



# Surf Casting & Angling Club of W.A. (Inc.)

P.O. Box 2032, Marmion W.A. 6020 <http://www.surfcasters.iinet.net.au/>

## Club Committee for the Year 2005/2006

President / Dry Casting Officer

Bob Henderson

Vice President

George Holman

Immediate Past President

Secretary/Reel Talk Editor/Web Page

Terry Fuller

**All club mail to:-  
PO Box 2032,  
Marmion W A  
6020**

Treasurer

Paul Thompson

**All club mail to:-  
PO Box 2032,  
Marmion W A  
6020**

Field Day Officer

Malcolm Harris

Property Officer

Vix Alexander

Recorder

Ian Cook

Committee Person

Peter Stoeckel

Committee Person

Jim Yeates

Social Coordinator

Josh Lucocq

Assistant Drycasting Officer

A.A.A. Delegates

George Holman  
Terry Fuller )

Committee Person

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## Minutes of General Meeting, 11 January 2006

- Venue:-** Coolbinia West Perth Amateur Football and Sporting Club room. Time 8:10 pm. President Bob Henderson presiding
- Present:-** 22 members, 3 visitors.
- Apologies:-** Trevor Stam, Josh Lucocq, Morris Kolman.
- Visitors:-** Scott Maloney, Noel Cobby, Paul Rebelo
- New Members:-** Jim Atkinson was welcomed into the club and given his club badge, copy of the Constitution and competition rules.
- Previous Minutes:-** As published in the Reel Talk. **Moved** Jim Strong, seconded Jim Yeates, these are a true record. Carried.
- Previous Committee:-** Bob Henderson gave a summary from the previous Committee meeting.  
The accommodation voucher provided by the Yallingup Beach Holiday Park will be raffled at the February General meeting.  
Eric Parker asked a question about the air-conditioning at Kalbarri as mentioned in the committee minutes. Terry Fuller explained that the work done by the subcommittee recently had covered the essential maintenance which needs to be done in the near future. There are a lot of other decisions which need to be made about the future of the Kalbarri house and what the club wants it to be. A subcommittee needs to be set up with specific terms of reference with questions which need to be answered. An item is to be published in the Reel Talk asking for volunteers and comments.
- Correspondence In:**
- |                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| Westpac Bank                | Changes to Internet Banking.                    |
| Westpac Bank                | Statement for December                          |
| Paul Rebelo                 | Info about the club (email)                     |
| John Broughton              | Questions about Alvey reels – from Club website |
| AAA                         | Minutes of December Delegates' meeting          |
| Kalbarri Lawnmowing service | Mowing account \$28, plus change of management  |
| Ray White Kalbarri          | Statement for December and cheque for \$1178    |
| ATO via R&D White           | Quarterly PAYG advice \$0                       |
- Correspondence Out:-**
- |                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| City of Stirling | Complaint – double booking Yokine Reserve 8 Jan |
| Paul Rebelo      | Info about the club (email)                     |
| SCAC Committee   | Catch and Release – past decisions about rules  |
- Moved** Ian Cook, seconded Allan Jones correspondence be accepted - carried.
- Treasurer's Report:-** Accounts for payment. Kalbarri lawnmowers \$30 80. Cheque received for proceeds of Kalbarri rental as in correspondence.  
**Moved** Peter Stoeckel seconded Allan Jones accounts be passed for payment - carried.
- Property Officer** Vix Alexander reported. A washing machine has been offered by tenants who had stayed the recently. To be discussed by committee.
- Secretary's Report.** Will be covered under other headings.
- Field Day Officer:-** Malcolm Harris reported on the coming January Field Day. He has contacted the local Rangers about sleeping overnight. It is okay to set up a sunshade or shelter, sleep in a vehicle, or in a swag alongside a vehicle, but not to set up any camp or go into the dunes. Access along the beach is risky near the 11 mile reef.  
Malcolm gave some details of some changes to the recreational fishing rules for the West Coast and reminded members about the new South Coast recreational fishing rules and brochure. These will be important for the coming Bluff Creek/Bremer Bay Field Days.
- Dry Casting Officer:-** Bob Henderson reported on the January dry casting. Details as in Reel Talk.  
There was some discussion on the use of dumpy sinkers instead of the standard pointy sinkers for accuracy casting. Dumpy sinkers tended to bounce which made marking harder, whereas the standard pointy sinkers tended to dig in, at least on the Yokine reserve. George Holman said that some venues in other States used for the National competitions were so hard that the pointy sinkers would bend rather than dig in.  
The club dry casting rules need to be amended to require tubing on our artificial bait rigs as used in the AAA dry casting.
- AAA Report:-** George Holman advised the AAA mid term convention meeting had been scheduled for 25/26 February 2006.  
A meeting of the dry casting group and anybody else interested will be held at George Holman's place on Monday 6 February at 8 p.m. to discuss all the arrangements for the 2007 Phillip Island AAA National Convention  
George Holman presented Filomena D'Alonzo with a trophy won at the AAA State Dry Casting Championships held on 30 October.  
The AAA State Voting Championship event will be held at Jurien on the long weekend in March 2006.  
The AAA State Rock and Beach Championship event will be held at Jurien Saturday and Sunday 25/26 March 2006.
- Recorder:-** Ian Cook reported new entries for the open fishing competition.

There was some discussion about the next Rottneest Field Day. Would it be held in May or the June long weekend microphone of?. Ian Cook to prepare an article for the Reel Talk.

**Social Organiser:-**

Not present - an apology.

**Reel Talk Editor:-**

Terry Fuller advised, including those received tonight, he had received only 17 completed survey forms and only 2 suggested list for Field Day venues as sent out with the December Reel Talk.

**Notices of Motion:-**

Terry Fuller gave notice that he will move an addition to the Competition Rules as follows:-  
Add **Section 1.1.9. Amendment to These Competition Rules.**

The Club's "Competition Rules" are different from the "Rules of the Association" as set out in the Constitution

All proposed amendments to the Competition Rules must be notified to members in writing before the meeting at which voting takes place.

All amendments made to the Competition Rules must be notified to all members prior to the commencement of the first affected event in any competition year.

**General Business:-**

Basil Marsh is in Hollywood Hospital in palliative care.

Ian Cook showed members samples of the Species, Masters and Grand Masters badges. Dave Maxted asked for some details of the colours and wording to be used.

Terry Fuller reported on the situation with the club's catch and release rules. These have not been documented well enough for members to know about them and to understand them and to use them. We want to encourage members to catch and release fish, and we want to give them credit for these catches in competitions if the members wish to enter them.

At present the rules provide for an allocated weight for several but not all species, and there is no need for any length or girth measurements. The really difficult challenge is to come up with a system which is workable when members are out on a reef in the water catching and releasing fish which they want to record and get credit for. More details of the current rules will be provided in Reel Talk.

Don Cox from the Melville Angling Club had contacted the Secretary and offered the Surfcasters an opportunity to be involved in Swanfish provided we did not visibly promote our club. Bob Henderson to contact Don.

Kitty Thorgersen had had a fall and was recovering. A card to be sent.

Jim Strong congratulated the Reel Talk editor on the quantity and quality of the contents of the January Reel Talk.

Jim Strong reminded members they needed to sign in for the General Meeting to get the extra points allocated in the Field Day and Dry casting competitions.

George Holman reminded members that Rick Parker was producing Barron Lures which were top-class lures and could be supplied to the members.

George thanked Trevor Stam and Jim Strong for advising of the frisbee group which had set up their courts on the Yokine Reserve due to a double booking error. He also thanked Terry Fuller for taking the time to go down on Saturday morning to contact the people and sort out how the club could run its dry casting while their courts were in the position that had been marked.

**Instruction Period:-**

Terry Fuller gave a PowerPoint presentation and talk on catching Australian salmon and some photos of the Bluff Creek area.

**Meeting closed:-**

10:00 pm.

Minutes prepared by Secretary T Fuller

## Coming Club Events.

### February General Meeting.

**When:-** Wednesday 8 February 2006, 8:00 pm.

**Where:-** Coolbinia West Perth Amateur Football and Sporting Club room, off Wordsworth Avenue, Yokine, about 200 metres south east of the Yokine Bowling Club.

**Sign In:-** Please remember to tick your name on the attendance sheet which is on the table near the door. And while you are there, what about buying some of the raffle tickets?

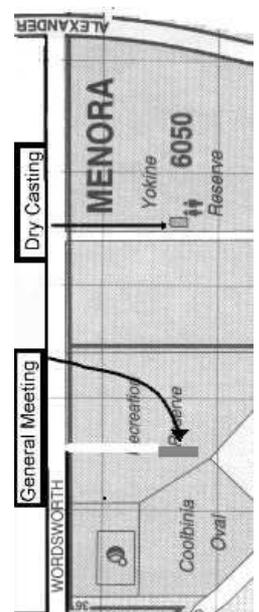
**Special:-** Raffle of the Accommodation voucher for the Yallingup Beach Holiday Park. See details on page 8.

**Instruction Period:-** A demonstration of smoking fish and a taste test of the results.

### February Dry Casting.

**When:-** Sunday 5 February 2006.

**Where:-** Yokine Reserve, Wordsworth Avenue



**Events:-** Double handed accuracy, Single handed accuracy, 56 gram distance Artificial bait distance, 112 gram distance, Plus 112 gram Open.

All casters please assist with the setting up at the beginning of the day before setting up your own gear.

Please assist with the retrieval and packing up of the casting equipment at the end of the day's events.

**Reminder:-** Competition Rules Section 3.6.2 says **juniors still get a score** even if the cast lands out of court. Please remember to measure all junior distance casts and add the "P" symbol if necessary.

## **February 2006 Field Day – Cervantes.**

**When:-** Saturday/Sunday 11/12 February 2006.

**Sign On:** Saturday 11:00 am at the BP Garage in Cervantes.

**Lines Down:-** Saturday 12 noon.

**Weigh in:-** Sunday 11:00 am at the BP Garage in Cervantes.

**Boundaries:-** Southern boundary of Cervantes townsite to South Point Jurien.

**Tides for** Saturday 11 Feb 0.40m at 5:22 am 1.03m at 8:22 pm

**Jurien** Sunday 12 Feb 0.41m at 5:42 am 1.02m at 8:58 pm

**Moon** Saturday 11 Feb Moonrise:- About 5:45 pm

**Sun** Sunrise:- About 5:50 am

Sunday 12 Feb Moonset:- About 3:40 am

Sunset:- About 7:10 pm

**Full Moon** Monday 13 Feb

## **Local Field Day for February 2006.**

**When:-** Saturday/Sunday 11/12 February 2006.

**Sign On:** At the General Meeting or to the FDO by 18:00 Friday.

**Lines Down:-** Saturday 12:00 noon.

**Weigh in:-** Sunday 11:00 am at G Holman's house. Scales will be available on his back patio. An adult member must witness weights. Field Day money to be left with the scales in an envelope with your name and details written in the carbon copy Field Day book. No Money = no points. Results to be phoned to Field Day Officer by 8:00 pm that night.

**Boundaries:-** Penguin Island to north wall of the Two Rocks Marina, including the Swan River and both the North and South Moles..

**Tides for** Saturday 11 Feb 0.39m at 5:37 am 1.03m at 8:30 pm

**Fremantle** Sunday 12 Feb 0.41m at 5:47 am 0.65m at 12:38 pm

## **March 2006 Field Day – Split Bremer Bay / Bluff Creek.**

**When:-** Saturday/Sunday/Monday 4/5/6 March 2006.

**Sign On:** 11.00 am Saturday Bluff Creek camping area. Bremer Bay at fish cleaning facility near the mouth of the inlet.

**Lines Down:-** 12.00 noon Saturday.

**Weigh in:-** Monday 10 am same place as sign on.

**Boundaries:-** Bremer Bay. Point Charles to Reef Beach. Bluff Creek:- As far as you can walk past the rocks at each end of the beach.

**Tides for** Saturday 4 Mar 0.44m at 4:52 am 0.89m at 12:54 pm

**Albany** Sunday 5 Mar 0.33m at 4:26 am 0.93m at 12:49 pm

Monday 6 Mar 0.24m at 4:32 am 0.95m at 1:00 pm

**Sun** Sunrise:- About 5:50 am

Sunset:- About 6:35 pm

**Moon** Saturday 4 Mar Rise 10:30 am Set 9:05 pm

**Bremer Bay** Sunday 5 Mar Rise 11:40 am Set 9:40 pm

Monday 6 Mar Rise 12:50 pm Set 10:25 pm

First Quarter Monday 6 March

## **Local Field Day for March 2006.**

**When:-** Saturday/Sunday/Monday 4/5/6 March 2006.

**Sign On:** At the General Meeting or to the FDO by 18:00 Friday.

**Lines Down:-** Saturday 12:00 noon.

**Weigh in:-** Monday 10:00 am at G Holman's house. Scales will be available on his back patio. An adult member must witness weights. Field Day money to be left with the scales in an envelope with your name and details written in the carbon copy Field Day book. No Money = no points. Results to be phoned to Field Day Officer by 8:00 pm that night.

**Boundaries:-** Penguin Island to north wall of the Two Rocks Marina, including the Swan River and both the North and South Moles..

<b>Tides for</b>	Saturday 4 Mar	0.57m at 4:24 am	0.95m at 1:15 pm		
<b>Fremantle</b>	Sunday 5 Mar	0.51m at 1:06 am	0.98m at 1:45 pm	<b>Sun</b>	Sunrise:- About 6:10 am
	Monday 6 Mar	0.45m at 1:59 am	0.99m at 12:39 pm		Sunset:- About 6:50 pm
<b>Moon</b>	Saturday 4 Mar	Rise 10:40 am	Set 9:30 pm		
<b>Fremantle</b>	Sunday 5 Mar	Rise 11:50 am	Set 10:05 pm		
	Monday 6 Mar	Rise 12:55 pm	Set 10:50 pm	First Quarter	Mon 6 March

## Calendar for Next Three Months.

Here's a calendar showing the dates we will use for Dry Casting, General and Committee Meetings, and Field Days in the next three months. TerryF

<u>30</u>	AAA Event																						
<u>8</u>	Dry Casting							11	General Meeting				<u>14</u>	<u>15</u>	Field Day				<u>18</u>	Committee Meeting			
February 2006							March 2006							April 2006									
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun			
		1	2	3	4	<u>5</u>			1	2	3	<u>4</u>	<u>5</u>							1	<u>2</u>		
6	7	8	9	10	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>6</u>	7	8	9	10	11	<u>12</u>	3	4	5	6	7	8	9			
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	10	11	12	13	<u>14</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>16</u>			
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	<u>17</u>	18	19	20	21	22	23			
27	28						27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30			

## 2005/2006 Field Day Dates and Venues.

Saturday/Sunday 11/12 February 2006	Cervantes.
Saturday/Sun/Mon 4/5/6 March 2006	LWE Split Field Day Bremer Bay / Bluff Creek.
Saturday/Sunday 14/15/16/17 April 2006	Easter Emu Springs and Denmark.

## 2005/2006 Dry Casting Dates.

All are at Yokine Reserve, Wordsworth Avenue, Yokine, starting at 8:30am.

Sunday 5 February 2006	Sunday 12 March 2006, (changed for Field Day)
	Sunday 2 April 2006

## Field Day and Dry Casting Fees.

Field Day Fees:- \$7 for an individual, \$9 for families. Dry Casting Fees:- \$6 for an individual, \$8 for families.

## 2005/2006 General Meetings.

All at Coolbinia West Perth Amateur Football and Sporting Club room, Wordsworth Avenue, Yokine, starting at 8:00pm.

Wednesday 8 February 2006	Wednesday 12 April 2006
Wednesday 8 March 2006	

## AAA State Championship Events 2005/2006.

2005/2006 State Boat Angling Championships	Jurien, 4 March 2006
2005/2006 Rock and Beach Championships	Jurien, Saturday / Sunday 25/26 March, 2006
2006/2007 AAA State Dry Casting Championships	Yokine Reserve, Sunday 29 October 2006

## **2007 AAA National Convention In Victoria**

To be held at Cowes on Phillip Island from 21 February 2007 to 12 March 2007.

Anyone interested in attending the AAA convention and participating in the fishing and casting events can attend a meeting at George's place on Monday on 6 February at 8pm.

We will discuss accommodation requirements, transport of equipment, participation in the fishing and casting, social activities, team selection criteria, air travel arrangements, uniform requirements and whatever.

Your AAA representatives will be travelling to Phillip Island at the end of February 2006 and will make the necessary inquiries on your behalf.

COME ON WE CAN SHOW THEM THAT WE ARE THE BEST

Hendo

## **Rottnest Island Field Days for 2006/7**

Last year we had two variations to the normal Rottnest Field Day format. Both of the formats turned out to be very successful.

- Use the June long weekend. This means going to Rottnest Island on the Saturday morning ferry and returning on the Monday afternoon ferry. This will allow for two morning and two afternoon fishing sessions.
- Use a normal two day weekend. Go across to the Island on the 6:00 pm ferry on the Friday night and return on the Sunday afternoon ferry. This will give us the opportunity to fish two morning fishing sessions, and one afternoon fishing session.

Both of the above formats turned out to be very successful. Utilising the long weekend gives a total of equivalent of two days' fishing time. Going across on the Friday night was good as we went to the café for dinner and a few drinks. This was enjoyed by all members except one who was allegedly keeping watch on our gear. This allowed us to prepare for the early start on Saturday morning.

Having full days allows for exploration of more or new locations. Taking a bike to West End allows for more flexibility, so give that some consideration. Utilising the extra time is also more cost effective and with fuel and other associated costs Rottnest field days are good value. The potential for even novices to catch good quality fish is very good and results are normally excellent.

New Members: Don't be put off by the idea that it is all new and daunting. There are lots of senior member who are only too willing to enlighten you on the merits of fishing Rotto. We fish together so there is always some one experienced to fish with and to give on the spot advice.

The options will be discussed at the February meeting and a vote taken to decide on the format. Can members who are not planning on going to Rottnest Island please abstain from voting as it is unfair to influence the final venue format of those who will be participating.

An indication of the numbers going will be needed at this meeting. so we can decide if it is viable to proceed with the bookings. We need a minimum of 10 starters. A deposit of \$50 will be required at the March General meeting and full payment at the April General meeting. The approximate costs are:- LWE \$173, extended weekend \$132

We normally have a further Rottnest field day in August so give this some consideration as well. There has been talk of changing the date to try a later time in the year. Does anyone have any information on fishing Rottnest Island in say October or November?.

August may be Polar Bear Time, but the fishing can be exceptionally good. Ask some of the old hands about their catches. I personally have participated in most Rottnest field days for 20+ years as they are very good values with great social atmosphere and potential for some exciting fishing. So start stocking up on Scotch and Port for the Saturday night. I would recommend that all members who do not have a wet suit purchase or borrow one as the water temperature will be way down. You can fish from areas where you do not need to stand in the "briny".

If any new members are thinking of participating in the Rottnest field days please give it a go as it is a great trip. Please contact me as I am more than happy to provide information and advice. If required we will have an instruction periods at the general meeting prior to the field day. Tight Lines  
Ian Cook

## **Member Survey and Questions.**

A set of questions about **YOUR** opinions and need was delivered with the December Reel Talk.

**PLEASE** answer the questions and send the form back to the club or hand it in at one of the Club events.

We will be doing a summary and analysis of the member's comments, so **we really need your reply as soon as possible**, please.  
Terry Fuller

## **Features to Help Reading the Reel Talk. \$50 Prize Competition.**

The January Reel Talk included a little competition, with a \$50 prize for the first person to tell me what the changes were to the format, article layout, etc. which have delivered all those wondrous new features for the readers in that edition of Reel Talk.

I promised I would put the detailed explanation and the winners' name in the February Reel Talk. The winners were Malcolm Harris and Vix Alexander. Eagle-eyed Vix's job involves her spending lots of time looking at documents and layouts and fonts and all that technical stuff, so she is well qualified for such questions.

The changes to the format, article layout, etc were:- a font size change from 12 to 13 for the article headings. Yep, that's all.

All the rest of those "wondrous enhancements" in the January Reel Talk were just a figment of my fevered, overworked imagination.

In fact, all those "new and innovative" features and benefits have been included in all editions of the Reel Talk for over three years since the August 2002 edition added the list of contents and page numbers on the first page. All editions for the last five years at least have had very clear headings and the page numbers. So maybe that means members have been able for a long time to chose what they read or don't read.

TerryF

## **Reel Talk Publishing Deadline.**

The Reel Talk is published so that it gets to the members early in the week before the first event held in the coming calendar month. But it also depends what else is going on and what the Editor wants to do with his personal life and valuable personal volunteer time.

The Reel Talk is produced progressively through the month, as stuff becomes available, so that the whole article is on the same page, and to avoid a few lines separated from the rest of the article. Of course Microsoft Word makes it possible to zap the articles to any page, and the list of contents is updated almost automatically. But once the front pages are set out properly, it's just extra and unnecessary work to insert stuff. So items which come in early generally ends up towards the front of the magazine, and late stuff towards the back.

Items received electronically can be put into the magazine in a very short time, subject to space. It's a juggling act, and first in generally has the best chance of getting published that month. The Reel Talk contents is always an even number of pages, and the pages usually have something on them with not too much blank space. Late items which need parts of extra pages and need a rearrangement of other stuff to keep to the "even number of full pages" might just get deferred to a later issue.

The absolute deadline for items for the coming Reel Talks are:-

March 2006 Reel Talk      3 pm Friday 17 February.

April 2006 Reel Talk      3 pm Wednesday 22 March.      Maybe earlier, check March Reel Talk.

The editor would really appreciate getting items a long time before the deadline, particularly if they have to be typed in, scanned, reformatted, etc.

TerryF

## **Life Members of the Club.**

Doug Edward, Ric Parker, Jim Strong, Bob Klein, George Holman, Ian Cook.

## **Donations for Trophies.**

We are looking for trophies for this current competition year. Please give us your suggestions for people / companies / etc to contact.

There are some things members can do:-

1.      Donate a trophy yourself – particularly if you have been on the on the receiving end in past years.
2.      When buying your gear and getting your services from our trophy donors and advertisers, make sure you let them know that you are a member of the Surf Casting and Angling Club, so that if or when we contact them, they will know that this Club's members support them.

## **Wanted - Aluminium Cans.**

Wanted - Aluminium cans. Please bring them along to the General Meeting or to Mal Head's home, but not to Dry Casting. Mal saves them up and takes them to the recyclers when he has enough, and the price is right, and donates all the proceeds to the Club.

## **Member's Stories, Photos, Tips, etc.**

Does anyone have any new stories, photos, tips, news items, etc, etc, to share? Please send them in to the Reel Talk Editor. And if you want some really interesting fishing stories in the Reel Talk, please write some or get your friends to write some.

Thanks to Bob Henderson, Malcolm Harris, Ian Cook, Paul Thompson and Noel Cobby for articles in this edition.  
Reel Talk Editor, TerryF

## **Safari 2006.**

The next opportunity for a club safari is during calendar year 2006. Esperance has been suggested as a possible location. Suggestions for alternative places, dates, etc are wanted, please.

## **Kalbarri House For Rent.**

The Club has a house in Kalbarri. The house is situated close to the river, beaches and town. It has two bedrooms and will sleep up to eight (max) in 1 double bed and 3 bunks, has reverse cycle air conditioning and ceiling fans to keep you cool in the summer months. Users need to bring their own linen, blankets and towels, tea towels, etc.

It has a radio and television, stove with oven, microwave oven, crockery and cutlery and all cooking utensils, fridge and freezer. It does not have a washing machine, but there is a laundromat in town. Outside has a fish cleaning facility and a full width verandah. Rates are:-

Public:- Off season \$250 per week, On season \$390 per week } all plus \$50

Club Members:- Off season \$160 per week, On Season \$210 per week } deposit / bond.

Club Members:- Short term \$45 for one night, \$40 per night for two or more nights} plus \$55.00 cleaning

Bookings taken for the school holidays go from Saturday to Saturday (leaving by 10am). Outside of school holidays it does not matter. The club has decided that cleaning will need to be paid for and is \$55.00 extra on the rates above for future new bookings. The club is now being charged GST on the cleaning.

Contact Property Officer Vix Alexander for more details and for bookings.

Check in time is 1pm. Check out time is 10am. Keys can be picked up from Ray White, Shop 1, Kalbarri Arcade. If people arrive after hours, they leave a note on the door of their office with a map of how to get to the house and telling them where the key will be.

If any work needs to be done in, on or around the house, please contact the Property Officer for approval. Members who are staying in the house are not allowed to authorise any repairs or services on the house without authority from the Property Officer, Treasurer or President.

## **Wanted Committee Members.**

There are now vacancies for some Committee jobs. Please contact the Secretary or any Committee member for more details, or get yourself nominated at the next General Meeting.

## **Sponsorship Renewal by Yallingup Beach Holiday Park**

The Yallingup Beach Holiday Park has provided the club with another accommodation voucher to the value of \$250 for two adults for two nights in one of their Malibu ensuite cabins for the new competition year.

The previous year's voucher was raffled at the February General Meeting and was won by Tony D'Alonzo.

The park has a waterfront location with spectacular views over Yallingup Bay. Opposite is a safe swimming lagoon and an excellent fishing beach plus the world famous Yallingup surf break.

On site accommodation includes ensuite cabins and standard cabins (for the budget conscious) plus plenty of well grassed van and tent sites.

This is an ideal base from which to visit the numerous nearby wineries, go whale watching, take scenic drives and walk trails and visit the spectacular Yallingup Ngilgi Cave, or of course, go fishing!!.

Check the website at <http://www.yallingupbeach.com.au/>

This voucher will be raffled at the February 2006 General Meeting.

## **New Member Acceptances.**

The following application for membership has been accepted, and will be invited to the next General Meeting to be welcomed into the Club. Melvin, Claudine and Samuel Wee

## **New Member Application.**

Applications for membership have been received and will come before the next Committee meeting. If any member has any reason why any of the applications should not be accepted, please contact a Committee Member and state the reason.

Paul, Dionnie, Madeline and Stephanie Rebelo,  
Scott and Nova Maloney,  
Bev Grigo, Noel Cobby

## **Happy Birthday to:-**

A lot of members haven't told us their birth date, so there may be more birthdays. Dob them in!

Julie Kember, 3 February                      Wendy Hansen, 19 February                      Roy Killick, 19 February  
Mal Simpson, 23 February                      Dean Stewart, 28 February

## **Advertising in Reel Talk.**

Advertising is available in the Reel Talk. 12 monthly copies are printed, currently 62 copies. Charges are:- Inside and outside back covers are printed black on Terra Yellow paper. Inside or outside back cover. Full page, \$100.00 per annum. Half page, \$70.00 per annum.

Inside pages are printed black on white paper. Inside pages. Full page, \$60.00 per annum. Half page, \$40.00 per annum. Quarter page \$30.00 per annum

## **Wanted - Back Copies of Reel Talk.**

We are looking for donations of old Reel Talks, or can copy yours if you want to keep them. A few copies, eg all of what we have for the early months of 1982 are not in good condition, so we would take any better copies if they were offered. See the list in the February 2002 Reel Talk.

## **Club Polo Shirts, Jackets and Caps.**

We now have some stocks of short and long sleeved Club Polo shirts, long sleeved Club Jackets and baseball style caps with a club logo for sale to members. These are in the club colours of Gold (Yellow) and Black, and help to identify you as a "Surfcaster" member. Contact Andrew Aubrey.

## **Club Competition Rules and Constitution.**

Printed copies of the Club's current Fishing and Dry Casting Competition Rules and Club Constitution are available – all you have to do is **ASK**.

The current version of the Competition Rules is dated 13 April 2005, and the Constitution is dated February 2003. If you have **any** earlier version, **throw it away and get a current version.**

Contact the Secretary for a copy or see the club's web site for the online versions – see <http://www.surfcasters.iinet.net.au/ClubRulesMain.html> Secretary, Terry Fuller

## **The Old Guard**

Yep, I've reached the 15 years membership and spent time on the Committee treasuring and defending past rules and regulations that have stood the test of time. Equality and fairness to all works so well.

I get defensive when someone jumps up with his new ideas and **insists** that the Club moves with the times.

My old fashion ways guides me along with a "get involved and participate" attitude. Learn why the regulations are set that certain way. Will change be for the better for all members? What are the procedures to obtain a change? Does the change interfere any other rule? Discuss with others my thoughts and ideas.

Dealing with the "OLD GUARD" is so simple..... Approach one of them, sit and discuss your ideas and the pros and cons, achieve change together, respect each other's opinions, show appreciation. Some things cannot be done overnight.

The most important decision is "do you enjoy the friendship?"

Bob Henderson

## Are Any of These Yours?

On Sunday 1 January there was a very low tide and I went for a snorkel along the reef at Swanborne mainly looking to see what fish were in the area. The conditions were perfect with no waves and crystal clear water.

I found tarwhine, sand whiting, tailor, salmon trout and large yellowfin whiting in the shallows.

When I approached the Drain at the end of the reef I noticed a large bundle of old fishing line swaying in the current underneath me. It was connected to a old piece of pylon sticking out of the sand, with nothing else around.

When I dived down and checked there were no hooks. I went down and grabbed it and out of the sand came various lengths of line with about 20 sinkers attached, see attached photo.

Sadly the only thing that was reusable was the sinkers. Everything else was rusted and corroded but at least I had found the obstacle to avoid in the future and cleaned up the environment.

Paul Thompson



## Catch and Release Rules

As discussed at the January 2006 General Meeting, here are some of the details about our current very confusing catch and release system. This was started in late 2001, but has not been documented to the extent that it is actually known to and usable by the members.

There has been no real publicity about any of the details in the Reel Talk since the initial notices in December 2001 / January 2002. That has contributed to all the confusing discussions in recent years.

We have actually done a lot of research on a "take some length and girth measurements and convert to weight" method, and that was all much too hard for most of our species.

The bottom line is - at present we have an "fixed allocated weight" system for a limited number of the common species in our Field Day Rules, except estimated weight is allowed for sharks. Being allocated weight, there is no need for length/girth or any other measurements.

We do NOT have any provision for "I weighed the fish on these scales, and then I released it – can I enter it?."

We do NOT have any catch and release provisions for fish in the Open Competition, except estimated weight is allowed for sharks.

If we stay with the current rules, we need to publicise them and distribute the forms which can actually be used by the members.

There doesn't seem to be any "official" catch and release entry form. The draft form attached to the proposal, but never published, has some details which don't fit the words below, and so I won't publish it - to avoid confusion.

Those are the current rules. The future rules are open to suggestions and changes. They have to encourage catch and release, give fair points for fish caught and released, but above all they have to be **practical**.

Making up rules and forms is easy - making ones which can actually be used out there on that reef while the water is up to your waist is a lot, lot harder.....

But time is running out, so get thinking and talking to the other interested members and writing it down if you want to change or add to the rules in time for the 2006/7 competition year.

### **Catch and Release proposal as published in the December 2001 Reel Talk.**

The aim of this proposal is to allow anglers in the monthly SCAC Field Day Competition events to release some unwanted eligible fish species but still obtain points for their captures. It is also aimed at encouraging anglers to release small (but still legal sized) specimens of a species e.g. flathead, tarwhine and whiting.

At present we would like to start with a limited number of Catch and Release species to allow for easier administration and also to keep matters simple. If this system proves successful and there is a demand for more species to be included, these can be added at a later stage.

Each fish species has been allocated a nominal weight. If anglers are catching fish of a larger size, and want to be credited with the full points for their weight, these fish will have to be presented at the weigh in.

Only 30 fish are eligible for the Field Day competition including both fish weighed in and caught and release claims.

The maximum number of fish of any eligible species that can be recorded is one day's bag limit as stipulated by Fisheries W.A. or Club limits, whether these are weighed in or released.

The 10 points per species applies regardless of the numbers of weighed and released fish.

All fish recorded must be of legal size, where this is applicable. The clubs minimum size for any eligible fish is 20 centimetres.

It is important to stress that the fish must be released in good condition and with every chance to survive. Fish that are damaged or are not likely to survive should be humanely killed and kept.

All captures must be witnessed by another club member to be eligible for points to be allocated. The system is based entirely on trust and we rely on angler honesty for this to succeed.

The capture and release form must be presented to the Field Day officer at the weigh in. It is to be completed and signed by both the angler and the witness.

Species	Allocated weight	Species	Allocated weight
Herring	0.1 kg	Whiting	0.1 kg
Tailor	0.3 kg	Salmon	2.5 kg
Skipjack Trevally	0.2 kg	Pike	0.15 kg
Tarwhine	0.2 kg	Flathead	0.2 kg
Wrasse	0.2 kg	Mulloway	1.25 kg

At the December General 2001 Meeting, a motion was carried that these proposed rules be adopted from the start of 2002/2003 season.

The current Competition Rules are:- **Field Day 2.3.6 Catch And Release.** A member may catch and release any Eligible Species. The rules as recommended by the Committee for Field Day catch and release, including requirements for a witness, the method for determining Field Day points allocated for the catch, etc., shall be ratified at the April General Meeting each year and published in Reel Talk. The rules can only be changed at the beginning of the competition year.

**Field Day 2.3.7 Estimated Weights Of Sharks.** A shark may be released without being weighed but the species of shark should be identified, the length and girth recorded and a clear photograph taken wherever these are possible. At least one, and preferably three adult witnesses must be available to confirm these details. The estimated weight of the shark will have to be ratified by the Committee, who will consider the details provided and the circumstances of the identification, measurement, and photograph.

If the heaviest shark had it's weight estimated, then any other capture where the shark was actually weighed and which comes within 20% of the other shark's estimated weight will be classified as the leading entry.

**Open Competition 4.6 Estimated Weights Of Sharks.** The wording is identical to Field Day 2.3.7 and removes the need for a sample tooth. (Otherwise "Look Mum, no hands" could take on a whole new meaning!)  
Secretary, Terry Fuller

## **Bored?**

The most common complaint every one has is the Club meetings are sometimes "BORING". Yep, I admit I've made that same comment myself at times especially when a topic under discussion goes on and on with so much "waffling". Gets nowhere, members are fed up and ready to nick off.

Then there's the "can't be bothered" or "not interested" attitude that some bring along to the meeting before it even starts.

So I ask them "why did you join the Club". Nearly ever one gives the same answer "to get more information on how when and where to fish." The Club meeting should be a place to get this knowledge, not listen to committee members waffling on. More discussion periods, more entertainment.

So the "waffling committee members" drew up a questionnaire for all members to give their thoughts and ideas for a guide to improve the Club and the meetings.

By the January General Meeting, we had received only 18 filled in questionnaires.

DID YOU FILL OUT YOURS AND RETURN IT.....NO ?

Bob Henderson

## **Thoughts of a Prospective Member.**

The following is an article written by prospective member Noel Cobby following his first experience of our Club's events at the January 2006 dry casting.

Noel raises a lot of points which give me some thoughts for topics for the Reel Talk in future to give the information.

One question which stood out for me was "What do members want?" At the time of writing his article, Noel might not have been aware of the questionnaire which has gone out to all existing members, and he has now been sent one.

Reel Talk Editor. TerryF

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Terry. Thanks a heap for the copy of Reel Talk, January 2006. I found it interesting and thought provoking. Some of the first impressions raised are included in the attached article. Use it in your magazine if you wish and see fit. Regards, Noel Cobby

First impressions. I attended (albeit briefly) the January 2006 casting day, motivated by the thought of joining an angling club. Terry Fuller kindly gave me a copy of the January 2006 Reel Talk. From a perusal of that magazine, I have penned by following thoughts.

As indicated, these are first impressions. If they are wrong I will stand corrected. I mean no criticism of the club, any official or individual member. I am not in a position of knowledge, nor would I have the audacity to do so. Besides that is not my style. I claim no novelty or originality in my comments. No doubt all have been raised and considered at some stage by the club.

About the magazine itself, to say it was professional would be an understatement. The comments I found most informative and thought provoking. Having said that, if one discounts the "housekeeping" (that is calendar of events, activity reports, progressive score sheets, etc) and the "industry" news (CALM, AAA, Recfishwest, etc) articles, there is not a lot of contribution from members. Is that typical? What do members want? Just how big can the magazine get?

The foregoing aside, I doff my hat to the people involved in its compilation and production.

Of the casting day, given total club membership, the number attending was impressive. This activity appears to be better patronised than recent fishing field days reported on. Heaven forbid that this is the future of recreational fishing in Western Australia. The way our activity is being impacted, long-term that could be a possibility; medium term it could be catch and release only. I for one would not like to experience either.

After thought: looking at the array of equipment on show at the casting day, I am a little hesitant at tending less my rudimentary and unbalanced gear be cause for humiliation and embarrassment.

So the club is 54 years young. What a wealth of characters, experiences and expertise must its membership have contributed over those years, in what undoubtedly would have been the best fishing years ever experienced. How much of that history is reflected in the pages of Reel Talk (or its predecessors)? Or, has it been lost to posterity with the passing of members and/or sequestered away in the minds (memories) of members? What a pity if that info is lost or irretrievable for the enjoyment of future members.

To state that I detect a degree of exasperation/frustration on part of the editor at the difficulty in getting feedback, opinion or contributions from members is stating the obvious. Full credit to those contributors involved.

Membership of the club is reported at 79. What is the population of recreational fishers in WA? 600,000 and growing. Surf Casting and Angling Club's share of that figured appears pretty light on.

What was the membership in 1952 and the halcyon days since then. Admittedly many competitive influences impacting on membership numbers are at play. Has the club done sufficient to attract and hold members?. What of the future? Will the club survive?

Field day December 2005: eight member participants. Field day October 2005: 10 members. Field day December 1962: 39 members and 13 juniors. What message does that convey? What prospects for the future?

I could go on, but enough said lest, despite my reassurances given earlier, I offend somehow.

Footnote: I have requested a membership application form. Hopefully membership participation and experience will clarify some of the issues raised.

Noel Cobby.

## **Recreational Angler Numbers in WA.**

This is an article which answers an observation and questions raised by a prospective member. This is **not a trivial matter**. It directly affects the rules and restrictions placed on recreational fishing and gives extra ammunition to those who want to restrict fishing even further. And those reduce the number of recreational anglers and reduces the number of people who might want to join fishing clubs.

There are serious problems with how recreational fishing numbers and fishing pressure are selectively reported and portrayed in the official reports to Parliament by the agency which collects all the data and makes the rules.

Fisheries Annual Report to Parliament for 2004/5 has been released and could raise lots of questions. A copy is at <http://www.fish.wa.gov.au/docs/ar/2005/index.php?0701> One question is the way recreational angler numbers are used in this report.

Page 7 says "Nearly 540,000 Western Australians, or nearly one third of our population, participate in recreational fishing every year. We spend about \$570 million per year and create about 7,000 full-time jobs - making it a pastime that contributes enormously to our State's social fabric and economy."

Page 14 says "Additional pressure is being placed on inshore fish stocks as a result of continuing population growth, coastal development, improved access and fishing technology and a growing recreational fishing sector."

Page 30 says:- "Recreational fishing is not only a favorite pastime for nearly 540,000 Western Australians every year (about one third of the population).....Increasing pressure on WA's fisheries by the recreational sector can be attributed to population and tourism growth, coastal development, improved fishing technology and easier access to many remote areas."

Page 109-110 of the Annual report says "The survey was conducted by telephone during April 2005. The telephone numbers were randomly selected from the DTMS white pages on CD-ROM. Respondents were males and females older than 17 years residing in Western Australia. The total sample of 700 interviews comprised 422 metropolitan interviews and 278 regional interviews."

The figure of "nearly 540,000 recreational anglers" is actually 538,000 and compares to the figure of 643,000 which has been used before - a big 105,000 or 16.4% reduction.

We have **increasing population**, yet **decreasing number of participants** - down 105,000 since the June 2001 survey - but the number is very conveniently not covered in any of the graphs or the write ups.

Previous Fisheries Annual Reports show the participation figures are:- May 2000 survey 614,510, June 2001 survey 642,549, May 2002 survey 585,000, May 2003 survey 600,000, May 2004 survey 533,000, April 2005 survey 538,000. It has dropped 62,000 or over 10% just in the last 2 years alone, and 16% since the peak.

The number participating is only one way of measuring. Even more obvious, when you do a comparison, is the **decline in the number of days fished** by each of these participants. Previously that led to the "10,000,000 recreational fishing days" figure and that figure was used for such things as justification for Ningaloo and Jurien Bay closed areas, and need to review the recreational fishing rules.

The report comments: "For earlier years, the results were influenced by extreme outliers which increased the estimate of the mean number of days fished" and "These results can be affected due to the inability of respondents to accurately recall all past fishing trips over a 12 month period" This shows there are statistical problems with the surveys.

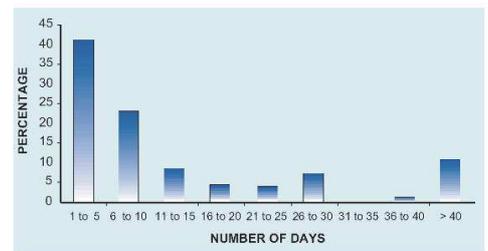
Again **missing** from this 2005 report is any mention of a figure for total fishing effort. What is the number of "angler fishing days" this year. How many percent has it dropped?

It may have dropped much more than the 10% drop in numbers fishing. Look at the graphs of numbers of days fished and note the big shift to a very much larger percentage fishing fewer days each year. Which means fewer total fishing trips. Yet the write up says "Increasing pressure on WA's fisheries by the recreational sector..." Is this lies, damned lies and selective use of statistics.???

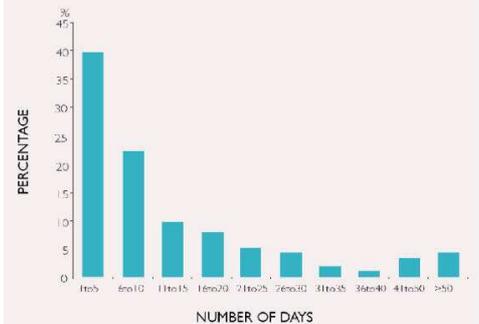
No one should have any argument with the need for proper management of recreational (and all other) fishing effort everywhere and particularly in heavily fished areas around population centres, and should support proposals such as the Zone 5 Metro Management proposal.

Reports to Parliament should have better analysis and not ignore important changes.  
Terry Fuller

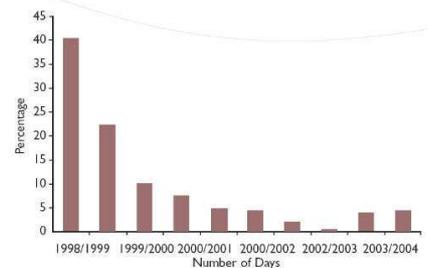
2001/2  
FIGURE 7: DISTRIBUTION FOR NUMBERS OF DAYS FISHED



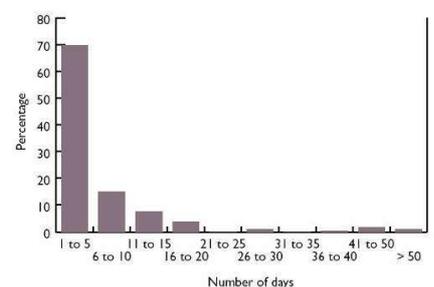
2002/3  
FIGURE 5: DISTRIBUTION FOR NUMBERS OF DAYS FISHED



2003/4  
FIGURE 3  
DISTRIBUTION FOR NUMBERS OF DAYS FISHED



2004/5  
FIGURE 6  
DISTRIBUTION FOR NUMBERS OF DAYS FISHED



"Number of days fished" graphs from successive Dept of Fisheries Annual Reports.

1 to 5 fishing days used to be 40%, It is now 70%.

1-10 fishing days used to be 65%. It is now 85%

## The Thin Edge

Having completed our reconnaissance as chronicled in "At the Edge of the Wedge" (originally in the December 1962 Reel Talk and reprinted in the May 2005 Reel Talk,) we decided to launch an attack in force, on two fronts, to exploit the situation. Accordingly we departed from Toby's place shortly after four o'clock on the afternoon of Friday of the long weekend.

Our force consisted of three and a half rod fishermen and three and a half "spearies", while our transport comprised two Land Rovers, one of which towed a trailer carrying Ken's fourteen foot dinghy. As soon as we were reasonably clear from patrolled areas the number plate, which was mounted below the trailer, was removed to prevent it being lost while crossing the numerous "gibber" areas which we would be obliged to traverse.

Again we were not free from trials and tribulations. Although we were in a completely different vehicle we were plagued with the same condition which be-devilled us on our previous trip, i.e. a constipated radiator, and we had not proceeded very far before the familiar drill was being re-enacted all over again, but at far more frequent intervals. To reduce the labours of the afflicted "heap" the trailer and dinghy were hitched behind George's Rover which was conducting itself in a manner more in keeping with the distinguished name it bore.

Notwithstanding, the tedium and frustration of the time wasting and vexatious delays the journey was not without its dramatic and humorous moments. The highlight of these occurred a few miles short of Lancelin while grinding up a steepish incline, on a surface which had been badly broken by the heavy traffic engaged in the cray industry. Ahead of us was a Holden towing a fibre glass power boat complete with engine attached, and mounted on a light trailer with incredibly small wheels. On such a surface it behaved much like a horse's tail during a plague of flies. Behind us came George with his trailer and boat.

Just when this cavalcade neared the crest of the hill, a Holden from Carnamah bearing what appeared to be three Newstralians who had quite patently been celebrating the founding of their country of adoption, roared up alongside us with tyres crunching loudly on the loose uneven surface and horn blaring; simultaneously over the crest appeared the silhouette of an enormous refrigerator van.

This is what a better writer than I am would probably describe as "a tense and dramatic situation fraught with terrible danger". The boys from Carnamah however had plenty of imagination, and their reflexes were instantaneous; with the disconcerting suddenness of a kangaroo they hopped clean off the road just as the huge truck rumbled by. We stopped long enough to see them emerge again and roar off up the road in a cloud of dust and small stores.

On this occasion we took the alternative route which flanks the Gobi desert stretch but in doing so adds a few miles to the journey. As the speedometer was in no better condition than the radiator, I was unable to obtain any reliable information as to distance, while the interminable stops rendered timing equally unreliable. For the information of the more adventurous member who might be considering taking a chance with his car this track offers no insuperable obstacles. To my knowledge at least four Holdens made the journey with no apparent difficulty during this weekend. A lady driving one of them could quite easily have been doing a practice run in preparation for the next Redex trial around Australia.

Owing to the time we had lost on the journey it was after dark when we arrived at our destination, so deciding reluctantly to forego fishing we prepared camp, had a meal, and bedded down in anticipation of some exciting sport in the morning. This pious hope was not realised.

**The first morning.** The first rosy flush of dawn had long made way for the rising sun before any of us stirred and, contrary to expectations, instead of a gentle easterly, we were confronted with quite a brisk south wester, into the teeth of which we pitched our baits with enthusiasm and vigor but without reward.

On the way back for breakfast we saw a haul of fish the like of which none of us had ever seen before. It comprised possibly a couple of tons, or maybe more, of king size buffalo bream. The average weight would lie somewhere between fourteen and twenty pounds, and they were arranged in a beautifully symmetric stack some twenty feet long, four feet high and four or five feet wide. They were destined for cray bait, and if smell could be taken as a measure of their effectiveness, I should imagine the American market would be swamped long before Easter.

After breakfast the "spearies", somewhat contemptuous of our barren effort, made ready to repair the breach. We helped them to launch their dinghy and saw them off for the nearby reefs. We then decided to pay a visit to the reef a couple of miles to the north of the camp, which had attracted our attention with its exciting possibilities during our previous visit. The reef itself had become practically covered with sand however, while the troughs and channels which flanked it previously had given way to a shallow sandy shoal.

On our return we paused briefly to watch Vic Davis, Johnny Graham and one other start a run with a pretty sizeable net. As the sou'wester had, by this time, increased in strength and whipped up a choppy sea, the work was pretty strenuous, and looked to have little hope of paying dividends. Vic however had other irons in the fire. He had previously made a cruise around the likely "jewey" spots in a power boat but conditions were not very favourable. He also had a Land Rover in reserve for beach operations. With all this

paraphernalia as evidence of past successes he blandly denounced the place as having recently become barren and worthless. I have heard since that that particular visit yielded some two hundred pounds of "kingies".

In due course the "spearies" returned with their catch, consisting of some small parrot fish and a dozen or so buffalo bream which they had mistaken for tarwhine. They also brought seven crays to provide each of us with a taste. The reefs they said were crawling with these but it was necessary to spend some time to find specimens of legal size. Although this place should be a "spearies" dream it appears that the sea which had been whipped up, made it impossible to explore the seaward faces of the reefs, and as one member put it "It was like jumping into a bottle of soda water." They tried their luck again during the afternoon. closer in nearer the island, but with no better luck.

**The evening.** Towards evening we made our way to the point opposite the island where there were numerous channels. By this time however the south westerly was really howling and blowing straight down our throats. To make matters more awkward still there was a very strong lateral drift, while to crown the lot countless small clumps of loose weed went careering past at express speed so that within a matter of minutes after casting, the business end of your line was picked up and lodged in shallow water well clear of the channel.

It was extremely difficult fishing; particularly after dark when, with a geared reel, you could confidently count on three overruns in every five casts. Notwithstanding when you could get a fair go at them the tailor were big, hungry and vicious. The best one, caught by Toby, would be around four pounds, possibly better, while the remainder were all respectable specimens. The kingfish, which took over after the tailor had passed were, in my view, just the right size, from about five to eight pounds, and put up a very creditable battle. In all we landed eleven tailor and sixteen "kingies".

While all this was going on three of the "spearies" were bobbing about in the dinghy hand lining in a channel between the shore and the island. They caught a few dozen small sand whiting, but I can't for the life of me understand why, in such a picked position, they couldn't latch into something more bagworthy.

**Sunday morning.** On Sunday morning we lay abed snug, comfortable and smug. Smug in the knowledge that it would be a wicked act to get out and catch more fish just to see them waste on a journey of one hundred and five miles in mid summer. So with our two sizeable ice boxes crammed full we dozed peacefully on, waiting for the other chap to show a leg and make a "cuppa". How wise this reasoning turned out to be you will appreciate if you have the patience to read any further.

After breakfast, despite the persistence of the south wester, the "spearies" decided to make another sweep at sea, more in the nature of a reconnaissance and fact finding mission than anything else. They were not absent for long however as the turbulence of the water had churned things up to such an extent that visibility was practically nil a few feet below the surface. All that remained to do was to pack up and push off. This we did and were soon on the road shortly after ten o'clock.

**The trip home.** If our trip was tedious, frustrating and vexatious, I can't find words suitable for publication, to describe the sheer agony of the return journey. The PMH (period for generating maximum heat) of the engine decreased progressively until it became necessary to stop every six minutes for a cooling off period and water replenishment. Although we had conserved every drop of water possible, including the drainage from the ice boxes, we were cleaned out just before reaching the Yanchep turn off. At this point George was diverted to Yanchep Park to replenish the supply while we scooted down the Wanneroo road as far as the engine would permit and there wait until he caught up with us.

While on this errand of mercy a patrolling "rozzer", ever mindful of the welfare and happiness of his natural prey, was possibly reflecting, during a post Sunday seaside session that a policeman's lot was not so unhappy after all, when he happened to notice that the trailer bearing Ken's dinghy had no number plate. Then ensued some embarrassing explanations from George who, like the bank robber caught red handed with the plunder, was trying to deny that the business had anything to do with him. Anyway it all ended up in George providing the subject matter of another entry in the little black book. Following this disastrous anti climax we revived ourselves with ginger beer and ice cream at a near by hill top holiday camp and made our way sadly and slowly to our destination which we reached soon after five.

**A better setup.** Before bringing to a close this description of an adventure which at times scaled the summit of human pleasure and plummeted to the depths of despair, I would like to record our meeting with the most "Complete Angler" since Isaac Walton. His name was Peter Connor, who with his very pleasant and friendly wife, was established in luxurious comfort right on the spot. Their long wheel base Land Rover fitted with a semi permanent extension of the sides and roof was complete with foam rubber bunks, water tanks, stainless steel bench, gas stove and everything else to go with them.

The driving cab was replete with sporting rifle in chrome clips situated just where the drivers hand would fall naturally upon the butt, electric fan, compass, a fixture for holding a couple of charged glasses, plenty of lighting and a dozen other aids to comfort and convenience. But listen to this - on Sunday afternoon we found them, parked at the edge of the water, enjoying afternoon tea in easy chairs under the roof extension, while master's rod was clipped into holders on the rear pillar of the extension with ratchet set and fifty yards of line in the water.

Reprinted from Reel Talk, March 1963, by A C Gull

## Field Day Golden Bay – 16/17 February, 1963

Weather conditions: North-Easterly winds and several showers in the early afternoon, which sent some of the lads scampering for cover though not enough to really disrupt the more eager. The sea was almost a flat calm with a slight drift from north to south. With the complete absence of our worst enemy, weed. Conditions were ideal for comfortable angling.

The channel itself was ideal, though in places it is starting to close up and shallow off but compensated by leaving numerous deep holes etc. One could almost have said that the set-up was ideal - apart from the co-operations of our piscatorial pals who in most parts along the extensive channel failed to show. That is, tailor etc. though there was herring aplenty for those who wished to fish for them - but when you go loaded for bear who wants to go rabbit shooting?. Even Ron Shirley, one of our most successful and keen herring anglers, admits that he will not fish for them on a Field Day. Still on this occasion if one did not catch herring one went home with an empty bag - for the tailor were as mentioned scarce and small.

The attendance of 74 was another all time record and exceeded last months figures. 58 members, 9 juniors, 4 junior visitors plus 5 senior visitors including our Eastern States friends who told me later that they enjoyed themselves exceedingly, though it was a pity that we couldn't have had it a little livelier for them. The final tally of 74 anglers showed once again the popularity of local Field Days and it was good to see so many new faces along.

The parking area was fully occupied, also points north and south. It wasn't until morning after some of the members had left that there was room to move. If on the previous month the beach looked like a picket fence with the rods and bods that adorned it - this time it looked more like a bamboo thicket. And it is indeed gratifying to see so many new and old faces attending our Field Days.

Having arrived at the area the blackboard and Club sign was erected and with business being so brisk and in the absence of Norm Clarke I had to co-opt Ron Kildahl's assistance in recording members as they arrived. Thanks Ron. And arrive they did - at a terrific rate but they didn't stay long. With a chat to this and that one they were off - looking for a spot where the big ones were going to come in.

**Off fishing, finally.** Originally I had in mind to fish north but one glance along the beach in that direction when I went down about 5 o'clock and seeing such a vast array of rods stretching as far as the eye could see, brought about a revision of intending plans and with Norm Giles about turned and headed south. On the way down towards Singleton met Bertie "Panther" Payne and Ernie White who were just starting to settle in.

Doug Newton and his very keen lads and Lofty Griffiths were scanning the water with keen eyes and worried looks, but it didn't take them too long to make up their minds when they found the hotspot they were looking for.

Two new members and mighty keen anglers in F Bolton and A Davey strolled by and they must have found quite a good place for they both returned fair bags of fish. I guess that they must know their way around. It is good to see the newer members getting amongst them.

Steve Dumitro was observed heading up the beach looking for a likely place. It's good to see you back again Steve. Frank Van Zalen was also in attendance - unfortunately with one thing and another Frank has not been able to be as enthusiastic recently as he has in the past but it was good to see you along Frank. Lets hope that we will see more of you now.

Even though most of us had very little excitement Lofty Griffiths had himself a ball for a while with a worthy assailant and after numerous runs etc. and with possession in sight - you can guess the rest. He was bitten off. That shark didn't pick the right bod. It should have gone up Alan Livesey's or Snow Tate's neck of the woods - it would have met its match there, for both Alan and "Snow" were ready for all takers, they certainly had the right tackle for the job. Alan always says "never send a boy to do a mans job" and he means it when he goes to the beach.

Ray and young Mike Porter with Ted Savage and Hugh Gregory were noticed travelling light and fast up the beach towards Long Point where Arch Tickle, Mick Colman-Doscas and Bob Tichbon were mere specks in the distance. But even though-they looked as if they knew where they were going the northern part of the channel returned very little, and except for herring, the tailor that were caught were small. Alan Bunnett was also seen heading North but from reports Alan ran into difficulty in finding a spot which was not over crowded.

Our two Victorian friends, John and Owen Graber, Bob Lilly and Jerry Windus joined forces. They also fished north, just up from Ron Kildahl, Alf Rutland, Bob Klein, etc. and once again the fish were scarce, though up until this weekend the tailor had been on in this vicinity, had been on all along the channel for that matter. Bob Klein had the game sown up for he had erected a small tent which was just the shot and to all accounts is completely water-proof. Jus the thing for these outings.

A little further down the beach, Nick and Charlie Crouch were hard at it battling to find the big ones, as also was Kevin Hawke. These anglers are really familiar with this area. It has been kind to Nick in the past and it was again this time, as Nick won the Largest Scale Fish award. Even though his fish was not large as some of the tailor Nick has caught, it does not detract from his effort. It was still the largest fish caught.

Eric Sullivan, Bob Jensen, Ralph Hansen, Ken Matthews, Ian McLennan, Horrie Muirson, Bill Utting, Ron McQueen and many others were also observed really working that water over and it certainly wasn't for the want of trying that more fish were not taken for those mentioned and those who have not, were putting their utmost into it. But the tailor were conspicuous by their absence. Possibly the cyclone had something to do with it - that will do as an excuse, in lieu of a better one, for as recent as the night before Bob Tichbon and his wife caught 22 tailor at Golden Bay.

Quite a few of the lads went home that evening, for various reasons or another, though quite a lot fished on, Norm and myself gave it away at 12.30. We were getting quite a few bites but they were mighty small tailor which was not enough encouragement to stay longer. So it was off to bed for an early a.m. rise.

**The next morning.** The morning's fishing was also comparatively quiet, though there was herring to be had for those who were interested. Eventually most of the lads were prepared to call it quits and started to return to the parking area for the weigh-in. Unfortunately quite a few of the fish had to be rejected as being under minimum length but this was all taken in a good manner and with plenty of jocular remarks etc.

'When "Panther" Payne wanted to weigh his fish bag and all, much suspicion was taken and when Panther had to tip his fish out and revealed a mighty Mandurah crab, the rubbing he got was nobody's business. But Panther is always in a joke, especially when it is on himself. If he can't rustle up a chuckle there is something wrong somewhere. As a matter of fact he had John and Owen Graber on the run for a while with his much adorned fishing cap and as all members know it is like Woolworths trinket counter, with the various glamorous fish he has on it. He informed the Victorian visitors that they were fish captures. But it didn't take those lads long to wake up that they were being taken.

With the weigh-in over most of the lads made their way to their vehicles and were soon homeward bound which brought to an end another most enjoyable outing. To the award winners, Nick Crouch and Lofty Griffiths go my congrats., to those who missed out - maybe next -time will be your turn. So lets see a good turn, up at our next Field Day which will be back at Garden Island on the 16th and 17th March

Boat departure from Palm Beach Jetty are as follows 9:30 am, 11.45 am, 2.0 pm 5.0 pm. Members who arrive on 9:30 am or 5.0 pm. boat MUST report to me or Norm Clarke in large hut to have their names recorded as being on venue.

Boat returns at 10.00 am from the Island unless arrangements can be made for an earlier trip back. F.D.O. will be taking 11.45 am. boat and Norm Clarke will be in charge of 2.00pm boat. Fare 8/- to be paid to Skipper on board, 2/- for sweep and 5/- for those who wish a bed in the large hut. Please arrange to have the correct change. Cars to be parked in area at back of shop. Parking fee 2/-. Car keys can be left with Mrs. Martin at shop. Weigh-in 8am to 9am in large hut. Truck arrangements can be made with Jim Hawkins, minimum charge £1 or 2/- a head. Field Day commences at 4 p.m.

To new members, don't forget: Water, sun glasses and travel as light as possible for that beach can be mighty hard going. All members to wear Club Badges to all Venues. Don't forget to have your name recorded. See you all on the Island. Reprinted from Reel Talk, March 1963, Jim Strong, Field Day Organiser, 1965

### Fish caught on Field Day 16/17 February 1963.

J. Griffiths	14 Tailor	12 lbs.	G. Greenham	Tailor, Herring, Skippy	3 ½ lbs.
K. Hawker	19 Tailor and Herring	11 lbs.	R. Kildahl	9 Tailor	3 ½ lbs.
P. Dolton	11 Tailor	11 lbs.	T. Elliss	2 Tailor 5 Herring	3 ½ lbs.
N. Giles	14 Tailor	11 lbs.	E. Sullivan	Tailor and Herring	3 ½ lbs.
T. Robinson	7 Tailor and Herring	10 ½ lbs.	C. Crouch	7 Tailor	3 ½ lbs.
J. Strong	11 Tailor, 1 Silver Bream	9 ½ lbs.	R. McQueen	5 Tailor	2 ½ lbs.
R. Tucker	24 Tailor	9 ½ lbs.	P. Neri	2 Tailor, 1 Herring	2 ½ lbs.
R. Lilly	17 Tailor	9 lbs.	H. Neil	Herring and Whiting	2 lbs.
D. Newton	10 Tailor	8 ½ lbs.	C. Houghton	Tailor and Herring	2 lbs.
N. Crouch	16 Tailor	7 ¾ lbs.	S. Dumitro	2 Tailor	2 lbs.
I. McLennan	9 Tailor -5 Herring	6 ½ lbs.	N. Clark	Tailor and Herring	1 lb.
A. Davey	6 Tailor	6 lbs.	R. Klein	Mixed bag	1 ¾ lbs.
E. White	Tailor and Herring	5 lbs.	T. Fuller	2 Tailor	1 ¼ lbs.
K. Martin	6 Tailor	5 lbs.	Juniors		
C. Wellington	11 Tailor	5 lbs.	K. Hunt	2 Tailor 1 Herring	2 lbs.
R. Jensen	6 Tailor	4 ¾ lbs.	K. Clugston	2 Tailor 1 Herring	2 lbs.
T. Smith	10 Tailor	4 ¾ lbs.	K. Wilson (Vis)	2 Silver Bream	1 ½ lbs.
B. Payne	Tailor and Herring	4 ½ lbs.	B. Hawker	1 Tailor	¾ lb.
A. Rutland	Tailor	4 lbs.	R. Jensen	1 Herring	½ lbs.
J. Harvey	Tailor and Herring	4 lbs.			
				<b>Total weight of Scale Fish</b>	<b>210 lbs.</b>

## **Help the Dry Casting Markers.**

Come on, dry casting people, help the markers in the distance events, and help yourselves.

Anyone who has done any marking in winter or in windy conditions will know what I'm talking about.

Do you want your leaders and your weight mangled? Do you want long delays while the markers search for your weights of dig them out of the ground? No? Well you can easily help. Anyway even if you don't care, the markers do and cooperation works both ways.

Some of the weights bury themselves 150mm into the soft grass making it hard to get the sinkers out. Heavy leaders and a decent sized ring or swivel means the weight can be pulled out backwards. Light leaders and tiny swivels are a pain in the \$%#\$ by breaking off and the weights having to be dug out and mangled.

Please use heavy leaders – 50 pound / 25kg **MINIMUM** and preferably heavier - or else risk damaged leaders and lost weights and frustrated markers.

Independent scientific research has shown that the difference between a cast with a light leader and tiny swivel and a heavy leader and decent sized swivel averages 0.033m, which is much less than the error a tired and frustrated marker might make in rounding your cast distance down to the shorter number of metres rather than up to the longer number of metres.

Weights with short plastic tubing are very hard to find, since only a little bit of the tube is visible when weights bury. Please make sure all of your plastic tubes are close to the maximum length of 250mm. It's also very hard to see short tubes as they come through the air.

When it is windy, it is sometimes hard to find where the weight has landed. If you or any of the watching casters know where the weight has landed, PLEASE indicate to the markers by pointing in the direction and waving the markers further out or closer in.

Terry Fuller

## **Dry Casting Sausage Sizzle.**

We usually hold a sausage sizzle on Sunday after the dry casting. Gives everyone a chance to talk over the morning's casting, gear to use, what's coming up, fishing, the state of the world or whatever, over some lunch.

But the sausage sizzle is not free, much as we would like it to be. It has to be paid for somehow, and the prices are quite reasonable compared to what you would pay elsewhere. **Don't forget to put the money in, please.**

Everything is one dollar each. You can get:-

1 drink plus 1 sausage in bread for \$2.00. Extra drink for \$1.00. Extra sausage in bread for \$1.00.

## **January Dry Casting Report.**

I'd like to open this month's report with an apology to the senior competitors for not giving them a fair go in my "day's reports". As I compete with the Vets I rarely get any info on what goes on in their section during the day. Therefore I show bias towards the Vets, Ladies and Juniors in my reports. Sorry fellas.

The score sheets show Nick, Mal, George and Gary are the leading top dogs with Aubs, Pete, Ric and Mark nipping at their heels and making them earn their points.

Competition is close in all events and some great casting distances are achieved. They carry out their day's casting without any hassles but every now and then I hear then give loud cheers when good casting is displayed by one of them.

This month's results show Nick and George shared the section honours but Nick shared the top scores with veteran AJ.

The young Super Vet we call Gentleman Jim Strong produced a grand effort and pipped us all in the double handed accuracy event.

AJ and I had a close tussle and shared section honours in the Vet division. The ladies ran head to head all day and shared the honours also. They push each other to better casting but with a real friendship that's a joy to watch.

As usual it was a great morning with no complaints regarding the change in the location of the casting court. The weather and wind played its part in making conditions enjoyable. Thank you to the members who gave casting guidance to our visitors for they were very pleased with their improved casting abilities at the end of the day.

DCO Hendo.



## Dry Casting Winners for January 2006.

Event	Seniors Winner		Veterans Winner		Ladies Winner		Junior Winner		Mini Junior Winner	
56 gram Score	29	Nick Allsworth, Malcolm Harris	25	Bob Henderson	20	Filomena D'Alonzo, Vix Alexander	13	Andrew Stoeckel	2	Kaitlin Stoeckel
56 gram Distance	151	Nick Allsworth	128	Bob Henderson	100	Vix Alexander	63	Andrew Stoeckel	8	Kaitlin Stoeckel
Artificial Bait Score	28	George Holman	23	Allan Jones	17	Filomena D'Alonzo	17	Andrew Stoeckel	2	Kaitlin Stoeckel
Artificial Bait Distance	139	Nick Allsworth, George Holman	123	Bob Henderson	87	Filomena D'Alonzo	85	Andrew Stoeckel	12	Kaitlin Stoeckel
112 gram Score	33	Nick Allsworth	28	Allan Jones	21	Vix Alexander	16	Andrew Stoeckel	1	Kaitlin Stoeckel
112 gram Distance	166	George Holman	140	Allan Jones, Bob Henderson	107	Vix Alexander	79	Andrew Stoeckel	8	Kaitlin Stoeckel
Double Handed Acc.	117	Nick Allsworth	131	Jim Strong	126	Vix Alexander	91	Andrew Stoeckel	5	Kaitlin Stoeckel
Single Handed Acc.	28	Nick Allsworth, Malcolm Harris	29	Allan Jones	29	Filomena D'Alonzo	8	Andrew Stoeckel	3	Kaitlin Stoeckel
Section Highest Points	244	Nick Allsworth	244	Allan Jones	199	Filomena D'Alonzo	155	Andrew Stoeckel	23	Kaitlin Stoeckel

Event	Overall Winner		Year's best up to January	
56 gram Score	29	Nick Allsworth, Malcolm Harris	29	Chas Riegert, Gary Gildersleeves, Malcolm Harris, Nick Allsworth
56 gram Distance	151m	Nick Allsworth	151m	Nick Allsworth
Artificial Bait Score	28	George Holman	28	George Holman
Artificial Bait Distance	139m	Nick Allsworth, George Holman	159m	Keith Heaney
112 gram Score	33	Nick Allsworth	38	Keith Heaney
112 gram Distance	166m	George Holman	192m	Keith Heaney
Double Handed Acc.	131	Jim Strong	158	Gary Gildersleeves
Single Handed Acc.	29	Allan Jones, Filomena D'Alonzo	32	Tony D'Alonzo
Day's High Points	244	Nick Allsworth, Allan Jones	276	Gary Gildersleeves

### **Single Handed Open, January 2006**

Name	Cast 1	Cast 2	Best
George Holman	91.8 m	89.6 m	91.8 m
Scott Maloney	72.7 m	--	72.7 m
Mark Hansen	59.3 m	71.2 m	71.2 m
Malcolm Harris	70.8 m	69.9 m	70.8 m

## Your Suggestions for 2006/2007 Field Day Dates and Venues.

A tear out form for your suggestions for the 2006/2007 Field Day dates and venues was included in the December 2005 Reel Talk. Please fill it out and send to:- Secretary, SCAC, PO Box 2032 Marmion WA 6020, or hand to Terry Fuller at any Club event.

The deadline was before the January Committee Meeting, Wednesday 18 January 2006, so it is overdue.

**DO IT NOW, PLEASE !!**

## January 2006 Field Day Report

Dawesville to Myalup. Eight of our members fished the beach south of Mandurah, while four fished the metro beaches. Leading up to this weekend the weather was not what one would expect for mid summer. It was overcast and humid, the result of a rain depression that was the remnant of a recent cyclone that had made its way into the south east land division.

On the plus side, there was not much risk of sun burn and into the night the weather was balmy. Great conditions for relaxing out doors but not for fishing.

Most of the members who fished White Hills headed south to the reef between White Hills and Preston. The catch was very small indeed with only a couple of small tailor and herring caught. Vix and I fished the reef section between Tim's Thicket and White Hills, moving a few times but to no avail. By the time we called it quits for the night not one fish was in the bag.

It was going to have to be a very good session in the morning to restore some respectability. The alarm clock was set and fingers were crossed, it had to be better in the morning. The alarm didn't get a chance to do its job, that was taken up by another poor crazy soul driving passed on his way to his favorite fishing spot.

The conditions were perfect, pre-dawn light, gentle breeze, very little swell; all that was needed was some co-operative fish. For about half an hour the result was the same as the day before, but then came the tap, tap of something larger than the same sand whiting that had plagued us since the start of fishing yesterday.

At last I had something that had the promise of a size fish, a flathead of around 300 grams. I've never been so happy to see a flathead in all my life; it saved me from certain madness. If it was not so spiky and ugly I might have done the Rex Hunt thing and planted a big kiss on it. After that a couple more fish came my way and the dark thoughts of an empty bag were all but forgotten.

The guys who fished locally did ok but not much better than us. The only difference was that they had a comfortable bed to sleep in overnight, could be a message somewhere there.

Of the twelve who fished the competition, only six weighed in fish at the end of the session. Tony took out the heaviest bag through pure persistence and ended with up with four species. Peter and I each weighed in four species, Filomena weighed in three, George two and Mark one species. I took out the heaviest scale fish with a splendid example of *Pseudolabrus parilus* of just over half a kilo.

Well there are good fishing days and there are ones that require a lot of effort and still show little return but they are all better than going anywhere near that list of jobs that is posted on the fridge.

The next field day is Cervantes which usually returns a good bag of fish all-round, so is well worth the trip north. The one after that however is probably the premier field day in our calendar, Bluff Creek over the March long weekend. This is a beauty, great camping, good fishing (with the chance of connecting with your first salmon of the year) and the beautiful turquoise waters and brilliant white sands of the south east coast.

The March field day is a split field day Bluff Creek and Bremer Bay.

Hope to see you on the beach next time.

Malcolm Harris, Field Day Officer.

Nine species were caught in total, herring, tailor, skippy, flathead, wrasse, whiting (other), tarwhine, bream and snook.

### **Results for the January 2006 Field Day.**

<b>Angler</b>	<b>Weight</b>	<b>Species</b>	<b>Fish</b>	<b>Points</b>
Tony D'Alonzo	4.675 kg	4	29	136.75
Peter Osborne	2.45 kg	4	15	114.5
Malcolm Harris	1.35 kg	4	5	103.5
Filomena D'Alonzo	1.825 kg	3	13	98.25
George Holman	0.7 kg	3	6	87
Mark Hansen	0.4 kg	1	2	64
Vix Alexander	0 kg	0	0	50
Morris Kolman	0 kg	0	0	50
Josh Lucocq	0 kg	0	0	40
Gary Gildersleeves	0 kg	0	0	40
Tina Lingard	0 kg	0	0	40

### **Sportsperson of the Year Sections and Field Day prizes for January 2006.**

Best Scale Fish	Malcolm Harris	Wrasse	0.525 kg
Best Bag of Scale fish	Tony D'Alonzo	Mixed Bag	4.675 kg

### Field Day Sections up to January 2006.

1A	Best Scale Fish (1st Six Months)	Tony D'Alonzo	Mulloway	4.750 kg
1B	Best Scale Fish (2nd Six Months)	Vix Alexander	Mulloway	1.700 kg
2	Most Meritorious Fish	Decided by Committee		
3	Best Shark (4.5kg min)	Peter Osborne	Shark	5.025 kg
4	Best Mulloway (2.0kg min)	Tony D'Alonzo	Mulloway	4.750 kg
5	Best Tailor (1.0kg min)	Tony Ong	Tailor	2.005 kg
6	Best Salmon (3kg min)	John Romano	Salmon	3.850 kg
7	Best Skipjack Trevally (0.5 kg min)	Tony Ong	Trevally, Skipjack	0.825 kg
8	Best Mackerel (2kg Min)		No entry	
9	Best Scale Fish (Other than above)	Ian Cook	Yellowtail Kingfish	4.0 kg
10	Best Bag Of Scale Fish	Tony D'Alonzo	Mixed Bag	27.855 kg
11	Best Bag Of Mulloway (2 Fish Min)	Tony D'Alonzo	Mulloway	9.0 kg
12	Best Bag Of Tailor (2 Fish Min)	Tony Ong	Tailor	6.350 kg
13	Best Fish On S/H Rod 4kg b/s line (max)		No entry	
14	Best Fish Caught on Fly Rod		No entry	

### Field Day Top Ten for 2005/2006 up to January 2006.

	Angler	Total Points		Angler	Total Points
1	Tony D'Alonzo	2210.5	6	Vix Alexander	651.8
2	Peter Osborne	996.3	7	Filomena D'Alonzo	598.1
3	Malcolm Harris	974.8	8	Ian Cook	465.3
4	George Holman	834.6	9	Mark Hansen	420.7
5	Tony Ong	654.0	10	Dale Coates	325.3

### Open Competition 2005/6.

These are the details of the Open Competition Sections up to November. Entries close 30 days after capture. Cookie would like some more entries even if they are for the species competition, please.

Section	For	Minimum weight	Entry
Section 1	Most Meritorious Capture	None	To be awarded by Committee
Section 2	Best Shark	4.5 kg	No entry
Section 3	Best Mulloway	5.0 kg	10.5 kg Paul Thompson, Kalbarri
Section 4	Best Salmon	3.5 kg	5.0 kg John Jardine, Swanborne Drain
Section 5	Best Dhufish	Legal size	No entry
Section 6	Best Tailor	1.5 kg	2.25 kg Tony D'Alonzo, Jurien Bay
Section 7	Best Samson Fish	1.5 kg	No entry
Section 8	Best Fish on single handed rod maximum 4kg line class	Legal size	1.29 kg black bream, Sharon Osborne, Murray River.
Section 9	Best Pink Snapper	2.0 kg	No entry
Section 10	Best Tarwhine	0.5 kg	No entry
Section 11	Best Mackerel	4.0 kg	12.5 kg John Jardine, Quobba
Section 12	Best Skipjack Trevally (southern)	1.0 kg	1.0 kg Malcolm Harris, Sandy Point
Section 13	Best Trevally (northern)	4.0 kg	No entry
Section 14	Best Snook/Pike	0.5 kg	No entry
Section 15	Best Black Bream	0.6 kg	1.29 kg, Sharon Osborne, Murray River.
Section 16	Best Scale fish other than sections 3 - 15	2.0 kg	No entry
Section 17	Best Fish caught on Fly Rod.	Legal size	3.4kg Golden Trevally, Spencer King, Exmouth.

### Barron Lure Competition.

Heaviest Tailor on Lure. Paul Thompson, Tailor 1.43 kg, Seabird  
 Heaviest Salmon on Lure. No entry.  
 Heaviest Scale Fish on Lure. John Jardine, Spanish Mackerel, 12.5 kg, Quobba.

Spencer King has been had another successful Fly fishing trip to Exmouth. One of his captures was a 3.4kg Golden Trevally. Well done Spencer. The fly fishermen in the Club are starting to demonstrate that this type of fishing can be very productive once you have mastered the art of "fly fishing".

## **Recfishwest Report January 2006.**

Here are some of the main points from the January 2006 Recfishwest Board Meeting, and other recent activities.

Recfishwest has written to the Minister for Fisheries asking for commercial Salmon fishing from Cape Leeuwin to Tims Thicket to be suspended over Easter and April school holidays.

A Ministerial review of the Fish Resources Management Act is under way. Recfishwest has written to the Minister asking for a recreational fishing representative on the review panel.

The Western rock lobster Integrated Fisheries Management process has still had only a few submissions from the public, and it appears the recreational fishing public is very apathetic and does not realise the importance of this in setting precedents which will be used in deciding shares for other fish species. Recfishwest is preparing a follow-up submission on Western rock lobster.

CALM has, surprisingly, advised Recfishwest that it agrees completely with RFW's submission and position on the proposed Logue Brook Dam closure to recreational activities including fishing, that is CALM disagrees with the intransigent position of the Water Corporation.

The commercial Wetline Fishing review is with the Minister. The Department of Fisheries submission will be finalised shortly. It is expected to be a couple of months before the Minister's position is released for public comment.

Recfishwest has been approached to provide advice on disabled fishing platforms for the proposed Port Coogee Marina.

CALM has approached Recfishwest for discussions on the ongoing Biodiversity planning strategies.

The Minister has asked for an investigation of wilderness fishing areas or Fish Habitat Protection Areas in the Kimberleys aimed at getting protected areas with the full support of the community, which will achieve most of the Government's conservation objectives without the angst generated by the Marine Parks process used recently by CALM.

Recfishwest has a representative on the focus group reviewing the Shoalwater Marine Park, south of Rockingham. People with knowledge of the area are requested to contact Recfishwest so that they can be consulted about proposals. It goes without saying that the conservation groups could be expected to want significant percentages of this area completely closed to recreational fishing.

Recreational anglers have been dismayed to see commercial fishermen off Garden Island catching lots of large pink snapper as these leave Cockburn Sound after being protected for 2½ months while spawning. Negotiations are proceeding to implement the Labour policy to protect Cockburn Sound snapper from commercial fishing.

The Recfishwest Board is considering how to adapt the membership and the structure of the Board to changing circumstances. In particular it wants to handle the changes in the Associations which provide five members to the Recfishwest Board, other associations and organisations which are currently not directly represented on the board. Also the need for better communications with the public to counter the extreme apathy among recreational anglers which is apparent and which will have serious impact on allocation and sharing decisions.

The outcome of this is that declining Associations may find their place taken by other organisations. With the current severe lack of volunteers and lack of delegates attending meetings of the Australian Anglers Association, and the lack of any people to take over important positions such as president, secretary, treasurer, Rock, Beach and Estuary subcommittee chairman and Boating subcommittee chairman when the current people step down or burn out, this proposal has significant ramifications for AAA in the future.

AAA has a very good working relationship with Recfishwest at present, and despite the severe lack of interest, feedback and involvement of AAA clubs in the management of fishing, AAA club member's interests are, as far as they can be guessed, covered to some degree in Recfishwest's submissions and activities. Without the involvement of AAA in Recfishwest there is no guarantee that club members' interests will be considered unless there are other avenues found to get their opinions through to Recfishwest.

A meeting was held between the Recfishwest board, Executive Director of Fisheries, Peter Rogers, his deputy Peter Millington, and the Recreational Fisheries Manager, Nathan Harrison at which some of the above points were discussed in more detail.

It is understood the Department of Fisheries had planned to amend the definition of Designated Fishing Zones on the South and South West Coast to give priority to commercial salmon fishermen. Terry Fuller asked Peter Rogers how giving commercial fishermen the right to take a school of salmon from in front of a group of recreational fishermen could possibly fit the assurance on the Fisheries website that designated fishing zones were not designed to give any one group an unfair advantage over others.

Peter Rogers appears to understand the severe conflict in the Department's annual report dealing with the numbers and impact of recreational anglers, as covered elsewhere in this Reel Talk.

The proposals for the Capes Marine Park are expected to be released for public comment shortly although no definite date is available.

Peter Rogers spoke of the challenges for getting accurate data which is essential to properly share fish stocks. There is not sufficient funding to do all the work that needs to be done, and in particular recreational fishing research is underfunded. Without financial power which comes from access to sufficient money and freedom to say how that money should be spent, as for example the money raised by recreational fishing licenses and the experience of New South Wales and Victoria, research and data gathering is always restricted by the Government budget process and competing demands.

Information costs money, and the government wants to see a political benefit from spending money which is aimed at providing social benefits from shifting the catch from commercial to recreational or reducing the real or perceived conflicts between these two groups. Changes in the management of the Metro and near metro areas are a clear winner, because of the sheer numbers of people affected. Changes in management of country areas are less clearly beneficial and some need to be aligned with the tourism and economic benefits from recreational fishing in country areas.

Dhufish management is a particularly difficult subject. Most demersal finfish on the West Coast are under excess pressure. The sheer number of people who want to access this species makes management extremely difficult, but a way it must be found to manage the catch. The current creel surveys based on boat ramp checks appears to be grossly underestimating the recreational catch and that has serious implications both for management and for allocation decisions under integrated fisheries management.

In Peter's opinion, it is inevitable that the day will come when much tighter controls will need to be placed on the catch of Dhufish, for example the introduction of a tag system as used for Shark Bay pink snapper. This will give both precise control of the catch and some money for essential work, but is not likely to be popular with baot anglers.

Foreign fishing in northern waters has been an enormous drain on both the Department's and the Minister's resources in recent months and has caused friction between the Federal Fisheries Minister and the States.

There was discussion about the promised recreational fishing compliance effort compared to do the actual amount delivered. In some cases there is a considerable shortfall. A common, repeated complaint by recreational anglers is the lack of any visible Fisheries compliance presence in the face of repeated, obvious and blatant lack of compliance by some people. The integration of the Department of Planning and Infrastructure marine branch inspections and Dept of Fisheries inspections appears not to be working well, with recreational anglers complaining that marine branch inspectors are looking at safety items but are not taking any interest in fish catches or fisheries compliance.

Most of the Regional Recreational Fisheries Advisory Committees are not working very well. After five years of pushing unsuccessfully for better interaction between the RRFAC and Recfishwest, Peter Rogers advised that Nathan Harrison is now working on this and hopefully it will be finished by the middle of the year. Recfishwest is represented on two of the RRFACs, and these appear to be working better. Even the chairman of RFAC is concerned about the lack of information from some his own groups.

Marine Park planning has had any difficulties in the past. For example in the Jurien Bay Marine Park, quite a lot of decisions were put off for the future, with some of the biggest difficulties left for "negotiation". Spatial separation was not dealt with. All this needs to be much clearer for people to be able to properly comment on them in the public consultation process.

Refishwest has asked the government to deliver a single marine resources portfolio in the new State Cabinet following the resignation of the Environment Minister, Judy Edwards. Recfishwest believes that an enhanced marine resources portfolio centred around the Department of Fisheries will deliver a more transparent process and higher quality outcomes for Western Australia.

It will remove the system of confrontation and unfounded attacks by CALM and the Marine Parks and Reserves Authority, and the dogma that found it easier to ban fishing than address fundamental environmental problems and a more rational zoning strategy for Western Australia. Importantly, it will save tax payers money and simplify an extremely complex system.

In response to the increasing number of rock and boat fishing fatalities in the last few years, the Royal Life Saving Society (WA Branch) and SunSmart have joined Recfishwest in producing the SunSmart FishSmart Fishing Safety brochure which will be available from tackle shops. The Fishing Safety brochure has been developed for all recreational anglers and covers the necessary precautions to ensure safety while fishing. The Western Australian coastline or boating conditions can be extremely dangerous to the inexperienced and responsible planning and assessment of conditions is vital for the safety of all fishers.

A roundtable discussion included people from Recfishwest, Royal Life Saving Society, Department of Fisheries, Conservation and Land Management Busselton, Dept of Planning and Infrastructure Marine, Recreational Fisheries Advisory Committee, Fremantle and Whitfords Volunteer Sea Rescue, Healthway, WA Sports Federation to discuss new strategies to reduce the incidence of fishing related deaths in Western Australia.

Terry Fuller, Recfishwest Board Member.

## **Changes to the South Coast and West Coast Recreational Fishing Rules**

The remaining two regions of the State, South Coast and Pilbara/Kimberley now have new recreational fishing rules, size and bag limits introduced on 1 January 2006. There are also some changes to the West Coast and Gascoyne rules.

Get yourself a copy of the new brochures if you intend to fish in those areas, and particularly if you are going to the fish on the South Coast in the coming Field Days. Copies are available from the Dept of Fisheries or from their website.

West Coast Region <http://www.fish.wa.gov.au/docs/pub/WestLimits/index.php?0102>

South Coast Region <http://www.fish.wa.gov.au/docs/pub/SouthLimits/index.php?0101>

## **Field Day LWE March 2006 Bluff Creek**

The March Field Day is a split Field Day, Bluff Creek and Bremer Bay, since there was an even split of votes between these two very good venues for a long weekend on the South Coast.

DO NOT MISS THIS FIELD DAY!! If you don't own a 4WD then ask another member for a lift. This is a FAMILY Field Day location so bring your wife or partner, friends and children or as a last option your dog. This is one of the best locations we go to for a club field day.

It's the Saturday/Sunday/Monday 4/5/6 March 2006 Long Weekend. You have one more chance to talk to members at the February General meeting. More details and maps will be available at the February General meeting.



*Miles of beaches like this !!!!*

In past years, a barbecue has been held 12 noon Sunday to 2:00 pm Sunday. See the March Reel Talk for confirmation of times, and check at the sign on. If you don't come to the barbecue, you must stop fishing for those times.

It's a great time for socialising with your fellow club members and yet another highlight of the Bluff Creek field day when we go back to how field days used to be "in the good old days".

It has all the right ingredients for a great weekend. The camp site is protected from a lot of the wind and is near a fresh water creek, "great for muddy little urchins" or for washing off the salt. You DO NEED to take fresh water for drinking, tea making etc.

The weather can vary from drizzle to perfect to very hot, but most days there's a strong breeze and that's usually from the left along the beach.

Bluff Creek is only accessible by 4WD and is east of Albany. Once there, access to the camp site along the beach is usually reasonably easy, although getting off the beach to the camping area with a loaded trailer can need a good run up. There are kilometers of open beach for fishing. Some reef fishing spots are within easy distance of the camping area. You can expect to catch good sized trevally, tarwhine, whiting, herring, flathead, blackfish, salmon and shark.

A long rod is essential as the trevally sometimes congregate around the offshore reefs. This is where your dry casting practice comes into good use for distance and placing the bait accurately.

The beaches and water are in pristine condition so it is really a very pleasant spot to just relax and enjoy the outdoors.

This is a great family fishing venue and is a good safe swimming area prior to the sea breeze coming in. We hope most members will participate in the Sunday barbecue as it is a great social get together.

We recommend this Field Day to all new members as the fishing is easy and there will be plenty of experienced members on hand to help.

Usually a group of members go down in convoy to Bluff Creek on the Friday morning so anyone wishing to join in please raise this at the General Meeting. Most years some members stay on a few extra days. It's not that we are greedy, just that this way we should guarantee some good weather, and there have been some quality fish caught after the Field Days.

## **How to Get to Bluff Creek.**

One good map is the RAC's "Albany Region Tour Planner". We can't print a copy here because it's copyright. A few maps will be available at February meeting.

From Mount Barker, there are two main ways to get to Bluff Creek. If you get yourself a copy of the map it's obvious.

1. From Mount Barker, take the Porongorup Road to the Chester Pass road, turn right (south) go 3 kilometers, turn left on to a gravel road, go about two km and take the right fork. About 3 km on take the left fork and continue on Mindijup road until you cross a ford over the Kalgan River. That's 11 km in from the Chester Pass road.

A few km on you'll hit the bitumen at the entrance to a mine site. 5 km from the ford there's a T junction with Deep Creek Road - stay on the bitumen for another 3 km until you reach Palmdale Road. Turn right into Palmdale, go only a short distance and then turn left into Fish Track road (gravel). It's 7 km to the South Coast Highway (Albany-Jerramungup Road). From here, it's 5 km to Manypeaks, 6 km more to Cheyne Beach Road, 7 km more to Bluff Creek Road (gravel) on the right, 9 km in on Bluff Creek Road to the start of the 4WD track to the beach.

2. From Mount Barker, go towards Albany, left into Millbrook Road, 17 km to King River, left out the South Coast Highway (Albany-Jerramungup Road) to Manypeaks, and continue as above.

**Fuel.** Manypeaks has fuel but only during shop hours, and closes at 5 pm most days. If you are traveling at night, the Mount Barker service station closes at 10pm. Check for yourself before relying on this information. Mt Barker BP Roadhouse 9851 1222

If you need fuel after 10pm, you may need to go to Albany to refuel at the 24 hour station in Yorke Street. From there go out the South Coast Highway (Albany-Jerramungup Road) to Manypeaks, and continue as above.

**Track to the beach.** Is definitely 4 wheel drive only, because once you're on the track there's very few places to turn or get off the track and there are soft uphill sandy sections.

With the loads carried for a long weekend camping trip, **you must let your tyres down to beach driving pressures (20 psi or less) before starting on the track,** and use 4WD as there are some very soft uphill sections. The track gets badly chewed up by people that don't consider other people and leave their tyres at normal pressure or only let them down a little bit.

The track starts off easy across fairly flat country, but a km or so in you'll come to a place where the track splits for a hundred metres or so and comes back together before going a bit right and up a hill. This is the start of a soft uphill section which goes on and up for quite a way and you don't want to get stuck on this.

The last uphill section is beach sand and often covered by fresh sand drifts, dry and quite soft, with a steep bit at the top on a right hand curve. If you get stuck here it's a job to get moving again, and no one can get past you. It's easy with the right tyre pressures and keeping moving. After that you're into the sand dunes downhill and on to the beach.

Travel east along the beach for about 4km till you reach the west side of the creek and the camp site.

If you have time on the way back to Perth, the route through the Porongorups Ranges is a magnificent drive with great scenery. Allow a couple of extra hours to go this way. Terry Fuller

## **Field Day LWE March 2006 Bremer Bay**

The March Field Day is a split Field Day, Bluff Creek and Bremer Bay, since there was an even split of votes between these two very good venues for a long weekend on the South Coast.

There are many spots and tracks in this area, too much detail to cover here. There are plenty of maps of how to get to Bremer. Busstrax at <http://www.bustrax.com/modules.php?name=News&file=article&sid=23> has a lot of information and maps of tracks in the area. It is also copyright, so I can't print it here.

## **AAA Rock & Beach State Championships**

All the details of the event are in a booklet which has been sent to all SCAC club members who fish in our competitions. The AAA website <http://www.aaawa.iinet.net.au/RockBeachMain.html> has copies and all the details.

Where/When:	Jurien Bay, Saturday 25th/ Sunday 26th March, 2006
Headquarters:	Apex Holiday Park, Bashford St, Jurien
Boundaries:	Southern jetty at Cervantes to northern point of Desperate Bay
Registration:	11am to 12 noon, Saturday 25th March at the Apex Holiday Park.
Briefing:	By a written set of Rules of the Day, issued at the time of registration.
Lines Down:	2pm Saturday, 25th March, 2006.
Weigh in:	Sunday morning at the Apex Holiday Park commencing 10am.
Species:	Species prizes will be awarded to the heaviest Whiting, Shark, Flathead, Mulloway, Tarwhine, Tailor, Herring, Gardie. If some of these are not caught, then the reserves are:- First reserve – Mackerel, Second – Skippy, Third - Snook.
Entry fees:	Men and Ladies \$12, Juniors and Veterans \$7