



REEL TALK

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION
OF
SURF CASTING AND ANGLING CLUB OF WA INC

February 2017

Acknowledgement of Donors

The club gratefully acknowledges the support from companies, organisations, club members and families for the donations towards our Presentation night and prizes for winners of our fishing and dry casting competitions.

Donors of prizes and giveaways for 2015/16

Club Members:

George Belin, Peter Butland, Bob Henderson,
Alan Jones, Peter Osborne, Gary Parkinson,
Michael Pisano, Victor Schilo, Shane Wignell

And

Sandra Wessels for the ladies gifts

Special Thanks

John Curtis

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Thank you all.

Logos or details of Company sponsors for 2016/17 are shown on the back cover of the Reel Talk.

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President's Report – February 2017



Firstly thank you to our Vice President for chairing the January General Meeting in my absence. I understand the meeting was particularly efficiently run with 45 minutes needed to complete the business side of the meeting.

Much material was covered with particular emphasis on discussions related to the new constitution formation process. My thanks to Victor and all the members who contributed to this process.

As you will see in this Reel Talk, there will be a special meeting dedicated to the process of the voting in of the proposed constitution preceding the March General Meeting. I would urge all members to try and make the effort to attend and engage in this most important of tasks. As we all know democracy works best when all those involved and affected engage in the process and exercise their right to vote.

The Bunnings fundraising event held in December was again a great success. Those who attended enjoyed the camaraderie of the day as well as raising a substantial amount of funds for the club. The day ran smoothly due to the wonderful contributions of Ron and Dee Thomas as well as Pat McKeown. I know that there is a considerable amount of effort and time required to organise such an event so maybe planning for this year's event should start early and we can find some other members to help shoulder the load.

In the next couple of months we will also be looking at locking in venues for next season's Fishing Field days. As always, the process will follow a democratic one with those interested completing suggestion sheets that will be collated by our Field Day Officer Peter Osborne for presentation to the committee and members for voting in. There seems to be a mood amongst members to look at a variety of locations as well as exploring venues not visited in the last couple of years. We also need to think about how we operate our local field days to try encourage participation and fishing together.

Finally, the Kalbarri house continues to keep its head above water due to bookings from the Real Estate agent. Despite the extremely generous offers for club members there are very few takers. As commented in previous reports this situation needs to continue to be monitored.

Shane Wignell President

Thought for the month:

“Give a man a fish and he will eat for a day. Teach a man to fish, and he will sit in a boat all day and drink beer”



NOTICE OF SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING TO ALTER THE CONSTITUTION

In accordance with Section 11 of the current Constitution the Surf Casting and Angling Club WA Incorporated Co will be convening a Special General Meeting at which the following resolution will be proposed as a special resolution. to alter the constitution of the association.

The meeting will be held at 7:30pm on Wednesday 8th March 2017

Special Resolution:

I move that the current Surf Casting and Angling Club WA Inc. Rules (Constitution) be rescinded and Surf Casting and Angling Club of WA Inc Rules as Tabled and distributed to members be adopted.

Victor Schilo; Vice President

1. INFORMATION for Club Members

As from 1 July 2016 all incorporated associations are required to comply with the Associations Incorporation Act 2015. The new Act had many new requirements which were not covered in the Club's current Rules (Constitution).

Your Committee agreed that new Rules had to be prepared so as to fully address each section of the Act.

Every Club member has been forwarded a copy of the "Draft Rules" and had an opportunity to comment.

I take this opportunity to thank everyone who has contributed to this valuable document.

This is an important Special Resolution and will require a vote of 75% of members present and voting to pass so please make every effort to attend.

Shane Wignell, President.

Social Organisers Report

Hello fellow club members hope all is well and you are all fighting fit after your Christmas and New Year celebrations.

Let's hope we can lose that couple of extra kilos gained over the festive season.

Those sand hills just keep getting steeper and make you huff and puff coming over them just like an old loco climbing the hills. Oh extra weight and years do take their toll.

Just as well I have grandkids to assist if only I could harness some of that energy.

The club meeting raffles having been going very well good prizes and keen ticket buyers your club says thank you.

We have the new revamped club info pamphlet available to the general public and it will be available on our web page for prospective members to download.

Club stickers are available if you need a couple let me know.

I must say a big thank you Martin Wearmouth for all his support and help with both the stickers and the revamped pamphlet.

Martin, thanks for access to your fishing spot, caught fish and ran out of puff climbing the way out, man what a climb!

The Bunning's sausage sizzle went off very well thanks to Ron and Dee you guys are legends of the best kind take a bow.

I will get all the details for the night cast out to you all soon.

Have to contact the Shire to make sure it's ok to go ahead at Garvey Park.

Let's have a strong turn up to this fun event.

I am still waiting on the Croatian Club to contact me about their seafood night.

\$20.00 per head - meal only. We have to book when i get notified I will get George to send out a flyer.

The progressive fishing will happen as soon as I can organise it.

Don't forget if there is something special you want Social wise just let me know if I don't know I can't help you

Tight Lines and a great year Social Organiser Pat McKeown

Membership Coordinators Report

The membership scene has been rather quiet of late.

With the New Year under way things will look up and enquires should improve now that the warmer weather is here and people want to go outdoors and enjoy the fresh air and relax with a line in the water.

George, our beloved Secretary, has had a stint in hospital hope all is well and you are not too sore to fish. Get Well George.

Ron has a few aches and pains he really does need a spell at Quobba, that's the medicine to take the aches away.

Mal Head is up and about. Good to see Mal enjoying his casting again certainly has not lost his touch.

Anybody else on the sick list get well soon.

Enjoy Life Membership Coordinator Pat McKeown

Activity Calendar for the next 3 months.

Dry Casting: (First Sunday of the month) **5 February** **5 March** **2 April**

General Meeting: (Second Wednesday) **8 February** **8 March** **12 April**

Committee Meeting: (Third Wednesday) **15 February** **15 March** **19 April**

Field Days: **11 & 12 February** **4/5/6 March** **15/16 April**

February Dry Casting

<u>When</u>	Sunday 5 February:	Competition casting starts at 8:30am
<u>Where</u>	Mirrabooka Regional Open Space.	
<u>Fees</u>	\$10 per person, \$12 per family.	
<u>Events</u>	Double handed accuracy, Single handed accuracy, 56 gram distance, Artificial Bait distance, 112 gram distance.	

February General Meeting

<u>When</u>	Wednesday 8 February Commencing at 7.30pm
<u>Where</u>	Coolbinia West Perth Amateur Football and Sporting Club room

February Committee Meeting

<u>When</u>	Wednesday 15 February, Commencing at new time of 7.00pm
<u>Where</u>	Coolbinia West Perth Amateur Football and Sporting Club room . Club members who wish to see what's involved in Committee work may attend Committee meetings by invitation as visitors and observers and at the discretion of the President or Vice Chairman. Please contact the President or the Secretary well before the meeting to arrange your invitation.

January 2017 Field Day Report

Synopsis

The January 2017 field day was spread from Preston to White Hills with persons fishing at the White Hills areas. Medium SSW winds through Saturday afternoon and then lighter in the evening, to mainly southerly winds on Sunday morning. Although there was a slight presence, weed was not a problem. Most spots picked gave a very small showing of small Tailer with a showing of a few various other species.

With the weather and tide conditions the expectation was that would be a good showing of tailor but not so.. Only one person was at the right place at the right time. As below, one of our newer club members landed an excellent Mulloway.

Results in summary were: - 3 bags with weight over 2.5 kg.; 2 bags between approx. 1.3 to 1.5 kg.; and 4 bags between 0.0 to 0.42 kg.

One person fished locally with a small amount of success

The Trip.

The sign on at the Preston Beach Carpark was at 11:30 am Saturday 14th January with lines down at 1:00 pm with fishing through until Sunday 15th January with the usual lines up time of 10:00 am with the weigh-in conducted at 11:00 am at the sign-on location.

A total of 9 SCAC Anglers came to the away sign-on :- Lee Yongli, Vincent Tomazin, Peet and Sandra Wessels, Gary Parkinson, Martin Wearmouth, Mark & Wendy Hansen and Peter Osborne.

Following sign-on anglers let down tyres, sorted themselves into groups, and went north from the car park to the general White Hills reef areas. Lots of 4WD vehicles going up and down the beach for the whole weekend – some like us targeting fishing, but others just trying their 4WD skills.

Peter O and Mark and Wendy arrived at the “White Hills Reef Hot Spot” (didn’t get very hot, barely luke warm) and set up vehicles and fishing gear in anticipation of getting a good bag of fish.

The Wessels headed for this spot but as was already taken had to settle for a different section of reef – which worked better than the hot spot.

The rest of the team also drove past and fished some reef some 500 metres further north with a minor amount of success.

As confirmed by a Ranger patrolling the area, the whole stretch of beach was not fishing very well – generally fish sparse, including only small Herring and undersize Tailor.

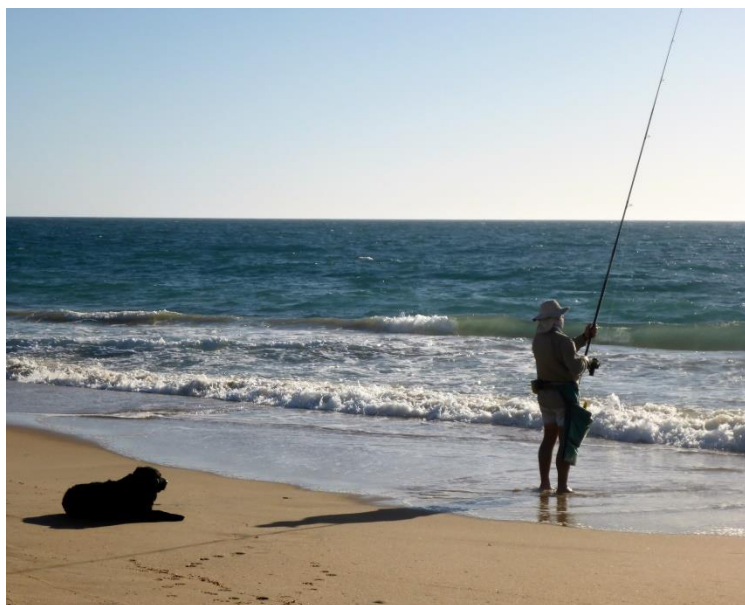
Sandra and Peet had the best success on Tailor – just choppers where Sandra landed 4 and Peet landed 7. Both managed to bag out on Herring (viz 12 each). Sandra got a nice little surprize with a small but size Flounder. Lee and Gary managed only the one chopper Tailer and one Herring each. Both fished hard and long but with only this minimal result, but better than Martin who bombed out with a nil result

Vincent fished with this group, while only landing one Herring he caught the fish of the day with a beautiful Mulloway coming in at 5.85 kg gilled and gutted – would be close to 6.5 kg when hauled up on the beach. This was a really handsome fish and great for the table. You could not stop someone grinning for the whole weekend.

With Vince's two bag of fish (i.e. one big fish and one small fish), Peet with a total of 19 smaller fish that gave him the next heaviest bag of fish to put across the scales.

At lines down, Mark and Peter hit the "Hot Spot" full of expectation. They initially found only plenty of small Herring, and at dusk targeted Tailor with only undersize fish initially appearing and subsequently each landing one only just size Tailor.

In the hope of finding a Mulloway, Peter setting out two rods with big baits (whole whiting or herring) and



fished until 10:45 pm and again had lines in the water at 4:30 am the following morning. Both afternoon and morning, Mark concentrated on getting his bag of Herring using soft plastics under a blob. He also managed a good Garfish on this rig.

Peter bottomed fished with small hooks using prawn and whitebait. He initially targeted Whiting, but all of these were undersize however he managed to get plenty of Tarwhine. Of some 16 Tarwhine, most very small except one was just undersize, but two were healthy fish in the high twenty cm range. At the bottom end of the scale, Mark captured a Herring that would have been only 3 cm and Peter a Tailor of some 6 cm. Mark ended up with 14 fish and Peter managed some 8 fish.



Not a good result and way below expectations as conditions looked fairly good with wind and swell appropriate for Tailor, however the water was somewhat dirty which may had something to do with low fish activity

With very poor showing of fish Wendy decided not to cast a line. She did some wandering up the beach – highlights were an unusual shape and coloured jellyfish and a seal resting on the beach. Wendy grabbed her camera and took photos. The photo of the seal was taken with hands shaking as Wendy approached this animal with some concern. As a young child she went to take a closer look at one of these and got badly bitten on the buttocks. Needless to say these are not one of her favourite creatures.

Local

Pat McKeon was the only local club fisherperson. He went to North Cottesloe. He noted the track down is in poor shape and a bit dangerous to use. While he fished from before 5:00 pm to after 10:00 pm he noted that fish were only active just on sundown. He managed 1 chopper Tailor, 2 good Herring, 1 Skippy, and 1 Tarwhine (just size) for a bag weight of 1.3 kg.

He had four different species being the highest number for the weekend, whereas those fishing south only two persons got three species and the rest with only two species of fish or nil.

Overall there were seven different species caught.

Next month is a venue that we have not fished for years, (Wedge Island) so hopefully a better fishing experience than we have had over the past few months. Hope to see you there.

Tight lines, Peter Osborne; Field Day officer

Recorder's Report

2016/17 Recorder, Justin Rose

This Month saw a cracking bream caught by Rob Pekaar who had made a trip south to Albany, the Bream weighed 1.17Kg and was caught on a single handed rod using a soft plastic. Along with the open competition this has been added to Rob's Grandmaster and Species badge.

Vince Tomazin, stole the show at the January competition with a beautiful Mulloway of 5.75 KG, this has been added to his Masters badge and along with a herring added to his species, well done Vince!



Barron Lure Competition 2016/2017

The Barron Lure competition is sponsored by Eric Parker, who donates the trophies. Try Eric's Poppers, you will not be disappointed.

The rules for this competition are the same as for the clubs open fishing competition, plus the fish must be caught on a popper lure and a single fish cannot win more than one Barron lure section

Heaviest Tailor on lure

Justin Rose 0.9 kg, Wilbinga, 6/5/2016

Heaviest Salmon on Lure

Justin Rose 4.7 kg, Wilbinga, 6/5/2016

Open fishing competition 2016/17

The Open Competition is for fish caught between 1 May 2016 and 30 April 2017, other than on Club gazetted Field days, but not in any other AAA affiliated club event on the same dates. Entries for the Open competition close **30 days after capture**. See Competition Rules Section 4.

Section	For	Minimum weight	Entry
1	Most meritorious capture	None	To be awarded by Committee
2	Best shark	4.5 kg	Ray Walker, 25Kg Lemon Shark, Giralda Bay August 2016
3	Best mullet	5 kg	Justin Rose, 9.2Kg, Kalbarri October 2016
4	Best salmon	3.5kg	Geoff Raftis, 4.8 Kg, Floreat June 2016
5	Best flathead	0.5 kg	Geoff Raftis, 0.8 Kg, Kwinana May 2016
6	Best tailor	1.5 kg	James Rielly, 1.99Kg, S Bend September 2016
7	Best samson fish	5 kg	
8	Best fish on single handed rod maximum 4kg line class	Legal size	
9	Best pink snapper	2 kg	Martin Wearmouth, 6.7 Kg, Preston Beach July 2016
10	Best tarwhine	0.5 kg	Justin Rose, 1.03 Kg, Kalbarri October 2016
11	Best mackerel	4 kg	
12	Best skipjack trevally (southern)	1 kg	
13	Best trevally (northern)	2 kg	
14	Best snook or pike	0.5 kg	
15	Best black or yellow finned bream	0.6 kg	Rob Pekaar, 1.17Kg, Black Bream, Kaglan River 28 th December
16	Best scale fish other than sections 3-15	2 kg	Ray Walker, Barramundi 6.2 kg, May 2016
17	Best fish caught on fly rod.	Legal size	
18	Best fish caught using a soft plastic or hard body lure on a single handed rod (4kg line)	Legal size	Rob Pekaar, 1.17Kg, Black Bream, Kaglan River 28 th December

Dry Casting Report 8 January 2017

Not much happening on the dry casting scene this month, with people getting over the Christmas spirit, some on holidays. Klaus has a shoulder problem and will be out for a while, Hendo still in sunny Queensland. Not sure about Rob and Peter, I think they had family commitments. As for Deano, nobody seems to know where he is. Never mind, it can only get better.

Great to see Mal back after a knee replacement. Even with four or five months off, his score card didn't look all that bad at the end of the day.

Jeff Hewton took out the honours with an overall win with 469%. Well done Jeff, it's about time you had a good day, and by the way, thanks for the early start once again, it gives me a little more time to get my gear ready. Much appreciated.

156 was the highest overall in the HAD by myself, followed by Mal with 123. Peter Osborne took out the SHA with 29 followed by Mal with 27. Mark looked like he was trying out a new casting style, without

much luck. I think you and I might need a bit of tuition, we both seemed to find the boundary flags. The wind was quite favourable for the distance events, which helped me get the longest cast of the day at 170.61.

The sausage sizzle went down well with just about everybody staying behind, which gives you a chance to have a bit of a chat and a get together to finish off a very enjoyable day. Thanks once again to Gary Parkinson (the flying postie), helping with the scoring and also the Bbq.

Through the Recfish West grant, the club will be purchasing a gazebo for casting days but I will need a hand to pack it up along with the bbq gear, at the end of the day. Thank you.

It's good to see the clubs dry casting rods being used for the 2nd time in as many months. These are for distance only, but by next casting day there will be an accuracy rod and reel as well.

The next dry casting day will be held on the 5th February. Love to see a few more faces on the day.

On behalf of Dee and myself have a great and safe new year.

Drycasting officer Ron Thomas

Dry casting results - 8th January 2017

	56 gram				Artificial Bait				112gram			
	Cast	Cast	Total	%	Cast	Cast	Total	%	Cast	Cast	Total	%
Veterans	1	2			1	2			1	2		
ALAN JONES	94.42	99.41	193.8 3	65.79	98.60	92.77	191.3 7	71.63	107.7 9	112.8 0	220.5 9	100.0 0
MAL HEAD	95.09	94.19	189.2 8	64.24	87.35	91.55	178.9 0	66.96	100.6 5	99.86	200.5 1	90.90
GEOF RAFTIS	84.32	104.8 3	189.1 5	64.20	71.45	84.57	156.0 2	58.40	106.3 8	102.3 7	208.7 5	94.63
RON THOMAS	143.8 3	150.8 0	294.6 3	100.0 0	131.4 1	135.7 5	267.1 6	100.0 0	170.6 1	OUT	170.6 1	77.34
PETER OSBORNE	111.1 0	113.1 4	224.2 4	76.11	96.66	99.43	196.0 9	73.40	109.6 4	109.2 4	218.8 8	99.22

Seniors												
MARK HANSON	104.4 5	OUT	104.4 5	42.84	OUT	99.69	99.69	43.48	118.9 6	116.7 1	235.6 7	100.0 0

Dry casting results - 8th January 2017

Double Handed Accuracy										Single Handed Accuracy							
		Target number									Target distance						
Veterans	3	3	1	1	4	4	2	2	Total	%		L	S	L	S	Total	%
ALAN JONES	0	9	21	17	15	16	12	17	107	68.59		0	5	0	5	10	34.48
MAL HEAD	14	21	18	20	6	9	14	21	123	78.85		6	7	7	7	27	93.10
GEOF RAFTIS	0	3	21	12	15	0	14	17	82	52.56		0	8	0	7	15	51.72
RON THOMAS	21	23	21	17	22	17	17	18	156	100.00		5	0	5	4	14	48.28
PETER OSBORNE	15	13	20	0	5	13	12	16	94	60.26		7	9	6	7	29	100.00

Seniors																	
MARK HANSON	5	22	11	19	0	0	1	21	79	75.96		1	7	7	5	20	95.24
JEFF HEWTON	10	15	17	21	9	10	11	11	104	100.00		5	8	3	5	21	100.00

Veterans: Best Casts for the year 2016 – 2017

Longest 56 Gram	150.8M	Ron Thomas
Longest Artificial Bait	146.24M	Ron Thomas
Longest 112 Gram	173.76M	Ron Thomas
Highest Double Handed Accuracy	156	Ron Thomas
Highest Single Handed Accuracy	33	Ron Thomas

Seniors: Best Casts for the year 2016 – 2017

Longest 56 Gram	181.43M	Rob Pekaar
Longest Artificial Bait	164.06M	Peter Pekaar
Longest 112 Gram	185.39M	Peter Pekaar
Highest Double Handed Accuracy	155	Rob Pekaar
Highest Single Handed Accuracy	22	Mark Hansen

Fishing Field Days General

Local sign on At General meeting or phone Field Day Officer before 8pm on Thursday.

Late sign on Phone the Field Day Organiser. The club will assume you will not be fishing if you haven't signed on at the sign on place or phoned.

Please SMS **Peter Osborne** (The Field Day Officer) on 0401 054 110 as he will not answer the phone if he is driving or if earlier, he may be out on a reef fishing.

Club sign off If you have signed on then you must sign off at the nominated time at the weigh-in place at the nominated time in person or by phone/SMS no later than ½ hour before the weigh-in time. If you have no fish, have an emergency outside of the Field Day, or have personal reasons and will not attend the weigh-in contact the Field Day Officer.

Club fees \$10 per person, \$12 per family. If you sign on you must pay the Field day fees. Please bring the correct money because there may not be change. If you don't make payment at sign-on or at the preceding General Meeting or you have signed on by telephone, please make payment to the FDO or Assistant FDO at the weigh-in.

FDO Local FDO to be advised at the General Meeting.

Fish Fish caught between the lines in and lines out times are eligible for the Club Field Day competition and weigh-in. Fish caught before or after those times are eligible for the Open fishing competition.

Local boundaries Normally Penguin Island sand spit to north wall of the Two Rocks Marina, including the Swan and Canning Rivers, the North and South Mole, unless different boundaries are listed for that month.

Local weigh in Location to be set at General meeting, or the Local Field Day officer may set an alternative or additional location or time by arrangement with the members who have signed on.. Results to be phoned to FDO by 8pm the next night.

Fish together Check at the General Meeting prior to each field day for arrangements and discussions about when and where members can meet to fish together locally in the metropolitan area or at the away venue. New members are encouraged to fish with experienced members for guidance and help..

Local Field Day for February

When Saturday/Sunday 11/12 February

Lines in Saturday 1pm

Lines Out: Sunday 10am

Weigh in Sunday TBA

Boundaries Standard – Penguin Island sand spit to north wall of the Two Rocks Marina, including the Swan and Canning Rivers, the North and South Moles.

SOLUNAR PREDICTIONS, SUN RISE / SUNSET TIMES AND TIDES FOR 11 & 12 FEBRUARY SUNRISE AND SUNSET TIMES FOR PERTH:

DAY / DATE	SUNRISE	SUNSET	MOONRISE	MOONSET
Sat 28/01	05:51	19:11	19:22	05:49 f
Sun 29/01	05:52	19:10	20:02	06:50 f

PREDICTED TIDES FOR FREMANTLE

DAY / DATE	TIME AND PREDICTED HEIGHT							
Sat 28/01	05:59	0.48	21:50	1.04				
Sun 29/01	06:02	0.52	22:07	0.98				

NOTE: These are the predicted tides for Fremantle and there may be some variation due to wind strength and direction.

SOLUNAR PREDICTIONS

DAY / DATE	PREDICTION	PREDICTED PRIME TIMES		MOON PHASE
Sat 11/02	GOOD	23:02 – 01:02	10:37 – 12:37	FULL MOON
Sun 12/02	BEST	23:52 – 01:52	11:28 – 13:28	FULL MOON + 1

These are the predicted MAJOR Solunar periods this week, adjusted to Perth time. For minor periods add approximately 6 hours 45 minutes

February Away Field Day

When Saturday/Sunday 11/12 February

Where Moore River / Wedge

Boundaries Moore River mouth to 1km north of Wedge Island

Sign on TBA

Lines in Saturday 1pm

Lines out Sunday 10 am

Weigh in Weigh in Monday 11 am at Preston Car Park

If you are not attending the weigh-in please SMS the FDO of non-attendance within an hour of lines up or earlier”

SUNRISE AND SUNSET TIMES FOR MOORE RIVER - WEDGE:

DAY / DATE	SUNRISE	SUNSET	MOONRISE	MOONSET
Sat 28/01	05:54	19:15	19:25	05:51 f
Sun 29/01	05:55	19:14	20:05	06:53 f

PREDICTED TIDES FOR MOORE RIVER - WEDGE:

DAY / DATE	TIME AND PREDICTED HEIGHT							
Sat 28/01	05:50	0.2	21:50	0.7				
Sun 29/01	06:05	0.2	22:20	0.7				

NOTE: These are the predicted tides for Moore River to Wedge Island and there may be some variation due to wind strength and direction.

SOLUNAR PREDICTIONS

DAY / DATE	PREDICTION	PREDICTED PRIME TIMES		MOON PHASE
Sat 11/02	GOOD	23:02 – 01:02	10:37 – 12:37	FULL MOON
Sun 12/02	BEST	23:52 – 01:52	11:28 – 13:28	FULL MOON + 1

These are the predicted MAJOR Solunar periods this week, adjusted to Lancelin time. For minor periods add approximately 6 hours 45 minutes.

Charts supplied by John Curtis

March Away Field Day

When Saturday/Sunday/Monday 4/5/6 March
Where Reef Beach
Boundaries Beach Area to rocks at East end
Sign on TBA
Lines in Saturday 1pm
Lines out Sunday 10am
Weigh in

March Local Field Day

When Saturday/Sunday/Monday 4/5/6 March
Lines in Saturday 1pm
Lines out Sunday 10am
Weigh in Sunday 11am
Boundaries Standard Local

Sausage sizzle – 27th December 2016 (the organiser's birthday)

We can't take a trick with the weather, once again, it was a very windy day. The area has no protection against the weather, with only a gazebo, it makes it very uncomfortable. Therefore we feel that under the circumstances, we should be looking elsewhere for our next sausage sizzle.

Apart from the above problems, the public were still there in good numbers, but we believe, that being so close after Christmas, they were not spending their money at the sausage sizzle. Sales were down by about 20% on last year, therefore the extra that we ordered was not used.

Even though a lot of work is involved before and during the event, at the end of the day we got the feeling every one enjoyed themselves regardless of the outcome.

For those that put their hand up to help on the day, we thank you, without your help the sausage sizzle would not happen. As this is our main money raiser for the year it is very important that this is an annual event. For those that didn't or couldn't make it, you missed out on a fun, social day.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the members who donated money and drinks as this helped achieve a better financial result than the previous year.

To the person or persons who take this job on next year, good luck!!!!!!

Ron & Dee Thomas

Birthdays for February

Slavka Schilo 13 February

Dean Stewart 28 February

We wish you all the best for your special day

The Competent Angler

I would like to think I am a competent angler, but I can't help but feel there is room for improvement. After all, not every trip is a total success and the really good anglers must always catch plenty! I still have the odd fishing failure and seem to be learning something new almost every time I go out.

Thinking of some of the better anglers I know, there are a few characteristics that are common to most. Pretty well all of them are good people and, despite some very impressive fishing resumes, there have not been too many big egos on display - amongst the ones I know anyway.

In reality, they have all been down to earth and passionate about the fishery. The good anglers respect their quarry and almost revere the fish they pursue. They also respect other anglers and fish hard, but fair.

For example, good anglers when fishing, don't jump on other anglers to find new spots. They will generally pursue their own path, given they have the experience and know-how to allow them to go their own way.

Good anglers work hard and their results correspond to their effort. Good anglers make their own luck by preparation, practice and pre-thought. The more they fish, the better their understanding of the fish and their habits and with that knowledge ultimately comes success.

Good anglers tend to think about what they are planning to do. They generally have a plan of attack and often have a couple of alternate strategies if their initial approach does not work. These plans are always hatched prior to going fishing and then implemented on the day. Good anglers learn from their mistakes and even days where no fish are taken are not wasted, as the good anglers attempt always to understand why. Was it environmental (e.g. dirty water, wrong bait, or water temperature) or just down to a bad plan on the day?

Good anglers rarely whine about fish stocks and the lack of fish in an area. They take responsibility for their results and seem to take the view that "I was not good enough on the day" or "my plan was wrong" if things don't work out!

Good anglers are perceptive and can adapt to changing circumstances and conditions. Often, when the bite slows, the good anglers will still catch fish as they might make small adjustments to where they are casting or how they present their baits. In a hot bite good anglers keep their lines in the water longer and, as a result, catch more fish. Most often this reflects that their rigs are better and that they handle fish more quickly and efficiently due to their experience.

Good anglers often hone their skills on one aspect of fishing, then branch out. One angler I know is one of the most knowledgeable anglers I have come across. He honed his skills on the beaches, catching fish we only dream of these days. He then took this on to offshore fishing for snapper, King George whiting and his favourite, barramundi in the NT. He is a great angler and one who really understands why fish do what they do!

Good anglers are not afraid to try new things and are keen to push the limits with gear choice. Fishing light maximises the experience, and when they start to know a particular fish species well, they can really have great some fun on light gear. This approach probably helps them better understand the species, as light line fishing really heightens the senses. That said, while most of the good anglers I know fish relatively light, they are not generally into the real ultralight silly stuff until they get a few in the boat or on the beach!
If it works, do it!

Good anglers are not too proud to copy what others are doing if what others are doing is producing. My regular fishing buddies are particularly adept at this, jumping on whatever is working on a particular day, no matter who started doing it!

Generally, good anglers rig their own gear and don't use rigs made by others. This is all part of the wider fishing experience. Making rigs that work is a key skill and it's always satisfying when any angler lands a monster on a rig they set up themselves.

Good rigs are most often simple, and I am surprised how simple some of the most successful rigs are (simplicity usually means trouble free). One very good angler taught me most of what I know about jigging and live-baiting rigs. The rigs he taught me were well constructed and built for purpose, however they were also simple. With simplicity there are less things to go wrong and thus, less failures.

Good anglers are patient; that same patience that wears down a fish is applied to all aspects of fishing. For example, fishing for large mullock can require a bit of time before the big one comes along. The gun beach anglers have all done long apprenticeships to learn their craft, spending countless hours fishing to achieve their success.

Good anglers use the tools they have to maximise their chances. Whether that is their electronic aids or their own senses, they tune these and get the best out of them.

Good anglers can read the surf, spot current lines, see free swimming fish (in the blue water) that others can't see, and understand what they are telling them. These skills are not learned overnight and ultimately translate into angling success. For example, beach craft (reading the surf) can take a lifetime to learn.

Good anglers keep diaries of their fishing activities over time and these diaries help them understand what is likely to be happening fish wise at any particular time of year. The data in these diaries is a critical part of their knowledge base and a foundation stone in becoming good anglers.

There is a bit to becoming a good angler, but at the end of the day it comes down to attitude and commitment. Just because you are given the locations of a couple of good spots and you can pull a heap of fish off them does not make you a good angler.

The truly good anglers find their own spots and gradually work them out. In the long term good anglers catch more fish and get more satisfaction doing it, as they have worked it out for themselves.

I thought I would round this story out with a bit on some of the individuals who have influenced my development as an angler. I have fished with some extraordinary anglers and have enjoyed their company, whether it be on water or at the pub for a beer. They are passionate about our fishery. I met one on a charter and another is the editor of a game fishing magazine and probably one of the most knowledgeable guys I have come across on blue water game fishing. He is a great bloke and was more than happy to share his knowledge on rigging and game fishing in general. This sharing seemed natural to him and just reflects the passion that the man has for fishing in general.

We all have mentors, and whether that be in our work or leisure activities, these mentors help shape us. My fishing mentor is a pro fisherman and, as such, I won't name him, as pro's and recreational anglers are not supposed to be friends. He has single handedly helped me develop as an angler more than anyone else, as he has got me to start using my brain. For example, he has taught me to hunt fish using my eyes as well as my electronics, which has proven very effective on snapper and more recently on whiting.

It's somewhat demoralising trying to benchmark results, particularly on whiting. I am a relatively proficient whiting angler by recreational standards, however the last time we fished together socially he (my pro mate) contributed 90% whiting out of a bag limit, which was a hiding any way you look at it. The gap between us is huge, but it has to be, as he is doing it for a living and I am doing it for fun. I guess that, at the end of the day we recreational anglers need to bear in mind that we do it for fun. It is not a business!

The good anglers willingly share their experience and help inspire others to get into fishing. They tend to bring others along with them, as their passion is infectious. They help aspiring anglers step up to the next level and almost without exception, they get pleasure from seeing others succeed.

The fish we catch are a bonus and being able to take home a feed on a regular basis is a great outcome.

Am I a good angler yet? I really don't know; I suspect I am hard working and a competent fish catcher, but there is still room to get better. Perhaps that is the curse that I have, as with a desire to continually get better, I may never see myself as a truly good angler! That said, at the end of the day only those I fish with can judge really and, being the considerate types they are, I can rely on them to keep me grounded and striving to get better.

This article was first published over 20 years ago

Keeping your cool in the Aussie heat

Water, Water, Water –

It's our lifeblood as human beings and something we cannot survive without. Make sure you've taken enough drinking water to provide adequate hydration for the time you plan to be away and then add a little to that tally for old Murphy. A good rule of thumb is 4 litres per day per person, particularly if you are travelling in hot conditions. This can be done in water jerry's or bottled, just make sure that if you're carrying non-drinking water it is labelled! Another great option from a survival perspective is an emergency water filtration system such as a Lifesaver Bottle; great peace of mind to tuck into the truck on every trip.

Cooling Systems – Just as our bodies need hydration, your rig needs an adequate and fully functioning cooling system to run!

Mechanicals – Check your cooling system before you go on any trips. This includes inspecting your coolant level and quality. The days of pulling up to the tap and filling up with a hose are gone (and never should have been anyway!). With modern power plants consisting of various materials in their manufacture (think iron, plastic, aluminium, alloy etc), having the correct coolant is critical to efficiency and longevity. Check your hoses for any signs of brittleness or leaks and keep a set of spares somewhere in your rig.

Air Conditioning – Whilst this is a bit of luxury for some, when you have it, you rely on it. Make sure that you're gassed up, your condenser fan is turning on when it should and it's blowing cold air. Obviously you want

to manage your in-cabin air re-circulation based on the conditions; keeping the dust out by pressurising the cabin and blocking the interior vents.

Communications – This is a tip that's not only important when travelling in extreme heat, but anytime we hit the dirt. When going seriously remote, take maps, appropriate communications tools such as an emergency beacon or satellite phone, and make sure you let someone know where you're going and when you expect to be back.

Be informed and prepared – Check the predicted conditions and determine whether the trip is necessary or not. Consider who you intend to travel with; a trip with you and a mate or your partner will have different decision criteria than one with toddler-aged kids. Take basic safety gear including a first aid kit and a fire extinguisher.

Article from Club 4x4 Magazine



Mark fishing Preston Beach at sunset

An advertisement for the Recfishwest app. On the left is a close-up of a bright orange fish with white spots. In the center, the text "Download the recfishwest app!" is written in large yellow letters, with "Know your rules. Know your fish." in smaller white letters below it. Below the text are two buttons: "GET IT ON Google Play" and "Download on the App Store". On the right is a smartphone displaying the app's interface, which has four colored buttons: "FISH RULES" (green), "ID THIS FISH" (teal), "OTHER INFO" (yellow), and "WHAT'S NEW" (pink). Each button has an icon and a right-pointing arrow.

KALBARRI HOUSE FOR RENT



The Surf Casting and Angling Club owns a house in Kalbarri which is ideal for a fishing or family holiday. Access to the famous fishing spots at Wagoe, Lucky Bay, Port Gregory, etc is just a short drive away via the main bitumen road.

The Mallard Street house has easy access to the river, beaches and town. There two reverse cycle air conditioners to keep you cool in the summer months and warm in winter. The two bedrooms will sleep up to eight (max). One bedroom has a queen sized bed; the other has two commercial grade two level bunks plus an extra two level bunk in the lounge area. The bathroom and shower were rebuilt in 2012.

The house has a high definition LCD television, DVD/VCR, stove, oven, microwave, crockery and cutlery and all cooking utensils, washing machine, food fridge/freezer and an extra chest freezer for bait and fish.

You will need to bring their own linen, blankets and towels, tea towels, etc.

Outside there is built-in gas barbecue, a fish cleaning facility and a full width veranda. There is plenty of fenced parking space for cars, trailers and boats behind a gate. Pets are allowed but must stay outside the house.

Rates are:

Short term (min 2 nights) \$100 per night (plus \$100 refundable bond)

Weekly rate: Stay for 7 nights and only pay for 5

Contact Victor Schilo for bookings or more details (mob 0413 152 550 or email treasurerscac@inet.net.au) Collect keys in Perth before leaving for Kalbarri.

Check in time is 2pm. Check out time is 10am.

There are 20 photos on the Club website www.surfcasters.inet.net.au/KalbarriHouse.html



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