

# The Burley Line

Issue 109 – April 2016



*Junior member Luke M with one of his best fish from the Burrill outing – 19 cm Bream – these were the first fish he's ever caught. Hope it is the start of a great past-time.*

**In This Issue** (clickable links to jump straight to the segment):

[From the Editor's desk](#), [A Note from the "President in Exile"](#), [Coming Events](#), [Saltwater Outing Report](#), [Fly Tying 23 Mar](#), [Jason Q report from Easter](#), [March Meeting Outcomes](#), [Brian Henderson's Spey Casting](#), [Carp Control](#), [Baz's Close Encounter](#), [Fishing in New Zealand \(and not for trout!\)](#), [Casting for Recovery News](#), [CRFA News](#), [Monaro Acclimatisation Society News](#), [NSW Council of Freshwater Anglers News](#), [NSW RecFish News](#), [Fisheries Victoria News](#), [Recipes](#), [The Burley Line](#) and other Contributions from Members, [Notable Fish Recorded](#).



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

GPO Box 2237

CANBERRA CITY ACT 2601

<http://www.canberra-anglers.asn.au/>

Contributions to be emailed to

[burley-line@canberra-anglers.asn.au](mailto:burley-line@canberra-anglers.asn.au)



## From the Editor's Desk

Well, into my next 'century'. The March issue of *Burley Line* was intended to be a bumper issue – and I think this was achieved. I hope folk will continue to contribute in that fashion.

The change in our website and introduction of a blog format has had some positive comments and I hope this reflects the general opinion. One sobering effect for me is that I can now see precisely how many times the blog is accessed, including downloading of *Burley Line*. I must admit to this being a little lower than I would hope but perhaps reflecting a true indication of the level of 'active' CAA membership and how busy is the life outside fishing for our members.

## A Note from the “President in Exile” (arrived for March meeting)

G'day all from the briny off of Rottneest Island. Ironically I'm seeing more water but fishing less. Thursday night I was at Jervis Bay, Friday near Ulladulla with the club outing.

Another year has kicked off well, with Natives, Lyle Knowles and just last weekend the Coastal outing – at least two trophies have already been battled out, but plenty still for grabs.

Exploration outing is coming up. Don't forget to enjoy the warm weather, and the days are counting down to the trout streams closing.

The club has been busy keeping things rolling, including actions from our committee workshop way back at Bondi Forest. There have been affiliate meetings which will be covered later, the shirts, work on the trophies, and work on the community engagement. We have also locked in some great speakers and guests for fly casting and our third weekend. Bill has continued working the website and blog.

Hopefully everyone is well, and we sent a card on behalf of the club to one of our more mature family members, cracking the triple figures just like any great catch.

As promised last year, we are continuing our fundraising with the rod auction and raffle. I hope these meet expectations. Unfortunately mine was a little rushed with this new job, but it seems to cast well. Last meeting (*Editor: by this he means Feb meeting*) we made \$100 thanks to the kind donation of the magazines and thanks to all who bought tickets. I hope Owen is enjoying the reading, there plenty of good tips in that collection.

Tight lines,

Pres

## Coming Events

### Next Meetings:

**Wed 13 Apr** – usual routine of 7:30pm at Raiders Weston Club – speaker will be Mark S with his talk on NZ trout.

### Next Events:

**Sat/Sun 16-17<sup>th</sup> Apr** – “Exploration”. Jason Q was to lead a team to the 'other side of the mountains' at Khancoban – unexpected commitments make JQ unavailable but Greg W is



stepping in. More info available from either of them on this trip. About 8 have signed up (a pretty good number especially since ‘three usual suspects’ are to be in NZ that weekend). Noting that the RSVP date has passed, latecomers are welcome to attend, but will have to make their own accommodation arrangements.

**Wed 27<sup>th</sup> Apr – Fly Tying.** To be advised.

## **Saltwater Outing Report – 4-6 Mar**

The following was received from organiser Jason M. Still awaiting advice from Ray A on how he and the family went.

### **A Tale of Two Tinnies**

It was a dark and not so stormy night, and it was off to the annual CAA coastal outing. After some limited success at Tuross the last few years, and competing with another annual fishing comp for accommodation and fishing spots, we tried out Burrill Lake this year. Home base was the Big4 caravan parks, and luckily we booked around October as it was quite full there. Despite this and the flocks of hobbies leaving the foreshore on Saturday morning, it was reasonably easy access and fishing spots.

With many of the regulars arriving late in the weekend, poor Bill was trying to find a social buddy in the other cabin as both of them were solo until the remaining gaggle arrived. Fortunately the roadworks down the Clyde weren’t too bad, so by 11pm all the boats had arrived and apart from some bread and butter fishing on the jetty, Saturday was shaping up as the primary fishing day.

### **Two tinnies, one Triton**

So, it was at dawn to launch the club boat and prep it for the first team of Kevin and Bill. In typical club spirit, we launched the two tinnies (club boat, & Jason M’s) and Ray A’s boat.

After some circular navigation issues in the club boat, they were off tossing soft plastics, with Bill going minimalistic on his tackle (after visiting the tackle shop in Bateman’s Bay on the way). They made good use of the light weather to drift fish, working the depths (1-7m was the typical depth of the lake with mostly sand and weed but some rocks).



**Kevin and Bill drifting in the club tinnie**



Meanwhile, Jason M reminded all why we got a new club outboard but after an hour pull starting the ex-club outboard and getting fuel back where it should be after bouncing the outboard about 2000km since using it in January, there was just enough time to wet a line and some crab dillies before returning for lunch and the other fishers. The club UHF's were full of fish reports as Kevin/Bill, Jason M, and Ray A/Grayson A explored the fishing grounds as the tide came and went.

After failing to convince his juniors that fishing was better than the pool, Jason M did a quick troll and landed a couple of nice pan sized aussie salmon on bibbed lures before locating Ray C and trying some bait and lure fishing. Meanwhile Bill and Kevin had been doing well, and by mid afternoon Tea was called after some floundering around and it is rumoured a nice breeder flathead decided Bill's thumb looked tasty...after it was seduced by a stickbait and checking the size of the landing net. Other species landed included squire snapper, sand whiting, and bream. Ray and Jason M did one last check of the dillies, replenished some baits with salmon heads, and returned to clean the fish. Lyall C arrived at dusk and practiced some fly casting to relax after the drive and international commitments earlier that day, before we mulled over the problems of the fishing grounds of the world and enjoyed some nice cheese and crackers.

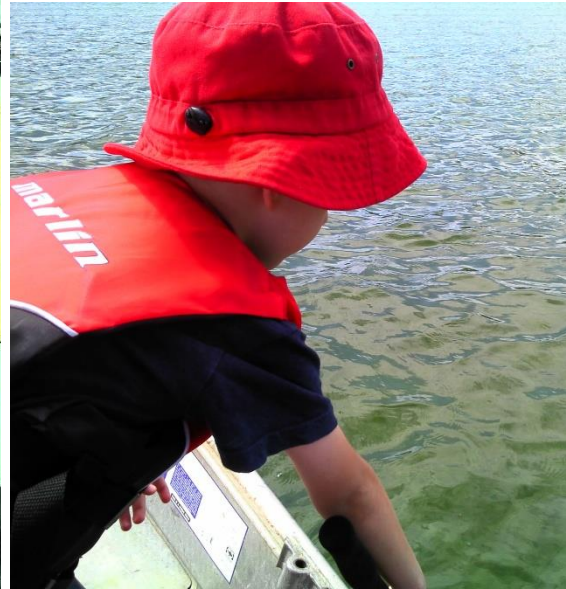
Sunday an early checkout threatened the fishing until a dawn pot check revealed a nearby public ramp, enabling the tinnies to fish the rest of the day (and returning with a tasty 10cm blue swimmer). Lyall C ventured to the coat/estuary, and Kevin followed. Bill B landed some more flathead in the estuary before joining Ray C for some fishing from the club tinnie. Jason M convinced Luke M to come and partake in some fishing, especially after using Luke's Ben10 combo Jason landed a tailor when trolling at dawn with a bible rattler.

With the trolling pretty quiet, Jason anchored up in a nice dropoff below the sand flats to get Luke onto his first ever fish. Failing to raise even a carp in LBG, this spot for piscatorial toddlers the day before seemed ideal for breaking the drought using some prawns (see comment below on bait dispenser). After a few false starts (and Dad in trouble for catching a 27cm whiting on Dad's rod), the hook was set and a 17.5cm bream landed. After a little convincing it was too small to keep, it was released back. Eventually four more were landed, up to 20cm, with as much fun had releasing them with the landing net after a quick pat. Rigs used were a 10-12lb red mono with a running ball sinker and #2 circle hook for Dad, #2 bean to a swivel and 30cm leader with red tubing and bead to simulate a bloodworm and a tru turn hook for Luke. Interestingly, a sandworm case came back up on the tru turn hook at one stage. Thanks to Bill for the family photography.



**Ray C and Bill chasing one more fish on plastic)**

By 1pm the sun was out and roadworks beckoned, so we returned to the public ramp to recover the boats – at least until insistence from the kids for “just one more fishing” for a quick troll and boat ride and the promise to return another day for more fishing.



**First fish (slightly obscured by the plastic bag), and the release to grow bigger (right). “Three fish is enough Dad, we can go now”**

Burrill Lake. Despite having many users including Lake Burley Griffin scouts for sailing and canoeing, and a few other ski boaters and jetskis, there was still plenty of clear water for fishing. The boats made it great to follow the tides and locate the fish. The lake was popular with kayak fishers too. But even for those land locked, as Bill proved, there was good fishing in the channel although reportedly at night it was quite busy there.

There was plenty of fish life, even in the shallows with bream, whiting, garfish and tailor all spotted in the shallows. There are also plenty of cockles in the shallows, which made barefoot wading a trifle uncomfortable. Every now and then 2-3 sea eagles would appear, chasing a feed. What was thought to be a big bumble bee buzzing around the boats turned out to be a quadcopter – perhaps we’ll end up on tv somewhere.

The Results. Some mixed bags were scored in, from Luke’s 20cm bream for the juniors, to a 10cm top and bottom (17cm across the shell) blue swimmer, 25cm flounder, 27cm whiting, 30+cm flathead, and Bill’s mother-lode 80cm flathead. In comparison to recent years, the catch was better and hopefully not just a reflection of the skills attending the outing.



Now, *This is Living Fishing*, (as a certain tv ad says). **Big4 camp** in the background on the right. Ah, the Serenity.

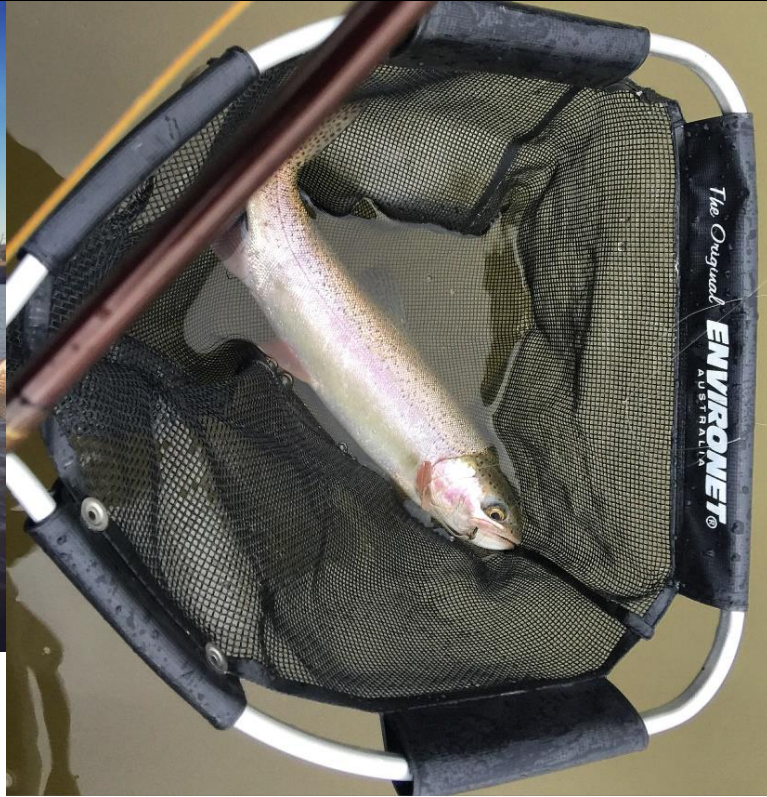
## Fly Tying 23 Mar

Lyall led the team tying Killer Micro Poppers for Red Fin, Bass and Whiting. Watch our [Fly Tying blog](#) as I hope to get the full instructions up there when Lyall's feet touch the ground again from his busy schedule 😊.

## Jason Q report from Easter

Dear Editor,

Please find attached some pics of 2x recent trips to the Monaro region, and please accept this email in support of registering 'fish capture' for Darlene with a Rainbow Trout at 36cm caught learning to loch style on the Providence Flats



*Luke C walking in the steps of Rob Sitch and Tom Gleisner on a river somewhere!*



Not sure if Luke would like to register his very pretty rainbow sizing up a whole 11cm!



My catch rates have been very productive however nothing of size or great condition.

Cheers,  
Jason

## March Meeting Outcomes

Members can obtain a copy of the formal minutes. Key points were:

- Stefan briefed on the recent CFA meeting. He will endeavour to obtain agenda items for future CFA meetings in time to discuss with membership in order to carry to the meeting any points from CAA.
- Stefan also reminded the meeting of the forthcoming [CFA Interclub Fly Fishing Meet](#). 2016 dates may be a bit close for attendance by CAA but he will attempt to get dates for 2017 for inclusion in our consideration of 2016/17 program (to be discussed in Jun CAA meeting).
- The auction of the travel rods was a hot time – we even had Angie bidding against her husband Micheal). The rod eventually sold for \$250. Congratulations Angie, the rod built by Lyall looked like a work of art and we're confident it'll be great on the water. The subsequent raffle of the rod built by Jason M was won by Peter. Ben's rod suffered a minor 'technical hitch' delaying its production. It will be held back for a later purpose. The amount raised by these sales has not been finalised, however Secretary is confident that costs were more than adequately covered.





After an excellent, comprehensive presentation by Phil (assisted by his wife Kerry) on Christmas Island bone fishing. The presentation and associated notes have been added to our [Special Places blog](#). It is essential reading for anyone contemplating with advice on prices and who to go to.



*Auctioneer Ben examining one of the rods*



*Peter K, raffle winner*



*Angie won the auction.*

## **Lyall and Nathan Attend Brian Henderson's Spey Casting Lessons at Forster**

While this is not a 'traditional' Places we Should Fish report, it has been added up on our Places blog [here](#). An extract is next to whet your appetite:



## Spey Casting in Salt Water??? by Lyall

Yes, it was a weekend in casting heaven up at Forster with the only master casting instructor and two handed casting instructor in the southern hemisphere Brian Henderson and his wife Anne. Nathan and I jumped into the car for the six hour drive north and conversations always ended with the statement “straight line path of the rod tip!!!!” It was like putting two pigeon fanciers together and all they talk about is pigeons.

...



Day one was casting theory and practice with the single Spey cast, double Spey cast, snake roll cast and more. On day two we did more grass casting then down to the salt water lake to put our practice into practice.

...

OK, so Nathan caught two mullet on the fly and I only caught one in our twenty minutes of fishing, but I don't feel bad ... much. Note the length of the Spey rods in the background – 13 or 14 feet - massive !!!

The weekend was all about technical casting and fantastic food. I can't wait to do it again. The catch cry is Spey All The Way !!! For more information, see <http://www.flyfishing.com.au/Courses.html>

### Carp Control

There's been some discussion about the Koi Herpes virus and its potential to eradicate our waters of carp. Suffice to say that the situation is not as simple as “it'll get rid of all those pesky carp”. At various CRFA activities I've heard cautionary tales related to the problems of disposal of the dead carp, the impact on cod in the Murray Darling losing a major food source and the potential for other 'pest' species becoming more of a problem with the removal of carp. CRFA Facebook page brought the following ABC News to our attention.

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2016-02-18/carp-control-virus-might-have-unintended-consequences-anglers/7179360>



## Baz's Close Encounter

Barry has been elsewhere engaged and not been able to attend some of the recent meetings, nevertheless he remains a keen member and dropped us a line about a recent interesting encounter:

**From:** Barry

**Sent:** Wednesday, March 16, 2016 12:03 PM

**Subject:** Red naped snake

Hello, .... This snake swam towards our boat whilst fishing on Burrinjuck Dam NSW.



Jim spotted it, .... grabbed a camera.



It's the: Red-naped Snake, *Furnia diadema*



According to the book, It's nocturnal, eats insects, small lizards and the like and is slightly venomous. Well,... it was 2:30pm on a hot 36C day about 80M from the shore!

Stay tuned into the next episode of Snaky-Tails.

Baz

## Fishing in New Zealand (and not for trout!)

As reported in [March Burley Line](#) Luke C recently travelled to New Zealand chasing fish in the salt water. As promised, his trip report along with some details on indicative cost/contacts has been added to our ["Places to go" blog](#).

## Casting for Recovery News

The first retreat was conducted 1-3 Apr. We hope to get a report in due course from Angie, in the meantime I have it on good authority from one of the participants that it went swimmingly (she even caught 3 fish and appeared on ABC News on Sunday night!) Suffice to say my friend is still on cloud 9 and so happy that she attended. CfR has done a great job here – well done to Angie and the others involved.



## CRFA News

Inter club co-operation is one by-product from our engagement with CRFA. CAA representatives were recently working alongside members of Canberra Fishing Club with CRFA related activities (reported in previous *Burley Line* issues). Peter and Bill recently got 'attaboys' in [CFC's newsletter](#).



Pres CRFA carried CAA's contribution to a Recreation User Stakeholder Group Meeting on 21 March 2016. Shane tells us the meeting was basically a kick-off and focussed mainly on their terms of reference.

## Monaro Acclimatisation Society News – Eucumbene River Access

While we aren't a member club, CAA members will recall that there is an ongoing discussion between MAS, Fisheries, National Parks and Snow Mountains Authority about inappropriate vehicle access to the riverside near Denison camping area. On 30 Mar, MAS organised a meeting of the key stakeholders to discuss the access issue. While there were positive vibes we have a way to go before concrete outcomes can be expected. Steve Samuels is preparing a press release however it has not yet been received. It will appear on our blog as soon as it arrives.





## NSW Council of Freshwater Anglers News

March issue arrived just too late for March *Burley Line*. It is available [here](#). CFA are also offering up an [archive](#) (I've added this to our Useful Links page on our website).



The [April issue](#) has arrived. Key news is that MAS President (and major player locally) Steve Samuels has been appointed to the new Recreational Fishing NSW Advisory Council, a key advisory body to the NSW minister. We'll ask Steve to come and speak to the club about hot issues in the future. We're sure he'll be an excellent representative for Region 8 (which is mainly the Monaro and Central Tablelands area).

## NSW RecFish News

Same with this one. March issue available [here](#). Significant discussion on NSW introducing compulsory wearing of life jackets when rock fishing. RFA has concerns over the style and standards of jackets given the differing conditions experienced by rock anglers and the differences to boating. I think this issue is essential reading for those rock hoppers amongst us. (There's also a number of other coastal items, for instance stocking of prawns into two waterways of NSW South Coast as well as removal of sand from Lavender Point Tuross Head boat ramp).



## Fisheries Victoria News

Most recent issues, 385, 386 and 387, have been published. (The best Internet resource is probably the [Victoria Fisheries Facebook page](#) where individual topics are posted up separately.) Three items jump out as particularly interesting to us (well, me):



A video on Victoria's Snob's Creek Trout Hatchery (click [here](#)). Of particular interest is the size of fish that Victoria stocks with. It's a very professional video showing a very professional fish raising and stocking process. Victorian Fisheries have a very Gucci smartphone app with regulations, species identification and lots more. Click [here](#) to go to the explanation page. And finally:

## Proposed changes to fishing licence fees

Recreational fishers are invited to have their say on proposed changes to our recreational fishing licensing system.

Every cent from licence fees goes back into projects to improve recreational fishing opportunities.

Under proposed changes, the price of recreational fishing licences will increase from July 1 this year and extra revenue generated will be spent on boosting recreational fishing.

Licence fees have not increased since 2008, and since 1999 the price of a one-year licence has only increased from \$20 to \$24.50.

Under the proposed changes:



- the 2-day licence would be replaced by a 3 day one and rise from \$6 to \$10
- the 28-day licence would rise from \$12 to \$20
- in line with NSW the 1-year licence rises from \$24.50 to \$35
- the 3-year licence would rise from \$66 to \$95.

If purchased online, the 1 and 3 year licences will be discounted to \$33 and \$90 respectively and anglers will receive a plastic licence in the mail.

There will be no changes to exemptions and children under 18 will continue to fish for free.

A five week public consultation period began on Wednesday 16 March. Find out more at [www.vic.gov.au/RFLchanges](http://www.vic.gov.au/RFLchanges). Submissions close on 19 April, 2016.

## Recipes

A little while ago Charlie sourced a cookbook developed by Lachlan Catchment Management Authority (now Local Land Services). CRFA have recently been taking an interest in carp on their Facebook page. They have posted a link to a great page which includes a video tutorial on filleting and cooking carp. An excellent supplement to the cookbook.

## The Burley Line and other Contributions from Members

Contributions are always encouraged to *The Burley Line*. Welcome also are contributions to some other 'categories' on our new blog such as the cooking Page, Gear Review and Places to visit. Recall that if you have any fishing related items that you would like to advertise here for sale, please email [burley-line@canberra-anglers.asn.au](mailto:burley-line@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



Newsletter of the Canberra Anglers Association – Issue 109 April 2016

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 (note, not eligible for trophies)
Bill	Brown	50 cm	Fly	Bondi Forest Lodge 19 Sep (note, not eligible for trophies)
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 C	Yellowbelly	60 cm	Fly	Burrinjuck 3-4 Oct
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 C	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
Bill	Carp	60 cm	Bait	Lake Burley Griffin 3 Feb
Jason M	Brown	47 cm	Fly	Lyle Knowles 13 Feb
Jason M	Brown	32 cm	Fly	Lyle Knowles 13 Feb



Newsletter of the Canberra Anglers Association – Issue 109 April 2016

Bill	Brown	35 cm	Fly	Lyle Knowles 13 Feb
Bill	Brown	30 cm	Fly	Lyle Knowles 13 Feb
Jason M	Australian Salmon		Hard bodied lure	Coast Outing Burrill Lake 5 Mar
Jason M	Sand Whiting	27 cm	Bait	Coast Outing Burrill Lake 5 Mar
Jason M	Blue Swimmer	10 cm	Baited dilly bag	Coast Outing Burrill Lake 5 Mar
Jason M	Salmon	32-33 cm (two)	Bait	Coast Outing Burrill Lake 5 Mar
Luke M	Bream	Four with best at 20 cm (undersize but Luke's first fish!)	Bait	Coast Outing Burrill Lake 5 Mar
Bill	Dusky Flathead	Four with best at 80 cm	Soft plastic	Coast Outing Burrill Lake 5 Mar
Darlene	Rainbow	36 cm	Fly	Providence Flats 27 Mar