

# THE BURLEY LINE

Newsletter of the Canberra Anglers' Association Inc.

Issue 137—October 2018



CAA Hosted—3rd Casting Weekend at Googong NSW



## In This Issue

- Pres Report
- Coming Events
- Vale Dr Bryan Pratt (CAA Life Member)
- Fishing Reports
- Hot Info and Links
- CAA Casting weekend and more!

# Message from the President

Dear Members

In October 1945 local Canberra identity George Westcott invited a group of like-minded individuals to gather at the Hotel Kingston at 8pm on October 15 with a view to forming an "Anglers' Club". That night in convivial company, and doubtless lubricated by the favorite ale of the day, the CAA was born. Rumor has it that on October 15, 2018, 73 years later, some current CAA members may gather to mark this auspicious day. All are welcome of course and I hope to see you there.

During its lifetime, CAA has been led by extraordinary individuals who fulfilled presidential duties with dignity and enthusiasm. Dr Brian Pratt was one of those remarkable individuals who stepped up and went on to become a life member. Sadly Dr Pratt passed away last week and his departure will be felt by many in Australia and around the world. Amongst his many achievements was authorship of the venerable tome "The Canberra Fisherman", creating the ACT parks and Wildlife Service, and persuading the ACT government to make Googong Dam a recreational fishing destination. He will be sadly missed so perhaps the October 15 gathering might be an opportunity to raise a glass and share some stories.

These last few months have been busy and successful period for CAA with our signature Casting For the Public events running over three Sundays in September. In all we introduced over 45 people to the joys and challenge of fly casting - or at least helped them address some bad habits. Mark Sawa and Lyall Crawford did an outstanding job as our instructors - aided by a cameo by our celebrity caster Peter Morse on day one. Claude and a team of volunteers wrangled some 300 sausages on the BBQ boosting profits and waistlines. Greg and the raffle volunteers sold \$644 worth of raffle tickets and Jason and Jaime signed up three new members with probably more to come. As ever Lyall did an irreplaceable job securing raffle prizes and coordinating events to a seamless time table even during the week he was away wrangling trout in NZ. Our multi-talented treasurer Angie Cotter did a sterling job of promoting the event on radio and has created other opportunities for us to gain some airtime. John captured an outstanding photographic record that our descendants 73 years from now will doubtless find elucidating. In all it was a huge success made possible by the contribution of many. I gratefully acknowledge my fellow committee members all the members who attended and helped as needed including offering quiet and sage advice to our guests - please accept my humblest apologies if I failed to mention you in my thanks.

Looking forward, trout season opens this coming long weekend and doubtless many members are checking their gear and making new flies. A new style was introduced to CAA this year by our indefatigable VP Claude. In addition to being a simple but winning design, the Mop Fly offers you the opportunity to recycle old floor cleaning equipment. Well done Claude for his focus on sustainability! I look for to an invigorating spring as reports of fishing success in both salt and fresh water and on fly, lure and bait come rolling in.

Rod Kennett  
CAA President 2018

## From the Editors Desk

Dear Members,

Bill's provided me another chance at delivering you this months Newsletter and sadly as I put it together we received news of Life-Member Bryan Pratt's passing. The club and fishing community will be a much different place without you Bryan.

Thank you from all that you touched.

This newsletter is packed with high-res pics and great information. I hope you enjoy it.

Good luck if you fish the opening season and see you all next meeting.

Regards

*JQ*

# Coming Events

## Next Meeting:

**Wed 10th Oct:** usual time/place, 7:30PM at Raiders Weston Club. Advice on speaker will be provided later.

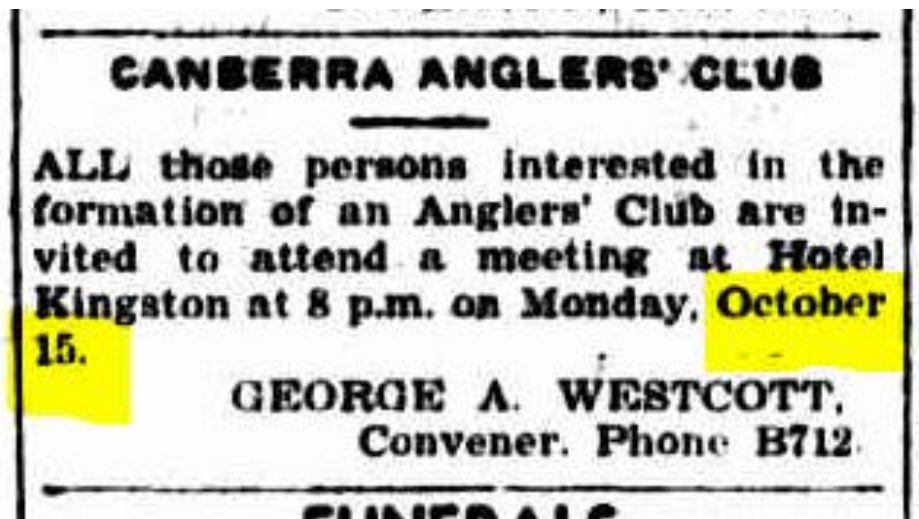
**Next Events:** Continue to check the web for details or see you at the next meeting for more updates!

## Fly Tying Workshop:

Usual time/place, 7:30PM at Raiders Weston Club. Details will be announced closer to the time. The club is replenishing the 'beginner' kits' and will be available to anyone wishing to learn the art before committing to a life sentence with feathers and fur.

## Get to the 'KINGO' Hotel

Keen? Monday 15th October.



This is the exact thing President Rod was talking about.

See you there!

## Handy Links

[NSW Recfisher—September](#)

[NSW Recfisher—October](#)

[Vic Fish eFacts—13 Sept](#)

[Vic Fish eFacts—25 Sept](#)

[NSW Freshwater Fisher—October](#)

Click away...LOADS of good reading.

## NEWS & Funny Links!

[Northern Territory woman's throat cut by flying mackerel during fishing trip](#)

[ORVIS One Minute Tying Tips](#)

[Seal hurls octopus into kayaker's face](#)



# CAA—ABC Radio Stars

Hi there JQ,

Attached is a photo of Jeannine and Angie at ABC Radio Canberra before our interview with Lish Fejer where we spoke about Canberra Anglers' Association and recognised Dr Bryan Pratt's contribution to recreational angling in the region and his sad passing last week. We also mentioned Bryan's wife Doris and encouraged anglers in Canberra to get into real life angling shops and support Doris and the industry as a whole.

Jeannine, Angie and I stayed on for the live outside ABC broadcast of the judging of best strawberry jam competition which was intended to support the strawberry growing industry in light of the recent scare. The scones were fantastic as were the various jams and cream!!! This fishing life is tough eh? Lyall



## Vale Dr Bryan Pratt



**Dr Bryan Pratt**

*Dr Brian Pratt is well known to the Canberra and Australian angling community. With his seminal work, *Angling in Canberra*, he opened fishing in Canberra and the region to all. Further, through the years Brian has remained an integral club member and ongoing fisher. A founding member, his support for the club continues unabated with sponsorship, advertising and financial assistance.*

Vale CAA Life Member Dr Bryan Pratt

Extract from CAA Newsletter 0078/ 2013

Vale Life Member CAA  
Dr Bryan Pratt

Forever fishing plentiful  
waters.

# Tributes Flow for CAA Life Member Bryan Pratt.

See Links below

[Tributes @ Canberra Times](#)

[Canberra Times](#)

[Fishing World](#)

[Al McGlashan—Instagram](#)

## Vale Dr Bryan Pratt

Life Member CAA

From: "Steven Samuels"  
Date: 23 September 2018 at 12:34:56 pm AEST  
To: "Steven Samuels"  
Subject: Vale Dr Bryan Pratt

Dear Supporters

Today I have learned of the passing of Dr Bryan Pratt on Friday from throat cancer. Bryan was a pioneer of fishing, particularly in the Canberra Monaro Region. Bryan was a long-time member of the Monaro Acclimatisation Society and he was a keen angler and conservationist who championed fish and fishing in a sustainable way. In this respect he was well ahead of the pack. Bryan was also a formidable public servant. He rose to hold the position of Director of the Department of ACT Parks and Conservation in Canberra, where he was able to blend his passion for fish with fishing, but more on that later.

Bryan was a prodigious writer and contributed to nearly all the major fishing publications. He also authored and published his best-selling book "The Canberra Fisherman". Upon retiring from the public service he went on to operate a successful tackle store business in Canberra. He was a jovial character who was well sought after by the fishing radio media for his expert analysis and insights into fishing.

While Bryan has a long list of achievements in the fishing world, to my mind his most important contribution to anglers was his vision and persistence in ensuring that Googong Dam was opened to recreational fishing. Back in the early 1970's when Bryan was the Director of ACT Parks and Conservation he took a brave and unprecedented step in allowing angling on Canberra's newest water supply dam, Googong. This was at a time when access to water supply dams was actively railed against by the bureaucracy but Bryan remained firm and this fantastic recreational fishery we have for the Canberra / Queanbeyan district is a fitting testament to his vision and courage.

On behalf of the Monaro Acclimatisation Society I pass on our condolences to his wife Doris and family.

Steve Samuels

President

Monaro Acclimatisation Society Inc



Life Member CAA  
Dr Bryan Pratt.

Always eager to  
make time to read  
the magnificent pro-  
duction.



Message from CAA  
to Doris and Family

Doris and Family,

Our thoughts and hearts are with you, Bryan has finally been landed after an epic fight, and can now rest.

He was a great inspiration to us all, not only in fishing, but in life.

We will be thinking of you all at casting + our usual trips Bryan used to frequent, like Dyle Knowles.

Our Condolences,

Canberra Anglers Association



# Members Trip Reports

Bill is currently traveling with his wife with no firm itinerary. Fishing was not originally planned for but 3 nights on Orkney provided a window. Late decision making and challenging weather resulted in a lot of "sorry, can't help you" responses. In due course he managed to find a guide available to take him fishing. Here is his report:

Despite the continued high winds, and observation by another guide that the lochs were too churned up, I went out with [Brian Foreman](#). Brian was originally from Northumberland where we will be going before leaving England. He had lots of yarns - I especially liked the one where the Atlantic salmon cage was breached. The Kirkwall tackle shop was sold out of rigs in a flash. Brian had to reassure the local copper that he wouldn't have to stop the crowd on the Sunday. While it is illegal to fish for migratory fish species on a Sunday, Brian argued these farmed fish had no migratory instincts. The copper was much relieved not to have to deal with the crowd.

It certainly wasn't the best of days but a number of fish were landed and many more were dropped. Unusually from my past experience with guides, Brian fished alongside - testing out alternative flies to those tied on to my line. Casting in the wind with more than 10 foot of level leader and 3 flies was proved to be possible if not elegant.

I was first on the board with a small brown from Loch Hurray. (Photo) It was small but had pretty colours. Having dropped one jumping already this proved they were there.

Brian landed a one pound brown (photo) and Bill followed soon after with one of 3/4, sorry I missed photographing that one eager to get back to fishing. Brian was disappointed to lose an unsighted fish that perhaps was one of the hoped for sea trout.

Most fish seemed to be on a Scottish loch fly called the [Kate McLaren](#) using a very slow retrieve. (Photo) Brian suggested this was a must-have fly here. He also recommended I try a [hedgehog](#) in Australia.

After a quick sandwich for lunch there was a short fruitless effort at Loch Swannay before we retreated to a pub to try out the Swannay ale.

All in all a worthwhile day out from touring.

Cheers

Message from Bill  
somewhere in the UK



Little Brown from  
Loch Hurray



Kate McLaren



Fish on!





# Canberra Anglers Annual Casting



President Rod delivering the days program.



Lyll discussion the finite detail of casting.



Mark S providing instruction on line management with our non-casting hand.



Our next generation being taught a very important aspect of casting and that's 'casting arc'.



Everyone say..."RIO"



Peter Morse providing new comers casting advice.







Another angle of the lovely Googong and CAA Casting newcomers



Anglers Art Sponsored the major Prize – Thank you



President Rod delivering the end of days address.



Looks like Lyall bashing out some Beyonce lyrics. I didn't realise we also did Karaoke at CAA Casting weekends?



Mark again delivering best advice with a beautiful backdrop.



President Rod and Greg drawing the ticket winners







Fantastic turnout 3rd weekend casting—  
Googong NSW



Greg with the red cap  
in full 'ticket-sales'  
mode.



Googong and the  
many casters taking  
advantage of the sun  
and free tuition.



# CAA Members Trip Report

Roger caught the snapper trolling from his kayak on Saturday afternoon at Depot beach. At 69 cm it is a few centimetres short of his best but it is still a 'good sized big one' as they say!

On Sunday morning Roger did a bit of rock fishing. As you can see it was a glorious morning but alas no fish.

And who cares with that view!



# CAA Members Trip Report



Harfin Reel and a  
Crea-fly Clouser—  
Aussie Made!



Luke ventured across to  
the Hill to the saltwater  
and managed a few flat-  
ties and would you be-  
lieve bumped into fellow  
club-man...

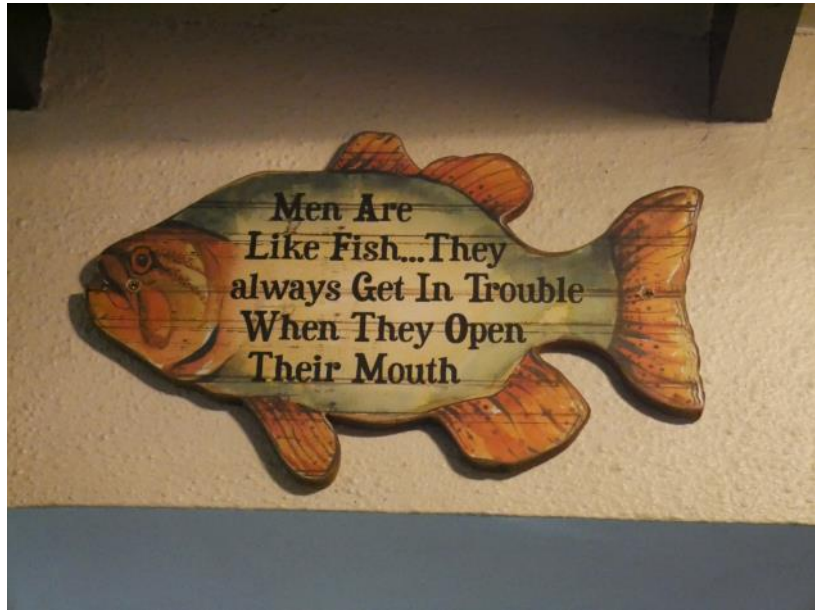


Can you guess?!



# CAA Members Trip Report

Bill as alluded in previous pages is jetting setting with his far better half and managed to find this at a 'local'



Eli getting 'amped' to get out.. Sadly the wind was too cold and Dad just took Frankie out..



# NSW Trout Strategy Workshops Consultation Report

From: Craig Watson  
Sent: Tuesday, August 28, 2018 3:59 PM  
To: undisclosed-recipients:  
Subject: Trout Strategy Workshops Consultation Report

Good afternoon

Please find attached the consultation report arising from the trout strategy workshop meetings and on line survey held during May / June.

The workshops provided a great opportunity to meet with the trout fishing community of NSW. We very much appreciate the input provided by participants at the workshops.

The workshops and broader consultation provided a wealth of feedback about the current state of the trout fishery in NSW, the range of threats to the sustainability of the fishery and proposed strategies for addressing future challenges.

The next step is to draft a trout strategy based on this public feedback. We look forward to working with you in future to determine how best to manage the various challenges facing the industry to ensure a sustainable future for this important fishery.

If you have any enquiries, please do not hesitate to contact Jo Merritt, Hume Fisheries Office, Department of Primary Industries on 6051 7760 or email [jo.merritt@dpi.nsw.gov.au](mailto:jo.merritt@dpi.nsw.gov.au)

Regards

**Craig Watson** | Fisheries Manager (Inland)  
Recreational & Aboriginal Fisheries

Department of Primary Industries  
4 Marsden Park Road | Calala NSW 2340

W: [www.fisheries.nsw.gov.au](http://www.fisheries.nsw.gov.au)

[The report may be found \*\*HERE\*\*](#)

## Note from CAA Treasurer

Subs are now due!

# CAA Members Trip Report

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Roger>

Date: Mon, 27 Aug. 2018, 1:44 pm

Subject:

To: Bill

Hi Bill,

I went to Lake Jindabyne last Saturday and had a go at polarid-ing (for the first time). The conditions were pretty ideal as you can see in the photo.

I saw about 9 fish and managed to stuff up the first 8 but I got lucky with the 9th. It was 43 cm and in excellent condition. It took an unweighted brown nymph and jumped twice.

When I pass through Cooma I always like to drop into the Kuma patisserie. It is on the left on the main road after the 2nd roundabout heading for Jindabyne. They have great pies and a good selection of pastries. I'm particularly fond of their hazelnut success. (BTW I don't have shares).

All in all I was a pretty good day.





## 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.



## Affiliates

Canberra Anglers' Association is proudly affiliated with the following:



## Contact Us

Canberra Anglers'  
Association Inc.  
GPO Box 2237  
Canberra City ACT 2601

Visit us on the web at  
[www.canberra-](http://www.canberra-anglers.asn.au)

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



NOTE: With the exception of Official Club Policy or Official Reports, the views