

THE BURLEY LINE



Rod with his Saratoga – Jim Jim Creek NT



From the Editor's Desk

With our winter shutdown of events, fishing reports are a bit thin ... thank you Jason M for coming up with some news from the end of the stream season!! Also, your notes that missed the deadline for last month's newsletter which provides additional input to the June Chill trip report. Plus, get a load of Rod's fish on our front cover! though he might have graced the cover if I'd received Mike's in advance ... still, Mike has promised me some more and a report so he'll get his turn.

Lots of other stuff, especially for those who don't follow us on [Facebook](#) or have not subscribed for email notifications of new items on [our news blog](#). (To subscribe for the latter use the form on the right of the news blog page.)

Our AGM is coming soon (11 Aug), pop it into your diary. Make some serious consideration of putting your hand up to become a committee member – either on the Executive, or as a less onerous Council member. With the AGM will come the need to renew your membership/pay the fees. Note that the annual fee is actually endorsed at the AGM, it makes sense then to hold off paying fees until the AGM has confirmed continuation of the current fee or a change (don't make it harder for the Treasurer folks).

Am still wondering if there are any budding assistant editors out there ... maybe Greg W on his return from UK? :-) COVID has slowed down my international travel, but surely it can't last forever and some help here would be most appreciated. Don't worry, I can handle the technical stuff of uploading wherever I am in the world, but typing up the newsletter itself (on my phone) is a bit much to ask. We have a fancy template (built by big Luke a while ago) so all you need is Microsoft Word and a little time – advice will be provided.

CRFA closure ... after a lingering period of no activity, but still no formal de-incorporation, the President of the Capital Region Fishing Alliance (our very own Jason M) has advised me that we can consider it to be closed. A shame really that we don't have a formal forum for local clubs to band together and provide greater clout in dealings with ACT Government on angling matters.

NSW Council of Freshwater Anglers AGM (and quarterly OGM) is on Sat 21 Aug at 10 AM via Zoom. You don't need to be a formally identified Delegate to attend (you just can't vote unless you are a Delegate – CAA is entitled to two voting people). Latest word is that our prime point of contact in DPI (Mr Jim Harnwell) is due to speak – should be interesting. 'Come along' and hear what the Council has been doing for us.

Coming Events

Meeting: 11th August.

More details via email – this is our AGM. Don't be concerned that attending would make you liable to be shanghaied onto the committee – I'm sure they have suitable volunteers already lined up. Regardless, you might consider putting your hand up for a position.

Fly Tying: 25th August

We've decided Zoom works best. From 7:30 – more instructions via email.

Next Events

Dates to be confirmed, but our next event is likely to be the free fly casting lessons for the public. Anticipate them on the Sundays leading up to trout stream fishing opening – Oct long weekend.

Buckenderra Trip input – Jason

Jason M



After my typical late start to the weekend, I found myself back at Braemar Bay for the first time in many years. Looking at the bank, I realized I forgot to change my fly line for lake fishing, still having my floating line on. With Bill and Owen on the shallow side with the wind from their left, I took the steeper bank which would help my lefthanded casting. All pretty quiet, and hard to spot anything with the sun glare even through my polaroids between the muddy water and the mix of rain, fog, snowy wind, and occasional sunshine.



Looking back at Braemar Bay, with Bill and Owen working their way back on the opposite shore



The impact of the cloud on the visibility

After scoping it out, I returned the next morning with the sun more at my back, and this time with a spin rod to get deeper and initially mirror-like water. After donating a nice Storm minnow to the tree branch, I realised in my minimalist morning fishing trip I didn't bring any leader from the car, but I did rummage up a swivel to attach to my braid for a quick tie-off. Scavenging some ~6lb mono from a tree, I rigged up and worked the point. I tried a few different lures, enjoying one of my homemade Magnum pine lures which had a deep diving action, until it got snagged on one of the outer trees. Fortunately it was wrapped around a small branch and broke at the end knot, allowing the lure to fall into the water and blow downwind back to me – although, I was content when I lost it as

the purpose of making my own was in part for some low cost lures, but this particular one will be good for cod chasing so I'm glad it boomeranged back, reflecting its banana-shaped body.

I didn't fish many brightly coloured lure, which may have led to my lack of bites as the gold and black in the muddy brown water didn't stand out well. I could see form the number of yabby claws that fish had frequented the area, but apart from a nice splash on the opposite bank, it was very quiet, but fun casting around the trees and rocks. Content, I packed up the lures, only having donated an old Cotton Cordell rattler, and met back with the others for some fly fishing having got some use out of my spin gear and trout lures (and reminding myself that I didn't like that particular rod due to its length and difficulty caused by the lower reel seat unthreading when casting lefthanded). I did get the lures out again briefly at the Dam Wall to plumb the outer area whilst Bill worked his flies further around, before moving back to a more traditional wet fly once the sun dropped.



By the Sunday morning, these rocks in the foreground on the left shown at ~4:30pm Saturday were out of the water, with the continuing dropping of the lake level. Our 4WDs can just be made out on the right (apologies for the glove in the photos, but my hands were a bit numb, on top of sliding down the muddy bank a few times).

Tantangara Tale End

Jason M

With the end of the season, I found time to do my annual dash to a stream. I picked the Sunday to let me prepare for a change, and enjoyed the night before of finally putting some fly line onto a reel I bought in 2016, and re-organised my fly boxes for the first time in almost as many years. With a fresh tippet on my new reel, I was ready to go the next morning.

Heading off about 9:30, and a few stops along the way to clear some other jobs, I got up into the Snowies proper in the afternoon. A cool day, the fog was just lifting about 10-11am from Cooma, complete with a recently hit deer, and after seeing the crowds on the Eucumbene River I was glad to be pushing past and up to Tantangara. After hearing the good reports at our earlier outing, I was eager to check out the northern end as a new spot. Lowering the tyres once on Port Phillip Trail, I made my way past some occasional snow to the dam, and saw it quite boggy. I ventured down a trail recommended by Bill, and decided whilst I may make it to the bottom, getting back up before nightfall might be tricky, and moved to the rockier trail and worked back up the hill. My new front struts held up well. It looked like the stream Bill mentioned was flooding into the dam, and after working it, I might move further around, depending on how I went.

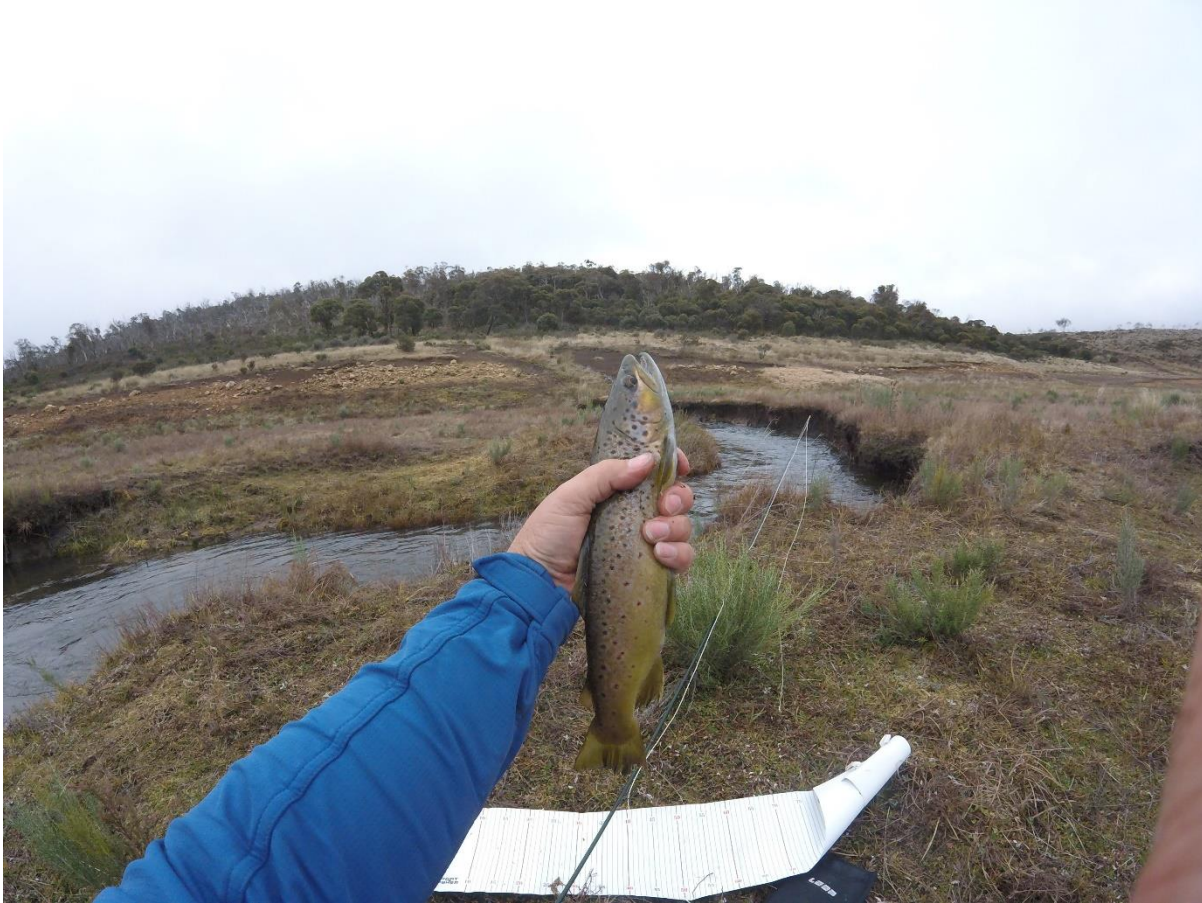
By 3pm I was finally hiking down the hill, and opted for the small stream, and after working up a bit with a small glo bug, I decided to move further up and tie on bigger glo bug and a nymph dropper (I think it was a mix between a Pheasant Tail nymph and a Stonefly I must have tied about 5-10 years ago). Working a deep double cut that snaked below a rapid, with no movement I worked closer to the cut and right below my feet. I saw the glo bug get sucked below between my feet and struck. I could see the flanks of the fish flashing, and manoeuvred it downstream where the access was easier.



Landed downstream of the cut

I'm pretty sure I saw the glo bug above the fish whilst moving it down to the tail of the pool, and then eventually got my net out of my vest and landed it – to see the glo bug in the corner of its mouth.

It was a nice fit 35cm brown, obviously a river fish, lacking much of the paunch of the lake fish, and the lower jaw just starting to grow up. The flow made getting oxygen over the gills no problem, but it was pushing the fish back into the bank, so after a bit of a refresh, a gentle help upstream saw it swim off healthily.



Quite a lean fish, with the jaw starting to turn up (and a bit of tail missing if anyone finds him next season)



A bit over 35cm (he was still a bit fresh and hard to keep still for the photo), and the glo bug pinned in the corner of his mouth

I then worked down without any other bites. Down near the mouth I could see there was very shallow water at the mouth, possibly limiting any lake fish swimming up, and plenty of terrestrials likely to be eaten between here and the lake. Besides, I noticed my nymph had been lost in the last few casts, and it was now 4:15 and with darkness due by 5pm, I had better get back out and through this mud at least before dark. I spotted a couple of mobs of brumbies before the nearby campsite, and then headed back to Canberra. That was my first mainland trout landed in two years, so great to see it taken on a string of my own flies on a pleasant day out, with time to spare the next day to finish my 4WD suspension upgrade the following day ahead of the June Chill Outing. So, I guess this is the tail end of the season, finishing with a tale of a nibbled tail.



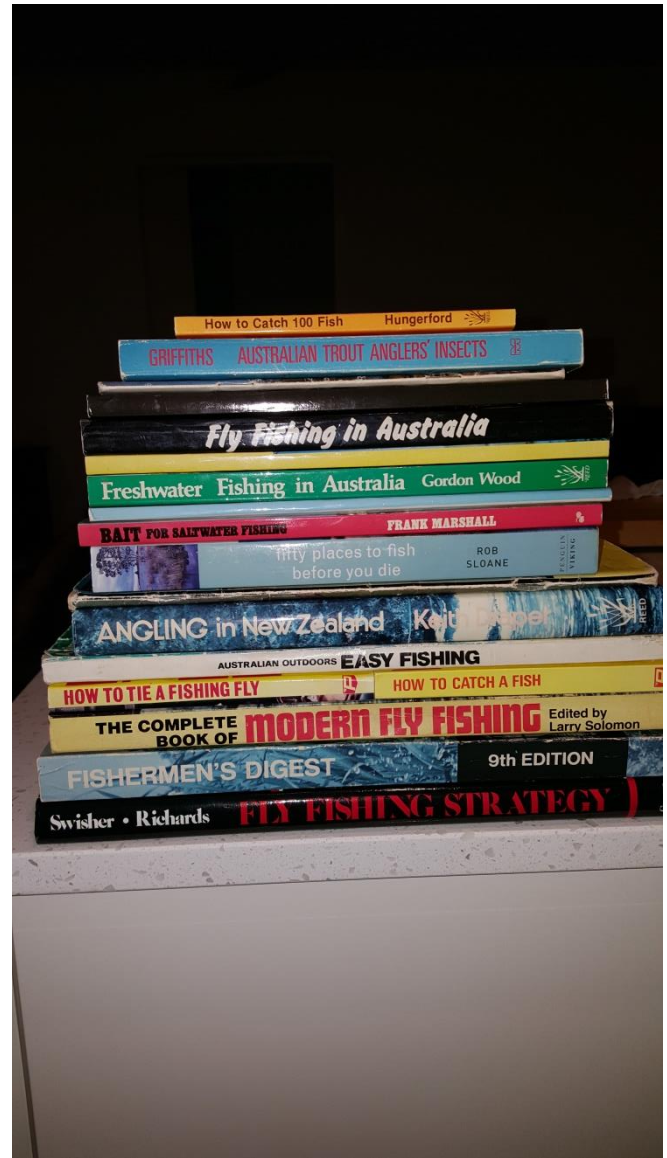
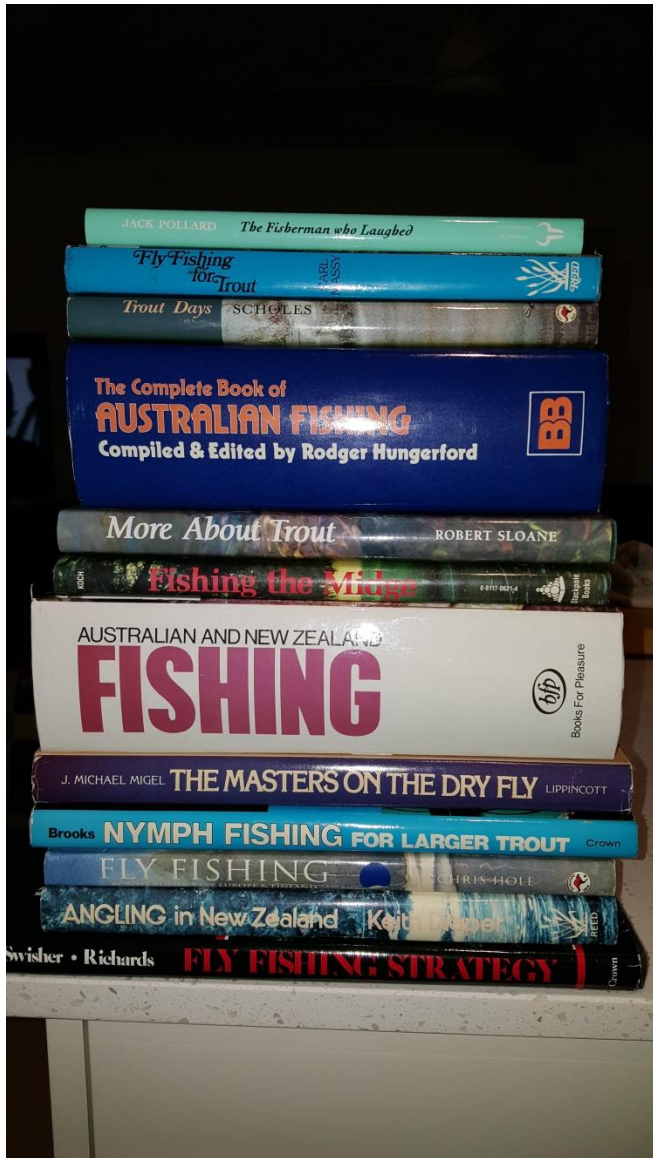
Very glad I didn't drive down to this part of the track, and stayed up near the tree where my rod is pointing. But, getting down the other side was almost as fun on the way back.



Looking down to Tantangara Dam from my 4WD, with the Murrumbidgee joining the dam at the left, and the shallow flooded area highlighted by the 'islands' in the middle of the photo.

Bequest from Rene Jez

Readers may remember that a fishing colleague of Stuart's had recently died and his family decided to donate the fishing kit. Mike is doing an audit and the photos here show the collection. The question of what to actually do with the books, rods etc remains under consideration.



Fly Tying 28 Jul – Magoo

Claude conducted the lesson via Zoom.

I always thought this was invented by Chris Bassono (based on advice when I won one in a raffle) but Claude tells us that it is from Ireland and was then further developed by Ballarat fly anglers, Vern Barby and, to a lesser extent, Craig Coltman. I'm not confident that I have indeed caught a fish using it, but I am thinking one from Eucumbene after dark in the summer fell to it.

[More information on our Fly Tying Blog.](#)

Claude

Results of fly tying of BJ, Peter and myself - I would title it Magoo and Variants (based on what was in the materials box).

Good night with AI watching on and chatting....telling us about his mates Taupo fishing report ...the trip COVID stopped him going on.





Rod Must be Somewhere Warm

Got the 'photo of the month' from Rod.

Rod

It's a very big Saratoga – the biggest I've ever caught. I was fishing a stretch in Jim Jim creek in Kakadu NP. It took a hard plastic lure about a metre from the bank and took off around 3 snags. It took a while to guide it back around the logs then it took off across the surface. The pool has many large resident crocs so release was an unceremonious slide down the bank.

So Was Mike

Ever vigilant JQ found this on Instagram. Mike has confirmed it was him (up north with Stuart) and has promised some more photos and words.

Spotted by 'Julio'

Jaime

Hey Mr. Bill, maybe something interesting to share in the next Burley Line

New World Record Trout is Officially Certified by the IGFA | Field & Stream

<https://www.fieldandstream.com/fishing/brown-trout-certified-igfa/>

Stocking – Utah Style

I'd read about this before, but here are two articles which include videos.

<https://www.abc4.com/news/digital-exclusives/who-says-fish-cant-fly-aerial-stocking-places-fish-in-lakes-via-airplane-drop/>

<https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2021/jul/13/fish-plane-video-utah-lake>

An Intriguing Social Impact on Trout

Can trout get hooked on drugs in our waste water entering the environment? [Methamphetamine in waterways may be turning trout into addicts.](#)



australianflyfishinglodge



Liked by **paultaylor327** and **others**

australianflyfishinglodge This big #tunaonthefly pulled some serious string! #flyfishinglodge...

New Satellite Imaging for Australian Scientists

Reported in the Canberra Times ... [a new satellite](#) can see through cloud and smoke ... but can it spot fish I ask.

Proof That Fish Don't Have Long Term Memory

As reported in the Canberra Times ... [third time for this flathead](#).

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.

[Trout relocation in Central Acclimatisation Society Area](#)

An article on Facebook by DPI on relocating trout, partly to improve the chances of restoring Macquarie Perch. I had a discussion and more info from CAS Secretary Don Barton. He later pointed me to an article in [the local newspaper](#).

[An Excellent Introduction to Fly Fishing for Rank Beginners](#)

A short but very informative clip on YouTube from Claude's favourite, Tom Rosenbauer.

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 to Facebook, click on headings below to look at the post – you don't need to join Facebook. Facebook is a fast moving medium so I'll only be putting stuff here in *Burley Line* that is of a longer-term interest – often that'll mean nothing in any particular month, but I'll keep the placemarker.

[Threatened Species Conservation Stocking – a Family Connection](#)

For some time my brother-in-law has been talking about Murray Cod in his creek, and lately how DPI has been stocking some little-known fish upstream in his gorge ... and now it has appeared on the DPI Facebook page.

Other News

Additional news and links from supporting groups



NSW Council of Freshwater Anglers

Remember you can subscribe to the Newsletter (*Freshwater Fisher*) 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](#). The [key correspondence](#), a useful calendar of events and recent videos are on their website.

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.

Angler Access website – NSWCFA sub-committee, project plan from DPI to energise, focus on a few sites only in the beginning, a feeling that there is much unnecessary detail on the current database but omitting the key information on access

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](#).

July Newsletter is [here](#). There was only one specific item:

- **Who is killing our native freshwater fishery?** 'Floodplain harvesting' is when water that flows across the floodplains during a flood is collected and used later. Unregulated floodplain harvesting has continued for decades in the Northern Murray-Darling Basin, with devastating impacts on waterways and communities in the Southern Basin. The NSW Parliamentary **Inquiry into Floodplain Harvesting** has been established to examine the practice in NSW.....

Fisheries Victoria News – 'Nibbles'

Remember you can subscribe yourself, here is the [link](#). 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 😊). I missed including [this one](#) in the last *Burley Line*. Top items were:

- **Tiger trout in Lake Purrumbete** – I really need to convince Peter to show me the ropes down there. After listening to a talk by Phil Weigall on Western Victorian lakes, I think there's even more reason to get down ... once lockdowns have gone away?

- **Stocking heats up as weather cools down.** Some as catchable size, includes a link to the Victorian stocking database.

Long Term Program of Events Not Formally Part of CAA Events

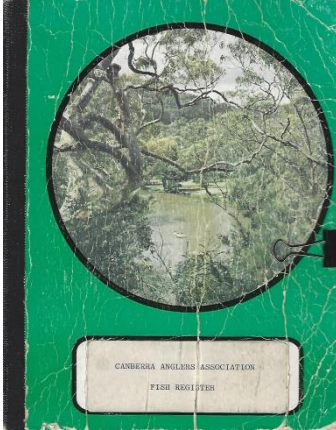
Provided for your calendar planning, members can see the diversity of angling events available to attend and some might even choose to get a CAA group together to attend an event outside our formal calendar which would broaden our horizons greatly. If anyone spots a non-CAA event that might be of interest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

COVID continues to play havoc with these events.

Dates	Event Details
Check website link.	NSW DPI Kids' Fishing Workshops had restarted after the major COVID restrictions passed in NSW, but of course we are now in another surge. The dates for Jindabyne had been published for 21-22 Sep, but they are now showing TBA (as are a number of workshops). Advice from the DPI organiser is that he is hoping for fishing workshops at Gaden next January. https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fishing/recreational/resources/fishing-workshops/kids
Sun 10 Oct	Go Fishing Day NSW version. https://gonefishingday.com.au/
Recent advice is that this is now scheduled for Dec	Buckenderra Caravan Park organize a trout catch and release event called the Anaconda Trout Challenge. There is a limit of 150 participants. The word is that there'll be a special prize exclusively for fly anglers. Here are some pages related to the 2020 event https://www.facebook.com/buckenderraholidayvillage/posts/2749280708483144 https://www.facebook.com/buckenderraholidayvillage/posts/2820574901353724
	These have been annual regulars in the past
Feb	the Thredbo fly fishing expo (free event) – 2021 was lost to COVID, https://www.thredbo.com.au/events/fly-fishing-weekend-2020/
Fri 29 Apr to Sun 1 May	NSW Council of Freshwater Anglers InterClub Meet – similarly, you can possibly expect Stefan to promote this for 2022 http://canberra-anglers.asn.au/blog/cfa-annual-interclub-flyfishing-meet-3-5-may-2019-program-and-other-info/

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.

Angler	Species	Length	Method	Location/Event/ Date
Awaiting your reports for the 21/22 season				

Contact Us

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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. Fees are payable each year at our AGM (adjustments will be made for joining later in the year). 2021/2022 rates will be confirmed at AGM, currently:

- 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 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, gear notes and places to visit. 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