

Canberra Fisherman's Club Inc



Newsletter

Volume 23 Issues 5-6

December 2019 – January 2020

Cod and Carp Special Edition

Winner of the November photo competition



Bonnita Allen: Bonnie and Ian's first ever Carp at Burrinjuck.

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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 **Croatian Deakin Soccer Club, 3 Grose Street, Deakin.** beginning at 6:30 pm. 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

Welcome to the first month of Summer for the fishing year. To celebrate Cod opening and in anticipation of the National Carp Control Plan's recommendations prior to Christmas, we're running a Cod and Carp theme in this newsletter. I am told we have a fantastic article on Cod fishing from Andrew McGovern, followed by great Carp fishing tips from Lindsay Steele.

Make sure you read those articles, because you will find them useful at the Carpathon, which will be held next year at 8 am, Sunday, 12 January 2020, at Bowen Park. It's a great way to kick off the year and a great social outing as well. The event is open to all so it's a great way to introduce your friends to the fishing club.

On the topic of Carp, the National Carp Control Plan is set to make its recommendations to the Australian Government on Carp control measures, including the possible release of the Cyprinid herpesvirus (or Carp Herpes Virus). Anthony has provided an update in his article about the National Carp Control Plan.

Moving away from the Carp infested lakes of Canberra to more saltier waters down the coast, we have our Tuross Outing on 25-27 January 2020. It is always a great weekend and the fishing never disappoints.

Until then, I hope you all have a safe and happy holiday this Christmas and New Year. Those who attended our Christmas Party on 15 December 2019 got an early glimpse of Santa (on the back of a ute).

Finally, our lucky member draw has jackpotted to \$250, after Andrew Dunlop missed out when his name was read out at the December General Meeting. If you want to take home \$250, you need to attend our next General Meeting, at 6.30 pm, Tuesday, 14 January 2020, at the Deakin Croatian Soccer Club.

Have a Safe and Merry Christmas!

Bonnita Allen
President



Recorder's Report

G'day all,

Through the round-a-bout means of a friend of a friend, I heard that the Burrinjuck outing this year was a quiet affair, with the fish being a little reluctant to engage. Unfortunately, I wasn't at the December meeting to hear any stories to the contrary.

Facebook is alight with captures of Murray Cod with the reopening of the season, but I haven't seen any reports of very large specimens yet.

I had the fortune of having both my brother and my father passing through the area over the last month on separate occasions. One was staying at St. George's Basin and the other wanted to go there for a fish, so the new boat got two trips to the Basin in three weeks.

The fishing there is currently keeping your interest throughout the day but not fantastic yet. The second trip saw us not getting on the water the first day due to wind, and my being able to test the new boat out in rough conditions on the second day (it performs far better than the *S.S. Minnow* on the typical Basin chop).

Christmas is upon us and I hope you have the time for a short break before the new year's antics begin. With the weather we are facing for the next couple of weeks, it is going to be difficult getting in a fishing trip, but I hope you all manage to wet a line. If the fire bans lift, I might try and make a trip out to Googong myself.

That's it from me for this week though. Enjoy your Christmas and I hope to see you all at the next meeting. Tight lines and keep those capture forms rolling in!

John Bosch
Recorder



Club Championship

Open

Steve Bailey	326
Lindsay Steele	238
Alexander Steele	223
Chris Lemmon	190
John Bosch	130

Ladies

Janine Noack	30	<i>(less than 2 outings attended)</i>
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Junior

Alexander Steele	223
Zachary Zhao	10

Land Based

Steve Bailey	326
Chris Lemmon	190
Lindsay Steele	128
Alexander Steele	106
Jason Rogers	90

Fresh Water

Steve Bailey	326	
Chris Lemmon	190	
Lindsay Steele	178	
Alexander Steele	129	
Chris Malam	111	(less than 2 outings attended)

Salt Water

John Bosch	130
Alexander Steele	94
Lindsay Steele	60
Anthony Heiser	48

Most Versatile Angler

Steve Bailey	3	<i>(less than 3 sections entered)</i>
John Bosch	3	<i>(less than 3 sections entered)</i>
Robert Schneider	2	<i>(less than 3 sections entered)</i>
Lindsay Steele	2	<i>(less than 3 sections entered)</i>
Chris Malam	2	<i>(less than 3 sections entered)</i>

Salt Water Length *(Bartailed Flathead, Dusky Flathead, Eastern Blue-spotted Flathead, Sand Flathead)*

John Bosch	8,080
Brian Stacy	1,625
Janine Noack	1,570
Mick Jewry	1,390
Kevin Spriggs	860

Fresh Water Length *(European Carp)*

Alexander Steele	9,419
Lindsay Steele	6,150
Chris Lemmon	2,780
Anthony Heiser	1,660
Steve Bailey	1,560

Tagging Award

Board Fish - Weight

Australian Salmon	2.88 kg	Lindsay Steele
Brown Trout	0.85 kg	Jason Rogers
Common Shovel-nosed Ray	1.77 kg	Janine Noack
Dusky Flathead	2.60 kg	John Bosch
European Carp	3.55 kg	Lindsay Steele
Golden Perch	3.76 kg	Stephanee Csiszar
Rainbow Trout	2.94 kg	Steve Bailey
Snapper	0.52 kg	Lindsay Steele
Yellowfin Bream	0.67 kg	Alexander Steele

Board Fish - Length

Brown Trout	480 mm	Chris Lemmon
Dusky Flathead	735 mm	John Bosch
European Carp	670 mm	Lindsay Steele
Flounder	283 mm	Alexander Steele
Golden Perch	480 mm	Steve Bailey
Rainbow Trout	630 mm	Steve Bailey
Sand Flathead	460 mm	Brian Stacy
Snapper	302 mm	Lindsay Steele
Tailor	365 mm	Alexander Steele
Yellowfin Bream	351 mm	Alexander Steele

Best Fish

Fresh Water

European Carp

2.60kg on 1 kg

Steve Bailey

Estuary

Dusky Flathead

2.60kg on 2 kg

John Bosch

All Tackle Championship

Open

Lindsay Steele	11
Steve Bailey	10
Alexander Steele	10
Chris Lemmon	8
Jason Rogers	6

Junior

Alexander Steele	10
Zalen Csiszar	3
Alexis Csiszar	3
Zachary Zhao	3
Stephanee Csiszar	2
Jack Butt	2

Soon to Expire Scales

106	Bailey, Steve	Rapala Digital	25 kg	11/02/2020
131	Spriggs, Kevin	Rapala Digital	25 kg	7/01/2020
136	Vogel, Jon	Berkley	23 kg	7/01/2020
137	Vogel, Jon	Rapala	8 kg	7/01/2020
184	Vogel, Jon	Ebalance	50 kg	7/01/2020
185	Bosch, John	Rapala	25 kg	9/02/2020

When giving me scales to test please provide a new battery with them as well. Your scales have a better chance of passing if the battery is fresh, and it's worth replacing it once a year anyway!



CANBERRA FISHERMAN'S CLUB - CAPTURE FORM



DIVISION: 1 = Sportfishing, 2 = Lurecasting, 3 = Flycasting, 4 = Gamefishing, 5 = Handline, 6 = Landbased Gamefishing, 7 = All Tackle

SECTION: BW = Bluewater, FW = Freshwater, BCH = Beach, RCKS = Rocks, EST = Estuary

SPECIES	WEIGHT KG	LENGTH MM	LINE CLASS	PRE TEST Y/N	LOCATION	DATE	LAND BASED	DIVISION	SECTION	POINTS

CERTIFICATION OF WEIGHING: I

Declare that I witnessed the weighing of these captures on certified scales#

DATE: / / SIGNED:

CERTIFICATION BY ANGLER: I

Declare that I Captured these fish in accordance with the rules of ANSA.

DATE: / / SIGNED:



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ANSA N.S.W 12 MONTH COMPETITION ENTRY FORM



Date Received by State Recorder: ____/____/____

Angler: Club:

ANSA No: DOB (jnr & sub-jnr): Phone:

Weight Captures:

Was Pre-Test or Factory Pre-Test line used in these captures (circle) **Yes / No**

If Pre-Test or Factory Pre-Test line **was not used** in the captures, a 5 metre line sample must be provided with this entry form.

Species	Capture Date	Capture Location	Weight	Line Class	Division 1-15

Tag & Release:

Species	Capture Date	Capture Location	Tag Number

Length Captures:

Species	Capture Date	Capture Location	Division 17-25	Length (mm)

ANGLERS DECLARATION

I _____, declare that this capture was made by me, and weighed or measured on an appropriate device, in accordance with ANSA rules.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

WITNESS TO WEIGHT / MEASUREMENT

I _____, certify that I witnessed the weighing or measuring of the capture.

CLUB RECORDER

I _____, declare that the captures listed above have been authenticated in accordance with ANSA rules.

Notes for LENGTH captures:

1. Fish to be measured length overall i.e.: end of tail to the leading edge of the jaw, fish laying flat and tail in a natural position.
2. If no witness to length only measurement, a photo of capture on an appropriate measuring device must be submitted.
3. Preferably all claims should be accompanied by a photo of the fish on the appropriate measuring device. Video is acceptable.
4. One entry, per division, per angler, per year across divisions, upgrading of fish is acceptable.

Eligible Divisions for 12-Month Comp:

- | | | |
|--|------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Land Based Game Species (Sport / Gamefishing capture method) | 9. Flyfishing Freshwater | 17. Length Only Carp (All) |
| 2. Land Based Non - Game Species (Sport / Gamefishing capture method) | 10. Gamefishing | 18. Length Only Trout (All) |
| 3. Sportfishing in Saltwater Estuaries & Saltwater Lakes | 11. Handline | 19. Length Only Bass (Australian) |
| 4. Sportfishing from a Boat (outside) | 12. Capture by a Lady | 20. Length Only Bream (All) |
| 5. Sportfishing Freshwater | 13. Capture by a Junior Boy | 21. Length Only Flathead (All) |
| 6. Lurefishing Saltwater | 14. Capture by a Junior Girl | 22. Length Only Salmon (Australian) |
| 7. Lurefishing Freshwater | 15. Capture by a Sub-Junior | 23. Length Only Kingfish (Yellowtail) |
| 8. Flyfishing Saltwater | 16. Tag & Release | 24. Length Only Snapper |
| | | 25. Length Only Mulloway |

General Notes:

1. Each fish submitted may only be entered in **one** of the eligible divisions 1–25 above.
2. Fish submitted for Weight Captures, cannot be submitted for Length Captures and vice versa
3. To be eligible all 12 month competition entry forms must be with the state recorder within 35 days from date of capture

A word from the Editor

This is a little unusual but I need to thank a few people and the usual spot tucked near the very end of the Newsletter with the photo comp entries did not seem right.

The decision to run a Cod and Carp edition of the Newsletter was made possible thanks to Andrew McGovern, who wrote a fantastic article on Murray Cod, and to Lindsay Steele, who wrote two fantastic articles, on Method Feeder Rig for Carp fishing, and the Cod opening outing article (which sadly did not feature Cod).

Thank you Andrew for an amazing article and awesome photographs. The photographs were magic. For those who are new to the Club, Andrew McGovern was a member for many years, and served as President in 1995-96. He is only member I'm aware of who won the Most Improved Angler and Most Improved Junior Angler in the same year (in 1982-83).

Thank you Lindsay for both the Method Feeder Rig article and the Burrinjuck outing article. Lindsay and Alex are blitzing the Freshwater Total Length competition. If you want to know why, then you must read Lindsay Steele's article on the Method Feeder Rig for Carp.

Finally, thank you Bonnie, who sent through some photos of the Christmas Party. I was unable to attend this year, so it is great that other members are taking photos at our outings and social events (and sending them on to me).

I hope you enjoy this newsletter – and I'm happy to run another themed newsletter in 2020 if others want suggest a theme and we can find enough members to write the articles.

The next newsletter won't come out until February, as I definitely need a holiday from the Editor's job after today.

Tight lines and Merry Christmas!

Anthony



Fishing news and competitions

The ANSA NSW 2020 Calendar



ANSA NSW Calendar 2020

Issue No.1, 25th October 2019. Note that contact details for each convention are subject to change without notice.

January	1 January – Happy New Year	July	
February	14/15/16 - Nowra Convention Hosted by: Nowra Sportfishing Club Contact: Faye Hanson: Tel: 0244439748 Mob: 0410 422 263 E-Mail: secretarynowrasfc@gmail.com	August	29 August – ANSA NSW AGM, Delegates' Meeting & Presentation Hosted by: Euro Fishing Association
March	06/07/08 – Narooma Convention Hosted by: Narooma Sport & Gamefishing Club Contact: Les Waldock Mob: 0411 392 608 27/28/29 – Sydney Sportfishing Tournament Hosted by: South Sydney Amateur Fishing Association & St George Sportfishing Club Contact: Tony Steiner Mob: 0412 611 778	September	18/19/20 - Glenbawn Convention Hosted by: Newcastle Sportfishing Club Contact: Eddie Sitarz Mob: 0428 294 176
April	17/18/19 April – South Coast Convention Hosted by: Euro Fishing Association Adam Martin Email: makitaman82@hotmail.com 21 April - Happy Easter Sunday	October	
May	10 May – Mothers Day 23/24/25 May – Lake Lyell Convention Hosted by: Sea Bees Fishing Club Contact: Rob Sinclair Mob: 0487017018 Email: sydneyseabees@gmail.com	November	06/07/08 Nov – Burrinjuck Convention (TBC) Hosted by: Canberra Fisherman's Club Contact: Canberra FC info@canberrafishos.com
June		December	25 December – Merry Christmas

The lure of Murray Cod

by Andrew McGovern



Mitchell McGovern holding up a nice healthy Murray Cod while spinning off the bank. Mitchell McGovern spent eight years as a junior fishing with the Canberra Fisherman's Club.

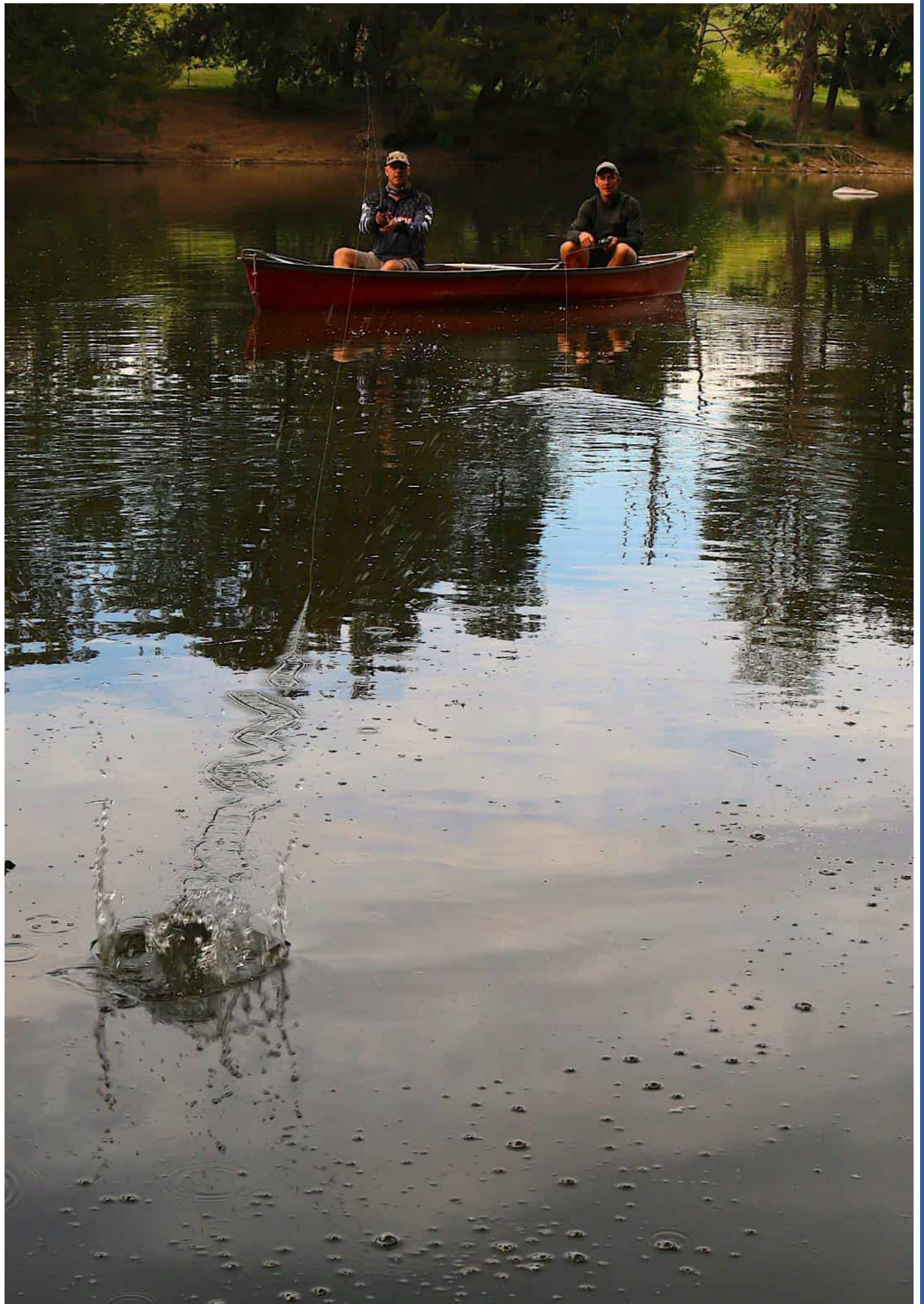
As a young kid growing up in Canberra, I was obsessed with Murray Cod and Brown Trout. I was fortunate that two significant events occurred, when I was younger, that steered me on a path to lure casting for both of these apex freshwater predators.

The first was meeting Gordon Winter. For those who don't know, Gordon ran a tackle shop in Canberra for many years. But more noteworthy is the fact that Gordon was the leader of lure fishing for native fish with lures in Australia. In the 1960s, Gordon used to drag his trusty old timber punt down on the banks of the Murrumbidgee, row out, and cast diving hard bodied lures for Cod, Yellowbelly, and Silver Perch. He was the true Godfather of Cod fishing with lures.

Through High school and College, my best mate Craig Brennan and I use to catch the Action bus (almost every Friday afternoon and again Saturday morning) from Belconnen into Civic. We would then walk across to Braddon and chew the ear of both Wayne Loddington, and then Gordon when he took over the tackle shop. "Loddo" was also a forward thinking angler and often-suggested customers try lures for cod and even bream (yes luring bream was a relatively new thing back in the early 80s).

Gordon passed on a few very wise tips to me in those days. That advice is as relevant now as it was back some 35 odd years ago. Top of his tips were to keep your retrieval rates slow. Cod are big, lazy fish and don't like moving too far to eat something. Also, a slow moving lure may annoy the heck out of a big green girl protecting her nest or home.

Next piece of sage advice was to get your lure into the areas a cod will be laying. This doesn't necessarily mean banging your lure along the bottom every retrieve, but get it into





Andrew McGovern with a 76 cm Cod taken from the surface. Previous page: casting and retrieving a section of river in the late afternoon

sections of water near spots a cod would hold. Any cod fisher worth their salt knows these locations in a river or an impoundment.

The other event was my joining the Canberra Fisherman's Club. As a young teenager, I got to fish with many other members, and all had a good grasp on luring native fish. Mark and Phil Nolen shared some awesome tips on the water when we fished different sections of Burrinjuck in the early 1980s. Small hard bodies and even large spinners (such as Celtas) accounted for some cracking Cod and Silvers on the bank.

Other club legends, Al Mathews and Eric French, also detailed the benefits of trolling close behind another boat to experience success on Cod and Yellowbelly. The theory was that the set of lures on the first boat would stir the cod, and be fired up and ripe for the picking for the lures being trolled behind the second boat. This technique made for some interesting jostling of boats at Burrinjuck Conventions and interclub outing with the *Orange Sportsfishing Club*.

These early learnings triggered something inside me that even now, continues to allow me the think outside the square and not be governed by stock standard or trendy method to nail a Murray cod. One of the things I love about the CFC is that we are a diverse bunch in personalities and fishing styles. The club environment is perfect to improve your fishing skill set by listening and watching other anglers. Even if they are targeting different species, you may just stumble upon something other Cod fishers haven't thought about.

Freshwater fishing is evolving at the same rate as technology. The quality and affordability of sounders now takes almost all of the guesswork out of cod fishing. Everyone knows the lures that work, the quality of rods and reels have never been higher, and now with the element of





Above: Getting ready for release. Previous page: Andrew reeling in a nice size Cod caught on a Halco lure.

finding fish, mitigated through amazing sounder technology, I'm wondering if fishing could now be referred to just 'catching'.

The skill of finding fish, hooking fish, and then landing them has almost been replaced by personal character traits such as patience, perseverance and determination. With the gear, sounder and a boat, eventually a person with these character traits will connect with a true monster green fish.

With the astounding increase in popularity of cod fishing combine with well-educated anglers practicing catch and release, and the continuing stocking programs, there is no doubt that we are smack bang in the middle of the best period for decades to land a big Murray cod.

About Andrew McGovern



Andrew McGovern has been fishing the Canberra, Monaro, Snowy Mountains, and NSW South Coast regions for over 40 years, and is considered on the country's most innovative and competent anglers. He is one of *Freshwater Fishing Magazine's* most published writers. Along with his two extensive books, Andrew has featured in numerous DVDs. Andrew is currently a Pro Angler with Jarvis Walker Australia and endorses their range of products.

Introduction to Method Feeder Rig

by Lindsay Steele



Lindsay reveals how he and Alex outfished the editor at the Burrinjuck Convention using the Method Feeder Rig.

In this article, I will cover a new fishing method that I came across known as the 'Method Feeder Rig'. It essentially encompasses an open berley cage in a half egg shape and has an integrated weight in the bottom to assist it in falling upright with the bait facing the fish. Included in this rig is also a short leader of around 10cm connected close to the method feeder.

The idea of the method feeder rig is that the bait is hidden inside the berley, the Carp will find the berley, start eating at it and find the bait at the same time.

I first discovered the Method Feeder Rig while on holiday in England where I saw it being used a couple of times as well as seeing it in fishing stores and discussing it with enthusiastic store owners. It was also seen in their local coarse fishing magazines and can be commonly found in a number of on-line stores including eBay.

In England, the method feeder was generally used with a special berley and the hidden bait was usually their 'Boilies' which are in all of the shops. It was also



This is one of the Method Feeder Rigs I purchased during my holiday in England earlier this year.



A mixture of cream corn, chook pellets with Molasses as binder makes an excellent burley

recommended that it could be used with corn kernels or a range of other Carp baits, which is what I have continued to do in Australia.

One of the requirements of using the method feeder rig is a berley mix that sticks together well and can be moulded into a ball. There are many recipes on the internet for berley, but I found that a basic mix of chicken pellets and creamed corn seems to work quite well.

Lately, I have also been mixing in a meat meal powder that I get from the produce store. In the past and in other recipes, I have also added molasses to get the stickiness. It is mentioned in some sources that a meat muesli designed for dogs works well as an additive.

The officially recommended way to rig the method feeder is put a small amount of berley into the rig, put the bait onto the rig and then to put more berley onto the rig. You then press the mixture down into a mould to get a nicely egg-shaped bait. You then press a button on the mould or a section on the back to release the bait from the mould.

It was mentioned to me in England that you need to make sure that the hook does not get caught within the cage, which is why you put some berley in before putting in the bait.



Method Feeder in mould.



How the method feeder should look



Method feeder moulded with a mould.



My usual hand moulded rig.

Although you can use the mould if you wish, I have personally found that it is just easier to use your hand, it might not look as neat presentation wise but it works just as effectively and seems to release easier from the mould.

I tested the Method Rig against my standard rigs during a visit to Burrinjuck for a day. Two of the rods were rigged with the method rig, one rod with a small sinker and the other with an unweighted bait. We also equally berleyed around the whole area that we fished.

This was maybe not the most scientific test, but the final results showed that the method rig was just as effective as traditional methods. At the time, there were some confounding factors that may have affected things. Worms do seem to be fairly effective at Burrinjuck and the method feeder rigs mostly had corn on them. The other factor is that a lot of fish were caught very close to shore with the non-method feeder rigs.

Subsequent trips to Burrinjuck have given me a lot more confidence in the Method Feeder Rig. At the Burrinjuck Convention when I went out to fish with Alex, the method feeder rig with the addition of the meat meal in the berley seemed highly effective and was out-fishing my worms. In the end, after being out fished by a four year old, I gave up with the worms and swapped my rods to the method feeder rig and start to catch fish as well.

The method feeder rig was tested on Lake Burley Griffin as well and performed as well as other baits, catching many Carp in a reasonable amount of time.

What I have learned is that the Method Feeder rig will effectively catch Carp around Canberra. It is an effective way to deliver berley to Carp and keeps the bait close to the berley. The standard rigs with an unweighted rig and berley cage can also be quite effective.

I have also learned from the Method Feeder rig, better ways of constructing berley that holds together well. This is something that can then be used with other methods such as the berley cages that many people use. There could also be some take aways in keeping leaders to berley cages short and potentially putting the bait into the edges of a berley cage rig.



Alex with a Carp he caught on Lake Burley Griffin using the Method Feeder Rig.

Let's kill all the Carp! (with apologies to Shakespeare)

by Anthony Heiser



When Dick the Butcher, in *Henry VI Part 2*, said *'the first thing we do, let's kill all the lawyers'*, one wonders what inspired Shakespeare to pen such a memorable quote about those disgusting, slimy, mud sucking bottom feeders. However, let's park our discussion of Shakespeare and lawyers for another day, as this article is about killing the Carp.

Ways of killing Carp to reduce their numbers in our waterways will form the basis of the National Carp Control Plan's (NCCP) recommendations to the Government before Christmas. This will include a recommendation on whether to unleash the Cyprinid herpesvirus 3 (CyHV3) virus onto an unsuspecting Carp population.

The NCCP recently released a number of scientific papers and issues papers for comment by 12 December 2019. There was not enough time for me to read and digested those papers, brief you all at our General Meeting, and seek your views. As a result, I did not make any submissions on behalf of the Club.

That said, the issues papers and scientific papers are very informative, although I stop short of saying they answer all your questions and concerns you may have about the CyHV3 virus.

The breadth and depth of information in the issues papers and scientific papers makes it impractical to write about in the newsletter, so I have published an article that provides an overview of the findings in those papers.

The new article does not revisit the information I previously published in a Q & A article on the CyHV3 virus back in May 2016, as that information remains current. The Q & A reported that the scientific literature indicates the CyHV3 virus only affects Carp, is harmless to native fish, poses no health risks to humans, and is unlikely to mutate something sinister.

The new article covers off the likelihood or otherwise of the CyHV3 virus triggering 'Carpageddon', the likely impacts to water quality, and the prospects of long term recovery to our waterways.

In summary:

- Research now indicates that self-propagating outbreaks of Carp deaths are unlikely under Australian conditions.
- Outbreaks are likely to occur only during Spring and early Summer, when water temperatures are 22°C - 24°C and Carp are schooling to spawn.
- This means the release of the virus must be carefully timed for each waterway, which may take five to ten years.
- The biomass of Carp in Australia as at May 2018 is estimated to be 205,744 tonnes (that equates to 96 million Carp if the average weight of Carp caught at Burrinjuck is a guide). This is far less than previous estimates of 0.5 – 2 million tonnes.
- Carp densities in the waterways was mapped, identifying hot spots and places where future clean up activity will be needed.
 - Carp densities were 200 – 400 kg per hectare Australia's southern river systems.
 - The highest densities were recorded in lower system wetlands in the Murray, Murrumbidgee and Lachlan catchments.
- The following water quality issues following an outbreak of the CyHV3 virus are:
 - low or zero dissolved oxygen levels
 - increased nutrients (such as phosphorus, Nitrogen, and Ammonia)
 - increased risk of outbreaks of blue-green algae due to increased nutrient levels
 - water treatment for human consumption becoming ineffective, and
 - risk of secondary diseases such as botulism outbreaks.
- Those water quality issues will only arise for most waterways if the amount of dead Carp exceeds 300 kg per hectare. This means:
 - not all waterways will require a clean-up
 - any clean-up will aim to reduce the amount of dead Carp to 150 kg/ha, and
 - a complete clean-up will be needed for waterways with high social amenity (such as recreation or tourism) or in ecologically sensitive areas.
- To achieve positive long term environmental outcomes, the Carp population will need to be reduced by at least 70%.
- Carp reductions alone will not result in a complete reversal of environmental degradation of our waterways. This is because carp are both a cause and symptom of environmental degradation.
- For example, many experts were of the view that reducing Carp numbers alone only offered a low likelihood of a recovery of native fish populations.
- Accordingly, other measures such as habitat restoration and restocking of native fish are also needed.

The overall picture is that the CyHV3 virus offers great potential to improve the health of our waterways, but it is not a silver bullet. Carp are both a cause and symptom of the environmental degradation of our waterways. Therefore, we must complement the release of the CyHV3 virus with habitat restoration and restocking of native fish.



What happens to the water quality of our lakes and rivers when the dead Carp start decomposing after an outbreak of the CyHV3 virus is front and centre of the concerns of many anglers, including those who support the release of the virus.

After reading all the scientific papers and issues papers, I am still personally in favour of releasing the CyHV3 virus. But we cannot be as reckless as Dick the Butcher. He probably did not consider all the risks involved when he vowed to kill all the lawyers. For example, there would be no lawyers to represent Dick when he faces trial at the Old Bailey for murder.

Likewise, releasing the CyHV3 virus carries big risks. While the NCCP can demonstrate those risks are manageable, it is the Federal, State and Territory governments who decide whether to release the virus, and, if so, how much funding will be committed to the clean-up, habitat restoration, and fish stocking. If our governments commit to the release of the CyHV3 virus, then we must ensure their total commitment to do the job properly.

For more information, you can download the following articles from the CFC website:

[Koi Herpes Virus - Q & A](#) (28 May 2016)

[Feedback from the National Carp Control Plan stakeholder workshop](#) (19 February 2018)

[Carpageddon: will it work? \(18 December 2019\)](#)

In addition, you can download the NCCP's Progress Reports and scientific papers off its website at <http://www.carp.gov.au>.

Cod Opening weekend at Burrinjuck

by Lindsay Steele



Burrinjuck on Saturday morning started off chilly, before turning into a nice clear morning.

The club outing for December was to Lake Burrinjuck for the Cod opening and a bit of friendly competition with the *Morven-Culcairn Fishing Club*. The outing was attended by Chris Lemmon, Jason Rogers, Steve Bailey, Glen and Karen Malam, Andrew and Edward Butt, Alexander Steele, and myself. The idea of the outing for most was to hook up their first Cod for the season. My mission was simpler: catching a carp over 4 kg, Yabbies or a Yellowbelly.

Alex and I headed off early on Friday afternoon, and found a nice place to camp not too far from the amenities and with some nice shade and views of the lake in the distance. We awoke to a slightly chilly morning that soon turned into a nice clear morning. Most people headed off early. Alex and I got away after having our breakfast surrounded by parrots.



Alex feeding the parrots at breakfast time.





Andrew Butt caught the only Yellowbelly for the weekend.

That morning, Alex was insisting that he wanted to troll with one of his lures instead of fishing for Carp. So, we ended up doing a low troll up the Goodradigbee Arm trying to be as close as possible to the trees or shore. After this, we decided to try and find somewhere to shore fish that we had never fished in the past.

After scoping a reasonable spot further up the river, we dropped the baited yabby traps and went to do some shore fishing. We put our rods out, berleyed up and waited ... then we berleyed again... and re-baited and still nothing happened... and then we went casting on the bank into some deeper water across at some trees... and still no bites at all.

This was extremely unusual for our recent Burrinjuck outings where we often had some kind of take on the rods in these kinds of locations after half an hour or so. In the end, we gave up and moved to a known location dropping the yabby traps again. Even in the known location where we had caught fish many times before, the fishing was slow, and it took almost an hour for anything at all to happen. In the end, we caught two Carp each.

On Saturday, Steve Bailey and Chris Lemmon headed out using lures, spinner baits and then yabbies on the trees. The best that Steve got was a big hit on one of the yabbies, but no fish were seen. At the same time, Chris Lemmon got a Redfin on a 20 cm cod sized lure.

Andrew and Edward Butt had a similar day but with a bit more luck. They tried big swimbaits and had some hits on spinner baits, eventually getting a Yellowbelly in 17.5 m of water down beside a tree. This was the only Yellowbelly of the weekend and would win Andrew the prize of the weekend and help the Canberra Fisherman's Club to take the competition for this year.

For Glen, Saturday involved frustratingly looking at his live scope sounder as if he was playing a computer game. Glen said he could see the fish on the live scope, mostly sitting

under schools of smaller fish but could not get them to take anything after trying a whole range of methods and lures.

What did happen when we arrived back for the Saturday afternoon BBQ at Lawlers was that nobody could be seen. It seems that there was a mix-up in when the BBQ was to be had. In the end, Glen drove back to Yass, eventually arriving back at 5 pm with KFC for everyone.

On Sunday morning, we awoke to a day hazy with smoke but luckily not as windy as the day before. Although I wanted to go up one of the river arms, Alex wanted to go and visit Big Bad Barry's home up near the dam. As we headed up there, we ran into Jason Rogers trolling but he hadn't had any luck. We eventually moved into the small bank to find someone already there.

That person was OK with us fishing there but neither of us had any luck. We then moved around to the next bay and found a place to beach the boat, Alex and I put out some carp rods, the yabby pots and a heap of berley. We did not see any action for well over an hour, which is unusual for that kind of place in Burrinjuck.

As it was slow, we then decided to try throwing lures from the bank around the other end of a small bay. There was no luck with lures but by the time we returned the carp has started taking rods. After a couple of losses and snags, we ended up catching two carp each before heading back.

On Sunday, Steve Bailey and Chris Lemmon headed out again throwing spinner baits and Jackal TC60s. At one stage, Steve hooked up and thought he was onto something decent. He was eventually disappointed to find that it was not a Cod after all but a Carp measuring 72 cm and tipping the scales at 4.33 kg. Unfortunately, nobody else reported any significant catches on the Sunday.

The winners of the weekend were Andrew Butt with the only Yellowbelly caught, (there were no Cod), Steve with 4 All Tackle Points and Chris Lemmon with the highest point scoring fish for a 192 point European Carp. And the CFC once again won the CFC-Morven Culcairn Inter-Club Trophy for the fourth year in a row.



Well done Andrew Butt, for winning the Yellowbelly Section and winning us the CFC-Morven Culcairn Inter-Club Trophy four years in a row!

The CFC Christmas Party – 15 December 2019

By Bonnita Allen

The Club held its annual Christmas Party on Sunday, 15 December 2019 with about 20 members and their families catching up for a quite ale or soft drink and a BBQ.

During the afternoon, Santa made a much-anticipated appearance, hanging from the side of his magic sleigh (which might have shared a close resemblance to a bluish-coloured ute).

After exchanging yuletide pleasantries with the senior members, Santa delighted the juniors with Christmas presents. After taking selfies with the juniors, Santa hopped back onto his magic sleigh to return to the North Pole.

A big thank you to everyone who organized the Christmas Party, and to the Rat, Mel Marlborough, whose dedication to fining our members for their fishing misadventures financed the purchase of presents. Remember, your rat fines go towards the Juniors' Christmas Presents at the Annual Christmas Party.



Total Length Award species for 2019-20

The Total Length Awards bring on healthy competition from the ranks of the CFC and for 2018-19, the target species are Flathead for the Saltwater section and European Carp. The new target species applies from 1 July 2018.

The target species for the 2018-19 fishing year are:

Saltwater section: Flathead



Freshwater section: European Carp



How many metres can you catch?

November 2019 Photo Competition

I have the gallery for [2019-20](#) up on the website. You can email me your photo comp entries at anthony.heiser@bigpond.com or via SMS to 0402 560 880.

- 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 holding their capture
- Minor image corrections and cropping is allowed provided this does not lead to misleading or fraudulent alteration or manipulation of the photo
- The Committee reserves the right to exclude any entries it suspects has been subject to misleading or fraudulent alteration or manipulation (e.g. changing the colour of a bucket of blood from red to black – yes someone has submitted such a photo).



Lindsay Steele: Lindsay and Alex with a pair of Carp at Burrinjuck on Saturday.



Lindsay Steele: Lindsay and Alex with a pair of Carp at Burrinjuck on Sunday.



Jason Rogers: A pair of Burrinjuck Carp.



Bonnita Allen: Bonnie and Ian's first ever Carp at Burrinjuck.



Ty Schneider: 3.6 kg Golden Perch at Burrinjuck.



Ty Schneider: 45 cm catch and release Golden Perch at Burrinjuck.



Anthony Heiser: Selfie and Carp on Fly at Carrolls Creek, Burrinjuck.



Anthony Heiser: Carp on Fly at Carrolls Creek, Burrinjuck.



Stephanee Csiszar: Zalen Csiszar and Stephanie Csiszar with a pair of Redfin Perch at Burrinjuck.



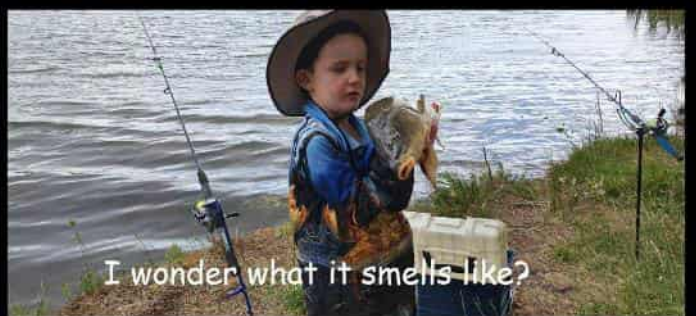
Stephanee Csiszar: 3.76 kg Golden Perch at Burrinjuck.



Rod De Groote: A 3.23 kg Golden Perch caught at Burrinjuck with a Last Cast Spinnerbait.



Hey Look, I caught a big Carp Dad



I wonder what it smells like?



OK, Yuk it smells like a carp

2019-20 Club Outings & Meeting Calendar

Outing Date	Outing	Meetings
21st – 22nd September	Kalkite	10th
12th – 13th October	St Georges Basin	8th
1st – 3rd November	Burrinjuck	12th
7th – 8th December	Burrinjuck	10th
15th December	CFC Christmas Party	
12th January	Carpathon	14th
25th – 27th January	Tuross	
14th – 16th February	ANSA Nowra Convention (TBC)	11th
6th – 9th March	ANSA Narooma Convention	10th
27th – 29th March	Sydney Sportsfishing Tournament (TBC)	
17th – 19th April	South Coast Mighty Bonanza (TBC)	14th
23rd – 24th May	Kalkite	12th
6th – 8th June	Narooma	9th
18th – 19th July	Ulladulla	14th



Canberra Fisherman's Club Sponsors 2019-20



THANK YOU BURRINJUCK SPONSORS 2019



The Canberra Fisherman's Club executive and members thanks all our sponsors that have so kindly donated products and services to help make this event successful. Without the sponsors, this event would not be able to run.

Please support the listed businesses below where you can so they will then in turn support future fishing events.

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Membership Fees

	CFC	ANSA
Junior	\$5	Nil
Senior	\$20	Nil
Family	\$30	Nil

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Articles for inclusion in the
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