

THE BURLEY LINE

Newsletter of the Canberra Anglers' Association Inc.

Issue 125—September 2017



After a huge struggle by three of our members trying to keep this pretty Bondi brown from busting off in the reeds, Nathan landed the first fish in the 120 Minute Challenge.



In This Issue

- Bondi Forest Report
- AGM Awards
- Meet your 2017/2018 Committee
- Burrinjuck Dam Report
- Lyall's Adventures
- Notable Fish Recorded
- Lots More!

Presidents Report

Dear Members,

This edition takes us into spring, a lovely change from our generally cold and unfortunately generally dry winter.

Our August outing took us on our annual pilgrimage to Bondi Forest. This trip never fails to disappoint and the fish decided to play game too. Whilst down there the infamous CAA 120 minute challenge was run and won, and the action was contested down into the final minutes. The fly materials were challenging yet everyone put everything to good use.

I don't wish to give away too much, so continue reading this superbly edited and new-look edition of Burley Lines.

Just a reminder we want every member at fly casting to help out and show everyone what a fantastic bunch of anglers we are!

Catch you there

- JQ

Editors Notes

I can't help it, but with my currently being laid up recovering from my busted Achilles' Tendon, seeing photos from Lyall and others getting into fish makes me just a trifle jealous.

Steve Samuels rubbed more salt in the wound when he and I were discussing the Oberon trout stocking experiment.

"Trust the fishing is going well up north" said I, "Yep very good up here. For a taste this mulloway went 900 on fly" went the response.

- Bill



900 Mulloway on the fly. One for the bucket list.

Key Dates

3 September
Fly Casting Day 1

10 September
Fly Casting Day 2

13 September
Monthly Meeting

17 September
Fly Casting Day 3

27 September
Fly Tying



All smiles from our recent Bondi Forest outing. Trip report on the following pages.

Coming Events

Next Club Meeting:

Wednesday 13th September

Usual time/place, 7:30PM at Raiders Weston Club. Advice on speaker will be provided later.

Next Events:

Sunday 3rd, 10th and 17th September

Fly Casting—Our annual fly casting lessons including the final Sunday on stocked waters. Flyers and more information [on our news blog](#).

Wednesday 27th September

Fly Tying Workshop – usual time/place, 7:30PM at Raiders Weston Club. Details will be announced closer to the time.

We are always on the lookout for members who are willing to volunteer their time to lead fly tying, if you're interested, please let the committee know.

Trip Report—Bondi Forest and 120 Min Challenge.

Provided by Jason Q

Those people that attended this outing or an outing in the past to Bondi Forest will agree this is the favourite trip on the CAA calendar! I'm sorry to other trip leaders, and I don't deter you from attending other outings but it is true. Bondi Forest is bloody fantastic. This year we were down on a few of the regulars but still represented by 11 keen members. Technically 10 but this trip sold him on being a part of the team and has now become a CAA member. Welcome BJ!

Friday saw the majority drive down and challenge themselves driving through the thin blanket of snow at Nimmitabel and Bombala. The snow flurried on and off for the rest of the night, but never enough to settle firm at Bondi. The fireplace was working well with warmth and much less smoke than we've experienced in the past.

Saturday was overcast and very windy, but the fish played twice and won. New member BJ hooked up and saw his tippet broken when the fish disappeared into the reeds and refused to come out. Bill had a similar experience fighting a good looking rainbow but after struggling to get it free from the reeds a quick flick of the head saw it break off. The reeds in the dam have really grown since our last visit so this made casting and potential fights with trout very challenging.



Bill with a well deserved Bondi brown.

Brian the Bondi Lodge owner popped down and mentioned a nearby farm dam similar in size to Bondi Forest and authority from the land owner Keith to head across and fish it. Stefan, BJ, Claude and Shaun headed for this new water and found success. Shaun managed 3 rainbows on a crafty woolly bugger fishing the edge of a drop-off. He tells me the secret ingredient will cost you a cappuccino with one. Brian mentioned that if we'd landed a fish to sacrifice it for Keith. That Shaun did and Keith was ecstatic to receive Saturday night's dinner with little effort.

Saturday night Stefan provided us with a Fondue like no other. We experienced traditional customs including amazingly flavoured cheeses, pear schnapps and Lindt chocolate. We even experienced kisses from fellow members! A custom when someone's bread falls off their fondue fork into the melted cheese, you kiss the closest person. Let's say some were luckier than others... The drinking, fish chat, fly tying and laughter continued well into the night.

Sunday started off early with BJ and Bill heading down to break the ice off the surface. Even the fish were trying to warm up in the sun with a very nice rainbow seen feeding in the shallows as they approached was quickly spooked. The two intrepids pressed on and Bill was rewarded with a modest brown – thank goodness BJ was there to land it.



The 120 minute challenge well underway.

After breakfast BJ and Stefan heading off for a mountain bike ride around the nearby forestry tracks. The rest of us then kicked off the 120minute Fly Challenge. The intent is to create 5 flies on the 5 hooks and materials provided and catch fish with the creations all in 120 minutes. This year's materials bag was very sparse with any one material, but there were a lot of options. The flies coming off the vice really concerned me, we weren't going to have enough prizes! (Though the term 'vice' has to be stretched as Bill was emulating

haemostats!) The quality was sensational and almost worthy of a \$4.50/ fly price tag and stocking on the shelf at any great tackle store.

Shaun was first out of the lodge and onto the water making sure he had lots of fishing opportunity, closely followed by Nathan. Shaun opted for a floating line whilst Nathan an intermediate – Nathan decided to swim all three of his creations as a team (fortune favours the brave).

Soon after were Bill and Evan, and then Claude, Angie and Michael and John were onto the water. The fish were a little more active today with various fish 'porpoising' throughout the dam. 80 minutes in Nathan

hooked up however he was in a very tough position to land the fish. The reeds where he was situated were very heavy with little room either side to direct the erratic fight. Nathan led the fish through the gap before the fish had one last burst into the reeds. His top fly caught on a reed. It was panic stations until Shaun, who was wearing shorts, volunteered to go into the icy water with the net. Shaun ventured in however the fish was still at least a metre and a bit away.



Bill's smile says it all!

Trip Report—continued.

The water depth most will know drops off very quickly and the bottom is very slippery with clay. I managed to step into the water with the water almost lapping over my Sorell boots, with my right arm held out as far as I could whilst holding onto Shaun's pinkie so he could lunge forward without going in. Shaun netted the fish as the fly gave way from the reeds.

Minutes ticked by and I was quietly walking past the fishers chatting their final minutes tactics. Shaun noticed a rise as did Bill. The fish rose 2 more times in different areas and appeared to be mooching along a beat. Bill casually cast out his grizzly marabou monstrosity named the Old English Sheep Dog (so furry you can't see the eye) and let it sink. Strip strip, strip, strip...ON!! Bill was on. He was situated in a similar position to Nathan with reeds closely laid and a very narrow path for the fish to swim through without getting hooked up.



Nathan—'The Bondi Bugger'.

The fish didn't initially put up much of a fight so we hadn't seen it, but then it came to the surface and rolled, it was a monster! Bill moved the rod left and right to counter the fish's movements, the fish tired and came through the gap in the reeds without further drama where I was able to net him.



Bill—'The Old English Sheepdog'.

Bill's smile said it all, we were calling measurements and making sure Bill's repairing Achilles was not compromised from all the excitement of the fish he'd just landed. Bill pulled out the official CAA calibrated tape measure from his vest and placed it along the brown. 58cm he called.. 22 inches, what a fish! We took some snaps of Bill and I soon swum the fish before it quickly tore off into the darkness.

I called time 6 minutes later, and we returned to the lodge all smiles and cheers where I awarded the winner and contestants their prizes.

Thanks Jason Q for a great write up.

If you have a trip report you'd like to share, please send it to

burley-line@canberra-anglers.asn.au

Trip Report—continued.

I am working on a 120min challenge trophy where Bill will sit proudly as 2017 CAA 120min Fly Challenge Champion.

Thank you to those that ventured down and participated in the 120 minute fly challenge. Thank you to Evan for donating first prize.

I am sure next year will be hotly contested and we'll be having to hire out another building at Bondi to fit in everyone.

Your New Committee

The AGM appointed a new committee for 2017/19.

Congratulations to the new committee/council members and many thanks to those standing down.

The following were elected:

President	Jason Q
Vice President	Nathan
Secretary	Lyll
Assistant Secretary	John R
Treasurer	Angie
Public Officer	Jason M
Council Member (Raffles)	Greg S
Council Member (Speakers)	Greg W
Council Member (CFA)	Stefan
Council Member ('troubleshooter')	Claude
Council Member ('troubleshooter')	Matt
Auditor	Bill



A great turnout for our Annual General Meeting.

AGM—Trophies & Awards

As part of the AGM, the annual trophy presentations were undertaken.

Congratulations to all—



The 2017 AGM was well attended and a lot of work was completed.

Members can obtain a copy of the formal minutes from the Secretary.

**Anglers Art Trophy
Best Trout caught
on an outing.
Nathan 71cm brown.**

Mick Cornick
Best trout caught
on a fly in streams.
Joint award -Claude
(43cm rainbow) and
Jaime (43cm brown).



Mick O'Brien
Best trout caught –
any method.
Nathan 71cm brown.



Keith Shields
Best Native Fish.
Luke C 56 cm golden
perch.
Scored 72% on the
CAA Official native
fish calculator.



Carp Challenge
Best carp caught in
local waters.
Nathan 69cm.



ACT Anglers
Trophy for best
saltwater fish
caught on the
coastal/estuary
CAA outing.
Luke M 24cm bream.



Hardy Rod
President's Award
for Year Long Con-
tribution
Jaime.





CAA Life Member
Peter.

Trophy & Award Selection

Some interest was evinced about how the winners were selected. All is revealed in our [trophy web page](#) including a [worked example](#) of the process, but the underlying principles are:

- To minimise the potential for an excessive number of trout trophies being awarded for a single fish.
- Fish are only considered if formally recorded in the official 'green book' brought to the meetings (not through emails to Burley Line, though these are always appreciated, especially with photos!)
- The Keith Shields native award is not simply on length due to the different characteristics of the various species. They are scored using the CAA official [native fish calculator](#) The calculator has been through its annual review (to see if length records have changed) and now includes a calculator for silver perch.

As a consequence of discussion at the AGM, the committee are considering a slight change to the rules to recognise that the current rules debar a contender if a club event is held outside the local region. Any changes will be explained at the September meeting.

News from Lyall

Just to rub in the fact that he was 'living the dream' while I was wearing my orthopaedic boot, Lyall sent me some photos from [DePuy Spring Creek](#).

Unfortunately there was insufficient time during the AGM to extract all about the technical aspects of this spring creek angling paradise but there'll be future opportunities.

The only saving grace is that while the fish is very pretty, Peter and I expect to catch bigger ones in NZ during our trout bumming in Nov!

Lyall also picked up a piece of doggerel that rings quite true. I'd probably exchange 'single malt' for 'bourbon' (and Stefan might think gluhwein) but the rest is spot-on:

THE TESTAMENT OF A FISHERMAN

ROBERT TRAVER 1964, (JUDGE JOHN VOELKER 1903-93)

I fish because I love to;

Because I love the environs where trout are found, which are invariably beautiful, and hate the environs where crowds of people are found, which are Invariably ugly;

Because of all the television commercials, cocktail parties, and assorted social posturing I thus escape;

Because, in a world where most men seem to spend their lives doing things they hate, my fishing is at once an endless source of delight and an act of small rebellion;

*Because trout do not lie or cheat and cannot be bought or bribed or impressed by power, but respond only to quietude and humility and endless patience;
Because I suspect that men are going along this way for the last time, and I for one don't want to waste the trip; because mercifully there are no telephones on trout waters;*

*Because only in the woods can I find solitude without loneliness;
Because bourbon out of an old tin cup always tastes better out there;*

Because maybe one day I will catch a mermaid;

And, finally, not because I regard fishing as being so terribly important but because I suspect that so many of the other concerns of men are equally unimportant – and not nearly so much fun.



As always, thanks for
sharing Lyall.

Burrinjuck Cod

Provided by Ash

When the opportunity does come along to get out for a fish, I tend to over analyse multiple locations and techniques and try to work out what's best. Sounds great in theory but I would hate to think how many hours of my life I have wasted. My wife thinks it's comical.

I was hoping to get up to Eucumbene and put in a day drifting with sinking lines. A technique I am really keen to get into. Unfortunately I couldn't track down a wingman and having work commitments on the Saturday I pulled the pin on that idea.

I ended up heading up to Burrinjuck late Saturday evening and met up with mate Graham Berkely. He had a cabin so we had a few beers and took it easy with the plan of an early start. I was chomping at the bit to get on the water and give my boat a run, it had been 4 months since its last run.

We were on the water at around 5:00 and set off and worked a likely bank with surface lures. After an hour or so I changed over to an 8" soft plastic and had a savage strike in no time but unfortunately did not stick.

A little after 7:00 we changed locations to a gentle sloping shale bottom and marked up schools of redfin on the side scan. Just what the doctor ordered. Find the bait, find the cod.



Graham had a 100mm lipless crankbait called a 'Mazzy Forte' in the most perfect redfin imitation you would ever see. Not one to beat around the bush in no uncertain terms I said "put that lure on or I will!"

What would happen in the next 48 minutes was up there with some of the best cod fishing I have seen. ..

Within a couple of minutes Graham landed a very fat 67cm. We were thrilled with this. We moved less than 50 metres along the bank and he hooked up again. A couple of minutes in I said "mate this will be a serious fish!!" At one stage not too far away from the boat it had another run and the water almost rolled as though a fridge had been dropped into the lake.

100mm lipless crank-bait called a 'Mazzy Forte'



When we had a good look at it we were gobsmacked, what a beast. It slid easily into the net and in no time had it measured, photographed and released. The big girl went 110cm and an easy 60-70lb.

15 minutes later Graham yells "I'm on!!" You can only image how I felt, considering I had this same lure sitting in a box at home. He then proceeds to tell me it feels just like the last one. A couple of minutes in and we slid a 91cm model into the net.

I cannot catch them but it appears I go alright on the electric and the net!!



A great report Ash,
thank you for
sharing.

Another place added to my bucket list with thanks to our jetsetting Secretary.

Skagit (pron. Skaj-it) it's a river !!!

Provided by Lyall

Photos were taken during the non-fishing, wife-friendly section of our holiday so no fish were injured in relation to the writing of this article!!!

Typical conversations between two handed fly fishermen around the world:

Q. *"Where does the Scandi style of casting come from Olaf ?"*

A. *"Scandinavia Lyall, Scandinavia !!!"*

Q. *"Where does the Spey style of casting come from McKenzie ?"*

A. *"The River Spey in the highlands of Scootland wee Layall !!!"*

Q. *"Where does the Skagit style of casting come from Buzz ?"*

A. *"Why the Skagit River in Washington State of course 'yo 'lil Aussie woot woot !!!"*



The Skagit River.

‘No back cast on the Skagit River here good buddy.’

Look at that progressive rod bend all the way from butt to tip. Beautiful rod!!!



Q: ‘What’s this the name of this Steelhead fly I tied Buzz ?’

A. “I do believe it’s called a Fork Fly Larry.”

“It’s Lyall Buzz, Lyall.”

“Yup, that’s a Scissor Fly little fella.

See the scissors ?”



The weapon of choice! Sage X.



Burley Line may not get out to the public before the 3 Sep casting days, but the suggestion to try out Peter Morse's rig went out onto our News Blog in plenty of time.

The RISE Fly Fishing Film Festival is visiting Canberra again on Thursday 31 Aug. Get your tickets while you still can!

The weapon: two handed Sage X, thirteen foot, seven weight custom made rod with the updated Fly Fishers International logo, matched with an Airflo Skagit Compact 23.5 foot shooting head in 510 grains (that's short and fat to punch out fat flies at the end of a ten foot sink tip attached loop-to-loop).



Skagit lines are unquestionably the easiest two handed systems to cast. Use the two handed Sage X rod and the fly just casts itself. Ask Peter Morse for a cast of his Sage two handed rods at CAA's Casting for the Public on the lawns of Old Parliament House on Sunday 3 September and you will see what I mean Ya'all.

RISE

FLY FISHING FILM FESTIVAL

FlyLife

AIRFLO

FLYFISHER

1-7-2-2
Hunting & Fishing

SIMMS

FLYFISHER

YORK

manic

Southland

Flydreamers

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.

The Googong Dam Fracas

Last month we spoke about the brouhaha that arose 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 1st Aug. Not sure if you were able to listen to the ABC local radio (666) Drive program on Wed 26 Jul. It is on the web at <http://www.abc.net.au/radio/canberra/programs/drive/drive/8725826>. The interview with Matt Kendall was at 4:07PM but the recording starts at 3:00PM. If you fast forward about a third of the way through you'll hear it. JQ later spoke to a senior officer within the Environment Department. He reassured JQ that the outcomes cited in the radio program (ie the automatic locked gate) will go ahead. CAA will remain engaged with this matter through our attendance at the Recreational Users Group committee.

The key complaint is the opaque manner that this had been considered by the Environment Department. From here on our energies should be focussed on ensuring the Government consults with the public as the performance of the gate is examined and also to ensure irresponsible damage to the gate doesn't give the Government an excuse to take the option to permanently lock the gate in the future.

Readers might consider signing a petition [a petition started by Andrew Wall MLA](#). Andrew has confirmed that the Environment Division will progress an electric gate, however the petition remains open to maintain the pressure.



Googong Dam.

Natives Fishing Competition

The 2017 MEJ BIG Burley Bash will be held at Lake Burley Griffin over 10 weeks, every Thursday evening starting 5th October. This event will see anglers target the yellow belly species – the BIGGER the better. Fishing will take place from 6:30pm to 9:30pm each Thursday, and points will be accumulated over the 8 weeks, with one week of finals.

Planning is underway getting flyers and registration forms organised. Once completed they should be available from Burley Line or direct from fishing@my2hooks.net. Watch for news on the news panel on [our website](#).

MEJ'S BIG
BURLEY BASH
2017

SAVE THE DATE

STARTS 5TH OCT,
RUN OVER 9 WEEKS



SHIMANO



My2HOOKS



Fisheries Victoria

News

Fish eFacts Issue 413 arrived just in time. I love the way that Victoria stock bigger fish – if only I knew where all these places are (best I get onto Google Maps!)



Trout Stocking

It's time for another bout of trout.

We're working hard towards Target One Million's goal of stocking 5 million fish by May 2018.

Last week, our yearling trout went into:

Lake Purrumbete – 3,000 brook trout

Tullaroop Reservoir – 10,000 rainbow trout & 5,000 brown trout

Pykes Creek Reservoir – 2,600 rainbows

Lake Glenmaggie – 7,000 rainbows

Mount Beauty Pondage – 1,500 rainbows & 1,000 browns

Upper Stony Creek Reservoir – 2,000 browns

Lake Hume - 13,000 rainbows & 2,000 browns



Toolondo Stocking

This time, 500 catchable size brood-stock browns went into Toolondo!

Our yearlings went to:

Blue Rock Lake - 7,000 rainbows

Cairn Curran Reservoir - 11,000 browns

Upper Coliban Reservoir - 5,000 rainbows

Lauriston Reservoir - 500 browns

Devilbend Reservoir - 5,000 rainbows

Lilydale Lake - 1,500 browns

Toolondo Reservoir - 5,000 rainbows

We're on track to stock 5 million fish by May 2018, which will deliver on another Target One Million commitment.

NSW Council of Freshwater Anglers News



The [August newsletter](#) was received just after we published the August *Burley Line*. CFA are offering up an [archive](#) (this is also on our Useful Links page on our website). Key topics were:

- A snippet on the experimental stocking of yearling trout into Oberon Dam shows the yellow tag (along with number to phone to claim your lure).
- The Oct long weekend (opening) also sees a huge trout-fest happening at Guyra – looks like a lot of fun if you are up that way – huge Dutton Hatchery brood stock are on the cards.
- Hazelwood barramundi have been culled after the power station closure. This had been promising to be a real angling novelty but the closure of the coal powered station has put this out of the question.
- Changes to Crown lands legislation and regulation. Draft regulations, together with a Regulatory Impact Statement assessing the direct and indirect benefits and costs of the proposed regulations, are expected to be exhibited for public comment mid-2017. More information about the Act and the regulations and a series of factsheets are available on the [Department of Industry, Lands & Forestry Division website](#).



Advice from Steve was that the fish were 20cm when they were tagged and likely had grown out to 21cm by the time they were stocked.

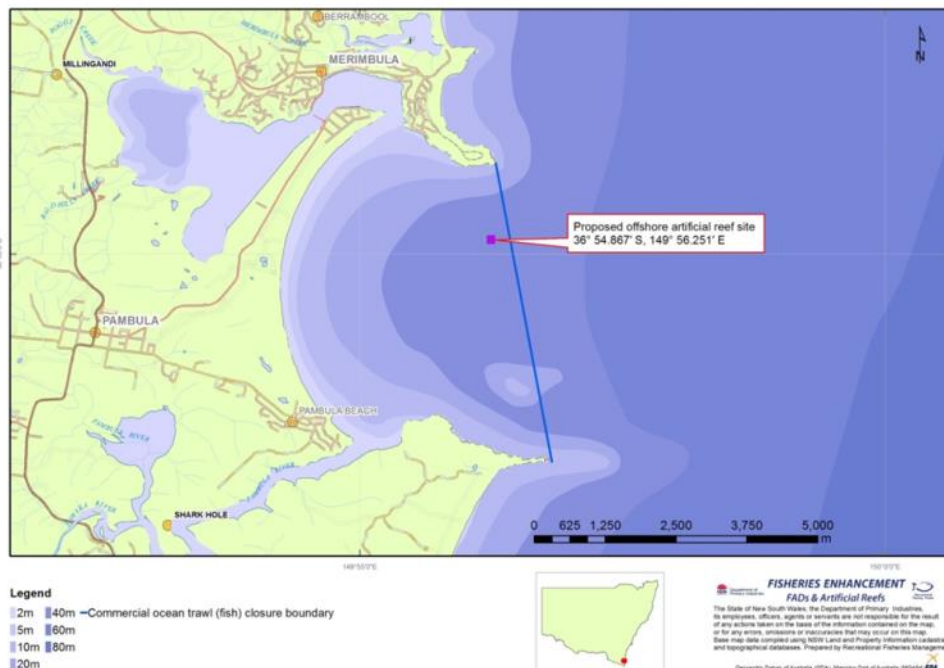
NSW RecFish News



The [August newsletter](#) was received just after we published the August *Burley Line*. RFA NSW are offering up an [archive](#) (this is also on our Useful Links page on our website). Key points:

- Proposed new artificial reef at Merimbula. Comments were sought by 21 Aug (the call was placed on [our news blog](#) and hopefully interested members took action).
- Matt Barwick [recently gave an update](#) on the National Carp Control Plan.
- Here's a table of the fish stocked in NSW for the 2016/17 year...courtesy of NSW DPI - Fisheries.

2016/2017			
Government (and acclimatisation societies)		Dollar for Dollar & Independent	
Species	Number	Species	Number
Trout cod	24,000	Golden perch \$4\$	393,636
Murray cod	563,000	Murray cod \$4\$	357,743
Australian bass	0	Australian bass \$4\$	73,128
Silver perch	150,000		
Golden perch	923,500	Golden perch	3,500
Rainbow trout	2,022,445	Murray cod	10,909
Brown trout	662,450	Aust bass	10,000
Brook trout	62,500		
Atlantic salmon	107,668		
TOTAL	4,515,563		835,507



Proposed location of the new artificial reef at Merimbula.

Notable Fish Recorded

The intent of this segment is to encourage folk to get out fishing and share 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 consideration for [club trophies](#) is the little book brought to meetings by the Secretary.

I welcome emails advising how you are going, but don't forget to get them inscribed in the book.

Angler	Species	Length	Method	Location/Event/ Date
Shaun	Rainbows	3 with max 45cm	Fly	Bondi Forest/ Committee Re- treat/19 Aug
Bill	Brown	30cm	Fly	Bondi Forest/ Committee Re- treat/19 Aug
Nathan	Brown	42cm	Fly	Bondi Forest/ Committee Re- treat 120 Minute Challenge/20 Aug
Bill	Brown	58cm	Fly	Bondi Forest/ Committee Re- treat 120 Minute Challenge/20 Aug

Canberra Anglers Association Presents

Learn to fly cast

Sept. 3, 10 & 17
10am - noon

**RODS PROVIDED
OR BRING YOUR OWN**

Sunglasses or
eye protection
required to
participate

**ON THE LAWNs OF
OLD PARLIAMENT HOUSE***

**Opposite the Treasury Building
across Parkes Place West**

FREE Coaching

by CAA members including
Fly Fishers International instructors
Sept 3 only - featuring Peter Morse Fly
Fishing Photographer, Author and
Sage Rod and Rio Flyline Ambassador

**ALL AGES AND
LEVELS WELCOME**

**Sausage sizzle
Drinks and raffles**

*Weather permitting, 17 Sep may move to
allow you to test your new skills on the water.

See website for details.

www.canberra-anglers.asn.au



Affiliates

Canberra Anglers' Association is proudly affiliated with the following:



NSW
Council of
Freshwater
Anglers



Privacy Act : Members
please note: If you do not
want your details pub-
lished in the newsletter,
please advise the Secre-
tary or Editor .

Join Us!

The Membership Application Form can be found at the Canberra Anglers Website - Current fees are payable each year as at our AGM (pro-rata rates for joining late in the year):

- \$10 for concession (age pension or concession card)/juniors (under 18)
- \$30 for general membership
- \$40 for families

Payment can be via check, electronic transfer (bank details on the form), or in person at one of our regular meetings. More information is available from the Secretary via our website.

Supporters

CAA would like to thank the below sponsors for their ongoing support and patronage to our club.



Contact Us

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Visit us on the web at
www.canberra-anglers.asn.au



NOTE: With the exception of Official Club Policy or Official Reports, the views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily those of the Canberra Anglers Association.