

REEL TALK



Lynton Convict Station (June 2006)

SURF CASTING AND ANGLING CLUB OF WA INC

January 2018

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 2017/8

Club Members:

George Belin, Mal Head, Bob Henderson,
Peter Osborne, Gary Parkinson, Victor Schilo,
Shane Wignell

And

Sandra Wessels for the ladies' gifts

Special Thanks

to

John Curtis

and

Ron Thomas

Company Sponsors:

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Australian Monofil (Platypus lines)

Barron Lures (Eric Parker)

Belmont City Medical Centre (Dr Sri Srigandan)

Bladon WA (Martin Wearmouth)

Central Seafoods

Halco Tackle

J M Gillies Agencies

Western Angler Magazine

Thank you all.



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Club Committee for 2017/8

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AAAWA Delegages

Victor Schilo, Pat Mckeown

All club correspondence posted by mail should be addressed to:
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The Website Co-ordinator, Property Officer, AAWA Delegates and 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:

As Shane has been away on a well-deserved break, there will be no report this month.

Quote for the month:



"Any coward can sit in his home and criticize a pilot for flying into a mountain in fog. But I would rather, by far, die on a mountain side than in a bed."

Charles Lindbergh was nothing if not extreme in both his life and his opinions. He made his name in 1927 as the first person to cross the Atlantic Ocean in a nonstop solo flight from Long Island, New York, to Paris, France.

The above quotation from Lindbergh's journal seems to emphasise his belief that humanity exists to try to extend the outer limits of what is possible.

Charles Lindbergh



I can't believe this.. a Landcruiser being towed out by a Jeep.....

(2008 Cape to Cape Field Day)

Photo supplied by John Crompton

Social Organisers Report



Well where did that year go? Fishing, Meetings, Drycasting that's where it goes so quickly.

The Bunning's Sausage fundraiser is all covered in a separate report.

The sick list is starting to fill up.

George our honourable secretary put himself in hospital just to get out of assisting at the Bunning's fund raiser (Just Kidding George you get well real soon)

Martin our honourable deputy minister for fishing events is having a shoulder fixed up.

Look out casters when he is back at full strength. Any other members or partners on the sick list get well soon.

Shane the main man is away on a family holiday much deserved. Return home all charged and ready for a new year.

Hendo and Mrs Hendo are away on a cruise enjoying the moment, so sweet it is.

Mal and Mrs Mal have just returned from over the other side visiting Grandkids.

Always seems to put a sparkle in Mal's eye.

No wonder nobody fishes, they are all away enjoying the good life.

The club Raffle is still going strong. Well done to all that support and receive good prizes. Who needs another rod or reel? There's always room for one more!

The Monthly Social fishing event went off well with 7 members turning up to try and catch a fish at the beautiful Barker Bridge in Guildford.

No fish caught some good nibbles, but that was about it until a duckling wanted my bait and hooked himself. Luckily only in the beak and I was able to remove the hook and carry out a catch and release. Does that go into the species list?

Another event will be held in February. Does anybody want to change to another day?

The Rock wall at Bayswater seems to be favoured.

Let me know your thoughts we are very flexible it's only a social event lets enjoy.

The Christmas general meeting went very well, all that were there enjoyed themselves.

The meeting business breezed through with Victor at the helm as our illustrious leader is taking a well-earned family break.

We welcomed a prospective new member John Frazer. He was warmly welcomed into the club and looked after by Jonesy.

The club raffle once again raised good money for the club thanks to all that purchased tickets.

I am sure all enjoyed the prizes including the much sought-after jar of Honey.

Thanks Mark.

The bringing along a gift went off very well, with all participating by putting a gift in the box.

After the raffle draw it was time to close the meeting and enjoy the festivities and it was time to close the year and start afresh in the New Year.

The gifts were distributed and all seemed to enjoy them.

Then it was pizza time this caused a rush to the table all members filling up on pizza.

After much handshaking and well-wishing, it was time to go home.

Have a happy and fulfilling new year.

Social Organiser Pat McKeown

Membership Coordinator's Report January 2018

We have had a couple of nibbles about the club. All details have been sent to prospective members.

Other than that, all is quite on the membership front leading up to Christmas.

May your stocking be full of what you wished for never know could be a new club shirt or hat from Santa's little helper Shane who has lots of them in stock just waiting for a new home.

Let's have a big smiley positive New Year. May all your lines be tight.

Happy and Prosperous new year stay safe

Membership Coordinator Pat McKeown

January General Meeting

When Wednesday 10th January commencing at 7.30pm

Where Coolbinia West Perth Amateur Football and Sporting Club room

NEW DATE for January Committee Meeting

When Wednesday 3 January commencing at 7.00pm

Where Coolbinia West Perth Amateur Football and Sporting Club

DRY CASTING DATES FOR 2018

PLEASE NOTE THE NEW VENUE

Guildford Polo Ground

Competition casting starts at 8:30am

Held on Sunday of:

January 7: February 11: March 18: April 8: May 6: June 10

July 1: August 5: September 9: October 7: November 4: December 2:

COMING FIELD DAY EVENTS

Members please take note of the new sign on and weigh in times

JANUARY 2018

FIELD DAY VENUE	Local – Swan and Canning Rivers
WHEN	13 – 14 January 2018
SIGN ON	At the General meeting or phone FDO before Thursday evening.
LINES DOWN	Saturday, 09h30
BOUNDARIES	From E shed up to all of the river systems
WEIGH IN	Sunday, 10h00 Point Walter Car Park

FEBRUARY 2018

FIELD DAY VENUE	Preston to White Hills
WHEN	17 – 18 February 2018
SIGN ON	Saturday, 09h00 Preston beach car park
LINES DOWN	Saturday, 09h30
BOUNDARIES	Preston south beach to White Hills beach entry
WEIGH IN	Sunday, 10h00 Preston beach car park

FIELD DAY VENUE	Local
WHEN	17 – 18 February 2018
SIGN ON	At the General meeting or phone FDO before Thursday evening.
LINES DOWN	Saturday, 09h30
BOUNDARIES	Standard boundaries
WEIGH IN	Sunday, 10h00 Floreat car park

MARCH 2018

FIELD DAY VENUE	Bremer Bay
WHEN	3 – 5 March 2018
SIGN ON	At the General meeting or phone FDO
LINES DOWN	Saturday, 06h00
BOUNDARIES	All local beaches
WEIGH IN	Monday, 09h00 Location to be decided on at GM

FIELD DAY VENUE	Local
WHEN	3 – 5 March 2018
SIGN ON	At the General meeting or phone FDO
LINES DOWN	Saturday, 06h00
BOUNDARIES	Floreat to Moore River
WEIGH IN	Monday, 09h00 Location to be decided on at GM



Surf Casters December 2017 Field day - 16th -17th December – Floreat to Jurien Bay

Four Surf Casters signed on for the December Field day
Mark Hansen, Ron Thomas, Gary Parkinson and Martin Wearmouth

At the general meeting it was decided to extend the boundary to Jurien Bay due the sea weed issues at Moore River to Lancelin in the past few weeks.

Mark Hansen fished at Black Rock near Cervantes

Ron Thomas, Gary Parkinson and Martin Wearmouth met at 9am on Saturday at Wilbinga Grove, We intended to go the Hill River but due to the bad weather forecast for Sunday morning, we decided to have a look at Ledge point and see if there was anywhere with no seaweed that we could fish and then return late Saturday night to avoid the rain and wind on Sunday morning.

We headed into Ledge on a track about 10km south of the Ledge Point road I had seen on Google maps. It was an easy track in and we were soon at the beach, some weed was there but not as bad as a few weeks ago when we fished here.

We started fishing about 6km south of Ledge Point at a spot we had fished before. the water was clear with just a bit of weed right on the shore line in the waves. There was a nice gutter and some reef a bit further out. It started to produce fish as soon as we started fishing at 11am but most were under size inc Tarwine, whiting & Flathead.

Ron managed to get a few herring and later in the day he got 12 from this spot, most were large bull herring. Gary played with a sting ray which was beached then hooks removed and sent on its way.



Spot 1 at first some nice clear water



Spot 1 from the sand dune

Mid-afternoon, with the tide rising brought in some more sea weed making the spot very hard to fish. We packed up and drove along the beach north towards Ledge Point looking for another spot. After about 2km we found a stretch of beach with very little weed and started to fish again. Ron had a couple of casts and then decided to move another 500m north.

The weather for Saturday turned out to be very nice, strong SW winds 20 knots had been forecast but it did not happen, and the wind was not a problem all day, just a mild 10 knots in the middle of the day and it dropped off after 5pm to be even lighter. All in all a very pleasant day on the beach with a steady flow of fish all day.

Gary and I had no luck, but Gary did land a double header of a Tailor and Flathead, but both were under size, so we moved up to where Ron had gone. This spot had been firing with Tailor but most were small and released back to grow for next year.

I did get 2 sting rays at this spot and some locals had said they do not fish after dark due to too many sting rays (but my 2 decided that it was ok during the day too). Ron again did the best and stopped fishing early as he had his 8 Tailor.

The first spot we fished looked very good, in better conditions without the sea weed this spot could really produce, and being only 110km away will be worth a few more visits.

We left the beach about 8.30pm and did the weigh in at Ledge point where we inflated our tyres for the trip home.



Our 2nd spot (That's Ron way in the distance catching all the fish)



Back together again (Ron is still catching all the fish)



*Martin Wearmouth
Assistant Field Day Officer*

Field day results for December 2017:

ANGLER		Total weight	No. of Species	No. of fish	F.D. points	Attendance			Total points
						Field Day	Local	General Meeting	
Mark Hansen	Number	1.78	2	5	37.8	1		1	57.8
	Total weight								
	Weight of best								
Ron Thomas	Number	6.45	2	20	84.5	1		1	104.5
	Total weight								
	Weight of best								
Gary Parkinson	Number	0.18	1	1	11.8	1		1	31.8
	Total weight								
	Weight of best								
Martin Wearmouth	Number	1.03	3	4	40.3	1		1	60.3
	Total weight								
	Weight of best								

Field day fished weighed in for December 2017:

ANGLER		Species	Species	Species	Species
		Tailor	Herring, Australian	Whiting (other than listed)	Wrasse (all species) 1 only
Mark Hansen	Number	4			1
	Total weight	1.43			0.35
	Weight of best				
Ron Thomas	Number	8	12		
	Total weight	4.00	2.45		
	Weight of best	0.80	0.24		
Gary Parkinson	Number		1		
	Total weight		0.18		
	Weight of best				
Martin Wearmouth	Number	2	1	1	
	Total weight	0.72	0.22	0.09	
	Weight of best				

Top Fishing Field day points up to end December 2017:

Top scores up to December		
Rank	Angler	Total points
1	Martin Wearmouth	992.8
2	Peter Osborne	797.5
3	Peet Wessels	599.2
4	Sandra Wessels	568.3
5	Theo Van Niekerk	490.3
6	Mark Hansen	377.0
7	Gary Parkinson	326.3
8	Mark Nurse	247.6
9	Brad Zaknich	227.9
10	Vincent Tomazin	216.1
11	Sabby Pizzolante	187.9
12	Ian Taggart	181.6
13	Paul Terpkos	116.5
14	Ron Thomas	104.5
15	Pat McKeown	60.0
16	Justin Rose	54.8
17	Shane Wignell	45.1
18	Sarah Wignell	38.5
19	Dean Stewart	20

Fishing Field day competition section up to end December 2017:

Field Day Sections up to and including December				
	Section	Angler	Species	Weight
1A	Best scale fish (1st six months)	Sandra Wessels	Yellowtail Kingfish	8.20
1B	Best scale fish (2nd six months)	Ron Thomas	Tailor	0.80
2	Most meritorious fish	Sandra Wessels	Yellowtail Kingfish	8.20
3	Best shark (4.5kg min)	Peter Osborne	Shark	5.29
4	Best mullet (2kg min)	0	0	0.00
5	Best tailor (1kg min)	Martin Wearmouth	Tailor	1.98
6	Best salmon (3kg min)	0	0	0.00
7	Best skipjack trevally (0.5 kg min)	Theo Van Niekerk	Skipjack Trevally	1.74
8	Best mackerel (2kg min)	0	0	0.00
9	Best yellowtail kingfish, samson or amberjack (4kg min)	Sandra Wessels	Yellowtail Kingfish	8.20
10	Best scale fish (Other than above)	Peter Osborne	Westralian Dhufish	2.75
11	Best bag of scale fish	Sandra Wessels	Mixed bag	26.08
12	Best bag of mullet (2 fish min)	0	0	0.00
13	Best bag of tailor (2 fish min)	Ron Thomas	Tailor	4.00
14	Best fish on single handed rod (max 4kg line)	0	0	0.00
15	Best fish caught on fly rod	0	0	0.00
16	Best fish on single handed rod, soft plastic lure (max 4kg line)	0	0	0.00
17	Best fish on single handed rod, hard body lure (max 4kg line)	0	0	0.00

Sportsperson of the year sections for December			
Section	Angler	Species	Weight
Best scale fish	Ron Thomas	Tailor	0.80
Best bag of scale fish	Ron Thomas	Mixed bag	6.45
Best shark			
Best bag including sharks			

Recorder's Report

Chris Stickell sent me through a photo of a Black Bream he had caught and has been added to his species badge, taking him to a tally of six.

Geoff Raftis is having a successful period and developing a reputation catching big Tailor with a 2.5kg fish he caught at Jurien Bay in September

This was leading the way in the open competition Tailor section until the inevitable happened. Mal Head AKA big Tailor specialist went to Kalbarri and upgraded to a 3kg model at Chinaman's beach, well done Mal

Tino Bairdo has been catching some solid Mulloway at Wagoe. Tino uploaded some photos to the SCAC Facebook Page which many would have seen, I am just waiting for his entry for the open comp

I managed to get amongst some action myself with a trip to Steep Point. I hadn't been land based fishing for some time, so it was great to blow the cobwebs out. The sharks were heavy the first few days but eventually they disappeared. We caught plenty of Spanish Mackerel in the 6-20kg range mixed in with a few tuna and snapper.

I spent a fair bit of time free diving this year for jumbo crayfish, which were a welcome addition to the evening meals. It was like diving in a tropical aquarium with, so many fish species present along with a very scenic coral landscape around the Fault line and Monkey Rock.

My biggest Mackerel was 12.5kg which I have entered in the open comp along with a 8.4 kg Gold Spot Trevally I was able to release after a spirited battle plus a 3 kg Pink Snapper

Overall, it was another great trip as per usual to the point. One of the great things about Steep Point is with the prevailing SE to SW winds this time of year there is always somewhere to wet a line with the wind behind you.

Open fishing competition 2017/18

Section	For	Minimum weight	Entry
1	Most meritorious capture	None	To be awarded by Committee
2	Best shark	4.5 kg	
3	Best mulloway	5 kg	Geoff Raftis, 9kg, Kalbarri, 11 th June 2017
4	Best salmon	3.5kg	Martin Wearmouth, 5.4kg, 30 th July 2017
5	Best flathead	0.5 kg	
6	Best tailor	1.5 kg	Mal Head, 3kg, Kalbarri, 8 th November 2017
7	Best samson fish	5 kg	
8	Best fish on single handed rod maximum 4kg line class (Bait)	Legal size	
9	Best pink snapper	2 kg	Justin Rose, 3kg, Steep Point, 26 th November 2017
10	Best tarwhine	0.5 kg	
11	Best mackerel	4 kg	Justin Rose, 12.5kg, Steep Point, 28 th November 2017
12	Best skipjack trevally (southern)	1 kg	
13	Best trevally (northern)	2 kg	Justin Rose, Gold Spot, 8.4kg, Steep Point, 29 th November 2017
14	Best snook or pike	0.5 kg	
15	Best black or yellow finned bream	0.6 kg	
16	Best scale fish other than sections 3-15	2 kg	Theo Van Niekerk, Blue Bastard, 5.28kg, Waroora, 8 th July 2017
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 max.)	Legal size	

Barron Lure Competition 2017/2018

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

No Entry

Heaviest Salmon on Lure

No Entry

Heaviest Scale fish on lure

No Entry

2017/18 Recorder, Justin Rose

SURF CASTING & ANGLING CLUB **Drycasting results - 3rd December 2017**

	<u>56 gram</u>					<u>Artificial Bait</u>					<u>112gram</u>			
	<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>	
<u>Veterans</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>		<u>%</u>		<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>		<u>%</u>		<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>		<u>%</u>
BOB HENDERSON	DNC	DNC	0.00	0.00		DNC	DNC	0.00	0.00		DNC	DNC	0.00	0.00
PETER OSBORNE	81.51	96.83	178.34	75.01		78.83	83.57	162.40	100.00		93.29	102.23	195.52	67.18
ALAN JONES	79.00	90.90	169.90	71.46		78.15	83.63	161.78	99.62		97.90	97.30	195.20	67.07
RON THOMAS	117.45	120.32	237.77	100.00		OUT	9	112.59	69.33		144.42	146.63	291.05	100.00
DEAN STEWART	75.18	77.84	153.02	64.36		69.48	54.88	124.36	76.58		86.33	86.29	172.62	59.30
JOHN CROMPTON	68.65	91.47	160.12	67.34		75.25	75.44	150.69	92.79		86.33	96.52	182.85	67.76
GEOFF RAFTIS	70.76	94.81	165.57	69.63		64.71	76.31	141.02	86.83		94.54	104.57	199.11	68.41
<u>Seniors</u>														
MARK HANSON	79.94	OUT	79.94	100.00		OUT	93.19	93.19	100.00		102.25	103.82	206.07	100.00

	<u>Double Handed Accuracy</u>											<u>Single Handed Accuracy</u>						<u>Total</u>	<u>Attenda</u>	<u>Tota</u>
	<u>Target number</u>																		<u>D/Casti</u>	<u>Poin</u>
<u>Veterans</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>Tot</u>	<u>%</u>		<u>L</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>L</u>	<u>S</u>	<u>Tot</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>		
BOB HENDERSON	20	0	25	17	6	11	21	18	118	87.41		6	5	2	6	19	61.29	148.70	10	158.70
PETER OSBORNE	12	3	12	21	9	5	6	0	88	65.16		1	0	0	6	7	22.58	87.74	10	97.74
ALAN JONES	21	19	19	9	0	6	8	3	98	72.59		3	4	1	3	11	35.48	108.07	10	118.07
RON THOMAS	20	17	17	17	4	2	1	7	135	100		7	9	0	5	31	100	200.00	10	210.00
DEAN STEWART	0	14	11	18	0	0	2	0	45	33.33		0	0	7	0	7	22.58	55.91	10	65.91
JOHN CROMPTON	10	21	15	24	2	1	6	0	89	65.92		6	0	1	5	12	38.71	104.63	10	114.63
GEOFF RAFTIS	0	0	0	15	0	0	0	8	33	24.44		5	4	3	4	16	51.61	76.05	10	86.05

<u>Seniors</u>																				
MARK HANSON	22	24	6	16	6	12	16	8	120	100		2	6	9	4	21	100	200.00	10	210.00

Veterans: Best Casts for the year 2017 - 2018

Longest 56 Gram	139.82M	Ron Thomas
Longest Artificial Bait	125.01M	Ron Thomas
Longest 112 Gram	162.33M	Ron Thomas
Highest Double Handed Accuracy	168	Bob Henderson
Highest Single Handed Accuracy	33	Ron Thomas

Seniors: Best Casts for the year 2017 - 2018

Longest 56 Gram	102.91M	Mark Hansen
Longest Artificial Bait	115.43M	Jeff Hewton
Longest 112 Gram	135.14M	Jeff Hewton
Highest Double Handed Accuracy	134	Mark Hansen
Highest Single Handed Accuracy	25	Mark Hansen

Birthdays for January

Paul Terkos 6th; Reuben Ball 8th; John Lee 9th; Pat McKeown 18th;
Emma Wignell 27th;

We wish you all the best for your special day



"I'm hooked now," said the groom, Mr. Ron Thomas, as he walked out of the Methodist Church, Victoria Park, with his bride yesterday afternoon.

"I'm hooked, too," smiled his wife, the former Miss Deirdre Dear, as they paused beneath an archway of fishing rods, held aloft by members of the Off-shore Angling Club.

The bride and groom are two popular members of the club.

Mr. Thomas is a member of the committee and one of the top-scoring competition anglers.

Mrs. Thomas is the club's champion woman angler and has a "fil grey nurse shark to her credit.

**Men
smoke
DRUM!**

The famous
blend of
Bright and
Dark
Cigarette
Tobaccos



MOTOR SPORTS

Australia's Most Exciting
Motor Magazine

What a catch for both Ron and Dee who celebrated their 49th wedding anniversary a few months ago.

Looks like fishing was in both their DNA.

Note the "fishing rod guard of honour" arch.

Congratulations.

Note the Drum advertisement – no wonder smoking was part of life.

Bunning's Report December 2017

Where to start is always the hard part, BUT, I must thank all the people involved in this project.

- Ron Thomas the man at the hotplate x 2 shifts top job Ron
- Ron and Dee did a lot of work behind the scene Thanks
- Dee Thomas always there to help what a treasure. Just gets on with serving sausage in a bun as needed. Thanks Dee.
- Sandra Wessels the bag lady just kept putting money in the tin Thanks Sandra.
- Also Sandra got the club an excellent deal on the snaggers
- Peet Wessels the smiling server to the public well done Peet.
- Peet also got us a good deal on the rolls Thanks Peet.
- Chris Stickells did a great job with serving the drinks Thanks Chris.
- Chris also picked up the onions from the Beef Shed Thank you again Chris.
- Chris worked with us until 0930 then had to leave to go to work that's dedication for you.
- Martin Wearmouth this man is a dynamo just keeps it all together feeding orders and taking cash.
- Martin also did 2 x shifts Thanks Martin
- Vince turned up and asked when are we finishing I am ready to go home.
- Vince we had news for you, you have scored the busiest shift and were side blinded by it all. Man you did a splendid job. When people asked what we are raising funds for Vince's reply was for our new boat they even believed him.
Vince has not worked with the general public before so it was a real eye opener for him. Thanks for all your effort Vince.
- Gary Parkinson (the flying postie) Drove up at last in his vehicle which has caused him a lot of grief but one thing about Gary he just keeps getting back up.
- When Gary arrives it's a bit like a Willy Willy going through the room.
- Gary you did a fantastic job on that hotplate for 2 x Shifts Thanks Gary may your vehicle keep chucking along and tight lines to you.
- Mal Head what can you say about Mal he is always there to help and does a marvellous job jumping from job to job always smiling Thanks Mal.
- Dean Stewart Deano was the drinks man on the 3rd shift just loved getting his hands into the cold water to fish out drinks.
- Put onions on the hot plate helped with the paper wrap for the rolls Top Job Deano.
- Peter O you put in the effort to support us on the last shift when it was really hard to keep going. You helped where you could. Thanks Peter O

In Conclusion it could not have happened without all your support thank you so much for supporting your club

Lastly I must thank our Supporters.

- Karradale Meats for the Sausages they are so yummy (Discounted cost)
- Woolworths Midland for the Rolls (Discounted Cost)
- Justin Rose x 12 bottles of Sauce
- Bob Henderson 2 x Cash boxes
- Ron Thomas 3 x Engel Fridges
- Ron Thomas Esky with ice
- Ron Thomas Assorted cool Drinks
- Shane Wignell 2 x Carton of cool drinks
- Klaus Schonwolf 2 x Carton of cool drinks
- Mal Head Cash Donation
- Victor Schilo Cash Donation
- Alistair McDonald Assorted Cleaning Products

*Bunning's Co-ordinator
Pat McKeown*

4X4S AND GRASS FIRE RISKS.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW.

SAM PURCELL DECEMBER 19, 2017 GEAR HOW TO NEWS VEHICLES



Ford has just issued a recall of their hugely popular Ranger because of the risks of fire from grass collecting under the vehicle. Mazda has also acknowledged the problem on their BT-50, but this is a problem that goes well beyond just these two 4WDs.

WHO IS AFFECTED?

Just about everyone, except if you drive a Unimog maybe. Exhaust is very hot by nature, and it runs underneath the body of your vehicle. Grass can catch fire, and there's a chance it can come into contact with hot exhaust parts.

If the grass is tall enough, it might start breaking off and collecting in some of the many nooks and crannies of the underbody. Crossmembers and brackets might be designed and fitted in a way that they inadvertently catch lots of grass, and have hot things in close proximity.

DESERT TRAVEL

If you're travelling out into the far reaches of Australia, then you need to be really switched on when it comes to catching grass underneath.



This a Nissan GU Patrol underbody after driving some very remote and overgrown Eagle and Gary highways. You can see how things can potentially get toasty.



This is the kind of track you need to really worry about. hardly driven, and with plenty of dry grass around.

Spinifex is one of your main culprits. This tough desert grass is full of an oily resin, which burns very, very hot. And once it starts, good luck trying to extinguish it. You'll see it start to grow tall when it's going to seed, and can continue to grow in between wheel tracks of lightly-formed (ungraded) tracks.

It's not just the grasses that collect around exhausts and cross members that you need to worry about. tall grasses and seeds can also get into your radiator, air conditioning and intercooler fins and seriously reduce their efficiency, which all result in a harder-working and hotter engine.

THE DPF PROBLEM

The risk of fire from grass is a potential problem on just about any vehicle out there, but some are more predisposed than others. How crossmembers and the underbody are designed is a big factor in how grass can be caught, but no doubt a major addition to risk is a diesel particulate filter (DPF).



A DPF is a kind of catalyst that filters the soot out of your exhaust and catches it in the honeycomb structure of the filter. As the engine is running, the DPF will slowly block up with more and more soot.

Once the engine ECU notices the exhaust blocks up to a point, it goes into a regeneration phase. Exhaust gas temperatures are increased by altering the fuel injection timing, and even injecting some extra fuel into the exhaust gasses to really increase the temperature throughout the entire exhaust system.

These very high temperatures (over 600 degrees) are needed to burn off the collected soot in the filter, making room for more. Most (almost all) 4WDs have automatic regeneration cycles as the vehicle computer determines, so it might think it's a great time to do a regen while your cruising over some tall grass.

How to fix the problem?

In serious conditions, you'd be wanting to do hourly checks under your vehicle to see how much grass is building up in problem areas. You can keep an eye on it, and get a good idea of where and how often you should be checking things out. Keep a long tent peg and some sturdy gloves handy, and use these to fish out the collected debris.

One great tip here is cutting up a piece of shade cloth or something similar and fixing it to your grille or bullbar, which will let air still flow through to the radiator, but stop the seeds from getting into the fins. It's also worth checking the gaps between your different cores, because these can often fill with crud as well. I've found a long zip tie can help dislodge some of this stuff (between a radiator and front-mounted intercooler) on my own 4X4.



This is the Ford Ranger once again. You can see how easily and quickly this design could catch combustible stuff, very close to the exhaust

Beyond that, a true 'solution' to the problem might be impossible, beyond buying a Unimog. You could go out and buy an older 4WD without a DPF, or one that has exhaust routed in a way that helps keep it clear of collected grass. Your other option is to fashion some kind of plates or skids under your vehicle, which will push the grass away rather than collect it up. But undoubtedly, the best thing you can do is be aware of the problem, and keep an eye on it, no matter what vehicle.

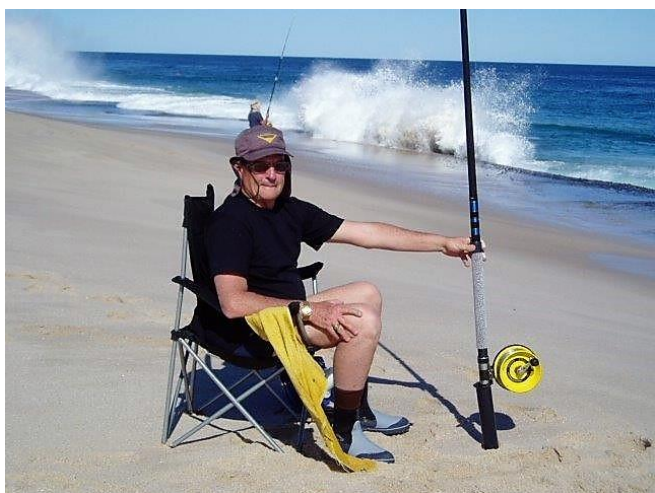
And of course, when you're travelling remotely, you need to subscribe fully to the idea of self-sufficiency. That means carrying a fire extinguisher, and having it somewhere easy and fast to access if the faeces hit the fan. And, know how to use it.

SAM PURCELL APRIL 22, 2017

Send in your old Fishing Photos



Cervantes 2007



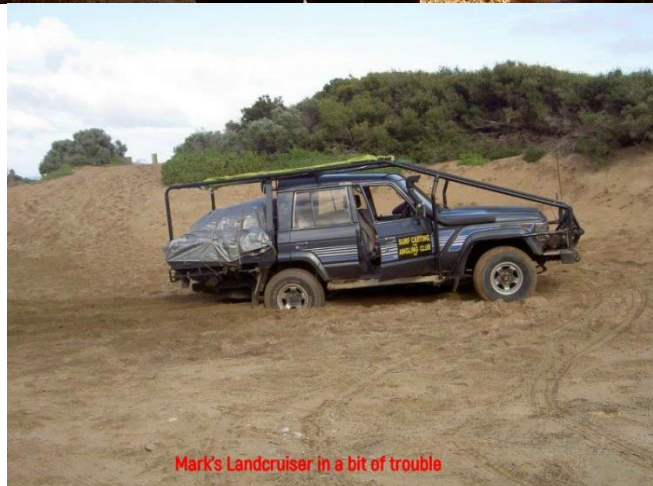
Wagoe 2006



Cevantes Weigh-in 2007



Mark's Tailor Cevantes 2007



Mark's Landcruiser in a bit of trouble

Shore Angler



The many moods of mullet

After a solid couple of hours of fishing the sun had finally reached the horizon. Apart from one solid tailor the session had been pretty slow. But importantly the moon was new, the tide rising and the sea conditions appeared ideal with that all important mix of water movement without excessive currents. In short, expectations were still high.

Rather than move locations we chose to stay put and try to capitalise on the scent we had been gradually building up with our baits in the water. The witching hour was upon us and it was now or never.

My companion launched another cast out into the soupy water that was funnelling off the reef platform to our left. Almost instantly his rod folded over as a powerful fish surged away with his bait. My cast hit the water a few seconds after his and before my sinker could even reach the bottom I too was tight to a hard-running fish. The third member of our party saw the action unfolding from his position some 200 metres north and wasted no time joining us. Unsurprisingly his first cast into the zone was rewarded with a hookup. Over the next 45 minutes we caught and mostly released some 13 mullet from 5-12kg in weight. On this occasion they were schooling and feeding with reckless abandon.

It wouldn't come as a surprise that I enjoy chasing and catching mullet. I know I'm not alone in that regard amongst WA shore anglers. Like the black bream angler I think part of the attraction with chasing mullet comes from the varied moods the fish seem to be subject to and the way these moods affect their willingness to feed. In this Shore Angles I want to explore the many moods of our beloved Mullet.

The scenario that unfolded in the opening paragraphs was a dream situation for the keen mullet angler. I have only experienced mullet feeding like that on a handful of occasions and usually for a much shorter period of time. It was as if all the variables had come together to create a mullet super-bite. Let's take a closer look at that night itself and break down the ingredients one by one.

Lunar cycle – It was the night of the new moon. There was no light at all and as soon as the sun had set, darkness gathered rapidly and all hell broke loose. In my experience chasing mullet I think they prefer those dark nights compared to moonlit nights.

Tide – The tide was rising. New and full moons produce the greatest tidal movements on our coast. Rising or full high tides are regarded as the most productive for beach fishing.

Changing light – The bite coincided with a period of changing light. Whether it be dawn or dusk this is regarded as the most productive time for shore anglers, especially if it coincides with high tide.

Sea conditions – The sea conditions were ideal on that occasion. Most fish prefer to stay out of areas with excessive water movement and current because they have to expend too much energy to stay in position. Ideal sea conditions will help with targeting all the usual shore-based species, but larger fish like mullet definitely prefer having areas of neutral water available to assist with conserving energy while they wait for their next meal to swim past.



In contrast to that magical night, that out of interest, happened in August 2015, my last mullet mission really highlighted the fickle nature of this species. On this latest occasion I commenced fishing around 4pm and experienced no action whatsoever until well after sunset. Only when complete darkness fell did I start to get some mullet activity. If it wasn't for the fact that I 'accidentally' hooked one, I would have dismissed the subtle knocks and pulls for smaller species. I had been ignoring numerous bumps and tugs for several minutes and figured I should wind in and rebait my hooks. Feeling some weight on the other end caused me to wind faster and although I could sense something there it wasn't until I was over the bank and into the white water that the fish on the other end woke up. A fine school mullet of around 6kg kissed the sand a minute or two later.

As the evening progressed the mullet activity increased but their mood was frustrating to say the least. Many baits were mouthed and some were dragged several metres before being rejected. Eventually I added a similar-sized second fish to the tally but only after lots of missed pulls. It was as if the mullet were having second thoughts after mouthing the baits. I was fishing solo but would have looked quite a sight as I cursed and swore at the ocean as I tried to outfox my quarry.

The next morning's session drew a complete blank, but the evening session was a complete replay of the previous night. The mullet were definitely out there again but were still playing hard to get. Miraculously I managed a couple more fish which I attributed to sharp hooks and bad luck on the fish's part rather than angling skill.

The analysis went as follows.

Lunar cycle – One week after the full moon meaning the night was dark after sunset but bright later as the waning moon rose around midnight. This resulted in a narrow window for the mullet to enjoy darkness.

Tide – The tides were diurnal (two tide cycles per 24-hour period). High tides were around 1pm and 1.30am. I was fishing falling tides for my dawn and dusk sessions.

Sea Conditions- Sea conditions were close to ideal with low swell and wind.

I was fishing the same general location in very similar sea conditions. Unfortunately circumstances beyond my control meant I was unable to fish on or near the new moon. I was fishing one week after the full moon so the tides were far from ideal. I believe the main reason for the lack of enthusiasm from the mullet was the tide factor. Fishing falling tides seemed to prevent them getting fired up on a couple of otherwise ideal evenings.

Whilst I may never experience mullet activity again like that night a couple of years ago, I'll do my best to try and plan my mullet missions around the optimum lunar and tide phases. If not I'll no doubt invent new swear words on the beach if I find them in the same finicky mood they were in last time.

Captions: A hot morning mullet bite produced several school mullet for the author and his companions. (Pic Gary Wotherspoon)

Fraser Wycherley is all smiles after landing another arvo schoolie. (Pic Gary Wotherspoon)

Published in December 2017 issue of Western Angler Magazine

Suggestions for Field day venues 2018/19.

Away Field Day suggestions for 2018/19. Ron Thomas Option 2		
26 -27 May 2018	Rottnest Island.	
16 - 17 June 2018	Denmark	
14 - 15 July 2018	Open - Go anywhere WA.	
11 - 12 August 2018	Rottnest Island.	
22 - 24 September 2018	Bluff Creek.	(ALL LOCAL FIELD DAYS FROM SWANBOURNE TO LANCELIN)
13 - 14 October 2018	Cervantes to Sandy Cape.	(LOCAL FIELD DAYS NEED TO COVER MORE OF THE NORTHERN COAST)
17 - 18 November 2018	Cervantes to Hill River	
15 - 16 December 2018	Moore River. River mouth to 3 Mile	
26 - 28 January 2019	Open - Go anywhere WA.	
16 - 17 February 2019	Preston.	
LWE March 2019	Reef Beach	
19 - 22 April 2019	Bluff Creek.	

FDO Away Field day suggestions for 2018/19. Peter Osborne Suggestions		
Dates	Suggested venue	Reasons / Details
26 -27 May 2018	Rottnest Island.	Best tides in May. Sat 15h58 - 0.39 m & Sun 16h36 - 0.36 m.
2, 3, & 4 June LWE	Preston.	2 nights on the beach - Historically, good Snapper and Mulloway
16 - 17 June 2018	Open - Go anywhere WA.	History shows very few people fished in June over the past years.
14 - 15 July 2018	Open - Go anywhere WA.	3:00 pm weigh-in in Perth or 11:00 am weigh-in Busselton
11 - 12 August 2018	Rottnest Island.	Best tides in Aug. Sat 18h08 - 0.20 m & Sun 18h44 - 0.21 m.
22 - 24 September 2018	Bluff Creek.	Queens birthday LWE. Great spot for free camping on LWE.
13 - 14 October 2018	Jurien to Sandy Cape.	Weed starts to clear and generally some clear water for Tailor.
17 - 18 November 2018	Cervantes.	Clear stretches of water with little weed. Good Tailor catches.
15 - 16 December 2018	Preston.	Clear stretches of water with little weed. Good Tailor catches.
26 - 28 January 2019	Cape to Cape.	Australia day LWE. Cooler weather down south with many good fishing spots.
16 - 17 February 2019	Preston.	Clear stretches of water with little weed. Good Tailor catches.
1 - 8 March 2019	Esperance Safari.	Poison Creek (Sandy Bight) Teeming with Salmon, good camp and free beach camp.
19 - 22 April 2019	Bluff Creek.	Good Friday / Easter Monday LWE. Salmon present in large numbers.

FDO Away Field day suggestions for 2018/19. Peter Wessels suggestions		
Dates	Suggested venue	Reasons / Details
26 -27 May 2018	Rottnest Island.	Best tides in May. Sat 15h58 - 0.39 m & Sun 16h36 - 0.36 m.
16 - 17 June 2018	Open - Go anywhere WA.	History shows very few people fished in June over the past years.
14 - 15 July 2018	Open - Go anywhere WA.	History shows very few people fished in July over the past years.
11 - 12 August 2018	Rottnest Island.	Best tides in Aug. Sat 18h08 - 0.20 m & Sun 18h44 - 0.21 m.
22 - 24 September 2018	Bluff Creek.	Queens birthday LWE. Great spot for free camping on LWE.
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19 - 22 April 2019	Bluff Creek.	Good Friday / Easter Monday LWE. Salmon present in large numbers.

Away Field Day suggestions for 2018/19. Ron Thomas Option 1		
Dates	Suggested Venue	Reasons / Details
26 -27 May 2018	Rottnest Island.	
16 - 17 June 2018	Geraldton to Wagoe.	
14 - 15 July 2018	Open - Go anywhere WA.	
11 - 12 August 2018	Rottnest Island.	
22 - 24 September 2018	Bluff Creek.	(ALL LOCAL FIELD DAYS FROM SWANBOURNE TO LANCELIN)
13 - 14 October 2018	Cervantes to Sandy Cape.	(LOCAL FIELD DAYS NEED TO COVER MORE OF THE NORTHERN COAST)
17 - 18 November 2018	Cervantes to Hill River	
15 - 16 December 2018	Moore River. River mouth to 3 Mile	
26 - 28 January 2019	Open - Go anywhere WA.	
16 - 17 February 2019	Preston.	
LWE March 2019	Reef Beach	
19 - 22 April 2019	Bluff Creek.	





The first day of summer

Published: Thursday, 22 December 2016 07:52

The first day of summer found me wading a shallow flat in the Swan River. It seemed the perfect way to welcome in the new season, as summer is the time when the fishing in the Swan, and Canning, really comes to the fore.

My target was some early morning flathead and I was fishing a bay in Applecross which had been good to me in the past.

It was more a case of taking advantage of a window of opportunity, with tide lower than I would have liked, but the still weather making for ideal conditions for a couple of hours of wading.

Unfortunately, many of the sand patches where I'd done well previously were covered in green, stringy weed which does a good job of fouling lures and making it hard to fish for flatties.

However, there was enough clear sand to make it worth trying and it wasn't long before I spooked a flathead, which burst out of its hidden lie in a puff of sand.

Unfortunately, that set the trend for the next hour or so, with the odd fish spooked but none showing any interest in the different lures I tried, which did attract the constant attention of the blowie hordes.

Despite the reluctance of the flatties to bite there was no doubt this particular flat was alive with marine life.

I saw surprising numbers of crabs, from little chaps to ones which would have been most welcome on my dinner plate.

I was first alerted to their presence when I felt an unusual tap on the back of my leg and looked around to see a largish crab waving its claws angrily at me.

Another time I stepped on something which felt unusual and turned around to see what it was.

It looked like a small rock, but a closer examination revealed it to be a crab claw just poking through the sand.

Further investigation revealed it was actually two crabs buried in the sand, enjoying some intimate time.

Schools of mullet flashed and splashed all around me constantly and I even had a stingray cruise past.

Throw in some dolphins and it really was the classic summer Swan River wading experience.

It would have been great to catch a flattie but maybe the tide was a little low for them to be on the bite.

With so much bait around I decided to flick a Tackle House Rolling Bait out and rip it back in as fast as possible to see if there were any tailor, or maybe even a giant herring, lurking about.

They are another two species which come into their own in the Swan over summer and on the first cast I got a surprise when the rod bent over against the weight of a solid fish.

At first I thought I might have foul-hooked one of the mullet, but after a good struggle on the light gear it turned out to be a solid chopper tailor of around 40cm.

Luckily the two small assist hooks had found points outside the mouth, as the tailor would have quickly bitten through the assist cord otherwise.

It was my only success but the whole experience was still a nice reminder of why I love fishing the Swan system in summer.

Over the coming months it really comes into its own, with a great range of species like mulloway, bream, tailor, flathead, whiting, herring, giant herring, crabs and even squid on offer.