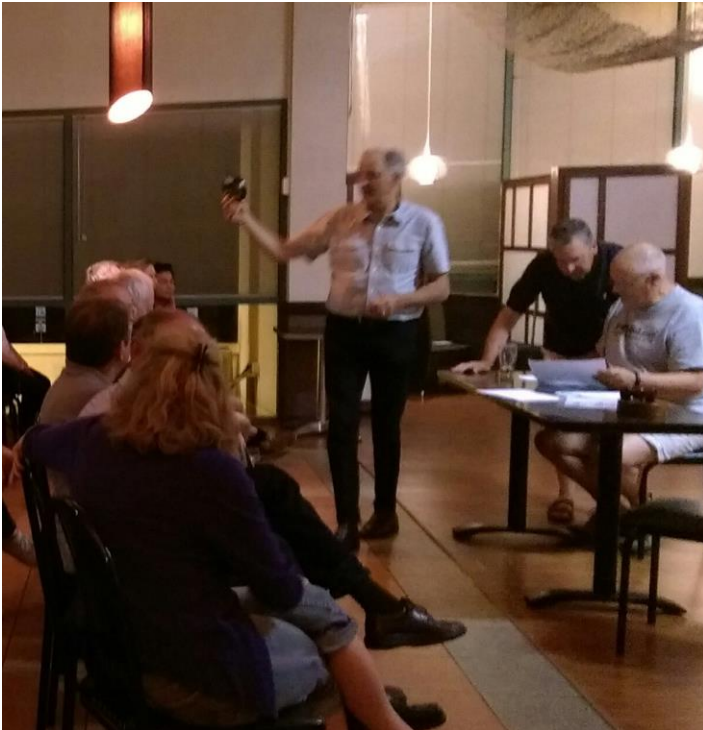
Angie



P.S. If any one is interested in purchasing tickets in the Christmas Raffle drawn 20th December, the prizes are:

- 1. Rainbow Pines Tourist Caravan Park - 3 day accommodation package for up to 6 people in an Ensuite Cabin at Rainbow Pines. Valued at \$600.00.*
- 2. Captured by Jodie Graf -2 hour studio or location photography session plus 2 retouched digital images with 2 bonus 8x10 prints of the digital images. Valued at \$ 250.00*
- 3. Fly fishing themed handmade Quilt Valued at \$200*
- 4. Thomas Cook, Boot & Clothing Co - Outdoor Vest. Valued at \$200*

Tickets are \$2.50 each or 5 for \$10.00.



Hena doing his auction groove

Tips From Members for Members

From one of our prolific advisors – Jason Q:

Size Matters...

In my opinion when pursuing your favourite freshwater species, attributes in your bait selection should be (in order): size, shape, colour, then retrieve action (technique).

Where pursuing salt water species, retrieve action (technique) is by far the most important over size and shape.



CAA Fly Casting Discovery Journey

Back in May Jason Q started a resource for newcomers – to 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. It is available [here](#).

Fly Tying Workshops

Fly tying on 25 Nov was led by Nathan teaching the *Gusto* fly – suitable for use at Brogo bass or on huge Lake Ginninderra Murray cod. Notes are available on our [fly tying page](#).

Brogo Bass Outing – 20-22 Nov

From Luke C:

It seemed like the late evening and early morning sessions where the best with plenty of bass striking surface flies, mainly foam frogs and hopper shapes.

Both Steve M and I managed to pick up a fish on our own flies which was an added bonus.





From Jason M:

Here's a shot of Luke M (the younger of our Lukes) watching his rod on the troll at Brogo.



Reports from Leon

Information for those interested. Both rainbow and brown trout are very active all day even on sunny days at the moment at Lake Eucumbene.

On arrival on the 3rd of November around noon, I saw a few trout rising in a shallow bay. On the third cast, I caught a 51 cm rainbow. An experienced fly fisherman nearby said, "I'll bet you couldn't catch another one in the next 3 hours." Anyway, I had to keep the second fish (brown) to show off to our friend who was temporarily absent from my vicinity at the time. The flyfisherman in question is really a great guy. I'm sure he was he was just betting in the spirit of the day. The brown for the day was 50 cm, beaten by the rainbow by a nose. Fish were rising everywhere even around 3 pm. Unfortunately, duties called at the home front.



One warm dusk in November – a beetle feeder that fell for a beetle fly from Lake Eucumbene



Reports from Jason Q

Jason had a quick trip to Nth Queensland and provided the following photo. When I asked about crocodiles he said “Hahaha!! There's plenty of signs around but didn't sight any.. It was rumoured a small dog had been taken only a few weeks back at this place.”



Chasing the illusive Jungle Perch on the Little Mulgrave just out of Cairns. The session was more spent practice casting as the river was running high and dirty from the recent downpours

Castaways

Various things conspired to limit this club activity (not least the closure of boat ramps due to some cycling event) but nevertheless Jason M tells me it was a success.



Was better than expected, especially after the start. Went by CSIRO/ANU to launch the boat, Parkes underpass was closed, as was Westbound Parkes Way, in fact even Lady Denman Dr by the arboretum, so no access to Black Mtn boatramp. So, had to drive to Yarralumla and didn't wet the boat or kayak.

Charlie and Greg S were happy bait fishing, then Mike and Angie came with their daughter and grandkids. Stef, Peter, Leon, & Barry popped along too. Weston Park official reopening on from 2pm, but found a carpark for the boat by the playground.



Mike and Angie with the grandkids practicing casting



Fishers on the beach



Stefan demonstrating the “poplar” method for untangling. He was flying his kite (also entertaining the kids, but mostly himself), snagged the top of the tree, on the lake side. He climbed up and retrieved it, and reckoned it was easier climbing at 6 rather than 60.

Charlie's redfin





Fishing in Colorado

I was lucky enough to get 2 days off fishing during a family visit to USA earlier this month. The report is in our [Special Places](#) page.



Ian's Secret Winter Hideaway

Ian spoke at the October meeting about his annual migration to Burrum Heads during the winter. He has written up some notes and photos from his talk available on our [Special Places](#) page.





Introductory Notes to Canberra Anglers

On a suggestion from Greg W in yakking around a campfire, at a place that remains unmentioned in public, we've developed some notes about our club. It covers all sorts of stuff that new members would find useful (and which many of us take for granted). Our intention is not to publish it on the web but rather provide it to new members on arrival – sort of an induction brief. Established members might find it useful too – eg do you know that you can get the CAA logo embroidered onto your own items? If you want a copy contact the secretary.

Fin Clipping Not Being Undertaken This Year

Normally at this time of the year, we'd be calling for support to fin clip trout prior to their stocking in the Snowy lakes. CAA recently received the following from Jamin Forbes the responsible officer from Fisheries:

At the most recent meeting of the Snowy Lakes Trout Strategy Group (12 November) it was decided that finclipping of fingerling rainbow trout will be replaced with coded wire tagging (coded wire tags are fitted by the blue machines that have been in use for Jindabyne rainbows for the past few years). As such in January 2016, 37,500 fingerlings (25% of total released) will be fitted with coded wire tags by DPI staff, prior to release into Lake Eucumbene.

The coded wire tagging system is better for the fish, satisfies Animal Care and Ethics requirements, and we have been able to detect and age fish with greater accuracy than we could with clipped fish. Particularly when you consider how easy it is to snip off the wrong fin from a tiny fish!

The finclipping/volunteer program has been a great success and I wish to thank you all for your efforts to better the knowledge of the Snowy Lakes trout fisheries, but unfortunately your valued services are no longer required. At least now you can just go fishing on your trip to Jindabyne!

I will endeavour to release information regarding the Eucumbene creel survey (which finishes in late January) and other trout related information early in 2016, to keep you informed. This will likely be via electronic, print and social media.

NSW Fishing Licence News

I'd previously reported about NSW moving to digital fishing licences. It would appear further progress has been made.

<http://canberratimes.com.au/technology/technology-news/digital-licences-are-coming-to-nsw-next-year-state-government-announces-20151124-gl6nob.html>

CRFA News

No news from CRFA this month – I will pursue any points from the AGM





NSW Council of Freshwater Anglers News



November issue is [here](#). Some interesting items:

Want to know where your licence money goes?

A summary of new projects recommended for funding from the Recreational Fishing Trusts June 2015 is online [at this link](#).

New Waterways Guide from PaddleNSW

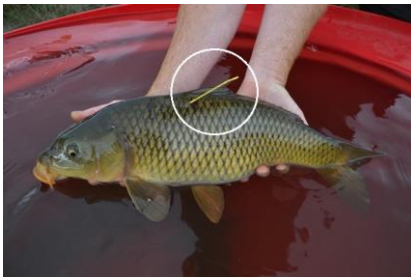
PaddleNSW has launched its new Waterways Guide at <http://www.waterwaysguide.org.au/>



The online Waterways Guide is a paddling guide to Australian waterways. It provides descriptions of rivers, lakes, estuaries and the seas off the coast of Australia. It is based on the touring information published in the *Canoeing Guide to New South Wales* book and enables it to be updated, and enhanced with maps, photos, real time weather and river data, access points, trails and camping spots. The original information is being extended with the assistance of keen paddlers to include all waterways including estuaries and seas.

UMDR News

Antia has provided the following in addition to the reminder about the Carp fishing competition:



Please RELEASE tagged Carp if caught.

The UMDR project would like to remind all recreational fishers to RELEASE and report Carp tagged with a long yellow tag. These fish are research fish which are being tracked to provide better knowledge of their movement in the Upper Murrumbidgee. Reports of tagged Carp should be made to the number shown on the tag. If caught, please photograph fish before release. If deceased, please return fish. Reward given. Project contact: Antia Brademann (UMDR Facilitator)- 0429778633.

NSW RecFish News

November issue is [here](#). Hot topics are:



Snowy Lakes stay high to save water for 2016 power market

Snowy Hydro's forecasters are anticipating an El Nino well into winter 2016, causing the power company to slash power generation as it saves its water to avoid shortages it encountered in the



previous big dry in 2005-06.

Low rainfall will lead to increased volatility and higher power prices to be earned in 2016. The imperative to have water in storage for 2016 demand has led to 2014-15 Snowy Hydro's water releases falling by about a third compared with the previous year.

In the 2005-06 drought, water inflows fell to 100-year lows, raising concerns that the continued lack of rainfall could result in power shortages.

Snowy Hydro has held back releases to put it in a better position over the next 18 months.

Blue green algae: be aware this summer

Residents across NSW are being asked to keep an eye out for blue-green algae as the weather warms and to report any suspected blooms to DPI Water.

DPI Water's Acting Director Water Evaluation, Allan Raine, said there have already been a number of blue-green algal blooms reported so far this spring due to hot weather, sporadic rainfall and low flows in some rivers and streams.

"A recent illness involving a child and dog at Cooma in the state's south east where blue-green algae may have been a contributing factor, highlights the need for people to be aware of this type of algae and its implications for both human and animal health," said Mr Raine.

Fisheries Victoria News

The collection of fortnightly newsletters is available [here](#). Most recent issues are 378 – nothing jumps out at me as exceptionally noteworthy for us.



Gaden Hatchery Monthly Report

October report (issued early Nov) has been received and is available to members. Key point was stocks on hand / fish movements. *Egg picking has been completed. Fry development is progressing well in response to increasing water and air temperatures. The majority of fry are feeding and the hatching room is at capacity. Fish for MAS are likely to be available from 9th of December 2015.*

Burley Lines Contributions from Members

Contributions are always encouraged to our [Cooking Page](#) and reviews from members on any items they've been in our [Gear Review](#) page. Recall also that if you have any fishing related items that members would like to advertise here, please email newsletter@canberra-anglers.asn.au.

Notable Fish Recorded

The intent of this segment is to encourage folk to get out fishing (reporting on recent catches) and to encourage entries for consideration for [club trophies](#). So far:

Angler	Species	Length	Method	Location/Event/Date
Bill	Brown	53 cm	Fly	Bondi Forest Lodge outing 21-23 Aug



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Leon	Brown	43 cm	Fly	Bondi Forest Lodge outing 21-23 Aug
Leon	Brown	51 cm	Fly	Bondi Forest Lodge outing 21-23 Aug
Jason Q	Brown	'a lot more than 50 cm mate!'	Fly	Bondi Forest Lodge outing 21-23 Aug
Lyll	Brown	55 cm	Fly	Bondi Forest Lodge outing 21-23 Aug
Nathan	Brown	45 cm	Fly	Lake Eucumbene 23 Aug
Leon	Brown	59 cm	Fly	Lake Eucumbene 4 Sep
Ian	Brown	55 cm (two of)	Fly	Bondi Forest Lodge 19 Sep
Bill	Brown	50 cm	Fly	Bondi Forest Lodge 19 Sep
Ben E	Brown	'more than 50 cm'	Fly	Casting Weekend 20 Sep
Alan	Rainbow	31 cm	Fly	Casting Weekend 20 Sep
Nathan	Rainbow	'30 odd' cm	Fly	Casting Weekend 20 Sep
Leon	Rainbow	51 cm	Fly	Lake Eucumbene 3 Nov
Leon	Brown	50 cm	Fly	Lake Eucumbene 3 Nov