

# THE BURLEY LINE



**Aru with his first fish caught in Australia**



## From the Editor's Desk



Apologies for the December issue being late, I was a bit 'otherwise engaged' – will tell you about the Sri Lanka cyclone over a beer. Anyway, this means it'll be a bit of a Christmas edition given there won't be one in January.

It was great to see one of our new juniors (Aru, coached by the ever generous Peter) get his first Australian fish – well deserved photo of the month/cover shot. Here's hoping for many more and adding to his species list. Scaling on the photo suggests 55 cm.

Reports here from near and far along with a big list of interesting snippets found by 'cub reporter' Greg S.

With Christmas and New Year approaching take care when travelling and we'll see you in 2026.

## Coming Events

**Meeting: 11<sup>th</sup> February 2026.**

First meeting of the year – as usual 7:30PM at Raiders Weston. Join us for dinner at 6:00 or 6:30?

**18 Jan 2026.** Carp Fest run by Claude – [more info](#) is on our blog and will come via email. Remember to register with Claude, especially if you will attend a chat at the Lighthouse afterwards.

## MAS and Macquarie Perch Refuges

On 12 Nov representatives from Monaro Acclimatisation Society accompanied members of the DPIRD Threatened Species Unit for a reconnaissance around the lower Monaro around Numeralla. The TSU are looking for possible refuge sites for Macquarie Perch, in support of a Snowy Hydro 2.0 environmental project. Readers will know of Snowy Hydro funding a \$5M trout grow-out facility at Gaden Hatchery to contend with the possibility of redfin perch being introduced into





Tantangara. A second spin off is the potential for a consequent introduction of redfin into the upper Murrumbidgee, an important hold-out for wild Macquarie Perch. Accordingly possible refuge sites elsewhere in the Bidgee catchment are being identified. MAS has been recognised as a stakeholder in this process and, with TSU, are seeking to identify sites that can sustain Maccas, but not impact on recreational fishing, especially trout.

Many of you may be unaware that, while MAS is most commonly known for its stocking of trout in the Monaro region, the Objects of the MAS from the early days included a commitment to support 'indigenous fish'. MAS continues to work towards an integrated fishery to protect the important and valuable trout fishery, it supports the activities of the TSU with the vision that recreational angling for trout will continue alongside, in due course, having currently threatened species such as Trout Cod and Macquarie Perch as recreational angling targets.

The recce identified one prime site – well away from trout waters and trout stocking – that offer a good environment for Maccas.





A second site, initially looked unpromising (many highly visible carp), was not dismissed out of hand by the TSU.



## Tuross Coast Trip – 21-23 Nov

### Ryan

The weather in Tuross was quite bleak, very overcast, windy at times and scattered showers, however the fish were still feeding. Tom and I found that using prawns on a running sinker rig was the most effective, followed closely by soft plastic prawn imitations.

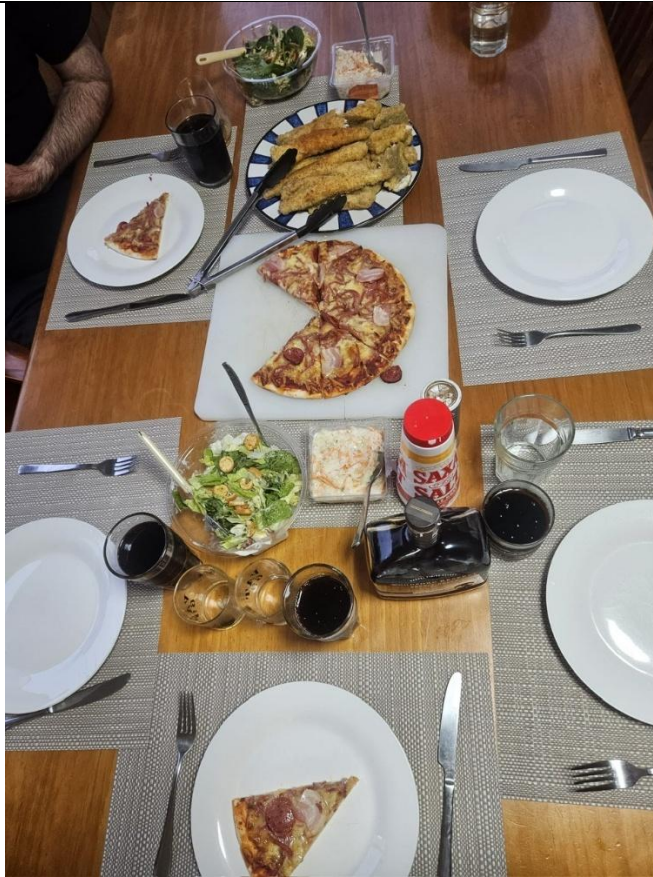
Friday saw us mostly searching for signs of feeding fish or bait schools, with a few different species caught throughout the day, most notable was Tom's 56cm flathead. We all fished pretty closely to each other around the main lake and a little bit up the river, without much success. Luckily the boat shed had warm coffee and good food!

Saturday was a mixed bag also, with some small bream and flounder in the mix, and plenty of pan sized flathead feeding in the shallow margins. We spent the day much the same as yesterday, pulling up in likely areas, soaking a bait and flicking lures. We had success catching dinner, we ended the day with 4 flathead for the plate, and John had one also. We had a great dinner, of crumbed flatty fillets, pizza, chips and salad all washed down with some lovely whiskey!

On Sunday, Tom and I headed home, while James had another go fishing.

Overall it was another great weekend with good fishing and great company! Many thanks to all involved for making it a great time away!







## Club Christmas BBQ

I was unfortunately travelling to Sydney for a meeting, but seems it was quite a success – well done Xenii in organising the marvellous cake.





# Fly Tying 26 Nov 2025 – Pheasant Tailed Nymph and Blue Collared Pheasant Tail Nymph

Seems they were very productive that night led by Lachy. [Some info](#) on our blog.



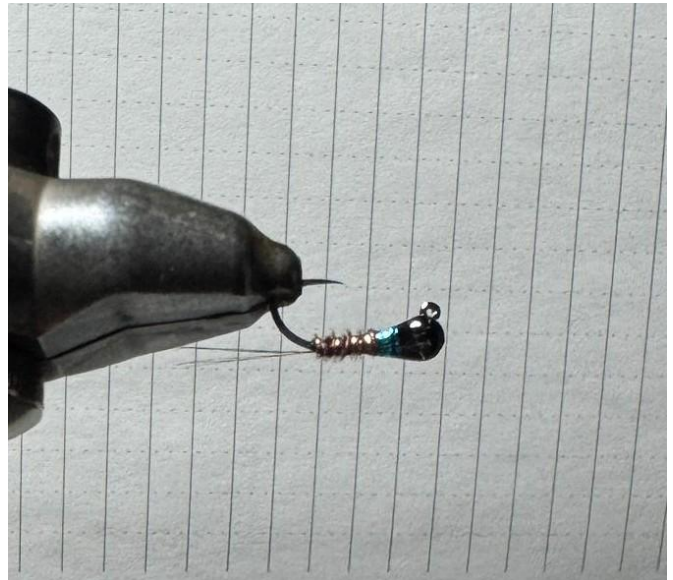
*Xenii*



*Neil*



*Lachy – Unweighted and weighted variations on pheasant tail nymphs*



*Jayden*



*James*

## Patrick in New Zealand

**Patrick**



Canterbury can be a fickle beast. Great fish but you need your A+ game.

Last day on a great but tough river. I call this the "one shot, one opportunity " as in Eminem song. Late in the day on the stomp back I had my one shot. Spotted in a long bouldery run, tucked behind a current break....feeding! I placed a chocky dun with one of Paul's specials tagged below. 5 casts into the steely grey water, my dun disappeared...lifted to mad big one. After a moment of head thrashing it bolted back to pacific ocean with me in a stumbling chase. Rod high and backing running of real, I realised in panic I had used 5X tippet...#\$\$%##%. No



chance. Never again I screamed. Sure enough one vicious head shake on my one opportunity had vanished.

## Paul Countering with a Local Native

Paul



Getting too hot for trout. Just right for cod. This is the biggest from three. 670 mm of gorgeousness.

## From Greg S

Greg has been particularly busy. Remember you don't have to have a Facebook account to look at those on Facebook.

Greg S

Murray Cod in Mount Gambier a new Fishery

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2025-05-09/mount-gambier-valley-lake-murray-cod-release/105262726>

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2025-05-09/murray-cod-release-in-mount-gambier/105269324>

Macca in Cotter River

<https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=25397971569795028&set=pcb.4243538612584661>

New homes for Blackfish in the upper Cotter <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2025-10-27/freshwater-fish-blackfish-bungalows-breeding-season-saving/105929108>

Lots of Australian Salmon (drone footage) <https://www.facebook.com/reel/827641709913352>

Removing a treble hook by yourself <https://www.facebook.com/reel/1345816940225716> - technique applies for single hooks too. As Greg said "A bit hard to watch but nonetheless informative" – lesson: crush your barbs or use barbless hooks to avoid this.



Greg was quite insistent that readers might be interested in this Batemans Bay saltwater event – who am I to argue too long –

<https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=1229588915873492&set=a.553963390102718>

I think we've seen this blackfish bungalows on the Cotter already

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2025-10-27/freshwater-fish-blackfish-bungalows-breeding-season-saving/105929108>

but he and I hunted down this one about a Murray Cod that was recorded travelling up to 900km in the Murray Darling system <https://www.facebook.com/share/1BRfeo8c2x/>

Fishing and mental health <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wApefqV2xvI>

Some interesting science in fish appearance – Xanthochromism

<https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=1480834144043658&set=a.481893987271017>

An interesting article on Eildon Dam, including the earlier dangerous efforts

<https://www.facebook.com/FriendsOfDeepCreek/posts/pfbid02sW3HcLzbCPxUVQ4nzuGLt9Zs62VjCXoSQKZz7ciPtxiBqRdG9nPzxoM5JjBHqXrql>

## Stuff in my In Box

I spotted this one before Greg – appeals to two of my loves – fishing and remote controlled craft.

<https://www.facebook.com/100057599613361/posts/1298759375387371>

Last edition I wrote about how the Monaro Acclimatisation Society were encouraging catch and release in certain trout streams in the lower Monaro. You may, in due course, see signs like this:





We've previously mentioned that some people (surely not CAA members) have been abusing the privilege of going onto private property – there is the basic country code of 'leave gates as you find them' – also the issue of bringing your dog. You'll start seeing signs like the one below – please abide by them.



James has been into the natives also:



*"Unfortunately not on a fly just trying to get a better feel for the river at the moment and find some suitable spots to have a go waving the wand. Got it on a pompadour."*





**lindsaykocka**

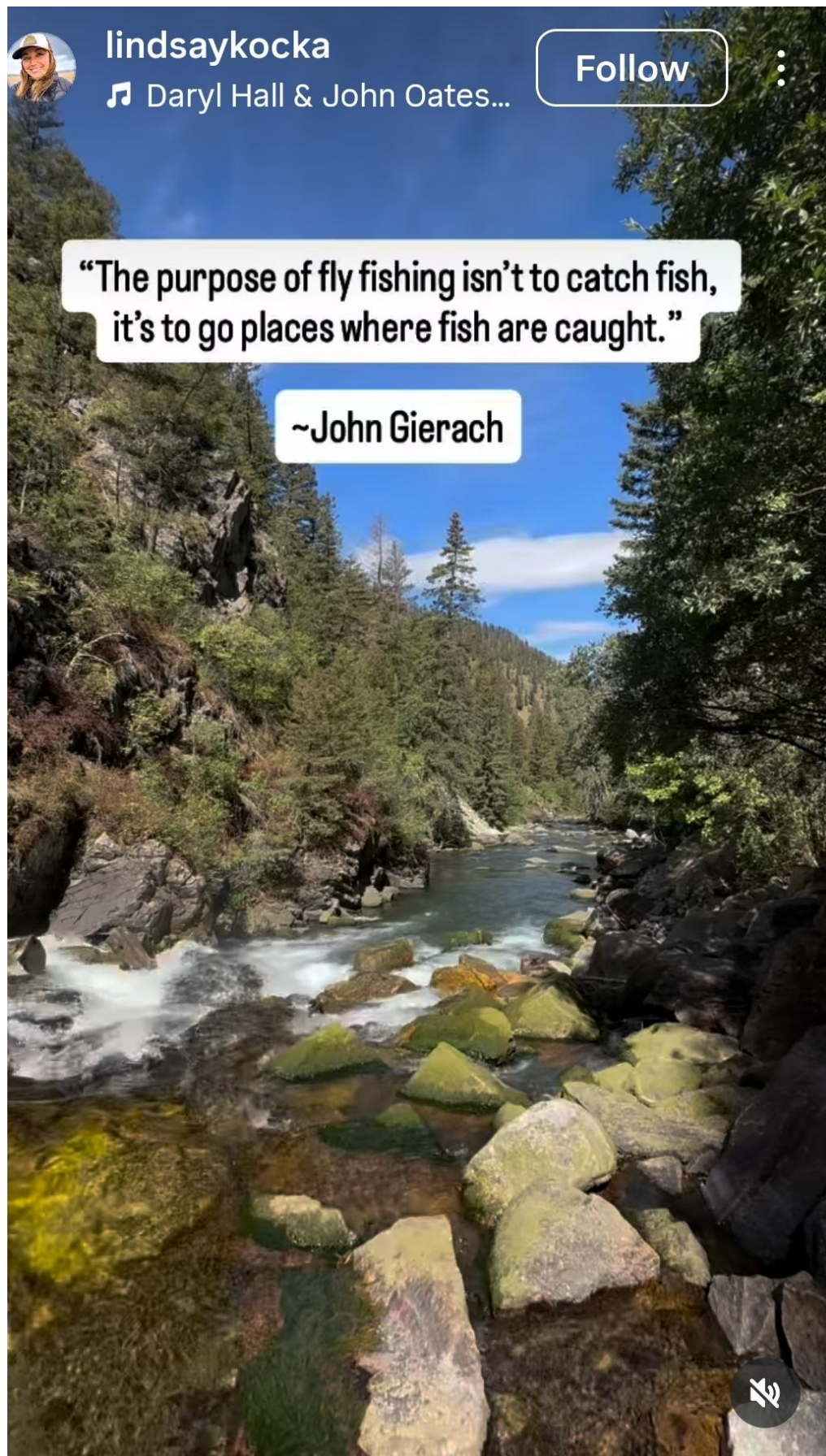
🎵 Daryl Hall & John Oates...

Follow



**“The purpose of fly fishing isn’t to catch fish,  
it’s to go places where fish are caught.”**

**~John Gierach**



A very thoughtful/fact-filled discussion on trout in the historic Fish and Duckmaloi Rivers stocked by Central Acclimatisation Society – make sure you read through the comments to see the discussion – if only all discussions could be as well behaved

<https://www.facebook.com/share/r/1KDdcG6UxZ/>

Uni of Canberra are supporting DPI and ACT Fisheries in the effort to bring back trout cod. Their latest innovation is a live webcam of some artificial trout cod habitat. I've lost the link, will get back to you next time.

Senior/keen anglers of MAS have remarked to me that many of the streams in the lower Monaro have stopped flowing. They have put out a [cautionary](#) on fishing when levels/flow are low and temperatures rise.

**Free to a good home –** DPI Fisheries has been running a '[Fish for Life](#)' campaign and I scored myself some promotional Tassie Devils. The program is aimed at improving our 'social licence' with the public through initiatives such as cleaning up rubbish, encouraging more female participation and correct handling of fish.



## 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.

## 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.

***The council has approved a new constitution changing the entire membership model including the idea of individual (voting) membership – more will be advised soon.***

#### 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](#)

#### Fisheries Victoria News

Vic Fisheries used to have a neat little newsletter called 'Nibbles' as well as their presence on all forms of social media. I have discovered they have a periodic "Recreational Fisheries Management Update" at

<https://vfa.vic.gov.au/recreational-fishing/fisheries-management/recreational-fisheries-management-updates>

A very full December 2025 edition [here](#).

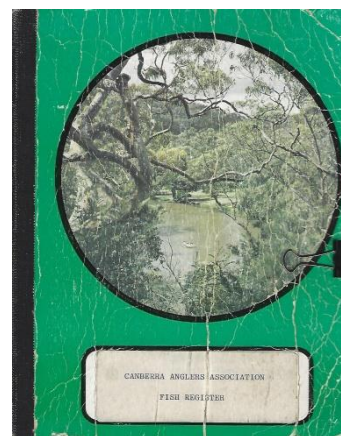
# Long Term Program of Events Not Formally Part of CAA Events

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
various	The NSW DPI Kids' and Women's Fishing Workshops at Gaden Hatchery Jindabyne were in a hiatus during the construction but are supposedly now back – though none currently scheduled. There are saltwater and freshwater 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>
Watch for next year	Applications for Buckenderra's 2025 Trout Challenge has come and gone in a flash. <a href="https://www.facebook.com/share/1BTTF5mAug/">https://www.facebook.com/share/1BTTF5mAug/</a> If you are interested you'll need to closely monitor <a href="https://www.facebook.com/buckenderraholidayvillage">https://www.facebook.com/buckenderraholidayvillage</a> during October 2026

## 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
Paul	Rainbow hen	51cm	Fly	Club trip to Black Lake 16 Aug 2025



Paul	Rainbow jack	51cm	Fly	Club trip to Black Lake 16 Aug 2025
Jayden	YellowBelly	42, 46 and 52cm best is 61 on <a href="#">our calculator</a>	Fly?	31 Aug 2025
Paul	Murray Cod	59cm scores 7.5	Lure	Bidgee 31 Aug 2025
Ryan	Brown	5 with best at 4 1/4lb	Fly	Lower Monaro – Opening weekend
Paul	Brown	similar	Fly	Lower Monaro – Opening weekend
Peter	Rainbow	30cm	Fly	Lower Monaro – Opening weekend
Lachy	Rainbows and browns	best of 35 and 32cm respectively	Fly	Goodradigbee 15-16 Oct
Claude	Brown	My largest was 2.75lb and still shorter than Paul's so didn't measure. Was concerned about fish wellbeing. I have to work out a good way of measuring without laying out on grass or while it's still lively in the net.	Fly	Mayfly Madness 17-19 Oct
Paul	Brown	57cm	Fly	Mayfly Madness 17-19 Oct
Lachy	Rainbow and Brown	32cm	Fly	Lyle Knowles 25 Oct
Ryan	Rainbow	32cm	Fly	Lyle Knowles 25 Oct
Claude	Rainbow	32cm	Fly	Lyle Knowles 25 Oct
Neil	Rainbow	36cm	Fly	Lyle Knowles 25 Oct
Tom	Flathead	56cm	?	Coast Trip 21 Nov
Paul	Murray Cod	67cm	?	?
Aru	Carp	Estimated from photo scaled against lipgrip 55 cm	Bait	Lake Burley Griffin 10 Dec

## Contact Us

Canberra Anglers Association Inc.

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Visit us on the web at

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

*Burley Line* contributions to:

[webmaster@canberra-anglers.asn.au](mailto:webmaster@canberra-anglers.asn.au)

Find us on

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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). 2025/2026 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 'contact our team' link on the web home page). 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](http://www.capitalflycasting.com)