

THE BURLEY LINE



Claude and a fine Rainbow

(see the story inside)



From the Editor's Desk

Well, the days are drawing in, some of the high water has eased a bit and it appears the fishing is excellent. Augurs well for the forthcoming club event up at Tumut being led by John. I hope to see lot of you up there and a fulsome report in due course.

Meanwhile, the April trip to the Goodradigbee is reported here, along with two articles from Tristan and JM – much appreciate the effort guys. Greg S has been spotting interesting snippets on the web and Owen, travelling this month, has some unusual photos to share.

Just a reminder folks, your contributions to the newsletter are encouraged. For the next issue could you get it to me before 25 May?

Coming Events

Meeting: 11th May.

All the details will be sent via email.

Fly Tying: 25th May 2022 ... to be confirmed

We've decided Zoom works best even when we aren't locked down. From 7:30 – more instructions via email in due course.

Next Events

6-8 May to Tumut with John

Like Father Like Daughter, Chapter 2

Tristan

Managed to catch a trout with Olive yesterday.. the rod actually works surprisingly well. I can roll cast it fine, and overhead on grass I can get about 50' out comfortably.





Now to work on Olive's concentration and listening skills... 📱

Goodradrigbee Trip 1-3 Apr

Greg took us up to his special place. He's been tied up too much to prepare a report (fishing amongst others), so here are some words and a collection of photos.

Bill

Was a great trip Greg, many thanks. Am looking forward to next time.

Greg and I were using this trip to also do some site surveys for DPI's Angler Access website. While chatting to two dudes at one site, Rod showed up and we travelled in convoy to our huts.

On arrival Greg was kind enough to point me to his favourite spot. One Brown on the nymph of a dry dropper was quickly followed by a Rainbow on the dry ... all before Claude, BJ and Al got in. The rainbow inspired me to fish exclusively with dry for the rest of weekend. Only a few smallish fish were rising but plenty in the 25-30cm were enticed to the surface via stimulators and parachute dries.

In camp we received some good reports from the others – especially notable was anecdote from Al who had an experience of repeatedly casting the stimulator into an overhanging tree and fish snatching it on hitting the water ... the power of a 'natural presentation'.

Jason

With a busy Friday, and packing for travel the following week, my decision to defer leaving until Saturday morning was rewarded with almost no traffic and barely any wildlife. Although my 3:30 alarm turned out to have been for weekdays, I still made it out for sunrise after a good sleep. Stopping by to see my sleeping cabin mates, it appeared they had a pleasantly social evening,

and I can only assume the photography equipment at the end of the bed was from astronomy photography, unless we are getting a new version of Club outing calendar this year. After dropping off some coffee, milk, and hot water, I made use of my early start to get into the swimming hole with some flies and was rewarded by getting off the mark with a couple of rainbows before returning to the hut for breakfast. The afternoon was again into the rainbows between showers, both on nymph and later on my dry fly, until my catching arm was worn out.

After a few reds and a lamb curry on Saturday night following the sunset fire social, I enjoyed waking up to the pre-dawn light and kangaroos outside the picture perfect window overlooking the Brindabellas and river (just a shame my camera was in the 4WD), and realising it was an hour later than the previous dawn, I realised my watch had enacted the Daylight Savings change. I pottered outside for a quick cast. Chilly feet reminded me it might be more wader time, but I found some castable banks upstream (where I don't think I visited last trip). Tossing a fly upstream at the base of a riffle near some grass, I watched as a rainbow dashed out from the grass edge, hit, and then realised I needed to get 2m lower to land it. It got off before I could get my feet wet again, but another fine start, although the rest of the morning was quiet but I returned home to fly interstate that afternoon after another great outing.

















Pot at the End of the Rainbow in the Backcountry

Got this from JM – I suspect it may have come from his solitary explorations during our Goodradigbee trip, but he's not saying.

Jason

Since heading on an outing a few years ago, I had it in mind to head back into the less visited areas of Kosciusko National Park to chase some trout. In fact, I guess I have been planning an extended trip for a decade now, but with potentially needing to be dropped off, my opportunity arose.

I packed up my mountain bike, pack rods, travel waders, folding net and packraft. I had it in mind to potentially drift down a river section and work some less visited waters, but was prepared to balance it with the risk of being in the area on my own and the water flow and temperature. Getting to the area, I saw the water wasn't too fast, was not too high. I took the opportunity to get used to my cheap rod before heading up, and found the action very soft, but managed to hook up. With my hands feeling the cool water, and an overcast day ahead, I figured with my decision not to bring a wetsuit was probably balanced by it wasn't warm enough to bother with the raft.

Following a pleasant breakfast, I headed up to my setting off point. I took some lunch, gas stove and pots in case I wanted an extra coffee, small thermos (with a ready coffee), some water, and my fishing gear. I used my Fliprock sandals on the pedals, but the first section was 120m of vertical climbing, so most of it was pushing my bike. It was good though to help get over fallen trees.

I managed to get some downhill riding in, but was soon laid up by a deflating tyre. Recalling some issues I had previously had with that wheel, and that my destination although downhill would need me to hike back up, I found a pleasant spot and split my gear. With a full thermos, I decided the stove could make me a nice cuppa if I felt like it on the way back. I managed to pack the waders, boots, rod and lunch in a pannier, and wore my fishing belt-pack. I figured the weather was light enough to leave my 6-weight with the bike. Putting my bike light on in case it turned dark with a storm, I headed off to the river.

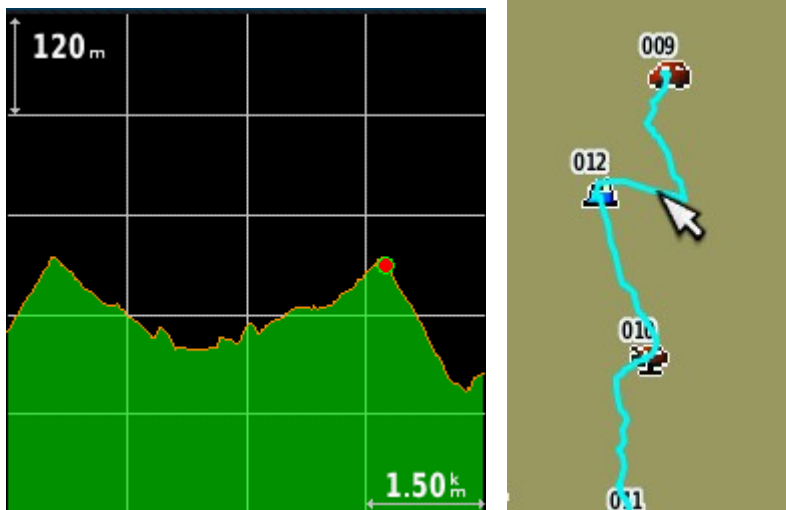


Working along a mountain ridge to the next fishing spot



Repacking and leaving some gear for the pit stop on the way back

I arrived at my spot, and set up near but not too close to the river. I didn't see any rises, but looked forward to casting my way into the river. I picked out a hopper, and a nymph, and stretched out my line. Tossing it up to the bubble line, I felt a strike, but missed it. I realized my dark hopper was almost invisible, and reverted to the odd tug, which resulted in a hook-up, and then another.



At least a bike helps not only hauling gear uphill, but also going back down



I was having luck with my nymph, but was worried about losing my only one of this style. After landing three or so fish, and checking the leader for chafing, I decided it was time to change the hopper and at least replace the dropper. I found a bigger brighter hopper and chose a different bead-headed nymph. I was still getting hit pretty much every cast, and now able to see the hopper I had better luck setting the hook.



Rainbow at the end of the trek

After a while, and trying a different (bigger) nymph, I gave some test casts to my first pool to check it would be eaten, I moved below and worked the next run. Following a fish near the rocks, I then felt a bite at my fly whilst untangling my fly line, and drifted the run again. The nymph seemed to bump the rocks before getting down below the tree and then it was hit. A fish leapt next to me, but my hopper was under the water about five metres away. I encouraged the fish upstream, and it seemed momentarily to have a second on the dropper, which then was confirmed a few moments later. Working the fish up to my net, I was elated to next both and get them on the bank. Unfortunately my video recording turned out to be switching the WiFi on and off, so I was glad I also took a photo.



Two for one cast – a pair-fect catch

After my camera battery went flat, and with the river around my chest feeling cold, I decided it was time to stop and refuel with some lunch. My arm was worn out with the fishing, and I was conscious I still had the return journey and a tyre repair still to go. I worked the first pool again after some lunch for some final casts, having the fish also targeting my hopper but with the cooler drizzly weather, they seemed to be less active.

Opting to hike back to my bike in my waders (and feeling somewhat damp), my pannier was a bit smaller, and I was soon at my bike. Finding the rim ridge causing the hole, I replaced the tube and repacked the bike. I took it easy on the return journey, at least until I got to the last peak and enjoyed the 120m downhill section, smelling the hot brake fluid on returning to the starting point. I was about to check the discs but heard the rain hiss on them, so settled for the smell of the brakes. After a fun time in the backcountry, it was time to pack it back up, and go warm up and relax, saving the fatigue resulting in

more wind knots. I had gone up and over the hills, returning to the river to find many trout, a bit like finding a pot at the end of the rainbow...helped by a few gold beads. I think the trip was a success, and it was great to see such a likely wild population of rainbow trout.



See ya later.....

Thanks for the Capital Fly Casting Raffle Prize

Jason M

After winning in the raffle a kindly donated fly casting lesson at our last public casting (and failing to drum up interest in my boys to take up fly fishing), I thought I had better make use of the opportunity myself before I leave to get a lesson, especially as I was about to embark on some very different fishing to our usual streams.

My instructor (www.capitalflycasting.com) was happy for some tailoring, and I declared my weapons and intent, as I was hoping to use my Vision 9wt and Loomis 10wt rods up in Queensland. I hadn't heard of the Saltwater Quick Cast, or the Oval Cast (aka Belgian/Austrian/Gurwurts-traminer-reisling cast) which I still imagine as an orthogonal or planar one, thinking of mathematics or longitude & latitude. I also figured some tips in casting bulkier or heavier flies would be useful, as most people who have followed this particular instructor may recall his saltwater adventures on fly.

The session was very informative, and one could say put some Capital in (or on) the bank. After some early failed (pre-CAA) attempts at casting my 10wt from a flats boat about 2008, and again with a former president down Ulladulla, I now found I was able to use a few different casts with the coached techniques and get some distance and nice lays (unlike 2008 or 2014). I was even

able to toss the 8wt again at the end and quickly found the end of the taper as I cast and adjust it. Now I just need to go find some fish, (& maybe do some practice) and hopefully hook up some scaly fish that I can maybe send in a postcard of in the next couple of months.



So many thanks for the not only the instruction, but the donation to Canberra Anglers for the raffle prize. I can recommend some raffle tickets for the next one, or even just a coaching lesson. For those trips off to the coast, it certainly is useful for switching technique.

Now, let's see if they let us fly fish on Heron Island.....

ABC Landline article on fishing in Port Phillip Bay

Greg S

https://www.abc.net.au/news/2022-03-27/fishing-port-phillip-bay-net-ifshing/100933318?fbclid=IwAR3bCBsJ9knpz_b5zAj1IFZ66mQwyCLCNOAq3Hi56JY278EzqH8ZUdbURBg

Possible fodder for the CAA Bulletin on the end of commercial fishing in Port Phillip Bay and bait fish too

In my Inbox

Owen is on a big road trip and snapped this image at Paringa SA.



Along with these ones at Narrandera.



Fly Tying 27 Apr

Lyall honcho'd us viewing an edited highlights of a recent fly tying video cast that he attended. It showed a rather innovative technique for using deer hair to have greater control over layering colours. The broadcast has subsequently been [found on YouTube](#).

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. These notifications can be very informative, for instance the recent invitation to head up to Eucumbene to see some brook trout being translocated, also the notification about a series of webinars on native fish initiatives on the 'Bidgee.

Volunteers with boats needed to disperse some larger than normal stocking

Gaden Trout Hatchery has approximately 10,000 grown out trout for stocking in Lake Eucumbene on 7 May 2022. Steve Samuels is looking for volunteers. Contact me if you don't have Steve's email addresss

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 placemaker.

Bass Season closing

commences this Sunday, 1 May 2022, and runs through to 31 August 2022.

Keep your eye out for tagged Yellow Belly

Assist DPI with fish research.

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.

May issue has not arrived yet – keep an eye out on our News blog.

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 April edition was advertised on our News blog.](#)

Fisheries Victoria News – 'Nibbles'

Not arrived yet. 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).

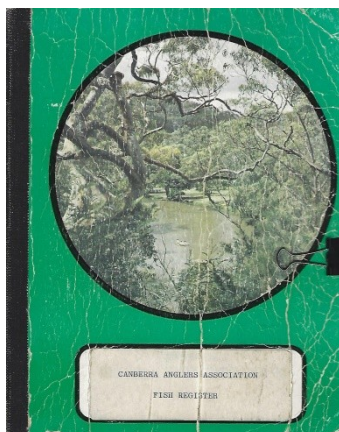
Long Term Program of Events Not Formally Part of CAA Events

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*.

Dates	Event Details
27 May-29 May	Lake Lyell ANSA Convention
Oct	We can anticipate Go Fishing Day NSW version. https://gonefishingday.com.au/
Dec	Buckenderra Caravan Park organize a trout catch and release event called the Anaconda Trout Challenge. There is a limit of 150 participants. Here is info about the 2021 event https://visitcooma.com.au/events/2021-anaconda-trout-challenge/
Jan 2023?	NSW DPI Kids' Fishing Workshops at Gaden Hatchery Jindabyne as part of their wider program but there are also saltwater events across the state https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fishing/recreational/resources/fishing-workshops/kids

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. Currently, 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. The process will change this year and we hope to receive clear guidance prior to our first event. In the meantime, please take photos of your catch with a tape or other verifiable measurement device (eg rod, but not your foot or hand).



We welcome emails advising how you are going, but don't forget to formally register them. 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 as being registered.

Angler	Species	Length	Method	Location/Event/ Date
Peter K	Redfin	33cm	No advice (likely to be fly)	Vicinity of Point Hut, 25 Sep
Peter K	Redfin	33cm	Fly	Vicinity of Point Hut, 27 Sep
Claude, Al, BJ and Shaun	Rainbows and browns	unreported	Fly	Cotter River, 2 and 4 Oct
Luke and Nathan	Rainbows	unreported	Fly	"local river" on opening weekend
Peter	Rainbows	Best at 42cm three others between 20.5 cm and 24cm	Fly	Cotter, 8 Oct
Peter K	Redfin	36cm	Fly	Vicinity of Point Hut, 17 Oct
Bill	Rainbows	Best at 33cm	Fly	Cotter, 28 Oct
BJ	Brown	Est 66cm	Fly	Tinderry's, 31 Oct?
Jaime	Browns and Rainbows	Best to 35cm	Fly	Goodradigbee 24 Jan
Bill	Browns and Rainbows	Best to 35cm	Fly	Goodradigbee 24 Jan
Peter	Rainbows	Best to 42cm	Fly	Cotter, ???
BJ	Brown	"3lb"	Fly	Jindy trip, 11-13 Feb
Jason M	Rainbow	35cm	Fly	Jindy trip, 11-13 Feb
Bill	Rainbows and browns	Best at 20cm	Fly	Jindy trip, 11-13 Feb
Owen	Rainbows and browns	Best at 20cm	Fly	Jindy trip, 11-13 Feb
Jason	One rainbow and many browns	Best, a rainbow at 30cm	Fly	Murrumbidgee, 5 Mar
Bill	One rainbow and many browns	Best, a rainbow at 37cm	Fly	Murrumbidgee, 5 Mar
Eli	Barra	75cm	Soft Plastic	Cairns "recently"

Bill	Two browns	Best at 40cm	Fly	Lake Eucumbene, 11 Mar
Ken and Alan S	Numerous Rainbows including a few at 30cm	Ken's best 32cm	Fly	Goodradigbee River, 13 Mar
Shaun	Brown	45cm	Fly	Bolaro Bridge Murrumbidgee, 27 Mar
Bill	Rainbow	27cm – only one I measured	Fly	Goodradigbee River, 1 Apr

Am still awaiting more reports from our April trip. I know there were many more and bigger than mine!

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

Find us on
facebook

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 after our AGM (adjustments will be made for joining later in the year). 2021/2022 rates are unchanged from last 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 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