

# THE BURLEY LINE



**Paul on the Goodradigbee**



## From the Editor's Desk

Folks, I've been away so this issue is a little smaller than normal, but our membership has made up for it in quality with an excellent report on the club trip to the Goodradigbee. Many thanks to Greg for organising the trip and for assembling this interesting report.

I'll add some images from my recent trip to NZ – just some 'grip and grin' to whet your appetite for visiting in the future. In respect to NZ, NSWCFCA has taken action in respect to some proposed changes to non-resident angling – see the section below on our "News" blog.

We had some very sad news with the death of long term member Shaun. Last month's fly tying was in some respects a commemoration of his contribution to the club's activities. We'll miss him also as an active Administrator for our Facebook page. Our thoughts go out to his family.

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

## Coming Events

**Meeting: 10th May.**

As usual 7:30 at Raiders Weston – and maybe via Zoom.

**Fly – Tying 24th May.**

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

**Next Events**

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

## CAA Event into the Brindabellas – 14-16 Apr

**Greg W**

Welcome to the Post Activity Report for the CAA Goodradigbee 23. This report is driven by the input from the attendees on this trip as it gives members an inside look and feel from their perspective.

Six members of CAA this event held on the 14-16 Apr 23 on the Goodradigbee River in the Brindabella Valley. One of our members gives us an insight into Euro Nymphing and the results were quite outstanding. My thanks to all attendees and to Peter & Fran from Koorabri.

**Lachy**

**Euro Nymphing**

Having only started fly fishing a bit over 18 months ago, enjoying limited success but loving it all the same, I must say how delighted I am to have discovered the 'Euro Nymphing' technique. I must also give a big shout of thanks to Nathan and the wonderful team at Boss Outdoors for all their advice and patience with this euro nymphing newbie.

So, set with Primal Zone 2wt 10ft rod, Flylab Focus reel with Airflo Euro Nymph line, I then got to



what is arguably the most variably critical aspect of the technique, the leader set up. Nathan gave me his formula for leader butt section (1 rod length of 8-10lb mono), indicator (50cm clear then 50cm bi-coloured sighter, both in 6lb), tippet ring and finishing with 1.2m of fluoro tippet with a dropper half way down at about 60cm. I duly set this up and went off to the Thredbo river where I successfully

caught two larger fingerling trout. The first was within the first few casts and the second was a bit after lunchtime. The intervening period was largely spent untangling rat's nests as I certainly did not have Nathan's knowledge and casting prowess. But, the euro nymphing bug had bitten.

My main problem was the loop to loop join between the euro nymph fly line and the butt section of the leader getting caught in the line guide at the tip of the rod. So I went back home and did some more research, including watching some Tom Jarman YouTube clips as recommended by Nathan. There were multiple different ideas for leaders, so I ordered some supplies to experiment with various options on my next trip out.

My second time out with the euro nymphing rig was at the CAA Goodradigbee weekend trip organised by Greg. First up on the Friday afternoon, I stuck with the original set up as suggested by Nathan, but I cut off a good length of the butt section off the leader – a bit over a third of the butt section. While this was much easier to handle, and I caught a lovely rainbow trout on it, my skill level was not quite there so I decided to get adventurous and try a different set up for the next day.

I was fortunate that an order for leader supplies arrived the day before we left. So my next option was quite radical. On a separate reel I loaded up about 75m of backing line and connected that straight to a Hends Camou French Leader in bright pink mono with a length of 9m (yes that's metres not feet). The taper went from 0.57mm at the butt to 0.21mm (about 3X) at the tip. The join between backing and leader barely came off my reel. To the tip of this leader I added about 75cm of 3X fluoro orange and yellow indicator mono and then a 2mm tippet ring. My tippet was about 1.2m of 6X fluorocarbon finishing with a single bead headed nymph. Doing away with the second nymph on a dropper was much easier to manage as I was learning. I changed different nymph styles throughout the day (mainly pheasant tail, perdigon and hare's ear nymphs) and all



were successful. So long as I got them down to where the fish were feeding, they gobbled them up.

I ended up catching a mix of 10 wonderful brown and rainbow trout averaging from 25-35cm. My only complaint with this set up was that no matter how much I tried to straighten the French Leader, it still had a fair bit of memory. The subsequent sagging loops of line between the rod guides was not so good for the euro style 'tight line' nymphing, so I sought to go for a variation on this theme for Sunday.

This was the feisty rainbow caught with the Chameleon leader set up.



Thanks again to Greg for organising the Goodradigbee 23 trip and to those who have helped me on my fly fishing and euro nymphing journey thus far. My learning continues...

## Ryan

As soon as we dipped over the hill towards the river crossing I felt a jolt of excitement to see the water, it was lovely and clean with plenty of structure and I couldn't wait to fish it! After a night of good food, good conversation and good beer we divvied up the river into a few good size beats for us all to fish. With Al and Claude taking the farthest upstream, myself and Paul had the middle beat and Greg and Lachy were on the farthest downstream run, we all set out for a day's fishing.

Paul and I spent our day fishing dry flies around all the bends and boulders, with the fish readily taking all of our offerings. The highlight for me was catching fish on the first



hopper I've ever tied, they were so eager to eat it that they were leaping out of the water on the take!

All the fish we caught were on the smaller side, with the largest fish being around 35-40cm, however they were plentiful!

We ended the day with around 50 fish each and returned to the huts with smiles on our faces!

Saturday night was a treat, with Lachy serving up an awesome paella and the owners of the lovely property joining us for a glass or two of red, a good time was had by all.



Sunday was a bit of a bust weather wise with moderate rain setting in for the better part of the day, but it didn't stop us from trudging around in the wet and flinging flies to fish that were still eager to play ball! Paul had success on nymphs while I persevered with dry flies, I missed a fair few fish and had plenty of tangles in the tighter vegetation, but it was still a fun day.





After settling into the hut at about midday we lit the wood heater and began packing. After everybody but Al had left for home, Paul and I found a few copies of Flylife magazine that dated back to the 90s and we spend a few hours reading articles and advertisements from decades past, whilst waiting for our final companion to hang up his waders.



Al returned to the hut with a big smile across his face, he told us of his success using a multitude of techniques, shared a few pictures of his catch and we bid farewell to our cozy huts. The rain had made the track quite greasy and loose in some areas which made for a fun drive home and I believe I can speak for all who attended in saying that it was an absolutely fantastic weekend and a great time was had by all! Big thanks to Greg for organising such a great outing, I look forward to next year!



One of the larger fish I caught.





## Paul

Thanks Greg. I must admit, I was a little apprehensive about going away for a weekend with a group of blokes I hardly knew, but I needn't have worried. There weren't any secretive club initiation ceremonies aside from a wee dram of fine scotch to cap the day off. Everyone was so welcoming and open about their shared fishing passion.







The location was a real eyeopener. Magnificent. My lasting memory is that of Ryan casting his home made hopper, standing in knee deep water, laughing out loud as an eager trout leap onto his fly, all whilst standing amongst giant eucalypts.

## New Zealand – Again!

### Bill

Travelling to Gore resumed after a break due to COVID and some ill health. This time I was accompanied by two ex-members – Geoff D (a long term past President) and Stephen (a recent arrival/departure due to his return to native Sydney).

The Mataura was a little up/dirty on arrival but even when it returned to normal the hatches were few and far between. Indeed we only had two days with some regular dry fly action – those who know me will realise how much that saddened me. As a consequence double nymphs were the norm and Geoff excelled in that fashion. My early claim on ‘best of trip’ was in due course chased down by our Brisbane chapter member. That said, all my best fish were on dry, and the sessions where things happened were very happy times.



In respect to happy, check out Stephen with his first trout ever, and on fly **and on dry**. Do you think he was excited with this trifecta?



Geoff with one of his better ones.





Perhaps my best.

The differences in colouration was interesting. It was revealed that US research had shown that brown trout can change from dark to pale in as little as 20 minutes in response to environment.

For the first time I took my drone and here is [one example video](#). (You can ignore the invitation to join DropBox.)

## 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.

### [New Zealand Fish and Game Proposed Changes to Access to Certain Waters](#)

NSWCFA have written to multiple ministers expressing concern. In particular that the move may contravene an Australian/New Zealand agreement for Closer Economic Relations.

### [Fly tying from 26 Apr – “Gambugger”](#)

A tie introduced to us by the late Shaun Gambrill.

## 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.

## 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 Edition](#) received:

- Labor confirms that it won't raise the Warragamba Dam wall – will mean substantial threatened environmental impacts upstream will not occur
- NSW CFA Interclub Meet 2023 Report
- Tara Moriarty announced as new Minister responsible for Fisheries
- Snowy Hydro and contractor fined \$30,000 after two incidents in Kosciuszko National Park – near Tantangara
- EPA now looking into Menindee fish kill as pollution incident
- Invasive parasite found in native fish

### 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](#).

[May Edition](#) received:

- Sydney Water fined for 2021 Parramatta River fish kill
- Research into alternative crab trap designs – looking for recreational fishers who are able to do a survey over the phone, or via email.
- Rec fishing in NSW needs independent managers – John Newbery's article 'Environment: Here we go again...' in *Fishing World* makes interesting reading. Argues DPI prioritises commercial interests over recreational.

- Bass and estuary perch closure
- Fuel cards for fish stocking groups

### 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

6	20/21 May 2023	Goulburn River competition
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#### NSW/ACT

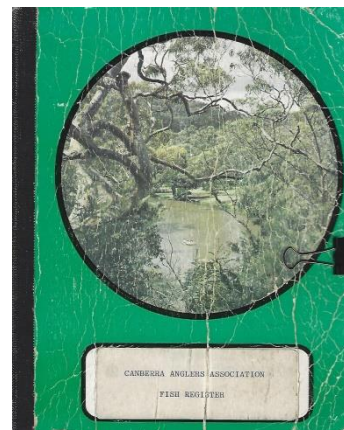
Round	Date	Venue
5	May 2023	Bathurst



# 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
Lachy	Brown and Rainbow Trout	25-30cm	Fly	Goodradigbee Trip, 14-16 Apr



Ryan	Rainbow Trout	36cm	Fly	Goodradigbee Trip, 14-16 Apr
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## Contact Us

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<https://www.canberra-anglers.asn.au/>

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Find us on

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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.