

# THE BURLEY LINE



**Deep pool - upper Rouchel Brook**



# From the Editor's Desk

Quite a diversity this month:

- Claude and BJ have snuck across the ditch and provided some nice images.
- The next report from our US contributor, Jason M. His first outing with his new fishing friends – chasing brook trout in suburban water.
- Stefan provides a report, along with official results, of the NSWCFA Interclub Comp. Perhaps we'll entice more people to go to the next one.
- An update to an older entry in our fly tying blog.
- Advice on further CAA merchandise.
- Recent local capture by Peter.
- Someone we know has also been in New Zealand.
- Finally, some reels for sale.

As always, any and all submissions from members for future newsletters will be appreciated anytime.

## Coming Events

### **Meeting: 12th Apr.**

As usual 7:30 at Raiders Weston – Claude speaking about his (and BJ's) recent trip to NZ's Southland and Canterbury.

### **Fly – Tying 26th Apr.**

As usual 7:30 via Zoom – more details via email.

### **Next Events**

**14-16 Apr** – Greg W taking us to the Brindabellas – fully booked but there is a wait list, and we've already had one pull-out and be replaced.

**13-14 May** – Tantangara camping with Claude.



# NZ Fush

Claude

My best day in NZ was Lake Pukaki where I caught 6 in the day using my Euro rod (the previous day was 4 using a normal rod). Three were caught by sight casting to fish – interesting with a Euro Rod.



The brown in the grass was sitting in an outflow channel about 40cm wide and took the second presentation – close quarters fushing ....I can still see it in my mind's eye....looking up and opening its mouth without moving out of position. Their length was from fingertip up to armpit, but nothing less than mid bicep....(I don't measure or weigh....but I'm estimating most of them around the 3.5 lb mark based on one of my comrades measurements on similar fush).





Look forward to catching up to chat about our adventures in person.

## Closed season casting....

**Jason M**

G'Day Anglers,

I have finally made it out for a fish with a local club that fishes on weekends (vice weekdays), probably something similar to one of our day outings. It was almost as far as the Snowies, as are most of the trips, meeting at an Orvis store at 8am before heading on for the next hour or so & getting the local tips from the tackle store at the creek. I confirmed later I'd bought some tying gear from the same guy at a fly fishing show a couple of weeks earlier, but that didn't stop me from needing some more :- ) (especially after seeing the colours that were working in that part of the country).

The group was nine or ten, plus there were a couple of other fishers on the stretch of stream. It reminded me a bit of Ginninderra Creek, but instead of having a few carp, it was all brook and rainbow trout. It's all a short walkway behind houses in the area. I spotted one nice one whilst wading across a junction below a bridge, but as expected they were pretty spooky. Our guide, and one semi-pro guide got a couple of fish each, but the rest of us lucked out. I watched the semi-pro, and it was almost like jaggig fish, because the 7" (or smaller) brookies barely moved the line & would quickly spit the nymph. It was pretty much dragging nymphs and squirmy worms along the bottom. One chap just upstream of me missed on, with his reel starting to squeal briefly.

I'm not sure if they were biting from taking the flies, or just getting sick of them going past. Maybe a bit of both, with the consensus the flies pretty much had to bump the fish on the snout



before they would bite, although a few would wander out for a quick look. The rainbows were all schooled up, & you could see them following the lead of the older fish.

With my waders crammed into hiking boots (my felt soled boots aren't able to be used in that state), unable to find my gloves, and a two hour drive home, I opted to leave them to flogging that 200m-odd stretch of catch-and-release stream for a couple more hours once I lost a fourth set of flies, but happy I'd taken my new 7'6" rod & started to get used to the 4 weight. It was good to get to the creek, especially with the section above to the hatchery opening in April (& being stocked before then) in the put-and-take part of the stream.

Back up that way before Easter, including camping at a park with a lake that opens up the day before I get there. The big choice will be whether to spend the day before packing up, or take up the next club outing to a spot I've been trying to get to. It might be decided by the weather anyway, with a few showers forecast.

Tight lines.



*The start point....The lady next door (to the right) was busy mowing her lawn, kids on the trampoline, just another day with anglers chasing fish... some nice fish in the pool too, but over 1m deep.*





*Here was where I spooked a fish 1/3 from the left near the island there. Like Tasmania, the mud was very boggy unless there were rocks underneath - ankle deep water but mud up over the knees*

## **NSWCFA Interclub Competition 18-19 Mar .... Rambling with Stefan!**

### **Stefan**

The occasion to attend the resurrected NSW Council of Freshwater Anglers Interclub fishing gathering allowed me the chance to explore some different fishing opportunities within New South Wales. Some folks may be dissuaded in heading on a seven hour road trip to end up still to be fishing within our own state. Much more appealing to some, the prospect of heading interstate or even overseas for potentially obtaining "better" fishing results. Maybe I can change that view by recounting some of the aspects of my weekend away. All things considered, a more local but unfamiliar venture into oft bypassed territory that may be just as rewarding. This was the case with my trip to the upper Hunter Valley area near Scone on the New England Highway.

The jumping off point for this area is more correctly the township of Aberdeen, settled in the early 19th century by Scottish farmers with their sheep. They found viable grazing land on the flat land either side of the Hunter River and large runs were quickly established. Newcastle, on the coast, was already a major port and coal producer for energising the colony of NSW, and provided a market for the produce of the area. One of the major downsides of having vast flatlands was that it was prone to flooding from storm-fed streams to the east, most starting in the Barrington Tops.



In the mid twentieth century the engineered dam, Lake Glenbawn was constructed to mitigate the problem and provide summer river flow. This in turn also provided public amenity in the form of recreation and water access. Glenbawn quickly grew to provide good camping, watersport and fishing opportunity. Access to the shoreline is provided within the confines of a rambling camping and cabin park.

The Scone Amateur Fishing Club owns an established clubhouse within the park reserve, and this was the setting of the interclub competition for the weekend. The venue provided the ideal location for the event with plenty of area surrounding to set up camp and mingle with other people



from different clubs. The building itself proved most adequate for the control centre and focus of activities, as well as being comfortable for the usual jaw-bone-ing well into the night.



The lake is well suited to all forms of fishing, whether shore based or, in particular, water craft based. The waters are a renowned Australian bass fishery, although golden and silver perch are stocked as well. However, introduced species dominate as well. The heat during the event was suspected in limiting catches to carp from the lake on this weekend. Temperatures of near 40 degC were recorded for the two days of fishing.

The network of rural roads in the area provides ample access spots for fishing. I was fortunate to accompany Charles, a member of the hosting Central Coast Fly Rod Club, while he explored the number of Department of Fisheries endorsed access points, both to the south and north of the lake proper. Of note here were Rouchel Brook (see photo of the month) and Stewarts Brook (here), easily reached by normal car. Note the use of Scottish designation of the usual creeks, interesting reflection of history. For those savvy in such things the author Patrick White

grew up in the area, at a locality known as Belltrees. In his epic novel "Voss" he alludes to a day's fishing the doomed exploration party does in the area. Was he referring to the British trout introduced to these waters and encountered during his youth some hundred years after the setting of the book?

Even though the travel times from the park site are an hour or more, there are ample opportunities to wet a line on the way. We did note though that the everpresent scourge of exploding carp numbers was clearly evident. Higher up toward the mountains, both brown and rainbow trout were evident. Most rainbow trout were only of yearling size, in the 12 to 18 cm range, but prolific and eager to accept the fly. I managed to catch three fish in just one pool on three different flies, being a nymph, a coachman and the squirmy worm. I managed to cover about 500 meters of stream but was kept busy and entertained for a good three hours. Charles noted that the stocked fish generally show an increase in size as one gets closer to the higher mountains. That will be the target for another day.



In another location I witnessed a large school of carp feeding the edges of a sizeable pool. The thing that made this group interesting, quite apart from their size, being upto easily 60 cm in some cases, was that there was a single tandan (or eel tailed catfish) swimming among the group as if it belonged. Maybe it felt some kind of kindred spirit, a native among the european barbel-lipped mud suckers.

Interestingly, immediately below this pool where the water emptied over shallower stones and riffled into a slow, sedge lined stretch of creek, I saw many small fish moving. I was somewhat confused as their behaviour was at times like that of trout, that is to say they hovered behind rocks and such when moving upstream but at times dispersed in an altogether unusual manner. Now were these juvenile carp or a good number of browns from a successful spawning season this year? Brown trout - because I clearly identified a much larger fish to 30 cm lurking under a fallen stump, and that was a brown for sure. The location was not ideal for a cast and time for my return journey had come. So I left that fish for another day, such are fisher's dreams.

All in all, the area sports good opportunity. Aberdeen has a well provisioned vet doubling as a very helpful fishing gear shop, giving advice liberally. Accommodation is available, there are vineyards close by, farmstays on horse studs and ample cheaper (even free camp sites) spread all the way into the Barrington Tops. The small hamlet of Gundy has a cute pub, lively on a Friday or Saturday night with showground camping nearby.

Certainly worth another visit, another time - and there's great fishing to boot.



# NSWCFA Interclub Competition 18-19 Mar ....

## Official Wash-up

We got this official wash-up from the key organiser John Robb. One intent of the Interclub is to financially support NSWCFA and it seems they had some success. Well done Central Coast.

**John Robb**

### SUMMARY REPORT

#### NSWCFA FLY AND LURE FISHING INTERCLUB MEET 2023

The Central Coast Fly Rodders (CCFR) ran the 2023 Interclub Meet on behalf of the NSWCFA from **17-19 March 2023**. Based at the Scone AFC clubroom on the shores of Lake Glenbawn NSW, the venue was the first in the 20 year history of the Interclub Meet to be at other than Wallerawang. Another first, was the inclusion of competitions in lure fishing and casting. Club teams competed in fly and lure fishing in lake Glenbawn and surrounding streams and in fly and skish (plug) casting events.

#### Club Teams Competing

Central Coast Fly Rodders (15 members)  
Sydney Fly Rodders (4 members)  
Hastings Fly Fishing Club (1 member)  
The Barrington Club (1 member)  
Orange Trout Accl Soc (1 member)  
Canberra Anglers Assoc (1 member)

**Program.** The Interclub lunch and casting comps were run on the Saturday following the first session of the Fishing comp. Sunday brunch and presentations were provided after the second session of the Fishing comp.

**Best Club Team.** Because of the variation of team size, the best four personal scores from each of the CCFR and SFR teams were averaged to provide the Club Team score. The club team point scores were therefore:

CCFR: 21.5  
HFCC: 15  
BC: 9  
CAA: 9  
SFR: 8.5  
OTAS: 0

**Best Club Team Perpetual Trophy.** The previous perpetual trophy was retired and the winner of the inaugural **John Humphries Memorial Shield** for Best Club Team was **CCFR**.



**Largest Fish Perpetual Trophy.** The winner of the ‘best fish’ perpetual trophy was Richard Hassall (CCFR) with a 75cm carp caught on fly in Rouchel Brook.

### **Fish Caught**

15 x Carp on fly in lake  
1 x Mirror Carp on fly in lake  
14 x Carp on fly in streams  
6 x Rainbow Trout (10-13cm) on fly in streams  
1 x Carp on lure in lake.

### **Competition Results**

**Best Fly Fisher:** 1<sup>st</sup> Richard Hassall (CCFR) – 20 points, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mal Holden 16 pts (CCFR), 3<sup>rd</sup> Radge Diakiw (SFR) and Dave Witham (CCFR) – 10 pts.

**Best Lure Fisher:** Dave Witham (CCFR) – 10 pts

**Best Fly Caster:** 1<sup>st</sup> Ian Andrews (SFR), 2<sup>nd</sup> Col Breese (CCFR), 3<sup>rd</sup> Roy Browne (CCFR).

**Best Skish Caster:** 1<sup>st</sup> Brad Heathcote (CCFR), 2<sup>nd</sup> Roy Browne (CCFR), 3<sup>rd</sup> Ian Andrews (SFR).

**Funds Raised.** Funds raised for the NSWCFA, mainly from the raffle and silent auctions, are likely be in the region of \$1400

## **A New Addition to our Fly Tying Blog**

Bert's Better Brush was the subject of an Oct 2014 class (yep, almost a decade ago). This was given by Jason M but I've only just realised that the step by step instructions were missing. Included [here now](#).

## **Canberra Anglers “Merch”**

Last month, I referred to the local embroider who can put the CAA logo onto your shirts. I should also have mentioned other merchandise.

### **Enamel Badge Pins.**



Two styles are available - lapel pin with clasp and ring hooks (eg for attaching to keyrings). \$10 each, held by BJ.

### **Name Badges**



Just prior to Casting for the Public 2018 the Committee agreed that Lyall would get a prototype name badge made so that other members could easily and cheaply get name badges made for themselves. We agreed not to have offices (eg. President) on them as the badge is not intended to be a badge of rank. All members need to

do is visit Canberra Stamps and Signs at 49 Townsville Street, Fyshwick, give them your name and pay \$17. The badge only takes a few days to produce.



Other items, 'stubby coolers' may still be available from Lyall, a limited number of coloured sew-on cloth CAA badges are held by BJ and finally, John has bumper stickers. The stickers were intended for newly joined members, but I'm conscious are lot of long term members either didn't get one, or may have new cars etc – check with John.

## Found in my Facebook Feed

Someone we know doing well in NZ? Wearing CAA shirt so we must know who he is.



Nice fish from a day's outing with good mate Barry Perkins of [Fly Fish Maitai](#) based in Gore. I understand conditions were challenging that day.

Our man also got involved in a local fly fishing festival ([Maitai On The Fly](#)) offering some lessons to the public. Then received a unique gift of a bottle of Hokonui Moonshine. To some, the taste is as interesting as [the story](#).





*The bottle with the eponymous hills on the skyline.*

## In My In-Box

Peter caught a nice redfin, "close to a pound – 34cm measured" just in time for brunch.



## For Sale

We received a request to advertise some items for sale from a non-member:

*Hello my name is Robert I have a collection of three Abu 2500 baitcaster reels from the 1980's, brand new never used never spooled in their original boxes including original paper work &*



replacement parts & lubricants. Originally purchased from Brian Pratts' Tackle Box in Belconnen. I'm interested in selling this collection & was wondering if anyone in your club may be a collector of classic fishing reels. Please feel free to contact me (Robert) on 0407490840 or email me at [tattoomax67@gmail.com](mailto:tattoomax67@gmail.com) if you have any questions or require any further information. I do not use Facebook or eBay so this is the only way for me to reach out to like minded collectors. Regards Robert





## 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 previous 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.

### [Native Fish Forum 2023 Wednesday 3rd to Friday 5th May](#)

Advice from Upper Murrumbidgee Demonstration Reach.

### [Road Repairs at Rushy Bay](#)

Brought to you by MAS and our licence money.

## 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 placemark.

### [Awesome Video on the Moonbah](#)

Produced by one of our newest members (Paul), starring Ryan.

## 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.

[April Newsletter](#). Most significant issue being proposed changes to licences. NSWCFCA are developing a submission to Australian Minister for Foreign Affairs as the discriminatory treatment of Australians may contravene and Australian/New Zealand agreement.

### 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](#).

#### [March Newsletter](#):

- Political parties' policies before NSW state elections
- Ministerial Fisheries Advisory Council members announced... Canberra local Mark Bulley appointed
- Recreational Fishing NSW Advisory Council announced... CAA Member Bill Blair appointed

### Fisheries Victoria News – 'Nibbles'

These are in hiatus for the moment while they identify a new distribution system. Meanwhile they have a presence on all forms of social media.

# 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
Jan 2023?	I would suggest that NSW DPI Kids' Fishing Workshops at Gaden Hatchery Jindabyne are probably in hiatus while the refurbishment program is in train. However there are also saltwater events across the state. <a href="https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fishing/recreational/resources/fishing-workshops/kids">https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fishing/recreational/resources/fishing-workshops/kids</a>
Oct 2023	We can anticipate Go Fishing Day NSW version. <a href="https://gonefishingday.com.au/">https://gonefishingday.com.au/</a>

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

## Victoria

5	22/23 April 2023 :-	Ovens/Kiewa Two Rivers competition
6	20/21 May 2023	Goulburn River competition

## Tasmania.

Round #	Date	Venue
6	1/2 <sup>nd</sup> April 2023	Little Pine & Pine Tier Lagoons

## NSW/ACT

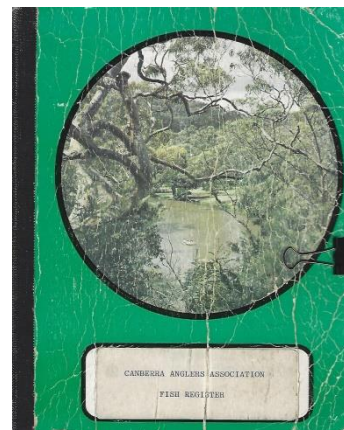
Round	Date	Venue
4	2/3 April 2023	Tumut River
5	May 2023	Bathurst



# 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. 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	Murray Cod	60cm and ?83cm?	Fly	Lake Tuggeranong
Jayden	Rainbow	36cm and just over 1lb	(Dry) Fly	Kiandra, 26 Nov
Peter	Mirror Carp	43 cm?	Fly	Lake Tuggeranong, 11 Dec
Bill	Australian Salmon	Est 30cm	Lure	Tuross – Saltwater Event – 3 Dec
Peter	Carp	63cm	Bait	Carp Event – 15 Jan - LBG
BJ	Carp	60cm	Fly	Carp Event – 15 Jan - LBG
Shaun	Carp	40cm	Fly	Carp Event – 15 Jan - LBG
Rod and Bill	Carp	Not reported	Bait	Carp Event – 15 Jan - LBG

Mike and Bill	Brown and rainbow Trout	Various, of modest sizes	Fly	Jindy Event – 10-12 Feb – some ‘rivers somewhere’
Geoff	Brown and rainbow Trout	‘three small catches’	Fly	Jindy Event – 10-12 Feb – Mowambah
Claude and BJ	Rainbow Trout	Most around 20-25cm	Fly	Lyle Knowles, Cotter River, Sun 19 Feb
BJ	Rainbow Trout	33cm	Fly	Lyle Knowles, Cotter River, Sun 19 Feb
Jayden	Rainbow Trout	about 10 between 210mm and 285mm	Fly	Lyle Knowles, Cotter River, Sun 19 Feb
Micheal	Trout	30cm plus	Fly	Tumut trip, Goobarragandra River, 4-5 Mar
Owen	Rainbow Trout	Best 35cm, others under 20cm	Fly	Tumut trip, Goobarragandra River, 4-5 Mar
Ryan	Brown Trout	Best at estimated 45cm (can be judged in due course from photo with net as a gauge	Fly	Tumut trip, Goobarragandra River, 4-5 Mar
Bill	Brown Trout	One measured at 38cm, one estimated at 25cm	Fly	Thredbo River, 4-5 Mar
Peter and Bill	Rainbow Trout	Not measured High 20s, low 30s	Fly	Lake Eucumbene, 10 Mar



## Contact Us

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Visit us on the web at  
<https://www.canberra-anglers.asn.au/>

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*Capital Fly Casting*

[www.capitalflycasting.com](http://www.capitalflycasting.com)

## 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). 2022/2023 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.