

CLUB OFFICIALS

PRESIDENT

DERRY BARBER
17 Tandy Court
Duncraig 6023
Ph 443 1999 Bus.

PAST PRESIDENT

JOHN REELEY
24 Paperbark Way
Morley 6062
Ph 377 4834

AAA DELEGATE

PETER OSBORNE
3 Rowan Place
Mullaloo 6025
Ph 401 9035

VICE-PRESIDENT

MARK PHILPOT
13 Charnwood St.
Morley 6062
Ph 275 4718

RECORDER

DAVE MAXTED
93 Clontarf St.
Sorrento 6020
Ph 448 1732

AAA DELEGATE

MARK PHILPOT
13 Charnwood St.
Morley 6062
Ph 275 4718

REEL TALK EDITOR

GEORGE HOLMAN
89 Clontarf St.
Sorrento 6020
Ph 447 5106
Fax 246 2724

TREASURER & PROPERTY OFFICER

ERIC PARKER
9 Minilya St.
Innaloo 6018
Ph 446 8249

SECRETARY

ROM NICIEJEWSKI
1 Railton Place
Dianella 6062
Ph 276 6356 (H)
444 7311 (W)
Fax 242 2274

FIELD DAY OFFICER

IAN COOK
12 Groyder Way
Padbury 6025
Ph 401 9461

DRYCASTING OFFICER

MARK PHILPOT
13 Charnwood St.
Morley 6062
Ph 275 4718

COMMITTEE PERSON

BOB HARDIE
48 Grosvenor Rd.
Bayswater 6053
Ph 272 2562

ASSISTANT F.D.O.

DARRYL HALTON
43 Camden St.
Dianella 6062
Ph 275 6298
Bus 279 5999

ASSISTANT D.C.O.

RON THOMPSON
Lot 6 Oakover Rd.
Herne Hill 6056
Ph 296 1179

TAX CONSULTANT

G RUSSELL
Ste 214, Westpoint
396 Scrbrgh Bch Rd
Osborne Park 6017
Ph 242 3344

LIFE MEMBERS

D. Brown; J. Strong; B. Klein; *N. Knight; D. Edwards; V. Davis; G. Holman; L. Dunn; E. Parker.

CLUB ETIQUETTE

MEETINGS

The monthly GENERAL MEETING is usually held on the second Wednesday of each month at 8pm. All members should endeavour to attend the meeting so as to keep up with club matters.

DRYCASTING

Casting is usually conducted on the first Sunday of each month. Instruction is given to all new members and a competition is conducted to improve and maintain the standard of our members casting.

FIELD DAYS

These normally follow each general meeting on the ensuing weekend. It is compulsory for anglers to attend both the sign-on and the weigh-in. Anglers who cannot attend the sign-on for work or other unavoidable reasons may make prior arrangements for a late sign-on. However, only under very exceptional circumstances will failure to attend weigh-ins not be penalised with the loss of points acquired during that field day.

It is the Field Day Officer's duty to inform the committee of any anglers who fail to attend the weigh-in. It is the committee's duty to decide what action is to be taken.

Disputes may be taken to the committee.

Entries for Game Fish Badge, Club Records and Open Fishing Competitions must be lodged with the Recorder within 30 days of capture.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Please notify the Treasurer and Reel Talk Editor of any change of address or phone number.

GENERAL ETIQUETTE

If you intend to resign from the club a letter of resignation should be forwarded to the Secretary.

Please assist the Treasurer by paying your subscription with-in 28 days of the Annual General Meeting.

Arrears of 3 consecutive months may cause forfeiture of membership.

CLUB ACTIVITIESJANUARY GENERAL MEETING

- WHERE - St KIERANS CATHOLIC CHURCH, Cnr Cape Street and
Tyler Street, TUART HILL
- WHEN - WEDNESDAY, 13th December, " 8.00 pm".
- INSTRUCTION - An instruction period has been arranged and may
be followed by a video.

JANUARY DRYCASTING DAY

- WHERE - YOKINE RESERVE
- WHEN - SUNDAY 3rd January 1993, 8.30 am
- EVENTS - 112 gram Level Line D/H Accuracy
56 gram Level Line S/H Accuracy

JANUARY FIELD DAY:

There will be no field day in January, as we
are running the Mandurah 500. Points will be
awarded for those who help with the Mandurah 500
as it is classified as a "Field Event".

KALBARRI HOUSEBOOKING RATES

	<u>Members</u>	<u>Non-Members</u>
School Holidays	\$250 p/w	\$250 p/w
Off Season	\$ 80 p/w	\$120 p/w

From 1st November 1992
Ring Eric Parker for bookings.

** SPECIAL NOTICE **

Members who are available and willing to go down to Mandurah on
Saturday afternoon, 2nd January, to promote Mandurah 500 and help
distribute posters, are asked to contact Mark Philpot on 275 4718
so vehicles and passengers can be arranged.

CANSCANSCANS

MEMBERS....Don't forget to save all your empty
aluminium cans and bring them along to the club
meetings and give them to MALCOLM HEAD. Mal
knows what to do with them and through his
efforts you (the members) receive the benefits
come the annual dinner and dance.

SUPPORT MAL AND SUPPORT YOUR CLUB
(Thanks Malcolm Head)

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The Xmas General meeting of December '92 saw the close of a satisfying and productive period with all now in line to concentrate on the aims of '93 being recruiting supported by the 'Buddy' system and the promotion of the reasons why we joined the club being fishing, drycasting, friendship and fun.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Committee for its achievements over the last 6 months and in particular Mark Philpot who pulled on the roles of Drycasting Officer, Vice President, AAA Delegate (2) and played a major role in forging new ground for the Mandurah 500 involving Appealathon, The Mandurah Festival, Channel 7, radio and a new magnificent forum for a base at the Peninsula Hotel, Mandurah.

He will of course be quite unbearable being invited to speak on radio and now a TV star with Channel 7 for a beach scene to be filmed shortly - "Good luck Vivianne", tone him down prior to the resumption of our activities in the new year. Thanks Mark for your enthusiasm, new ideas and hard work, you have put in on behalf of the club.

1993 will be an exciting year with the State Championship coinciding with our Field Day during Easter at Esperance, the home of the giant Skippy plus the opportunity to fish again with our long standing member and resident expert Tony Richardson and some of the best water and fishing in the state. Plus some new venues both social and competitive to be announced next year.

Our trophy night will be at the venue to which has proved in the past to be the Surfcasters favourite spot at Wembley Lodge with a recent change made by the committee electing to take the bigger hall which will comfortably take 100 to 120 people with a large dance area. Please give consideration to attending and inviting a friend, we are aiming to make this windup like the ones of old - start thinking now and be prepared for our Treasurer, the big Parker who will be rattling his tin from the January meeting collecting deposits and further part payments over the ensuing months. Further details will be published in the new year.

HOUSEKEEPING NOTES:Kalbarri Cottage

Kalbarri cottage will comfortably sleep 6 and with the recent refurbishment is a premier spot for a vacation. Please consider notifying a friend of the facility or possibly yourself bearing in mind the attractive club discount. Standard rates are \$250 per week on season and \$120 off season. 'Talk to Rick'

ByLaws:

Will be tabled Jan or Feb '93 please read and write down your suggestions in the interim.

On behalf of the Club we wish Trevor Stam all the best and trust that his new leg operation will put him firmly back on his feet and give some curry to the Drycasting boys as soon as possible. Best wishes for the festive season and a great '93.

See you next year for a fun year.

Derry Barber. President

ps. Moon phases for Jan. '93 -	1	1st quarter	11.39
	8	Full moon	20.38
	15	Last quarter	12.02
	23	New moon	02.28
	31	First quarter	07.20

DECEMBER DRYCASTING

The day started off in a turmoil as the whole ground was inundated by junior baseball players and the club was not informed of this. After some debate we were informed that the model glider club would not be using their area so we set up on their usual area, only to be confronted by their members later on. They said we may as well use the area as there was no point us having a disagreement as the fault was with the Shire double booking and not informing anyone. Extremely hot conditions were encountered with a following Easterly breeze.

Some bulls-eyes were scored on the day - noted Mal Head hopping around and waving his rod in the air as if he hit something...and that dark horse Strong...he managed to jag one too!!

Good to see Ray Thorpe and Garry Gildersleeve present as visitors and they are always welcome. Garry cast particularly well.

Dirk Fitzsimmons (Junior) is casting particularly well and is setting the pace...watch out Seniors.

Eric Parker and Jim Strong tied for top spot and there was some good casting on the day. Longest cast of the day was 173 metres in the 112 gram by George Holman. He also cast 130 metres in the artificial bait.

See you all at the January cast on the 3rd to kick off 1993 with a good roll up.

Regards, Mark Philpot

DRYCASTING TOP TEN

1	J Strong	1566 Pts
2	J Reeley	1473
3	G Holman	1421
4	M Head	1296
5	M Philpot	1063
6	E Parker	962
7	T Stam	890
8	G Reeley	773
9	R Thompson	652
10	A Hardie	412

Junior

D Fitzsimmons	1480 Pts
B Reeley	1116
N Reeley	90

Mini-Junior

S Reeley	188 Pts
----------	---------

DATE: 6/12/92	112 GRAM			ART BAIT			D/H	S/H	DAY
NAME	1	2	TOTAL	1	2	TOTAL	ACC	ACC	TOTAL
E Parker	145	135	28	117	87	20	91	12	151
G Holman	162	173	33	130	-	13	87	18	151
J Strong	97	107	20	90	95	18	104	9	151
M Philpot	109	122	23	103	115	22	73	13	131
J Reeley	115	127	24	116	111	23	61	15	123
M Head	108	102	21	95	95	19	71	6	117
A Harding	-	-	-	89	-	9	34	7	50
<u>Visitors</u>									
G Gildersleeve	140	-	14	125	114	24	141	17	196
R Thorpe	123	123	25	107	99	21	44	26	116
<u>Junior</u>									
D Fitzsimmons	95	115p	20	98	93	19	97	19	155

112 Gram Winner:	E. Parker	28 Pts
Artificial Bait Winner:	J. Reeley	23 Pts
56 Gram Winner:		
D/H Accuracy Winner:	J. Strong	104 Pts
S/H Accuracy Winner:	J. Reeley	15 Pts
112 Gram Open Winner:		
S/H Open Distance Winner:		
Winner of the Day:	J Strong/E Parker	151 Pts
Junior Winner:	D. Fitzsimmons	155 Pts
Mini Junior Winner:		

WHITE HILLS FIELD DAY REPORT

12TH - 13TH DECEMBER

Weather:- Fine with South West winds strengthening late in the day and swinging to the South. The water was rather choppy. The tide was rising till late at night. Sunday saw light Easterlies with an early sea breeze with low tides.

After delivering Mandurah 500 posters, Dirk and myself arrived at the sign-on just after the rest of the members had left. Mal, Andy, Eric, Basil and Darryl all headed down to the second fence (12.5 km south). We all parked together and strung tarpaulins between the vehicles to create some shade and as a wind break. The first schools of Tailor arrived at 3.30 pm and remained for an hour. All was quiet till 6.00 pm when they came on the bite again till after sunset. We also had a couple of friendly Dolphins for company. Most of the troops fished till 8.00 pm when it was decided a meal was preferable to the very strong sea breeze. A good meal was enjoyed by all in good company. Someone found that I enjoy a good red wine so I had a lot of social callers.

Mal arose at 0330! (3.30 am) to go fishing. Bandit decided he was an unwelcome visitor and voiced his objections loudly to the dismay of the other members enjoying their sleep.

Assorted Skippy and Herring (very small) were caught early in the morning. As we packed up to leave the Tailor came on the bite.

Driving along the beach we saw most people winding in good numbers although the size was again small. We had the weigh-in at George and Dave's camp site. The field day was enjoyed by all with good weather and good bags of chopper tailor caught by all members.

Our illustrious leader was going to demonstrate how to catch all the local species. He was never seen!! Once again the "Black Beast" was objecting to going fishing due to electronic errors in its little black brain box of trix. Rumour has it Derry's temper was well matched to a white pointer shark. His state of mind was improved by going fishing locally with Mark.

Best wishes and regards to all members and their families for Christmas and the New Year.

Tight lines,

The Cookie Monster.

FIELD DAY RESULTS

<u>VENUE</u>	:- White Hills	<u>DATE</u>	:- 12th - 13th December
<u>ATTENDANCE</u>	:- Seniors 12	Visitors	0
	Juniors 2	Total	15
	Mini/Juniors 1		

TOTAL FISH WEIGHT :- 40.65 kg

M Head 109 kg

T D'Alonzo 107

A Thorgerson 83

I Cook 79

B Marsh 78

E Parker 74

D Halton 74

G Holman 60

D Maxted 47

J Reeley 20 -

D Barber 20 -

J Strong 20 -

Juniors

D Fitzsimmons 84

B Reeley 20 -

Mini-Junior

S Reeley 20 -

FIELD DAY PRIZES

Best Bag of Scale Fish :- M Head (Snr) 5.880 kg Mixed

Heaviest Scale Fish :- A Thorgerson 0.415 kg Tailor

Best Junior Bag :- D Fitzsimmons 4.450 kg Mixed

SPORTSMAN OF THE YEAR POINTS

Heaviest Bag	M Head (Snr)	5.880 kg Mixed
Heaviest Scale Fish	A Thorgerson	0.415 kg Tailor

SENIOR TOP TEN :-

T D'Alonzo	784
J Reeley	527
M Head (Snr)	436
G Holman	350
P Osborne	316
D Barber	283
G Reeley	283
D Halton	249
E Parker	246
I Taggart	230

JUNIORS :-

B Reeley	280
D Fitzsimmons	270
B Taggart	44
N Reeley	40
A Bennett	22

MINI-JUNIORS :-

S Reeley	193
G Taggart	43
R Teh	10

A.A.A. REPORT

AUSTRALIAN ANGLERS ASSOCIATION (WA) INCDELEGATES MEETING - DECEMBER 1992

1. Swanfish - Estuary competition for the public. Feb 20th & 21st 1993. Swan River. To be run by Melville club.
2. Leeuwin National Park fee system with local personnel entry fee. The system has been put on hold until a taskforce undertakes a further review.
3. Australian Salmon/Herring resource committee (as selected)

Doug Wenn	Chairman
L Harbord)	Rec Fishing -
S Osborne)	AAA
S Carlton)	
A Horwood)	Rec Fishing
B Horth)	
D Wiggin)	Commercial Fishing
T Adams)	

Resource to be reviewed and recommendations to be made on resource sharing/conservation of both herring and salmon.

4. 11th December - G Hill issued a statement to Federal Government that existing Federal taxes be used to supplement State fees and management to be retained by the States. Expect to see public meetings on this subject in Feb '93 to discuss this issue.
5. Results of the estuary competition given. Melville club dominated the event.
6. Postal Fishing Competition.

3rd - 690	Melville club (rock & beach)
2nd - 831	Lancelin club (boating)
1st - 2127	Offshore club (boating)
7. Cockburn crab fishing will come under management. More controls on commercial and recreational fishing.
8. The motion for gilling and gutting of fish was lost. Voting was 7 for the motion and 15 against.
9. Request for beach clubs to give any records/statistics on herring captures - info for L Harbord - see item 3.

P.T. Osborne, M Philpot
Delegates

MANDURAH 500 REMINDER

The time is near for this event once more (9th & 10th January 1993) and we as Surfcasters need to take stock, promote and work together to make this a success.

A committee, headed by Peter Osborne, has done most of the groundwork, as will be explained, but the most important now is for you the members to be involved over the weekend as many hands make light work!

If you would all take the trouble to ring Peter Osborne (401 9035) and confirm whether you are available and for either or both of the days it would be appreciated. Peter will then be able to work out the various jobs and workers before the day thus making his work load lighter.

Mark Philpot and Eric Parker have been doing a marvellous job re trophies and format, in particular Mark who worked tirelessly and due to his efforts a lot has happened.

We are now an integral part of the annual Mandurah Festival (which runs for one month each year). The Festival committee has put up \$500 towards Mandurah 500 thanks to Mark. We are also tied in with Appealathon and all its promotion and advertising and for this we are to contribute 50 cents per angler to this cause. Peninsula Hotel has put up a nights accommodation and meal for two and offered their facilities for our sign and weigh-in. Council approval has been achieved and there is a concert on there that night which means we can use the P.A. system and venue for the sign-on before this and again use the platform etc in the morning for the weigh-in. The Caravan Park is also opposite so we should get a better attendance as well, as it is on the way into town and people do not have to travel over the river.

Mark has been doing radio with John Curtis on 6NR, Patrick George from Mandurah Tackle Mart is doing radio 6MM Mandurah and Mark is going to be a "Star" on Channel 7's WOW programme. Mike Roenfeldt is putting a write-up in the "West Australian".

Our major sponsor is Healthways. The Brain Foundation "Keep the Pressure Down" is with us once again for which we are grateful and the emphasis is on not smoking....so be discreet!!

We look forward to a good roll-up of members which in turn will lead to a successful event and benefits for our club down the road.

KALBARRI COTTAGE

Members are reminded about bookings for our cottage at Kalbarri and that if you want a good cheap holiday contact our property officer, Eric Parker and make a booking. Also if you know of anyone (friends etc) who are contemplating a holiday....give them the good oil and tell them to contact Eric.



FIELD DAY COMPETITION
1992/93

SECTION.

DECEMBER

- | | | | |
|--|----------------|--------|----------|
| 1) HEAVIEST SCALE FISH
(1st 6mths) | - S Reeley M/J | SALMON | 4.55 kg |
| 2) HEAVIEST SCALE FISH
(2nd 6mths) | - | | |
| 3) MOST MERITORIOUS FISH | - | | |
| 4) HEAVIEST SHARK (4.5kg min) | - | | |
| 5) HEAVIEST MULLOWAY (1kg min) | - J Reeley | | 4.25 kg |
| 6) HEAVIEST TAILOR (1kg min) | - | | |
| 7) HEAVIEST SALMON (3kg min) | - S Reeley M/J | | 4.55 kg |
| 8) HEAVIEST TREVALLY (1kg min) | - | | |
| 9) HEAVIEST MACKEREL | - | | |
| 10) HEAVIEST BAG - SCALE FISH | - J Reeley | | 15.00 kg |
| 11) HEAVIEST BAG - MULLOWAY | - J Reeley | | 4.25 kg |
| 12) HEAVIEST BAG - TAILOR | - M Head (Snr) | | 5.01 kg |
| 13) HEAVIEST SCALE FISH S/H ROD -
4kg b/s Line max | - | | |
| 14) HEAVIEST SCALE FISH 2kg min -
Other Than Sect 3 - 9, & 13 | - | | |



OPEN COMPETITION 1992/93

- 1) MOST MERITORIOUS FISH
- 2) HEAVIEST SHARK - (4.5kg min)
I Cook, 30.00 kg, Bait - Wrasse, Line 40lb, False Entrance.
- 3) HEAVIEST MULLOWAY - (3.0kg min)
M White, 10.00 kg, 4oz sinker, Mulie 3/50 rig, 35 Vo line, False Entrance.
- 4) HEAVIEST SALMON - (3.0kg Min)
I Cook, 3.80 kg, Mulie, 3.91 Pretest line.
- 5) HEAVIEST DHUFISH
- 6) HEAVIEST TAILOR - (1.0kg min)
- 7) HEAVIEST SAMSON FISH
- 8) HEAVIEST SCALE FISH - S/H Rod (4kg or 9lb line max)
I Cook, 4.50 kg Snapper, Blue bait, 3.9 kg line, Causeway, Shark Bay.
- 9) HEAVIEST PINK SNAPPER
I Cook, 4.50 kg, Blue Bait, 3.9 kg line, Causeway, Shark Bay.
- 10) HEAVIEST TARWHINE - (Silver Bream)
- 11) HEAVIEST MACKEREL
D. Maxted, Spanish Mackerel, Balloon rig, Gardie, 40lb line, False Entrance.
- 12) HEAVIEST TREVALLY - (Southern 1.0kg min)
- 13) HEAVIEST TREVALLY - (Northern 1.0kg min)
- 14) HEAVIEST SNOOK/PIKE
- 15) HEAVIEST SCALE FISH - Other Than Sections 2-14 (2.0kg min)

STEEP POINT TRIP REPORT

Black Friday....What a day to leave for Steep Point. Regardless, Eric Bombardieri and myself set off at 2.30 pm, accompanied by three friends. We took two vehicles and towed a trailer. After a twelve hour cool and uneventful trip we arrived at the Point. The road to Useless Loop was quite good having recently been graded and there had been no changes to the route. However from January 1993 the turnoff will be closer to Carrarang Station Homestead. This will take you over the old causeway near False Entrance. To go to Steep Point it will then be necessary to drive down the western side of the ponds to the Point where you would have come off the main causeway. The main causeway will be closed to prevent people jamming the gates open. Last year Clough's lost over a million dollars of brine.

Once again we were happy to find our usual camping spot was vacant. To make things even better, daylight revealed only one other camp of two people, who on investigation we found were leaving the next day. This left us with the whole area to ourselves.

With so much space we decided to spread out, with three of us on the fault line and two fishing the Point. This turned out to be fortunate as for the whole week the wind, although not overly strong, kept alternating from SW to E making it very difficult to get a balloon out. They would hug the coastline either way.

By the second day things were looking bad. The only two Spaniards landed were taken by our so-called novice, Tony, who walked around with a huge grin on his face telling us how he had never caught anything bigger than a chopper tailer. Storm clouds had blown in bringing occasional downpours of rain, and an even bigger cloud hung over Eric's head as he had been busted up by a shark and dropped two Mackerel at the gaff. At this stage we decided two things. Firstly we needed a new gaff and secondly Tony could look after himself. He obviously needed no help or advice from the supposedly experienced members of the party.

On the Monday the swell started to build up and luckily the fish with it. Even with the problems of a huge swell breaking over the Point and a gaff that was next to useless, we still managed to land ten Spaniards ranging from 26 to 47 pounds. One of these turned out to be a little lighter after I had a tug-of-war with a shark. The shark won as my share only came to 19 pounds.

The Gibbon Hole didn't produce very much and the Tailer hole was virtually unfishable because of the swell. After a lot of hard work we were able to capture a few Bald Chin and Snapper, a couple of Mulloway and a Yellowtail Kingie. Night fishing at both the fault line and the Point proved to be a dead loss.

Thursday brought a break in the weather and a steady stream of fishermen. By Saturday the fault line looked like a picket fence. However we had a freezer full of fish even though several had been lost because of the swell and that bloody gaff so everyone voted that it had been a reasonably successful and most enjoyable trip. The trip home was only marred at the very end. Five kilometres from home and the new water pump collapsed. Another lesson to be learnt. Don't listen when somebody tells you it's about time you changed your water pump. Also, for anybody who has an FJ60, the shaft on some of the replacement water pumps is too long. This prevents you from tightening the fan down onto the belt pulley on the water pump. The result is that the pulley collapses and rubs a hole in your water pump. Thankfully it takes over 2000 km to break down or I might still be up at Steep Point enjoying myself.

Frank Sutton

JOHN LEE'S FISHING DIARY

In an earlier issue I vowed that as I was unable to attend club events as often as I would like, I would submit articles for Reel Talk as my contribution to engendering club spirit. So here are a couple of items that may be of interest to club members.

For my first recollections of Surfcasters I have to delve back to the early fifties and a chap named Arch Ticklie whom some of the older members would still remember. In those days my Dad and Arch were in the Army together and many is the hour Arch and his lady friend Gladys spent in the company of my folks talking about old times during the war years. Invariably the conversation would get around to fishing.

Being part New Zealand Maori, Arch loved his fishing - to such an extent that like a lot of other anglers he decided that the best way to get amongst them was to buy a boat. On most Sunday mornings from then on Dad and Arch found that there was never a household chore urgent enough to keep them at home (except if the weather turned foul). The boat was clinker built, about twelve feet long, heavy as lead and powered by the latest in marine automotive technology - the good old Seagull 1.5 horsepower. Its top speed was about 5 knots absolutely flat strap with a following current and a tail wind.

Like all clinkers it was built to last - heavy marine ply planks brace ribbed on the inside and cross thwarted by planks which also served as the seats. Being built of individual planks and looking something like an ocean going weather board bathtub, the boat suffered in extremely hot or cold weather because expansion and contraction would cause small seams to open up (come to think of it, this happened in any weather). So owning one of these craft meant constant maintenance - I lost count of the number of times Dad and Arch were forced to careen her in order to fill the cracks with pitch. Needless to say, a bailing can (which also served as the latrine) was standard equipment. It was a far cry from today's modern boats; you couldn't trail it as it was just too heavy therefore the boat was either moored in the river or upturned on the river bank.

In hindsight it was really a river craft and never should have been taken to sea - but take it to sea they did although they never ventured more than a mile or so out except in the calmest of weather. To this day it still amazes me that Dad and Arch would go fishing in that boat at the drop of a hat; neither of them could swim a stroke and yet the thought of capsizing never entered their minds. In those days there was no such thing as built in buoyancy aids in marine engineering nor did the Dept of Marine and Harbours exist, thus boating safety was left largely in the hands of individual owners.

So considering that I had just learned to dog paddle I was their only hope if the boat sank. Yes I can clearly remember the day when, shortly after my seventh birthday, I was at last invited to go with them - much to the chagrin of the local parish priest who sometime thereafter called on my mother enquiring as to why I no longer attended Sunday School.

As incredible as it may seem, we never came to serious grief but later when Arch had updated and bought one of the first fibreglass boats that could be trailed, he and Gladys capsized somewhere in Cockburn Sound and were lucky not to have drowned.

Anyway despite the shortcomings of the clinker boat we regularly caught good fish in her. I can recall that one of our favourite spots was about a mile or so out from the Dingo Flour Mill over a broken bottom of weed, reef and sand - we were always assured of a good mixed bag of Skippy, Silver Bream, King George Whiting, Flathead and dinner plate size Leatherjackets (a rarity these days). My first ever encounter with a really large Tailor was out of that boat - we were fishing not far from the wreck of the Lygnern (no longer there) just outside South Mole catching the odd King George using Craytail for bait (it was cheap then) on weighted hand lines. I had no sooner tossed my line over the side when it tore off like a rocket, nearly yanking me over the gunwale in the process. It was too powerful for me so I handed the line over to my Dad who grappled with it for quite a while before hoisting it on board - we didn't weigh it but I reckon it was probably about ten pounds (incidentally I've never bettered it since).

I remember one day reading an issue of a magazine that my Dad occasionally bought called The Anglers Digest and Shooters Monthly and seeing a picture of Arch taken on Garden Island during an SCAC field day in about 1955 or so. The picture was of Arch holding what was then a State record Jewie of about 50 pounds; of course when boat and shore records were amalgamated in the mid seventies this record was beaten by a boat angler.

In later years when I was a teenager I would ride the old treddley along the coast road to see what was being caught and if I was early enough, there at Grant St or Mosman Park in front of the old hospital annexe would be Arch hauling in Herring one after the other. I never tired of watching the effortless way he could cast with his new fangled hollow glass rod (a Conlan of about eleven feet). Along side him stood the others of the purist Herring brigade - wogs, blobs, ultra light line and Rangoon canes. It always intrigued me that with his flimsy looking glass rod he was able to consistently out cast the others with their fourteen foot Rangoons. Had I known at the time that Surfcasters promote excellence in the art of casting I would probably not have been so awe stricken at his mastery of it.

In the early seventies I joined Surfcasters and was again able to renew my acquaintance with him. Unfortunately in the mid seventies is where it all ended for those two fine old angling gentlemen - Arch and my Dad. Within a year of each other they had both succumbed to the ravages of cancer. Any way, to end on a happier note, largely because of my association with Arch I was determined that one day I would join the Surfcasting and Angling Club.

On a more humorous note, my next story concerns a club member who joined about the same time as me - Tony Richardson. I'm not sure if he still receives the Reel Talk but Tony, if you do, this article is not meant to offend and furthermore please feel free to refute it or at least write a story about me.

It was a Field Day at Cervantes and Tony had teamed up with another new chum named Wilf (I've forgotten his surname) and both had driven from Perth in a ute. I had attended the Field Day with my first wife in my old HQ and was driving along a track somewhere close to Thirsty Point looking for a likely fishing spot. We had just rounded a thickly overgrown bend in the track when there in front of us was a ute with Tony standing alongside pointing Percy toward us and doing what a man must do when he is without the proper facilities. With a tinny in his other hand he nodded a cheery greeting but, the smile on his face quickly turned to a horrified grimace when he noticed that my wife was sitting alongside me in the front passenger seat.

Now because of the denseness of the scrub surrounding his vehicle, he was not able to make the gracious retreat he would have liked - so, he did the only thing possible and swivelled 180 degrees. Unfortunately Wilf, who had been standing directly behind him was completely unprepared for the speedy about face and received a rather moist shock.

Well pandemonium ensued as Wilf tried frantically to move out of range while all the while Tony was advancing on him trying to get behind the ute. At the time I guess they were not impressed but it certainly still causes me mirth when I think about it.

See you next time

John Lee

~ FIELD DAY VENUES ~

1992-1993

- 1992 MAY : ROTTNEST ISLAND : 16th & 17th May
 JUNE : PORT GREGORY/KALBARRI : 30th May - 1st June
 In conjunction with AAA Rock & Beach Champs.
 Boundaries & times the same as AAA comp.
 Separate weigh-in 1600hrs at Kalbarri house.
 Fish to be gilled and gutted as normal.
- JULY : LOCAL : 12th & 13th July
 Venue & boundaries to be decided at prior
 general meeting. A BBQ to be held if a
 suitable location can be found.
- AUGUST : ROTTNEST ISLAND : 16th & 17th August
 SEPTEMBER : GREENOUGH RIVER (LWE): 26th - 28th September
 OCTOBER : MARGARET RIVER TO : 17th & 18th October
 BUSSELTÓN JETTY (Mini/Junior & Junior venue)
- NOVEMBER : WEDGE ISLAND : 14th & 15th November
 DECEMBER : WHITE HILLS : 12th & 13th December
- 1993 JANUARY : MANDURAH 500 : 9th & 10th January
 : SWAN RIVER BOAT COMP. : 26th January
 This is a special none points F.D. To be held
 at the end of the month in preparation for
 Swan Fish.
- FEBRUARY : HILL RIVER TO JURIE : 13th & 14th February
 BAY MARINA (Mini/Junior & Junior venue)
- MARCH : BLUFF CREEK (LWE): 27th Feb - 1st March
APRIL : EXMOUTH : Early April
 Club to have a week trip to Exmouth towards
 the beginning of the month and will not clash
 with other fishing comps at Exmouth. A one day
 F.D. will be held mid-week.
- : LOCAL : 17th & 18th April
 24 hr F.D. near Perth for those not going to
 Exmouth.
- SOCIAL : Frawning night in March 1993.
 : Social barbeque to be included in the field day
 where it is practical. especially at Bluff Creek.