

2007 Carp Classic **(Everything you need to know!)**

Location: Lake Liddell (Close to Muswellbrook, NSW c. 230 Km's from Sydney.)
The base for the event is the Liddell Power station (see <http://www.macgen.com.au/GenerationPortfolio/LiddellPowerStation.aspx>) which is a restricted access area and is only made available to us for this one event each year
The Carp Classic has quickly become one of the highlights of the club's year and we are grateful to the continued efforts of our hosts The Singleton Fly Rodder's club (<http://members.dodo.net.au/~sffc/>) especially their member Jeff Yates (Who works at the power station) and club president Ron Butler who have worked long and hard to build up relationships with the station management and provide a fantastic weekend for everyone who attends.

Date: Weekend commencing Friday evening 19th October to Sunday lunchtime 21st October .

DIRECTIONS

From the bridge over the Hunter River at Singleton, travel towards Muswellbrook on the New England Highway. Approx 25k from Singleton follow the signs to Liddell Power Station. The turn off will be on your LEFT. Stop at the Security Boom gate and have your name crossed of. Follow the road and at the bottom of the hill you will see the Rec Hall on your LEFT. See the end of this document for driving directions from Sydney to Muswellbrook (taken from www.travelmate.com.au)

Overview

Only named anglers will be allowed access via the manned security gates.
Arrival time: Anytime after 3.00pm – once you have been cleared by security they will direct you to the Recreation Hall where there is plenty of parking for vehicles. Facilities at the club include a shower and toilet block with plenty of hot and cold running water, plenty of storage space for drinks and snacks (bring an esky if you have one) – However there is ample "cold" storage.
The main area is where everyone sleeps - You will need to bring a camp bed, sleep mat or similar plus your own "bedding" or sleeping bag (I'd strongly suggest that you bring ears plugs as well!)

Friday night is pretty much meet and greet, few drinks for those that like to and a chance to get to know everyone

The water is within easy walking distance of the accommodation and a briefing of the area that is allowable to fish and hints and tips will be given on the Friday night.

For those new to fishing for carp on fly, here's my usual approach.....

I fish with a 6/7 wt rod with an intermediate line (sinking is fine and you would get away with floating line but we have seen some very windy and wet conditions up there previously and this will affect a floating line and can make fishing difficult)
Leader and tippet – I use a standard shop bought tapered leader generally in the 6-8llb range with a similar tippet (Even a length of 9ft mono in the 8-10llb will suffice and is a lot cheaper)

I generally have a bagfull of orange and/or yellow glo-bugs, the last few trips I had good success with little fluffy white or coloured fur balls (they are about the size of a

little thumb nail and you can get about a 100 of them in a packet for less than a couple of dollars) that I picked up from the Spotlight craft store and just threaded on to size 10, 8 or 6 hooks (white, yellow and fluro green all worked), any bread fly pattern (either sinking or floating) will get hit (tie them on hooks for 10-14) and even strike indicators get a bit of a beating when the fish are in frenzy mode. (note; the flies can get pretty "raggy" after a couple of fish so bring a whole heap of them with you – I generally catch around 100 fish during a days session and budget on going through around 30-40 flies)

The Singleton boys tie up a whole bunch of different chenille type sinking flies sometimes with a bit of silver flash at their regular fly tying nights to hand round on the Friday so worth grabbing a few of those when they are offered.

I fish with a strike indicator set on the leader for wet flies (nothing special and I have experimented with small foam ball types, the sticky backed plastic types and the glo bug yarn types all work well – I've had the indicator grabbed by fish so will tie some with hooks in them) and generally try to keep the fly close to or on the bottom (Many takes are when the fly is dropping down towards the bottom – don't worry, you'll know when a fish has taken it!).

The Singleton club supplies bread for berley (I generally take a dozen or so cheap white sliced loaves to add to the "berley kitty" so would encourage you to do the same?)

I take a plastic bucket to mix up what is basically a bread and water "mash".

All fishing is shore based and generally you won't need to wade. Wellingtons or thigh waders are worth having though just in case though as we have had some pretty wet conditions at a couple of the trips and means if you need to get your feet wet you can.

Once at the water I tend to stay at the same place for pretty much the whole time, I lob a few handfuls of burley in when I arrive to hopefully attract the fish to the area I intend to fish and then a handful every couple of casts or after every fish just to try to keep the fish in the area.

As hooked fish tend to put up a good fight and can dart off in massive screaming runs, checking the drag on your reel is important as is making sure your knots are well tied (Don't we always?).

You'll not need to make massive casts and I'm generally only fishing around a 3-4 of rod lengths out at most (most time you are getting them closer in than that)

The fish can hit at any time so be ready as soon as the fly is in the water.

As all fish caught must be removed from the water and killed – some people just "beach 'em" some gaff 'em but I tend to use a long handled landing net (it makes landing the fish a lot easier and it takes the strain off the rod as some of the fish can be quite weighty).

PLEASE ENSURE THAT ALL FISH ARE REMOVED FROM THE WATER, KILLED HUMANELY (There are plenty of rocks around to give them the last rites) AND THAT HOOKS ARE REMOVED.

The fish will be collected from you on a regular basis and are "re-cycled"

This should hopefully help you plan for the trip on the fishing side – a few other bits and pieces that will also assist.

All SFR anglers must be current financial club members and have a current fishing license

The entry fees must be paid no later than 2 weeks before the event (non refundable) and insurance and liability forms completed and returned to Bob Stevenson (can be faxed to 02 9977 9099)

There are generally no problems with getting good mobile phone reception at the site.

The event will cater for breakfast lunch and dinner for Saturday and breakfast & lunch on Sunday – there is no “shopping facilities” on the property and town is a good drive away so bring everything that you think you will need in the way of tackle, “treats” and drinks for the weekend. (Tea, coffee and milk and soft drinks are provided free of charge)

The weather in the past has varied from warm and sunny to gale force wind and heavy rain so be prepared.

If arriving after dark be careful on the approach roads to the site especially in the roads within the power station grounds as there is a healthy population of ‘roos around.

Any problems I can be reached on my mobile number 0403 589 195





Here are a couple of links to sites that you may find interesting












See:







<http://www.fishnet.com.au/default.aspx?id=234&articleId=1233>

<http://www.fishnet.com.au/forums/viewtopic.php?t=45324&f=14&sid=85c249d9bb51259a527fadcb12d1f594>

<http://www.fishnet.com.au/flyswap/articles/carpnotes.html>

Driving Directions from SYDNEY to MUSWELLBROOK						
Section	Instruction	Road	Town/Suburb	Direction	For	Approx Time
1	*Start at	George Street	Sydney		413 metres	36 Seconds
2	Turn left	Grosvenor Street	Sydney	W	192 metres	15 Seconds
3	Continues as	 Western Distributor	Sydney	W	272 metres	27 Seconds
4	Continues as	 Western Distributor	Millers Point	NE	79 metres	4 Seconds
5	Continues as	 Western Distributor	Millers Point	N	164 metres	11 Seconds
6	Bear right	 Bradfield	Millers Point	NE	1.95 kms	2:19 Minutes

		◇ Highway				
7	Continues as	 Warringah Freeway ◇	North Sydney	NW	2.15 kms	1:41 Minutes
8	Continues as	 Warringah Freeway ◇	Cammeray	NW	2.43 kms	1:48 Minutes
9	Continues as	 Gore Hill Freeway ◇	Artarmon	W	925 metres	53 Seconds
10	Continues as	 Pacific Highway exit ◇	Artarmon	W	628 metres	37 Seconds
11	Turn left	 Pacific Highway ◇	Artarmon	SW	253 metres	22 Seconds
12	Turn right	Longueville Road on ramp	Artarmon	SW	11 metres	0 Seconds
13	Turn right	 Pacific Highway ◇	Artarmon	N	263 metres	23 Seconds
14	Continues as	 Pacific Highway ◇	Lane Cove North	NE	13.50 kms	18:15 Minutes
15	Continues as	 Pacific Highway ◇	Wahroonga	W	515 metres	41 Seconds
16	Turn left	 Sydney Newcastle Freeway on ramp ◇	Wahroonga	NE	24 metres	1 Second
17	Bear left	 Sydney Newcastle Freeway ◇	Wahroonga	N	36.86 kms	24:33 Minutes
18	Bear left	 Peats Ridge Road - Pacific Highway exit ◇	Calga	N	544 metres	24 Seconds
19	Continues as	Peats Ridge Road exit	Calga	NE	400 metres	18 Seconds
20	Continues as	Peats Ridge Road	Calga	N	13.71 kms	10:15 Minutes
21	Bear left	George Downes Drive	Peats Ridge	N	45.61 kms	34:11 Minutes
22	Continues	Unnamed	Laguna	E	6.88 kms	5:09 Minutes

	as					
23	Bear right	Christina Street	Wollombi	NE	334 metres	15 Seconds
24	Bear left	Maitland Street	Wollombi	N	1.04 kms	46 Seconds
25	Turn right	Mount Manning-Paynes Crescent Road	Wollombi	N	11.84 kms	8:52 Minutes
26	Continues as	Unnamed	Paynes Crossing	N	87 metres	3 Seconds
27	Turn left	Wollombi Road	Paynes Crossing	W	16.78 kms	12:34 Minutes
28	Continues as	Wollombi Street	Broke	NW	346 metres	31 Seconds
29	Continues as	Broke Mount Thorley Road	Broke	NW	1.65 kms	2:32 Minutes
30	Continues as	Wollombi Street	Broke	N	18 metres	1 Second
31	Continues as	Unnamed	Broke	N	8 metres	0 Seconds
32	Continues as	Broke Mount Thorley Road	Broke	N	13.39 kms	10:02 Minutes
33	Turn right	 Golden Highway	Mount Thorley	SE	962 metres	43 Seconds
34	Continues as	 Putty Road	Mount Thorley	E	7.40 kms	7:34 Minutes
35	Bear right	 John Street	Singleton	NE	1.40 kms	2:05 Minutes
36	Turn left	 New England Highway	Singleton	NW	46.58 kms	35:57 Minutes
37	Continues as	New England Highway	Muswellbrook	NW	18 metres	1 Second
38	Continues as	 New England Highway	Muswellbrook	NW	1.03 kms	1:22 Minutes
39	Finish on	 New England Highway	Muswellbrook		0 metres	0 Seconds
					230.65 kms	3:06 Hours