

# REEL TALK

A scenic coastal landscape. In the foreground, there are large, dark, wet rocks. A wooden walkway with a metal railing runs across the middle ground. A person wearing an orange vest and a hat is standing on the walkway. The background shows a rocky coastline and a blue sky with scattered white clouds.

**SURF CASTING AND ANGLING CLUB OF WA**  
**AUGUST 2019**



## Surf Casting and Angling Club of WA (Inc.)

PO Box 2834, Malaga WA 6944

ABN 29 925 237 020

Email: [secretary@scac.net.au](mailto:secretary@scac.net.au)

Club Web page: <http://www.scac.net.au>

### **Acknowledgement of Donors**

The club gratefully acknowledges the support from companies, organisations, club members and families for the donations towards our Presentation night.

### **Club Members:**

Mal Head, Peter Osborne, John Curtis,

Bob Henderson, Alan Jones, Pat McKeown

### **Company Sponsors:**

Alvey Australia

Belmont City Medical Centre (Dr Sri Srigandan)

Bladon WA (Martin Wearmouth)

Halco Tackle

J M Gillies Agencies

Western Angler Magazine

Buildcorp Developments (Victor Schilo)

***Thank you for your valued support.***

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# **Club Committee for 2018/9**

**President**

Shane Wignell  
0488 235 613  
[shane@arach.net.au](mailto:shane@arach.net.au)

**Vice President**

Peter Osborne

**Treasurer**

Victor Schilo  
0413 152 550  
[treasurer@scac.net.au](mailto:treasurer@scac.net.au)

**Secretary**

George Belin  
0437 489 441  
Club email  
[secretary@scac.net.au](mailto:secretary@scac.net.au)

**Property Officer**

Now part of the Treasurer's duties

**Reel Talk Editor**

Victor Schilo

**Dry Casting Officer**

Ron Thomas  
0407 630 053  
[dee.ron@bigpond.com](mailto:dee.ron@bigpond.com)

**Field Day Officer**

Martin Wearmouth  
0407 301 195  
[martin.wearmouth@gmail.com](mailto:martin.wearmouth@gmail.com)

**Website Coordinator**

Peet Wessels

**Member Coordinator**

George Belin

**Committee Person**

Gary Parkinson

**Committee Person**

Sri Srigandan

**Recorder**

Justin Rose  
[jwrose81@yahoo.com.au](mailto:jwrose81@yahoo.com.au)

**AAAWA Delegates**

Victor Schilo, Shane Wignell

All club emails should be sent to [secretary@scac.net.au](mailto:secretary@scac.net.au) and all correspondence posted by mail should be addressed to:

PO Box 2834, Malaga WA 6944

The Website Co-ordinator, Property Officer, AAWA Delegates, Reel Talk Editor, Dry Casting Officer, Assistant Dry Casting Officer, Field Day / Assistant Field Day Officer, Membership Co-ordinator are Committee functions and not extra Committee positions.

**SCAC Life Members**

George Holman, Eric Parker, Ian Cook, Bob Henderson, Terry Fuller, Mal Head,  
Peter Osborne

**Deceased life members:**

Vic Davis, Doug Edward, Lloyd Dunn, Dudley Brown, Noel Knight, Les Shand, Ron Kildahl, Bob Klein, Jim Strong

## **Surf Casting and Angling Club of WA Inc.**

### **Notice of the Annual General Meeting**

Please be advised that in accordance with Rule 23.1 of the Surf Casting and Angling Club of WA Inc Rules, the Annual General Meeting of the Association is scheduled for:

**Date:** Wednesday 14 August 2019  
**Location:** Coolbinia West Perth Amateur Football and Sporting Club room  
**Time:** 7:30 pm

#### **AGENDA**

- President to open the August General Meeting
- Secretary shall record the attendance
- President shall suspend standing orders and open the AGM
- Confirmation of the 2018 AGM Minutes
- The Presidents Report
- Treasure shall table the Financial report 30<sup>th</sup> June 2019
- All positions are declared vacant
- Appointment of Acting Chairman
- Election of office holders
  - President
  - Vice President
  - Secretary
  - Treasurer/Public Officer
- Election of Committee members to carry out the following duties:
  - Field Day Officer
  - Assistant Field Day Officer
  - Dry Casting Officer
  - Assistant Dry Casting Officer
  - Social Organiser/Membership Co-ordinator
  - Recorder
  - Reel Talk Editor
  - 2 x Committee Persons
- General Business
- The President closes the Annual General Meeting and resumes standing orders.

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#### **Quotes for the month:**



One of the **happiest** moments ever is when you find the **courage** to **let go** of what you can't change.



**MONEY  
IS NOT EVERYTHING  
IN LIFE  
BUT IT COMES  
A VERY CLOSE  
SECOND TO OXYGEN**

## August 2019 General Meeting & AGM

Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> August 2019

Coolbinia Sports Clubroom; Wordsworth Avenue, Yokine.

*Agenda: Please notify the Secretary if you have any items for General business.*

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## Field day venues for 2019/2020

Dates	Venue	Boundaries
17 – 18 August 2019	<b>Rottnest Island and standard local</b> Lines down 6am Saturday Lines up 9am Monday	All Rottnest and local as below at bottom of page
28 – 30 September 2019 Long weekend	<b>Geraldton to Kalbarri and standard local</b> Lines down 6am Saturday Lines up 9am Monday	Geraldton to Kalbarri and local as below at bottom of page
12 – 13 October 2019	<b>Wedge Island to Jurien Bay and standard local</b> Lines down 9.30am Saturday Lines up 9am Sunday	Wedge Island to Jurien Bay and local as below at bottom of page
9 – 10 November 2019	<b>Open</b> Lines down 6am Saturday Lines up 9am Monday	Open anywhere in WA Plan to fish Wagoes full moon is 12 <sup>th</sup> November
14 – 15 December 2019	<b>Ledge Point to Wedge Island and standard local</b> Lines down 9.30am Saturday Lines up 9am Sunday	Ledge Point to Wedge Island and local as below at bottom of page
25 – 27 January 2020 Long weekend	<b>Open</b> Lines down 6am Saturday Lines up 9am Monday	Open anywhere in WA
15 – 16 February 2020	<b>Busselton to White Hills and standard local</b> Lines down 9.30am Saturday Lines up 9am Sunday	Busselton to White Hills and local as below at bottom of page
29 February – 2 March 2020 Long weekend	<b>Reef Beach Bremer Bay and standard local</b> Lines down 6am Saturday Lines up 9am Monday	Reef Beach and local as below at bottom of page
11 April – 13 April 2020 Long weekend	<b>Bluff Creek and standard local</b> Lines down 6am Saturday Lines up 9am Monday	Cheyne's and Bluff Creek area and local as below at bottom of page

### Local boundaries are from Lancelin in the North to Point Peron in the South

Lines Down for long weekends and Rottnest – Saturday 6.00am

Lines up for long weekends and Rottnest – Monday 9.00am

Lines Down on Standard weekends – Saturday 9.30am

Lines up on Standard weekends – Sunday 9.00am

**Sign-on / Weigh-in times, possible fish together spots and locations to be decided at the general meeting prior to the Field Day**

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## NEW WEB SITE

*Surf Casting and Angling Club has a new web address:*

[www.scac.net.au](http://www.scac.net.au)

*Please forward all Club related emails to:*

[secretary@scac.net.au](mailto:secretary@scac.net.au)

*Financial matters to:*

[treasurer@scac.net.au](mailto:treasurer@scac.net.au)

## ***Birthdays for August***

*Alissa Pizzolante 6<sup>th</sup>;      Theo Van Niekirk 7<sup>th</sup>;      Bob Hendersn 8<sup>th</sup>; Allan Jones 8<sup>th</sup>  
Ian Taggart 24<sup>th</sup>;      Gary Gildersleeves 31<sup>st</sup>.*

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### **Surf Casters July 13 and 14 2019 Open field day**      **Martin Wearmouth**

3 Surf Casters went to Yallingup for the July field day, we booked into the Yallingup Beach Caravan park and stayed in a chalet which made for a warm and comfortable sleep in the cold conditions, Peter Osborne went down Friday afternoon and Gary and Martin arrived at 8.30pm Friday night ready to start early Saturday for the 9.30am lines down.

Saturday morning Peter went to Wyadup and fished the north side on the rocks with only wrasse and blowies, too many blowies so Peter left early, Gary and Martin started at Canal rocks with only small wrasse and blowies, once the blowies moved in it was time to move on, next we tried Smiths point off the rocks in a couple of spots, We had some good bites but found too many snags and even with a float we got snagged up winding in over the rocks, After both losing rigs we moved on the Yallingup off the rocks, this spot worked the best Gary got a good hit but the fish went straight into the rocks and he got snagged up losing his rig, Martin managed 4 Blackfish, 2 Zebrafish, Wrasse and some small Tarwhine before heading back to the chalet for lunch.



After lunch and a rest for 2 hours we headed for Smiths beach for some easier fishing on the beach, this proved to be a very good decision we fished on the beach at the southern end next to the rocks and straight away had some good whiting biting, as the sun got lower the whiting bite got better with a fish ever cast, I had my light gear with 2 small size 1 circle hooks on 15lb fluorocarbon leader a 2oz spoon sinker with 9lb braid main line, this setup was perfect for this fishing and I managed many double headers of good whiting using squid as bait, most were 21cm to 26cm in size so I release all under 24cm keeping the larger ones to eat.





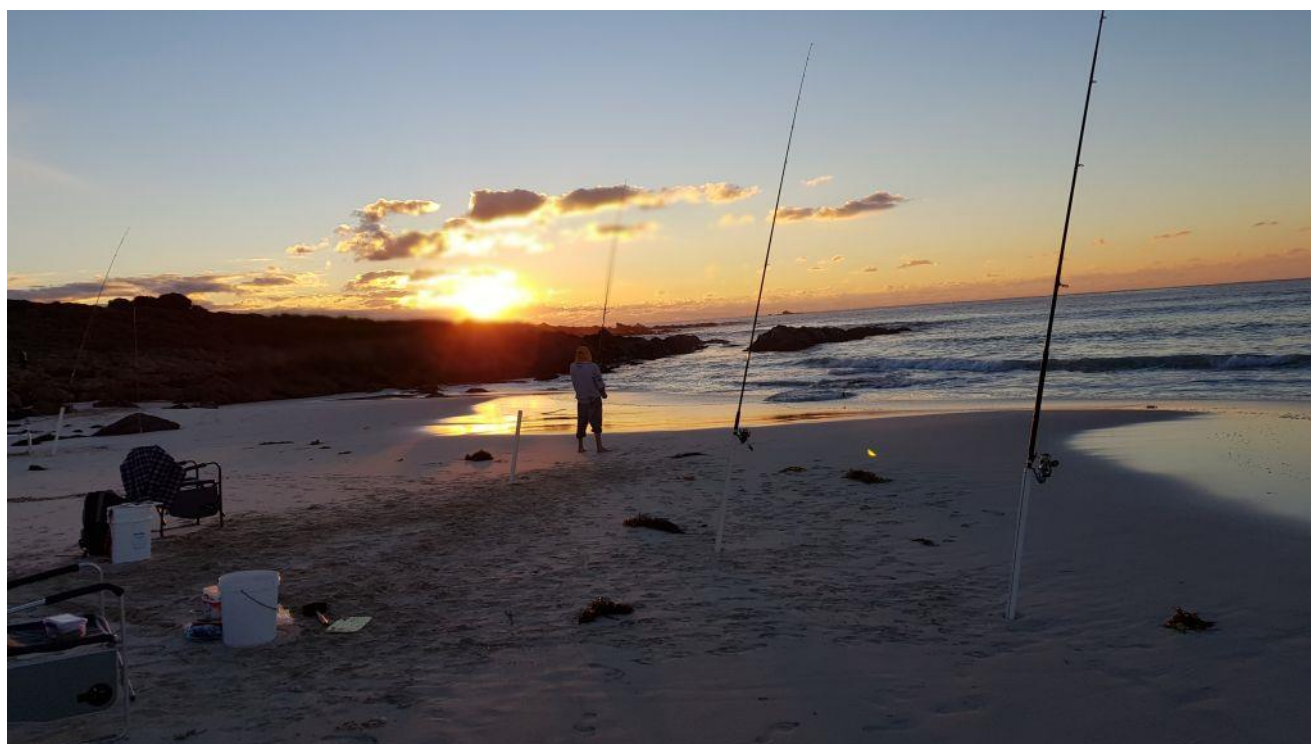
As the sun started to set a few Skippy came in and this was also great fun on the smaller fishing rod, I got 2 Skippy at 32cm and gave me a good workout on the lighter tackle, I also caught a 31cm and 42cm King George whiting, after dark the fishing slowed down and not many bites at all, Peter caught and released a Port Jackson shark and on my last cast at 6.30pm I hooked a 1.4 meter Wobbegong shark, not a great fight but it was a lot of weight I managed to get it to the beach and then released it.

Sunday morning we all headed back to Smiths beach and again found plenty of Whiting and a few Skippy, The whiting were not biting as good as the Saturday afternoon and most were smaller in size, a few wrasse and small Tarwhine also got caught.

All in all, a great weekend with the Smiths beach fishing being the highlight, what a great beach and location, I can recommend it if you are in that area.







ANGLER		Species	Species	Species	Species	Species	Species	Total weight	No. of Species	No. of fish	F.D. points	Attendance		Total points
		Whiting (other than listed)	Skipjack Trevally	Wrasse (all species) 1 only	Herring, Australian	King George Whiting	Western Rock Blackfish					Field Day	General Meeting	
Martin Wearmouth	Number	18	4	1	1	2	4	5.26	6	30	142.6	1	1	162.6
	Total weight	2.02	1.31	0.22	0.10	0.41	1.20							
	Weight of best													
Peter Osborne	Number	7	3	1	1			1.95	4	12	71.5	1	1	91.5
	Total weight	0.62	1.01	0.22	0.10									
	Weight of best		0.46											
Gary Parkinson	Number	11						1.25	1	11	33.5	1	1	53.5
	Total weight	1.25												
	Weight of best													
LOCAL														
Mark Hansen	Number			1	12			1.28	2	13	45.8	1	1	65.8
	Total weight			0.22	1.06									
	Weight of best													
Victor Schilo	Number			1				0.22	1	1	13.2	1	1	33.2
	Total weight			0.22										
	Weight of best													





## Local

Mark Hansen fished the south mole from late Saturday morning to dusk catching and releasing a wrasse and weighing in 12 herring at 1.06KG

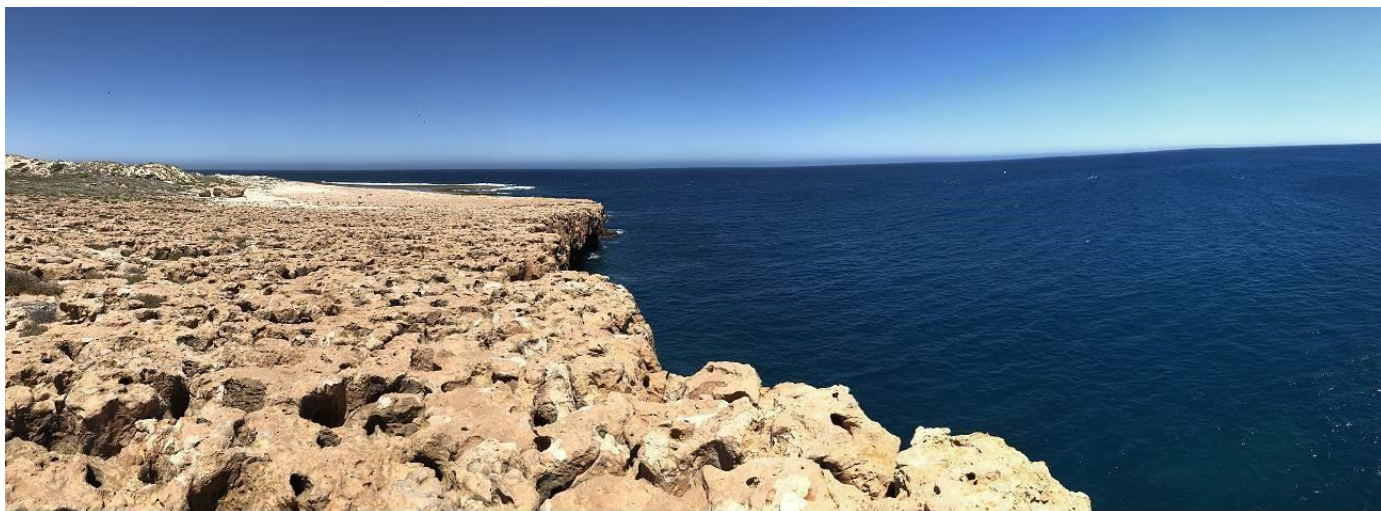
## Cottesloe Beach outing: Vic Schilo

After having contributed \$300 to the economy last field day, I decided that Cottesloe beach would be a very cost-effective way to spend a few hours. I set off at 4pm on Saturday and found a likely spot near the reef. Fishing on metro beaches is always a challenge – surf kites when there is a good breeze and dogs when it’s a nice calm day. I think that every dog in the western suburbs was at “my spot”.

The theory that I formed back in 1976, “that there are no fish in the ocean”, appeared to be true, with only two Wrasse being lucky enough to be caught and released. I gave up at 6pm and drove the long trip home to Floreat.

Top scores up to July		
Rank	Angler	Total points
1	Martin Wearmouth	456.2
2	Peet Wessels	311.7
3	Sandra Wessels	296.5
4	Mark Hansen	209.0
5	Sabby Pizzolante	194.2
6	Mark Nurse	190.5
7	Peter Osborne	173.9
8	Vincent Tomazin	123.8
9	Theo Van Niekerk	119.5
10	Gary Parkinson	93.5
11	Paul Terpkos	75.8
12	Brad Zaknich	63.6
13	Victor Schilo	63.2
14	Wally Lukic	47.6
15	Slavka Schilo	30.0

## Dirk Hartog Island 2018



November 2018 a few mates and I set off to explore Dirk Hartog Island. My good friend Ray had done a reconnaissance trip 10 months earlier but unfortunately right before the trip he had a family emergency and had to pull out. Once we had reshuffled and replanned things were back on track except we had lost our guide, so it really was the unknown. Fortunately, there are heaps of videos and blogs online that we lost ourselves in analysing all the footage and google maps gives a great overview.

Dirk Hartog Island is the outer break wall of Shark Bay 80 kilometres long covering 620 square kilometres discovered in 1616 by Captain Dirk Hartog, its harsh terrain partly owned by the Wardle family at the south eastern corner where they have the homestead offering 5 star accommodation down to camping on the sand. We had booked "The Block" which is a tin shack 70km up the island accompanied by an ensuite long drop, not 5 star but perfectly fit for purpose.

Top get to the island with your vehicle its basically the same as going to Steep Point.... and then some. A barge operates in between Shelter Bay and the Island so we set off from Perth with a non-eventful trip to Overlander Roadhouse for a last fuel stop and then through to Shelter Bay. The Journey out to Steep Point is reasonably quick now with the track in very good condition it took me both ways a little over 2 hours, the dune area known as "Tin Hill" is relatively easy for most 4wd's. We arrived at a windswept Shelter bay and set up a makeshift camp for the night and settled in with a drink soaking up the ambience of relentless sand blasting until we turned in for the night. When booking your trip to the Island they really insist that people stay at Shelter bay overnight, so they don't get delays on the morning barge.



The barge came over from the island at around 7am and picked up the cars one at a time, there were 2 vehicles, and then we were on our way 70 k's up the island. DPAW have put in a massive effort to eradicate the island of feral animals so it was great to see some of the native fauna and flora thriving. We took a punt and made a shortcut across the island to save a bit of travel time and fuel, it takes 2.5 hours to get up to the Block or West Point as its officially know, but this is subject to track conditions. On the way there we stopped off at Mystery beach and had a look, this is typically a surf beach which is rare along this coastline. Mystery Beach got its name from all the random stuff that washes up here as it faces south west and seems to be a collection

point for sea debris. Due to its geography a lighter sea breeze is best for fishing here, I was really hoping to have an evening fish here at some stage during the trip but never got around to it..... next time.





When we got to the Block some guys camping in the shack that didn't have permission and there gear was all there along with vehicle but they were nowhere to be found. Eventually we located them and gave them the news that they would have to depart, after they left we loaded the shack full of our gear, setup the rods and wet a line. The block is a cliff facing North to North West with deep water of 35m right in front. The platform lets you cover all bases by being great for bottom fishing, spinning for pelagics and with the typical wind patterns 2 balloons could be set out in the bay chasing those bigger mackerel and Tuna.

I cant remember the exact detail of what happened each day but typically we were catching bottom fish like Pink Snapper, Baldchin Groper, Coronation trout and various emperor's as they would come on the bite at all times of day. It really didn't follow a pattern and every day was different sometimes it was mayhem for 15 minutes then quiet for 6 hours. The pelagics were thin as the water was still cool we were treated to a whale display that has to be seen. The whales hug the coast within metres of the cliff giving a great view. Sharks did play a part with many of the mackerel we did hook were getting picked off by sharks and there was a lot of water between fish. We were mostly chasing Spanish Mackerel and the fish we did catch were between 15-22kg. There were also plagues of shark Mackerel, trevally and Remoras..... yes Remoras not Cobia

Struggling with the inconsistency at the Block we did a few trips down to another spot called the Aquarium which is a pretty special place offering some shallow water demersal fishing along with plenty of Pelagic action. We explored many likely spots between with hit and miss success. Unfortunately, I slashed a tyre heading in on the horrible track to the Aquarium, but had the foresight to take 2 spares, the tracks aren't driven over much up there and the rocks are very sharp. While we are on the subject of damage my freezer leaked its gas through a cracked pipe and failed, I snapped a rod and my air compressor had a meltdown..... Its an unforgiving place some call it Dirk Hard Slog



Changing tactic, we decided to do some free diving for Crayfish we went up and explored the waters from the lighthouse around to Turtle Bay, there weren't many crays but the snorkelling was incredible such a beautiful place. What wasn't beautiful was the climb back up the cliffs on that part of the Island, Dirk Hard Slog

The shack itself offers pretty good protection from the wind, it is wired up with lights and power points and a caravan plug on the outside, so a generator just plugs straight in. There is a bit of basic furniture and a previous group had left a BBQ which was welcome for

us, cooking in these areas is usually a battle of flame versus 25 knot wind but the great thing about the shack is there is little wind to contend with. That also means it can get pretty hot and stuffy in there so a fan will be coming next time.



We had pretty good success using a slow cooker on this trip, as we know its hard to keep the vegetable intake up on trips like this, but we had most of our meals pre chopped and cryo-vaced. It's a 2-minute exercise to plonk the ingredients into the slow cooker for 8 hours and they beauty of slow cookers is they will keep things warm until you're ready for dinner. We were running a generator most of the time and the power consumption is minimal

Over the 7 days we were up at the block we fished really hard through in consistent bites by the end of the trip were really quite tired. We packed up and headed back down to the homestead to catch the barge back to the mainland the next day. At the homestead we stayed at Salties camp which is a sandy camp site with a view back east across the Shark Bay. The highlight is a nice hot freshwater shower which was welcomed along with a decent camp kitchen

On reflection is was a great trip for the week we barely saw anyone else and could fish where we wanted, there are some incredible spots and we caught lots of fish mainly Pink Snapper The extra travel is a bit tedious and it is expensive to catch the barge over. That being said I have already booked again to head up there early in 2020 and I can't wait.

*Article by: Justin Rose*

# THANK YOU!

To the members of the S.C.A.C. just thought I'd write a quick article to say thank you for all the encouragement and support I have received over the last year from the members.

Due to this support and encouragement, I feel included and appreciated by other members. I am looking forward to the future and being involved as much as I can.



*Chris Stickells*



## DRY CASTING -7<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2019

The weather prediction was not all that good with 50% chance of rain predicted, but someone above didn't let it happen. The venue itself was in great condition, and even though we have had quite a bit of rain, there was no water on the park. Even the ducks couldn't find anywhere to settle.

Ten casters turned up for the day, which is the best we have had for quite some time. It was great to see Chris and Helen turn up for the first time and even though you did not cast any great distances Chris, at least you were there trying and hopefully enjoying yourself. I must thank Helen for doing all the lazer work. When someone like this spends the whole day helping others, especially when she has had no interest in casting before, it is appreciated by everyone. I thank you.

Terry Willison turned up for a looksee and was saying that he had to have more medical procedures and if that was successful, he may come back casting. Great news. We wish you well Terry.

Gary Guilders had a reasonable day with 145 in the DHA with Hendo runner up with 136. Mark Hanson was having one of his best days up to the 5<sup>th</sup> and last targets with 119 for 6 targets but finished with 126. Chris, you did well for a first timer with 71. Well done! Hendo should have had a much better score but threw a big fat zero on the 5<sup>th</sup> target. I can't remember Bob having a donut before, but sh... happens.

The SHA was pretty tight. As you will see, Ron 32, Mark 31, Chas 29, Bob 27, Mal 26, Mark H 25. There were 4 bullseyes on the day. Peter 1 in the DHA, in the SHA Bob 1 and 2 for myself. Nothing outstanding happened in the distance events, quite a few of us had 1 or 2 outs, which is disappointing, but once again, it happens.

The longest casts were as follows. 56gr Ron 140.37, art bait Ron 122.74, beating Chas by .02 of a metre, 112gr Chas 156.02.

Chris, if you come to casting in the future, I have rods and reels you can borrow if you wish. That goes for everyone.

Once again, I would like to thank all who turned up on the day and hope to see you next month.

*Ron Thomas*

<b>SURF CASTING &amp; ANGLING CLUB</b>													
<b>Dry casting results - 7th July 2019</b>													
	<b>56 gram</b>					<b>Artificial Bait</b>					<b>112gram</b>		
	<u>Cast</u>	<u>Cast</u>	<u>Total</u>			<u>Cast</u>	<u>Cast</u>	<u>Total</u>			<u>Cast</u>	<u>Cast</u>	<u>Total</u>
<b>Veterans</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>		<b>%</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>		<b>%</b>		<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>%</b>
BOB HENDERSON	123.67	130.42	254.09	95.53		102.63	OUT	102.63	42.85		OUT	137.67	137.67
GARY GILDERSLEEVE	116.68	124.25	240.93	87.74		95.81	104.87	200.68	83.79		126.28	108.06	234.34
MAL HEAD	94.15	93.70	187.85	68.41		84.49	88.56	173.05	72.26		109.29	108.22	217.51
RON THOMAS	140.37	134.24	274.61	100.00		116.75	122.74	239.49	100.00		147.09	OUT	147.09
PETER OSBORNE	84.35	88.03	172.38	62.77		78.89	80.44	159.33	66.53		95.00	97.35	192.35
KLAUS SCHONWOLF	105.10	113.11	218.21	79.47		OUT	92.99	92.99	38.83		92.50	110.33	202.83
<b>Senior</b>													
CHRIS STICKELLS	64.80	40.00	104.80	100.00		66.95	70.28	137.23	100.00		75.17	70.55	145.72
MARK HANSEN	OUT	OUT	0.00	0.00		94.72	OUT	94.72	69.02		116.45	117.04	233.49



SURF CASTING & ANGLING CLUB																					
Dry casting results - 7th July 2019																					
	Double Handed Accuracy										Single Handed Accuracy							Total	Attendance	Total	
	Target number										Target distance								D/Casting	Points	
Veterans	3	3	1	1	4	4	2	2	Total	%		1st	2nd	1st	2nd	Total	%	%			
BOB HENDERSON	23	20	22	16	0	17	17	21	136	93.75		6	5	10	6	27	84.38		375.26	10	385.26
GARY GILDERSLEEVE	17	22	22	16	13	16	24	15	145	100.00		0	3	2	8	13	40.63		412.16	10	422.16
MAL HEAD	19	11	0	12	10	13	3	19	87	60.00		6	7	6	7	26	81.25		374.74	10	384.74
RON THOMAS	14	21	9	9	15	15	18	17	118	81.38		10	6	6	10	32	100.00		444.15	10	454.15
PETER OSBORNE	21	18	8	0	13	6	25	0	91	62.76		8	1	9	0	18	56.25		330.39	10	340.39
KLAUS SCHONWOLF	0	7	23	12	4	8	12	5	71	49.00		6	2	5	7	20	62.50		316.35	10	326.35
Seniors																					
CHRIS STICKELLS	12	10	12	20	0	0	17	0	71	56.35		0	0	0	0	0	0.00		318.76	10	328.76
MARK HANSEN	18	18	21	21	1	19	22	6	126	100.00		6	3	7	9	25	100.00		369.02	10	379.02

<b>VETERANS BEST CASTS FOR THE YEAR 2018 - 2019</b>									
LONGEST 56 GRAM								155.54	RON THOMAS
LONGEST ARTIFICIAL BAIT								139.45	RON THOMAS
LONGEST 112G								168.60	RON THOMAS
HIGHEST DOUBLE HANDED ACCURACY								167	RON THOMAS
HIGHEST SINGLE HANDED ACCURACY								34	RON THOMAS
<b>SENIORS BEST CASTS FOR THE YEAR 2018 - 2019</b>									
LONGEST 56 GRAM								140.78	ROB PEKAAR
LONGEST ARTIFICIAL BAIT								143.42	ROB PEKAAR
LONGEST 112G								158.76	ROB PEKAAR
HIGHEST DOUBLE HANDED ACCURACY								139	MARK HANSON
HIGHEST SINGLE HANDED ACCURACY								30	MARK HANSON

## *Members who make this publication possible*

I am deeply indebted to several Surf Casting members who have made my job in producing the Reel Talk a pleasure. I can always rely on great reports and articles which help make each issue an interesting read.

So, thank you to:

Our President – Shane Wignell – The president's reports are not easy to write each month

Our Field Day Officer – Martin Wearmouth - his excellent field day reports and photos for the Reel Talk cover are appreciated

Our Drycasting Officer – Ron Thomas - for his dedication and reports

Our Recorder – Justin Rose

John Curtis – John can always be relied upon of an article or two.

Peet Wessels – Field day and travel reports have been great reading

Peter Osborne – adds in an experienced fisher's perspective

Chris Stickells – has added a number of great articles

John Crompton – has contributed news items

Vince Tomazin – for his support

And everyone who has offered their support and encouragement

*Victor Schilo*

## ***TIPS FOR TACKLING BIG FISH***

Some valuable tips for cracking the code on big fish.

Why is it that some anglers seem to have all the luck while the rest always battle away to put together a decent catch of fish? The truth of the matter is that the guys who catch all the fish make their own luck through their dedication to the pursuit of their chosen target species.

It doesn't really matter which of life's pursuits you choose to follow, success always comes down to commitment. To misquote a prominent sports star "The harder I train the luckier I get" Sure, you see anglers occasionally get lucky and land a cracking fish at their first attempt, but to catch those benchmark sportfish species on a regular basis such as a big tailor, or a big Australian salmon, a mulloway or snapper in the surf or any other exceptional fish requires a level of dedication bordering on obsession.

So, what do you have to do to become one of those elite anglers who regularly get amongst those trophy fish that are so sought after by keen recreational fishers? I've had the opportunity to fish with plenty of elite anglers and fishing guides over the years and have always tried to look at what they're doing in the hope that it would help me become a better angler.

All the best anglers I've fished with over the years have been perfectionists in rigging. They're usually quite obsessive about their knots and particularly about the way their lures are swimming or baits are presented. It doesn't matter if those guys are lure or bait fishing at the first sign of any abrasion on their leaders, they always retie them. There's no complacency in knot tying or rigging with any of the good anglers that I've ever shared a boat, beach or rock platform within the past.

Another trait of all the successful big fish specialists I've known is that they're fastidious planners. They will have their outfits pre-rigged so they can fish "Spot X" tomorrow morning at a certain stage of the tide with their go to lure or fly. The same guys will usually have a "Plan B" option ready too in case someone beats them to their chosen spot or things don't go according to the plan, which often happens in the wonderful world of fishing.

Confidence or self-belief is critical to success, particularly in lure or fly fishing. Many times, I've been persevering at a location because I know it produces from hard earned experience and I've watched others turn up and give the spot a cursory flick, then move off and I've hooked up soon after.

Calmness under pressure is another attribute commonly found in the successful big fish anglers I've known. Usually the high fives and back slapping only begins once the big fish has been caught, revived and successfully released.

I've also found that today's elite anglers are all heavily involved in catch & release fishing and genuinely care about the future of their fisheries. The top anglers really do catch a lot of fish so they have a real handle on the state of their fisheries and want to ensure their sustainability for the future. I've noticed at a local level that the anglers still plastering social media with pics of dead fish don't actually consistently catch many big fish, so when they do occasionally fluke a half decent catch, they have to get it out there for reasons of self-gratification.

Further proof of this trend can be seen in the incredible growth in catch & release fishing tournaments around the country. These style competitions are growing because all the young elite angling talent is fishing them leaving the old bag limit catch & kill competitions to slowly wither & die out.

Finally, I think the finest big fish specialists are simply more driven & motivated than the majority of anglers who are often just happy to be out on the water on a nice day catching a few fish. This year I finally managed to crack my number one bucket list target of a mulloway on a lure.

Patience, planning, preparation, perseverance and place are just a small part of the successful fishing experience.

*Article by John Curtis*

# Driver of overweight caravan charged after accident

Wes Whitworth



It seems more often than not, we talk about vehicle and towing weights along with the dangers, and indeed the laws surrounding them, in our magazines. Prosecution is now pending against the driver of an overweight caravan, who has been charged after the death of two passengers in the vehicle.

Our sister publication *RV Daily*, has just published a story in their most recent issue detailing the circumstances surrounding the tragic death of a 72-year-old woman, Lynette Russell, and her son, Stephen Russell, who were killed when a Toyota Prado they were travelling in was involved in a single motor vehicle

accident. We can't go into detail about the circumstances surrounding the accident due to the ongoing case, however, we hope it will serve as an important reminder that the times of complacency when it comes to vehicle weights are gone.



*Image courtesy – NBN News*

The driver of the vehicle was a former driver in the Royal Australian Army, and once he left the defence force continued the career driving trucks, so there was no lack of training or experience at play. After the accident, in which only he and his son's girlfriend survived, NSW Police have charged

him with multiple offences, including *doing an act intending to pervert the course of justice; two counts of dangerous driving occasioning death; dangerous driving occasioning grievous bodily harm; and negligent driving occasioning grievous bodily harm.*

***Reprinted from Pat Callinan's 4X4 Adventures <newsletters@patcallinanmedia.com.au>***

***Timely warning to everyone who has a caravan.***



# Sunday Times Column



*Caption: Poppers like the Halco Roosta 45 are a fun way to catch bream*

## *Bream Big and Small*

Published: Saturday, 01 June 2019 15:57

*It's not always the size of the fish you catch which is the measure of how good a fishing session is.*

A case in point has been two recent trips I have done to the same spot on the south coast chasing black bream from my kayak. It's one of my favourite little estuaries and often produces some exceptional shallow water fishing for bream on lures.

A couple of months ago I fished this particular spot and had a day for the ages when it comes to bream fishing.

I caught six bream over the magical 40cm mark in length in a couple of frenetic hours, and the best of them was verging on being the mythical 50cm fish. I reckon I've only ever caught three bream that have gone close to 50, so any time you catch one that does it's a great thrill.

Interestingly, all three of my biggest bream have been caught on the same lure – a Bassday Sugar Lipless Stickbait and it's my go-to lure in this spot as the water is generally pretty shallow and the bottom can be very weedy.

I hadn't been back to that spot since that memorable day until last week, when Morris Wilkinson and I launched the kayaks and went for a paddle.

It soon turned out the bream were on the chew and my first couple of casts produced fish of 33 and 35cm, which was a good sign.

It ended up being another amazing session, but for very different reasons than the previous visit.

Rather than catching big fish, I found myself instead having a lot of fun fishing in the skinniest of water for smaller fish.

Morris stayed in slightly deeper water and was rewarded with a PB 44cm fish, but I couldn't drag myself away from the shallows.

It was only 10-15cm deep and my kayak was bottoming out, but the shallows were full of hungry bream in the 20-28cm range.

They weren't huge but they were ferocious, and I could see bow waves behind my lure so I knew when I was about to get a hit.

These bream were regularly launching into the air on the strike or demolishing the lures with broadside attacks and a big flash of silver.

It seemed the skinnier the water the more fish there were and I soon switched from a stickbait to a Halco Roosta 45 popper, which worked a treat.

Catching bream on poppers can be tricky, but these fish were smashing the popper ferociously time and again and I caught a stack of energetic bream this way. The hits and follows were just fantastic to see and I couldn't drag myself away from the action to try for bigger fish.

It was an epic little session on smallish bream, which only came to an end when a flock of seagulls took an interest in my popper and understandably seemed to spook the bream.

Unlike my previous visit, I didn't catch any of the trophy fish but it didn't matter one iota because it was one of those occasions that was all about the fun rather than the brag mat.

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## ***NOTES FROM AAA DELEGATES COUNCIL MEETING 16<sup>th</sup> JULY 2019***

The President welcomed Dr Andrew Matthews to the meeting and invited him to address the meeting. Dr Matthews made a presentation covering the activities being undertaken by Ozfish throughout Australia and in particular Western Australia. These include Habitat and Riparian Restoration being undertaken to improve fish habitat in locations such as the Canning River. Also included in their projects is a "Snag for A Snag" project which is cleaning snags in the upper Swan River to improve the uptake of mussel and shellfish spat onto them. Another project focused on re-snagging and restoring shellfish reefs near the Shelley Foreshore. This will provide valuable habitat for popular angling species such as Black Bream.

Another program that attracted a lot of interest late last year was the "Seeds for Snapper" where a lot of boat anglers were involved in collecting and seeding the seagrass seeds from and into Cockburn Sound. The project was very successful and will continue again this year in November.

There are also programs using recovered oyster and mussel shells from restaurants and food outlets in Perth and Fremantle. These are dried and cleaned and then used in an aggregation of cement to form a reef surface for molluscs to attach and provide protection for juvenile fish.

Ozfish is a voluntary, not-for-profit organization that is funded from various sources including Federal, State and government organizations such as FRDC, Biodiversity, Conservation & Science; EPA; DPIRD; Swan River Trust; University of Western Australia and several other organizations.

He indicated that many of these projects are funded and volunteers are needed to assist with them. Anglers are invited to participate in these projects and can find further information on the web site at <https://ozfish.org.au/ozfish-perth-chapter/>

This presentation was well received and prompted several questions and comments from the delegates present.

**Note:** Should clubs require Dr Andrew Matthews to speak at a club meeting please contact AAA-WA Secretary, Tony Ayrey for contact details.

### **Treasurer's Report**

The Treasurer presented a financial report detailing the financial affairs of the Association which show that the Association is in a healthy position financially.

### **Reports:**

#### **President's Report.**

The President presented a brief report on activities involving the Association and meetings attended.

A meeting was held at Fisheries Department offices in Hillarys with the Landcorp Project Team dealing with the development of the Ocean Reef Marina.

A very good meeting explaining the project to date, what is to be done, and the cost. The budget is \$120m and completion is to be staged between 2025 and 2036. Problems involved include excision of section of the Marmion Marine Park, reparation of abalone reef for recreational and commercial abalone fishing. Discussion also included provision and location of fishing platforms and construction processes using recycled materials from Subiaco Oval and other locations.

The Association is also working on preparation of the Snag It - Tag It cards for Recfishwest. 1500 packs of a total of 4000 have been finalised.

### **Rock & Beach and Estuary Report**

Russell Bunce reported that a club is still required to run the 2020 R & B State competition at Port Gregory. A motion was put at last meeting to change this event date and was discussed and will be voted on at the next meeting.

The next State Estuary event is to be held at Walpole and the MAAC club has agreed to run the event.

### **Boating Report:**

There was nobody from the Boating sub-committee at the meeting however the next Boating sub-committee will be held on Thursday night 18<sup>th</sup> July at 7:00PM at Hillary Yacht Club.

### **Drycasting Report:**

There is nothing to report from Drycasting.

### **Recorder's Report:**

An application has been received for a Snubnose Garfish (*Arrhamphus sclerolepis* Günther 1866) caught at Gwalia Bay Exmouth by Nadine Freeman of the MAAC club. This application is an inaugural State Record.

A National Record application for a Camouflage Grouper, (*Epinephelus polyphekadion* Bleeker 1849) from Queensland has been received and included on the National Record Chart as an inaugural record for the species.

Both records were ratified by the meeting.

### **General Business:**

Brag Mats:

A sample of the brag mats was shown to the meeting and orders are to be taken from clubs for these mats. Should clubs require their club logo be added to the mat, print ready masters are to be sent to John Curtis for inclusion on the mat.

### **Snag It -Tag It Cards:**

This year 4000 packs of tags are being prepared and there have been 1500 packs completed to date. Further tags and cable ties have been ordered.

### **Association Web Site:**

Secretary Tony Ayrey has been working on transposing data from the old site to the new site and it is progressing slowly due to the structure of the old site being archaic and difficult to work with. The new site is operational.

Photographs and club details are still required for inclusion. Club information on meeting times, location and activities can be sent to the [secretary@aaa-wa.org.au](mailto:secretary@aaa-wa.org.au) . Photographs are to be sent to [jcurtis@inet.net.au](mailto:jcurtis@inet.net.au) . Please ensure photographs are clear, in focus, with anglers holding 'clean fish'





# Is privacy in your genes?

*It can be illuminating to find out details about your ancestors, but have you considered the risks of DNA testing? When you give your DNA to a corporation, you may be giving away more than you bargained for. Consider these privacy implications before you get tested.*

By: Charlotte Empey, 13 June 2019

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***You want to know your ancestry ... but is it worth sharing your genetic code with the world?***

There's big business in genealogy. Whether it's a family tree that goes straight up and down like a mighty oak, or stretches east and west into dozens of brambles, people want to know their genetic makeup. Family history site Ancestry.com boasts 20 million members. 23andMe has a database of over 5 million members, and MyHeritage has approximately 2.5 million. That's more than 27.5 million people, and that's only counting three brands out of 50+ on the market. [MIT Technology Review estimates](#) that if the current level of public interest continues, commercial genetic databases will hold the info of 100 million people by 2021.

Because our genetic codes reveal so much, the associated risks and rewards are tremendous. Discovering our ancestry is only one revelation offered by today's genealogy services. We can also choose to find family, learn which traits we've inherited, and discover if we're predisposed to Alzheimer's, gene mutations that can lead to cancer, diabetes, and more. In exchange for \$100-\$200 and some saliva, we get a more detailed picture of who we are – and open a Pandora's box of self-discovery.

The risks arise when we look at the security these companies are using. Our genetic data is valuable to organizations including law enforcement, pharmaceutical labs, and app developers.

**Law enforcement** — Investigative genealogy can solve cases, such as the infamous Golden State Killer case, which went unsolved for decades until the [FBI used a public genealogy database](#) in April 2018 to find a distant relative that led to the arrest of the killer.

**Pharmaceutical labs** — [23andMe says 80% of their customers opt in](#) to allow their data to be used for research programs. Some of these genealogy companies have formed partnerships with drug developers, such as the deal 23andMe has with GlaxoSmithKline and the collaboration between Ancestry and Google spin-off Calico.

**App developers** — With your genetic data, software developers can design more personalized services within their fitness and wellness apps, tailoring their products to target biological needs.

Some may not mind if their personal info is used toward any of these applications, while others might see it as a gross violation of privacy. In all the excitement of learning about ourselves, many of us forget that these are not healthcare services but money-making businesses selling a product. After they've provided what we've requested and if we don't want our genetic data to be used by others, it is our right to delete our data from their system. Otherwise, we risk becoming part of a data bank of genetic info. In a [Forbes article](#) on the subject, medical privacy expert Nicole Martin warns,

*If leaked, this data could cause people to be genetically discriminated against by employers, insurance companies, banks, etc.... Since there is no real established precedent for DNA data, there are many issues that could come if your data is leaked and no laws to truly protect you at the moment.*

Our safety is in our own hands, so let's get specific. According to a [Consumer Reports investigation](#), here's how to erase your info from the three biggest genealogy services.

## **23andMe**

According to a 23andMe representative, customers can delete their personal information from their account settings page. Regarding the sample you send in, it is destroyed after it is analyzed unless you consent to having it stored (or "biobanked"). If you consented to have your data used for research, it cannot be removed from active or completed studies, but you can rescind your consent so your info won't be used in future

studies. Even so, 23andMe is legally required to retain the info along with a few identifying stats such as age and gender if it has been used for research.

### **Ancestry**

You can delete your data by first signing in, then clicking Your DNA Results Summary in the DNA tab. Then click on Settings and select Delete Test Results. You can also choose to delete your entire account, which will delete your data at the same time and trigger the destruction of your biological sample. If you'd like to keep your account and data, but still have your sample destroyed, Ancestry requests that you contact their [member support department](#).

### **MyHeritage**

Customers can request their data and test sample be deleted by [contacting the support team](#) by phone or email. To delete the data only, customers can select the Manage DNA Kits section in their accounts and click the button to delete the data. If you'd like to withdraw consent to research that you previously gave, you can do that in the Privacy section under My DNA Preferences.

### **Look before you leap**

If you're interested in taking a deep dive into your genetic makeup, read up on the company you're choosing. Make sure you're comfortable with their policies and security procedures. Here are the privacy policies of the big three:

[23andMe Privacy Policy](#)

[Ancestry Privacy Policy](#)

[MyHeritage Privacy Policy](#)

Your safety and privacy are in your own hands. You can weigh the pros and cons of having your genetic data active with one of the testing labs above: You can keep getting updates on your genetic profile for new discoveries, or you can decide that you know enough and would like to return to privacy when it comes to your genetic data. The choice is up to you.

Reprinted from Avast News [news@emails.avast.com](mailto:news@emails.avast.com)

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# **Solar Blankets vs Solar Panels**

Article from [4wdingaustralia](#)

Solar technology has come in leaps and bounds, and there is some truly awesome gear on the market today.

If you haven't already seen one, you can get blankets which fold out and act as solar panels. They are similar to a picnic blanket, although a fair bit heavier and with a cable you run to a regulator and then your batteries, to keep the power flowing in.

They are super impressive, and do an amazing job at charging batteries, and I can't wait to see what technology will be out in 10 years.

## **What's good about a solar blanket?**

Solar blankets are very portable, less fragile than normal panels, can be packed much easier and work extremely well as a backup or extra panel as the conditions require it. They are also portable, so you don't have to worry about shade and where you camp – you can just move them into the sun.

## **What's not good about solar blankets?**

There are a couple of things that I don't like about solar blankets:

### **Easy to steal**

Unfortunately, we live in a world where some people don't feel the need to work for their gear; they just take someone else's. Solar blankets are super easy to steal. They are relatively light, can be folded up under your arm and have no way of being secured.

I've seen a few of them laid out at camp sites, and wondered how often they get nicked. Normal style panels can be locked to drawbars or towbars if you have to leave them, and they are also much harder to tuck under your arm and walk away with!

What makes things even worse is they are extremely expensive when compared to your average monocrystalline panels, so if they do get taken you are going to feel a lot worse off than if it was just a cheap, solid panel.



UNLIKE A BOLTED, PERMANENT PANEL SOLAR BLANKETS ARE EASY TO STEAL

### **Hard to hang in a good position**

You can get all sorts of different size solar blankets, but I've yet to see a way of hanging them in a decent manner. You can put them on your wind screen, bonnet, roof or the floor.

None of those solutions work flawlessly.

Panels work best when they are facing the sun; how many hours a day does your wind screen face the sun? Probably an hour or two, if you park the car in the right direction. What happens in 2 hours time when the suns moved? Do you turn your car around?

I've seen these used on wind screens, and you are forever ending up with shadows from snorkels and antennas on your solar, which dramatically reduces their output.

If you put it on your bonnet, and you've been through mud and grit then you are likely to scratch the paintwork, and on the floor it doesn't face the sun either, and is at risk of being stood on, or driven over.

Now, I understand that these are pretty good at absorbing sun in what ever position they are in, but they can only do so much.

### **Seriously pricey**

When the cheapest 120W solar blanket you can buy is about \$220 (with questionable quality), you've got to wonder about whether solar blankets are good value for money. If we look at the top end of the scale, you'll pay \$2350 for a 112W Redarc Amorphous Solar Blanket. No doubt these are some of the best quality products on the market, but you pay for it!

For that price, you can get 15 and a half 200W normal 12V solar panels. Obviously, you probably don't need that, but it gives you an idea of how much more expensive they are.

Speaking of price, if you are looking at solar panels on eBay, take a read of this – [eBay solar panels; how to avoid getting ripped off](#).

### **How durable are they?**

Another area that I am keen to see information on is the durability. Folding solar panels and fixed normal panels have proven themselves. I've had 600W of panels mounted on top of my 4WD and camper trailer for several years now, and with some decent bracing they've copped with some truly terrible 4WD tracks without any issues.

I do wonder how long a solar blanket will last if you are opening and closing it on a regular basis. Only time will tell.



## They require you to work for your power

If I'm completely honest, I prefer a solar system that does its thing without you touching it, ever. If you can, a fixed solar system that is oversized is the way to go; you never have to set anything up, you never have to monitor battery voltages, and you never have to move anything around to follow the sun.

Solar blankets are a bit more user friendly in terms of setup time than a folding panel set, but they certainly don't involve doing nothing at all.



THE WHOLE REASON I GOT RID OF FOLDING PANELS IS BECAUSE THEY TAKE TIME AND EFFORT TO USE

## Portable or fixed panels?

There are pro's and con's for portable and fixed solar panels. If you want a comprehensive list of things to think about, read this – [Fixed or Portable solar panels; which is better?](#)



PORTABLE PANELS HAVE SOME GREAT BENEFITS, AND A FEW DRAWBACKS TOO

## Going forward

The future is very bright; these will come down in price like normal solar panels have done, and soon you'll be able to add one to your camping arsenal for a much cheaper price. For some people, they work very well. For us, we've gone with permanently mounted panels on the Camper trailer and Dmax, and never have to move or set anything up!

If you move regularly, and would be getting folding solar panels anyway, check the solar blankets out; they are pretty amazing bits of kit.





# The Buzz on Energy Drinks

Energy drinks have become increasingly popular especially among young adults (and children). Energy drinks contain substances such as caffeine and guarana and although many parents would not allow their young children to drink tea or coffee because they contain caffeine, many are not aware of the quantity of caffeine in energy drinks. The high caffeine content of some energy drinks is of concern. A recent Australian study found that 42% of adolescents aged between 11-18 years had consumed energy drinks in the 2 week period prior to the study.

## What do these drinks contain?

Energy drinks usually contain ingredients such as:

**Caffeine:** The typical energy drink provides about 80mg of caffeine per can (although this varies between brands). This is about the same as the amount of caffeine provided by an average strength cup of instant coffee, and about twice the amount in a cup of tea or can of cola soft drink.

**Guarana:** Guarana is a caffeine-containing extract from a South American plant. It is the main source of caffeine present in these drinks.

**Sugar:** The amount of sugar in energy drinks is usually much higher (10-12%) than in "sports drinks" (6-8%). Although sugar provides a quick source of energy, too much can lead to dental problems and obesity. Higher levels of sugar can also slow the body's absorption of water, which makes these drinks unsuitable for use during or after exercise.

**Protein:** Proteins such as taurine are sometimes added to these drinks. As the typical Australian diet is relatively high in protein, few people are likely to benefit from their inclusion.

## What are the health effects of the caffeine in these drinks?

Caffeine is a 'stimulant' that speeds up parts of the body and brain. It increases heart rate, blood pressure and body temperature. In high doses it can cause hand tremors and changes in the heart's rhythm. Too much caffeine can have a negative effect both on sports performance and on health.

Young children can suffer disturbed sleeping patterns, bed-wetting and anxiety from the caffeine in just one can of energy drink. It is recommended that pre-teenage children should not consume high caffeine drinks and their use by people in their early teens should also be discouraged.

Some people are especially sensitive to caffeine, showing symptoms such as tremors, sleep disturbances and stomach upsets following even small doses of caffeine. The following people should avoid the high caffeine intake from energy drinks:

- caffeine-sensitive people
- young children
- people with heart disease
- pregnant women (especially in the first 3 months of pregnancy)

Some people choose to mix energy drinks with alcohol. When alcohol and caffeine is combined, it can be very difficult to judge how much alcohol has been consumed. The consumer is more likely to suffer the effects of dehydration including fainting, dizziness, headaches, nausea and loss of coordination and balance.



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## Be Drug Free!

Supplied by John Crompton