

THE BURLEY LINE



Eli's 7 Species Day – some of us are catching fish



From the Editor's Desk

Bill

It has been the Annual General Meeting season – CAA, CFA and MAS (delayed from Feb) – even Queanbeyan Angler's Club. Notes are here from our AGM including new committee, trophies, Life Membership award and the raffle results plus our outgoing President's Report on 2019/20 (copied here for those who couldn't make it to the Zoom meeting). Notes later from CFA and MAS AGMs. QAC was very relaxed so nothing significant to report.

Incoming President, Claude, has penned a message sent out by email to all members. An abstract is included here 'for posterity'.

Peter and I got up to Jindabyne and the outcome is described here. Where are the other reports on trips folks? I had to convince Jason M to take me out on Lake Ginninderra just today to ensure another fishing report. ☺ Jason has also provided a couple of pieces on gear.

Jaime has sent me a link to remind me of the benefits of fishing as a way to help reduce stress during these COVID times. It would appear that the angling community in the US are commencing a campaign to raise the awareness by the non-angling public of these benefits. Read about it [here](#).

Don't forget, now that the AGM has passed, membership fees are due. Fees remain at General Membership \$40.00, Family Membership \$50.00, Concession Membership (age pension or concession card) \$15.00 and Junior Membership (U18 years) \$15.00. Bank transfer to BSB 032-727, A/C 24-0140 would be preferred. Any contact detail changes can be advised via the webform on our ['join us' page](#).

Coming Events

Meeting: 9th September

Normal time 7:30PM likely to be via Zoom – to be confirmed but anticipate a speaker explaining the role, activities and outcomes of the NSW Council of Freshwater Anglers.

Fly Tying: 16th September

Normal time 7:30PM likely to be via Zoom – to be advised

Next Events.

The Annual Fly Casting Lessons on lawns of Old Parliament House Sun 13, 20 and 27 Sep

COVIDSafe procedures require us to be able to assist contact tracing if requested. Can members please ensure that you get marked off as attending (we have your contact details, so your name will be sufficient)?

Non-members will find there is a formal sign-in process in place.

President's Message

Claude

Howdy folks,

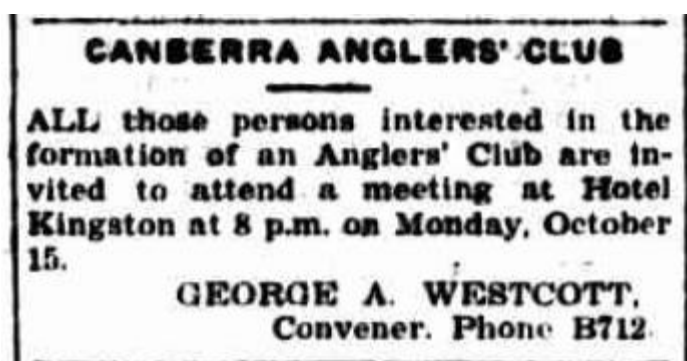
Firstly, I would like to thank all those that attended the virtual AGM. It was a good and important night.

If you haven't heard on the grapevine, we have new members and some shuffling on the committee (see report later). I would like to echo Rod's thanks to all those that have contributed to the club over the last year. I would also like to acknowledge his excellent leadership and good humour over the last two years. It's great to see that Rod is still keen to support the club by staying on the committee as Vice President. The AGM also paid special thanks to Angie for all her support as Treasurer for a number of years. Rod had the great pleasure of awarding Life Membership to Lyall – a secretary who has supported numerous Presidents, the organiser of the club's premier event – Casting for the Public on the lawns of Old Parliament House, fly fishing and casting mentoring of numerous new members, and organiser of numerous other club outings.

Your continued support is essential to maintain and grow the vitality of the club. We have a great fishing calendar, and virtual club and flying tying meeting sessions. We hope that we will get back to face to face meetings by the end of the year, but if not, I hope you can join us for one of the fishing events. The priorities that I have set for myself in this challenging year are to:

1. promote the benefits of our CAA community through our club meetings/outings, fly tying, and of course our newsletter
2. maintain/grow our membership
3. get greater participation in club events
4. work with the committee and you to get a better understanding of what you want to get out of the club

A major event for the year will be the celebration of the club's 75th anniversary. On 11 October 1945, George Westcott placed an ad in the Canberra Times asking for persons interested to join him at the Hotel Kingston on the 15 October 1945 to discuss the formation of the 'Canberra Anglers' Club'. We are planning on celebrating the anniversary at the Kingo on the same night...if we are allowed! Please let me know if you want to be involved or have any ideas in celebrating our anniversary or our 75th year in general.



Our next non-club night event is Fly Casting at Old Parliament House on Sundays 13, 20, 27 September. The fly casting is one of our key events and an excellent opportunity to get new members. Peter Morse will be joining us for the first day and Mark is trying to secure a local rod making identity for the second Sunday. We will need volunteers for the BBQ, helping out with rods, and general casting instruction for the beginners. Please email Lyall and me if you are able to help.

Don't hesitate to give me a call, shoot me an SMS or email.

Keep safe, go fishing and share a story and your knowledge,

Claude

president@canberra-anglers.asn.au

CAA 2020 AGM and Trophy Awards

With the COVID crisis limiting access to the Weston Club, this was conducted over Zoom.

Membership fees are to remain unchanged for 2020/2021. The Membership Officer desk will be set up at the Casting Days but in light of COVID constraints, we would appreciate if those members renewing could use electronic funds transfer if at all possible. Canberra Anglers Association, BSB 032727, A/C Number 240140. Please remember to put your name into the EFT comments field for identification. If any of your contact details have changed, please advise using the fill-in form on the [membership page](#).

The [2020/21 Event Program](#) has been published on our website.

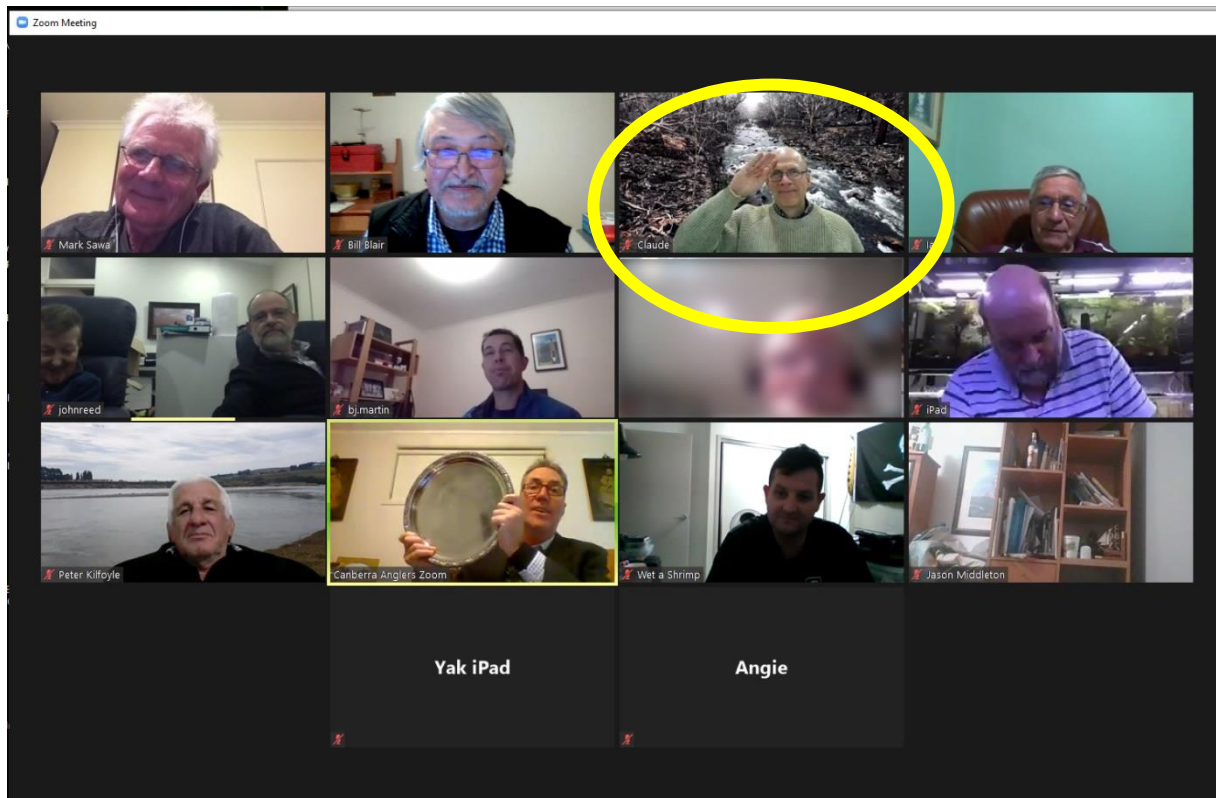
DATE	EVENT	COORDINATOR
	Casting lessons for the public at Old Parliament	
13, 20 and 27 Sep	House incl on water at Googong on 27 Sep	Lyall
	Lyle Knowles Trophy competition (trout) – Cotter	
17 Oct	River between Condor Creek and Bendora Dam	Lyall
	Brogo Dam Bass	
20-29 Nov	Note membership card has an error	Jason M
9 Dec	Christmas BBQ at Black Mountain Peninsula	
	Saltwater – competing for the Saltwater Trophy at	John and
11-13 Dec	Tuross Head	Stuart

17 Jan	Carp bash locally	Bill
29-31 Jan	Trout fishing in and around Jindabyne	Bill
10 Feb	First CAA meeting of the year	
	Lake Fishing on Lake Burley Griffin and BBQ at	
13 Feb	Black Mountain Peninsula	Lyall and Rod
Mar	Tantangara	Claude
May	Fishing for trout on the Tumut River	John
26-27 Jun	June Chill at Angler's Reach	Lyall
11 Aug	Annual General Meeting	

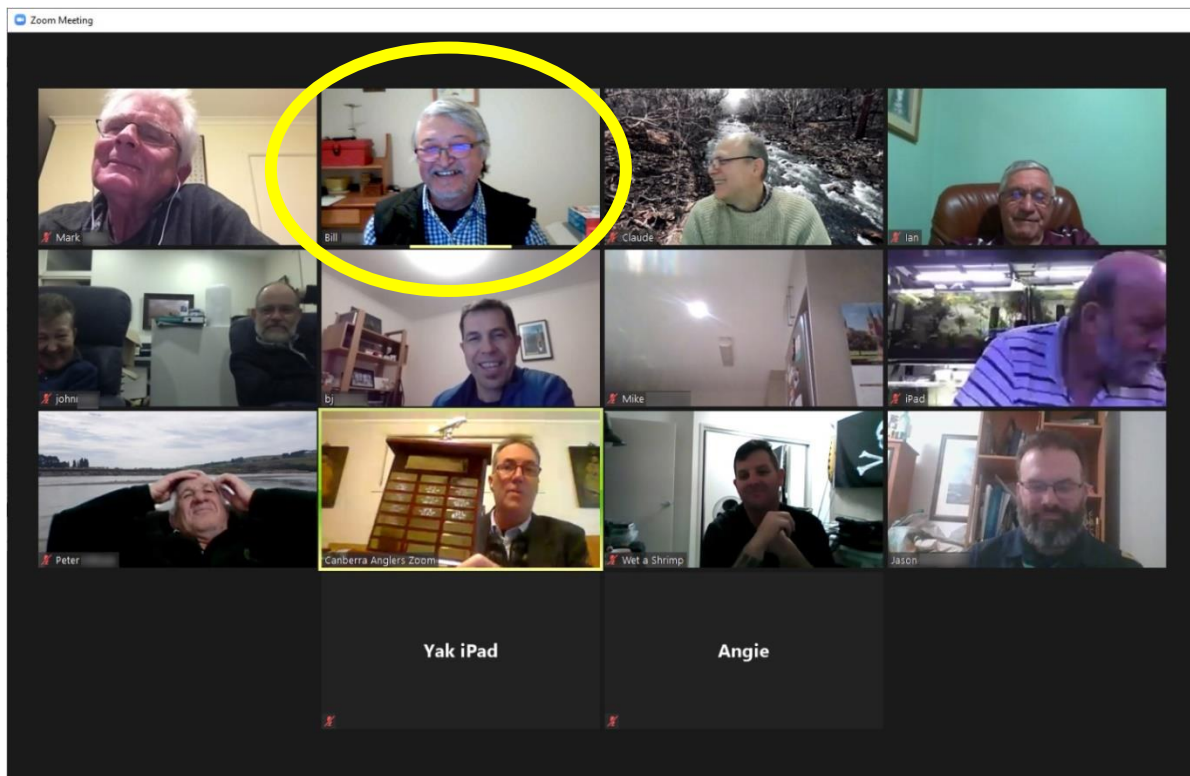
Your Committee is:

President	Claude
Vice President	Rod
Secretary	Lyall
Assistant Secretary	John
Treasurer	B.J.
Public Officer	Lyall
Council Member (Membership)	Bill
Council Member (Raffles)	Micheal
Council Member (Raffles)	Angie
Council Member	Jason M
Financial Reviewer	Jason Q

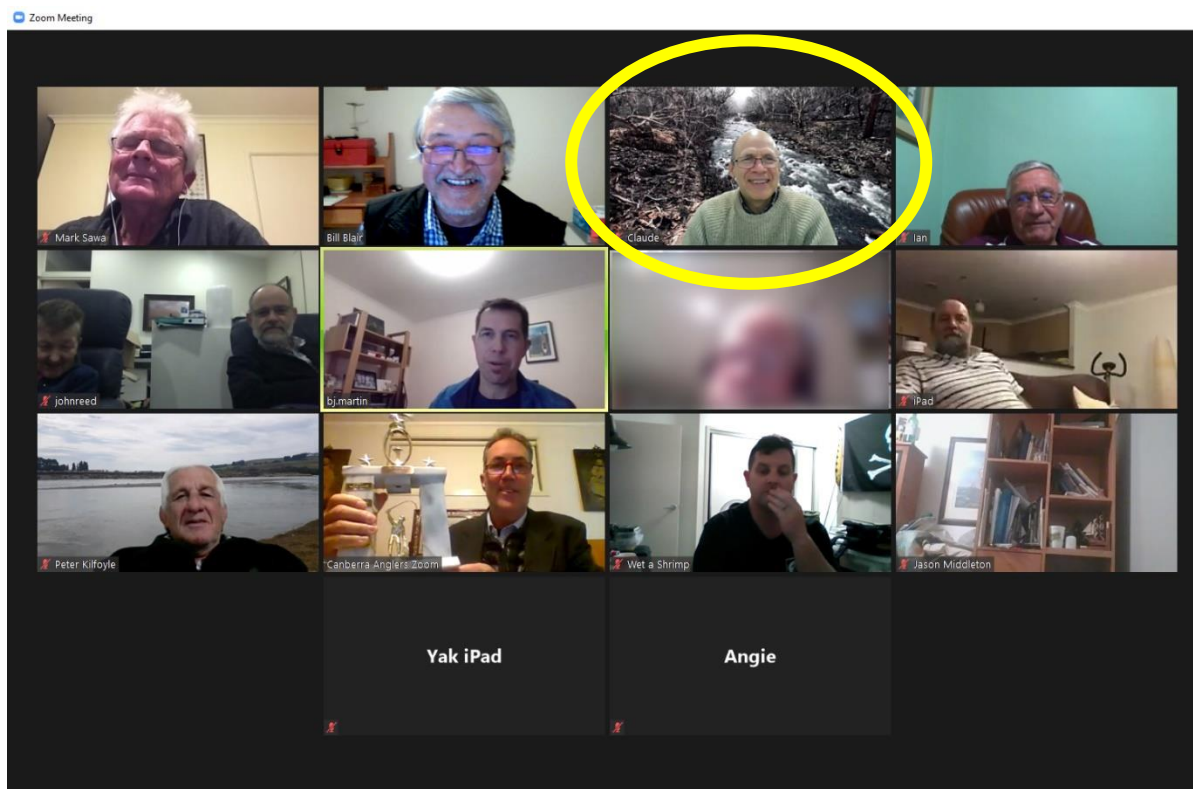
As part of the AGM, the annual trophy presentations were undertaken – the various rules for the 2019-20 season are documented [here](#). Very few fish were recorded in ‘the little green book’ so not all trophies were awarded. Well done to the various recipients.



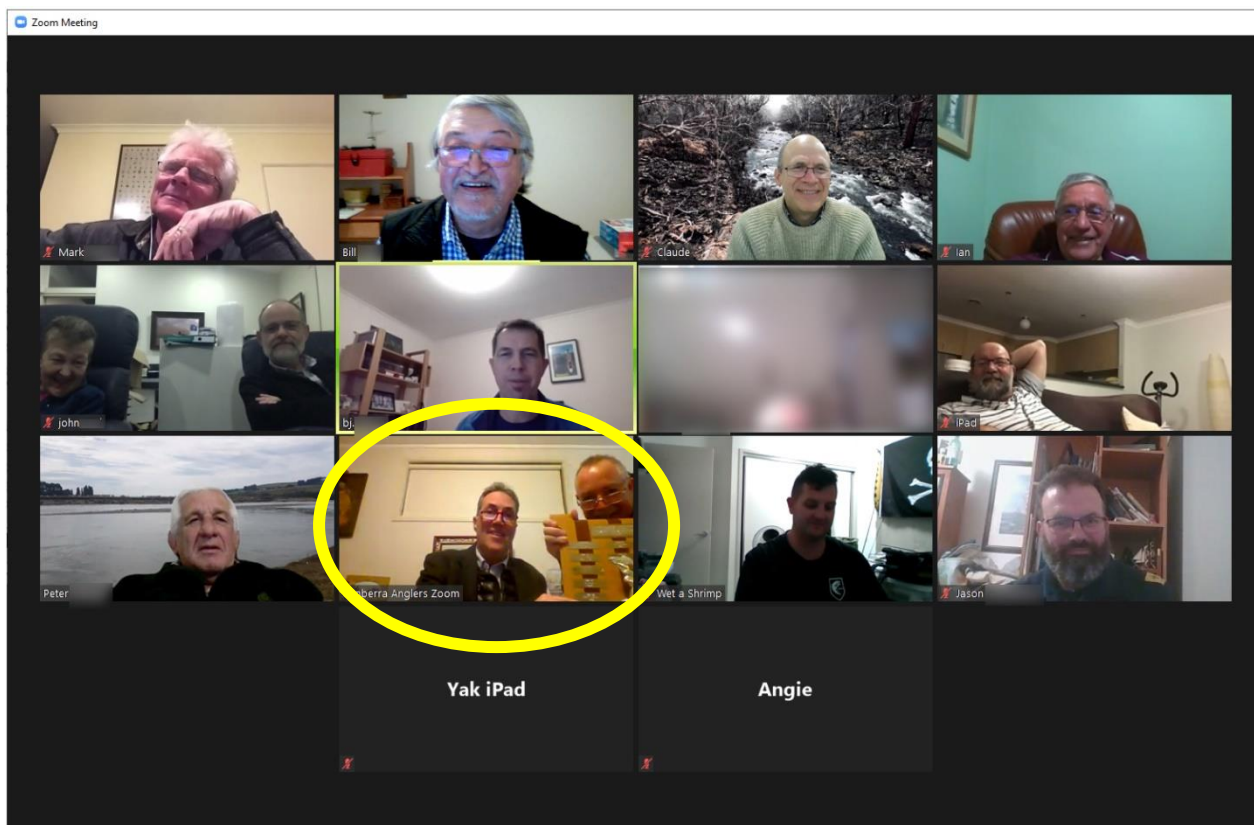
Claude took out the Lyle Knowles Trophy with a 25cm rainbow



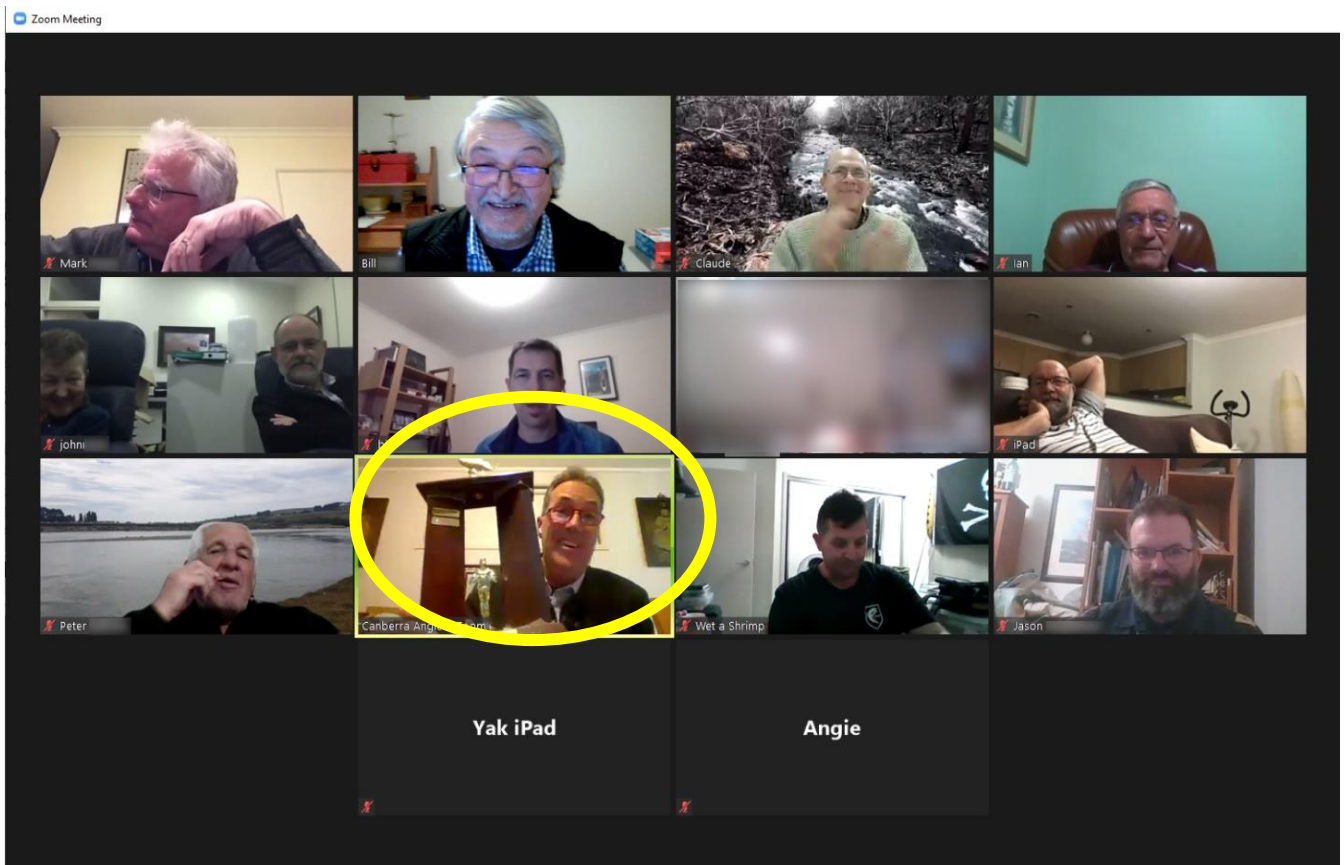
The Mick Cornick Trophy for Best Trout on Fly, Streams was won by Bill's 40cm late season brown



The Mick O'Brien Trophy for Best Trout, Any Method was won by Claude for his Lyle Knowles fish (note that the Lyle Knowles winner can take out one other trophy)



The Carp Challenge was won by Rod with a 42cm specimen

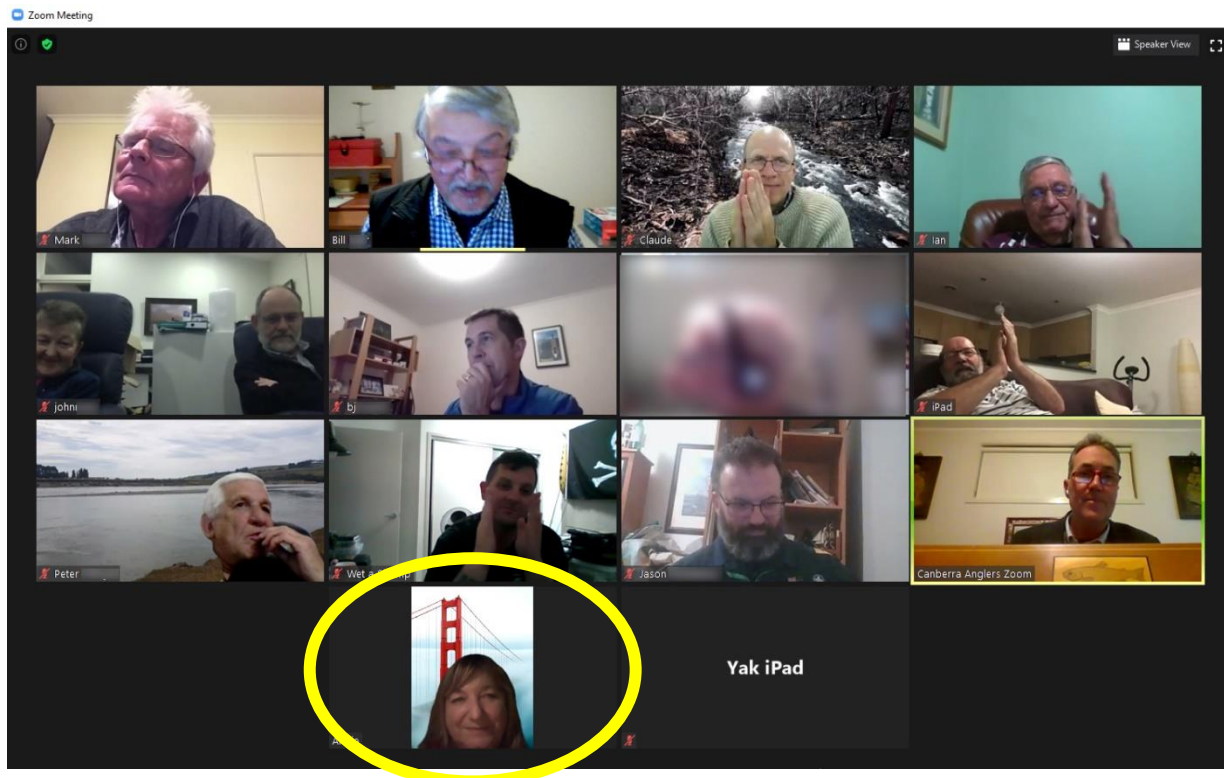


Rod also won the English Perch Trophy with the 27cm specimen he caught on our 'back to some kind of club fishing' June Chill event at Black Mountain Peninsula on 13 June.

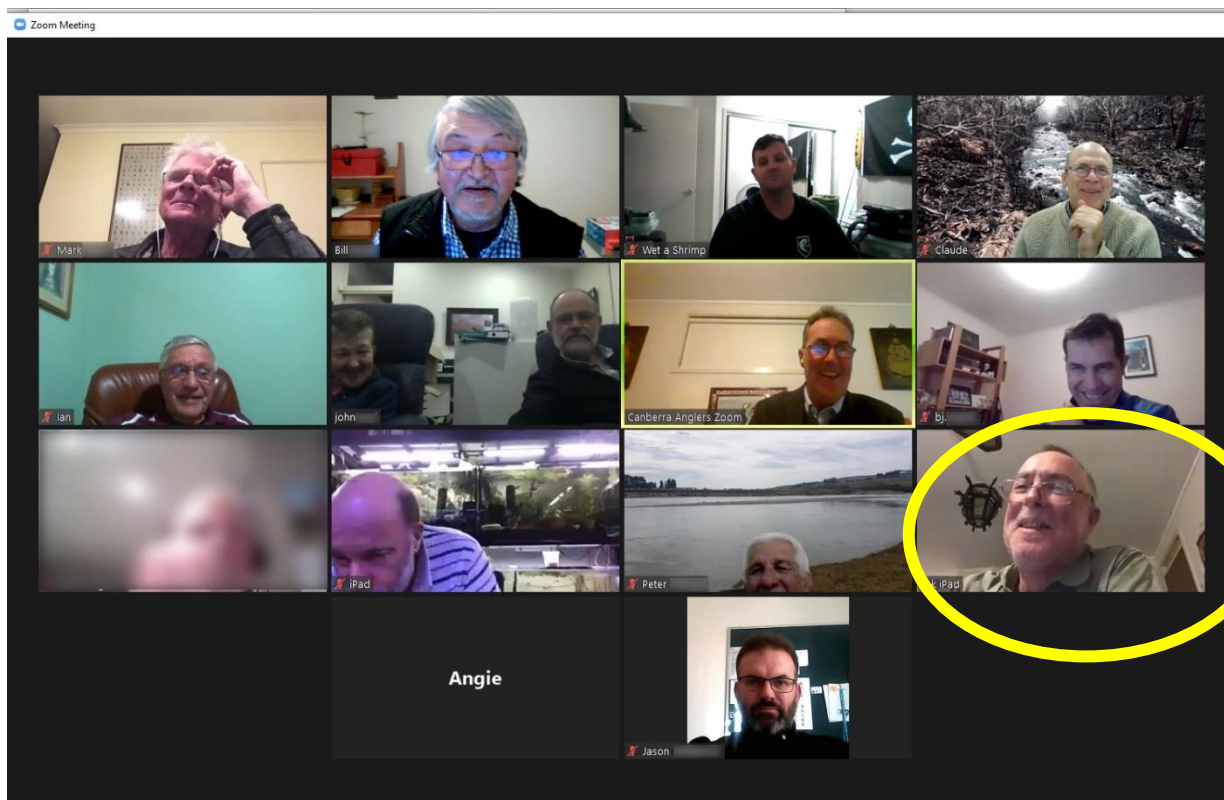
The Angler's Art Trophy for Best Trout on a Club Event (other than Lyle Knowles), Best Trout by a Junior, Keith Shields Trophy for overall best native, Dr Bryan Pratt Murray Cod Trophy and Charlie Diedo Golden Perch Trophy were not awarded due to lack of entries ... better effort next year folks. The Saltwater Trophy was not awarded as the club saltwater event was unfortunately cancelled due to the virus.



The President's Award – a vintage split cane rod from the House of Hardy.



The President's Award for contribution during the year (and past) was presented to our outgoing Treasurer Angie



A well deserved award of Life Membership was conferred on our long-time and hard working Secretary Lyall

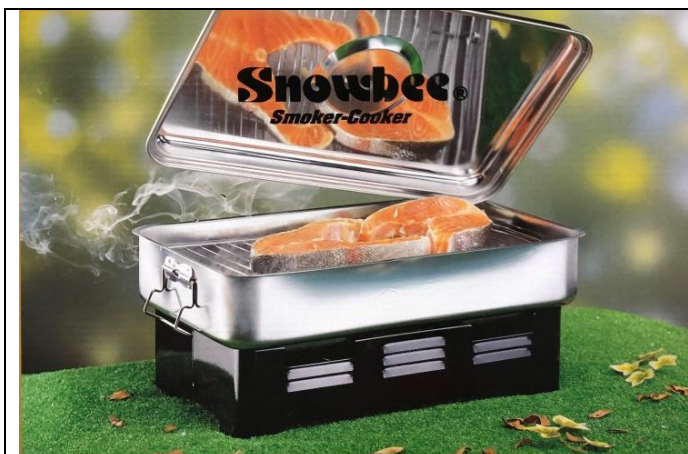
The all important raffle winners – congratulations to the winners and a big thank you to those who bought tickets to support the club:



The SIMMS wading Koozy was won by Shanta



The McLean Angling folding weigh net (kg and lbs) made in New Zealand was won by Andrew McW



The Snowbee fish smoker was won by Bill (hoping for free lessons from Lyall or other expert on how to use it! No smart alec comments of “first you gotta learn how to catch a fish” please ... I get that enough from Glenys ☺)

President's Report 2020

Rod Kennett

As I did last year, I'd like to start by acknowledging the Ngunnawal People as the Traditional Owners of the land on which our club is based and the lands and water on which we do a lot of our fishing. I also to extend that recognition and acknowledgement to other traditional owners of the surrounding lands that we fish on as well and recognise their long custodianship of the country where we enjoy our craft.

I also want to acknowledge and thank the existing committee for their work this year. In particular Claude for being a back up serving as an extraordinarily good Vice President. Claude, I really do appreciate it when you stepped up and I particularly appreciated earlier this year when my dad passed away and you took on a lot of stuff for me. Lyall, of course the indefatigable Lyall, without which most of this stuff simply wouldn't happen. Angie, thanks very much for your work as Treasurer, it's a key task behind the scenes and I appreciate the work that you've done in keeping our books together and making sure we have enough money. Jason and others I know you've been involved in managing the finances as well, thank you very much for your work this year. John Reed our stalwart Assistant Secretary and the wise head in many of our meetings helps us to stop and think about things. John thank you so much for your support this year and for your role on the Lake User Group. A couple of other office holders: of course Bill, without your work on the newsletter – it is an amazing and fabulous newsletter as it demonstrates how good a club we are and to have that quality of newsletter and all those membership contributions and great stories just for me indicates to me the health of the club that people are doing so much stuff and they're prepared to write about it. Thank you very much Bill, that's a big job to take on. And of course you've taken on the membership officer as well, and for a while you were our Facebook manager. So I also acknowledge Shaun Gambrell and thank him helping Bill and taking on the Facebook role.

I know Micheal is an apology but thanks to Micheal for taking on our raffles. Seriously if you'd have to pick a key position it is raffles because that is where we make our money really. One of the things I wanted to talk about now is our capacity for fund raising. Just talking to Angie last night, we roughly double our money on our fund raising efforts. We roughly invested \$800 on fundraising and we made \$1600. We double our money when we do fundraising and that is only

possible because we've got club members dedicated to it and we have members prepared to contribute. So if was told I could go into a casino and be told I could double my money everytime that's where I'd be putting my money, so maybe that's something to think about that your investment in the club doubles our money and makes it a strong and healthy club. Of course Bill, and Stefan for representing the anglers of our region at CFA - an important regional forum. Those representative jobs are always important and it is great to see our members out there participating in the wider conversation about fisheries, fisheries management, habitat protection.

I'm going to apologise now if I've left anyone else off, it's wholly/solely due to my ignorance not because you haven't contributed. Of course Evan's leadership in fly tying has helped turn it in to a popular monthly event.

I also want to acknowledge our sponsors and our supporters, Capital Fly Casting (again Lyall does a lot behind the scenes but his business also makes contributions including donating prizes) and Compleat Anglers and Tackleworld have always been stalwart supporters of us. So if are thinking of purchasing stuff, remember that those two companies have been great supporters of CAA and for a very very long time even though they are doing it very tough at the moment.

Looking back on the year. We all know it has been an incredibly challenging year, first we had the fires where lots of our beautiful fishing places and lots of our amazing habitat was badly burnt in unprecedented fires. Those big fires are, unfortunately, a sign of things to come over the years and these fires really knocked us around. We were all hiding inside in the summer to stay out of the smoke, we got through that then of course Canberra was beset with hailstorms, we narrowly avoided the locust plague, but now we do have a bit of a plague upon us which is a global pandemic so once again many of us are waiting to get back out and socialise. I do note that I was very very pleased, as I'm sure were all were, to see that fishing is regarded as a legitimate form of exercise in the early days of COVID restrictions. So I hope you got out there and exercised yourself well, even if you couldn't do that with other club members around.

A big year, and it has had a lot of impact on all of us in many ways, but I'm absolutely delighted the way the club and the members have stepped up, we're still here, 75 years old. We drew on that 75 years of experience. We've switched over to digital meetings, with good attendance at our digital meetings. Just now I was reading to Lyall the last President's Report where I commented on the declining numbers in fly tying and asked whether anybody had any suggestions about what we might do to increase participation in the fly tying night. Not one of you suggested a global pandemic, so nobody gets that prize. Some good things have emerged with a switch to digital and the numbers have double or tripled in the fly tying. It's an activity that works really really well. There's no doubt that the way that we've embraced digital technologies is great to see. I would expect that it will probably be a feature of Canberra Anglers regardless of the pandemic status as it is allowing people to turn up at places and do things – we have a North Queensland representative here tonight which is fabulous. For me, I've missed the many face to face opportunities. Many of the Canberra Anglers events were my weekends away and it was great to go and hang out with you guys because you all know what you are doing. Meanwhile I haven't got an idea whatsoever, but you let me come and play with you which is kind of you.

So here we are in our 75th year and I'm looking forward very much to the hundredth year. That's a little ways away, but 75 is a pretty good innings, so congratulations everybody. This is a club

that has been around for a very long period of time and if anybody has got any ideas about it, let me know 'cause 75 years is truly awesome for a club to continue for that length of time.

Some of the other highlights: I've mentioned our newsletter with strong level of membership contribution and really well written pieces as well: they're engaging, they're interesting and people are happy to share what they've learnt and happy to talk about places they've been, so I find that newsletter one of our best things. Fly casting, it's always a boost to our profile and membership. It's a little bit under a cloud. I suppose this year we'll see what happens at that time but again if everyone can stay committed to doing that it is always a fun event. It's always a delight to see many people just enjoying the art, the physics and the magic of fly casting.

This year we honoured Dr Bryan Pratt. It's important to honour our champions and remember our history. Congratulations again to Lyall for your work in making sure we honoured him properly. We now have a brass plaque at Googong Dam that celebrates Bryan and his connection to CAA so future members and the public can see the long term connection of CAA to the Canberra region. Thank you very much Lyall and thank you everybody else for making that happen. I know that the Pratt family were absolutely delighted and honoured that CAA made that effort.

We also had another event that springs to mind and I'm sure you've all got highlights of it, but the Men's Link event (I apologise I wasn't there – I was in Sydney with my dad at the time). What a great opportunity to take seven young boys fishing who hadn't been fishing before. They even caught fish, so I know the Men's Link group really appreciated that. Hopefully we'll get another opportunity to do those sorts of events again.

I'm going to wrap up now. Thank you all for the honour of letting me be your President. I'm not standing for President again this year, I think it is time for some new blood, but I'm happy to stay involved and help out with the club.

(transcript courtesy of Bill)

CAA Website Useful Links Page

Hook and Bead Size Combinations

<u>Bead Size.</u> <u>mm</u>	<u>Bead Size.</u> <u>in</u>	<u>Hook Size</u>
1.6	1/16	18 - 24
2.0	5/64	16 - 18
2.4	3/32	14 - 16
2.8	7/64	12 - 16
3.2	1/8	10 - 14
4.0	5/32	6 - 10
4.8	3/16	4 - 8

Claude and BJ found a useful guide to matching bead sizes and hook sizes.

It has been uploaded to our [Useful Links Page](#) for future reference.

26 Aug Fly Tying

Conducted by Claude

The fly chosen was the Zulu Tag, in both dry and wet form. Claude took time out also to try some first attempts at midge balls. Only 3 participants tying, but 3 more (including JQ stuck in traffic near Lucinda) joined in via Zoom. Claude is getting quite professional, including wearing a white 'bib' to ensure the fly being tied had a good clear background. Very slick mate.



Jindabyne Polaroiding

Bill

The weather forecast looked perfect so a trip down was the natural decision. Peter and I headed to the mountains on 11 Aug. The forecast had mentioned fog but the freezing mist seemed to be endless on the way down, thankfully lifting just past Cooma. We were both looking forward to sneaking up on trout lurking around the edges looking for a munch after spawning a short while ago so the sun coming out was essential.



Lyall's patented rod holders had iced up during the trip.

On arrival at Jindy the weather conditions looked almost too perfect with a glassy surface to the lake (a welcome small ripple came up during the morning) but the water level was the lowest either of us had experienced. Apparently the need for environmental releases had conveniently aligned with the need to undertake works on the dam.



Looking back into 'the bay previously known as Hatchery Bay'

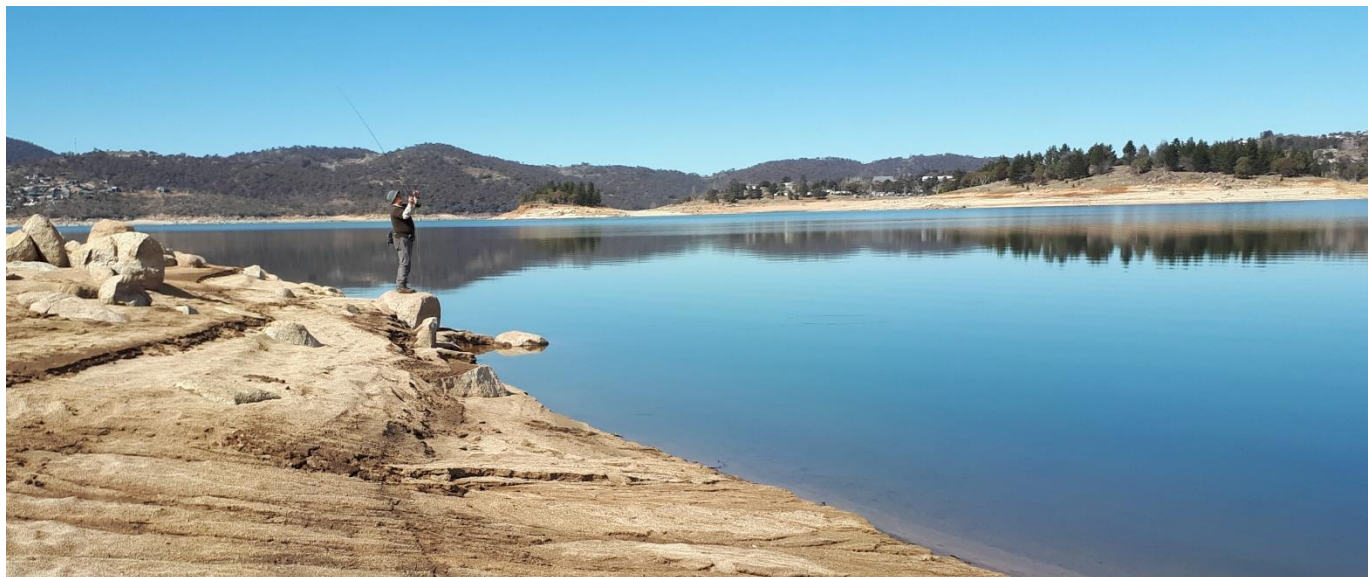


The lower water level exposed structures from earlier days



The lower levels meant that the stiles crossing the various fences were a way away, out of sight from the shoreline. Some fences were easily negotiated with wires corroded away, others had been reinstated but only required a short wade to walk around ("Hmm Peter. Didn't you say that you didn't need waders when I was putting mine on?" 😊)

“OK” I hear you say, “so what about the fishing”. Not so much to say in that regard unfortunately. We saw fish rising just out of reach (you’d have needed to be Peter Hayes I reckon) with only the occasional one in closer but they were ‘oncurs’ who didn’t respond to the fly.



Peter targeting one of the few rising fish within his reach.

A few very good fish were spooked in close and two legitimate targets ignored our effort but we weren’t alone. On our way back, Peter and I ran into Craig (*Daff*) Daly – a fishing guide from Thredbo who I know. He was fishing with a *Gamechanger* with a difference. This one was around 50mm and coloured to be a brown trout – amazing movement. Regardless, while Daff had spotted a few fish, even he was finding them fussy and spooky with none landed. While we talked Daff noted the thin cloud that had moved in and complained that the light change was preventing good spotting. You learn something new every day – I saw his point, while the sun was generally behind us so not reflecting off the water, the cloud provided a bright reflection on the water making it hard to see through the surface.

So – a bit disappointing but, as they say, “any day fishing has gotta be better than housework”.

Jason and Bill on a Lazy Saturday Afternoon

Bill

I was desperate for another fishing report so when Jason M cancelled out of our tentative trip to Lake Eucumbene – something about gale force winds? – I was quick to say yes to a short trip on Lake Ginninderra. Jason’s ‘new’ boat is very comfortable, complete with cool drinks, hot drinks, Tasmanian Whiskey flavoured fudge ... what else could you want for?

Trolling around in the sun, studying the side scan sonar and conventional fish finder, is certainly a long way away from my normal scrambling along banks peering into the water. The technology was certainly appreciated as, after all this recent rain, the lake was somewhat chocolate coloured.



My short spinning rod is permanently set up with Peter's patented redfin twin plastic rig, but even with the jig head, it really wasn't suitable for trolling. Meanwhile, Jason was using two, recently acquired, baitcaster reels – the subject of an article on gear next.

Things were pretty quiet except for a burst of excitement. Jason's boat, dubbed Yellow Belly despite Jason not having caught a yella since he was in high school, many years ago, was the scene of joyous celebrations. Jason's 55 cm (3.5kg) golden perch will certainly be encribed in the 'little green book' because its rating of 70% (on our [Native Fish Rating Scale](#)) would have to put it in the running for the Charlie Diedo Golden Perch Trophy.

Berkeley AMP rod and Abu Garcia reel getting a proper christening.



Jason M, Gabbing About Gear

Jason is a regular contributor and often the items are worthy of storing separately from the newsletter – in order to be more easily accessible. Jason has offered up two as a combo here – one articulates some thoughts on maintaining reels, and the other on rods. Here is a snippet to give you a taste while I've put the full text into our [‘Gear’ blog category](#) – more on what that means in a moment.

Jason M

Tackling the Trouble

I recently bought two secondhand Abu Garcia reels as bush-bashing (& likely overboard) reels. A 6500 and a 6600 reel, “with some scratches and in need of an oil”. I was advised before collecting it that the 6600 was much worse off. This is a bit of an article on reel cleaning & servicing.

Before starting there are probably three hazards to watch for when servicing your reel:

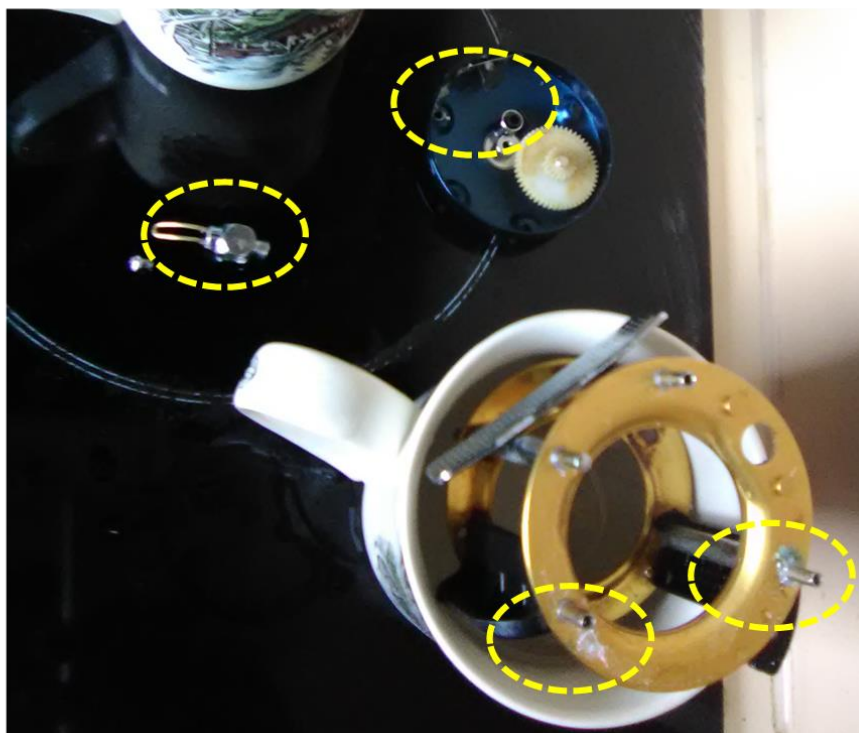
- a. Breaking something when trying to remove it (spare parts are usually \$5-\$20)
- b. Loosing small parts like e-clips (two disappeared in my father's garage last CQ trip whilst changing a reel handle)
- c. Breaking/stripping corroded in screws or nuts

Otherwise, crack on! This is the sort of thing you should be doing with your reels anyway, and having a cautious go might give you a great reel, or at worst give you some spare parts. Whilst I probably wouldn't use this reel for chasing PNG bass or other large fish, it will certainly meet

most of my fishing needs and won't be too concerning if it falls or I knocked overboard.

I didn't grab any photos after collecting it last night, but gave it an initial brush and soak around the screws. It was quite still – and salty – but still functioned.

Note the white/green corrosion on the gold. The levelwind (top left) had some corrosion on the front of the stainless, and some at the base of the gold coloured wire. The left side of the frame (top right) after rising still has corrosion up near the top on the inside. The screw is from the handle, also corroded.



Not able to find my CRC or Inox, I used some Abu reel oil before remembering I had some Singer sewing machine oil in my study. No point wasting the good oil on the clean-off. Be careful not to get it on your line – or the drag brake once you disassemble it. I let the oil soak overnight, and using a suitably sized screwdriver, undid the main three screws to take the handle assembly off and removed the spool.

A word here on corrosion (oxidisation). Most reels have lots of different materials, even fly reels. Dissimilar metals is a class source of corrosion and this reel is built of aluminium, stainless steel, and some brass. Eggbeaters and other reels also have different metals, and even thinking of your drag, ratchet, or ball bearing – these can all corrode. Oxidisation can be prevented by protective coatings to prevent oxygen exposure (eg chrome or enamels, and to some extent oil and grease), sacrificial anodes (undesirable on reels) or preventing the mixing of corrosive reactive materials. Placing isolators between metals on your reel is not practical, but certainly removing the salt etc from your reel will aid in prevention. Whilst aluminium builds a protective oxidisation layer, allowing the salt to sit in crevices does not.

Normally, I would service my reels at least every season, maybe every session, but life soon takes over and even my old favourites get a bit neglected in the past ten or so years, as I found out last trip to CQ when my own 6600 played up for the first time in over 20 years and I had to put it away until I could get a corroded screw off and fix it. See Bill's photo above on the boat for the result

Hot Rodding

As mentioned at the July meeting, I have been planning a trip to Tantangara, never having been there before. The weather was worse than expected – dead flat and sunny. Knowing I wouldn't have much luck in these conditions polaroiding, I flicked out a bait rig or two to check the new spin rods.

Usually I get quite bored bait fishing, so I took the opportunity to sort the tacklebox, have some lunch and a cup of tea, and try out my baitcasting rods.

I recently found some 5'6" Ugly Stiks for \$30 on clearance, and noted the thick grips which might be good with cold hands, and also for putting in the kayak rod holders as they won't rattle around like the two-piece grips. They seemed thick for the line rating, but unlike other Ugly Stiks, had a graphite rather than clear soft tip.

I haven't upgraded much recently towards the newer graphite blanks. As such, I took advantage of some mid year clearance sales to get some rods 1-piece baitcaster usually retailing for \$100 or more with the idea that if the kids break a tip or drop them over the side it won't be too bad.

As I was on my own at Tantangara, I decided to test each of my baitcasting rods with the same reel (Abu Garcia 4500 Ambassador Pro Max with I think 8lb mono), leader, and lure (1/8oz jig head soft plastic with a Squidgy Tough soft plastic) . With still good weather, this gave a good comparison.



From the top: Quantum Pro Tour (~2006), Abu Garcia Black Max (~2014), Ugly Stik GC2, Berkley Amp Grunter rod (the hook keeper underneath the rod worked well for soft plastics)

The Ugly Stik cast okay, and would be much better with a heavier minnow. Not surprising with its short length, but certainly had potential. It would probably be good for my intended use of using on the boat with the kids, or in my kayak (watch out Brogo).

I then moved to the Berkeley 5'6" or 6' AMP rod (\$25 on clearance). I was initially put off when I realized earlier that morning that the reel grip was the hand grip, especially as a lefthanded caster, as it had potential to unwind on my casting. I found when I did it up tight though, it felt solid, and cast well. The short butt on it was nice, and lighter to flick than the Ugly Stik. Certainly a rod I would like to hike with, and work light lures with. It cast about the same distance as the Ugly Stik, but with a little more accuracy and easier on the arm.

Moving to my Abu Garcia Black Max camo rod, I did notice that the longer butt behind the reel came down to my elbow, and made casting more difficult. Whilst this might help stop the reel bouncing on the top of a rod holder, for casting it wasn't as comfortable as the other three, and probably traded length from the reel to the tip for casting compared with the similar length rod. The butt felt long enough to be like a switch rod, feeling like it wanted to be a surf rod cast two-handed. By this stage the wind had begun to start, but not too bad. The extra length did aid in the casting, getting another 5-10 metres of distance.

This longer butt gave the next rod – the Quantum Pro tour (2006) a bit of an edge, and it felt a bit more balanced and lighter. I did ease off the casting brake a fraction as the lure on both 7' rods wanted to cast more and I could feel it being retarded more than on the shorter rods. It also helped in countering the onshore breeze. This rod was easier to cast out of all four, even with a 1/8oz jig head, giving both the distance and not too annoying on the forearm/elbow. Indeed, I bought this rod at the same time as the reel, but(t) even so, the Berkeley 5'6" was just as nice just lacking the distance for shore fishing. I then moved spots, and kept that rod casting for a bit longer before packing up.



Note the butt lengths, with the baitcaster triggers in the same position. The difference in grips is also apparent, and something worth testing when looking for your next rod. Even triggers are different, and worth checking for feel, grip, and comfort as they can get painful after a good day's casting.

In short (or long), the rods all had some advantages for different situations. Some are better for sitting in kayaks but the shorter butts may be more likely to bounce out and drop over the side if not careful. However, these shorter butts are better for flicking lures for any reasonable amount of time. Even with the light soft plastic, the Berkley rod was quite nice, and I may even stop at that tackle store again for a second one.

The other benefit of a shorter rod on a kayak, is that with “normal” rod holders being near-vertical, they keep your rod tip closer to the water, allowing your lure to work deeper on the troll, especially if it is a floating lure and you paddle slowly like I do. Often I find my lures skimming the surface (especially after picking up some weed, or slime from snags) so using a shorter rod is useful in these situations where you don't need the casting distance. Now I have a Mirage drive, that isn't as much of a problem as I don't have to hold a paddle, but even for a second rod trolling, the short rod will be good.

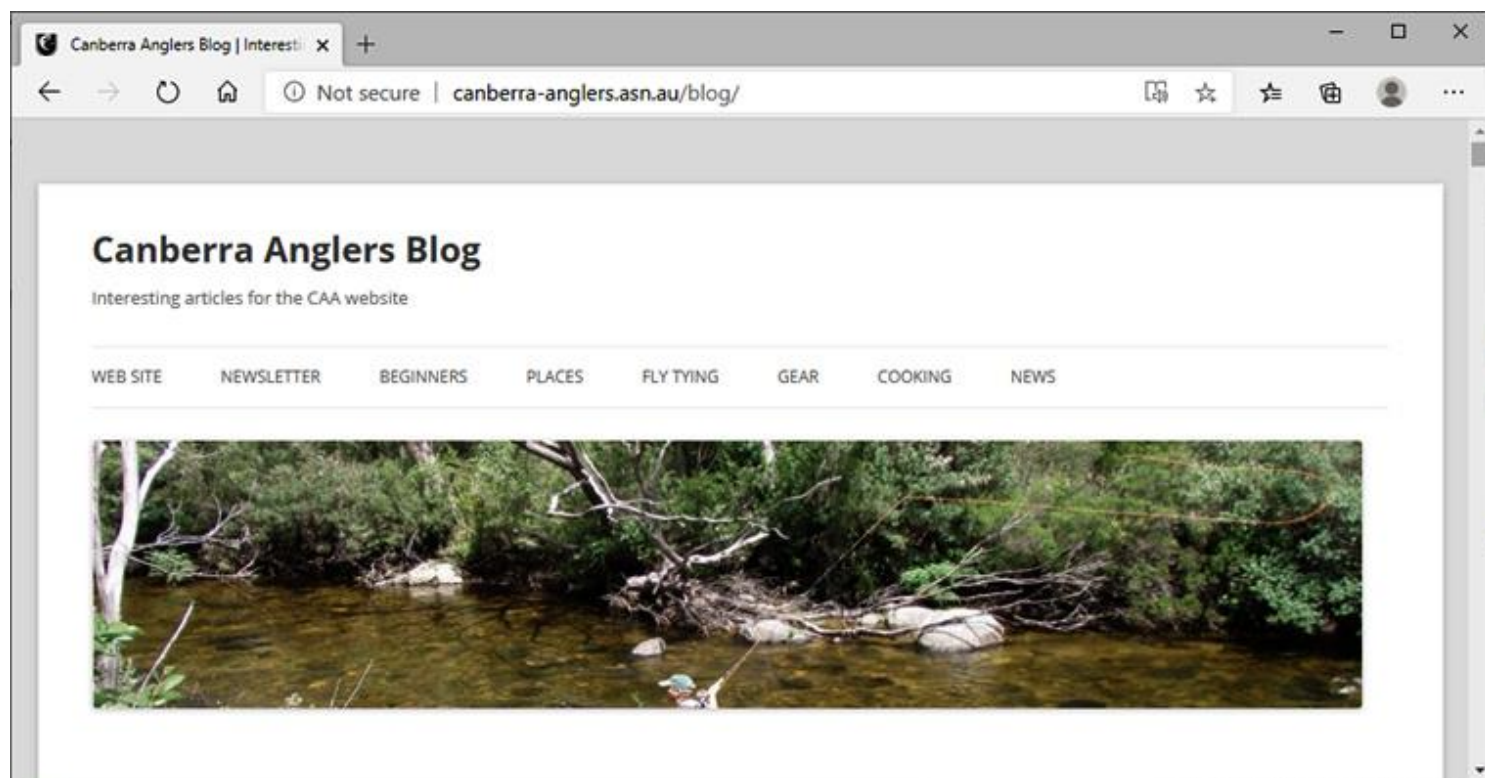
Either way, the newer rods – especially with braid and other low-stretch lines – give a much more responsive feel to lures than twenty years ago, enabling slightly lighter lures to be worked by the old humble baitcaster. Even though I can (reasonably) cast a fly line, I still can't get the hang of forefinger spool casting egg beater reels, but the thumb cast of a baitcaster still has a bit of muscle memory, even if casting these light lures isn't as accurate as I used to be up the Goodradigbee casting my Wonder Wobblers.

Our Blog

Bill

People might have noticed that I've made a slight restructure to the blog. Have renamed 'gear review' simply 'gear' so I can put the two articles Jason M prepared into that category for 'posterity'/future reference. I have also bundled his earlier notes on the lure making workshop into that category. All the gear reviews are there still. The other change is the collection that

was called 'discovery' – this started with Jason Q's piece discussing his passage into fly fishing. Since then we've collected lots of stuff that beginners (and not so beginning members) might find useful, so I've renamed it accordingly. More info about the blog is [here](#).



National Library Exhibition – The Catch

More information [here](#). I thought it would not be hugely related to 'angling', but then I saw the mention of a photo of "A ninety-seven pound Murray cod, caught by a professional fisherman near Collendina Station in the Corowa district, New South Wales". Then "Travel and trout in the antipodes: an angler's sketches in Tasmania and New Zealand" and a bunch of photos by Frank Hurley including "Hooking Rainbow trout, Lefroy Brook, Pemberton, between 1910 and 1962". Might be worth a visit if you can't get up to the mountains.

MAS AGM and August Ordinary General Meeting

Bill

Through my membership of Queanbeyan Anglers Club I attended the 1 Aug MAS Ordinary General Meeting – this was preceded by a delayed Annual General Meeting (Feb AGM was deferred for fires, May was deferred due to COVID!).

The AGM entailed election of the committee which remains basically unchanged – the indefatigable Steve Samuels retains Presidency with the meeting seeing continuity during the Snowy 2.0 development being essential. The President Report largely reflected news items that MAS



has issued over the past months (reproduced in CAA News) with only one point that I'd not been aware of: it seems that the imperative to progress the trout grow out facility is driven by the need for work to commence within 12 months of Snowy Hydro 2.0 commencement. I believe earthworks are about to commence for the Snowy 2.0 project, so the clock for the grow out facility will start soon. The full text of Steve's report is on the [MAS Website News](#).

Key observations during the OGM were:

Crown Lands. There is a strategic review being conducted with a deadline of 20 Aug. (This was [reported to CAA](#) in our News Blog). MAS prepared a submission which was also disseminated around NSWCFA. MAS has had a number of successes in the past objecting to the disposal of Crown Land (surveyed roads, reserves and TSRs) and there are a number still in process. A key concern was expressed that the strategy seems focussed on disposal from NSW Government management and emphasising financial returns ahead of community access. The complete response is [here](#). CFA will be assembling a response also.

Temperature Loggers. DPI have committed to acquiring an additional 10 loggers and are seeking MAS advice on the most useful locations for their deployment to best support the trout research program (eg comparing pools with shade versus pools without). MAS continues to retain the funds provided by CRFA and will use the experience from the DPI funded temperature loggers to shape whether to purchase more from those funds, or perhaps some other research tools (oxygenation level meter?).

Gaden Operation. Steve reported on recent conversations he's had with Mitch Elkins (Gaden Hatchery manager). This year's brown trout run provided more than enough stock for stripping. The rainbow run has been poor to date but we won't know before end of September how things have turned out overall. All fish will be counted through the trap in support of DPI's trout research. Because of the ongoing poor rainbow run in the Thredbo, the hatchery has stripped rainbows from Eucumbene and Gaden brood stock rather than trapped fish. Care was taken to ensure hatchery eggs were fertilised by wild milt and vice versa in order to maximise genetic quality. The ongoing plan is that no rainbows from the Thredbo River will be stripped during the runs of the next five years to assist in restoring natural spawning in the river.

Stuff You May Have Already Read on our [News Blog](#)

Don't forget that you can register to receive automatic emails when new posts are uploaded. Fill out the form on the right of any post.

Click on the headings below to look at the post.

[Fly Fish Victoria Fly Tying Competition](#)

The first round is over, but two more to come.

[Snowy 2.0 Work Notification – Geological investigations + ongoing underwater installation of communication cable at Talbingo – from 1 August 2020](#)

Snowy 2.0 work will involve intermittent disruptions to the boat ramp at Talbingo Reservoir from 1 August to 31 October 2020.

Upper Murrumbidgee Demonstration Reach – Winter 2020 Report

The latest news from Antia and UMDR etc. The [UMDR newsletters archive](#) is now available. Note that if you go to the archive, you can join their mailing list to get a personal copy.

Stuff You May Have Already Read on our [Facebook Page](#)



If you are on Facebook, you should consider “liking and following” the [CAA Facebook page](#).

For those of you who don't subscribe, click on the headings below to look at the post – you don't need to join Facebook.

Bronte Fly Fishing School

After JM gave his talk on the Bronte Fly Fishing School, we received a thank you from them on our Facebook page.

Other News

Additional news and links from supporting groups



Department of
Primary Industries



NSW Council of Freshwater Anglers

Remember you can subscribe yourself, there is a link in every monthly newsletter. Previous CFA newsletters can be accessed [via their archive](#). They also have a presence on [Facebook](#).

Don't forget you can donate to the CFA by [becoming a 'Foundation Member'](#) and personally support their good work. The website explains what that means – only the equivalent of \$0.50 per week.

2020 AGM and August OGM. This was conducted over Zoom on 15 Aug. Key points:

- The Presidency has transitioned from Don Barton to Peter Gibson. Peter was originally a Cooma boy and is well connected in the area of 'fishing politics' having served on RFFTEC (Freshwater Trust Expenditure Committee), a slew of trout related committees (eg the Trout Allocation Committee) and the RFA of NSW.
- CFA are upping the ante on registering their concerns over Opera House Yabby Nets (which will henceforth be called 'Opera House Platypus Killing Nets' – the Fisheries Minister has been delaying his signing off regulations to ban their use) and the Angler Access Website (which still looks information poor).
- CFA are preparing a submission in respect to the NSW Crown Lands Strategy to complement those prepared by at least four other Affiliates (MAS submission is discussed above). The consensus is that there are concerns about a number of aspects of the strategy – especially a sense that the strategy is all about economic benefit at the expense of recreation and community access.

The [September 2020 edition](#) of the NSWCFAs newsletter is here. Key points were:

- **Gone Fishing Days** – our Jason M has authored a piece informing, and we hope enthusing, NSWCFAs Affiliates to stand up a Gone Fishing Day event. Despite COVID restrictions these are going ahead in a variety of ways – and there are grants and free rod packs.
- **AGM Notes** – pretty much as described above by me.
- **Brumbies** – a media release from Reclaim Kosci. NSWCFAs have also put their weight behind NSW Environment Minister Matt Kean who is pressing ahead with an initial removal of some 4,000 from the most critical areas of KNP.
- **Pesticide Runoff into Waterways** – a summary of an ABC report. NSWCFAs is also contributing to Uni of Sydney research into the relationship between insect loss and agricultural use of insecticide.

Recreational Fishing Alliance of NSW

Remember you can subscribe yourself, there is a link in every monthly newsletter. Recent, previous RFA newsletters can be accessed via their [archive](#). They also have a presence on [Facebook](#).

The August 2020 edition came in just after our August Burley Line upload. It is [here](#). Lots of saltwater stuff as you would expect, but some interesting points for our region:

- **Boating grants fail to impress boat users in the Eurobodalla** – news of a number of boat related infrastructure projects being funded but it seems poor consultation may mean that they aren't what are needed.
- **Batemans Bay Fishing Platform** – it seems a fishing platform promised as part of the new bridge may not be going ahead.
- **Report on Murray Darling Basin first flush flows** – in addition, a dismaying report on the Darling drying up.

Fisheries Victoria News – ‘Nibbles’

Remember you can subscribe yourself, there is a link in their fortnightly newsletter. News and updates from Fisheries Victoria can be found also on their [Facebook page](#) (you don't need to be a Facebook user, though I'm sure they'll 'encourage you' to join ☺).

[14 Aug edition](#) arrived:

- COVID restrictions are shutting down much of the fishing.
- Upgrades to Lakes Entrance's Reeves Landing Jetty.
- Channel Salvage in the Goulburn Valley – this sounded boring till I read that they have relocated over 1,600 native fish from irrigation channels near Cobram, which have been drained for maintenance works. The majority of fish were Murray cod, with 1,279 of the iconic species up to 95cm salvaged. You can read where they went.
- Plus some items on research into bream and whiting.

[27 Aug edition](#) arrived also:

- [Wild Trout Strategy](#) released. A very comprehensive document – my only critique is that there are only a few quantitative performance measures. "Demonstration that stocking of yearling brown trout in rivers is ineffective," – I found that interesting and counter-intuitive till I read in "Wild Trout Myths Busted" that they are arguing that stocking in waters where there is good natural recruitment doesn't add to the numbers in the water. Been a belief of mine for a while.
- Trout Opening Goes Virtual – you'll need to look on their [Facebook channel](#).
- I was surprised to find that NSW had provided trout eggs to Victoria – I wonder if there was a one-for-one trade. Will enquire and report back.

Long Term Program of Events Not Formally Part of CAA Events

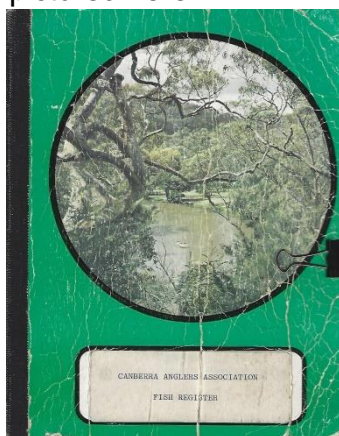
Provided for our calendar planning, members to see the diversity of angling events available to attend and some might even choose to get a CAA group together to attend an event outside our formal calendar which would broaden our horizons greatly. If anyone spots a non-CAA event that might be of interest to members, please email *Burley Line*.

Dates	Event Details
2020	The next run of events have been cancelled due to the COVID pandemic. I've left them here as a reminder of what might come in due course
	NSW DPI Kids' Fishing Workshop at Gaden Hatchery https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fishing/recreational/resources/fishing-workshops/kids
	NSW DPI Kids' Fishing Saltwater Workshop at Batemans Bay https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fishing/recreational/resources/fishing-workshops/kids
	NSW DPI Kids' Fishing Saltwater Workshop at Tuross Head https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fishing/recreational/resources/fishing-workshops/kids
	NSW DPI Kids' Fishing Saltwater Workshop at Greenwell Point https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fishing/recreational/resources/fishing-workshops/kids
11-12 Sep	Peter Morse fly casting tuition - contact info@capitalflycasting.com to see what times are available.
15 Oct	Hopefully the COVID restriction will still allow for CAA's 75 th birthday. Otherwise perhaps a Zoom session.
16-18 Oct	Gone Fishing day. Who knows if it will go ahead, but the funding/equipment grants can be used on other days.
2021	These have been annual regulars in the past
Feb	the Thredbo fly fishing expo (free event) https://www.thredbo.com.au/events/fly-fishing-weekend-2020/
Mar	Pirtek One Day fishing challenge – “Fight a Fish for Medical Research” – information at https://pirtekfishingchallenge.com.au/ .
Mar	Buckenderra Caravan Park organize a trout catch and release event called the Buckenderra Trout Challenge. There is a limit of 150 participants. Here are some pages related to the 2020 event https://www.facebook.com/buckenderraholidayvillage/posts/2749280708483144 https://www.facebook.com/buckenderraholidayvillage/posts/2820574901353724

May	NSW Council of Freshwater Anglers InterClub Meet http://canberra-anglers.asn.au/blog/cfa-annual-interclub-flyfishing-meet-3-5-may-2019-program-and-other-info/
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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 the [club trophies](#) is the little green book brought to meetings by the Secretary clearly marked as "Canberra Anglers Association Fish Register" pictured here.



We welcome emails advising how you are going, but don't forget to get them inscribed in the book. Please be aware that I tend to collect catch information from word of mouth and articles submitted for publication. I occasionally peruse the little green book, but inclusion in *Burley Line* can't be interpreted as having been checked by me to be in the book.

The 'Trophy Season' closed at the end of the July meeting so the list is currently looking a bit bare, but I'm ready to record your efforts from here on. Looking forward to hearing about them.

Angler	Species	Length	Method	Location/Event/ Date
Jason M	Golden Perch	55 (rates 70% on our Native Fish Rating Scale)	lure	Lake Ginninderra, 29 Aug

Contact Us

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Canberra City, ACT, 2601

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

Burley Line contributions to:
burley-line@canberra-anglers.asn.au



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

Join Us

Thinking of becoming a member? The membership application form can be found on our website. Current fees are payable each year at our AGM (adjustments will be made for joining later in the year):

- General Membership \$40.00
- Family Membership \$50.00
- Concession Membership (age pension or concession card) \$15.00
- Junior Membership (U18 years) \$15.00

Payment can be made via check, bank transfer (details on the form), or in-person at one of our meetings. More information on our website or contact us via email.

Contribute to *The Burley Line*

Contributions are always encouraged to *The Burley Line* and can be sent in via the email listed on the left (or via clicking the link on the web home page below "contact us"). Whether it be photos, trip reports, gear reviews, advertising, places to visit, we encourage it all. Additionally, posts for our blog are also welcome, especially for our cooking page, places to visit and gear stuff including reviews. Your comments on individual blog posts are also encouraged.

Supporters

Canberra Anglers Association would like to thank the supporters below for their ongoing assistance to our club. We encourage all members to support these groups where possible.



Capital Fly Casting

www.capitalflycasting.com