

REEL TALK

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE SURFCASTING AND ANGLING CLUB OF W.A. INC.,

CLUB OFFICIALS:

VICE PRESIDENT:
Tony Richardson
32 Salcott Road
GIRRAMHEEN 6064
Phone ; 342-8447

FIELD DAY OFFICER:
Lee Clifton
301 Wanneroo Road
BALCATT 6021
Phone ; 344-1443

AUDITOR:
R. Klein
233a Salvado Road
FLOREAT PARK 6014
Phone ; 387-1673

ASSISTANT FIELD DAY OFFICER:
D. Bibby
29 Vine Street.
NORTH PERTH 6006
Phone ; 349-3222

REEL TALK EDITOR:
Tony DeBarro
39 Newgate Street
ALINJARRA 6064
Phone ; 342-4984

SOCIAL ORGANISER:
Neil Clifton
301 Wanneroo Road
BALCATT 6021
Phone ; 344-1443

PRESIDENT:
A.A.A. PROXY DELEGATE:
Publicity Officer
Peter Osborne
3 Rowan Place,
MULLALOO 6025

SECRETARY:
John Lee
4/7 Fortescue Street
EAST FREMWANTLE 6158
Phone ; 339-7729

DRYCASTING OFFICER:
Eddie Korin
1 Gumnut Close
HAIDA VALE 6056
Phone ; 454-6749

ASSISTANT DRYCASTING OFFICER:
Owen Wintle
157 Bradford Street
COOLBINIA 6050
Phone ; 444-3741

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT:
Eric Parker
9 Minilya Street
IRRALLOO 6018
Phone ; 446-8249

LIFE MEMBERS: D. BROHN, D. EDWARDS,
V. DAVIES, J. STRONG,
L. DUNN, R. KLEIN,
H. KNIGHT, G. HOLMAN,

HONORARY MEMBER: LESLEY HOLMAN.

TREASURER:
Ron Wintle
30 Seabrook Street
DIANELLA 6062
Phone ; 276-7104

RECORDER:
Eric Parker
9 Minilya Street
IRRALLOO 6018
Phone ; 446-8249

PROPERTY OFFICER:
A.A.A. DELEGATE:
George Holman
89 Clontarf Street
SORRENTO 6020
Phone ; 447-5106

LIBRARIAN:
D. Stevens
22 Heil Street
ROSSMOYNE 6155
Phone ; 457-2913

Forget-Me-Knots:

- . Casting Day FIRST Sunday of Each Month unless otherwise noted. - Starting times will be STRICTLY adhered to.
- . Monthly General Meetings are usually held on the SECOND Wednesday night of each month at 8 p.m. SHARP.
- . Field Days are held generally on the Weekend after the General Meeting.
- . Annual Dinner Dance and Presentation of Trophies is held in June. Time and Place to be determined.
- . OPEN: Club Records: Line Ratio Badges applications MUST be in to the Recording Officer within 30 DAYS of Capture.
- . Give your Committed any ideas you have. Don't sit on them.
- . ALL Library Books MUST be returned at following Monthly Meeting unless permission is given to hold books longer.
- . Should any Member for any reason need to resign from the Club please send a letter of resignation to the Secretary.

NEXT GENERAL MEETING:

WHERE : DIANELLA COMMUNITY HALL, Light Street Dianella.
WHEN : Wednesday, 14th September, 1983.

INSTRUCTION PERIOD:

Ron Noble will talk on Refrigeration.

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING:

WHERE : DIANELLA COMMUNITY HALL, Light Street Dianella.
WHEN : Wednesday, 21st September, 1983.

NEXT DRYCASTING DAY:

WHERE : Yokine Reserve.
WHEN : 4th September, 1983.
EVENTS: 112 Grams L/L Distance.
56 Grams L/L Distance.
D/H Accuracy.
S/H Accuracy.

NEXT FIELD DAY.

WHERE : Jurien Bay.
WHEN : 17th & 18th September, 1983.
LIMITS: 1st Point South of Jurien to North Greenhead's.
SIGN-ON: 1pm. at Tank on right hand side of road approx 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ km Before Jurien.
- Saturday
WEIGH-IN: 11am. at tank. (Sunday)
REMEMBER: FLAGS MUST BE ON VEHICLES AT ALL TIMES.

OCTOBER FIELD DAY:

WHEN : 1st, 2nd & 3rd October, 1983 (L.W.E)
WHERE: Flinders Bay.
LIMITS: East Blackpoint - West Augusta.
SIGN-ON: 1pm Saturday 1st October,
WEIGH-IN: 11am Monday 3rd October.

MAPS WILL BE READY AT OCTOBER MEETING & SAFETY DISCS WILL BE USED.

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN.

Great to hear the news on how all the various members of the Surfcasters did at the National Titles in Ballina. Special thanks must go to the spouses for giving their support to their partner during their absence. I'm sure all of you know by now, (refer the General Meeting of the 10th August) the various details of who won what but to all of the club members who went away a special thanks. Your efforts reflect well on the club. Surfcasters can hold their heads high in the company of any of the fishing fraternity.

The weekend fishing at Rotto, was somewhat spoilt by typical winter weather, but still very enjoyable. The revote on fishing venues came up with Rottnest for November, something new for this club at this time of the year. We don't have good knowledge on what fishing will be like, but the weather should be beautiful. Hopefully tailor will have made an appearance.

How about that cast of Steve Sutton's on our August drycast, a potential state record for him. Artificial bait distance for a newcomer in the game is a mighty effort. Just goes to show that some of the new blood in the club can come up with some outstanding results and be counted up there with the top guns or old hands in the club. Looking at the competition side of the club, please note that we use the "Top Ten" of our field days for establishing priorities on who makes the Surfcasters teams for any AAA events. If you are interested in getting involved with the teams that's what you have to work at, to achieve the selection.

As mentioned at the General Meeting the Kalbarri house working bee will be weeked of October 22, 1983. For those that indicated an interest please note this on your diary. We should be able to throw a rod on the vehicles to give it a try on the Saturday evening.

The voting of the rethink of the fieldday venues for the rest of the year was conducted in good spirit and efficiently despite some earlier controversy on some of the selections. One venue namely the selection of Grenough (S Bend) was again very closely contested. The vote went 15 to 14 again showing that the club is about 50/50 between Grenough and Wagoe. The family wanting the former and the single fisherman wanting the latter. Hence the committee reviewed the situation and with this strong feeling in the club decided to open the field day up to have the boundaries extended, ie. a weigh-in at Wagoe and a weigh-in at S Bend. Full details prior to the actual date. This was one of the most controversial venues selected and the committee trusts that by opening the boudry out this now satisfies the different style or type of fishing for the individual or the family.

PETER OSBORNE.

SEPTEMBER 1983

REEL TALK

DRYCASTING 7th August, 1983.

Well Drycasting is over for another month. Some casters disappointed but others jubilant.

Owen Wintle, our new Drycasting assistant was very helpful and very busy on his first day on the job. Thanks Owen and don't worry you'll soon get the hang of it.

The wind was not around first up in the morning giving everybody great expectations for their accuracy. Half way through the morning as the seniors were lining up for their level line casting a strong westerly cropped up giving the casters a bit of an advantage. Steve Sutton on his second cast of the year and first at artificial bait cast a magnificent 146 metres, which now stands as a new club record and possibly a state record. Congratulations Steve, (although we all know it was wind assisted).

Senior winner of the day was H.H. Hew with 139 points and we had two handicap winners for the day namely Leigh Clifton and David Korin with 151 Points.

Junior and Mini-Junior winner was David Korin with 106 points. David managed 50 points in double hand accuracy which is a great effort for a mini-junior (must have a excellent teacher).

Single Hand accuracy was won by Rick Parker with 26 points.

Double Hand accuracy highest points went to Peter Osborne with 58 points.

Longest Cast for 112 Grams was 178 metres by H.H. Hew, only .7 of a metre under the state record. Have to go to Laurie Potters more often Hewie.

Hope to see more members down there next month.

EDDIE KORIN, D.C.O.

4th September, 1983 : 112 Grams, 56 Grams, S/H, D/H

9th October, 1983 : 112 Grams, Art. Bait, S/H, D/H

<u>D/H ACC.</u>					<u>S/H ACC.</u>							<u>INC ATT</u>		
<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>PTY</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>PTY</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>IOPTS</u>	<u>H/CLP</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	
1	13	11	18	43	1	9	4	9	23	129	139	M11	139	
-	12	14	15	41	3	4	8	10	25	124	134	M11	134	
10	18	14	16	38	4	5	-	8	17	123	133	10	143	
-	5	15	13	33	-	9	9	8	26	115	125	5	130	
12	19	13	9	53	-	5	6	-	11	104	114	15	129	
9	15	12	9	45	4	3	-	9	16	98	108	25	133	
1	7	15	-	23	1	8	-	5	14	97	107	20	127	
12	14	9	15	50	5	3	5	9	22	96	106	45	151	
-	1	13	13	27	-	7	7	-	14	91	101	50	151	
-	14	8	14	36	-	-	-	3	3	85	95	10	105	
-	16	11	-	27	4	3	1	7	15	82	92	10	102	
8	7	2	-	17	-	3	3	8	14	70	80	15	85	
-	2	2	16	20	-	1	-	6	7	69	79	10	89	
-	9	-	-	9	10	6	1	5	23	67	77	40	117	
-	-	14	1	15	-	5	-	5	10	67	77	30	107	
2	-	-	-	2	2	9	-	3	14	64	74	40	114	
-	6	-	14	20	-	7	-	2	9	59	69	50	119	
-	-	14	1	15	-	6	2	8	16	53	63	55	118	
-	9	-	14	23	5	-	-	-	5	53	63	55	118	
1	-	-	4	5	3	-	-	7	10	43	58	50	108	
-	3	-	2	5	-	3	7	-	10	45	55	70	125	
-	-	-	5	5	-	4	-	6	10	44	54	45	99	
-	-	-	-	0	8	-	6	-	14	41	51	70	121	
-	-	-	4	4	8	-	7	5	20	38	48	70	118	

DRYCASTING RESULTS 7th AUGUST, 1983.ATTENDANCE : 14 Seniors, 9 Juniors, 1 VisitorLevel Line Distance.

1. H.H. Hew	35 Pts
2. B. Leicester } G. Holman }	33 Pts
3. S. Sutton	32 Pts

Level Line Distance Art. Bait.

1. H.H. Hew	} 28 Pts
2. S. Sutton	
2. R. Parker	26 Pts
3. G. Holman	25 Pts

Double Hand Accuracy.

1. P. Osborne	58 Pts
2. P. D'Alonzo	53 Pts
3. D. Korin	50 Pts

Single Hand Accuracy.

1. R. Parker	26 Pts
2. G. Holman	25 Pts
3. H. Holman } H.H. Hew }	23 Pts

LONGEST CAST 112 GRAMS : 178 Metres H.H. HewLONGEST CAST ARTIFICAL BAIT : 146 Metres S. Sutton

<u>SENIOR WINNER</u>	:	H.H. HEW	139 Points
<u>HANDICAP WINNER</u>	:	L. CLIFTON	} 151 Points
<u>HANDICAP WINNER</u>	:	D. KORIN	
<u>JUNIOR WINNER</u>	:	D. KORIN	106 Points
<u>MINI-JUNIOR WINNER</u>	:	D. KORIN	106 Points

SENIOR TOP TEN

H.H. HEW	521 Pts
G. HOLMAN	507 Pts
R. PARKER	472 Pts
P. OSBORNE	464 Pts
S. WHITING	422 Pts
E. KORIN	405 Pts
B. LEICESTER	305 Pts
R. FRANCIS	287 Pts
T. D'ALONZO	258 Pts
S. SUTTON	224 Pts

LADIES

P. D'ALONZO	401 Pts
S. OSBORNE	366 Pts
R. KORIN	207 Pts

JUNIORS

H. OSBORNE	399 Pts
P. AGGLETT	254 Pts
M. KORIN	252 Pts
B. WINTLE	97 Pts

HANDICAP CHANGES

S. Sutton	20	-	10
D. Korin	45	-	35
S. Osborne	15	-	20
G. Wintle	70	-	65
E. Korin	10	-	15
R. Parker	5	-	10
P. D'Alonzo	15	-	10
R. Francis	25	-	15
H. Osborne	10	-	15
P. Mollett	30	-	25

MINI-JUNIORS

D. KORIN	306 Pts
H. HOLMAN	289 Pts
K. OSBORNE	229 Pts
C. OSBORNE	193 Pts
J. OSBORNE	168 Pts
D. HOLMAN	116 Pts

A.A.A. OF W.A. REPORT.

The August Meeting (Annual General Meeting) of the above association was held in the Morley Community Hall for the last time with an attendance of 22 Delegates present. Representy the Surfcasters were George Holman and Eric Parker.

The meeting was informed that the new trailer for Drycasting gear was nearly ready.

Geograph Bay Angling Club sought permission to hold an angling tournament on the October long-weekend. This was granted subject to the same being altered because it clashed with Lalpole's Easter Tournament.

A brief outline of the Cape Range National Park study (Coral Bay Area) was put by Lindsay Harbord and this in essence mean that this area is going to be closed to beach and shore anglers and the public generally. A gunnery range and sanctuary is part of the use envisaged and greater details will be available on this in a report which is soon to be published. The area is apparently 90 Kilometres Long.

Club subscriptions are now due and payable and any club outstanding at the end of August will be unfinancial and unable to vote.

State drycasting officer George Holman reminded clubs that the State Open and Teams Drycasting Championships will be held at Yokine Reserve on Saturday and Sunday, 24th & 25th September, 1983, commencing at 1 pm on Saturday. Please post or phone club teams through to George Holman on 447-5106 no later than the Thursday prior to the casting. Fees \$3 seniors and \$1 Juniors.

George Holman also tabled a detailed report on the drycasting results at the recent Ballina convention and expressed his thanks and congratulation to all casters who represented our State. W.A. won the Mens Teams, Ladies Teams and were runner-up in the Veterans. In the Open Sections Gary Gildersleeve was runner-up, Rose Harper won the Ladies, and Dudley Lovegrove won the Venerans. A very satisfactory result.

Ted Hayman gave a brief report as State Captain for the W.A. Team at Ballina and said he would present a detailed report at the September meeting. He mentioned that New Zealand is applying to join the Australian Anglers Association.

John Butler gave his report as President and emphasised that the clubs must put forward delegates who are prepared to lead and work, or the Association will be in for hard times. He touched on all the functions and work done over this period with special emphasis to Lindsay Harbord our Secretary. A vote of thanks was expressed to John by all delegates present for a job well done.

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A.A.A. OF L.A. REPORT Cont.....

The election of officers was then conducted with the following positions being filled :

PRESIDENT	:	Ted Hayman
VICE-PRESIDENT	:	Eric Parker
SECRETARY	:	No Nomination
TREASURER	:	John Vines
ASSISTANT SECRETARY	:	John Gianatsis
RECORDER	:	George Kulek
PUBLICITY	:	Jack Shaw
PROPERTY	:	Hayden King
SPORTS FEDERATION	:	Paul Foster
CASTING	:	George Holman
TRUSTEE	:	John Butler
TRUSTEE	:	Laurie Birchall

Some discussion then prevailed regarding a proposed State levy of some \$3 on boat licences to facilitate financing of rescues at sea as apparently the government is not making any money available for this in future. The Association is awaiting further information before taking action.

GEORGE HOLMAN

AUGUST FIELD DAY 13th & 14th August - ROTTOEST

Firstly, my apologies for leaving Mike Korin Jnr off the list of members at the July field day, sorry, Mike.

The Rotto Field Day was reasonably well attended, with 16 seniors, 1 lady, 4 juniors and 3 visitors, 24 in all. The 3 visitors were friends of Joe Carullis. As Lee had to stay in Perth and did the honours in his stead. Unfortunately the weather was looking doubtful and the trip over was fairly rough - there were to be several sick people amongst the many passengers on board. Even so I was looking forward to tangling with the 1.8kg skippy reported in the "West".

The loading and transport went smoothly and after dropping Basil and Alan at Mary Cove, the rest of us as we approached West End, looked anxiously at the water. There was only .1m between the low of .7m and the high of .8m. The reefs were to prove pretty hard to fish, as Graham was to find out when he tried to gain Cathedral and lost the bottom.

After claiming beds and camping spots we all scattered to our chosen spots. Wilsons, Jadar, The Tennis Courts, Fish Hood, Cathedral and towards Mabel Cove all got a try. I plugged away at Cathedral for a reasonable Skippy and sundries. It was a fairly hard battle at Cathedral with the water being pretty high but several hardy souls took it on. Peter Osborne lost a salmon on almost his first cast, and Steve was next morning to lose a nice Skippy.

Philomena wisely and patiently stayed at it on the rocks and won the Field Day. Eddie and Peter Booth got fair bags, Peter taking off Basil's Field Day Trophy of a reel bag with a Tailor, thanks to Basil. Tony D'Alonzo won the incentive fish with a good Skippy of 1.250kg and Eddie caught the Heaviest Scale fish, a buff at 1.950kg.

The total catch of 46.775kg including 15.775 of reef fish reflects on the generally low bag weights and quality of fish available. The Juniors are to be congratulated on their good showing, Heather won Heaviest Junior bag and gained an entry to the single-hand rod section, and the Little cousins did well on the Herring.

And so the Rotto Field Day Ended with a placid trip home and memories of conviviality in the West End hut, the low catch notwithstanding. A final note can be made of Joe's 3 visitors not being aware of the nature of the fishing and gear required and what we as a club can do to help out in such constances in the future.

ROTFNEST August Field Day.

HEAVIEST SCALE FISH : E. KORIN 1.950kg Buff Bream.
HEAVIEST BAG SCALE FISH: P. D'ALONZO 8.000kg.
HEAVIEST JUNIOR BAG SCALE FISH: H. OSBORNE 3.775kg.
INCENTIVE FISH (SKIPPY) : T. D'ALONZO 20 Pts.

P. D'Alonzo (L) 8.000kg
 T. D'Alonzo 6.375kg
 E. Korin 5.150kg
 P. Booth 4.075kg
 H. Osborne (J) 3.775kg
 P. Wintle (J) 3.075kg
 G. Reilly 2.500kg
 B. Wintle (J) 2.500kg
 O. Wintle 2.050kg
 R. DeBarro 1.950kg
 T. DeBarro 1.900kg
 T. Richardson 1.700kg
 S. Sutton 1.525kg
 R. Wintle 1.150kg
 D. Bibby 1.025kg
 B. Marsh 1.000kg
 A. Stephenson .525kg
 W. Korin (J) .400kg

Also in attendance : J. Curulli
 P. Osborne
 E. Parker
 S. Fletcher (V)
 F. Piccolo (V)
 V. Seravalo (V)

FISH CAUGHT : 224 x Herring26.100kg
 9 x Skippy 4.825kg
 1 x Tailor 0.850kg
 3 x Flat Head 0.725kg
 1 x S. Bream 0.500kg
 28 x Reef Fish15.775kg

Total 48.775kg

CLUB SUCCESS RATE : 75 %

AVERAGE CATCH : 2.032 Kg

SPORTSMAN OF THE YEAR POINTS:

HEAVIEST SCALE FISH : E. KORIN, BUFF BREEM 1.950 kg
HEAVIEST BAG SCALE FISH : P. D'ALONZO 8.000kg

SENIOR TOP TEN

T. D'Alonzo	320.9 Pts
L. Clifton	112.2 Pts
E. Korin	109.2 Pts
A. Peebles	96.6 Pts
T. Richardson	95.2 Pts
P. Osborne	73.6 Pts
S. Sutton	46.1 Pts
J. Lee	33.4 Pts
C. Wintle	29.5 Pts
P. Booth	26.3 Pts

TOP LADIES

F. D'Alonzo	172.8 Pts
H. Clifton	98.0 Pts
J. Radford	25.0 Pts

TOP JUNIORS

H. Osborne	45.5 Pts
M. Korin	31.6 Pts
B. Wintle	31.3 Pts

TOP MINI-JUNIORS

D. Korin	42.6 Pts
H. Holman	11.2 Pts
D. Holman	10.6 Pts

NEXT FIELD DAY SEPTEMBER 17TH & 18TH - JURIEB BAY.

Sign-on : 1pm. at tank on right hand side of road. Approx 1.5 km Before Jurien.

Limits : 1st Point south of Jurien to North Greenhead's.

Weigh-In : 11 am at tank.

REMEMBER : FLAGS MUST BE ON VEHICLES AT ALL TIMES.

OCTOBER FIELD DAY L.W.E. 1ST, 2ND & 3RD - FLINDERS BAY.

Sign-on : 1st Oct. (Saturday) 1pm.

Limited : East Blackpoint to West Augusta.

Weigh-In : 3rd Oct. (Monday) 11 am.

Maps's will be ready at October Meeting and safety Discs will be used.

REMAINING FIELD DAYS FOR 83 /84 SEASON.

SEPTEMBER	-	JURIEB	OCTOBER	-	FLINDERS BAY
NOVEMBER	-	ROTTNEST	DECEMBER	-	OPEN
JANUARY	-	GREENOUGH / WAGOE	FEBRUARY	-	WHITE HILLS
MARCH	-	WAGOE / KALBARRI	APRIL	-	ROTTNEST

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REEL TALK

14

- SECTION 2: Heaviest Scale Fish (1st Six Months) - 7.55kg Mulloway
T. D'Alonzo
- SECTION 3: Most Meritorius Fish
- SECTION 4: Heaviest Shark Min. Height (4.5kg)
- SECTION 5: Heaviest Mulloway - 7.55kg T. D'Alonzo
- SECTION 6: Heaviest Tailor Min. Height (1kg)
- SECTION 7: Heaviest Salmon Min. Height (3kg) - 3.15kg T. D'Alonzo
- SECTION 8: Heaviest Trevally (Skippy) Min. Height (1kg) - 1.250 kg T. D'Alonzo
Robtreat
- SECTION 9: Heaviest Mackerel
- SECTION 10: Heaviest Bag of Scale Fish caught on a field day - 25.5kg
T. D'Alonzo - Margaret River
- SECTION 11: Heaviest Bag Mulloway - 13.90kg T. D'Alonzo
- SECTION 12: Heaviest Bag of Tailor
- SECTION 13: Heaviest Scale Fish caught on S/H Rod - .900 kg Buff Bream H Osborne
- SECTION 14: Heaviest Scale Fish other than 4 - 13 - 2.05kg Buff Bream -
P. Osborne - Trigg

OPEN DIVISION 1983 /1984:

- SECTION 1: Most Meritorious Fish
- SECTION 2: Heaviest Shark - 9.15kg Lee Clifton - Flinders Bay
- SECTION 3: Heaviest Mulloway
- SECTION 4: Heaviest Salmon - S. Whiting 3.2kg Trigg
- SECTION 5: Heaviest Jewfish
- SECTION 6: Heaviest Tailor - 4.5kg Ron Wintle - Steep Point
- SECTION 7: Heaviest Samson Fish
- SECTION 8: Heaviest Scale Fish caught on S/H Rod (B/S Line)
- SECTION 9: Heaviest Snapper (Pink)
- SECTION 10: Heaviest Tarrhine (Silver Bream) - S. Whiting .68kg Trigg
- SECTION 11: Heaviest Mackerel
- SECTION 12: Heaviest Trevally (Southern) Min. Height (1kg)
- SECTION 13: Heaviest Trevally (Northern) Min. Height (5kg)
- SECTION 14: Heaviest Snook - Pike Min. Height (1kg)
- SECTION 15: Heaviest Fish other than those listed in Section 2-14 Inc.

KING GEORGE AND GARDEN ISLAND.

Anyone that knows me would know that I love catching Whiting and in particular *Sillaginodes punctatus* or more familiarly King George Whiting. My fascination with them started back when fishing clubs were still allowed unrestricted access to Garden Island.

It was the General Meeting of May 1973 and I'd been in the club only for a couple of months; as usual at the end of his report the P.D.O. asked if anyone needed a lift.

Well at the time I had only one car and the wife was going to be using it that weekend so, I put my hand up. As he lived nearby, Don Biddy volunteered to pick me up.

Saturday morning at Palm Beach saw the weather turning nasty and quite a few of the members thought that the field day should be postponed to the following weekend. Anyway the ferry arrived and since we were all there we thought we may as well give it a bash. Once on the island everyone stowed their gear, claimed a bed and had a bite to eat setting out for their favourite fishing possies.

I must explain that in those days there were several chalets which could accommodate from 2 - 6 people, however the best place was the big hut which could sleep perhaps 20 - 30 people. As you could imagine, being as we were in those day an all male club, there were some raucous good times had with everyone gathered under on roof after an arduous days fishing, more about that later.

Having never been to Garden Island before and having developed a good rapport with Don, I decided to rely on his good judgement as to a likely fishing spot. As I recall, quite a few anglers went to the Guns (an area close by some old gun emplacements) however, considering that Don had a heavy cold and that by then a howling Nor-Wester was blowing, we opted for the protected rocks and bays at the Southern end of the island.

After searching around for awhile we settled on a rocky spot on the lee side of a small bay. Behind us was a shrubby, rocky low promontory which jutted out far enough to form a protective overhang - a perfect spot in which to shelter from the squally wind and rain.

We fished until about half an hour before dusk for little reward, a couple of Skippy and Herring and a lot of seaweed. At Don's suggestion we looked for and found a beach barely 5 metres wide on the other side of the promontory which faced directly towards Pt. Feron, it appeared to be better night fishing proposition as a few metres to the right of us was a craggy ridge which would give us some protection from the icy wind. Atop the ridge was a beacon and a short survey pillar on which were inscribed the words South West Point.

Cont.....

KING GEORGE AND GARDEN ISLAND Cont.....

With the arrival of nightfall the wind began to shift around to the South West causing Don to retire (with a flask of Stone's - Green Ginger Wine) to the comfort of the cliffy overhand we had left earlier. By 8 p.m. the wind was blowing straight into my face making casting with my one and only rod (a sloppy 5'38) very difficult. Anyway I kept on belting into the wind with all my might and getting out perhaps 20 metres and losing mulies one after the other to what felt like Herring bites. By now I'd just about had enough and had thrown out for what was my last cast. The bait had barely hit the water when a vicious tug made me suck in a sharp breath. I struck with such severity that I fell backwards on the sand, it amazes me to this day that I wasn't hit in the face with a flying fishy projectile. After a brief battle I beached a very angry something still struggling mightily - I say "something" because without a light and given that it was pitch black night and that my glasses were completely fogged with salt spray, I hadn't a clue what I'd had landed.

Dropping to my knees I peered closely trying to discern some identifiable feature, it was about 2 feet long, silverish and when I tried to pick it up, it writhed so uncontrollably that I couldn't get a grip on it (a feature I have since come to recognise as typical of the species). All of a sudden a picture from an old fishing book flashed into my mind - holy cow I thought, its a giant King George Whiting. With great excitement I grabbed my gear and dashed back to show Don. With Don's light shining on it we could see it was a King George alright - every bit of 3 Pounds.

Back at the camp a highly delighted J. Lee displayed his catch to an envious audience. To my horror and but for the timely intervention of the then club president Tom Concoran, a state record nearly ended up in the frying pan there and then.

Unbeknown to me, most members came back to camp early and proceeded to get stuck into whatever food and drink they could lay their hands on. When all food had been devoured out came the bait - fresh at first - prawns, white-bait and mulies to be cocked and eaten as if it were the last rations available on earth. Then came the stale stuff (strictly in the barley category) no wonder there were some pretty seedy complexions on the ferry back.

So, the scenario was set, all the tucker was exhausted when low and behold in walked the saviour with a prospective mouth watering gourmet's delight.

Anyway the fish was saved and I went back to the same spot next morning and caught 4 more- all between 1 and 2½ pounds. The big Whiting weighed 3 pounds 6 ounces (in the old parlance) and was declared a state record which I held until quite recently when a 4 pounder was caught. I went back to the same spot the year after in May on my own and caught 11 more all around the 1 - 2 pound mark.

Cont.....

KING GEORGE AND GARDEN ISLAND Cont.....

Since then I've become friends with a chap who, in my opinion, knows more about K.G.W. 's than anyone else in W.A. (with the exception of Rolly McKay). Consequently, I can now confidently identify likely habitats and, with my recent acquisition of a boat who knows, I might once again catch a state record Whiting.

As for Garden Island, well you're still allowed on it but with several restrictions, no one is allowed access to the island via the causeway without possession of a security pass which means you have to know someone, access is allowed by boat but only during daylight, no one is permitted near the Naval Base where once there was a beautiful picnic and camping site.

I've often thought that the re-opening of Garden Island to fishing club on an unrestricted basis is something to which the A.A.A. should devote some of its time and effort. However, thats another story.

JOHN LEE.