

THE BURLEY LINE



Xenii's First Fish on Fly



From the Editor's Desk

It's the quiet time for club events, but there's still been plenty happening. Great job by Xenii on the front cover, a Victorian trout fishing report, some cute crab flies tied, lots of images on our WhatsApp, a huge Googong cod spotted in the Canberra Times (included here courtesy of their Editor and it being spotted by the ever productive Greg S).

Coming Events

Meeting: 8th Jul 2026. As usual 7:30PM at Raiders Weston. Join us for dinner at 6:00 or 6:30? More information on speaker in due course.

Trips Away. Unless you'd like to stand up an event, we go into quiet mode.

22 Jul. Fly Tying – a Cod Fly led by Nathan. Advice will be sent via email.

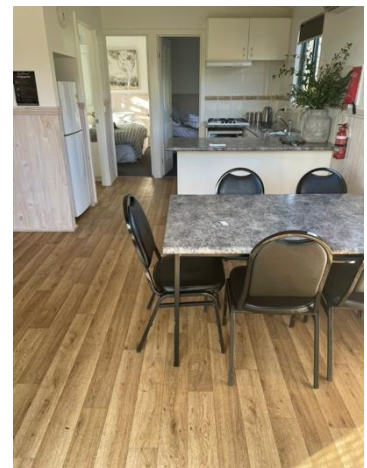
13-27 Sep. For your longer term calendar planning. To be confirmed but these are the forecast dates for our free fly casting lessons to the public. More details with new location to be confirmed.

Kiewa River trip report

Looks very enticing – have put it into our '[Places](#)' [blog](#) too. Lachy confirmed my understanding that interstate card carrying Seniors are exempt from the Victorian fishing licence unlike you whippersnappers.

Lachy and Greg W

As the river fishing season is rapidly drawing to a close and many of the regular rivers (Eucumbene, Thredbo, etc) have been running a bit low, we thought it may be worth venturing a little south of the border to check out the action in Victoria. A chance sighting of a short video telling the story of Shane Jacobsen (Aussie actor of Kenny fame) buying the local pub at Dederang, about ½ hr southeast of Wodonga, planted the seed for accommodation. Dederang's proximity to the Kiewa River, and a little further to the Mitta Mitta, ensured that a plan for a trip soon took shape. Originally it was going to be three of us, so a two room cabin was booked (1 x double and 2 x single beds for \$160/night) at the Dederang Hotel.



Friday



A late morning start on Friday saw us take a lunch break at Gundagai and then a stop at Bluey's Outdoors in Wodonga for a bit of a squiz at the fly selection and to ask for some local advice – Oscar gave us the good oil. We arrived at Dederang about 4ish.

Noting the sun was getting low on the horizon, we decided to check out a couple of access points that



were originally scoped out on Google maps. Then it was off to the Dederang Hotel to check in and grab a cleansing ale and a meal. For a small town, the pub filled up surprisingly quickly – good thing we had reserved a table for dinner.

Saturday

Mt Beauty – taking the advice of Oscar (from Bluey's), we first went to Pebble Beach at Mt Beauty after first getting some brekky at the Mt Beauty Bakery – they do an awesome toasty (called a 'press'). As advised by Oscar, we parked at the Pebble Beach Walk Carpark and then walked the sealed path to Pebble Beach to fish the Kiewa River West Branch. Lachy met another fisherman in the river on the way there who advised he had caught a lovely 1.5 lb brown. Thinking, blast, there goes my chance of getting anything, Lachy decided to continue onto Pebble Beach and push a little further downstream before heading back up river. Hopefully (wishful thinking) this would

allow a bit of a re-set!
Initially it was rather tough going. Lots of overhanging branches saw at least four tangles resulting in re-rigging – the tangle Gods to be appeased! It was a lovely stretch of river with riffles, deep channels and structure that was sure to fish. But alas, it was not almost back at the carpark Lachy managed to land a chunky 35cm Kiewa River rainbow – the Blue Ninja nymph strikes again! Unfortunately, Greg had no luck, even breaking out the spin rod on some of the deeper pools near the carpark.



had

hold
until
that

Tawonga Recreation Reserve – after taking a late lunch at the Rocky Valley Snow, Bikes Café (the bacon, egg and onion jam toastie is delicious), we went to the Tawonga Recreation Reserve (Google Maps ref - 36.66007, 147.14226) which is just a stone's throw from the Mt Beauty Car Club & Alpine Raceway. At our previous spot, a local had advised that



further downstream of where the Kiewa River East Branch joins in, the water was much more discoloured. Given the rain that had recently passed through the region, the river at this location was up, discoloured and certainly moving at pace. This made wading a very cautious activity, but not impossible. Depths varied from knee to waist deep, but a wading staff was a must.

Returning to our accommodation at the Dederang pub, we noticed that the final game of Aussie Rules footy was still underway and there was a massive crowd in attendance. Again, it was just as well we booked a table as the crowd soon migrated to the pub for after game drinks and a feed.

Sunday



It was decided to fish somewhere close by before heading back to Canberra. The picnic area adjacent to the Keegan's



Lane bridge was only about 5-6km from the hotel and provided quick and easy access to the river. The river was still up and moving, especially as it had rained overnight, but it was a little clearer. Again some nice stretches of water, but it would provide more opportunity when at more normal levels and with a bit more clarity to the water. No more fish were caught, so we wrapped it up and headed home, grabbing a bite of lunch in Wodonga on the way.

Wrap Up

Although not many fish were caught this time, it was a great opportunity to explore a new fishing area. The Dederang Hotel provided a good option to base ourselves from with comfortable accommodation, good food and a great atmosphere. A few points to note:

- A 3-day VIC fishing licence is \$10 online
- Mt Beauty is about a 30 min drive from Dederang and some options to fish the Mitta Mitta River are also about 30 min drive away, but not explored this time.
- The Dederang Hotel has three 2-room cabins plus rooms in the hotel as well. The area where the cabins are was packed with caravans/trailers. You can stay there overnight for no cost, but there are no shower, toilet or cooking facilities apart from what is in the pub.

Noting that the VIC and NSW river fishing seasons close at the same time, but the VIC season re-opens on 5 Sep 26 (as opposed to 3 Oct 26 for NSW), it may provide some options for those wishing to get back into the rivers a bit earlier. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Victorian Crown Water Frontage

After reading about our dynamic duo's trip to the Kiewa River, by chance a friend from Victoria shared with me an article from VRFish. Herewith reproduced with due acknowledgement to VRFish. It is interesting reading the contrast between the Victorian and land management and that which we see in NSW. The authoritative guidance is available <https://naturallyvic.com.au/> .



VRFish, the peak body for Victorian recreational fishers, have developed the Naturally Vic Code of Conduct to support responsible recreation along our riverbanks and to provide guidance on how to do the right thing by the environment, our rich cultural heritage and the valued farming community.



What is Crown water frontage?

In Victoria, there is approximately 30,000 kilometres of Crown water frontage for recreational users to enjoy. Crown water frontages are a public asset and recreational use by the public is permitted. Crown water frontages are the narrow parcels of public land that runs along our riverbanks. They're found along both sides of our rivers, and many were surveyed as Crown land over 100 years ago. These parcels of land vary in size, in some cases they are only a few metres wide, whilst others can be hundreds of meters wide. In some places the river has moved and is no longer found within the public land at all. New regulations have been developed to manage camping in these areas to ensure that both campers and landowners are doing the right thing by each other and the environment.

Licensed vs Unlicensed Crown water frontage

Some Crown water frontages are licensed for riparian management purposes or to allow adjacent

landholders to graze livestock on the frontage. Other Crown water frontage is unlicensed. The Land Act 1958 was recently amended by the Victorian Government to allow camping on certain Victorian river frontages. These changes apply to Crown land where a grazing licence has been granted to the adjoining landowner for grazing. Designated camping sites on licensed areas will be assessed as suitable for camping and opened up by the Victorian Government. An unlicensed Crown river frontage is Crown land which has a frontage to a waterway and is not licensed under the Land Act 1958. It may, however, be licensed under the Forests Act 1958. There are different regulations for camping on licensed and unlicensed Crown water frontage. You can find out if you're on Crown water frontage by using the [Mapshare website](#) and learn the regulations on our Know the Regulations page.

Planning your trip to Crown water frontage

Crown water frontages exist on almost all of Victoria's rivers, streams, and creeks, however, it can be hard to tell where the public land starts and the private land ends. Designated camping sites on licensed areas will be assessed as suitable for camping and opened by the Victorian Government. Currently, no sites have been released. As suitable sites are released, they will be listed on the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning's website [here](#). You should plan your destination before you go and ensure the area you wish to access or camp on is Crown land. You can do this by using the Mapshare website or by downloading the [Vic Fishing App](#). In the App, under the 'inland' tab you will find the 'land access' area which allows you to see in real time where you are in relation to Crown land and whether or not you can camp there.

How to access Crown water frontage

Crown water frontage is mostly found between a river and private land. This can make access difficult. Many of the best spots have good vehicle access via a road or bridge crossing the river, a public reserve or an unused road. For those looking for more adventure, travelling by boat to areas that have no clear land side public access point is an exciting way to find a new campsite. Before setting up camp, make sure you assess the area for hazards.

Latest From Greg S

Greg

Interesting new fishing technique <https://www.facebook.com/reel/1722388489205774>

NCA Fish release in LBG <https://www.facebook.com/reel/1591928821869122>

Filleting a Flatfish <https://www.facebook.com/reel/1336130295130331>

Seen down at Nelligen – salmon? <https://www.facebook.com/reel/26587573774250268>

The story of Old Tom at Eden

<https://www.facebook.com/photo/?fbid=1597559075398174&set=a.636539574833467>

Master Knife operator on a Bluefin Tuna <https://www.facebook.com/reel/1322553499981154>

Off Jervis Bay <https://www.facebook.com/reel/2143623653218921>

Fly Tying 24 June – Flexo crab

Led by Xenii. we had a very pleasant face to face session courtesy of Nathan at Boss Outdoors.



Seen on our CAA Whatsapp

If you aren't on the CAA Whatsapp channel you might want to join and see this stuff in real time – show off your catches in the midst of a club event even. Ask Claude.

Xenii reported in and has been appointed as 'cover shot' for this edition:

I finally did it!!! First fish on fly!! Spotted this fella when walking back from the toilet, called James, he rigged the rod and put a shrimp he tied on. My patience paid off and I got it! I caught my dinner now James has to catch his 😊😂 I'm pretty sure I yelled loud enough that the entire neighbourhood knows I caught something 🤪



From our Kiwi mate currently yachting in the Med

Hi everyone. Albacore caught yesterday mid Ionian between Greece and Sicily. Caught on a medium sized purple and black chugger on a handline.

Ryan down at Batemans Bay:

Got this guy in only 7.5m of water off Batemans Bay



Some more images of shore based game fishing from Joey:



2 kings and 2 tuna on Wednesday. Don't know about Thursday, big yesterday, few bonnies this morning but my mate lost a tuna hookup yesterday. He's going home to sulk so I won't know what else will happen this weekend at snapper point till after this weekend. I think new moon on Tuesday so the typical pattern is happening as somewhat expected. Don't know what's happening at Jervis right now at either tubes or eves or mermaids but I'm sure there'll be some fish.

17.2kg king on 6kg by that 80yr old bloke, awesome

Stuff in my In Box

From Greg S:

Good Morning Bill

You may well know this old fellow I saw at Chifley shops on Monday. Anyway his ACT Number plate was DRY FLY

He also spotted this in the Canberra Times. Reproduced here with generous permission of the Editor. We should invite Meghan (and Murphy) to join our club! That fish is 1cm short of a NSW line record and rates 98 on our [native fish scoring scale](#). Greg later found a video

<https://www.facebook.com/reel/2279201686220825>

The various drone pilots in the club might aspire to own one of these – but those who I've contacted reckon only useful in lakes.

<https://hoverair.com/> Look at the Aqua.

Michael P, one of our "Queensland branch" members spotted this Norwegian open data fly fishing website

<https://flylore.org/>

The website's creator is Oslo-based software developer, Havard Eide, who btw studied at Brisbane's Griffith University for a couple of years back in the early 2000s. He started <https://flylore.org/> in 2018 with the aim of "preserving and sharing structured information about the art and craft of fly fishing".

Given the Scandinavian wintry weather can last up to 8 months, Mr Eide obviously has a bit of spare time on his hands! 🏡 So far, he's curated and published an huge amount of data on many aspects of fly fishing, particularly fly tying hooks, fly patterns and tying materials. It's maybe a bit Norwegian-centric here and there but contributions from fly fishers from other parts of the world are most welcome.

Gaden is the subject of a recent tourist promotion:

<https://destinationjindabyne.com.au/behind-the-scenes-at-gaden-trout-hatcherys-new-facilities/>

Plus a related Jindabyne Community Noticeboard Facebook post which includes a short video clip of the new indoors hatchery tanks:

<https://www.facebook.com/share/v/1bpThTCFMq/>

Canberra teenager Murphy with the 115-centimetre Murray cod. Pictures supplied



Oh my cod!

CANBERRA College student Murphy reckoned it was "surreal" when he hauled in a Murray cod more than a metre long on a line and tackle designed to catch much smaller fish.

The 17-year-old was fishing with mates at Googong Dam last Thursday afternoon, May 21, when he reeled in the "catch of a lifetime".

On the line was a 115-centimetre Murray cod.

And as Murphy's friend Flynn Charles explained, what made the catch "so insane" was that they were using rods and lines never meant for such a large fish.

"It was caught from land with ultralight tackle - designed for one kilogram fish - and the smallest lure possible. No net either," Flynn said.

Murphy reckoned the fish probably weighed 30 to 40 kilograms.

"The rod is weighted for one kilo and the line's 10-pound, mean for a 10-pound fish, so meant for a fish about four kilos," he said.

The friends couldn't believe what was on the end of the line.

"We were bringing in tiny fish and then 'Bang!', my line went and you could hear the reel go. The fish was just taking off," Murphy said.

Murphy, a year 12 student, isn't worried about revealing the spot for the big catch.

"I love Googong, I love that spot. I've caught a couple of big ones there before but nothing like that," he said.

"It was genuinely, like, surreal, it was so big and heavy. That's the biggest fish I've ever caught, by far."



Murphy with his lightweight rod.

Most significantly, mention is made of an Open Day on the October Long Weekend and forthcoming kids' workshops restarting.

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.

Unexpected Consequences

Take care not to fillet fish next to the water. Compliance officers need to be able to check lengths.

Trout Food

Helps you pick the right fly.

Fly Fishing Australia Event Specifically for 65yo and over

A more relaxed comp for the more mature anglers.

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.

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.

NSWCFA have amended their constitution to permit individual (voting rights) membership and 'supporting members' (no vote but invitation to meetings and get news). An on-line membership application form is under development.

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 now have a quarterly "Recreational Fisheries Management Update" at

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

The June 2026 edition has been uploaded. Interesting articles, fresh and salt, plus a piece on their 'women in fishing' program. I was intrigued by their report on fish stocking – *So far this season, more than 8.4 million native fish have been stocked, including over 3 million Murray cod, nearly 4 million golden perch ... The focus is now turning to salmonids, with more than 1.3 million fish to be stocked into over 150 waterways between now and November 2026.* (Note that, as far as I know, Victorian trout stocking is primarily impoundments). Prompted me to do some hunting about the NSW situation. Best information I could find was *Last season, more than 5.2 million fish were stocked into NSW waterways.* In relation to trout, a rather dated Trout Strategy stated *About 2 million trout are stocked into rivers and streams annually by the trout acclimatisation societies. A further 1 million trout and salmon are released into impoundments by Government hatchery staff.*

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 recent construction – perhaps still being held off due to the Snowy 2.0 growout facility being built, none currently scheduled. There are saltwater and freshwater events across the state. https://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/fishing/recreational/resources/fishing-workshops/kids

Watch for
later this
year

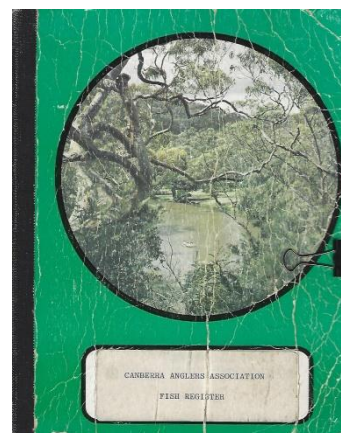
Applications for Buckenderra's 2025 Trout Challenge came and went in a flash.

If you are interested for this year you'll need to closely monitor <https://www.facebook.com/buckenderraholidayvillage> 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). A formal description for emailed submission is being finalised (was distributed in draft last month).



Burley Line welcomes 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 our calculator	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
Aru	Carp	59 cm	Bait	Lake Burley Griffin 18 Jan 2026 – Club Carp Event
Peter	Carp	68 cm (not for Green Book)	Fly	Lake Tuggeranong 18 Feb
Gooch	Brown Trout	Several including one at 47.5cm	Tassie devil on leadline	Lake Eucumbene 19 Apr
Aru	Murray Cod	45cm	Lure	Lake Ginninderra 26 Apr
BJ	Two nice Browns	Not provided	Fly	Goodradigbee trip 24-26 Apr
Lachy	Rainbow	45cm	Fly	Goodradigbee trip 24-26 Apr

Lachy	Rainbow	36cm	Fly	Tumut trip 22-24 May
Claude	Rainbow	32cm	Fly	Tumut trip 22-24 May

Contact Us

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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

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). 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