

The Burley Line

Oct 2015



Nathan at the final casting day showing why he's a CCI. Presenting on the back cast; the old '10 o'clock to 2 o'clock long forgotten and working the long arc a la Peter Hayes. Photo by Anthony Heiser (many thanks)

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**Newsletter of the CANBERRA ANGLER'S ASSOCIATION
Inc.**

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Contributions to be emailed to newsletter@canberra-anglers.asn.au



From the Editor's Desk

JQ and I welcome your comments on how we are doing and what we should do differently. Please email newsletter@canberra-anglers.asn.au with comments and contributions.

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.

Coming Events

Next Meetings:

Wed 14 Oct – usual time of 7:30pm at Raiders Weston Club. Ian will speak on his recent exploits at Burrum Heads ([recall his 10.5 bream day?](#)). November speaker to be determined. December will be our usual barbeque so Ian's talk will be the last for the year. Volunteers to speak/ideas for next year are being sought. Please speak to Charlie or the Secretary.

Next Events:

ACT Fly Fishers Inc. have issued an open invitation to the launch of Casting for Recovery ACT by Minister for Health, Simon Corbell on 19th October 2015. The event will be held at Café EQ Lounge, 70 Kent Street, Deakin ACT 2600 starting at 4.30 pm for canapés and soft drinks. Other drinks can be purchased at the bar. Official proceedings will start at 5 pm and will last for approximately 30 minutes. R.S.V.P: to info@castingforrecovery.org.au or telephone 0490 256 505 by Friday, 2nd October 2015.

Casting for Recovery seeks to enhance the quality of life of women recovering from breast cancer through the sport of fly fishing within a supportive environment at week-end retreats. For more info www.castingforrecovery.org.au

Sat 17 Oct. *El Presidente* Jason M, will be taking us down to the [Bush Heritage Australia site at Scottsdale](#) near Bredbo. Access to the Murrumbidgee at Scottsdale is being arranged through the Upper Murrumbidgee Demonstration Reach. More details are available from Jason.

Message from the President

Members,

Last Sunday (20 Sep) was the culmination of a busy month and a half since the AGM, and the event continues to grow. Thanks to the Committee, Councillors, and all the club members who turned out and lent a hand at the three casting weekends. Your efforts made a great showing to the public, and made the event a success. The representation by the club's membership continues to encourage more people to join, which I see as a positive. As well as the big contributors (such as Lyall, JQ & Alan, Stefan & Damian & family, Greg W, Charlie and Greg S, Mark S, Nathan, Ian, Geoff, and Kelly & Jasper), we also had many helpers to coach along the



casters and first time fly fishermen. I also mostly lost track of all the neighbours, colleagues, and family members brought along by members.

It was really great to see the family groups giving it a go, as well as attracting other club's members and long-time fly fishermen to the event. It continued to surpass expectations, especially with around 85 attending the middle weekend, and we were pleasantly surprised to see the large numbers of vehicles at the carpark last weekend, and even more arrived after that. It was great to allow the new casters the feel of the water (and trees) on the fly line, and for some the odd fish. I see we also avoided the German car show as a result. Even things like the car pooling, convoy co-ord, and road signs helped, as well as one-on-one instruction as they dispersed around the lakes, all helped to make it a success. The behaviour of the members also resulted in us being invited back to the private lakes as a club, and as individuals.

It also continued to reconstitute our club funds with some great fundraising, and thanks to all those who both bought tickets and helped out with the prizes. Lyall's little presentation boxes and fly tying made little collector's items, and the other little prizes were also highly valued by the winners (thanks Ian and Nathan for your personal contributions). For those interested, Mr Fogarty won the major prize, so I'll hopefully track him down this week.

As a result of the popularity, we also have a couple of new fly combos to add to the club stocks, and we will look at moving a couple of the old combos to a deserving home in turn. With a bit of TLC throughout the next year, the reels, rods, BBQ, rod holders, safety specs, club banner, photo board, and club crest will be ready to break out next year or for the next suitable occasion – the weekends certainly got some use out of all these items, and a few new fly fishermen in the club are already loaning the club rods to further their skills, which is great.

It was also great to have the little 70th anniversary lunch down by a lake that wasn't there when the club formed, but had so much of Canberra's activity on it that afternoon (fishing, boating, and lots of families enjoying the warm spring weather on the foreshore), making a great backdrop to the recollections of the club. Thanks to Lyall for organising it, and we look forward to the 75th.

So again, as many of you get ready for the streams to open in NSW, thanks for your assistance in making the last month a success and getting others into fly fishing. Now, as a club, we can shift back into the plethora of club events we have in the warmer weather for the members, work on winning those trophies, and sharing a few yarns and tips between us. Don't forget to make all the new members welcome into our little family.

Tight lines (and don't forget to renew your license),

Pres.



Report from Nathan

After getting skunked at Bondi, Nathan and Ben had something to prove:

From: Nathan
Sent: Tuesday, 25 August 2015 4:23 PM
To: newsletter@canberra-anglers.asn.au
Subject: Eucumbene Brown

Hi Guys,

Forgot to mention on our way home, Ben and I made a detour to Eucumbene and fished Rushy's and picked up this nice 45cm Brown on one of my small woolly buggers.

Ben also landed a small Rainbow but was borderline legal.

A bit of redemption hey?

Nathan



After the buttery trout at Bondi this looks almost like a sea-run



Reports from Leon

Coming after his performance at Bondi Forest, Leon came up with the goods again:

From: Leon
Sent: Friday, 4 September 2015 3:20 PM
Subject: 59 cm brown

Caught today around 11 am. I released 2 others which might be longer.

A lot of rain water is being discharged at the moment via numerous gullies at Frying Pan. At each of these spots, a big brown seemed to be there just beyond the muddy water. I used an emerger dropper and an unweighted point fly tied with a skinny layer of black thread and a little bit of red wool near the eye of the hook. You can use a size 14 hook with a small amount of materials meant for a size 16 or 18 hook



(mainly a strategy for my aging eye sight).

The water was turbulent as the wind was strong. I had to cast into the northerly (supposed to be southerly according to the weather report). No stripping was required. I guess my setup

enabled the point fly to bob up and down. Just remove the slack



in the line as required. I fished at various spots picking up 3 brown trout all within 2 hours. I left home about 9 am and was at home before 3 pm. I took home the first fish as I guessed I would be too tired to shop for dinner.

Leon

From: Leon

Sent: Monday, 21 September 2015 2:35 PM

I went yesterday to the Rushy Bay where small rainbow were rising left, right and centre. They didn't touch my midge pupae, instead they went for my version of Craig's night time on a size 8 long shank hook tied entirely with wool and black hen's neck feather. All were about 30 cm except one which was 42 cm. I guess they were not 100% on midges

Casting Days

Our efforts were strongly supported by past President Dr Bryan Pratt of Pratt's Tackle Box and Angler's Art. For instance his item in the [Canberra Times](#) on 10 Sep helped swell the numbers. For a link to all of Bryan's columns in the CT, click [here](#).

Saturday 6th was cloudy, but thankfully no wind. Even the Canberra Times Fun Run couldn't intrude into the good crowd that turned up then Mark and Nathan wowed the crowd with their informative lessons. Lyall had prepared nametags for a significant number of the CAA members and this was most useful to identify advisers.



The major raffle prize for the day was a boxed Purple Cascade salmon fly – the entire package produced by Lyall. He tells me that this is very similar to the fly that caught his salmon on his trip to the [River Ness last year](#). Lyall tells me that the hot fly that day was a Jimmy Gray, tied and named after Jimmy Gray who was the Superintendent on the River Spey.

Winner of the Purple Cascade was Anthony Heiser – CRFA Secretary and Canberra Fisherman's Club Vice President. Great to see some of our fellow CRFA clubs coming to the casting.



Lyall helping out his sister Jeannine, Ian, Bill and Mark working with new students including new member Les behind Jeannine.



Ray A and Nathan.

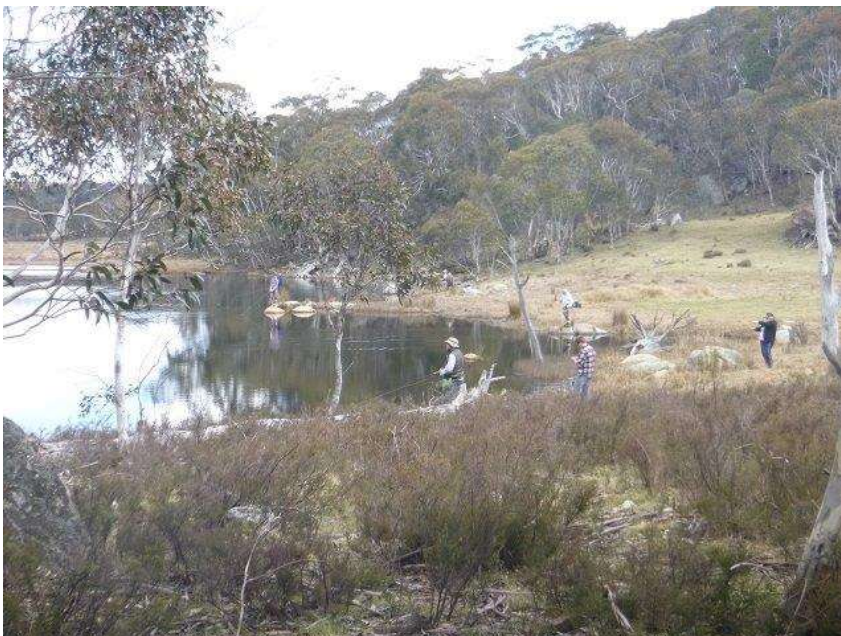


Stefan's famous sausage sizzle. Peter's looking hungry. Even Jasper wants to get down out of Kelly's arms and try them.



Sun 13 Sep was sunny with little wind again - estimates of over 80 attendees suggested the most successful session for ages.

The final weekend was on private waters. Chris, owner of a property near Nimmitabel and proprietor of Monaro Fly Fishing (<http://www.monaroflyfishing.com.au/>), gave us access to his two stocked lakes. To recognise our appreciation, we presented Chris with one of Lyall's



magical salmon flies plus a bottle of Mt Tumberumba wines.

In excess of 36 participants tried their hand with at least half being students from the previous weeks. A number of fish were landed (Ben E and Nathan showed their immense skills) but we can happily report also that one of our students managed to fool two rainbows on fly.

Unfortunately lack of access to a landing net at critical



junctures meant both fish escaped the photographer's attention.

Special condolences would have to go to one of the students – Mal, Lyall's younger brother. After passing his rod to Alan to receive a demonstration of some finer point of casting he had to stand back and just watch as Alan hooked and landed a 31 cm rainbow!



The major raffle prize of a fly outfit was donated by Pratt's Tackle Box (many thanks for your continued support Bryan). The winner was not present and the ticket only has the name 'Fogarty'.



A special award was also conducted. Club member Leon had donated this 8'6" medium fast 5wt rod to the club as an encouragement award for a new junior member. The rod was awarded to Quill our newest junior member.



CCI qualified Nathan showing how to handle a jumping fish.

And then to hand to prove to the others on the top lake that there were fish in the water.



More photos [here](#).



As an aside, a number of members decided to pre-position themselves at Bondi Forest Lodge, ostensibly to have a quicker journey to the casting day (so why then were they the last to arrive one might ask! ☺) JM, Bill, Ray C, Les and Ian had the opportunity for a Saturday afternoon fish and again Sunday morning.



Bill was first with a 50cm Bondi Brown,

followed up by two 55cm twins to the fish regularly caught by Lyall!





70th Anniversary Lunch

After the 13th Sep casting day, a number of the members withdrew to the Canberra Southern Cross Club's Yacht Club for an informal celebratory lunch. We were lucky enough to receive some special treatment from the club (little did they know that CAA used to meet at this location many years in the past) and we were given private access to the marquee overlooking the lake. This provided sufficient privacy and quiet to permit conversation and a small number of speeches. Jason M welcomed us and recognised the occasion – highlighting our intention to have a special event for the forthcoming 75th. Bill spoke about how the club was brought back 'from the brink' through the sterling efforts of past president Mark F. Finally Ian related tales about his extended time with the club, recalling the many contributions of club notables such as Lyle Knowles, Gordon Winter, Rob Bell and Keith Shields.

We also appreciated the support of [Mount Tumberumba Wines](#) who provided a number of bottles of their wines to sample. Their label is so apt given the nature of our club and Lyall tells me the owners (now in Canberra) have had a long family linkage to the mountains along with the passion that many of us have of fishing for wild trout.



The beautiful rendition of the brown trout is from the winery's web site and was produced by the renowned Australian fishing and wildlife illustrator/artist Trevor Hawkins.

Tips From Members for Members

This tip comes from Peter K. He receives emails from UK Fly Shop owner Craig Moore (see his website <http://www.flyfishing-flies.com>). *Burley Lines* has corresponded with Craig and we have his permission to reproduce from time to time the tips he provides to his customers.

There was a recent tip on how best to fish the buzzer using a technique called the 'bung' fly. Would have been good preparation for our recent trip to Bondi Forest Lodge where some members had success using epoxy buzzers, whereas some didn't think to bring any. Full details can be seen [here](#) and an extract is below. (Note that NSW regulations limit for a team is three flies as compared with UK and I've amended Craig's text below to reflect this).

This is a fishing method which some anglers hate and others swear by. It is also known as the 'strike indicator' fishing technique. Love it or hate it, there is no better way of fishing epoxy buzzer nymphs vertically that covers so many different depths of water at the same time in the search for feeding fish.

You can use a commercially available indicator made from foam but I prefer to use a very buoyant highly visible dry fly that has a hook in it. I have had a number of flies take my surface



strike indicator. The buoyant fly is on the top dropper. This is known as the Bung fly. It is followed by two epoxy buzzer nymphs below. The point fly is normally the heaviest.

To prepare the leader for the bung degrease the line using a pinch of mud-type sinkant compound. Degrease the whole length except the first metre from the end of the fly line. Sometimes the leader loop will sink so I will use a floatant such as Gink to grease up both the loop and the top metre of leader to ensure it stays on top.

The important point is to leave the rig alone for at least 40 seconds after casting. This lets the flies sink under the bung fly. Only after this time period has elapsed start to retrieve the flies briefly so that they will be lifted up in the water column, before stopping to allow them to sink again.

This process is repeated until the flies reach the boat at which point the 'hang' method should be used. You will be surprised at how many fish are caught on that final lift. When you finish your retrieve, WAIT. Lift the rod slowly, watching the line at all times. This gives a following fish plenty of time to take one of your rising flies. If you see any movement, strike.

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. is available [here](#).

Fly Tying Workshops

Fly tying on 26 Aug was led by Geoff and pursued the Booby fly. Nathan's collection complete with fluorescent hot spots pictured here.



23 Sep was led by Ben E tying the Chocolate Paradun which he tells me "is the perfect fly for the warm weather just around the corner".

Notes are available on our [fly tying page](#).



Seen on our Facebook Page



Kelly did express concern that the munchkin was not wearing eye protection! [Check out the other posts.](#)

CRFA News

Shane (President) has attended a one-day forum run by the Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand which sought to provide an opportunity for environmental professionals to share their knowledge and awareness about the state of rivers, creeks, lakes and ponds in the ACT. Shane will provide an outbrief in due course.





NSW Council of Freshwater Anglers News

October issue was not received in time to be included here.



UMDR News

Antia has provided the following:



Carp tagging and trapping- go hand in hand!

The Upper Murrumbidgee Demonstration Reach (UMDR) Carp project would like to remind everyone that we have tagged 30 Carp with electronic tags in the upper Murrumbidgee River south of the ACT. These fish will be tracked for the next two years using acoustic telemetry techniques. Hopefully this project will show us not only the sites where Carp are sighted but when they move and how far. The tagged Carp have a long thin yellow tag sticking out of their back. If you catch a tagged Carp, please release it unharmed if possible. Please report the catch to the number on the tag (reward given).

But spying on and following Carp around is not the only thing we are doing about Carp in our catchment! In conjunction with the tagging, Bush Heritage Australia is also running a Carp trapping program at their Scottsdale Reserve. The trapping program is targeting Carp in the Murrumbidgee River, which runs along the boundary of the Reserve and is the known habitat of three native fish species.

Information about when and where carp move will be used to inform future trapping programs. If you would like to assist with the Carp trapping program, please contact Antia on 0429 778 633 if you would like to help.



Carp with yellow tag. This is a research fish, please release if caught.



NSW RecFish News

Full issue for September is [here](#). Some of the more interesting items are:

Register your EPIRB

If you own an EPIRB or distress beacon, you will know you can improve your chances of being found and optimise the search by emergency services when you register your personal details and description of your boat.



Eat the fish, just don't drink the water...?

On 25 August, after floods affected the Shoalhaven area, Shoalhaven Council urged local residents to avoid unnecessary contact with stormwater and waterways.

The RFA contacted DPI and the EPA about effects on fish stocks and the anglers who might eat them in the coming weeks. At this stage we still haven't had any answers.

Fisheries Victoria News

The collection of fortnightly newsletters is available [here](#). Most recent issues are August #374 and #375. 375 is 'overcome by events' as it covered the 5 Sep Goulbourn Fishing Festival. 374 covers issues such as that Australia's first trout cod fishery opens in Beechworth! Recreational anglers can now fish for trout cod in Victoria with the establishment of Australia's first trout cod fishery. On Friday 14th August Lakes Sambell and Kerferd were officially opened for trout cod fishing.



Local Fishing Competitions

For those members who are interested in being involved in some local fishing competitions, I've uploaded some information into <http://canberra-anglers.asn.au/flyers/my2hooks/>. These are commercial activities and not CAA events, however we are aware that some members are set to participate and others who might be similarly inclined may not be aware.

Each file is self-explanatory. There are two events with a flyer for each and registration form for each.

Big Burley Bash competition is to be run over 8 weeks at Lake Burley Griffin, Canberra, commencing Thursday 8th October 2015, and continuing each consecutive Thursday. Points are accumulated for all catches both native and exotic.

http://canberra-anglers.asn.au/flyers/my2hooks/MEJ_BBB2015Flyer.pdf

<http://canberra-anglers.asn.au/flyers/my2hooks/BIGBurleyBashrego2015.pdf>

Pride of the Perch competition is to be run over one day at Lake Burley Griffin Canberra, on Sunday November 29th 2015. Note that photos of fish caught have to be sent to the judges via a mobile phone during the day – this might rule out some of our non-techo members!

<http://canberra-anglers.asn.au/flyers/my2hooks/PrideofthePerch2015.pdf>

<http://canberra-anglers.asn.au/flyers/my2hooks/PrideofthePerchRego2015.pdf>



Gaden Hatchery Monthly Report

August report (dated 4 Sep) has been received and is available to members. Some key points were:

- Atlantic Salmon and Brook trout are starting to hatch. A portion of the Brown Trout are at the eyed ova stage of development.
- A total of 548 Rainbow Trout have been collected so far this season from the Thredbo River permanent fish trap. Trapping is continuing with numbers of spawning Rainbow Trout increasing on each trapping day. Data has been collected by Gaden staff during the fish trapping period. Some of the trapped Rainbow Trout have been identified as having previously been tagged. Approximately 750 Brown Trout were also trapped in the Thredbo River during this time.
- 148 3+ captive Rainbow Trout were electronically tagged and released into the Thredbo River.

Steve Samuels (Pres MAS) comment was “It seems that the run of rainbow trout has been better than the last two years”.

Make a difference in the life of a special needs child!

CAA is not formally engaged with the following program, however members may wish to support this worthy cause.



Sponsor these therapeutic programs through the ACFF provided by members across Australia.

These children were unable to express their glee with words but young Ashley, Angel-Rose, Allegra and the other children continually pushed themselves to control their uncontrollable



limbs to grab at, touch and hold the rods and fish! Just even to control the positioning of their heads to focus their eyes on the rods and fish was incredibly significant to them.

No donation is too big or small. Assist us to roll more of these programs out by calling 02 4572 2276 or 0402 104 736

or email info@australiancommercialfishingfederation.org to discuss.

Or make your company or personal donations direct through this link:

www.gofundme.com

****IMPORTANT****

If you use the gofundme direct funding option, please be sure to note in the comments section upon making your donation, that your donation is specifically for a Special Needs Program. 100% of funding provided will be allocated to these programs.

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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
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



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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