

THE BURLEY LINE



Rod in Cairns – well done mate

(see the story inside)



From the Editor's Desk

Lots of stuff here including a report on that impressive barra on our photo of the month. Seems there has been a number of our members up north enjoying the warmth and testing themselves against the local species. This one cheekily including "Presidents of CAA" in the title. BJ and Jason M have submitted reports – BJ's respect to our first outing of the new season and JM just trying to make me envious of his wanderings north of the Tweed. Thanks also to Mark S and Owen for slipping me two notes.

Some very impressive and colourful flies tied last month – the output from our bunch of merry tiers are on show here. I look forward to hearing how they performed. Thanks again to Boss Outdoors for packaging up taster packs of the material.

Don't forget our annual fly casting is coming up this month. A slight change in location but pretty close by. Going to be good to see how the new rods perform.

We have a report on our AGM including positions appointed and trophies awarded. Congratulations to the 'new' committee and much appreciation for all the good work last year. The official program is here plus on our website.

The AGM also marks the time that members should pony up their annual fees – unchanged from last year. You can choose to come to a meeting of casting day with the cash – or even card now that BJ has set us up for tap and go. Also the time honoured Electronic Funds transfer (BSB 032727, A/C Number 233821. Please ensure your name is included in the transfer comment information). If you have changed contact details, then you can use the webform [here](#).

As always, would appreciate any and all contributions – many thanks to those who prepared articles this month. Copy to me by 22 Sep would be appreciated.

Coming Events

Meeting: 14th September.

7:30 at Raiders. All the details will be sent via email.

Fly Tying: 28th September 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

Our Annual Fly Casting Lessons to the public – 11, 18 and 25 September

CAA 2021 AGM and Trophy Awards

The [2022-23 Event Program](#) has been published on our website.

Dates	Event	Organiser
Sep 11, 18 and 25	Fly Casting for the Public	(near Old Parliament House lawns)
Oct 8	Lyle Knowles	Lyall
Nov 11-13	Brogo	Stefan
Nov 26-27	Alpine Lakes	Alan
Dec 2-4	Saltwater	John
Dec 14	Christmas BBQ	(Lake Burley Griffin)
Dec 10-12	Saltwater	John
Jan 14	Carp Bash	Claude
Feb 8	First meeting 2023	
Feb 10-12	Jindabyne Trout	Bill
Mar 4-5	Tumut	John
Mar 17-19	NSWCFA Interclub Meet	Stefan
Apr tba	Brindabella	Greg W
May 13-14	Tantangara	Claude
Aug 9	2023 Annual General Meeting	

The 19-21 Aug 2022 trip to Bondi Forest Lodge is reported on later in this issue. On the strength of their results, a similar trip might be expected early in the 2023-24 season, August 2023.

Your Committee is basically unchanged for 2022-23. Here is the list with one editorial change agreed subsequently:

President	Claude	Vice President	Rod
Secretary	Lyall	Assistant Secretary	John
Treasurer	B.J.	Public Officer	Lyall
Council Member (Membership)	Bill – transition to John	Council Member (Raffles)	Micheal (assisted by Angie)
Council Member	Al Mch	Council Member (Facebook)	Shaun)
Council Member (NSWCFA)	Stefan		

Membership fees are to remain unchanged for 2022/2023. We would appreciate if those members renewing could use electronic funds transfer if at all possible. Canberra Anglers Association, BSB 032727, A/C Number 233821. 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.

As part of the AGM, the annual trophy presentations were undertaken – well done to the various recipients. The various rules for the 2022-23 season are documented [here](#). (Updated Natives Calculator etc are [here](#)). Very few fish were recorded in 'the little green book' so not all trophies were awarded. (The registration process encourages you take a photo alongside some means of confirming length).



Peter took out the Lyle Knowles Trophy with a 30cm rainbow. The Cotter system has fished really well this season.



Angler's Art Trophy for Best Trout on an Outing Other than Lyle Knowles was won by Jason M with a 36cm rainbow – was this the fish caught at Tantangara when most folk stayed at home? :-)



The Mick Cornick Trophy for Best Trout on Fly, Streams was won by BJ for a 66cm brown.



The Mick O'Brien Trophy for Best Trout, Any Method was won by BJ also (another 66ccm brown).

The Keith Shields Trophy for Best Native was won by Jason M for a 36cm Australian Bass





Jason's Bass also won the Bass Trophy with that 36cm bass.

The President's Award for contribution during the season is a vintage split cane rod from the House of Hardy. The award was presented to Greg W.



The Best Trout by a Junior, Saltwater Trophy, Best Carp, Dr Bryan Pratt Murray Cod Trophy, Charlie Diedo Golden Perch Trophy and Best English Perch were not awarded due to lack of entries ... better effort next year folks.

President's report

We have had a pretty interesting year in some respects with a number of our events being cancelled due to poor weather or chocolate water, or COVID which caused the cancellation of our casting to the public. The CAA has been fortunate enough to get our new equipment as a result of last FY's DPI-Recreational Fishing Trust Grant– we now have 35 new fly rods, reels etc. The activities that have gone ahead have been great fun – trips to Jindabyne, Tantangara, Cotter and of course the river that cant be named. The newsletter has been a shining light as per usual with 275 pages issued with 28 contributors and about 100 contributions. Jason Middleton 'wins' with 17 articles followed by Bill with 15, BJ 8, AI 6, Jaime 5. It was great to see the other contributions with single contributions from folk like Ken, Luke, Shaun and Stefan. BJ had the most covers with AI close behind him. Its really important to maintain the club's momentum with activities so all members are encouraged volunteer or just participate in events such as club nights, weekends away, day trips, competitions and fly tying. We have a great year ahead with casting to the public with our new gear in September and a full program of events – please participate and encourage new members to join – and a range of interesting speakers, with a presentation on Northern Australian Fly Fishing by Nathan in September.

Thanks again to our sponsors over the year which include Compleat Angler – Boss Outdoors, Tackleworld, DPI Fisheries.

Bondi Forest Lodge

This site has been well regarded in the past. This year's attendance was very low but hopefully this report will inspire greater numbers next time.

BJ and Shaun

Bondi Forest (a Slight Return)

After a few fond memories of CAA Bondi Forest trips of old shared during a number of club member discussions I volunteered to host a return in Aug 2022. But as a novice host - neglected to appreciate that I really needed to independently advertise this early pre-season activity so members were aware well before the annual program gets published. As they say in the classics - D'oh!



And so it was that scheduling conflicts prevailed and we could only muster 2 overnight stayers (myself and Shaun) and a Saturday day tripper in John. With no minimum numbers required or other users waiting - at least we could get the gear and casting action out of winter storage and the answer questions of Pond fishery health and Lodge continued fitness for purpose.

Shaun and I took a Friday early mark from work and headed to Nimmitabel to sample the Lake William potential before sunset. Shaun quickly found a few eager streamer chasers, while I was a bit longer in the game before landing one and dropping one. We then headed on and hit the lodge about 6:30 to find a couple of hunting chums (father and son from Sydney) and a healthy fireplace without smoke! Brian has changed up to Gas and reclad all the huts in fresh Forest Green AlClad. Seems the fires took 50% (at least) of the Bondi Forest stands, but brought some supplementary funding from NSW Forestry for recovery planted and has the place lookin' like a new thing. Also that the Pond never ran dry and is fed by a healthy spring that supported 5 firefighting helicopters with dropping more than a foot.

Chatting in the lounge for a few hours saw another couple of hunters arrive down from Sydney, and quickly retire for an early start. We decided the lodge pond didn't necessarily require the same dedication - we were the only threat! There were several emerger feeding dimples constantly activating at 7 am. We found reed growth has been healthy despite attempts to weed whack and on morning inspection that there are 3 easy bank casting approaches without ending up chest deep. Luckily we towed the SS



TroutBum - 12ft of Tassie Lake wooden drift boat - down to launch us in for some mini LochStyle (oars only) efforts down the middle. May as well have breakfast first.

A leisurely start saw us trying damselfly streamers and a cormorant dropper, producing regular takes, and eventually some landings and smiles. Shaun's speciality fishing techniques were just the trick, when we found the right piece of structure, but we could not raise a brown trout from the very clear and healthily vegetated bottom of the pond.. JR arrived and hit the water from the banks as the wind and drizzle picked up - but the fish response didn't change. We all contacted a few and landed a few less. (Well maybe Shaun landed them all). Healthy feisty Rainbows in the 30-40cm range mostly. *(Shaun's note: BJ is being humble here. We took 13 fish to the boat in 3 hours - this is why loch style is so much fun!)*



After a lunch break we followed a rumour that Black Lake at Bibbenluke was up and full of trout from several stocking years. However the afternoon was harsh weather and unproductive at the shallower end of the lake seeking shelter from the worst of the wind. We resolved that warmer weather would see excellent action from the abundant subsurface vegetation hosting insects larvae, drank a truck brew and drove off at 5pm to the sight of porpoise-ing deep bodied trout chasing bait fish. D'oh!

Sat night conviviality with thwarted Hunters (one an ex commercial fisher), and fly tying. Sunday was a blue-bird day and extra hard frost settled in the SS TroutBum needed to melt before we were keen to cast. Super clear water meant more distance was needed for casts but the streamer strip was the method again for green and brown colours.

Very satisfying visit and bodes well for future years. Who knows - if I'd braved some icy guides I could have stirred the browns after all. However - should check out Black Lake in Oct/Nov for stirring Monaro Spring action. We reckon the BF Lodge pond could handle 2 x modest watercraft fishing at either end and still allow bank fishing spots to work. The lounge and kitchen is begging for more users and flytyers, even hikers and mountain bikers to balance out the hunters. Only \$40/night all year round. Maybe a guitar player?

(with sincere apologies to the Voodoo Child and Messrs Hendrix, Redding & Mitchell)

<https://youtu.be/qFfnlYbFEiE>

(A hint for non-musicologists. The following poem is reimagined from the lyrics of Voodoo Child (Slight Return), by JHendrix.)

*We were Lodgin' next to a Mountain, fire chopped the forest down - within an inch of the pond,
We were Lodgin' next to a Mountain, fire chopped the forest down - within an inch of the pond,
Well I gripped up all the pieces of Marabou and made a streamer,
Might even raise a decent Brown.*

'Cause I'm a TroutBum child

Lord knows I'm a TroutBum child.

On Saturday John landed this fellow.



Post-cast, Far North Queensland

Jason is now back in the cold, but proffered this report before he started his return journey

Jason M

Looking back, it seems we had quite a number of former CAA Committee members up in the warm weather of Far North Queensland. I briefly managed to catch up with Geoff D a couple of

times along the Bruce Highway, but was travelling in the opposite direction to Jason Q & didn't quite get down to Ian at Burrum.

The last few weeks saw a couple of thousand of kilometres mixed with some fishing, after a quick stop with an old schoolmate and fishing near Emu Park. Alas, the school holiday timing made fishing around neap tides and low water during the day, interspersed with patches of a few days of regular rain. As such, opportunities to wet a line were limited. My first stop after Mackay was Ayr (a good deal for staying 2 nights in a cabin gave time to use the boat). After inspecting a few boat ramps and creeks, and using YouTube to survey others, I headed to Plantation Creek from Ayr. Despite finding a school of prawns and a nice deep hole holding fish there wasn't much luck.

Half Moon Creek from Bluewater Marina in Trinity Park was the next stop, and leaving a young family to the recommended fishing point (their son was thrilled to land a few small bream), we surveyed the creek under troll in anticipation of future fishing. A decent pike was landed, but otherwise the most interesting sight was a crocodile sunning itself near the marina 6 Knot sign.

The rain postponed tours, so the rest of the week was tied up trying to find where you could take 8 people during school holidays. We did get fishing up near the Daintree (further article to follow), before heading back South.

It was then to Cardwell for two nights. The park had a boatwash area, and the first attempt to fish from the Port Hitchinbrook Marina was dashed with a tinnie struggling to get back, 3 hours before low tide. I went exploring, and investigating a nearby creek and national park until the tide was going to be high enough to leave. The water was crystal clear but despite working it, no fish (or crocs) were spotted.



Cairns Again - Two PoCAA's go fishing

JQ and Rod

A spare Sunday morning on an August work trip to Cairns was the opportunity to reconnect with Jason and enjoy a morning fly fishing his local waterways. Jason thoughtfully accommodated my Saturday nights drinks with a later pick up of 0730 at my Cairns hotel. A short ride to collect his boat and meet the lovely Darlene and adorable Elsie and Eli, and we were on the water about 0830. My first cast about 10min after launch yielded a crazed school of small GT all trying to kill the fly. It was going to be a great day.



Jason's boat is great platform for two and a good choice for the tidal, often shallow, waters of the Trinity Inlet and other local waterways. We didn't see any of the famed big crocs that usually adorn the sandbars. Had we I might have revised my opinion that a 3.85m boat was plenty big enough. Fortunately, the Queensland crocs have not (yet) adopted the bad habits of NT crocs of stealing hooked fish and attacking boats.



Under Jason's expert (and patient) guidance I worked a series of logs and snags on the run-out tide and landed a few smallish Moses Perch, Giant Trevally and Archer Fish. Jason's home-tied flies with the XXX factor were perfect for bouncing off snags and I gained confidence in how far I could push it with lobbing them into a tangle of branches. (Not like those wretched trout flies down south that wilfully snagged every single twig,

leaf, and branch in a 50m radius). Some winning casts into the sweet spots against some great looking snags went untouched and then the big one.

A last chance cast to a rapidly shallowing snag and the fly was engulfed by a sizeable barramundi. After 30 years up north I'd caught hundreds of barra but this was my first on a fly – and my biggest fish ever on a fly. Jason eased us back from the snags and I slowly worked this beautiful gold barra into boat. A dogged battle with a few tail walks and then Jason's skilled net work and I was holding my first Trinity Inlet barra and a personal best. *(see photo of the month)*

After a celebratory swig of Sullivans Cove single malt (a JQ tradition) it was my turn to watch the master at work. I thought I did well with my fly placement, but Jason was a genius. His flies somehow threaded through the snags, bounced and slid under overhanging branches and got snaffled by Moses perch, Archer Fish and a Barracouta. It was art in motion.

We chased fish and wind-free locations for a while, but the tide was dropping and the wind brewing so we headed back to the ramp. Mindful of crocs, Jason quickly hooked up the boat and we were on our way home.

Help Out by Monitoring and Reporting on Platypus and Rakali

The Survey website is [here](#).

In my In-Box



Mark with a 55cm, 3.8lb rainbow from Nimmitabel's stocked Lake Williams. The 2lb brooky is an oddity. Caught by a friend of Mark's in a stream in our near region. Almost certainly an escapee from a privately stocked farm dam.





Also from Owen, travelling up North:

Lyn having caught a mild dose of covid prevented us from going to East Arnhem Land ,have had to fill in 3 weeks before a next attempt to go on the 12th Aug . The extra time has allowed us to explore new areas and see lots, much hotter 32/34 + deg now than when first came up some nights still cool. Finding places to fish is limited without local knowledge , access is limited especially without a boat, the water has been cold and the fish off, managed a few Barra



From Rod, an artificial intelligence gate that can identify unwanted fish species and prevent passage. This is quite topical and our Recreational Fishing Trust Fund is supporting a project to 'pump' fish across migration barriers. Barring unwanted species from accessing this facility is part of the project.

<https://newatlas.com/environment/ai-fish-gate-atlantic-pacific-salmon/>

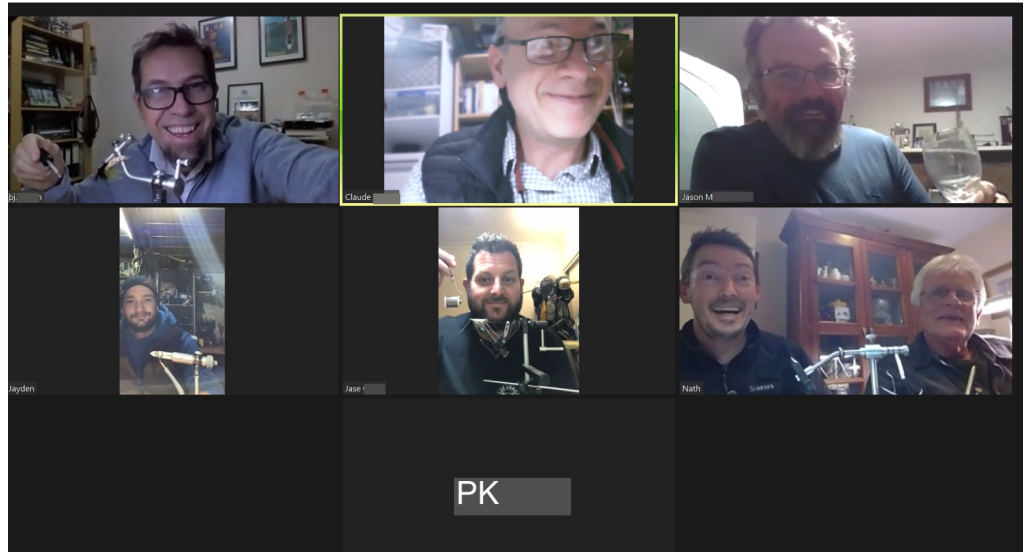
Fly Tying Wed 24 Aug 2022 – Donnie Brasco

Looked to be a very interesting fly. All the good information is available in our [Fly Tying blog](#). Support from Nathan at Boss Outdoor (ex Compleat Angler) in assembling materials kit was much appreciated. All the information is [here](#).

Claude

The CAA had another great fly tying session with eight of us working on the Donnie Brasco – a great fly for tackling natives, which for us means Goldens and smaller Murray Cod. Its also great for targeting Bass when you're in those areas. Jason M and Mark S also joined us for a chat which we encourage...you don't have to tie to join us for fly tying. We had great tying advice from Nathan, Jason and Jayden. Most of us were tying the Donnie Brasco for the first time and the results were great. Some of the flies tied are below....now we just have to catch fish with them...September is the time to get out there and working them slow down near the bottom!

Special thanks to Nathan from Boss Outdoors for making up the tying kits which made the activity a whole bunch easier.



Lyall



BJ



Jason Q



Nathan



Peter



Claude



Jayden



Jayden's earlier (smaller) versions

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.

[More Details About the NSWCFCA Interclub Meet 17-19 Mar 2023](#)

March will be busy but perhaps we can field a team.

[Fly Fish Australia Looking for Volunteer Controllers 7-10 Dec](#)

Help Shaun assemble a team of volunteers and have an excellent time helping out at the competition. Several members have done so in the past and say it was most enjoyable.

[Youtube Video - NZ Smelters](#)

Some impressive fishing. Peter and I aspire to capture drone footage like this as well as the fish.

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.

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.

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](#).

August issue was reported on our [News Blog here](#). Quite a few items relevant to us.

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
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 are to be confirmed as part of their wider program but there are also saltwater events across the state including Burrill Lake in September https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fishing/recreational/resources/fishing-workshops/kids

A number of our members are comp fishers. There is also care needed to avoid some waters during the competition. The proposed program will be recorded here:

3	19/20 November 2022 :-	Mitta Mitta River competition
4	25/26 February 2023 :-	Rocky Valley Reservoir boat loch style competition - "President's Shield"
5	22/23 April 2023 :-	Ovens/Kiewa Two Rivers competition
6	20/21 May 2023	Goulburn River competition

Tasmania.

Round #	Date	Venue
2	22/23 rd October 2022	Mersey R & Four Springs
3	12/13 th November 2022	Woods/Penstock Lagoon
4	21/22 nd January 2023	Tyenna River
5	4/5 th March 2023	Mersey R & Meander R
6	1/2 nd April 2023	Little Pine & Pine Tier Lagoons

NSW/ACT

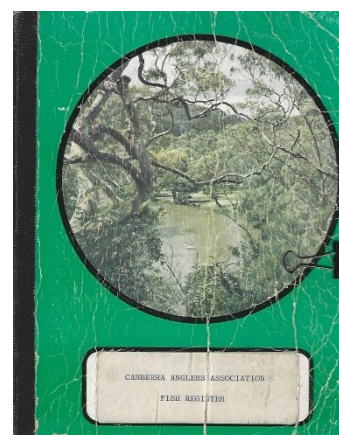
Round	Date	Venue
1	8/9 th October 2022	Loch Style Snowy Mtns
2	5/6 th Nov 2022	Loch Style Snowy Mtns
3 Nationals	7-10 th Dec 2022	Snowy Mountains
4	2/3 April 2023	Tumut River
5	May 2023	Bathurst

Victoria

Round	Date	Venue
1	17/18 September 2022	Steavenson/Rubicon R or Newlyn/Hepburn Lake Bank
2	22/23 October 2022 :-	Wendouree lake boat loch style competition - "Vern Barby Trophy" and the "State of Origin"

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

Start telling me folks, and putting into the Green Book.

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.

**BOSS
OUTDOOR**



Capital Fly Casting

www.capitalflycasting.com