

THE BURLEY LINE



Gooch's grandson Lachy with a nice trevally in Townsville



From the Editor's Desk

Some very sad news of the passing of Pat McFadden – he of some amazing fish both here, in Queensland and New Zealand. Deepest sympathy to brother Paul and the entire family.

While our events are in hibernation mode, members have been getting about in warmer climes and having success. A double dose of images from fly tying, for a change these were face to face care of the generosity of Nathan and Boss Outdoors. Greg S has continued his trawling for interesting snippets on the web – keep it up mate. I've been doing a bit of a deep dive into cold water pollution and DPIRD's efforts to moderate the impact on natives.

Hope to see you all at the next meeting – Annual General Meeting, committee elections and trophy awards.

Vale Pat McFadden

This month we received the sad news of the death of Pat, twin brother to Paul and member of "our Queensland Branch". As our President said to me "Pat attended a number of our club activities and was very generous in sharing his knowledge and guiding some of our members particularly on the Monaro Madness events. For those that did trips with him will remember how Pat and Paul finished each other's sentences, laughed hard and that he was just a 'good bloke'."

Pat was larger than life and, with Paul, showed us the outcomes from the best of fishing in New Zealand and locally. It was always a joy to have him come down south. Our heart goes out to Paul and the wider family for their loss.

RIP Pat

Funeral Confirmed

Sat 15 Aug at 3PM at Gold Creek Chapel.
Wake to follow.

To those that may not have heard, my twin brother Patrick William Webster (spider) McFadden died on the 16th July 2026. He was aged 60. Much loved by his family and friends and will be missed dearly. We have shared so much together. So many fishing adventures. Here is a photo of us together on a recent trip to nz. As you can imagine, my heart is torn in two. We will be organising a memorial in a few weeks. No date set yet. If you are interested in coming or know of friends of Pat that I may not know, let me know.



Coming Events

Meeting: 12th Aug 2026. Special Time Starts at 6:0PM. This is our Annual General Meeting – come along, we've been advised the Treasurer will open up the purse and offer some free nibbles and a complimentary drink. Trophies will be bestowed and committee will be elected – a few positions have yet to get nominations – all explained in a recent email.

Postponed. BJ is assembling a team to head to Bondi Forest at a revised date – you would have heard it first on our Whatsapp channel. BJ tells me that there's been strong interest and a limit of ten attendees given limited access to the water and bed spaces.

13-27 Sep. These are the dates for our free fly casting lessons to the public. We are relocating – see detail below.

AGM Agenda

- Apologies
- President's Report
- Treasurer's Report
- Other Business
 - Event Program
 - Fly Tying Program
 - Junior Program
- Trophy Presentations
- Elections

A key part of the AGM is the election of Council members. All positions will be spilled for election and below is an indication where we have members who are happy to continue in their roles or are vacant. Please note that the committee is very happy to receive nominations for all positions.

- President; (happy to continue)
- Treasurer; (one nomination received)
- Vice President; (happy to continue)
- Secretary; (vacant – no nominations received)
- Assistant Secretary; (happy to continue)
- 4 elected members; (open for nominations)
 - Membership – (happy to continue)
 - Raffles – (happy to continue - TBC)
 - Facebook Editor – (open for nominations)
 - General membership – (happy to continue)
 - public officer (with secretary)
- Non Council positions:
 - Newsletter Editor – (Open for nominations – or volunteers as assistant/apprentice)
 - Association Representatives (NSWCFA) – (open for nominations)

Fly Casting Days 13, 29 and 27 Sep

The CAA will be holding its annual Fly Casting to the Public on 13, 20 and 27 September. This year we are moving location to Yarramundi Close at Weston Park (<https://maps.app.goo.gl/c7rnHQb3tf2YiCXx9>) for the first two weekends and then close by for the on-water session. We need volunteers for the BBQ and casting tuition. Please contact Claude (President@canberra-anglers.asn.au) with the day(s) you are available and what support you can provide (eg 13-20 September BBQ, 27 September Casting).

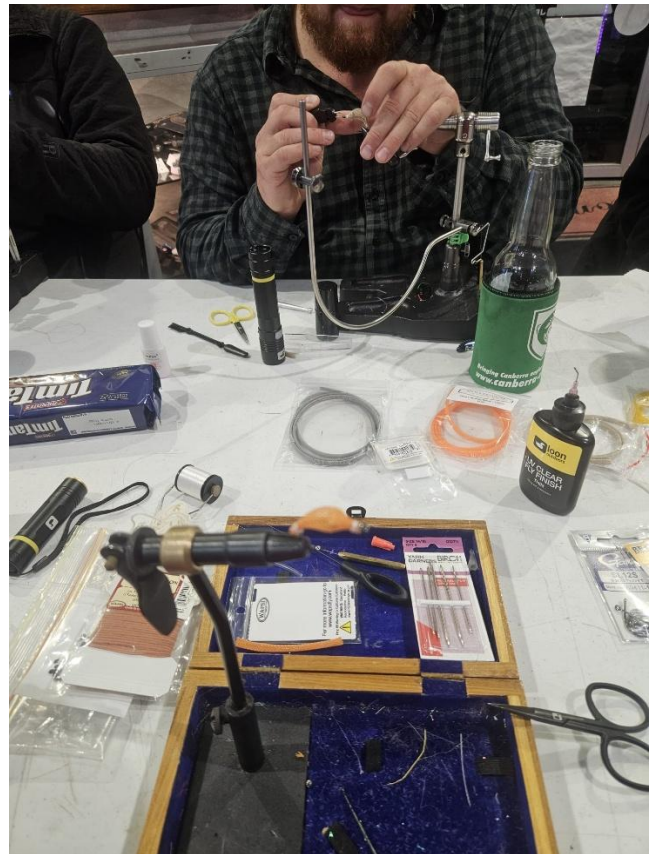
We would certainly welcome any flies tied for raffle prizes from club members – the fly packs get selected relatively quickly!

For printing flyers for work, see image at end of the Newsletter or <https://canberra-anglers.asn.au/blog/wp-content/uploads/2026/07/flycasting2026.pdf>

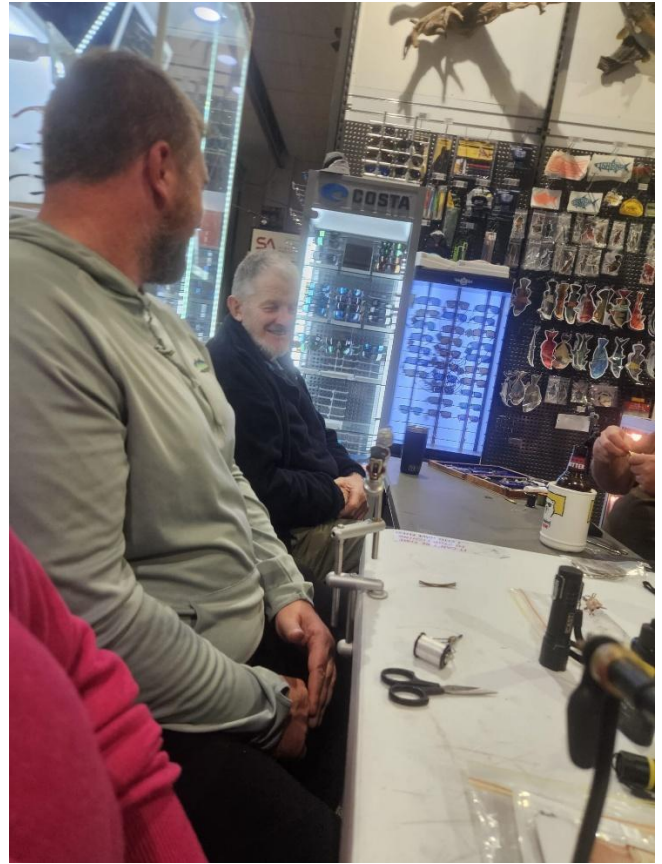
Fly Tying 24 Jun – Flexo Crab

Xenii led the session at Boss Outdoors instead of via Zoom – many thanks to Nathan for arranging access.

A few of the crabs appeared in the July newsletter, but Xenii forwarded some more photos of the participants after the newsletter was published.



(Ed: not sure where the timtams were used in the fly)



Fly Tying 22 Jul – Musky

Nathan followed up with a session at Boss Outdoors for July.





Latest From Greg S

Greg

Huge Mulloway

<https://www.facebook.com/share/r/1DVc7SDzCF/>

Interesting new fishing technique

<https://www.facebook.com/reel/1722388489205774>

Interesting I think even if foreign

<https://www.facebook.com/reel/2187365072114571>

How to Butterfly a Flathead

<https://www.facebook.com/reel/4386868038233737>

Large Groper in Qld

https://www.facebook.com/reel/2080680616181727/?s=single_unit



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.

Greg B has travelled to Hokkaido (Northern most island of Japan) for some fly fishing.



Ugui – Japanese dace



Iwana – Japanese mountain trout

Gooch's family has been doing well up in Townsville, see the cover shot, but also by more images. Gooch tells me that the family are moving to Canberra next year – we can perhaps anticipate more juniors.



Lachy won the junior most fish caught at the Balgal Beach Kids fishing comp a couple of weeks back. Here he is getting his trophy and prizes presented by the Mayor of Townsville and the club's President.

From one of our newer members, Doug



Greetings from North Qld. With 2 mates, caught several Barra, one @1.05 metres off Cleveland Bay near Ts. My best 73cm.

From Ryan:

Slow weekend fishing wise but was lovely

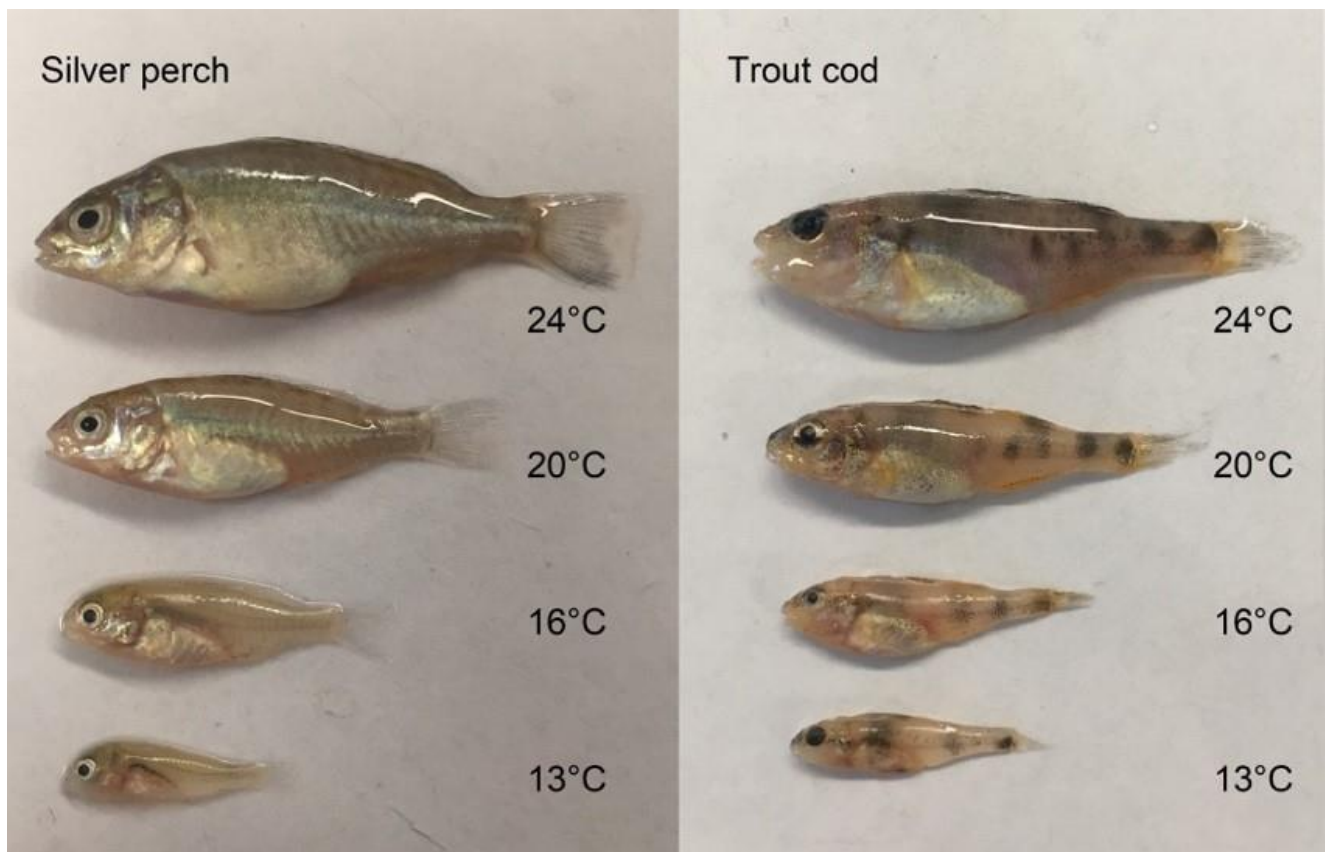




Reducing Cold Water Pollution

Bill

Some time ago Greg S pointed me to a social media article about how cold water impacted on native fish – disrupting spawning and growth rates of the juveniles. The article cited these impacts in the context of cold water pollution and efforts being made to improve water temperatures for our native fish.



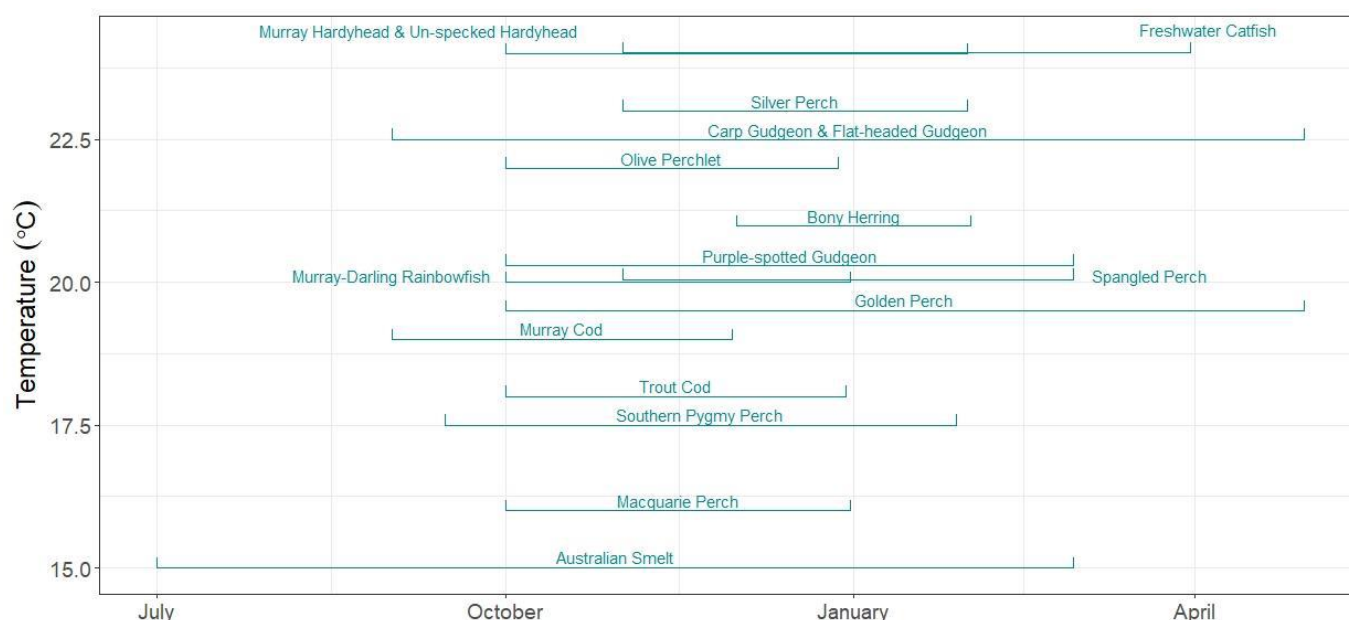
Original source was discovered to be

https://opus.lib.uts.edu.au/bitstream/10453/144185/2/Michie2020_Article_EffectsOfSuboptimalTemperature.pdf

Cold water pollution is caused by the release of cold water coming out of our dams because the release channels are generally at the base of the dam and thus releases come from the cold water at the bottom of the water column.

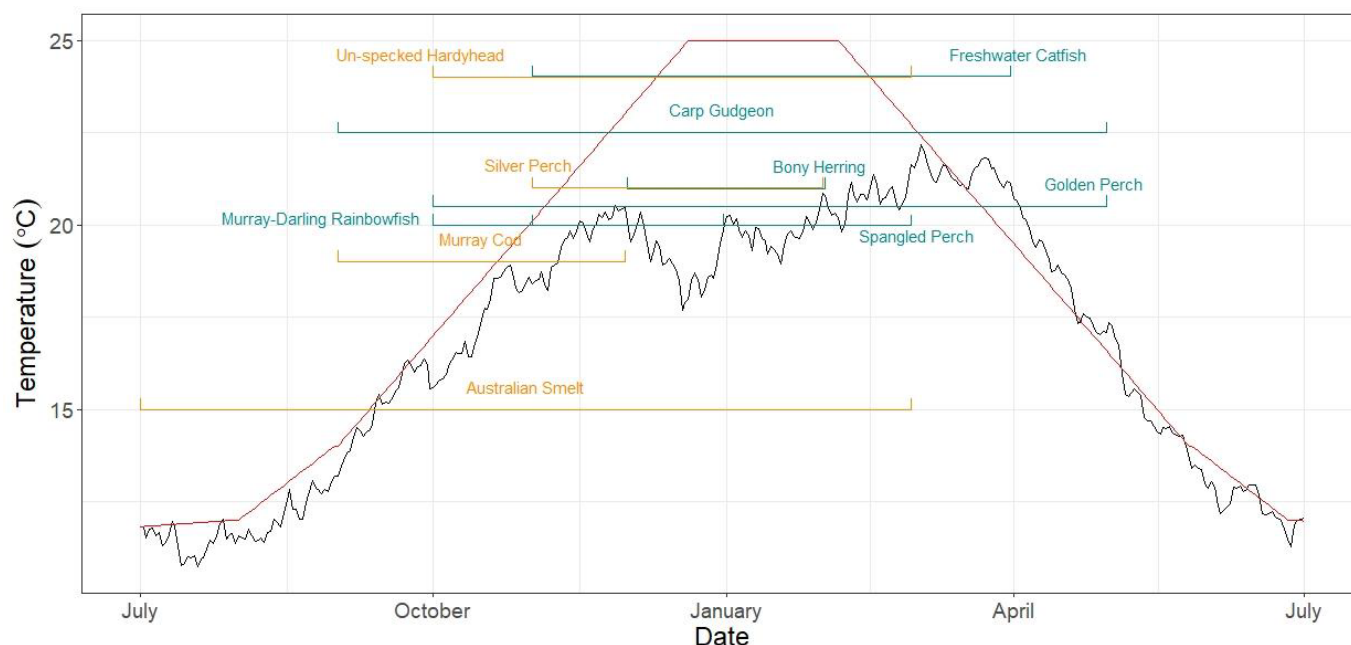
Information on cold water tolerance for spawning for Murray Cod was found here https://www.reefwatch.asn.au/fishforum/forum3_mc/Kearney_Kildea_2001.pdf and Golden Perch here <https://animalia.bio/golden-perch>. Basically Cod 16-21C Golden Perch 17-24C.

In addition, I have been lucky enough to get a copy of a DPIRD Fisheries report “*Review of ecological thresholds and requirements to inform guidelines for cold water pollution mitigation and water release operations*” – this is publicly releasable and I can share with any member who’d like to read. It explores in great depth the impact on native fish of cold water backed up by comprehensive research reports. Here are some extracts to give you an idea of the challenge being faced:



Thermal requirements and timing for the spawning of native fish inhabiting freshwater rivers of the Murray-Darling Basin NSW, Australia

The report shows the water temperature of releases from Pindari Dam as an example to display the problem – more on Pindari in a moment.



Mean daily water temperature of the Severn River downstream of Pindari Dam over a 9-year period from 2012 – 2021 (black line). Spawning windows and the minimum temperature required are included (as summarised in table 1) for fish predicted to have been commonly (green) and occasionally (yellow) found in the Border Rivers catchment prior to European colonisation (DoEE, 2019). Overlaid in red is an example 'ideal' thermal regime that would meet the spawning requirements for these fish that may inhabit the Severn River.

I was aware that DPIRD (Fisheries) and Water NSW have been exploring ways to ameliorate this effect and thought it would be interesting to learn more. The government has a long term (>25 year) plan to identify the key troublesome sources then develop and implement solutions. The University of New South Wales (UNSW) has undertaken a review of the government's cold water pollution strategy.

<https://www.unsw.edu.au/content/dam/pdfs/engineering/civil-environmental/water-research-laboratory/publications/WRL-TR2025-06-Review-of-the-NSW-Cold-Water-Pollution-Strategy.pdf>

While the UNSW report is quite recent, it addresses only Stages 1 and 2 (ie until 2015). Time has moved on and follow up plans have evolved. Nevertheless, the UNSW report has an excellent description of various cold water pollution solutions. The overall government strategy is currently in late draft and not available to the public.

As described in the UNSW report, some dams have the ability to take water from different levels in the dam (surface water naturally warmed by the sun – at least in the warmer months – and the colder depths), to 'shandy' the water increasing the temperature of the water released. However such mechanisms can be quite expensive, especially when retrofitted to older dams. An alternative approach is being prototyped at Pindari Dam on the Severn River north of Inverell. This is Murray Cod and Golden Perch country and they have been impacted by the cold releases from the dam. The \$26M project uses pumps to release air at the bed of the dam to create a 'plume' of bubbles which circulates the cold and warm waters.

Bubble plume destratification

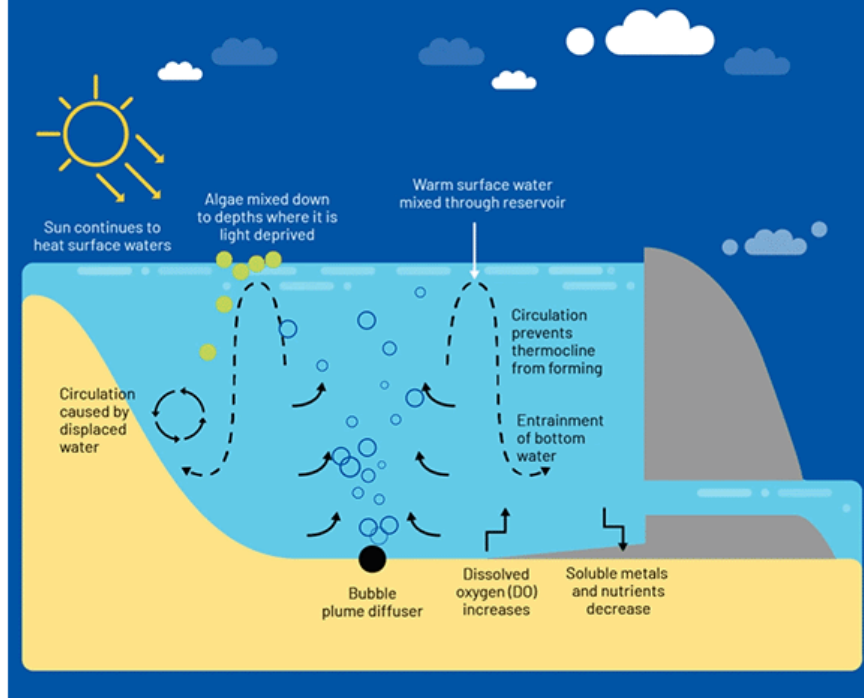


Image from <https://www.waternsw.com.au/projects/pindari-dam-cold-water-pollution>

A recent press release is here <https://www.nsw.gov.au/ministerial-releases/native-fish-habitat-trial-goes-swimmingly> and describes promising early results.

Pindari is well away from the New England trout fishery and improving the situation for natives like cod and perch will be good for recreational angling.

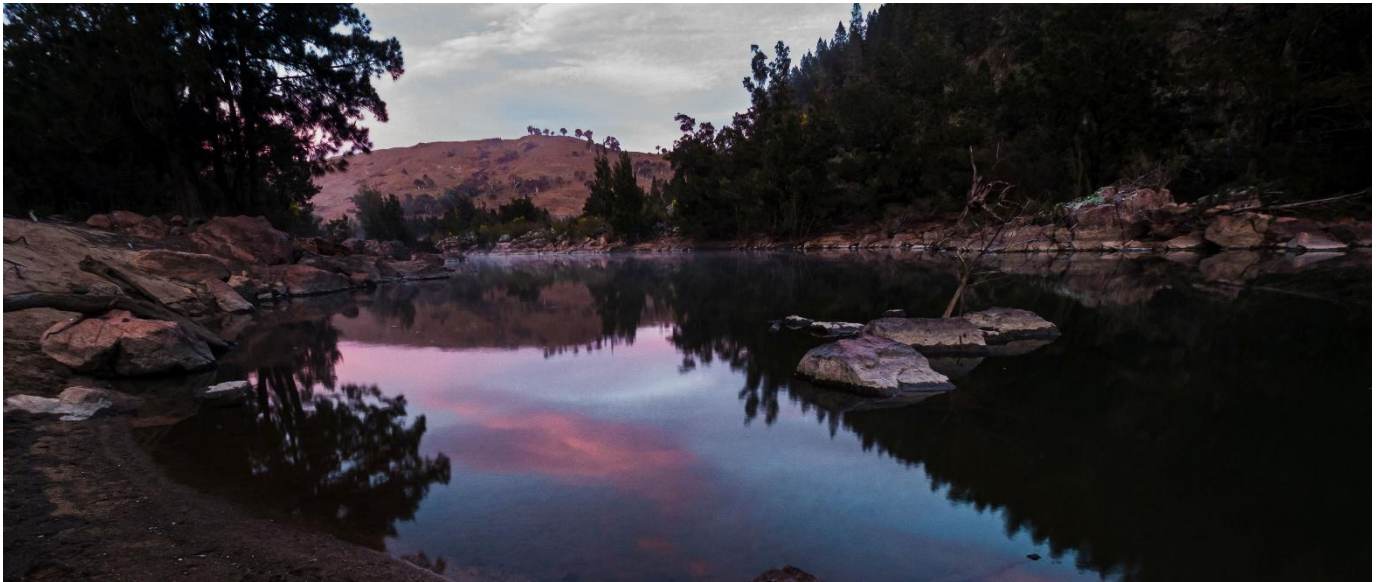
For some situations, “cold water pollution” might be seen as an “opportunity for tail race fishing” especially for trout. The UNSW paper refers to the previous Strategic Plan putting a number of dams that might be considered tail race as high priority for remediation:

- Reference was made of some remediation already conducted on Jindabyne Dam, though this doesn't seem to have affected the trout fishery in the Snowy River below Jindabyne.
- Blowering Dam (above Tumut township and a key trout fishery in the Tumut River) is likely a topic some years in the future. It has been suggested there would be little benefit in warming the Blowering outflow to exceed the temperature of the Goodarragandra at the Tumut River confluence.
- Tantangara is not mentioned, but if the SWIOID review obtains greater release into the Murrumbidgee maybe it'll need to come under consideration. Installation of a plume in Tantangara might have the additional benefit of reducing the chances of blue green algae being sent down the Murrumbidgee (and to Lake Eucumbene through the Portal) that we have experienced recently.

Stuff in my In Box

I came across the Korean traditional fishing technique *gyeonji*. A thoughtful piece including the zen of catch and release is here <https://youtu.be/CvqAkEvKQX4?si=8l8tLmeSc-OyPn6Y> Here is an American take on it – a bit long, but does show how the unique rod works https://youtu.be/PozzlvMOILY?si=QqTen_hn9gXoCzLI

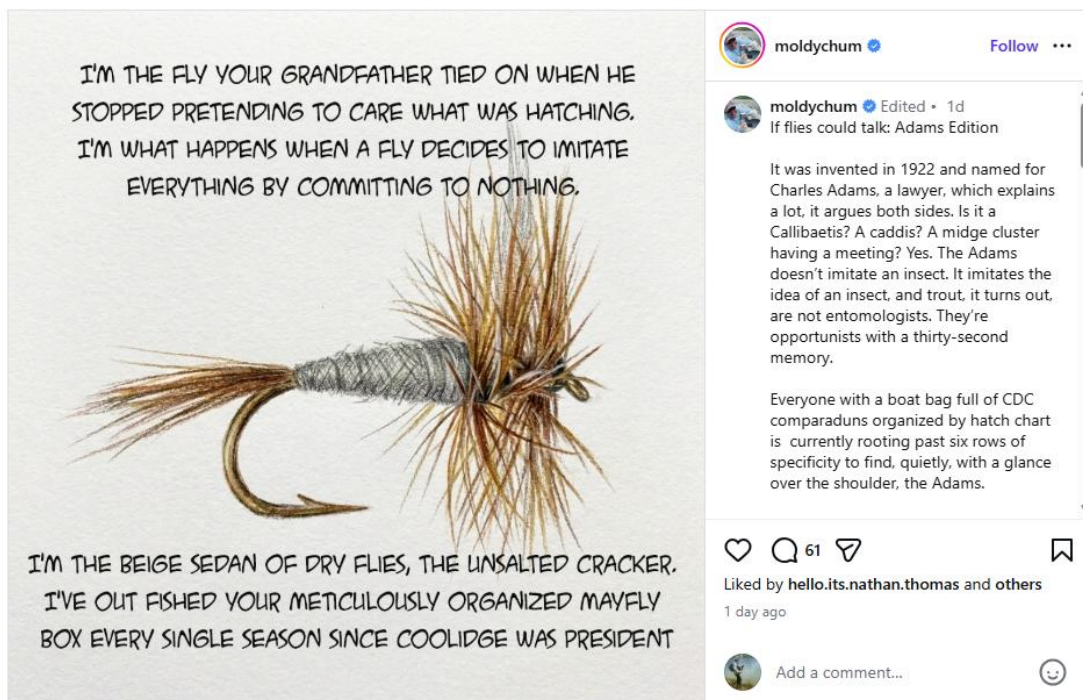
From Paul: *Although the ACT section of the Bidgee can be a very fickle fishery, its beauty more than makes up for the lack of fishing success. Early mornings really bring out the best that it offers. Here are some images from some of my trips.*



I received a copy of a Victorian fly fishing club's newsletter with an excellent article by Peter Morse on chasing carp on fly. I've not been able to receive permission to replicate here, but you can read it for yourself at Morsie's website blog.

<https://wildfish.com.au/the-joys-of-carp-and-what-they-can-teach-us/>

Singing the praises of the Adams dry fly (albeit I prefer the parachute style and when the duns are red you should probably go for Dad's Favourite).



<https://www.instagram.com/p/DayZy8GSuUO>

I got a pointer from Greg S to a Victorian "Talking Trout" seminar.

<https://vfa.vic.gov.au/recreational-fishing/events/talk-wild-trout-conference/twt-event-info-page> which I popped onto our Whatsapp channel. Given it is 1 August and in Victoria it is unlikely any of us will be able to attend, but the President of the Australian Trout Foundation (on the organising committee) has advised me that videos will be available on YouTube about a month afterwards. I'll try to monitor and promulgate the link.

From Peter K "some noice rainbows been caught" Tongariro Silver:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TI0wwW1Zbys&authuser=5> Hmm, I see no dry fly – ah well.



Pete Wilson is in
Adaminaby, NSW ·
Follow

4h · 🌐

I have been asked by Terry from NSBC Group to share this fantastic photo ... more



Where is this rainbow trout located?

W



357



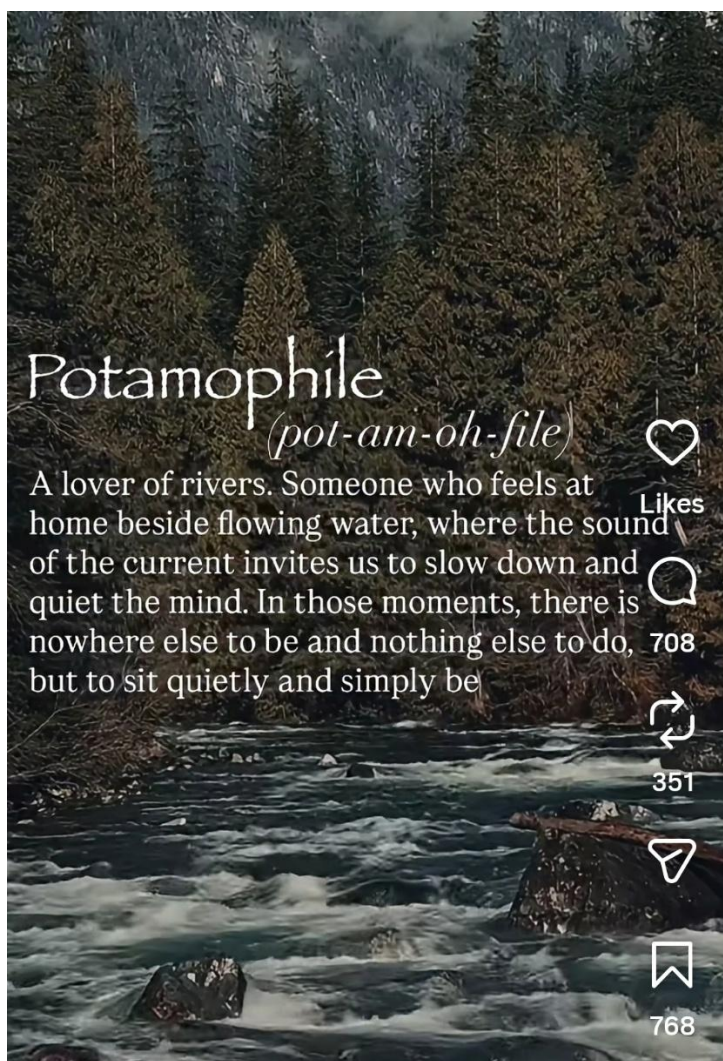
31



9



A great photo of the Adaminaby trout



Likes



708



351



768

I found a new word to describe many of us

A local council in WA is cracking down on angler bad behaviour, WA's recreational fishing peak body gets a mention. <https://au.news.yahoo.com/aussie-council-clashes-with-fishers-over-sweeping-ban-at-almost-20-lakes-052103423.html>

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.

[Some ACT Lakes being Lowered](#)

For maintenance – affected natives will be relocated, pest fish removed.

Cooking Australian Salmon

Often gets a bad rap, but Greg S found these tips from Starlo.

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 available on their website.

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> Last month we had June edition so I suspect not more until Sep?

Long Term Program of Events Not Formally Part of CAA Events

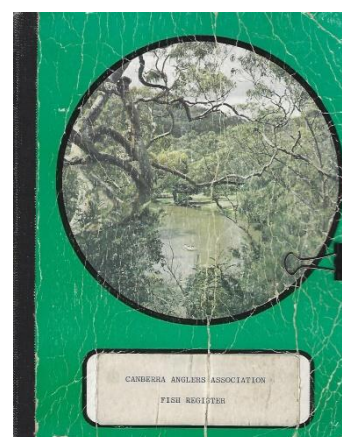
Provided for your calendar planning, members can see the diversity of angling events available to attend and some might even choose to get a CAA group together to attend an event outside our formal calendar which would broaden our horizons greatly. If anyone spots a non-CAA event that might be of interest 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
Oct long weekend	An Open Day at Gaden Hatchery has been forecast. If it is anything like last year's there'll be an opportunity to cast into the stock ponds, lots of external organisations' displaying their wares and tours of the hatchery.
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
Greg S spotted this one 17-18 Apr 2027	Anaconda Southern Flathead Challenge https://www.facebook.com/share/p/1BTdbtppzP/

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.



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). 2026/2027 rates will be confirmed at the AGM, but 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

Canberra Anglers Association Presents

Learn to fly cast

Sept. 13, 20 & 27
10am - noon

RODS PROVIDED
OR BRING YOUR OWN

Sunglasses or
eye protection
required to
participate

BOSS
OUTDOOR
Cast BOSS rods 20 Sept

FREE Coaching
by CAA members including
Fly Fishers International instructors

ALL AGES AND
LEVELS WELCOME

Sausage sizzle,
drinks and raffles



Yarramundi Close at
Weston Park

(on Google and Apple maps)

www.canberra-anglers.asn.au