

# The Burley Line

Issue 124 – Aug 2017



*Evan with the one that didn't get away at Thompson Creek Dam*

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## From the Editor's Desk

Thanks go to Jason Q for filling in for me last month. Much appreciate his help here, especially given he's now a very busy father. I'll be taking another sabbatical later this year and am looking for a volunteer to try their hand for one edition. It is a lot of fun (especially with generous members providing material) so jump in.

A huge issue this month, especially thanks to the efforts of our members. Take a bow folks. Great to see that, even with the closure of stream fishing for trout, CAA can find excuses to get out and about:

- JM provides us with extensive notes on our annual event down the coast – recall that this the event that determined the Saltwater Trophy for 2017/18.
- Luke C and Evan tried a trout site outside our normal range.
- 'International traveller extraordinaire' Lyall introduces us to the Pacific NorthWest – and aren't we all envious!
- Claude has extracted from some carefully selected advisors comprehensive advice on the 'go to' flies for this region and has kindly shared the results with us all.
- Our local man representing our fishing concerns in so many forums, Steve Samuels, has made a number of important announcements to 'his list' and I've repeated them here for those not on it. There are some significant items of news impacting on the local fishery.

This issue will be a hard act to follow.

## A Note from the President

Dear members,

Who doesn't love seeing the winter solstice come and go? As the days begin to slowly get longer, our minds have begun planning for the onslaught of activities be it Club things or personal planning.

We commence this with our AGM on the 09 Aug and I trust you'll all be there for a great evening. Soon after we have our trip to Bondi Forest, then the Rise Film festival at Manuka Cinemas just to name a few.

I've had snippets of members getting out and trialling something different which is fantastic. I encourage you to put fingers to keyboard and get it across to our Editor. It doesn't need to be big or give too much away...

Enjoy the August edition of Burley Lines and see you at the AGM. By the way, the following prizes have been secured for the AGM raffles.

- 12 month Subscription - Freshwater Fishing Magazine (valued \$60)
- 12 months Subscription to AFN.TV (valued \$50)



- Life Straw drink bottle (valued \$50)
- Sea to Summit Fly/ Mosquito net (valued \$16)
- Fishing Head Sock (valued \$20)
- Anglers Art Gift Vouch (valued \$30)
- Tackle World Gift Voucher (valued \$30)
- Wheelers Gift Voucher (valued \$30)

I believe Charlie has secured a Spin reel – no details at the moment but it may be the major prize.

We need to have big spenders and bring a friend. Guests too will get a free drink voucher (beer/ wine, coffee, coke etc).

Tight lines,

*Jason R*

## Coming Events

### Next Meeting:

**Wed 9<sup>th</sup> Aug** – usual time/place, 7:30PM at Raiders Weston Club. This will be our AGM (and start of new membership year). As usual you can anticipate some nibbles provided out of club funds and an opportunity to have your say on the management of CAA. To help to entice you there'll be a raft of valuable raffle prizes, lucky door prize and free nibbles/beverage. Never fear, the key executive positions will have at least one nomination identified so you won't be 'shanghaied' into a position against your will. Any other folk who would seek a position in the 'leadership group' please come along too. All positions, including the council, will be vacated.

### Next Events:

Some members have been concerned that they haven't seen our 2017/18 program – especially given our first event is so soon after the AGM. Rest assured the full list is up on [program page on the web](#). Meantime, per usual, here are the next few.

**Fri-Sun 18<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> Aug** – 'Committee Planning Retreat'/all member angling at Bondi Forest. Last year we tried out the idea of a one hour challenge – a variety of fly tying resources were handed out and contestants vied for the best looking flies as well as most fish caught. Was a lot of fun and the word is that it will be repeated this year. Rumour has it that the stocked dam is producing good fish again.

**Wed 23<sup>rd</sup> Aug** – To Be Confirmed – Fly Tying Workshop – usual time/place, 7:30PM at Raiders Weston Club. Details will be announced closer to the time – any volunteers wanting to show off a 'secret fly'? We've recently taken the approach of not publishing the tying method so you've gotta turn up if you want all the tips on tying these. Given that the flies are generally



selected by the more successful anglers, there's real merit coming along the join the ever increasing crowd and share the fun.

**Sun 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> Sep** – Our annual fly casting lessons including the final Sunday on stocked waters. Flyers and more information [on our news blog](#).

## **Report on Coastal Challenge Event – 7-9 Jul**

Report provided by JM:

This year we had a late Saltwater event, aiming to focus a little more on Australian salmon. It also coincided with the winter school holidays. Dalmeny, Narooma, and Tuross were all on the cards. We ended up with five club members attending the weekend, with all of us staying in Tuross. Despite a weather warning for the weekend prior, and the forecast of rain, it turned out to be beautiful weather, if only a little chilly overnight.



*Tuross turned on the weather for us, Montage Is. in the background*

Alan S arrived first, whilst the rest of us were still madly packing on Friday night. His survey of the area showed some small fish being landed locally. Ray C settled into the accommodation next, whilst Jason M, and Luke M, headed down slow time for a shakedown of the boat and trailer. Picking up Ray C on the way, and helping Alan S get his fishing started in Tuross whilst we went south, we went for a reconnaissance of Narooma. By the time we left the boat ramp, it was nav lights on but a glorious bar crossing and venture out.



*Moonlighting off Montague  
Island*

We saw some schools of bait in 20-30m, and with reports of red snapper in 15-20m, we dropped some baits but it was pretty quiet until Ray got the weekend off with a small flathead, backed up with a lightly larger 25cm one. After that it went quiet, but we enjoyed the moon rising by Montague Island, and had a short troll before venturing back to land and getting some dinner back in Tuross (and meeting up with Adam M and the rest of the Mrs M, so we couldn't be too late). With no legal fish, it was too late (just after 7pm) for even buying fish and chips in Narooma, so we settled in for some home cooking and discussing options for Sunday.



*Ray with the first fish of the event*

Sunday morning, while out with the family, we ended up having an impromptu club meeting as we all convened at the Boatshed Café and watched the lure fishermen trolling past, probably chasing mulloway. Alan S was admiring all the photos on the wall of the cafe of fish released, and we managed to find a stash of Tuross fishing booklets inside as well to give Ray some more information. It was much quieter on the lake without the





usual timing of the Kalymnos fishing club comp when we used to have the saltwater outing.

*The weather for fishing was terrible.*

From there we branched out, with Ray fishing the coast further north on his way back, and he managed to catch a fine specimen of a Scyphozoan on his fly. (Editor: had to look that up – scientific name for a jelly fish!) Alan enjoyed the weather and had a leisurely return. Being holidays, we'd taken a second night and the kids wanted some adventure on Potato Point before some fishing. With the outgoing tide, I tossed out some prawns from a couple of saltwater outings ago but no luck, but made some good use of my Stick-It anchor in the current.



*Mobile rod holder for beach fishing on Potato Point*



Treasure buried in the sand, the pirates headed out for some bait fishing. Passing around behind the main sandbar, some big schools showed up around 6-7m, so we dropped anchor and fished the turn of the tide. Apart from losing bait, it was pretty quiet until the sun was setting and the moon rising. Luke M broke the drought with a nice 19cm flounder, then Adam M landed an 18cm tarwhine and a 16cm squire. We were into a school of squire, and we pulled a few more up, always good to get the kids excited as it got dark. Unfortunately, my camera had disappeared (it turned up later hidden in the forepeak where the kids had been rummaging on launch), so the photos came out dark. A nice little 22cm tailor jumped on my line, and then it looked like Luke's line had gone under the boat with the current, but checking the bait he pulled up a nice 24cm bream. It then went quiet, and with the kids snuggled up in under the sleeping bag as it was cooling down, it was back to shore for warm showers and another late dinner. On pulling the boat up the boatramp, I heard from the backseat "Dad, tonight I'm going to dream of catching a BIG fish!"



*Luke landing his flounder, with the sun setting*



*Adam landing his squire and tarwhine, with the moon rising over Potato Point*



*Bragging rights – see, we catch fish!*





*Some more action as the  
sun set and the moon rose*

And, at the end of another saltwater trip, sitting down to read an old August 2007 edition of Fishing World in the unit, I found a nice article "Narooma's Awesome Estuary" by Scott Thomas of where to go in the estuary when, which was similar timing to what we had just been fishing and apparently those bait balls were prime mulloway territory. Now I know for next year..



**Accommodation.** With mixed results in previous years, a few of us tried holiday rentals for a change. From memory, these were cheaper than many of the caravan park cabins. I did see some larger ones, I think quite a large one with at least 5 bedrooms (maybe 6-8) and accommodating at least 11 adults in Narooma for around \$500 but would require committing the club early. I also realised on my trip that Dalmeny, and even better Kiandra, are easier to get to the new Narooma (Mill Point) boat



ramp from. As school holidays approached, bargains were snaffled up and prices rose.

I found a nice pet-friendly cabin called Ella May in Tuross for \$200 for one night, \$300 for two nights. Ray stayed in flat 1 and apart from the heater thinking it was 25 degrees, it wasn't bad. My family was in flat 3, which had a good spot at the rear of the flats to park the boat out of the way, and a better heater. Whilst they had wooden floors, they had most the modern conveniences, even alfoil, cling wrap, and some basic cooking staples like oil and salt/pepper, and a laundry with washing powder. All you need to bring is towels, and they even have an emergency stash of those. The local kookaburra liked the hills hoist, and the lemon tree was begging to be picked (pity the oyster farm was closed Monday). The cleaner comes at 10am sharp, so don't dawdle. The beds weren't bad, except the two singles are just that, about 2.5 floorboards shorter than the queen/double (which at least had electric blankets). So whilst there weren't bunk beds for adults to worry about, our taller members would still have trouble staying in the single beds. For a family though it's great, and all of mine liked it and were keen to return for a week sometime soon.

**After thought.** Whilst not part of the comp, we considered fishing the Monday but with the kids fast asleep at 8am, I packed up the boat for the trip home, leaving out some rods to fish with at Narooma. Departing at 10:05, we drove down to Mill Point and had a break in the playground and checking out the bar. I noticed a good gutter by the northern breakwall, and some whiting or tailor in the swimming area. In between the boat ramp and the well positioned playground, is a fish cleaning station and little jetty-like stand. This could be great for casting your weed flies from, with numerous fish spotted on the weed and grass below. After the kids were begging for another fishing trip in the boat ("I hope we catch a trout!"), we gave the other side of the inlet a go near the charter boats from the jetty, but it was pretty quiet. It probably wasn't helped by the seal frolicking around begging for some fish offcuts by the cleaning table. Leaving the boat packed up, we took the long way home, and going up Brown Mountain I began wondering if I should have planned an extra day to go fish Eucumbene on the way home.



*Mill Point mill pond with boat ramp, sea weed and grasses, gutters, and swimming area and bar entrance*

## **Luke (C) and Evan at Thompson Creek Dam**

Luke sent in some pictures and Evan followed up with some words – somewhere new to think about.

### **Sight fishing at TCD**

After walking 20min from the car park to the dam wall the first thing we saw was crystal clear glassed out water and a few meters later, a couple of 3lb Rainbows cruising! Of course the 'damn' wall is off limits and we would have seen 30 odd fish cruising ranging up to at least 6lb while we walked to the end.

Seeing the fish was pretty easy but getting them to take a fly was very hard. We mainly fished teams of tiny nymphs inert under indicators letting the breeze and lake currents move the flies while you figure eight the slack to stay in contact. Shock Tactic and fluoro orange tungsten beadheads in lighter colours were successful.



Day 1 resulted in a few lost fish and one smaller rainbow for Luke. We would have presented to over 50 fish. They just weren't eating and pretty much in pre-spawn mode.

We walked back in the dark a bit frustrated and determined to get a good one. The Royal Hotel in Wallerawang provided great hospitality while we worked on a plan for the next day.

Day 2 we were first on the water and it didn't take long to started spotting fish so we setup camp on a rocky section and watched waves of huge rainbows swim past our flies. Finally I managed a take by annoying a pair of 6 pounders and the buck took with a snap. He was wiley enough to pull the hooks but the next one 10 minutes later made it to the net.

Thompson Creek Dam is about a 4 hour drive from Canberra and a great winter overnight option where you will see and have a chance to catch a trophy. We would have sighted over 100 fish in our two half day sessions and our patience was tested but finished with a cherry on top and a desire to go back!











## JQ and Luke Sneek off to the Coast

I got some photos and pithy words from these two *"There was movement at the station, 'cos the word has passed around that ..."* oops, another story?

Advice received was "salmon on the run" – gotta mean day trip to South coast..... South Coast – 25 degrees sunshine :) hmmm.



*(Editor: doesn't look that nice to me – I know exactly where this is!)*





Fly Choice: Clousers.

Lots of small flathead in Tuross Lake walking the edge.



Salmon off the beach but need a decent cast to get out over the surf.



Spotted lots of blackfish off the break wall at Moruya where weed flies would have been ideal (sadly didn't pack any in).





## Message from Lyall

Lyall has snuck away for some travel in the US. It would appear there was a period of 'family time' with his wife where the two of them did the tourist thing, with Lyall patiently waiting for the fishing trip that followed. He's sent the following to give us a feel for what he's been up to.

## Hello from the US

Hi there guys,

I thought people might be interested in a few photos from Oregon.

We spent today at Bonneville Dam on the Colombia River where the US Army Corps of Engineers built a trout hatchery in 1909. The state of Oregon has, and get this, 35 fish hatcheries. Today's hatchery was twenty times the size of our Gaden hatchery at Jindabyne so they have the deal sealed up over here!!!





The pictures are a bit fuzzy but you can see the fish ladder which extends for two kilometres from below the dam wall (of course) to above it (pointing out the bleeding obvious).



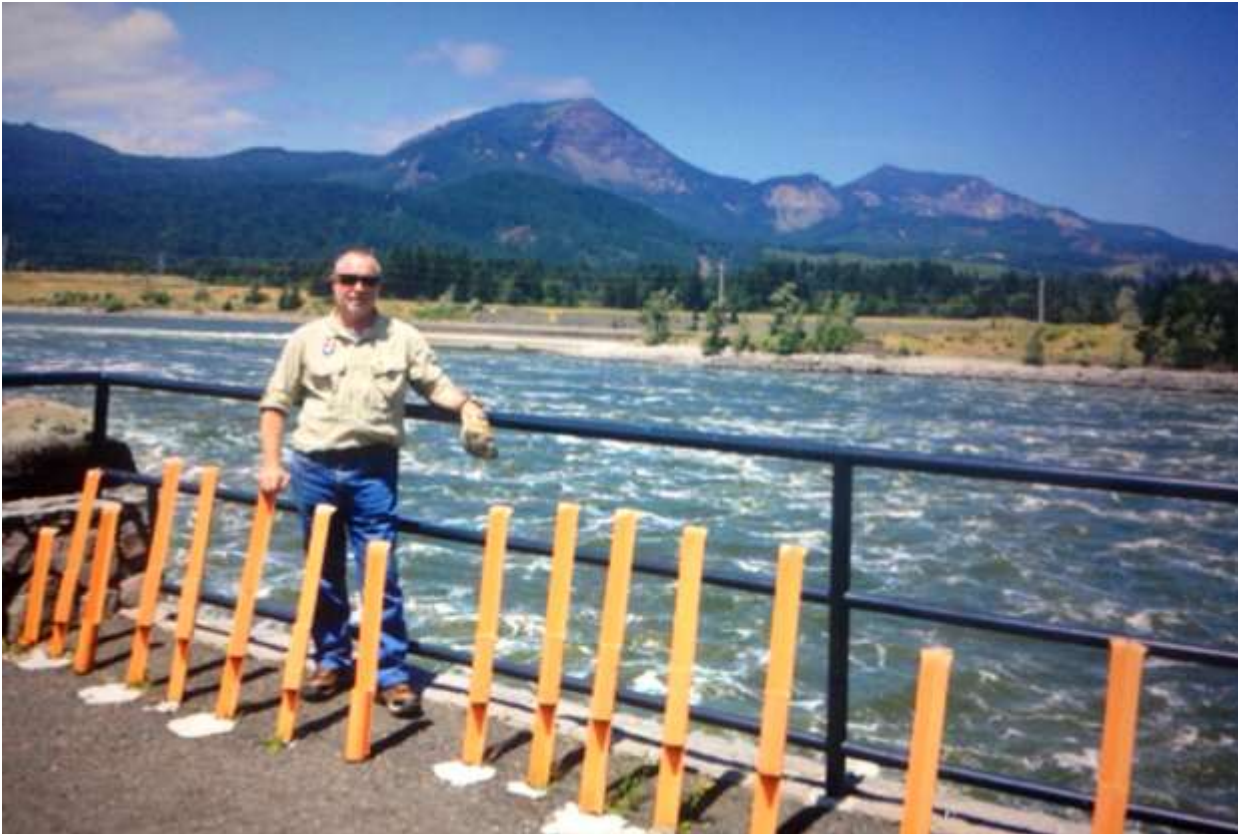
The paddle tailed Chinook salmon swimming up the ladder are a metre long and FAT!!!







Down on the Colombia River there were Tongariro style picket fence line of spin fishermen catching Chad (35 cm long, silver, flat sided fish with v-shaped tails) and all along the car park were orange rod holders but just too far from the river to be of any use. It looked like a civil servant's decision rather than an angler's. At least they had a disabled parking area and a forest of rod holders designed to weave monofilament into a picnic blanket as lines crossed.



The rods will remain in their tubes until my much better half returns to Australia in mid-July at which point I transform from fish observer to Spey rod armed, Skagit casting aggressor!!! I built a Sage X, #7, 13 footer Spey rod before I left Canberra and it casts like an absolute rocket!!!

This fishing gig is a blast and should be on the medical benefits list for reducing blood pressure, increasing good humour and improving general welfare!!!

More soon,

Lyall

### **More from Lyall:**

Bored to death waiting for Monday USA time to come around. I left a substantial tip for the cleaning lady as she doesn't



usually have to contend with ostrich feathers and flashabou debris in the hotel rooms!!!



## **Urban Fly Fishing in Seattle**

Lyall's American Vacation

Excellent photos courtesy of Dave McCoy, owner of Emerald Waters Anglers





First day of fishing is over following a five in the morning start from central Seattle's Moore Hotel. Full of character, built at the beginning of last century and devoid of air conditioning, it is home base for a couple of weeks.

Seattle, in beautiful Washington State, is part of the Pacific North West or PNW to us locals. PNW is a mindset according to the Washingtonians I speak to. Don't do anything in a hurry and don't stress about anything. "So your wife is a hedge funds manager at a company managing three trillion dollars of investments. That must be stressful" I say to Dave, expert angler and guide. "No, this is PNW not New York."

The only thing that might be a little stressful is angler access. Land owners seem very protective of their piece of paradise and there is a preponderance of Private Property,



or variations thereof, limiting access to rivers and beaches. That's Dave in the background with the orange dry pack. Another great photo taken en route to Puget Sound emphasised local flavour and hey, that's why we travel.







Even though we drove for an hour we were always in view of civilisation, and much of the time the Seattle skyline, but Dave knew every island and beach and was watching the tide. Dave had me fishing along the beach at the change of tide then under the bridge and over the drop off. Success. My first PNW cut throat sea run trout, also known as a green back, had a vivid green hue especially around the eyes. Fishing barbless, I won't even mention all the other fish which we failed to net but would have been more firsts for me.



Four cut throats was the final score at the end of the day with the largest being 30 cm which is standard. The fly which did the damage, despite numerous changes, was a "dry fly ". Well ... a white foam- backed size 10, 4x long with a single holographic eye glued to the underside and a two inch tail of pearl flashabou. Looking at the bait fish circling our feet, I can see why it worked and I reckon it would be just as effective on the NSW south coast. The deal was not to pop it but to retrieve with smooth but fast, full length strips.



The day was about getting into "the zone ". Dave put it this way: if you get to the point where you are just enjoying being there and not super focused on the fish, you are bound to hook up. Watching the myriad dungeness crabs scurrying past the dollar clams on the bottom with bald eagles circling overhead made it a great day. I was in the zone.







## Planning to Stay Busy over the Winter

Claude is a relatively new member, but very much engaged – witness his previous contributions to *Burley Line*. He was recently making some enquiries to some notable fly tiers (and one not very notable at all – ie Bill). Readers might want to consider the final assembled list and contribute comments (I'm sure Peter will add 'iron blue dun' to the dry list).

Howdy Bill, Evan, Lyall and Nathan,

So my original intent was to find '5 flies of each type' that I could tie over winter. As I'm fast learning, there is no simple answer ... especially when trying to search what some of the recommended flies look like and you get multiple versions! I may have to get that Aussie Trout flies book I've been trying to avoid buying. I have added some links to some of the flies (not to buy, just to see what they look like). Below is a summary of the feedback I have received.

Thanks again for your advice ☺.

Dry:

- EHC – normal and CDC
- Royal Wolf (some 'big' to suspend nymphs)



- Black Mayfly spinner (doubles as an ant pattern)
- Midge ball?
- F Fly (a super simple dry with a CDC wing):  
<https://www.troutflies.com.au/f-fly-black.html> and  
[http://flyandlure.org/articles/fly-tying/5 easy to tie cdc f fly patterns](http://flyandlure.org/articles/fly-tying/5-easy-to-tie-cdc-f-fly-patterns)
- Stimulator:  
<http://www.goulburnvlyflyfishing.com.au/Information/Fly%20Patterns/fly%2013%20royal%20stimulator.htm>
- Some kind of muddler (marabou or minnow) for the lake.  
Interesting, Bill looks here for *"something that floats and puts out a good wake when retrieved whereas Peter has always argued that one should retrieve slowly if at all. I suppose it all depends on what the fish think it is at the time"*

Most agreed with #14 or #16 for trout, but reminded Claude to consider some oversized dries to suspend nymphs and down to #18 for finicky eaters.

#### Emergers:

- Parachute Adams
- Aero Wing Emerger
- Possum Emerger
- Shaving brush
- Klinkhammer See  
<http://www.goulburnvlyflyfishing.com.au/Information/Fly%20Patterns/fly%208%20klinkhammer.htm>
- CDC emerger

#### Nymphs:

- PTN - all pheasant, peacock herl, flashback, bead heads (copper, black, gold, orange, weighted, unweighted)
- Black/brown nymph - with and without Pheasant tail?
- Nathan's trout run nymph?
- Sexy waltz worm? - an interesting fly I found on an Orvis podcast  
(<https://loren.teamfreestone.com/tutorials/nymphs/sexy-walts-worm>) will give it a try locally
- Scruffy hares ear
- Midge Pupa Chironomid: [https://youtu.be/Nac9l3h\\_eXk](https://youtu.be/Nac9l3h_eXk)
- Frenchie

Don't forget to tie a variety using weighted/unweighted, bead head or not (copper or tungsten)



Wets:

- Bibio - <https://www.troutflies.com.au/bush-bibio.html>
- Woolly bugger: <https://www.troutflies.com.au/flies/the-complete-wooly-bugger-collection-boxed.html>
- Glo bug (using a beetle pattern?)
- Pat Kennedy suggested Hotlips
- Shrek: <https://www.troutflies.com.au/the-shrek-collection.html>
- Magoo

Carp Flies: Evan provided some specific carp advice and added that "A lot of trout flies double as great patterns for Carp and Redfin, the following would be my ultimate Carp box in various weights, sizes and being creative with colours ie. nymphs don't always need to be natural ;)"

- Spork size 6-10
- Unnamed jig Fly of mine that looks like a carrot...
- Buggers with and without hot spots, rubber legs, flash
- trout nymphs with and without hot spots, rubber legs, flash
- damsel nymph
- parachute Adams size 10
- glo bugs

I suspect Claude was anticipating only a few fly patterns to concentrate on, but this is what happens when you ask 4 or more people for fishing advice ☺ I really appreciate his sharing this journey with us, also to the other contributors for their knowledge. We'd welcome any additional thoughts from you too.

I've added it to our [fly tying blog](#).

## Fly Tying 26 Jul

The crowd certainly wasn't as large as the monster one attending Evan's weed fly lesson last month, but a keen group seemed to appreciate the opportunity to learn how to tie the marabou muddler. Many thanks to the two Jasons and Peter for contributing additional teaching points to assist the novice instructor.

Volunteers sought for next month's instructor.







## An Opportunity for Competition in Tasmania

Got this message from Luke (I think a little tongue in cheek, but still well worth thinking about):

Hey guys,

Thought this may be of interest considering we have a few lot of 'masters' (50+) in the club..

The 16th edition of the Australian Masters Games is being held in Tasmania this year, running in late October and Fly Fishing is one of the 40 spots being held.

The only criteria to compete in the Australian Masters Games is that you must meet the minimum age requirement. For Fly Fishing the minimum age is 50 years.

Registration:

<https://2017amgregistration.fusesport.com/registration/521/web/>

Registration FAQ:

<https://2017amgregistration.fusesport.com/page/Frequently-Asked-Questions-x-126-35-173.html>

Fly Fishing Detail -

<http://www.australianmastersgames.com/extra.asp?ID=8005>

Cheers,

Luke.

## Shark Feeding Video

Did everyone catch this? Reminded me how the salmon and tailor behaved with a bait ball close to the shore near Tuross ealier this year.

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2017-07-20/how-sean-scott-captured-a-shark-feeding-frenzy/8724660>





## The Googong Dam Fracas

Some members may have been aware of the brouhaha that arose this week about access to the Southern entrance to the Googong Dam reserve (the one down near Burra). Word was out that the ACT Government was planning to lock the gate permanently from 1<sup>st</sup> Aug. Various members of our executive and other clubs were rightfully concerned whether this was true and, if so, why was there no consultation.

ACTFF member, Ainslie, who also is part of the local ABC Radio (666) Drive program took up the challenge to publicly quiz the responsible officer from ACT Environment Division. Not sure if you were able to listen to the radio program Thu 26 Jul. It should be on the web in due course at <http://www.abc.net.au/radio/canberra/programs/drive/> (as I write this the audio is not yet available.) Meantime, this is my take:

- The bottom line up front is that no action will be taken before a few months. The Department has obtained a quote for an automated access gate - argument was made that this would give the Dept the requisite savings but not restrict recreational access. There was a veiled threat that this would be for a trial period (couple of years) and closure might be required if this didn't work - eg if there is vandalism. He was basically putting it to the public to respect this compromise.
- The Govt acting Dept director (name already slipped my mind) started off by spruiking the responsibility of the ACT Govt to protect the foreshores in order to protect water quality - for Southern access I think that is a bit of a furphy in that vehicular access (a key problem cited for Vanity's closure) is a long way from Googong.
- He tried to argue that the need to be more economical with the department funds was highlighted in the ACT Budget where consideration of closing the 'lesser used' Southern access was cited - Adam Shirley was not convinced and asked whether announcement was a replacement for consultation.
- Unfortunately Shirley wasn't briefed on the perfect forum of the ACT Govt Recreational User Group - we need to keep this idea in any commentary we might make.
- He evinced respect for assisting access by recreational users.

"The price of freedom" (of access to the southern end) "is eternal vigilance". We need to stay on top of this, via the Recreational User Group, to ensure any further consideration includes consultation with users.

All in all we have probably dodged a bullet for the time being - well done to ACTFF member Ainslie for getting such public exposure. Many thanks also to Lyall and Kerry for linking up CAA consideration to the ACTFF action.

## MAS News

Apart from the heads-up on the 'Googong Fracas', I received four messages from our colleague Steve Samuels – he's certainly been a busy dude. These come from his activities firstly as President of MAS and secondly as a representative on the Minister's Recreational Fishing NSW





Advisory Council giving minutes from their 5<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Dear Supporters

As you may be aware Snowy Hydro Limited has announced that it will soon begin geotechnical surveys of the landscape between Tantangara Dam and Talbingo Dam as an initial part of the feasibility study for the proposed "Pumped Hydro" concept. This will involve the use of heavy machinery on and around Tantangara Dam over the next few months. Snowy Hydro has advised the MAS that there may be some delays on accessing Tantangara Dam and the launching area while the machinery is being moved or used. Snowy have given us a commitment that these delays will be as minimal as possible.

One advantage for anglers will be that Snowy Hydro has indicated to the MAS that they are willing to leave the launching site in a better state than it is now. This will mean that access and launching should be improved by the time Spring rolls around. Please do not expect a four-lane concrete ramp – that is not an option, but there will be improvements that should make Tantangara Dam more boating friendly.

Please be assured that the MAS will continue to negotiate with Snowy Hydro, State and the Federal Governments and NSW Fisheries on the "Pumped Hydro" concept to ensure that our internationally renowned Snowy Lakes trout fisheries are not adversely affected.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Regards

Steve Samuels

President

Monaro Acclimatisation Society Inc

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Please find the attached photo and advice from Charles Litchfield from Snowy Hydro and the work being done at Tantangara Dam launching site. I hope those of you who fish here will enjoy the improvement.

Steve Samuels

President

Monaro Acclimatisation Society Inc





Hi Steve

Below is a photo of the boat launch area at Tantangara (stage 1) after work this week. You will see that it has been graded and more turning area provided and will allow people to launch while we are carrying out work at Tantangara.

There is an area further along which we are using for the project. Once the project is finished, that area too will be available for launching (stage 2). We think this is already a reasonable improvement and should be further improved once the work is done



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The full minutes from the Advisory Council has been [popped up onto our blog](#). Some of the more interesting points are:

- The Trout Strategy is being progressed and the working group is awaiting the appointment of a scientist – great to hear some real science is coming to this effort.
- Recall that Jason M has spoken about the concept of a ‘social licence’ – ie public acceptance of an activity. The council is in the process of pursuing of a social licence strategy.
- The council is seeking advice from Snowy Hydro on the potential for reopening these waters for water activities including fishing.



- The potential issue of redfin translocation coming out of Snowy Hydro 2.0. The Chair will seek NSW Govt to raise the issue with the Commonwealth.
- Council concerns about the Travelling Stock Reserves review will be taken to the Minister.

The final message was to advise that Fisheries, as an experiment in the context of developing a Trout Strategy, is putting a trial stocking of 500 yearling trout into Oberon Dam. This sounds an excellent experiment and we should all hope for success. Fisheries are looking for feedback from anglers in the future and are offering a reward. Read more on the [news blog](#).

## Fisheries Victoria News

Fish eFacts 411 has arrived. The best Internet resource is the [Victoria Fisheries Facebook page](#) where individual topics are posted up separately. The topics in 411 are:



### Fish stocking

To make fishing even better, we've stocked almost 4 million fish into 250+ Victorian waterways during the last 12 months! That's a new record, but one that won't last long as we strive to stock 5 million fish next year!

For a full list of the waters that shared in 845,000 trout and salmon visit <https://vfa.vic.gov.au/recreational-fishing/fish-stocking/fish-stocking-reporting/salmonid-fish-releases/salmonid-fish-releases-2016>

To find out where the 3+ million native fish fingerlings went, visit <https://vfa.vic.gov.au/recreational-fishing/fish-stocking/fish-stocking-reporting/native-fish-releases/native-fish-releases-2017>

Many of these stocked fish were grown at our Snobs Creek hatchery, which celebrates its 70th birthday this year and is supported by recreational fishing licence fees.

### Stocking Brown trout

Guess where we've been stocking trout? That's right! The mighty Toolondo! 7,000 brown trout and 1,775 rainbow trout yearlings were released with help from volunteers this afternoon. The fish were grown at our Snobs Creek hatchery, which is celebrating its 70th birthday this year. More rainbow trout yearlings will be released into Toolondo in coming months to bring the total to 3,000. Last year's water allocation of 10,000 megalitres from Rocklands to Toolondo has created ideal growing conditions for stocked trout.

### More rainbows

More rainbows, more smiles! Around 40 people gathered at Merriwa Park Lake last week at Wangaratta to help stock another 200+ rainbow trout. These fish complement 200 rainbows released just prior to the holidays.

### Dusky flathead

Your fishing licence fees will fund a new project reviewing the status and biology of dusky flathead populations in Gippsland estuaries. The one-year project will include one-on-one



knowledge surveys with experienced long-term dusky anglers, an online survey and a dusky flathead conference about the fishery, its characteristics, perceptions of anglers and their future aspirations. The project is one of 15 recently announced worth more than \$1 million.

Learn more at <https://vfa.vic.gov.au/recreational-fishing/recreational-fishing-grants-program/licence-fees-at-work/your-licence-fees-at-work-2015-17>

### **Boundary markers**

We've just completed the installation of boundary markers at each of the river mouths in the Gippsland Lakes! The signs show the new restrictions on commercial netting areas in the Gippsland Lakes. It's all part of the State Government's Target One Million election commitment to expand protected areas around river mouths and provide clear marking of exclusion zones.

## ***The Burley Line* and other Contributions from Members**

Contributions are always encouraged to *The Burley Line* as well as words for posting on our blog especially for [the Cooking Page](#), [Gear Review](#) and [Places to Visit](#). Comments on individual blog posts are also encouraged and can be made directly on the blog site. 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)

(you can now click to initiate an email directly from [our home page](#))

## **Notable Fish Recorded**

The intent of this segment is to encourage folk to get out fishing and sharing the joy. It is not the 'official record of catches' and so can include catches of interest that aren't eligible for trophies. The authoritative list for [club trophies](#) is the little book brought to meetings. I welcome emails advising how you are going, but don't forget to get them inscribed in the book. Registrations for 2016/17 competition year closed at the Jul meeting. I've recorded the July Coastal Event for the moment.

Angler	Species	Length	Method	Location/Event/Date
Luke M	Flounder	19cm	Bait	Coastal Event 9 Jul 2017
Adam M	Tarwhine	18cm	Bait	Coastal Event 9 Jul 2017
Adam M	Squire	6cm	Bait	Coastal Event 9 Jul 2017
Jason M	Tailor	22cm	Bait	Coastal Event 9 Jul 2017