

March 1989

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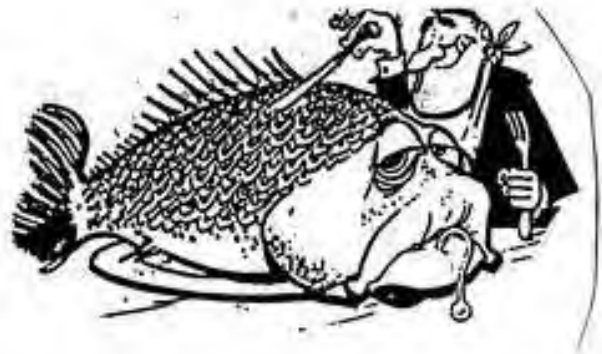
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ASS DRY CAST
OFFICER
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MORLEY W.A. 6062
Phone 276-4809

LIFE MEMBERS

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

Maylands Convo



CLUB ETIQUETTE

MEETINGS

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

DRYCASTING

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

FIELD DAYS

These normally follow each general meeting on the ensuing weekend. It is compulsory for anglers to attend both the sign-on and the weigh-in. Anglers who cannot attend the sign-on for work or other unavoidable reasons may make prior arrangements for a late sign-on.

However, only under very exceptional circumstances will failure to attend weigh-ins not be penalized with the loss of points acquired during that field day.

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

Disputes may be taken to the committee.

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

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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

GENERAL ETIQUETTE

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

Please assist the Treasurer by paying your subscription within 28 days of the Annual General Meeting.

Arrears of 3 consecutive months may cause forfeiture of membership.

M E M O R A N D A

NEXT GENERAL MEETING

WHERE:.....DIANELLA COMMUNITY CENTRE
LIGHT STREET, DIANELLA
WHEN.....WED. 8TH MARCH 1989
8PM

NEXT CASTING DAY

WHERE-.....YOKINE RESERVE
WHEN-.....SUNDAY 9.0AM
5TH MARCH 1989
EVENTS-.....112 gram Level Line
56 gram Level Line
D/H Accuracy
S/H Accuracy

NEXT FIELD DAY

VENUE.....DENMARK
WHEN-.....MARCH LONG WEEKEND
MARCH 4TH-6TH
WHERE-.....DENMARK RIVER CARAVAN PARK
TIMINGS-.....
SIGN-ON.....DENMARK RIVER CARAVAN PARK
1pm SAT 4TH MARCH
WEIGH-IN.....DENMARK RIVER CARAVAN PARK
9am/10am MON 6TH MARCH
To be decided by attenders at
sign on time.

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

WHERE-.....DIANELLA COMMUNITY CENTRE
LIGHT STREET DIANELLA
WHEN-.....WED. 15TH MARCH 1989
8pm.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT MARCH 1989

~~Our February meeting saw a good number in attendance and a lot of business was dealt with in a positive way. The highlight of the night was the talk given by our guest speaker, Ian Smith, who spoke on marine animals shellfish and sharks. Ian held the attention of all that were present for around 40 minutes and we learnt a lot. Our thanks go to Ian for a very interesting and informative instruction period.~~

I would like to extend to Sharon and Peter Osborne the club's best wishes in their endeavours at the Australian Angling Championships at Warnambol during March. Peter and Sharon are travelling to Victoria to fly the W.A. flag and hopefully bring home some of the booty!!!!!!!

I had a phone call this week from Steve Sutton, a club member. Steve and his wife Ruth with the two children are touring Australia and are currently in the mountains in Victoria. He is 'wrapped' in the scenery and the fresh running streams and he has taken to fly fishing for trout with some success. Steve has meet some of the local members of the trout fishing club and he has learnt a lot from them. They are badge collectors and they would like us to send a couple of our badges over.

Two new members nominated at the last meeting were:

Malcolm Kelly and Bruce Bennett

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome them and hope that they enjoy the facilities of our club. One of our club members made the comment that Malcolm should be handicapped at drycasting as on his first day he was beating many regulars by casting around 140 metres. Good to see and I hope that he continues to attend the casting meetings.

Dave Maxted was noted to be in attendance at our last cast.....getting rid of a few cobwebs with a cast of 127 metres even though it went out of court. More practice needed Dave!!!!!!


Over the next month or two I would like you all to give a lot of thought to our clubs events for the next season, particularly our field days. Attendances overall have been poor so now is your opportunity to do something positive about this by making suggestions on how we can improve our club and to help review the Field Day venues by providing lists of where you would like to go each month. At the April meeting we make the decisions for the following years Field Days, so start thinking.....

The club had a great letter from the Whiting Family and this appears elsewhere in this 'Reel Talk'. Its great to hear that they have settled in and things are going well.

Ian Cook has had a torrid time with the telephone book deliveries arranging times and organising everything. The main reason for the confusion is that Ian has been given three different delivery dates in the last month and now that they have finally arrived the heat is on !!!!!!!

To all those who have made themselves available many thanks....

George Plus

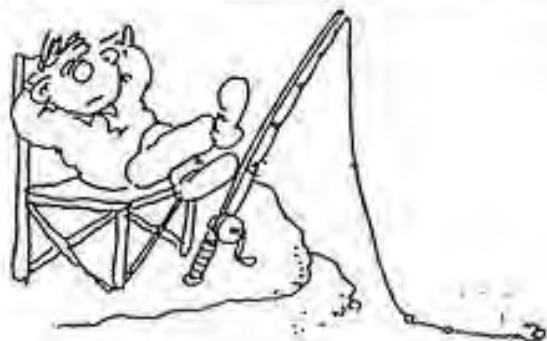


TEE SHIRTS/ WINDCHEATERS

At our last general meeting it was decided by those present that they would like to be able to get club tee-shirt and the committee also decided to have a look at windcheaters as well.

To enable us to cost these items it would be appreciated if members could submit a written list of their requirements either to Eric Parker or to myself thus allowing us to have these items as soon as possible.

Eric Parker



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FIELD DAY REPORT

VENUE GREENOUGH (DONGARA/ DRUMMONDS)
DATE: JANUARY 28TH-30TH 1989

Most of us arrived on the Friday night. Everyone except the D'Alonzos stayed at the Greenough River Mouth Caravan Park.

Saturday morning saw all of us scouting around to see what was being caught where. Osbornes hit fish on the beach of Greenough, then transferred to Lucy's at 9am and really hit the fish. Every cast had a big beautiful tailor fighting over the baits....something we haven't seen for a long time. Ric, Basil and Mal arrived during the thick of it, but hadn't bought any bait!!!!!!!!!!!!!! So Mal borrowed Peter's gear and caught a feed of fresh fish for tea.

Saturday afternoon the wind and weed hit making fishing almost impossible. On Sunday at daylight the easterly hit and that was that. After the arrival of the high we had to work very long hours for very few fish. What we did get was a lot of baby mulloway all around the 30 cm mark. While this didn't do us any good this year it should mean good catches of mulloway in the next couple of years.

Ric caught a nice 9.5kg black tip shark, that Mal had the honour of gaffing in the waves at Lucy's.
'Good on ya Mal, you didn't blow it despite all your misgivings.'

John and Peter both caught keepable Mulloway, John's was 4.6kg and Peter's was 3.5kg. Graham had a super-duper 30 pounder clasped in his arms and then lost it when it wriggled loose. Graham is now sworn to walking his big fish back to shore before trying to drop them in his bag. Next to Ric's, Graham's would have been the fish of the weekend.

Both Michael and Brett managed to weigh-in fish, as did the D'alonzos (of course!). Most of us had to settle for 'also attended'.

It's really a shame that the weather change hit us as the Saturday morning fish was a dream come true, maybe next year we'll have Saturday mornings...the whole weekend!

Most of us were happy with the Greenough River Caravan Park. The Osborne's rented a 6 berth caravan, with a big fridge, lots of room and air conditioned in the main bedroom for \$78.00 the weekend. Ian and Derry rented a two berth caravan with a small fridge and no airconditioning....SO HOT.....for \$60.00. The bigger caravan was well worth it.

Tight Lines,

Sharon Q + Cookie

P.S. Complaints were received about club members dropping drink cans around instead of putting them into rubbish bins. PLEASE MEMBERS.....we must BE RESPONSIBLE for our own rubbish both as individuals and as club members.



MALCOLM KELLY
&
BRUCE BENNETT

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FIELD DAY RESULTS

VENUE GREENOUGH (DONGARA - DRUMMONDS)
DATE JANUARY 28TH - 30TH

ATTENDANCE **SENIORS** 12 **JUNIORS** 1
 VISITORS 2 **MINI-JUNIORS** 3
 TOTAL 18

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POINTS</u>	<u>FISH WEIGHT</u>	<u>TOTAL WEIGHT</u> 3.29kg
R. PARKER.....	150pts...	9.58kg	ALSO IN ATTENDANCE
T. D'ALONZO...	133pts...	8.00kg	D. BARBER
J. REELEY.....	114pts...	6.10kg	I. COOK
P. OSBORNE....	102pts...	5.00kg	S. OSBORNE
G. REELEY.....	68pts...	1.70kg	V. REELEY
M. REELEY (J).	67pts...	1.65kg	STEVEN REELEY (V)
M. HEAD.....	61pts...	1.10kg	SCOTT REELEY (MJ)
F. D'ALONZO...	58pts...	.80kg	N. REELEY (MJ)
B. REELEY (MJ)	53pts...	.27kg	ROSS X (V)

FIELD DAY PRIZES

HEAVIEST SHARK:	R. PARKER	9.58kg
HEAVIEST BAG SCALE FISH:	T. D'ALONZO	8.00kg
HEAVIEST SCALE FISH:	J. REELEY	4.60kg
HEAVIEST JUNIOR BAG:	M. REELEY	1.65kg
HEAVIEST MINI-JUNIOR BAG:	B. REELEY	.27kg

SPORTSMAN OF THE YEAR POINTS

HEAVIEST BAG SCALE FISH:	1st T. D'ALONZO
	2nd J. REELEY
HEAVIEST SCALE FISH:	1st J. REELEY (4.6kg Mulloway)
	2nd P. OSBORNE (3.5kg Mulloway)
HEAVIEST SHARK:	1st R. PARKER

SENIOR TOP TEN:

T. D'ALONZO.....	1125
P. OSBORNE.....	928
S. OSBORNE.....	561
R. PARKER.....	513
F. D'ALONZO.....	463
G. HOLMAN.....	450
J. REELEY.....	416
G. REELEY.....	355
D. BARBER.....	333
M. HEAD.....	284

JUNIOR TOP FIVE:

H. HOLMAN.....	286
M. REELEY.....	205
C. MAXSTEAD.....	132
N. REELEY.....	100
K. OSBORNE.....	50

MINI-JUNIOR TOP FIVE:

B. REELEY.....	273
S. REELEY.....	206
G. TAGGART.....	150
B. TAGGART.....	100



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Dates to Remember...

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1988-1989 SEASON

- MAY.....YALLINGUP TO CAPE LEEUWIN
- JUNE.....OPEN LONG WEEKEND
- JULY.....LOCAL
- AUGUST.....YALLINGUP
- SEPTEMBER.....ROTTNEST
- OCTOBER.....ESPERANCE
OPEN (normal weekend)
- NOVEMBER.....WHITE HILLS
- DECEMBER.....MANDURAH / SAFETY BAY
- JANUARY.....DONGARA/DRUMMONDS (GREENOUGH RIVER AS THE CENTRE)
- FEBRUARY.....LEDGE POINT / LANCELIN
- MARCH.....~~BLUE BREEK~~ **DENMARK**
- APRIL.....ROTTNEST



FIELD DAY REPORT

VENUE: LEDGE POINT - WEDGE ISLAND
DATE: 11TH - 12TH FEBRUARY

The sign on at the Lancelin Hotel consisted of three vehicles and three anglers. This was a very disappointing turn out. The trio of Peter O., Tony D. and Cookie headed off the Wedge Island. After studying the beaches we settled on a hole just south of the Headland and 3kms south of Wedge Island. The wind was from the south south west at about 10-15 knots and we had an ebbing tide.

Much to my dismay Peter and Tony produced Tripods to fish from. This left me with the option of either fishing in chest deep water or no fishing at all. Operating a reel under water and trying to grab fish at the same time is rather awkward. I also had to swim ashore after having been swept into the rip. Peter and Tony did rather well fishing early afternoon but the fishing went off at night. We all had a good tea, a few drinks and then went off to bed.

Sunday morning was a repeat of the weather with a few fish. On the way back to Lancelin we came across a group with an 18 footer swamped in the surf on the beach. After hooking up a tow strap of Peter's and a lot of human effort we managed to get the boat clear of the swells. We then gave them a lift into Lancelin so that they could organize to tow the boat out.

The field day was enjoyable despite the poor turn out. The Denmark field day should produce some good fish and Sharon and I are hoping for a good turn out down there.

Tight Lines.

Sharon & Cookie



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FIELD DAY RESULTS

VENUE LEDGE POINT - WEDGE ISLAND
DATE FEBRUARY 11TH -12TH 1989

ATTENDANCE	SENIORS	3	JUNIORS	
	VISITORS			MINI-JUNIORS
	TOTAL	3		

NAME	POINTS	FISH WEIGHT	TOTAL WEIGHT 3.29kg
T. D'ALONZO.....		5.65kg	ALSO IN ATTENDANCE
P. OSBORNE.....		5.55kg	
I. COOK.....		2.75kg	

FIELD DAY PRIZES

HEAVIEST BAG SCALE FISH:.....T. D'ALONZO
HEAVIEST SCALE FISH:.....T. D'ALONZO (.66kg TAILOR)

SPORTSMAN OF THE YEAR POINTS

HEAVIEST BAG SCALE FISH:	1st	T. D'ALONZO
	2nd	P. OSBORNE
HEAVIEST SCALE FISH:	1st	T. D'ALONZO
	2nd	T. D'ALONZO

SENIOR TOP TEN:

T. D'ALONZO.....1275
 P. OSBORNE.....1076
 S. OSBORNE..... 561
 R. PARKER..... 513
 F. D'ALONZO..... 463
 G. HOLMAN..... 450
 J. REELEY..... 416
 I. COOK..... 357
 G. REELEY..... 355
 D. BARBER..... 333

JUNIOR TOP FIVE:

H. HOLMAN.....286
 M. REELEY.....205
 C. MAXSTEAD.....132
 N. REELEY.....100
 K. OSBORNE..... 50

MINI-JUNIOR TOP FIVE:

B. REELEY.....273
 S. REELEY.....206
 G. TAGGART.....150
 B. TAGGART.....100



ANNUAL DINNER.....

24th June 1989

Members \$25
Pensioners } \$12.50
Juniors }
Non Members \$30

We need
100 members
to come. Contact
me as soon
as possible
Lee

Le Mirage
Francis St
Northbridge





NOTICE OF MOTION

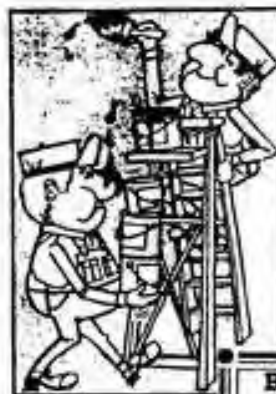
This motion has been put forward by your Drycasting Officer, Graham Reeley and will be discussed and voted upon at the next General Meeting.

I would like to see the Drycasting operations change back to the old system:-

1. That the casting figures be a straight addition. There not be any percentage totals or handicaps added to make it easier.
2. That the 20 metre handicap be maintained on a level line for woman.
3. That the Juniors and Mini-juniors will maintain their handicaps of 5 metre and 8 metres on a single handed and double handed accuracy.

Dry Casting Officer

G. Reeley.



KALBARRI HOUSE

If you are thinking of booking the Kalbarri House for school holiday season 1989/90 **BOOK NOW**. Bookings for these prime times are filling fast. If you are even thinking of going during a school holiday please make a tentative booking.

John Reeley Phone 275-7305

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DENMARK

MARCH FIELD DAY

This was to be Bluff Creek. However with three other clubs going there, Surfcasters opted in favour of Denmark.

Enquiries at Denmark revealed that the National Surfing Championships are also there on the long weekend. This will take place at Ocean Beach, with the surfies using the Ocean Beach Caravan Park as their base.

We usually stay at Ocean Beach, but it is difficult to compete with the surfies (who have already booked the park out). Therefore our headquarters will be the:
RIVERMOUTH CARAVAN PARK (Holling Road.....E9 on the map)
P.O. BOX 149
DENMARK 6333
Telephone:- (098)48-1262

PLEASE NOTE

Sharon and Peter Osborne will be in Victoria therefore Ian Cook will be the Field Day Officer.

DENMARK

Postcode: 6333.
STD Area Code: 088.

Local Government Authority: Denmark Shire Council, Phone No. 48-1106.

UBD State Map Ref.: Z7 Map 16

Situation: 414 km south of Perth by road via Albany Highway and Mt. Barker at latitude 34 deg. 58 mins south, longitude 117 deg. 22 mins east

Population: Town 985, Rural 1,171.
Average Rainfall: 1,168 mm per annum.

Main Industries: Beef and cattle, dairy farming, potato and fruit growing, timber.

Main Services: Banks, caravan parks, general stores, holiday flats, hotels, motel, motor service stations, newsagents, restaurant, stock and station agent and theatre.

Electricity: 440/250 volts A.C. 50 cycles.

HISTORY:

Denmark was originally a timber town which grew up after the establishment of a timber mill on the banks of the Denmark River in 1894 by the Miller Bros.

At the closure of the mill some families remained and pioneered the district in farming, Denmark slowly making its way into agriculture from about 1910.

The main farming activities were vegetable production and the establishment of orchards with a later diversification into dairying.

In 1922 the 'group settlement scheme' brought some 250 new families to the district and agriculture has progressively strengthened since this time.



Town Centre — Denmark.

POINTS OF INTEREST:

FAUNA SANCTUARY next to Ocean Beach Caravan Park.

GREENS POOL inside the reel is a natural sea pool with good swimming for adults and children, clean water and food fishing from small boats, rocks and beach.

MT. LINDESAY DRIVE AND CLIMB from War Memorial proceed 4 km north in Holling Road to Scotsdale Road - turn right and follow Scotsdale Road 8 km to Mt. Lindesay Road on the right. Follow Mt. Lindesay Road through to its end and the northern boundary of the last farm. Turn right and follow the boundary of the farm until the Denmark River and parking is reached. A footpath from the parking area crosses the river and leads to the summit of Mt. Lindesay from which magnificent views of the area are available.

MOUNT SHADFORTH SCENIC DRIVE proceed from South Coast Highway along North Street to Mt. Shadforth Road, which rises to give wonderful views of surrounding districts, both farming and ocean.

OCEAN BEACH 3.4 km from Denmark is considered to be one of the finest surfing beaches in the state.

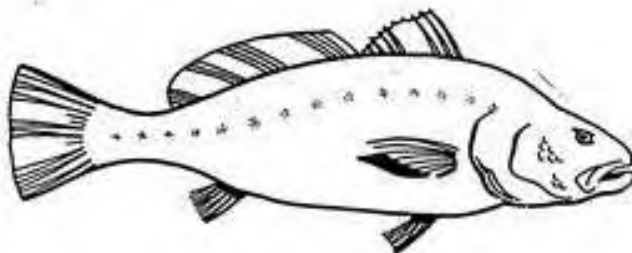
PEACEFUL BAY follow the road to coast where there is a good beach, caravan park and camping area. Also a salmon beach in the season. Turn left from South Coast Highway just after you have crossed the Bow River at Bow Bridge.

THE AQUARIUM AND SPHINX ROCK can be reached from Ocean Beach when the 'bar' is closed. Walk eastwards for approximately 2 km and just past the first rocky headland, turn and look back towards Denmark. 'Sphinx' face can be clearly seen on the head.

SECTION CHANGES

<u>SECTION</u>	<u>NAME</u>	<u>FISH</u>	<u>WEIGHT</u>
2...HEAVIEST SCALE FISH			
1st 6 months.....	E. PARKER	TAILOR	5.08kg
2nd 6 months.....			
3...MOST MERITORIOUS FISH			
4...HEAVIEST SHARK (4.5kg min)....	E. PARKER	BLACK TIP	9.58kg
5...HEAVIEST MULLOWAY (1kg min)...	M. REELEY		5.10kg
6...HEAVIEST TAILOR (1kg min).....	E. PARKER	TAILOR	5.08kg
7...HEAVIEST SALMON (3kg min).....	G. HOLMAN		3.60kg
8...HEAVIEST TREVALLY (1kg min)...	G. HOLMAN		2.27kg
9...HEAVIEST MACKERAL			
10...HEAVIEST BAG SCALE FISH.....	T. D'ALONZO		28.45kg
11...HEAVIEST BAG MULLOWAY.....	M. REELEY		5.10kg
12...HEAVIEST BAG TAILOR.....	E. PARKER		5.08kg
13...HEAVIEST SCALE FISH S/H/ ROD.	E. PARKER	TAILOR	5.08kg
4kg of 91g b/s line (max)			
14...HEAVIEST SCALE FISH.....	B. REELEY	BONITO	1.55kg
Other than Sections 4-13			

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OPEN SECTION

- 1...MOST MERITORIOUS FISH
- 2...HEAVIEST SHARK (4.5kg min)
- 3...HEAVIEST MULLOWAY (3kg min)...T. D'ALONZO 15.3kg
- 4...HEAVIEST SALMON (3kg min).....P. OSBORNE 4.2kg
- 5...HEAVIEST DHUFISH
- 6...HEAVIEST TAILOR (1kg min).....P. OSBORNE 2.75kg
- 7...HEAVIEST SAMSON FISH
- 8...HEAVIEST SCALE FISH S/H/ ROD
4kg or 9lb b/b line max
- 9...HEAVIEST PINK SNAPPER
- 10..HEAVIEST TARWHINE
- 11..HEAVIEST MACKERAL
- 12..HEAVIEST TREVALLY.....S. OSBORNE 3.05kg
(SOUTHERN 1kg min)
- 13..HEAVIEST TREVALLY
(NORTHERN 1kg min)
- 14..HEAVIEST SNOOK/PIKE (1kg min)
- 15..HEAVIEST SCALE FISH
Other than Sections 2-14 (2kg min)

Lure of National meeting

By KEITH FLEMING

Every two years the Australian Anglers' Association (AAA), holds the Australian Angling and Casting Championships and Convention. It is a biennial rather than an annual event, because of its magnitude.

The States take turns in hosting the event, and this year the venue is Warrambool in Western Victoria, where it was held 10 years ago.

Warrambool proved an excellent choice. The locals had no idea they had so many fish in their local waters, and the townspeople of Warrambool were very hospitable to some 800 anglers and family members who attended.

The championships this year are from March 2 to 21. They are spread over a long period because of the number of events and the seriousness with which the competitors take their sport.

There will be three rounds each of estuary, offshore, and beach fishing, and two days of casting. A number of rest days are provided so that anglers can service their gear, and get bait for the next round.

There also is a full schedule of social events, tours and barbecues.

Anglers start arriving at Warrambool from at least a week prior to the official opening. The standard is so high at these championships, and the competition between States so fierce, that most anglers are away fishing some 10 days at least a week in advance.

About 40 anglers are expected from New Zealand, and top anglers from the Northern Territory will be competing.

Club anglers from many parts of Australia will compete, and the exchange of information about different fishing methods alone makes the trip worthwhile. There are surprising differences between States in the type of fish to be caught, and in the methods of catching them.

The championships are in various classes, such as veterans, ladies, seniors and juniors. The whole family can compete.

There will be over 800 prizes, with a total value of about \$30,000. Major sponsors are Alvy Reels, Jarvis Walker and Ryobi, Mercury Outboards, and the Warrambool Textile Mills.

More than 1000 anglers and family members will attend, and nearly all the accommodation has been pre-booked.

The Warrambool Offshore Club will supply the offshore boats for competitors from distant States who do not tow their own boats to the event.

The co-ordinator of the championships is well known Victorian angler, Jim Gibbee of the Westgate Angling Club. For the last two years Jim has been involved in preparations, and has spent much time traveling between Melbourne and Warrambool.

The headquarters for the championships will be at the Surf Lifesaving Club on the foreshore. The weigh-in or 'ch-day' will take place in a roped-off area nearby.



Final stages of a good day's angling at Warrambool.

I have fished these championships over the last 20 years and find that you learn more about fishing at one of these events than you would fishing around your local waters for two years. Being able to fish in competition in a different State every two years provides an overall view of angling in Australia.

Club anglers from anywhere in Australia are welcome to compete. So get yourself organised and come along for a feast of fishing and fun, and learn what angling is all about.

Victorian round-up

Late summer usually sees Victoria with much more settled weather than early in the holiday season. Now that the school holidays are over and the action on the water is not quite so crowded, anglers can expect some good catches taken in reasonable comfort.

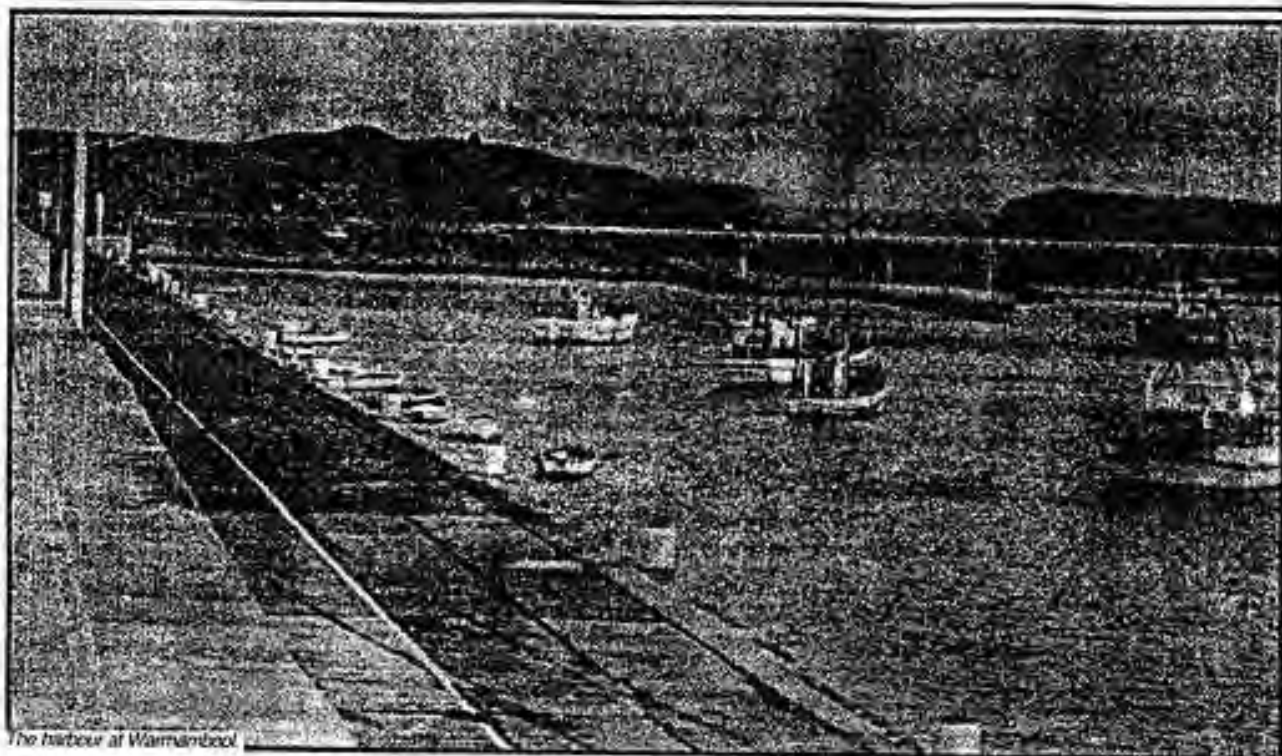
All the reports in from the January anglers show that the warmer water has activated the fish. Whether you fish the freshwater lakes or rivers, or the estuaries, bays or open ocean, you can be assured of excellent fishing.

Freshwater anglers don't get much action in

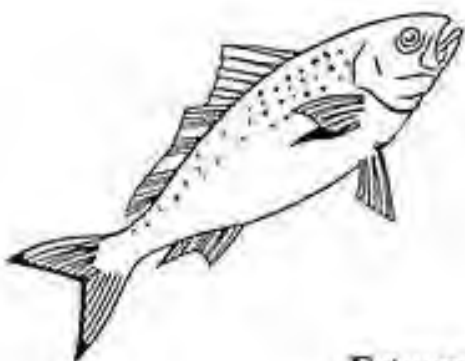
the middle of the day during the heat. But in the early morning and evening the fish come out to feed and the trout, in particular, are being taken at these times.

In the deeper lakes the fish are feeding longer during the day, but are much deeper in the water. If you go swimming in any of the deep lakes you will find the top three metres of water quite warm, but below that it is like snow water.

The Macquarie perch closed season was lifted near the end of January, so it is now permissible to take this species again. Some good charrack salmon are being taken in the deep water at Purnamboult.



The harbour at Warrnambool



Estuary angling

The estuary anglers are doing very well, particularly in east Gippsland. Bream are on the bite everywhere, but it is a waste of time after 10am. Some good schools of luderick have entered the estuaries at Bemm's River and Marlo and these are being taken on sandworms. Some of these fish are going up to 1.5kg.

The estuary perch season is in full swing, with the small prawns running well in all the estuaries east of and including Lakes Entrance.

Live prawn are suspended over the weed beds under a float or around the strags to get the attention of the perch. Once again, this is only an early morning or evening exercise.

Other species being caught in good numbers in the estuaries are the big flathead at Mallacoota and Tambora and the yellow-eye mullet in all estuaries along the coast. The mullet are particularly keen on sandworms or any type of soft bait and can be caught in big numbers with a berley of breadcumbs and bran.

The big flathead prefer a small live mullet floated down the side. This type of fishing requires finesse and is well worth spending some time perfecting.

In the big bays there are plenty of flathead and garfish, both of which can be taken throughout

the day. Snapper are still about, but not in large numbers. You need time to catch one.

The big snapper are in the deep water, and more are being caught in the faster flowing water.

Whiting have really come into their own this year, and are spread out around the big boys. The western side of Port Phillip is producing the bulk of the fish, and you need to get to the grounds early for a boat position. Mussel is outfishing all other baits.

Offshore promise

Offshore anglers are having a ball in the more settled ocean water conditions. Although the number of launching ramps around our coastline has not increased, anglers seem to be overcoming their fear of ocean waters and more are using the ocean ramps.

Big whiting are being taken close to the shore in many areas. Snapper from 2 to 3kg are being taken in good numbers on the close inshore reefs.

In Western Victoria the warehou or sea bream, have moved in large numbers on the inshore reefs and are being caught on small whitebait or pippi. These fish will not bite on a heavy sinker as they are a midwater feeder, so they should be fished as light as possible.

Trevally of good size are plentiful, and there are many big 'coute around on the west coast. Pike are plentiful on the inshore reefs, and will take large whitebait on ganged hooks or small pilchards.

Many soft fleshed fish are excellent eating, particularly if skinned. Do not confuse these with the snook, often called "pike". It is similar to a 'coute, only round in body section and taken over the weed beds in relatively shallow water around the coast and the close-in offshore islands.

Snook can be caught by slowly trolling a frozen pilchard (I never use salted pilchards for anything as bait) on a ganged hook rig, or by trolling pilchard-type lures or those in-bibbed Rapala lures.

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HI GUYS!

Well here we are in Saudi Arabia. I've enclosed a news sheet so you can all get some idea of what its like over here. Generally speaking lifes not too bad. As one of the outgoing Canadians said,

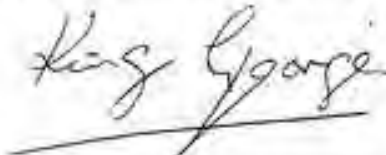
"When things aren't going too well, just remember the reason why you came here!"

We're on the coast of the Persian Gulf and they tell me that there is plenty of fish out there. We bought some fresh Wahoo at the markets the other day and it was magnificent. There is both shore and boat fishing. The range of fish includes wahoo, spanish mackerel, groper, barracuda, snapper and shark just to name a few. Needless to say I am trying to organise a trip!

Maybe next time I write I may have some fishing photos for you. There is plenty of room for dry casting over here...too bad I sold Graham my rod. They tell me that fishing gear is pretty cheap but I haven't been game to check it out in case I go and buy a whole lot.

Well Beth and I send our best regards and hope that you will drop us a line sometime.

Have a Drink for us will you??????



7/06/1489 (That's the date over here).

SAUDI ARABIA - INITIAL IMPRESSIONS

THE LAND...

Flying in from Bahrain, the landscape looked more like a moonscape. Flat and desolate. Then the first buildings came into view; neat arrays of villa units in company compounds, monstrous Saudi homes, blocks of appartments, all with the same basic architechtrual style - square!

ENTRY...

I came in alone, to pave the way, so to speak. Beth and the kids had to wait in Australia until visas came through. On entering the terminal at Dhahran I found myself amid a thick throng of TCN's (Third Country Nationals - not Arabs, not Westerners, ie. Paki, Indian, Phillipino, etc). We waited over an hour in a slow-moving queue at immigrations. When my turn came, the officer dealing with me was quite courteous. Then came Customs. Those guys were giving the TCN's the third degree - all luggage opened and emptied out, containers of pills thrown on the floor, etc. They had a quick look in my cases and waved me through ... I was in

The trip from airport to compound was via the fantastic road system I could see from the air. Millions of dollars worth of multi-lane expressways crisscrossing the city, built in the days when oil was \$34 per barrel. The driving here is fast, and dangerous. When they have a prang here, they really do a good job. Generally, if something hits you it will be either a luxury limousine (Caddy, Merc, etc) or a very large American four wheel drive. But the chances are you'll never know what hit you.

THE PEOPLE...

My first contact with a Saudi was in Bahrain. I'd been stranded there after a slight bureaucratic stuffup, and had spent the entire morning trying to get a flight out to Dhahran. I got to the terminal very early in order to give myself every chance of getting the flight, and finished up arriving at the baggage check an hour before it opened. So I took up my position and waited. Just as it opened, a Saudi man strode in with about 9 veiled women (wives and relatives?) and a huge pile of air tickets, and barged straight up to the check-in. Just as he was about to start proceedings there, he turned to me, smiled, and said "Please - you first", and waited while I went through.

And it has been much the same with most of the Saudis I have met to date - friendly and courteous. I know plenty of Australians who could learn something from them in this regard! (Although the reverse is true when it comes to safe driving. They suffer from a kind of Jeckyl and Hide syndrome when they get behind the wheel.)

THE WEATHER...

Sure it gets hot here, but only in summer. Shortly after arriving, in late December, it rained one night, and next day most of the streets were flooded with a couple of feet of water. They don't have drainage because it hardly ever rains! Instead, tanker trucks go around sucking up the deepest puddles, while the remaining ones are left to dry out over the next few days. Apart from the occasional few drops, it only rains twice a year. Once in December to bring in winter, and again in late February to herald the summer. And winter it was, with a vengeance - bitterly cold winds, with minimum temperatures ranging from 3 or 4 degrees here in Dammam to well below zero inland and to the north. So far there hasn't been much point in wearing the Akubra....

In summer, we've been promised temperatures of 50 or more, with 90% humidity. More on that in a few months! Fortunately we have a pool in our compound.

THE COMPOUND...

We reside in the Saudi Telecom Compound, built originally for and by the Canadians we are replacing. We occupy one group of 10 villas, all of which are the same. They are 2 story, 3 bedroom, fully equipped airconditioned units which we find quite comfortable. We have been warned against drinking the tap water due to some doubt regarding the capacity of the desalinator in Khobar to handle the load being placed on it. So we use water from a tanker parked in our compound - but we don't really know where that comes from either. You've heard about Bali Belly? Well you haven't lived until you've had a good dose of A.A. (use your imagination).

we have a couple of tennis courts, a squash court, & "clubhouses" with rooms for the kids to play, pool table, gymnasium (ie a small room with some weights), and a large pool which should be great in summer. The kids just love having stairs to play on, and they keep us fit!

THE SHOPPING...

The variety of goods available is mind-blowing. Groceries generally work out about the same price as home, but with an international menu to choose from. Other goods of just about any description can be got here at prices which are usually cheaper than Australian duty free, but not as cheap as Singapore. Some items, like toys, are sometimes ridiculously cheap. You can bargain a little, but never more than over a 10% range - their profit margins are pretty slim due to intense competition. Most of the shopping is done in souqs. A souq is a collection of shops all selling the same kind of thing, in direct competition with each other. It doesn't seem to make much business sense, but it sure makes shopping easy.

Beth goes shopping more or less whenever she wants to. Although women are forbidden to drive, she just calls our company driver who works for us full time. She has plenty of time for it now that both kids are at school full time.

THE SCHOOL...

15 minutes drive away is the Dhahran Accademy, situated next to the airport. The fees are a bit steep, around \$5000A per year per student, but the company pays. It doesn't look much from the outside, but the classrooms within are very pleasant. You can choose between British and American formats, and we decided on British. They are in the middle of the school year now. It is said the schools here are much better than in Australia - I guess we'll soon know.

PRAYER TIME...

They pray 5 times a day. Dawn, midday, mid afternoon, sunset and an hour after that, each session being between 15 minutes and half an hour in length. There are mosques EVERYWHERE each with its own rather powerful PA system. In the good old days, the muessin would sing the prayer call from the top of the minaret, but now all you see is a bank of loudspeakers. He stays downstairs on the microphone, or just switches on a tape recorder. We have one just over the road from the compound, in which the muessen does a live call over the PA. He does a rather good impression of Andy Williams, although at 5.00am when he gets a bit heavy on the volume knob I sometimes have a different opinion!

GOING TO THE LOO...

In days of old when knights were bold and toilets weren't invented, the locals used to clean themselves up using water from a bottle, with the left hand. This may have something to do with their custom of only offering or receiving anything with the right, and of eating with the right hand. Nowadays, if you visit a public (in)convenience, you may not find a lot of toilet paper, but you will find a short hose. To use this without getting extremely wet is quite an art, as I found out at work one day when I got caught short with a dose of A.A, and as Beth found out when helping Debbie at a public loo - Debbie came out looking very damp indeed.

If you go up market a little, you get to use the bidou, a delightful invention which looks like a loo, but has 3 taps. You sit facing the taps (after using the regular loo) and adjust them to taste. One for hot, one cold, and the one in the middle adjusts between water going into the bowl and water shooting upwards - usually into your face the first

time you fiddle with it and don't know what it's for.

OUTDOORS...

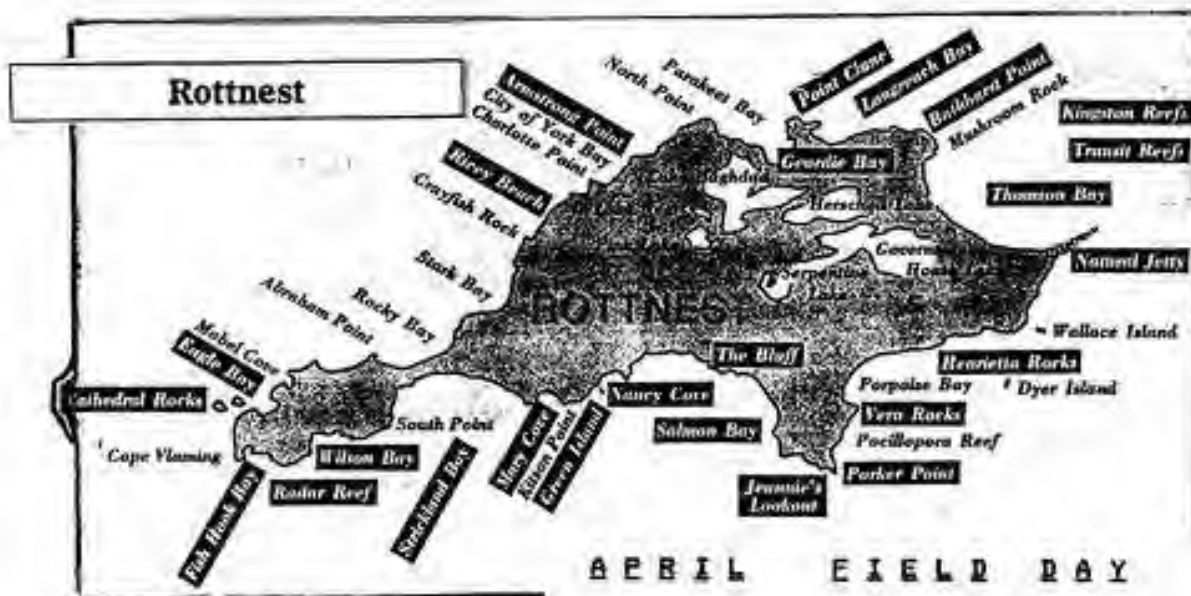
When they build a park here they don't muck around. They are big, well equipped with kids play gear, and generally nice to relax in. There are also some large amusement complexes with spectacular rides. Also there are some nice beaches, but just who can swim there wearing exactly exactly what is something we have yet to determine.

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It only costs \$1.80 per minute for you to call us but we pay 3 times that amount to call you, so give us a call sometime! Don't forget there's a 5 hour time difference between Perth and here.



APRIL FIELD DAY

B R I N E S I

Rottnest fishes best from the shore from March through the winter to the end of September, with April and August being excellent months. Summer is relatively unproductive from the reefs, though there is always a chance of resident herring, whiting and small sand skipper.



Sounds Wonderful!!

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We thank the following trophy donors for their generosity for our 1987-1988 Annual Presentation Dinner and Dance:



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