



# REEL TALK

*Surf Casting and Angling Club of WA*

*December 2018*





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

PO Box 2834, Malaga WA 6944

ABN 29 925 237 020

Email: [surfcaster@inet.net.au](mailto:surfcaster@inet.net.au)

Club Web page: <http://www.surfcasters.inet.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, Gary Parkinson,

Shane Wignell, Peet Wessels, John Curtis,

Derek Smith, Alan Jones

### **Company Sponsors:**

Alvey Australia

Australian Monofil (Platypus lines)

Belmont City Medical Centre (Dr Sri Srigandan)

Bladon WA (Martin Wearmouth)

Central Seafoods

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  
[treasurerscac@iinet.net.au](mailto:treasurerscac@iinet.net.au)

**Secretary**

George Belin  
0437 489 441  
Club email [surfcaster@iinet.net.au](mailto:surfcaster@iinet.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

**Assistant Field Day Officer**

Vince Tomazin

**Recorder**

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

**Committee Person**

Sri Srigandan

**AAAWA Delegates**

Victor Schilo, Shane Wignell

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

PO Box 2834, Malaga WA 694

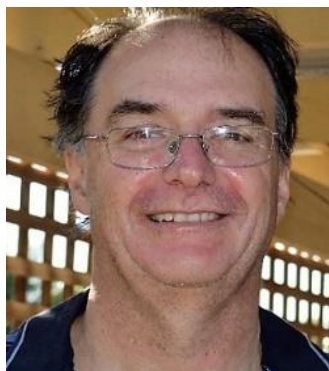
The Website Co-ordinator, Property Officer, AAWA Delegates, Reel Talk Editor, Dry Casting Officer, Assistant Dry Casting Officer, Field Day / Assistant Field Day Officer, Membership Co-ordinator are Committee functions and not extra Committee positions.

## **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

## President`s Report December 2018



Things are pretty quiet at present so not a lot to report. Finalisation of the Kalbarri property sale proceeded without problems and the funds are now safely deposited in a fixed term deposit earning interest.

The committee`s decision to use some of the projected funds to substantially subsidise the Presentation night was well received by the members present at the November General Meeting. What is already a good value night out has become even better so we will anticipate a big turn out next year. As said previously, member`s suggestions on good uses for the money are very welcome. It really is a very fortunate position to be in.

Soon we will be turning our attention to Field Day choices for next season. All the usual suspects are there and most likely we will end up with a program similar to previous years. I note that the Esperance safari for March 2019 already has several members committed. If it is the success, we anticipate then perhaps we could look at incorporating a safari annually in to the program. It gives members the chance to participate in the competition over the few days assigned to it as well as option of spending however many days they wish, or are able to, fishing more casually with other members. Another advantage of course, is it lends itself to more distant locations and experiences. Thoughts?

Finally, this will be last Reel Talk before the festive season so I would like to wish all members and their families all the best for the season. Also of course, the December General Meeting will be followed by pizza and perhaps a surprise. Hope to see you all there.

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### **Quote for the month:**

Standing in the middle of the road is very dangerous; you get knocked down by the traffic from both sides.

*Margaret Thatcher*

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### **December General Meeting**

Wednesday 12 December 2018

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 2018/19.**

Dates	Venue	Boundaries
15 - 16 December 2018	Moore River to 3 Mile	From Moore river mouth to north end of 3 Mile beach.
26 - 28 January 2019	Open	Go anywhere WA.
16 - 17 February 2019	Preston / White Hills	From Preston south beach to northern end of White Hills.
1 - 8 March 2019	Esperance Safari.	Around Esperance area. Poison Creek (Sandy Bight) ect.
19 - 22 April 2019	Bluff Creek.	As far as you are willing to walk on both ends of beach.

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

Lines Down for long weekends – Saturday 6.00am

Lines up for long weekends – 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**

## **Surf Casters November 17 and 18 2018 Cervantes to Sandy Cape field day**

9 members signed on for this field day, Geoff Raftis, Shane Wignell, Jason Bambridge, Peter Osborne, Gary Parkinson, Vince Tomazin, Ron Thomas, Peet Wessels, Martin Wearmouth, And Mark Hansen fished locally.

The weather forecast for this weekend was the best we have had for quite a few field days, both wind and swell were low, 5 of us met at 8am at wilbinga grove (Peter Osborne, Gary Parkinson, Vince Tomazin, Peet Wessels, Martin Wearmouth) to make the trip to hill river, on arrival we headed to the track on the south side of hill river to look for a good spot to target bream, the track was lined with trees as we got close to the river and the 1<sup>st</sup> spot we found did not have good access to the river with thick trees right up to the river bank, the 2<sup>nd</sup> spot had a nice clear bank and we all started fishing.



We immediately started catching bream but only about 15-20cm in size, we stayed at this spot for an hour but with no luck on getting a size bream, Ron Thomas had come up earlier and was fishing at the mouth of hill river, he called and said a lot of people were starting to set up on the beach so we packed up and moved to the hill river mouth to secure a spot.

On the way in Vince found he could not engage 4WD, this held up a couple of us as he got stuck on the track just before the beach, after a few tries it was clear that his 4WD was not going to work and we let his tyres down to 10PSI and he managed to back up then take a lower track on harder sand next to the river, he parked on the hard sand next to the river and stayed off the soft sand, when we left he had no problem getting back to the car park in 2WD.





On arrival at the beach the water looked good but still had a small amount of sea weed, we all choose out spot and set up, Gary and I moved to a spot south that was between 2 sand dunes and Gary got bogged in the soft sand on the way up, we got the snatch strap out and in no time had him moving again.



Fishing was slow with mainly whiting being caught, but some very nice size whiting between 25-30cm, In the last year the whiting at this spot seem to have come in in big numbers, Ron ended up with 18 weighed in as he fished hard for them and caught them all day.

Over the day a few species came in Whiting, Herring, Tailor, Pike, Flathead and Flounder, the Tailor did not have a good run with only 6 being caught at Hill River in total, This spot in the past has been very reliable for Tailor but in the last 18 months they seem to have moved elsewhere.

With light winds all day and night the fishing and camping where a pleasure, a few more fish would have



been nice but it was good to be out in the sun and enjoying the conditions, At about 8pm I had a good run and with some good weight I fought it for about 25 minutes, after 2 good runs I was not sure but then it just settled in and I knew it was a ray or shovel nose, It turned out to be a big shovel nose and after removing the hooks it was sent on its way.

The morning fishing was again slow, Peter Osborne managed 3 Tailor between 5am – 5.15am but most had little to no luck, we all packed up about 8.30am and made our way back to the car park for the weigh in, The car park was packed as Fremantle had there weigh in at the same time.

Geoff Raftis fished at the south point in Jurien Bay and managed his bag of 8 tailor easily even releasing some after having already got his bag but enjoying the hot bite for a bit longer, he said a few days earlier he was catching 2kg fish and lost some even bigger ones, but on Saturday night only the 30-40cm tailor came on the bite.

Mark Hansen fished Sunday morning as there was a lot of smoke in the air all Saturday and from previous experience, fish don't bite when there's smoke, First light Sunday, tried a jetty at freshwater bay and only caught blowies, then moved to the North mole and landed a wrasse which was released.

Thanks to those who fished, and I hope to see as many as possible at the December field day.



ANGLER		Species	Species	Species	Species	Species	Species	Species	Total weight	No. of Species	No. of fish	F.D. points	Attendance			Total points
		Herring, Australian	Tailor	Whiting (other than listed)	Pike	Flathead (all species)	Flounder (all species)	Wrasse (all species) 1 only					Field Day	Local	General Meeting	
Ron Thomas	Number	1	18	1	1				3.08	4	21	91.8	1		1	111.8
	Total weight		0.46	2.10	0.20	0.32										
	Weight of best															
Peter Osborne	Number	1	4	9					3.16	3	14	75.6	1		1	95.6
	Total weight	0.16	1.91	1.09												
	Weight of best		0.56													
Geoff Raftis	Number	1	8						3.99	2	9	68.9	1		1	88.9
	Total weight	0.16	3.83													
	Weight of best		0.66													
Peet Wessels	Number	1		1		1	1		0.91	4	4	53.1	1		1	73.1
	Total weight	0.12		0.15		0.23	0.41									
	Weight of best															
Martin Wearmouth	Number		1	3		1			1.02	3	5	45.2	1		1	65.2
	Total weight		0.38	0.38		0.26										
	Weight of best															
Gary Parkinson	Number			1		1			0.28	2	2	24.8	1		1	44.8
	Total weight			0.16		0.12										
	Weight of best															
Shane Wignell	Number			4					0.48	1	4	18.8	1		1	38.8
	Total weight			0.48												
	Weight of best															
Vincent Tomazin	Number			2					0.29	1	2	14.9	1			24.9
	Total weight			0.29												
	Weight of best															
Jason Bambridge	Number			1					0.12	1	1	12.2	1			22.2
	Total weight			0.12												
	Weight of best															
<b>LOCAL BELOW</b>																
Mark Hansen	Number							1	0.31	1	1	14.1		1	1	34.1
	Total weight															
	Weight of best															

Top scores up to November 2018		
Rank	Angler	Total points
1	Martin Wearmouth	813.8
2	Peter Osborne	687.2
3	Mark Hansen	602.2
4	Peet Wessels	501.7
5	Sandra Wessels	312.4
6	Gary Parkinson	276.1
7	Theo Van Niekerk	261.4
8	Mark Nurse	228.9
9	Paul Terpkos	223.5
10	Shane Wignell	196.9
11	Vincent Tomazin	159.5
12	Ron Thomas	152.3
13	Chris Stickells	125.0
14	Sabby Pizzolante	118.5
15	Ian Taggart	95.6
16	Geoff Raftis	88.9
17	Ian Cook	69.1
18	Helen Carnell	52.1
19	Sarah Wignell	40.0
20	Jason Bambridge	22.2



## DRY CASTING DATES FOR 2018

PLEASE NOTE THE NEW VENUE

Guildford Polo Ground

**Competition casting starts at 8:00am**

**Held on Sunday of:**

**December 2:**

### DRY CASTING – SURFCASTERS

**4<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2018**

Not much to write about this month as only 6 turned up on the day and I do thank those regulars, as without them there would be no dry casting.

The DHA scores were down a little with Mark scoring only 92 and Hendo with 126, and mine was a lot better with my P.B. at 167. Mark and I both top scored in the SHA with 30. Mark should have done a little better having 26 on the first 3 casts but only 4 in the last cast.

Marks distance didn't start off the way we would have liked, with one B/O and one out, but then picked up in the 112gr with a cast of 132.

DCO

Ron Thomas

### SURF CASTING & ANGLING CLUB

#### Dry casting results - 4th November 2018

	56 gram					Artificial Bait					112gram			
	Cast	Cast	Total	%		Cast	Cast	Total	%		Cast	Cast	Total	%
<b>Veterans</b>	1	2				1	2				1	2		
PETER OSBORNE	B/O	104.78	104.78	36.34		82.66	86.22	168.88	68.11		95.92	99.48	195.40	60.94
JOHN CROMPTON	88.65	94.73	183.38	63.60		83.33	80.63	163.96	66.12		97.99	98.32	196.31	61.22
RON THOMAS	140.82	147.51	288.33	100.00		131.09	116.87	247.96	100.00		160.88	159.77	320.65	100.00
DEAN STEWART	83.19	89.23	172.42	59.80		82.58	75.39	157.97	63.71		68.57	94.35	162.92	50.81
BOB HENDERSON	113.67	117.54	231.21	80.19		104.19	107.28	211.47	85.28		126.34	B/O	126.34	39.40
<b>Seniors</b>														
MARK HANSEN	OUT	B/O	0.00	0.00		91.95	94.64	186.59	100.00		117.97	131.56	249.53	100.00

### SURF CASTING & ANGLING CLUB

#### Dry casting results - 4th November 2018

	Double Handed Accuracy										Single Handed Accuracy										Total	Attendance	Total
	Target number										Target distance										%	D/Casting	Points
<b>Veterans</b>	3	3	1	1	4	4	2	2	Total	%	L	S	L	S	Total	%					%		
PETER OSBORNE	22	0	0	1	0	0	17	12	52	31.14	9	1	9	5	24	80.00					276.53	10	286.53
JOHN CROMPTON	0	2	19	0	0	0	0	20	41	24.55	0	8	0	0	8	26.66					242.15	10	252.15
RON THOMAS	21	23	23	21	20	16	23	20	167	100.00	7	10	7	6	30	100.00					500.00	10	510.00
DEAN STEWART	3	10	10	0	7	16	18	10	74	44.31	3	8	7	7	25	83.33					301.96	10	311.96
BOB HENDERSON	20	0	14	11	21	19	17	24	126	75.45	DNC					0	0.00				280.32	10	290.32
<b>Seniors</b>																							
MARK HANSEN	0	9	7	13	16	17	14	16	92	100.00	9	9	8	4	30	100.00					400.00	10	410.00

VETERANS BEST CASTS FOR THE YEAR 2018 - 2019													
LONGEST 56 GRAM								148.66		RON THOMAS			
LONGEST ARTIFICIAL BAIT								139.45		RON THOMAS			
LONGEST 112G								166.46		RON THOMAS			
HIGHEST DOUBLE HANDED ACCURACY								167		RON THOMAS			
HIGHEST SINGLE HANDED ACCURACY								34		RON THOMAS			

SENIORS BEST CASTS FOR THE YEAR 2018 - 2019													
LONGEST 56 GRAM								140.78		ROB PEKAAR			
LONGEST ARTIFICIAL BAIT								143.42		ROB PEKAAR			
LONGEST 112G								158.76		ROB PEKAAR			
HIGHEST DOUBLE HANDED ACCURACY								129		MARK HANSON			
HIGHEST SINGLE HANDED ACCURACY								30		MARK HANSON			

## **Birthdays for December**



*George Holman (Past President; Life Member) 12<sup>th</sup>;*

Justin Rose 14<sup>th</sup>; Christian Wearmouth 14<sup>th</sup>;  
Sandra Wessels 20<sup>th</sup>; Darcy Tomilinson 21<sup>st</sup>; Ron Thomas 27<sup>th</sup>;  
Derek Smith 30<sup>th</sup>.

*We wish you all the best for your special day*



### **Special Offer for SCAC Members**

Are you suffering winter blues then come to Gnaraloo Homestead for the beach and sunshine!

We are offering the following:

Pay for 2 nights and get the 3rd night free in the new cabins at the homestead or pay for 4 nights and get 6 nights.

Offer applies from 11th October 2018 to 28th February 2019 (subject to availability and strictly new bookings only).

Terms and conditions apply.

For further details phone 089 315 4809 or 0899 42 5927 or email [homestead@gnaraloo.com.au](mailto:homestead@gnaraloo.com.au) or [bookings@gnaraloo.com.au](mailto:bookings@gnaraloo.com.au)

Michelle Kiry

Marketing Officer for Gnaraloo Station

Ningaloo Coast World Heritage Area, Western Australia

**Email:** [sales@gnaraloo.com.au](mailto:sales@gnaraloo.com.au)

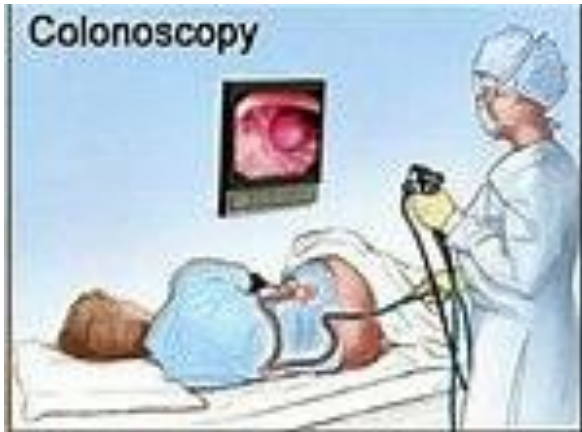
**Mobile:** +61 0499 032 981

**Website:** [www.gnaraloo.com](http://www.gnaraloo.com)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/gnaraloostation>



## Colonoscopy – no joke



I called my friend Andy Sable, a gastroenterologist, to make an appointment for a colonoscopy. A few days later, in his office, Andy showed me a colour diagram of the colon, a lengthy organ that appears to go all over the place, at one point passing briefly through Melbourne. Then Andy explained the colonoscopy procedure to me in a thorough, reassuring and patient manner. I nodded thoughtfully, but I didn't really hear anything he said, because my brain was shrieking, quote, 'HE'S GOING TO STICK A TUBE 17,000 FEET UP YOUR BEHIND!'

I left Andy's office with some written instructions, and a prescription for a product called 'MoviPrep,' which comes in a box large enough to hold a microwave oven. I will discuss MoviPrep in detail later; for now, suffice it to say that we must never allow it to fall into the hands of Australia's enemies.

I spent the next several days productively sitting around being nervous. Then, on the day before my colonoscopy, I began my preparation. In accordance with my instructions, I didn't eat any solid food that day; all I had was chicken broth, which is basically water, only with less flavour. Then, in the evening, I took the MoviPrep. You mix two packets of powder together in a one-litre plastic jug, then you fill it with lukewarm water. (For those unfamiliar with the metric system, a litre is about 32 gallons.) Then you have to drink the whole jug. This takes about an hour, because MoviPrep tastes - and here I am being kind - like a mixture of goat spit and urinal cleanser, with just a hint of lemon.

The instructions for MoviPrep, clearly written by somebody with a great sense of humour, state that after you drink it, 'a loose, watery bowel movement may result.' This is kind of like saying that after you jump off your roof, you may experience contact with the ground.

MoviPrep is a nuclear laxative. I don't want to be too graphic, here, but: have you ever seen a space-shuttle launch? This is pretty much the MoviPrep experience, with you as the shuttle. There are times when you wish the commode had a seat belt. You spend several hours pretty much confined to the bathroom, spurting violently. You eliminate everything. And then, when you figure you must be totally empty, you have to drink another litre of MoviPrep, at which point, as far as I can tell, your bowels travel into the future and start eliminating food that you have not even eaten yet.

After an action-packed evening, I finally got to sleep. The next morning my wife drove me to the clinic. I was very nervous. Not only was I worried about the procedure, but I had been experiencing occasional return bouts of MoviPrep spurtage. I was thinking, 'What if I spurt on Andy?' How do you apologize to a friend for something like that? Flowers would not be enough.

At the clinic I had to sign many forms acknowledging that I understood and totally agreed with whatever the heck the forms said. Then they led me to a room full of other colonoscopy people, where I went inside a little curtained space and took off my clothes and put on one of those hospital garments designed by sadist perverts, the kind that, when you put it on, makes you feel even more naked than when you are actually naked.

Then a nurse named Eddie put a little needle in a vein in my left hand. Ordinarily I would have fainted, but Eddie was very good, and I was already lying down. Eddie also told me that some people put vodka in their MoviPrep. At first I was ticked off that I hadn't thought of this, but then I pondered what would happen if you got yourself too tipsy to make it to the bathroom, so you were staggering around in full fire hose mode. You would have no choice but to burn your house down.

When everything was ready, Eddie wheeled me into the procedure room, where Andy was waiting with a nurse and an anaesthesiologist. I did not see the 17,000-foot tube, but I knew Andy had it hidden around there somewhere. I was seriously nervous at this point. Andy had me roll over on my left side, and the anaesthesiologist began hooking something up to the needle in my hand. There was music playing in the

room, and I realized that the song was 'Dancing Queen' by ABBA. I remarked to Andy that, of all the songs that could be playing during this particular procedure, 'Dancing Queen' had to be the least appropriate.

'You want me to turn it up?' said Andy, from somewhere behind me. 'Ha ha,' I said. And then it was time, the moment I had been dreading for more than a decade. If you are squeamish, prepare yourself, because I am going to tell you, in explicit detail, exactly what it was like.

I have no idea. Really. I slept through it. One moment, ABBA was yelling 'Dancing Queen, feel the beat of the tambourine,' and the next moment, I was back in the other room, waking up in a very mellow mood. Andy was looking down at me and asking me how I felt. I felt excellent. I felt even more excellent when Andy told me that it was all over, and that my colon had passed with flying colours. I have never been prouder of an internal organ.

On the subject of Colonoscopies...

Colonoscopies are no joke, but these comments during the exam were quite humorous..... A doctor claimed that the following are actual comments made by his patients (predominately male) while he was performing their colonoscopies:

1. 'Take it easy, Doc. You're boldly going where no man has gone before!'
2. 'Have you found Amelia Earhart yet?'
3. 'Can you hear me NOW?'
4. 'Are we there yet? Are we there yet? Are we there yet?'
5. 'You know, in Victoria, we're now legally married.'
6. 'Any sign of the trapped miners?'
7. 'You put your left hand in, you take your left hand out...'
8. 'Hey! Now I know how a Muppet feels!'
9. 'If your hand doesn't fit, you must quit!'
10. 'Hey Doc, let me know if you find my dignity.'
11. 'You used to be an executive at Enron, didn't you?'
12. 'God, now I know why I am not gay.'

And the best one of all.

13. 'Could you write a note for my wife saying that my head is not up there?'
- 

### **Petrol's invisible dangers**

***Householders using even a small amounts of petrol in gardening and other equipment should never take its explosive power for granted.***

Petrol is highly flammable as a liquid and also very flammable in vapour form. Vapours can travel along the ground and become ignited far from the original fuel source – even the pilot light in a hot water system is a potential ignition source.

When refueling any machine or equipment at home, consider the vicinity of potential ignition sources. Stay well away from hot water systems, electrical equipment and tools that can create sparks. You should refill machinery outdoors in a well-ventilated area. Always refill with the engine off and make sure the machine has cooled down beforehand. Avoid getting petrol on your skin.

Petrol must only be stored in containers that are specifically designed for fuel storage. Some containers are susceptible to static build up and the discharge can ignite flammable vapours. Store it in a cool, well ventilated place and only store a small quantity at any one time. Never store inside your home.

When filling a fuel container at a service station place the container on the ground and ensure the pump nozzle is in contact with the container. This will discharge any static electricity build up.

*First printed in RAC's December/January Horizons Magazine and republished with permission.*



## SUMMER FISHING



Summer time is the prime time to be out and about fishing. It is a great recreational pursuit and can be done in the shallow waters of our estuaries and protected coastal waters throughout Western Australia. All you will need is either a light spinning outfit, a handful of bait or half a dozen lures and you can spend a couple of hours relaxing and enjoying what is on offer in the great outdoors. There's always a lot more to see than just fish. Here are a few basic ideas to help you, and your family and your friends enjoy some quality time during the summer period.

I love this time of the year, it means days at the beach, or wandering along the banks of a river or stream or tossing lures at bream, flathead, whiting or herring along a beach or estuary. Generally, this time of the year can be fairly hectic, with lots of people on holidays and all looking to catch a few fish. As a result of these crowds, it requires a little forward thinking and planning. The answer is quite simple, get an alarm clock and set it for an early start. The sun is generally up just after 5:00 AM and this means it is fairly light at around 4:30 AM. Get out of bed and get going. You can sleep through the middle, and hottest part of the day, as this will allow you get out and fish the sunset and early evening hours. The Spanish were right – siesta time is for sleeping. It also means at this time of the day, you generally have the waters to yourself. Also, there is generally less traffic about and as a consequence a lot less noise from both road and boat traffic.

It is a great time of the day to be out and wading the flats. Watching the sun rise is something special as it heralds a brand new day, doing it while fishing makes it even more special. Prior to getting out and going fishing, reading the tide charts will also assist when fishing these areas as it will determine which way the water will be flowing in an estuary. Wading the shallows adjacent to a drop off into a channel where there is deeper water and casting into the flow will bring your lure or bait over fish who are waiting in ambush.

Look for some structure to work around as well, as these will provide shelter, and protection for these predators as well as cause a slight back eddy in the current which means that fish won't have to work as hard to hold station. A bridge or jetty pylon causes the water to flow either side of it and creates a small eddy behind it away from the current flow; this is where a fish will hold 'station' to take any offerings that the tide brings down to it.

Most anglers will generally target the common species found in these locations such as Australian herring, bream, flathead and whiting. All of them will readily take lures as well as a well-presented bait. The list of species available in various locations is not just limited to these species. Depending upon your location, there are a host of other suitable species that will readily take a well-presented lure or bait. Just think a little and decide on a target species and give it a go. If you are new to the area and not sure of the species available, check with the local tackle outlet as they should have all the information and a selection of suitable lures and fresh bait.

If we take a closer look at the four species listed above, most anglers should be able to capture them readily using light spin outfits. Rods only need to be around 1.8 m in length and rated around 2 – 4 kg. I would recommend using a good quality 4 kg nylon line and a short length of fluorocarbon leader on a small spinning reel that holds around 150 – 250 m of line.

Choice of lures is up to the angler, but I prefer to use blade style lures of 3.5 – 5 g. Soft plastic lures are also the angler's choice but small lures on light jig heads are preferred. For those fishing with bait, use a simple rig using small rolling swivels with a sinker above it and a gang of small hooks suitable for white bait about 30 cm below the sinker. An alternative rig is a double paternoster rig where a small sinker is placed at the bottom of the rig on loop, and two small gangs of hooks are placed around 30 – 40 cm apart above the sinker. Small gangs are baited with whitebait, blue sardines or strips of fish flesh. The size of the sinker will depend on local conditions and be heavy enough to keep the baits on or near the bottom. In shallow water this means around 15 – 20 g.

Flathead are found in most west coast estuaries and along most of our beaches and are camouflage experts. As their name indicates, they are a flat fish (and you can read flounder in lieu of flathead when fishing in estuaries as well) These fish are bottom-dwelling ambush experts who wait for a meal to come to them, so the ideal angling strategy is to keep your bait or lure near the bottom. At this time of the year a lot of anglers are successfully targeting flathead using lures. These include both hard bodied and soft plastic lures. I have a personal preference for metal blade lures, but also use soft plastics around 7 – 10 cm long as well. An alternative bait rig is to use a small bean sinker rigged just above a small swivel with a short 50 – 75 cm length of fluoro-carbon leader of around 6 – 8 kg. The main line is generally 2 – 3 kg nylon as flathead have very small fine teeth and they will shake their head vigorously which will shred fine line very quickly, hence the need for the leader.

Whiting are becoming a very popular fish to target with lures. Most people assume that they are a fairly docile species but don't be fooled – they are super aggressive when it come to food. A small 3 – 5 cm popper style lure that is skipped across the surface and looking like a prawn will be attacked fairly readily. Also don't be fooled by the size of whiting that are often taken as a by catch on beaches. These little bait thieves big brothers are out there and only achieve their size by being smart. I have seen whiting of almost 500 g caught in the Swan River on the sand flats in the lower reaches regularly. Both baits and a variety of lures have been successful.

Fishing for them with bait I recommend the use of small size 4 – 6 circle hooks with pieces of prawn skinned octopus or squid. Rigs are as described above, sinker size is dependent on current flow and water depth. Just use a sinker big enough to keep the baits near or on the bottom.

When fishing for whiting in shallow water using lures, keep the lure moving. Don't pause or stop as this will put the fish off. They are seeing the lure as a fleeing prawn and will readily attack it, so keep the lure moving. Australian herring are found around the southern area of the state and are also another species that can be regularly taken on a lure or bait. Traditionally blowfly larvae or 'wogs' are the bait for herring, however any small pieces of octopus, squid, prawn or fish flesh will work. Rigs are as described above and can provide kids of all ages with hours of fun when fishing for them.

Most small lures, either hard or soft body, as well as metal slices work, for this species. Again the outfit described above will work and the use of a short fluoro-carbon leader will assist if a larger salmon or tailor takes a lure meant for a herring.

It is a similar story for black bream in estuaries. They will readily take a variety of both soft and hard bodied lures as well as baits. Lures can be bibbed diving lures as well as poppers and soft plastics rigged on a small jig head.

Again, think outside the square when it comes to bait fishing. Bream dine out on small crabs, fresh mussels, prawns and shrimp so it stands to reason to use these baits when fishing for bream. White bait, prawns and octopus and squid will also work on occasions.

When it comes to fishing for bream in estuaries most anglers make the mistake of throwing their lure or bait too far. Bream like to shelter where the water is a little more to their liking, where they are not going to be harassed by predators, and where they can get a feed. This means that they are generally found under over hanging trees and in locations where there is some cover.

Lure techniques when fishing for bream are different to that for whiting. When retrieving the lure pause for a short period then start winding again at a steady rate then pause for a second or two then go again. Don't be surprised if you pick up a flathead when using this technique as it works for them as well.

Another species that you may pick up along our sandy beaches or in the estuaries is the tarwhine. This species is a cousin of the snapper and bream and so the same rigs and methods can be used.

When wading the flats in an estuary or on the open beach, walk slowly and cast ahead as you go. Look for any likely structure and give each area where there is some structure, several casts as just one cast won't always catch a fish.

One of the beauties of this style of fishing is that there is a lot more to see than just the fish. There are other marine creatures as well as a variety of sea birds, a variety of crustacea and some spectacular scenery.

Essential gear for this style of fishing includes a broad brimmed hat, a good quality SPF 35 + sunscreen, long sleeved shirt, and shoes suitable for wading. Don't forget that cobbler also inhabit this water and can give



you a nasty sting should you not be wearing suitable footwear. Another vital piece of equipment is a good pair of polarizing sunglasses. A good pair of glasses will open up a whole new world underwater to you and are an absolute necessity if you are to see the fish you are looking for.

One alternative style of fishing that has not been mentioned here is that of fly fishing. All of the species are suitable candidates for this form of fishing. It is a very therapeutic way of fishing and can become very addictive. Almost any species that can be taken using bait can be caught on a fly. Anglers do not need to spend large amounts of cash on a starter outfit. A simple 2.5 m #7 – 8 rod with a weight Forward (WF 7 – 8) floating line, a suitable reel and a selection of flies will set an angler up for the species listed above. Any good tackle shop that has staff that specialize in fly fishing will be able to help an interested angler.

There is only one rule that applies to summer fishing. – have fun and enjoy yourself. It is a great way to spend time out with family and friends and the early mornings and evenings spent on our waters are something special. The added bonus of such an outing is that you may get to eat a feed of fresh fish. Don't procrastinate, get organized and get out and go fishing this summer and take the family.



*John Curtis*



*Swan Brewery*

# REPORT ON AAA DELEGATES COUNCIL NOVEMBER 2018 MEETING

## 1. STATE ESTUARY EVENT:

On this weekend and fished in the Swan and Canning Rivers and Cockburn Sound.

About 40 entrants – number are down, maybe 10 – 15 late entries expected.

Parking and launching facilities available at CPBA.

On Saturday they have an Open Day from 11:00 – 13:00 may be busy.

Garfish are not allowed in bags;

Cobbler can be weighed but must have barbs removed.

Weigh-in to commence at advertised time but there will be an announcement made to allow anglers to check their bags for garfish and cobbler.

## 2. BOATING REPORT

Next year's event is well under way and booklet is ready to go to print.

Event is to be hosted by Marmion AAC and fished out of Hillarys.

Following year event is to be fished out of Port Denison / Dongara.

## 3. DRYCASTING REPORT:

All completed, and all clubs have copies of the results and they are on the web site.

## 4. RECORDERS REPORT:

An application has been received from Queensland for a River Perch. The claim was disallowed due to poor photo not assisting identification. Queensland Museum suggest it is a Silver Jewfish not a River Jewfish.

An enquiry has been received from an angler on the south coast who queried the current State Record for a yellowtail kingfish. Apparently, he has landed a fish 8Kg over the current state record – from the shore. Awaiting the claim form and photos.

**Note:** Grants Guide to Fishes, in both print and e-book format, are not a reliable resource for fish identification as they contain many errors on names and identification.

## 5. GENERAL BUSINESS.

a). Section 43.1 of Fisheries Resources Management Act allows the Minister to stop fishing or fishing activities. Section 43.5 allows a rescinding of the order.

b). Association laptop computer to be passed to Treasurer to use for AAA business.

c). Association is to record all equipment on its Asset Register dispose of most of it including Drycasting trailer and equipment. Drycasting laser to be retained.

Material includes PA system, speakers and tripod stands;

Drycasting equipment to be offered to clubs free of charge with an agreement that AAA is to be able to use it for State competitions.

d). There are still many former Melville AAC Fishing Trophies that have had the badges removed and are available to clubs. Contact AAA Secretary Tony Ayrey for further details.

e). Association application for \$4500 funding for Snag It- Tag It program has been approved by Recfishwest. Association members will be asked to assist with the bagging of the tags and cable ties. Packs are to be made available to boating and fishing clubs as well as general public.







## Message to SCAC Members

There's less than a week left to buy your K Lottery tickets and help fund our vital support services to families living with kidney disease. Without the support of generous people like you, we couldn't provide these essential services:

Kidney Kids Camp

Big Red Kidney Bus (for mobile dialysis)

Kidney Helpline

Cutting-edge medical research

Transplant houses (for post-op recovery)

As you already know the K Lottery is one of the best ways to show your support to Kidney Health Australia. When you buy a K Lottery ticket, you could change your life by winning a 20-night cruise holiday to Cape Town or mountains of cash, plus you will be helping to save the lives of people with kidney disease. **It's a win, win!**

Play today and help make your dreams, and the dreams of people living with kidney disease, come true!

2018 SPRINGTIME SPLENDOUR WA LOTTERY NO 271

**You could win big.**  
14 awesome prizes to be won.

By Kidney Health Australia

Your support will help save and improve the lives of people living in Australia affected by kidney disease.

<b>1st prize</b> <b>A Cruise holiday to Cape Town for two people</b> includes Cruise, 3 nights hotel accommodation & business class flights back to Perth worth \$18,380* 	<b>Total retail value of prizes</b> <b>\$38,380</b>
<b>2nd prize</b> <b>\$10,000 CASH</b> 	
<b>3rd prize</b> <b>\$5,000 CASH</b> 	

**BUY YOUR TICKET ON:**  
[www.kidney.org.au](http://www.kidney.org.au)

Wishing you the best of luck,  
**Chris Forbes**  
 CEO Kidney Health Australia



## Stumps for Canning River to provide fish habitat

The importance of habitat restoration to help improve both the sustainability of fishing and fish welfare has led a group of local anglers to launch a Perth chapter of OzFish Unlimited.

The organisation is a fishing conservation movement that is transforming the future of recreational fishing in Australia by asking every angler to help their fishery.

It was born from the very successful Trout Unlimited movement in the United States, and already had groups in other states around Australia.

OzFish is all about recreational fishers again playing their part as environmental stewards by recognising the importance of fish habitat and investing their own time, effort and money towards grassroots rehabilitation and restoration.

It is a not-for-profit organisation dedicated to helping millions of Aussie recreational fishers take control of the health of their rivers, lakes and estuaries to leave a legacy of better fishing for future generations and it is great to see local anglers are now getting behind OzFish.

The local chapter has started in the last couple of months and already has habitat restoration projects in planning in metro waters, with intention to also open groups in Mandurah, Bunbury and Albany in the coming months.

OzFish Unlimited recently held its first site meeting in WA at the Shelley foreshore on the Swan River, which is the planned location for the first resnagging project funded by the Rivercare Program and other sponsors, with around a dozen anglers turning up to hear how they can get involved.

Andrew Matthews, who is one of a group of concerned local anglers which started the WA chapter and the secretary, urged recreational fishers to get behind OzFish Unlimited.

“The fishing community participating in fish habitat restoration will not only help the aquatic environment but will also mean better fishing for everyone in the future,” he said.

Andrew said projects already underway locally included the Shelley resnagging, marron nursery habitat and habitat improvement in the Peel-Harvey catchment.

Seagrass restoration is another issue OzFish Unlimited plans to tackle in WA.

Leading marine biologist and keen recreational fisher Ben Diggles is involved with OzFish and said it was great to see anglers giving back to the pastime.



He said habitat degradation was one of the biggest issues facing fish stocks, particularly in waterways which have long been starved of attention.

“Working on habitat is actually the best thing you can do for fish welfare, as repairing their homes, such as snags and reefs, gives fish places to live/spawn/feed and nurseries for their little ones to grow up in,” he said.

“Habitat work is more important than ever today, due to ongoing relentless human population growth and its associated land use changes and urbanisation which destroys water quality and fish habitat and which underscores long-term fish population declines.

“Habitat work is a natural progression for top anglers who have enough brains to begin to think about where those fish they are catching actually come from, and what they can do to ensure those same fish will still be there for future generations.

“If anglers don't do it, no one else is going to.”

OzFish Unlimited has already partnered with some industry, government and corporate bodies for funding.

These include Shimano, Recfishwest and the Fisheries and Research Development Corporation, which has provided a major grant for helping with projects across the country and Recfishwest.

More information can be found on the OzFish Unlimited Perth Chapter Facebook page, the OzFish Unlimited website or contact Andrew at [andrewmatthews@ozfish.org.au](mailto:andrewmatthews@ozfish.org.au).

**Caption:** Andrew Matthews of Ozfish Unlimited with stumps which will be dropped into the Canning River to provide fish habitat.

*First Published in the Sunday Times 14 October 2018*



Call them mulies, pilchards, whatever, one of the big challenges for anglers in recent years has been finding them in decent sizes.

As recounted by Ross Cusack in his book *Hooked for Life*, mulies were so named by professional fisherman Hec Simpson back in the late '50s when he pioneered catching these new baitfish which had started appearing in Fremantle Harbour.

Scaly mackerel were the standard bait back then and these new fish were a cross between blue mackerel and scalies.

Hec thought they were a hybrid species, like a mule, and called them mule mackerel, which duly became mulies, and they have ever since been the favoured bait of WA anglers, with any fisherman worth his salt always having a block of mulies for the trip down the beach or offshore.

However, ever since the disastrous 1998 virus that decimated local stocks the size has been well down.

There were always some seasonal variances in mulie sizes, but the last two decades it has been almost impossible to find mulies big enough to use as good whole baits.

Because the mulies on offer in tackle shops and other bait outlets were always small, sometimes not that much bigger than the old bluebait, it meant they didn't have enough bulk to be a good unweighted baitcasting option for species like salmon, tailor and mackerel.

For many fishos, including me, this has led to finding alternative options for bait fishing, especially when wanting a large bait which can be used for baitcasting for big fish.

Imported pilchards have been one option, but generally when we want to cast whole fish baits we use scalies, which are larger than mulies and less oily, and they work fine although they are probably not quite as attractive to fish due to the lower oil content.

Through 2016 and much of 2017 the issue of small mulies continued to plague those who spend their days catching bait for us to use, but the last 12 months have seen these baitfish return in numbers that hark back to the glory days, when we used to get free ones directly off the mulie boats at Albany's Town Jetty.

We even occasionally used to jag them when big schools came in around the jetties in Princess Royal Harbour.

Albany commercial fisherman Bryn Westerberg, from WA Bait Supply, noticed the better fish starting to reappear in September last year, although they initially stayed in deep water which reduced the opportunities to catch them.

Come March this year and suddenly the mulie fishery was back, which was great news for those catching them and those casting them.

All the sudden Bryn and his cohorts were getting heaps of high quality mulies, and catching them several times a day.

We also noticed the incredible number of mulies on salmon fishing trips around Albany.

One day we were out from Cheynes and I've never seen so many baitfish on the south coast.

We were in our kayaks and passed over numerous huge schools of mulies which flicked on the surface or shimmered below us as we passed, with seabirds bombing into the schools from above in every direction we looked.

On another day we went out into King George Sound chasing squid and ended up catching some salmon, with my fishing partner Morris Wilkson commenting that he'd never seen so much bait in the sound before.

Everywhere we went that afternoon there was a line of mulies showing on the sounder, so it was little wonder the salmon were gorging themselves.

The return of big mulies after two decades was great news for Bryn and his crew, who have regained their confidence in the fishery.

Hopefully they're back for good so WA anglers can enjoy having quality local mulies in the bait shops, and on the end of their lines.

*First Published in The Sunday Times*

*Articles from Western Angler Magazine.*





## *Memories from yesteryear*



Cottesloe Beach



Swan River Prawning Circa 1900



The Narrows – Swan River C1910



Camping out at Applecross C1920



Baker Brothers East Fremantle C1920