



NEWSLETTER

Volume 16 Issue 3 October 2012

Winner of the September 2012 Photo Competition



Brian Stacy

Kalkite Outing Brown Trout

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About the Club

The Canberra Fisherman's Club Inc. is a sport fishing club that endeavours to promote a social awareness among its members, single or family. General meetings are held on the second Tuesday of every month at the **Eastlakes Football Club No 3 Oxley St Griffith ACT** beginning at 7:30pm. All members and visitors are most welcome.

Members of the Canberra Fisherman's Club are eligible to set Club Records and, upon payment of an Australian National Sport fishing Association (ANSA) affiliation fee, also able to set Australian records, and World records (through ANSA affiliation with the International Game Fishing Association (IGFA)).

Aims of the Club

- **To promote sport fishing**
- **To foster the art of angling**
- **To teach the art of angling to new members and particularly juniors**
- **To promote the study and conservation of fish species and the environment**
- **To co-operate with and support other bodies with similar aims and ideals.**

The Club also supports the Recfish Australia National Code of Practice for Recreational and Sport Fishing, which endorses:

- 1. Quickly and correctly returning unwanted or illegal catch to the water**
- 2. Quickly killing fish that are kept for consumption**
- 3. Using only appropriate, legal tackle, attending gear and valuing the catch**
- 4. Taking no more than our immediate needs**
- 5. Supporting and encouraging activities that preserve, restore and enhance fisheries and fish habitat**

- 6. Understanding and observing all fishing regulations and reporting illegal fishing activities**
- 7. Preventing pollution and protecting wildlife by removing rubbish**
- 8. Taking care when boating and anchoring to avoid damage to wildlife and habitat**
- 9. Using established roads and tracks**
- 10. Reporting environmental damage**
- 11. Avoiding unnecessary interactions with wildlife species and their habitats**
- 12. Practising courtesy towards all those who use inland and coastal waters**
- 13. Obtaining permission from landholders and traditional owners before entering their land**
- 14. Caring for our own safety and the safety of others when fishing**

President's Report

Hi all,

As you read this, the CFC Committee are putting the final touches on preparations for the 38th Annual Burrinjuck Convention. Burrinjuck Chairperson, Sarah Borman, is doing a great job bringing all the tasks together and entries are flooding in. The number of volunteers we have got for shifts throughout the weekend is truly fantastic – I can't remember a year where we have had this kind of response. This is something to be really proud of as a club, and a promising sign for the future.

Sponsors, led by our major sponsor Tackle World Fyshwick, have donated fantastic prizes - so bring plenty of change for raffle tickets.

Another event that's coming up soon is a Massive Demo Day with Wetspot Watersports on Sunday 11th November at Yarralumla Bay. Wetspot have been a great sponsor of the Club's Canberra Carpout and they have great kayaks – if you're interested, give them a call to book your place and tell them you're from the Canberra Fisherman's Club.

Next Club meeting will be two weeks after the Burrinjuck Convention (Tuesday 13th November). The meeting will include a presentation by James 'Kooka' Morgan from Tackle World Fyshwick on **Reading and Fishing South Coast Beaches**. It's a good opportunity to bring anyone that might be interested in what the Club has to offer. It's also a good opportunity to bring existing Club members (like family members and friends that don't often attend meetings) - the monthly member draw jackpotted again last month (if Haley Eastwood had been there, she would have walked away with \$325). If your membership number is drawn at the November meeting and you're in attendance, you could be walking away with \$350 – that'll get you a lot of gear at Tackle World!

Have a great Burrinjuck Convention – I hope to see you at the next meeting!

Glen Malam



Secretary's Report

G'day All,

Burrinjuck Convention

The Burrinjuck Convention is only a week away as I'm writing this and I'm looking forward to my first one. We've already received over 120 entries, and that's without any entries from our own club members yet – so get your entries in & support our own convention.

Upcoming Guest Speakers

At the November meeting Kooka will be giving a talk on reading and fishing beaches, and at the December meeting, Andy McGovern will be giving a presentation on fishing Canada.

Until next time, Tight Lines and see you at the Burrinjuck Convention.

Luke Robbie



Recorder's Report

Hi All,

It looks like a few members have taken up the challenge of ridding our waterways of European Carp with the length based competition. Kyle Walton, Tim Jones and Shane Jasprizza are taking the combined length to new heights with more than 20 metres of carp being caught already. Brian Stacy was our only recorded salt water competitor this month with some healthy Flathead entries, including a 76cm monster while trolling in his Kayak on Durras Lake.

From the reports I have received, it looks like the fishing was difficult at the Talbingo Convention. Chris De La Rue and John Vogel were the only two competitors to add to our club's tally in the competition itself. The convention was taken out by South Sydney AFA, whose six entrants landed a dozen Brown Trout between them.

October also saw me and my son embark on our traditional trip out to Broken Hill and a week of camping and fishing on the Darling River. The fish were biting big time this trip with us throwing 38cm Yellow Belly back mid-way through the second day's fishing. I'll be writing a report up for the editor to include in a later edition so I won't say too much more now.

The next outing is the Burrinjuck Convention, which will most likely be underway by the time this newsletter comes out. I hope to see you there and I hope you have put your name down on a roster or two. The more people we have helping out the more we can spread the work load, giving us all a chance at having a fish and earning a few points for the club.

After that we return to Burrinjuck for the opening of the Cod season and our friendly competition against the Morven fishing club. I've already cleared my calendar to be there and, by the look of the outings sheet, the cabins are filling up really fast!

John.



Club Championship - 2012/13

Open

BRIAN STACY	423 Points
KYLE WALTON	258 Points
GLEN MALAM	238 Points
ANTHONY HEISER	231 Points
CHRIS LEMMON	171 Points

Ladies

KAREN MALAM	45 Points
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Junior

KYLE WALTON	258 Points
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Land Based Club Champion

KYLE WALTON	233 Points
ANTHONY HEISER	231 Points
BRIAN STACY	226 Points
GLEN MALAM	157 Points
JOHN VOGEL	113 Points

Freshwater Club Champion

KYLE WALTON	258 Points
BRIAN STACY	247 Points
ANTHONY HEISER	231 Points
CHRIS LEMMON	171 Points
GLEN MALAM	157 Points

Saltwater Club Champion

BRIAN STACY	176 Points
COLIN CLARK	94 Points
GLEN MALAM	81 Points
CHRIS CLARK	74 Points
CHRIS HEAD	64 Points

Most Versatile Angler

BRIAN STACY	6 Points
ANTHONY HEISER	4 Points
KYLE WALTON	4 Points
GLEN MALAM	3 Points
JOHN VOGEL	2 Points

Total Length Award - European Carp

TIMOTHY JONES	8,688 mm
KYLE WALTON	7,090 mm
SHANE JASPRIZZA	4,505 mm
BRIAN STACY	450 mm

Board Fish 2012/13

ATLANTIC SALMON	4.28 kg	CHRIS LEMMON
AUSTRALIAN SALMON	1.60 kg	CHRIS HEAD
BROWN TROUT	2.12 kg	BRIAN STACY
DUSKY FLATHEAD	2.78 kg	BRIAN STACY
EUROPEAN CARP	2.02 kg	KYLE WALTON
RAINBOW TROUT	1.08 kg	ANTHONY HEISER
REDFIN PERCH	0.50 kg	KYLE WALTON
YELLOWTAIL KINGFISH	4.32 kg	GLEN MALAM

Best Fish Championship - 2012/13

BEACH

AUSTRALIAN SALMON

.78kg on 1 kg

Colin CLARK

94 Points

BLUEWATER

YELLOWTAIL KINGFISH

4.32kg on 8 kg

Glen MALAM

81 Points

ESTUARY

DUSKY FLATHEAD

2.78kg on 2 kg

Brian STACY

139 Points

FRESHWATER

EUROPEAN CARP

2.02kg on 1 kg

Kyle WALTON

202 Points

All-Tackle Champion - 2012/13

Open

Anthony HEISER	9
Greg DAVIS	8
Brian STACY	6
Glen MALAM	6
Kevin Spriggs	6

Sub-Junior

Kyle WALTON	3
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News & Stories

New member profile: Lachlan James Barber

by Ashley Barber

Lachlan James Barber came into our world on the 24th October 2012. He pulled the scales down at 3.46kg, the weight of a good sized trout. Ashley and Tina are looking forward to the journey ahead and teaching him the joys of fishing along the way.



Gold Coast Estuary Fishing with Smithy

by Zane Zhao

I recently had the pleasure of spending a day fishing the Gold Coast network of canals with local guide Brad Smith from Brad Smith Fishing Charters or Smithy as he likes to be known. I had half a day in between sessions at a conference there was nothing better than spending some time on the water.

The session started early as we arrived at a local boat ramp a couple of hours from low tide and launched the boat. The boat was a 4.3m Stessl Edge Tracker, which Smithy told me was the fifth one ever made in Australia.



First thing I said to Smithy at the start of the day was that I was hoping to notch up a new PB and score a 60cm plus Flathead, Smithy said 'no problem, that's what we'll target for the day.'

He told me the plan of attack for the day was to head out to the flats at the front of the systems during the low tide to target the flatheads and then once the tides pick up we will head back into the canals and see if we can finish off with a GT near where we launched.

As we were heading out to the flats, we trolled small 55mm hard body minnows which dived to 2m, the idea was since we were trolling in 2m deep waters most of the way, the minnows were able to hit the bottom and hop along the sand and hopefully enticing a strike. We didn't get a strike on the way to the flats but Smithy promised to redeem himself on the run in.

Once we got to the flats, we headed straight for a tidal channel that ran for around 200 metres. The problem was we noticed an algae bloom, which meant that there was a myriad of snotty weed floating around, and this could spell disaster for the day as this stuff snags every cast.

We started at the top of the channel and drifted with the current. Using a 3 inch curly tail and flick bait soft plastic in pumpkin seed, we hopped our lures down with the current. The key to success was down time, so tiny hops using a triple twitch with the wrist is all we needed to do, don't even need to retrieve. The only problem was we kept getting snotty weed on our lures, so after two runs of the channel, I only had one bump to show for, so we decided to change places and see if we can get away from the weed.

Next place we tried was some old oyster leases and with a faster current flow we got fewer weeds! A few minutes into our drift, I was on. It pulled hard and took line quite rapidly, it certainly did not have the head shakes that one would expect from a Flathead, so I assumed it was a great big Bream! The fish tried to take me back into the leases, darting left and right, but after a few minutes I managed to land what turned out to be my first Venus Tusk Fish. It certainly was not what we expected and according to Smithy they are a reef fish, and he seemed happier about the catch than me as it is the first one he's seen caught in those waters in all his years of doing charters there.



Not long after, that we started to get the Flatheads that we were targeting although they were not PB lengths, they were a good 40 cm plus. However, we continued to get snagged by the weed which became the theme for the whole day.

Later on in the day as the tide turned, we headed back into the canal system. On the way back, we trolled past the spot from earlier in the morning and, sure enough, a school of bait showed up on the sounder and landed a small Tailor that was chasing the

bait fish, we also lost a couple of soft plastics to boot as well.

As we got close to the ramp, Smithy said there was one more side canal that we should try as the local GTs love to hang around a few specific yachts. I was sceptical at first, because seriously, 'fish attracted to specific boats?' But as we trolled past the first boat, my minnow got hit and after a short struggle, I pulled up the last Flathead (45 cm plus) for the day.

Then as we past the second of the 'preferred' yachts, I got hit again and I started to lose line fast as I see it being taken to the middle of the canal, I can tell you that thing pulled a lot



harder and put up a much bigger fight than a Murray Cod twice its size and with only 4lb line, I had to take things slowly. After a good 10 minutes fight, I landed a small GT which was the last fish for the day. It just shows how well Smithy knows these waters, down to every last boat!

While I didn't get my PB Flathead for the day, I really can't fault Smithy for effort he put in trying to get me the fish. While we were travelling between different flats,

we were trolling for fish this ensure that we always on the hunt, this resulted in us landing a variety of fish for the day, seven species to be exact (Grinner, Whiting, Venus Tusk Fish, Flathead, Tailor, Small ray and Giant Trevally).

Total fish count for the day was 13 which included seven Flathead of up to 50 cm plus and plus my first Venus Tusk Fish! We fished 4lb braid with 4lb-8lb fluorocarbon leader all day and I am confident that if we did not hit weed all day I would have had twice the time fishing and doubled my catch for the day and who know, possibly even a PB Flathead!

Regardless of results, I had a great day on the water and I learnt heaps about fishing for Flathead on the Gold Coast but the skills I learnt on the day can be used in another estuary and I'll be approaching the next Tuross outing with new insight.

Fishing with Smithy felt like fishing with a mate, what better way to spend the day than to fish with a mate. I'll be back and next time, it's Bass season!

Kangaroo Valley Bass

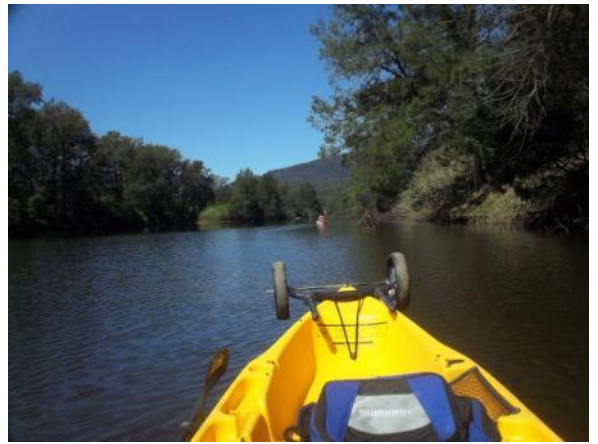
by Tim Jones

Hi all!

Just thought I'd share with you a few details about my recent trip chasing Australian Bass in the Kangaroo Valley. This is a regular trip for me, meaning once a year my fishing mate Wayne and I manage to coordinate our holidays enough to have two or three days chasing this fantastic fish. While both of us would fish in a bucket if given no better choice, we really enjoy fishing from the kayaks, and this area is one of the prettiest places to be in spring.

We launched about lunchtime on the first day with the intent to peddle the Hobies upstream looking for fish rising to the surface as the sun sets. We set a reasonable pace, trolling a lure through the best bits with no result. This wasn't unexpected as Bass will often avoid hitting a lure while the sun is high. We reached a favourite spot and began working the banks with spinnerbaits, with Wayne landing an excellent fish of 44 cm soon after.

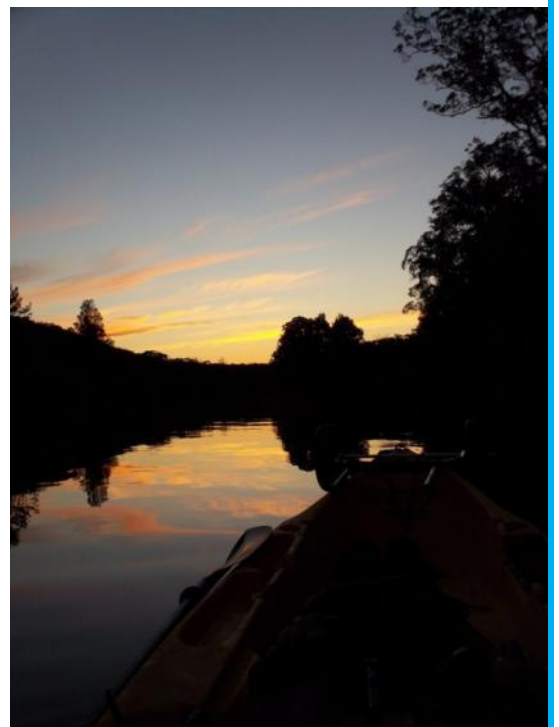
I settled in to troll the deeper sections with a Strata lure, landing one small fish before I collected a nice 34 cm model with a deep diver off a steep bank. As the sun set, we began the return trip, with another nice bass bagged on the troll right on dark.



The next day saw a fruitless trip to the ocean chasing Bream, as strong winds had come in during the morning so we again headed out in the valley, this time downstream of our campsite. Within a minute of launching, I landed a fish and was on to another five minutes later, both on trolled lures.

Unfortunately this was all we

saw though, for the next few hours, until Wayne again hauled in another fantastic 44 cm Bass. While I was not missing the opportunity to rib him about the fact that I was catching more fish (a rare occurrence!), he made it clear that he was after just the quality fish! Working a few of the beautiful areas I managed to catch no less than five trees for the rest of this run and after only four fish for the day between us we returned to camp into a beautiful sunset.





Rising before the sun the next morning, we again set off upstream, this time working most of the areas we had passed on the first day. I was predominantly trolling lures to rest my injured wrist and this proved an excellent tactic. Using one lure tracking at 1 metre or so and another at 3 metres, I was regularly hooking fish. Several were clearly strikes from small fish as they fell off easily. However, I managed to land no less than nine fish in this early morning run. Wayne, too was on the fish, landing several, but not

enough to catch up to my total of 15 for the trip. This is the first time I've ever out-fished him!

We have fished this place several times before and we have learned a lot about fishing in this area so I have summarised a few key points below:

1. Water Dragons (lizards) will jump off rocks to attack your lures, DO NOT catch one, it's not worth the laugh.
2. When the wind is up a Hobie is a lot easier and faster than a canoe, but it's fun to watch the tourists try....
3. When Bass want to eat, they will, if they don't, sit back and enjoy the scenery.
4. Carp will take Bass lures. I'm not kidding, Wayne now holds the distinction of landing a carp on a 3m diver two years running!
5. Bass in the Kangaroo Valley area are a great fish to target from a kayak.



Tight Lines!

Tim Jones

New Zealand Blue Water

by Pat Brennan

This report has been a long time coming, but not because I haven't been fishing abroad. Busy work and family schedules and a generally slack disposition for a while have meant that this report is more than 12 months old now. In July 2011, I was asked to organise a short and inexpensive trip for a group of friends. This group of time poor fishers wanted something where they could get in, fish hard and get out in under a week. They also wanted to do it in the Aussie winter. That doesn't really leave a lot of options!

Asking around and a bit of web searching lead me to consider New Zealand. The winter kingfish and snapper action was apparently pretty good. Also, being so close Australia and strong exchange rate made it a pretty obvious choice.

I narrowed down the options to an operation called Epic Adventures based out of Tairua on the North Island's Corramandel Peninsular. The plan was a six-day turn around trip that would have us leave Canberra late on day one, spend a night in Sydney before flying to Auckland on day two. On arriving in Auckland, we would get a hire vehicle and drive the two hours or so to Tairua, arriving late. Day three, four and five would be fishing before heading back to Auckland day six, connecting with a flight back to Australia and driving back to Canberra late on day six. A compressed timetable, but achievable.

It was time to start locking in some names. The short version of this was that we ended up with six anglers including myself. I don't know how that happened as I wasn't really interested as I do very little blue water fishing these days. I just said I would organise it for the others. The others included my old school friend Saint and his brother Tony, an old fishing mate Graham and his brother in law, Pat and my other fishing mate Alex Skatouli.



With six anglers we asked Epic to arrange for two boats and would fish three aboard each. Kingfish were the main target at this time of year – big kingfish. Fish averaging 15kg and pushing up to 40 run at this time of year. The main methods to catch them included jigging and live baiting. Throw in some nice snapper too and it makes for a pretty decent proposition.

The beautiful town of Tairua right outside our accommodation

July arrived and we all boarded the plane and headed off to Auckland. We got there late in the afternoon and jumped in a hired mini-van that barely fitted us and all our gear in. By the time we hit the road it was too dark to admire any scenery, especially after a stop at the

supermarket on the way to get our supplies. However, we had a trouble free trip to Tairua and made it to our accommodation where we met by our accommodation manager, who was also our charter skipper's wife, Belinda. She gave us a run down on our accommodation, a bit about the town and where we could get some dinner. She said her husband Carl would meet us at a restaurant and give us a run down on the plan for the next few days.

The accommodation was fantastic. We had two villas, three people in each, right on the harbour side. Again, at night it was too dark to appreciate the scenery but the next morning would present a very picturesque harbour town. The restaurant where we had dinner way exceeded our expectations. The food was so good that we ended up eating there every night. High class restaurant food was not what we expected in such a small coastal village.

During dinner we met Carl, our skipper and owner of Epic Adventures. He gave us a run down on what was coming up. Good news was that the fishing had been pretty good. Fish on jigs and live baits up to 30kgs. Bad news, and we knew this in advance, was an impending horror weather front. It was predicted to hit during our stay. It was just a matter of when and from what direction. If the wind blew hard but from the west, there was a chance that we would still be able to fish.

However, recent bad weather had whipped up the bar crossing at Tairua to dangerous levels. A bar crossing is where the river meets the sea. Carl said he would call in the morning and let us know whether we would get out at all, launch at Tairua, or have to travel to another port to launch in the event of the above.

After a fantastic meal and good company, we headed back to our accommodation to get set and then get some much needed sleep. I was up early the next day getting organised when my phone rang. Carl was on the other end and advised that sea conditions looked OK and we should be able to go fishing but the bar was still a bit wild at Tairua and we would have to head north to the port of Whitianga where there was no bar crossing, just an open port. It was about a 45 minute drive through some absolutely amazing scenery – even though it was misty and cloudy.



The weather on the verge of turning bad

Once we arrived at the main dock in Whitianga, we were met by Carl and the other skipper, Toby. The boats were both about 7.5 meters in length, aluminium pontoon style construction (similar to a Stabicraft). We were all impressed by quality of the boats, the fishing gear, professional drill each skipper went through, in terms of the boats, the safety gear, what we could do and what the operation was all about. With the briefing over, we headed out. Myself, Graham and Pat were fishing with Toby whilst Saint, Tony and Alex fished with Carl.

It was choppy, reasonably unpleasant but not particularly rough as we made our way to the bait grounds to load up for the day. Now, whether this was an omen or not depends on your faith, but bait was extremely (and apparently unusually) hard to find. A few very small yellowtail was all we could find and that was between both boats. Recent rough weather had made the water cloudy making it less than ideal for the bait but even when we did find bait,



Pat getting 'railed' by a decent king

they were very small dispersed schools that we couldn't stay on for long enough to get a good supply. Eventually, both skippers decided to cut their losses and make for the deep water reefs. Even without bait we could still jig.

We pushed out to sea on what turned out to be quite reasonable conditions. There was certainly chop and some swell but definitely fishable. The day unfolded reasonably well. Both boats caught kingfish. The biggest was a fish around 18kg to Saint, another around 13 that Graham caught on a jig and a few 10's. On top of this Alex got a 4kg snapper and everyone else caught some smaller kings. It wasn't stellar fishing but it wasn't the worst I've seen either. However, neither skipper was very happy with either the size of the fish or numbers. The fishing had been and should have been much better. In fact Toby said it was his worst day in six years!

The only issue remaining was whether the weather would hold long enough for us to have another decent crack. Certainly the first day was fine. A slight sea and pretty light winds made for a very comfortable day.

Back in Whitianga we bid our skippers goodbye and again Carl said he would call in the morning with an update. We took our time driving back to soak in the amazing scenery. Once we returned to our villas the guys were keen to cook some of the fish they had caught and kept for an appetiser before dinner. We had kingfish and snapper cooked several ways before heading off to our now favourite restaurant for a magnificent meal. Again we enjoyed good conversation and banter before heading home for some sleep.



A NZ rat, but decent fish by any other standards

The following morning Carl rang to say that the sea was ok and the bar at Tairua had settled a bit so we would leave from there. We arrived at the dock (walking distance from the accommodation) as the two boats were being launched. The tide was very low and running out. Today we loaded up our gear aboard different boats. Graham, Pat and I jumped on board with Carl and the others loaded up with Toby.



Toby left the dock first and made his way seaward down the estuary towards the bar, which we could hear rumbling in the background. We were a few hundred meters behind. As we rounded the corner we could see the entrance. There were still pretty large rollers coming in and the others were stationed well back assessing the conditions.

Carl advised we don the life jackets to which we all complied. As we got a better look at the bar the rollers were pretty large but I was

comforted by the fact that New Zealander's and their boats are renowned for their ability to handle conditions that to us appear impossible. Carl circled around Toby and the two skippers briefly conversed before Carl pointed the bow seaward and opened the throttle.

Carl was at the wheelhouse on the starboard side of the boat. Graham and Pat were in the cockpit behind him in between the two seats. I was on the port side of the boat hanging on to the Jesus bar at the rear of the cockpit roof line.



Saint with the fish of the trip

As we headed out we met the first wave and launched over it. Behind it, however, was a much larger wave. From inside the cockpit, Graham and Pat would have only have seen green. From my rather unfortunate position, I could see the true size of the wave. It had started to crest a few meters ahead of us and poised to break as we approached. Its peak towered over the roof of our now tiny craft. Without a word being spoken, we all braced for the inevitable.

The wave crested and broke right as we climbed it. It crashed with a sickening thud right onto the windscreen and roof. At the same time the force of the wave forced in the port side

of the windscreen and a rectangular prism consisting of several tons of Pacific Ocean came streaming through the opening into the cockpit, right into me and out into the back deck. We miraculously emerged out the other side of the wave and found that we were not out of trouble yet. Ahead towered a wave that appeared even larger.



As often happens in moments like these, everything slowed down. The next wave seemed to take forever to arrive. I don't know why but I found my eyes divert away from the impending danger and directly towards Carl, who remained steadfast at the wheel, despite the broken glass, water and scattered belongings all around him. Maybe in that instance I knew he was the only person in any position to get us through this!

The infamous Tairua bar in a much better mood than the day we crossed

With one hand on the throttle and the other on the wheel he kept the boat directly facing the wave whilst simultaneously applying throttle. As we approached the giant wave (or perhaps it was the other way round) it appeared that we might just meet it before it crested to break. However it was still taller than the boat was long and weren't out of trouble. I felt the bow lift and keep lifting until I felt myself losing traction on my feet. My white knuckles had hold of the Jesus bar as though it was the man himself. I felt myself forcing downwards trying to brace myself to prevent me falling out the back of the now almost vertical boat. There was now a hair's breadth between which way the boat would fall – backwards or forwards? Eventually the lifting feeling slowed as Carl applied power to push us through and ultimately over the wave.

The same actions were required to clear the next few waves in a gradually reducing sense of dramatic urgency. We finally cleared the dangers of the bar before Carl pulled the throttle back and brought the boat to rest. He rather meekly said "Sorry about that". In an attempt to lighten the mood I said, "I take it that's not a normal crossing?"

There wasn't a lot of laughter. Instead we all set about assessing what had been damaged as we cleared out broken glass from everywhere. Graham had copped a fair bit of the broken windscreen and had several small cuts over his hands and face. Pat was pretty lucky as he was behind Graham who had shepherded him from most of the glass and water. I copped the full brunt of the water and some of the glass.

For some reason I had removed my wet weather jacket before donning my life jacket figuring that if the boat went over I would have no chance of swimming anywhere in the bulky winter weight jacket. I was just wearing a light cotton shirt and I was saturated and speckled with small blood spots. We all assisted in clearing out broken glass that seemed to be everywhere whilst working out what could be salvaged.

In the meantime, the other boat had been sitting at the back of the entrance watching all this unfold in disbelief. Saints brother, Tony, who is not renowned for his courage under fire, was apparently screaming that he no longer wanted to go out as he watched us get hammered. However, in an apparent miracle, the sea flattened out momentarily allowing them to shoot out on clam waters that had appeared just after we had cleared the rough stuff.

The two skippers met up well past the entrance and conversed on the cell phone before Carl advised that we would spend some time catching bait before deciding what to do after that. Again, bait was hard to find. In fact, it was impossible. I don't think we caught any. Eventually Carl said that he wasn't happy fishing us out of his damaged vessel and would have to unload us on to the other boat whilst he returned to port to try and get the boat fixed.

As the two boats drew closer I poked my head through the space where the windscreen had been and waved at Alex. He bemusedly waved back as if he realised something was amiss but not knowing how to join the dots. In fact, it wasn't until we had boarded and recounted what had actually happened that they even discovered we had our windscreen punched out. They said their concern was watching the boat in what looked to be a vertical position of no return. They were certain we were going to roll. After some black humored joking, our skipper advised that we would head for the legendary Alderman Islands and spend the day there. This was a great kingfish and snapper spot and would offer some shelter should the weather turn foul.

The Alderman Islands were impressive and scenic but the short version of this story was that the fishing was almost non-existent. If the day before was the worst days fishing the boys had had in six years then this was the worst days fishing they had ever had. We caught one undersized kingfish, one small snapper and one pink mou mou for the day. That was not from a lack of effort. Toby and Carl clearly knew their stuff and their locations but, like fishing all over the world, nowhere produces great fishing day in and day out. We just happened to be in the worst of it. The weather was still ok and we even ventured out from the Aldermans a few times to check out some outer reefs, but all to no avail.

With our tails between our legs, we moped our way back into Tairua and through the notorious bar. Having treated us so badly at the start of the day, it had now soothed its mood and was barely a decent bump. I felt sorry for the skippers. With such poor fishing and the unfortunate mishap of the morning it was hard for them to be positive. On top of that was the horror weather forecast that had been looming since we arrived. Perhaps we could salvage something with a good days fishing tomorrow?

Back at the villas we got ready to go out for dinner. With the radio on in the background the main topic of conversation was the weather. One broadcaster even described the forecast as "apocalyptic". Winds were forecast to be hurricane strength and snow was forecast down to sea level. Well, that's likely to test even the most optimistic angler. We weren't amongst those optimists.

I would love finish this story with tales of "just in the nick of time" fishing success, but this trip was a write off. Carl called the next morning with the inevitable news. Even though the weather appeared to be half alright where we were, we weren't going anywhere. He wasn't able to get his boat fixed and only a fool would have gone out to sea in the forecast conditions.

The night before we had decided that if the day was cancelled we would take a scenic drive right around the Coromandel Peninsular to check out the scenery. So, with the fishing cancelled, we took that scenic drive. Even though the weather was awful, with freezing wind,

low cloud and scattered showers, it turned out to be an excellent day. It is a drive I would highly recommend. We loved it even in the most appalling of conditions. We stopped and had breakfast and coffees long the way in a very civilized tourist like tour.



The Coromandel Peninsular. Even in poor weather, the view is spectacular.

In the post mortem (which could have almost been a real one!) we decided that we would all be happy to come back and give EPIC another go. The guys really knew their fishing, their boats and tackle were top shelf and they were also great guys.

Farewell until my next adventure.

Burrinjuck Waters State park

Fishing & Lake Report 30/10/12

Rain last 7 days: 0.0 mm

Water level current: 89.7 %

Water level: 17/10/2012 94.2 %

Current discharge: 8109 ml per day.

Current inflow: 1939 ml per day.

Water visibility: up to 1 metre

Forecast Weather: Showers on Thursday, fine for the weekend with temps between 9 & 27 c on Sunday with a light breeze.

New Moon = 14th November

Full moon = 29th November

Water Temperature: 19 to 22 c

Murray Cod: (*closed Season*) Big numbers of cod are being caught, trolling accounting for most captures, I spoke to one fisherman today who has been fishing over the last 2 days, small yellow & green lures, 20 cod between 65 to 75 cm, Bidgee arm, he also reported trebles being straightened twice within 300 metres. Other River campers reported 120lb of cod over the weekend mainly on shrimp. Remember the Cod are to be released as soon as possible and should not be getting weighed, ideally the fish should be left in the water during the release.

Yellow Belly: Yellows are still fishing well with good reports from both bait and lure fishermen. Shrimp are being caught in traps and are working well on the hook. I managed 2 nice fish late on Tuesday night while flicking a mask vibe. The afternoon bite seems to be better than the mornings. (Full moon)

Redfin: A lot of smaller fish being caught if you happen to find a patch, Barbers flats, above Cathedral Rock is a popular spot for redfin.

Trout: No reports this week.

Silver Perch: No reports this week.

Carp: A lot of carp are being caught, bait fishing the shallow edges the best option with Worms, corn or bread. Not hitting lures yet like they did last year.

Turtles : Still hearing of the odd turtle capture ,mainly on worms, please release them unharmed.

Park News: The Burrinjuck convention is on this weekend. If you decide to attend you are able to register on the day. We have entry forms at the office. Give us a call if you would like one 02 62278114.



Dean Brind Manager

Burrinjuck Waters State Park

From the Editor

Last month, I said I would start tapping people on the shoulder to write an article on their latest fishing adventures. I'm so pleased to say that I have not had to do that so far, with great articles being submitted by Zane Zhao, Tim Jones and Pat Brennan. I know John Bosch, Steve Bailey, Keith Smith and Albert Magassey have had some recent fishing adventures and Keith has submitted an awesome photo of a 92 cm barra which will appear in next month's photo comp. If you are interested in writing an article for the newsletter, please see me during the Club meeting or email me on anthony.heiser@bigpond.com.

I also encourage everyone to send us your photos for the monthly photo competition for a chance to win a \$20 Tackle World voucher if you are the monthly winner. The rules of the photo comp are:

- Members can submit up to two photos per month
- The photo must either be taken by the member submitting the photo or a photo of the member
- No photo shopping or other digital enhancements are allowed

The lucky winner for the September photo comp was Brian Stacey and an awesome brown trout. Brian caught that fish while trolling with Greg Davis at the Kalkite Outing last September landed a 2.12 kg and a 0.48 kg brown trout off Greg's boat.

You may notice that Brian's photo is a bit blurred. Unfortunately, the image size of the photo was only 30 kb. That is fine for photos on a website but 300 KB to 2 MB size photos result in better pictures for the newsletter. Photos greater than 2 MB will need to be compressed if you are attempting to email them. You can contact me if you need help with compressing photos.

Also if you have some gear to sell, swap, wanted or barter then send through the details.

All of the above should be emailed to info@canberraflashos.com. Also a reminder for the lucky member number draw at each general meeting, you have to be there to win the cash or it JACKPOTS each week until a winning member is present.

Membership forms for 2012 – 2013 year are available on the website.

September Photo competition



2012-2013 Canberra Fisherman's Club Outings & Meeting Calendar

<i>Outing Date</i>	<i>Outing</i>	<i>Monthly Meetings</i>
21st – 22nd July	Kiola/Ulladulla	10th
18th – 19th August	Buckenderra (Lake Eucumbene)	14th AGM
15th – 16th September	Kalkite (Lake Jindabyne)	11th
12th – 14th October	Talbingo Convention	9th Alan Hocking - All about your life Jackets Presentation
2nd – 4th November	Burrinjuck Convention	13th James Morgan AKA Kooka - Reading and fishing the beach
1st – 2nd December	Burrinjuck – Cod Opening Morven vs CFC inter club comp	11th Andrew McGovern – Fishing Canada Presentation
13th January	Carpathon	8th
26th – 28th January	Tuross	
TBA February	Nowra Convention St Georges Basin	12th
8th – 10th March	Narooma Convention	12th
25th – 28th April	Windamere	9th
18th – 19th May	Bega Brogo Tathra	14th
8th – 10th June	Narooma	11th
20th – 21st July	Kioloa / Ulladulla	9th

Canberra Fisherman's Club Sponsors 2012 – 2013

SPONSOR	CONTACT PERSON'S	CONTACT
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AUSSIE FISH ESTUARY ADVENTURES	Stuart Hindson	www.ausfishing.com.au
AUSTRALIAN FISHING SHIRT CO	Steve Tooley	
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DUMPHY SPORTS/ SHIMANO FISHING TACKLE		www.shimanofish.com.au
E.J. TODD		www.ejtodd.com.au
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MUDGUTS SPINNERBAITS	Dave Harp	0427 677 027
NSW FISHING MONTHLY	Tony Zann (Editor)	www.fishingmonthly.com.au
PLATYPUS LINES	Donna Rump	www.fishplatypus.com.au
QUALITY MEATS (CALWELL & KIPPAX)	Victor Seisun	02 6292 8997
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THE TACKLE SHED	David Wescombe	c/- Wagga-Wagga Boat Club Anglers
SIGNFLAIR	Mike & Colleen Connors	signflair@bigpond.com
WAGGA FISHING WORLD & LEGEND LURES	Graeme & Wendy Clark	www.waggafishingworld.com.au
WETSPOT WATERSPORTS	Scott Hunter	02 6239 1323

CFC Office Bearers 2012 – 2013

PRESIDENT	Glen Malam	0417 455 878 (m)
VICE PRESIDENT (activities/website officer)	Chris Head	0408 225 794 (m)
SECRETARY	Luke Robbie	0434 997 969 (m)
ASSISTANT SECRETARY (Burrinjuck Chair)	Sarah Borman	0439 601 097 (m)
TREASURER (editor)	Anthony Heiser	0402 560 880 (m)
RECORDER/TAGGING OFFICER	John Bosch	0432 930 750 (m)
OUTING LIAISON OFFICER	Kevin Spriggs	0418 864 760 (m)
Committee	Tim Jones	
Committee	Patrick Luttrell	
Committee	Brian Stacy	

Membership & Contact Information

Membership Fees

	CFC	ANSA
Junior	\$5	\$4
Student	-	\$7
Senior	\$20	\$20
Family	\$30	\$25

**All Correspondence to the
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PO Box 325
Civic Square, ACT 2608**

**Articles for inclusion in
the
CFC Newsletter to be
Forwarded to the Editor**

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CFC Life Members

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Alan Matthews

Brian Ray

Laurie Nolen

Jamie Stanfield

Chris De La Rue