



*JQ on the Thredbo. He explains that with multiple nymphs aboard you have to open your loops a bit but it is clear that he's throwing tighter loops than his co-editor does! Great photo Darlene.*

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

JQ set a precedent last year, so I'll keep with this new tradition.

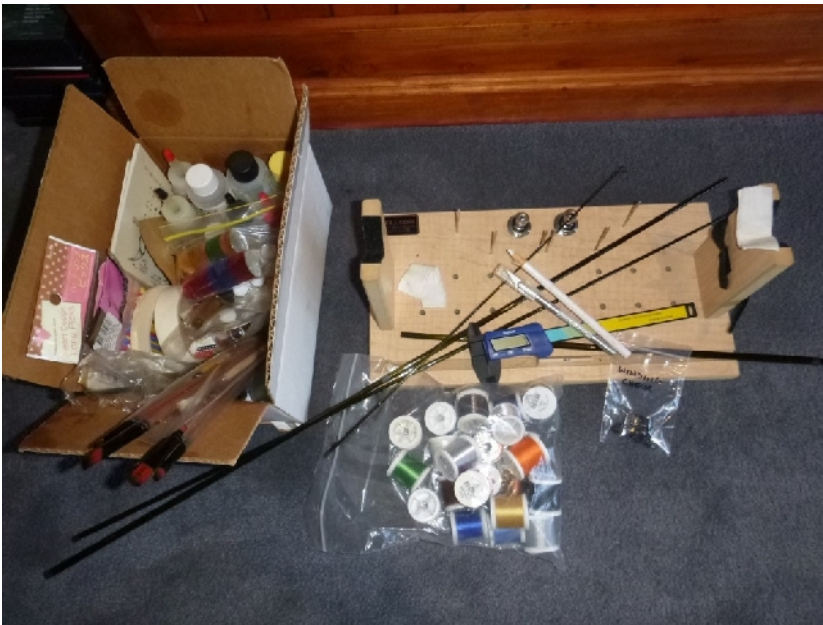
After being in Denver Colorado for some early season snowfalls, it came to me how much our perception of the holiday season is influenced by the Northern Hemisphere. The pine forests with their dusting of snow looked so much like the Christmas cards we send each year. This reaffirmed my approach of sending cards showing kangaroos pulling sleighs and mention of Christmas barbeques outside to my Northern Hemisphere friends. Our 'upside down' holiday season with opportunities to get out and about with friends and family, rather than stuck inside due to piles of snow outside, is something we should appreciate and skite about with those friends and family living north of the equator.

Our annual Christmas barbeque by the lake is part of this special lifestyle of ours. Have fun but take care on the roads and see you next year.

I look forward to many reports from you all next year.

## Coming Events

### Next Meetings:



**Wed 10 Feb** – back to our usual routine of 7:30pm at Raiders Weston Club – Ben will be speaking on streamcraft with the option to chat about rod building during the break.

**Wed 9 Mar** – at our normal meeting we'll be auctioning off one of three travel rods being built by Jason M, Lyall and Ben. Lyall has provided a photo of the raw materials (seems a bit of work is needed yet). He tells me

*"This is a 5 weight rod I would be very pleased to own and I know will cast accurately and with good distance on a river like the Eucumbene or Thredbo. Being a seven piece rod, it actually fits into my laptop bag and it doesn't matter if I break the tip when zipping up the bag as each rod comes with a spare tip !!! Is it OK if I refuse to give it up for the auction and keep it for myself? – only joking. Anyone who wins one of these custom, back country, #5, 9' seven piece rods at the CAA meeting on 9 March will be getting a fantastic rod."*



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### **Next Events:**

**Sat 16<sup>th</sup> Jan.** Note that Charlie's natives day on Lake Burley Griffin precedes the first meeting. More information will be emailed out in the new year.

**Sat/Sun 13-14<sup>th</sup> Feb.** This is the new time of year for Lyle Knowles trophy outing. We'll still be going to the Eucumbene River, but at a totally different time of year. An email has been sent out with details.



## **Season's Greetings from Members**

The offer was made to publish greetings from members, especially if they couldn't make it to the end of year barbq.

From Kelly, Simon and Jasper,

Sorry we couldn't make it to the BBQ to say farewell in person. It is with very fond memories of the welcome and support we have received from CAA members over the years, that we move to Brisbane to start our next posting. We wish you all the very best over the Christmas and New Year and hope to see many more great stories of fish caught and lost in the newsletters next year.

From JQ and Darlene,

2015 has been a busy year with the club and I hope everyone has had a chance to wet a line. I am sure 2016 will be a massive fishing year with many out to try beat the current reported standings. I for one am making a push for some local stuff to ensure I am somewhat competitive in the carp or native category. All the best from Darlene and me for the festive season.

## **Christmas Message from the President**

Merry Christmas All,

Jindy proved to be another great outing, thanks to Bill, even without a fish landed by me.

And thanks to Chef Santa Stefan and all the elves he had at the BBQ last week. Some informal club business also helped out at the outing, with some thoughts for the remaining outings. With the good fishing so far this year, and the change of date, Eucumbene River is looking good for Lyle Knowles, and Khancoban might be a base for the Exploration outing, so plenty of opportunities to get some more trout on for the trophies.

Speaking of trophies, we have been discussing some possible changes since the AGM, but no changed decided yet.

Don't forget to prep your gear, send in your fishing photos and log any notable fish. Get out and enjoy the weather.



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I think we are doing the usual Black Mountain fishing for the January outing so enjoy the relaxing fishing (I will be fishing further north).

Thanks to the committee, councillors, and club member for all your help. And thanks to the Newsletter team, continuing to put out some great newsletters.

Tight lines to our fishing families moving on for a bit for fresh waters. We look forward to their backcasts and we will retrieve them in due course.

May your stocking be full of tackle, and use enough of it to need more next year!

## Tips From Members for Members

I'm starting to run low in my collection of Tips. So, if you've got some up your sleeve that you'd like to share to fellow members, please send them in. From another of our prolific advisors (and champion redfin angler) – Peter K:

*When fishing with soft plastics for redfin - try using a double rig. A point lure with jig head coming off a small swivel with perhaps 40cm of line. Tied onto the top of the swivel a dropper of around 30cm with a soft plastic on standard hook. Double hook-ups are frequent when the school follows a hooked comrade.*

## Brogo Report (Part 2)

Due to some technical problems, Stefan's report on the 20-22 Nov was delayed. Here it is now:  
*Hello Bill*

*A few pics from the recent Brogo outing.*



*Caught a nice specimen about mid morning in the back arm, over the weed beds, 37cm.*



*A few scenic shots.*

*Brogo Chasm*



*Rock Orchids*



*Wild Violets*



*Brogo Idyll*



*Also a picture of the despoilation of the camp area by 4X4'ers, the question is why?*

*For those who missed it, the conditions were good. A bit of rain Friday evening, brilliant Saturday if a little windy and absolutely perfect Sunday.*

*The trip was attended by Stefan, Allan (home early Saturday as mojo*

*had not kicked in), Jason M with Luke (home Sat), Luke C and Steve in their kayaks for the Saturday evening.*

*Regards*

*Stefan.*

## **End of Year Barbeque**

Our last meeting, as usual conducted by Lake Burley Griffin, was a huge success. It was well attended: perhaps due to the offer of free food and soft drink – well deserved plaudits go to Stefan and Greg W for organising and cooking. We even had a person 'gatecrash' and get invited to join in the festivities. Dave just found our website that day and decided to join the club – welcome aboard.

Greg S and Charlie did some great work conducting the raffle. Many thanks are due to Rob Paxevanos for donating a number of DVDs including autographed copies of *Total Native*. Thanks also goes to Jason Q for tying a myriad of personally proven flies.

A cluster (is that the collective noun for rods?) of double handed long rods were in evidence with Nathan giving some *ad hoc* lessons for newcomers to these beasts.

Perhaps next year we can get our President to come in a Santa suit!



*Peter K managed to entice some LBG residents with his flies.*

## **Jindabyne Outing – 11-13 Dec**

The drive down on Friday was not inspiring – gale force winds were a worry. A few hardy souls headed out for evening fishing (with no success) while others repaired to the nearby motel restaurant for dinner.



Saturday opened with beautiful weather and little wind. JM and Ray A intended to attack the lake itself whereas the remainder headed off to the Thredbo River – JQ and Luke heading up from the Hatchery; Alan, Angie and Micheal to the skitube and heading downstream whereas Bill and Peter headed upstream. Results were mixed with JQ topping the field with an impressive 62cm tagged ex-brood stock hen.

*One of the prettiest 'bows I've landed to date.*





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Bill netted two sized fish with his best at 32cm (though both he and JQ were guilty of lifting some of the tiddlers onto the grass with over-energetic strikes).

JQ is planning to rub it in all week but Bill continues to argue that landing a truly wild fish on the dry has gotta count for more than a pet fish on a nymph but we all know

what is going to get into the record book!



*Peter showing some care controlling the drag of his dry fly.*



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*Come evening and Micheal landed a 38cm rainbow on a 'drowned' hopper.*

On Sunday most reported few rises and no fish of any substance landed especially above the Hatchery.



*Jason Q and Luke showing off the summer fly angler sartorial elegance – but no fish!*



Clearly some of us went to the wrong part of the Thredbo as Peter K reported "Had a good Sunday morning below Paddy's Corner with quantity not quality landed 7 rainbows in total with the biggest 31 cm

*down to not even bothering to measure. Also several misses but once again undersize fish. All hooked on size 16 Goddards Caddis. Tried hard to stretch the attached photographed fish to 32.1 cm but couldn't be dishonest with myself."*

We acknowledge the kind generosity of CSIRO Ski Club in providing access to their excellent facilities of the Cicero Lodge and to Randy for introducing us to them.

A final observation from Luke and an 'attaboy' to our three Gen Y experts:

*I had a great weekend, I honestly would have been so lost without the help from JQ and with just the 2 days on the river I am confident in tackling it myself next time (will even try to fit in a trip over the Xmas break!) when it comes to location, fly selection, techniques etc. I know I definitely slowed him down and probably spooked a lot of his fish but am so appreciative that he took the time to help me out.*

*As I was saying to him over the weekend, the best thing about this club is that everyone is more than happy to help and pass on their knowledge and tips onto beginners like me. I certainly wouldn't be at the stage I'm at without Jason, Ben and Nathan's help!*

## **Reports from Jason Q**

Back from Queensland last month Jason managed some free time in the Snowies and sent me a short note in the context of, but prior to, the Jindabyne outing (anybody would think he's retired!):



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*Hey Bill,*

*Back in CBR with time between loads of washing and ironing!*

*Shall I continue to provide photos of my limited exploits so you have fresh photo content!? I mean this can't all be a Leon, Nathan and Luke C photo board can it!!?*

*Ps Thredbo river was very good to me... Those who attend will see some great dry fly action.*

*Darlene is becoming quite the photographer! When asked for some details on rig, Jason advised:*

*So the most successful set up for the weekend was:*

*TFO BVK 6wt - 9'6*

*RIO Indicator II line*

*RIO 5x 15ft tapered leader*

*(straight out the pack) plus*

*another 2 feet of 5x Trout Hunter Tippet (mono)*

*Custom Yellow/ Brown stimulator size 10 ( I think..), and a green and yellow Polish woven nymph size 14*

*Other setup was the same without the dry fly and another nymph (18 copper john, black nymph etc), and the NZ strike indicator loaded at difference lengths.*

*Here's an ex brood which was a dirty fight... Jumping around 8 times and running me downstream. I didn't manage to get the tag ID to lodge the capture before he slide from my hands and swam away. I too forgot a net, again!! At the time I didn't record the tags as one the fish in the picture was released soon as I dropped it! And the other I cradled the fish and caught the nymph in my hand (taken on the dry fly) and then had to break the tippet and leave the fly in it and its scissors and swam away...Little did I know the tags were able to land you anything more than a workload to report to fisheries until Darlene and I googled it later.*

The reference to 'tag' got me enquiring myself. For anyone fishing down at Jindabyne, be on the look out for trout tagged with a yellow streamer tag that is visible in the left shoulder



(hmm, never realised fish had 'shoulders' and the photo shows it is actually up near the dorsal fin). JQ has already caught two of them and they are safely back in the river ready for the

rest of us. See an article [here](#). Prizes are on offer.

## Reports from Leon

Recall that Leon has been doing really well at Eucumbene in the run up to Summer.

*Hot fly for your info was a brown nymph with an over-sized thorax (seal's fur roughened up and covered with a darker wing case). Same fly I used on Saturday, 2 days ago to catch 2 rainbow-probably snail feeders.*

*Day time fishing is still good at Lake Eucumbene. Saw mayflies on the water on Saturday. No fish on duns or spinners where I was. Probably still possible to draw some fish with these. I couldn't be bothered going back to the car to get some. Still sub-surface feeding close to shore. Didn't stay for the dusk fishing. Days are getting warmer. I was expecting fish to be midging late in the afternoon around the time the Caddis would be active. On cooler days so far, midging has been around noon though lately new hatches of other insects are attracting the fish more. At one stage, I saw fish tackling damsel flies resting on protruding tussocks close to shore. One of the rainbow I caught had a blue damsel fly in the throat. Saw a lot of cased Caddis in the water. Fish were not responding to the stick Caddis fly on the day. Saw a few fly fishermen doing their long casts without seeing the fish around their legs. I guess they got carried away with their casting prowess..*

He has also been having some luck with carp on fly.

*I have a few minutes before I rush off to begin my day. I'll share with you my recent unintended experience with carping on a hot afternoon along the Kingston foreshore.*



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*I happened to see 5 or 6 carp in a storm water drain while doing a walk along the foreshore. One of the carp seemed to be annoyed with a small redfin which was promptly chased away. I quickly went back to my car and returned with my fly gear. I put on a 2 beadhead purple woolly bugger and had it land next to a pool of dead leaves. The fly sank quickly to the bottom which was probably one foot down. One carp came out from the leaf cover to have a look at the fly which I pulled away from the fish which then gave chase. When I paused, the carp nailed the fly. The fish headed for the lake. A few other carp came out of the cover to swim next to the carp. Were the fish swimming in sympathy or were they also heading for the lake? I must say I had a tinge of guilt for landing the 3 lb carp and for giving the fish to a Chinese friend, instead of releasing it.*

## **Report from Luke**

*Another trophy submission for the native trophy!*

*Nathan W and I fished the Murrumbidgee on Friday night and I ended up landing this nice cod which went 68cm.*



*Caught on a foam gurgler off the surface on my 10wt.*



## Report from Nathan



Nathan also provided a report on this trip with Luke – my response was ‘Surely cod on fly (Luke) beats one on lure!’ 😊:

Went down to the

*Murrumbidgee the other night with the baitcaster, and no more than 5 casts in, a very nice 68cm Cod boofed my XL surface lure of the top, and absolutely inhaled it!*

*What a rush!*

*Nathan*

## ACT Native Fish Stocking News

We got some last minute news about a native fish stocking activity on 15 Dec. Only our CRFA representative (Peter) could make it. He reported:

*Had an adventurous day participating in the stocktaking of various lakes and ponds around Canberra . stockings were supervised by Matt Bietzel of ACT fisheries with representatives from CRFA, CAA, and Canberra Fisherman Club. For the Yerrabi Stocking we also had media presence from Win TV and Canberra times. After the Yerrabi allocations of cod and yellowbelly were completed, stockings occurred at Dunlop Pond (yellowbelly), Lake Ginninderra (murray cod and yellowbelly) ,Gungahlin Pondage (below the golf course – yellowbelly) and Lake Tuggeranong (murray cod). Yours truly was the only “civilian “ representative at stockings other than Yerrabi. After I left the guys went on to stock Point Hut (yellowbelly) and Burley Griffin (yellowbelly) . Was interesting to hear from Matt that electrofishing last week failed to find any native fish in Dunlop Pond so it will be a few years before there will be any worthwhile natives there. Also was interesting that studies showed that fingerlings had a better survival rate when released into the wild than yearlings.*



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## CRFA News

CRFA recently had their AGM. Key points from the meeting will be disseminated once minutes are finalised.



## NSW Council of Freshwater Anglers News

December issue is [here](#). Some interesting items. The item about access to Eucumbene was processed through MAS. Matter was not resolved and more discussions will had. We'll keep you informed.

## Report from Gaden Trout Hatchery Management Committee meeting, 12 Nov 2015

NSWCFA's delegate attended the latest meeting of the committee. Key points were:

- This has been a good year for the hatchery with surplus stock produced and very good conditions for growing fish.
- ...
- One major issue for Gaden is possible construction of footbridge from hatchery grounds across the Thredbo River to join the trail being planned by Snowy River Shire Council and NPWS. The trail would be used by fishers, walkers, cyclists etc.

## Report from the Snowy Lakes Strategy Committee meeting, 12 Nov 2015

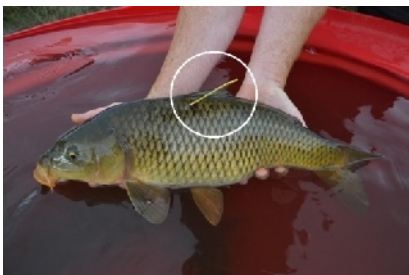
...

### Access at Denison to the spawning run fishery on the Eucumbene River

- DPI/Snowy Hydro reported concerns about damage to the river and surrounds which will cause landscape damage, siltation concerns etc. New tracks are forming all the time, not just to the lake but also to surrounding bushland by people collecting firewood and crossing the river and creating new car tracks to locations such as Hughes Creek. The problems mostly occur on land that is managed by Snowy Hydro and NPWS. Compliance officer commented that in conversations with anglers, there is widespread support for better control of access. DPI/Snowy Hydro proposes bollard-limited camping/parking well away from the lake, eg at the 'Denison' site, more than 500m from river. This will also stop river crossing and parking/camping at Gang Gang Creek;

## UMDR News

No news this month from Antia but please keep an eye out for the tagged carp – return to water. If caught, please photograph fish before



release unharmed and report to the phone number shown on the tag. If deceased, please return fish. Reward given. Project contact: Antia Brademann (UMDR Facilitator)- 0429778633.







## NSW RecFish News

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

### About ikijime

An important part of fishing today is releasing fish and only taking home what you need for a feed. Even so, recreational anglers harvest millions of finfish each year. Anglers can improve the welfare of fish in many ways, not only by protecting and restoring their habitat and water quality (see [www.fishhabitatnetwork.com.au](http://www.fishhabitatnetwork.com.au) for more details), but also by obeying fisheries regulations, and of course by dispatching their fish humanely.

<http://www.ikijime.com/> is a website focused on humane killing of fish to ensure maximum quality and minimum fuss.

### Fishes of Australia

[Fishes of Australia](#) is "The ultimate resource for information on the diversity and biology of Australia's amazing marine and freshwater fishes".

You can browse through the classification of Australia's fishes using the Browse Classification option in the menu at the top of each page, and use their Family Fish Finder fully illustrated key to identify fish, or alternatively use their Freshwater Fishers Key to identify freshwater species.



## Fisheries Victoria News

The collection of fortnightly newsletters is available [here](#). Most recent issues are 378 and 379 – Key items

### *Extra trout stocking before Christmas*

Nearly 28,000 extra trout will be stocked into four lakes to boost fishing opportunities and encourage

newcomers to wet a line.

All will be catchable size, weighing between 200 grams and 1kg.

The extra fish complement the State Government's *Target One Million* plan for recreational fishing, which aims to get more people fishing, more often, by boosting participation to one million anglers by 2020 and increase stocking to 5 million fish.

The Eildon Pondage, Lake Karkarook, Pykes Creek Reservoir and Devilbend Reservoir will be sharing in the extra fish between now and January.

Stocking is funded by recreational fishing licence fees and *Target One Million* - [www.vic.gov.au/targetonemillion](http://www.vic.gov.au/targetonemillion)

## Gaden Hatchery Monthly Report

October report (issued early Nov) has been received and is available to members.

## Cooking Corner

For some time, Charlie and his dedicated group of carp catchers has been waiting for fruition of a promise from Charlie's Asian chef to teach us the best way to prepare the humble carp.

Meanwhile Charlie has been in conversation with South East Local Land Services and they've provided an entire cook book. The recipes come from a competition held at Cowra, with chief judge that well known TV chef Iain Hewitson. I await some demonstration that this fish, highly prized by central Europeans and Chinese, can be prepared in a way that our palate will appreciate. Cook book is available on our [Cooking Page](#).



## **Burley Lines and other Contributions from Members**

Contributions are always encouraged to *Burley Lines*; also our [Cooking Page](#) and reviews from members on any items they've been in our [Gear Review](#) page. Recall that if you have any fishing related items that you would like to advertise here for sale, please email [newsletter@canberra-anglers.asn.au](mailto: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
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
Luke	Yellowbelly	60 cm	Fly	Burrinjuck 3-4 Oct



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Leon	Rainbow	51 cm	Fly	Lake Eucumbene 3 Nov
Leon	Brown	50 cm	Fly	Lake Eucumbene 3 Nov
Stefan	Bass	37 cm	Lure	Brogo Outing 22 Nov
Luke	Murray Cod	68 cm	Fly	Murrumbidgee 4 Dec
Nathan	Murray Cod	68 cm	Lure	Murrumbidgee 4 Dec
Jason Q	Rainbow	62 cm	Fly	Jindabyne Outing 11-13 Dec
Bill	Brown	32 cm	Fly	Jindabyne Outing 11-13 Dec
Micheal	Rainbow	38 cm	Fly	Jindabyne Outing 11-13 Dec
Peter	Rainbow	31 cm	Fly	Jindabyne Outing 11-13 Dec