

REEL TALK

Surf Casting and Angling Club of WA

May 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

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Bladon WA (Martin Wearmouth)
Central Seafoods
Halco Tackle
J M Gillies Agencies
Western Angler Magazine

*Thank you for
your valued
support.*



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Club Committee for 2017/8

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Sandra Wessels

Treasurer

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Now part of the Treasurer's duties
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Field Day Officer

Peet Wessels
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Website Coordinator

Peet Wessels

Social Organiser/Member Coordinator

Pat McKeown

Committee Person

Vince Tomazin

Assistant Field Day Officer

Martin Wearmouth

Recorder

Justin Rose

Committee Person

Gary Parkinson

Committee Person

Sri Srigandan

AAAWA Delegates

Victor Schilo, Pat McKeown

All club emails should be sent to surfcast@iinet.net.au and all correspondence posted by mail should be addressed to:

PO Box 2834, Malaga WA 694

The Website Co-ordinator, Property Officer, AAWA Delegates, Reel Talk Editor, Dry Casting Officer, Assistant Dry Casting Officer, Field Day / Assistant Field Day Officer, Social Organiser and Membership Co-ordinator and Recorder 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 May 2018



With another competition season finishing it is time to start another one. This has been the case for 60 odd years and hopefully many more. There are of course a few things that need to be sorted and we are well on our way to doing so.

Firstly, preparations are well in hand for the Presentation Night. Our Social Organiser Pat McKeown, as always, is well prepared with finalisation of award recipients, trophy engraving, contacting sponsors and most importantly ticket sales progressing nicely. Please give and offer Pat all the assistance you can as this is one of the most important events on our calendar.

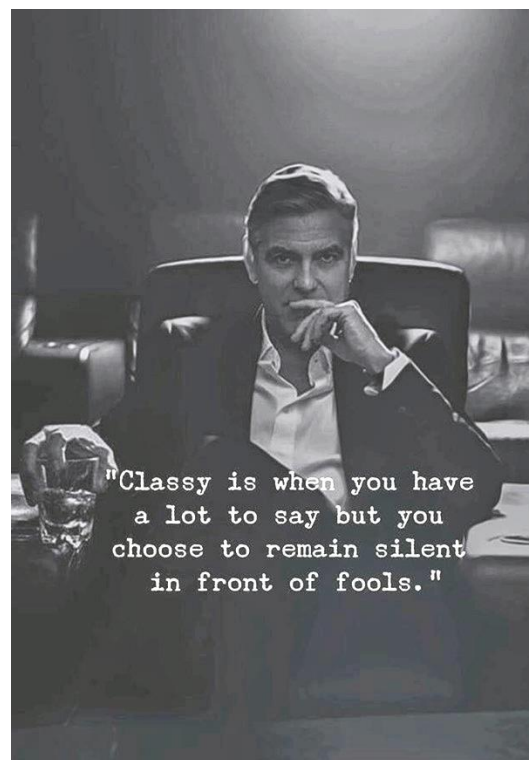
Our fishing Field Day program for next season has now been finalised following a collaborative process over the last few months. We are trying a couple of new things next year, with a few open events in the hope of attracting more participants in the months that traditionally are not well supported. Even if you are unable to fish within prescribed boundaries there is always the open event. It is always interesting to hear of members describing their non- club event fishing trips. It can provide some insight in to locations that some members are not familiar with. It's all about sharing knowledge and skills.

Even though it is early days there is continued enthusiasm for a safari to Esperance in early March 2019. A few of us have already booked time off work in anticipation of this. Peet already has some ideas for how this could run and would welcome input from others.

Drycasting remains a bit hit and miss at present with regards to attendance. This problem is not unique to our club and it reflects a general trend nationally. We do discuss this at Committee meetings, but it really is a difficult one to solve. As always, any constructive input is welcomed.

Whilst on the topic of national trends it is pleasing to see a trickle of new member applications over the last few months. General interest in fishing club membership has been on the wane for several years-as evidenced by declining number of clubs, AAA interest etc. Since joining the club in 2009 I have always been impressed by the long history and tradition of the club as well as its inherent resilience. This has served us well in the past and I am confident it will continue long in to the future.

Quotes for the month:



Membership Coordinator's Report

Hello fellow club members hope this finds you all well and ready for the upcoming presentation night. The membership enquires are picking up with quite a lot of interest and new members joining. This trend is very encouraging for all. The members tripping around Australia seem to be enjoying themselves. Feedback has been very positive. See you all when you have finished fishing eating and thoroughly enjoying yourselves. We welcome on board all the McFarland clan. The good news is that John Curtis has applied to renew his membership. Well that's about it for this month. Stay Safe and don't forget that lifejacket and reef boots

Membership Coordinator Pat McKeown.

Social Organiser's Report

Presentation Night 2018



Date: -Saturday 9th June 2018 @ 6:30pm

**Where: - Croatian House Wishart Street
GWELUP**

Cost \$32.00 per head.

Drinks: - Purchase at the bar.

Submit all ticket payments to the club Treasure.

Bank Details:

Westpac

BSB036 059

A/C # 880334

Please ensure that you add your name to the transfer details.

Tickets will be available at the May meeting.

Any donations for the night are more than welcome.

It's that time again off to the club's annual presentation night.

You would have received a reminder on all the facts and figures so how about booking in for a fun night with a good feed and great company.

We need 50 tickets sold to make it all happen so far, we have sold 29 nearly there.

So, don't think about it just do it.

It would be nice to have more donations for raffle prizes so clean out that cupboard and see what you can come up with.

The club meeting raffles are going along very nicely, and I can feel a pizza night coming up maybe at the AGM that's not that far off.

Please think long and hard who you want on your committee for the 2018/2019 year.

The commitment from the committee has been sorely tested and we have survived with strong support from the membership thank you one and all.

I myself will be standing down from the committee this year.

I feel proud and honoured to have served you the members and my fellow committee over the years and feel it's time to step aside and let younger blood with a fresh outlook take the reins.

I will assist the new Social Organiser/Membership coordinator all I can in their new role and you will have the support of all the membership how good is that.

The club meeting tea coffee break has been thoroughly enjoyable with Slavka's special effort of homemade cakes.

To the members that keep adding prizes to the club raffle a big thank you.

These prizes are keenly sought after.

Social Organiser Pat McKeown

May General Meeting

When Wednesday 9 May commencing at 7.30pm

Where Coolbinia West Perth Amateur Football and Sporting Club room

Field day venues for 2018/19.

Dates	Venue	Boundaries
26 -27 May 2018	Rottnest Island	All non protected waters around Island.
16 - 17 June 2018	Open	Go anywhere WA.
14 - 15 July 2018	Open	Go anywhere WA.
11 - 12 August 2018	Rottnest Island	All non protected waters around Island.
22 - 24 September 2018	Bluff Creek	As far as you are willing to walk on both ends of beach.
13 - 14 October 2018	Cervantes to Sandy Cape	South side of Cervantes beach to north end of Sandy cape beach.
17 - 18 November 2018	Cervantes to Sandy Cape	South side of Cervantes beach to north end of Sandy cape beach.
15 - 16 December 2018	Moore River to 3 Mile	From Moore river mouth to north end of 3 Mile beach.
26 - 28 January 2019	Open	Go anywhere WA.
16 - 17 February 2019	Preston / White Hills	From Preston south beach to northern end of White Hills.
1 - 8 March 2019	Esperance Safari.	Around Esperance area. Poison Creek (Sandy Bight) ect.
19 - 22 April 2019	Bluff Creek.	As far as you are willing to walk on both ends of beach.

Local dates as above. Local boundaries from Lancelin in the North to Point Peron in the South.

Fishing time lines down at 6h00 on long week ends.

Fishing time lines up at 9h00 for long week ends.

Fishing time lines down on standard week ends - Sat 9h30.

Fishing time lines up on standard week ends - Sun 9h00.

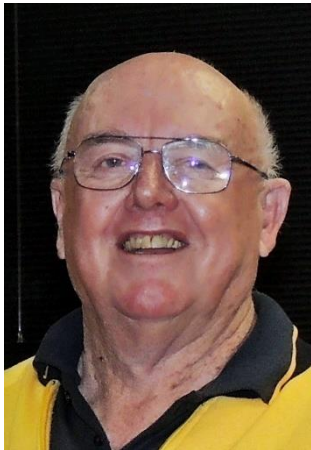
Sign-on / Weigh-in times and locations to be decided at GM before the Field day.

Possible fish together fishing spots to be decided at GM before the Field day.

Peter Osborne - Bluff Creek

Easter Weekend: end of March/beginning of April 2014

The following is Peter O's observations of the people he fished with at the April 2018 field day



Synopsis

This trip was an away safari incorporating a major drive to Bluff Creek – east of Albany. Beautiful weather underpinned an enjoyable weekend. Not many Salmon showed up, but catches included some bags of Skippy and really great bags of Herring

Trip Notes.

The trip down to Bluff creek is about an 8 hour drive including an allowance for fuel and food stop overs.

Martin Wearmouth had organized a convoy to make the drive. On Friday, we met at Armadale at 7:00 am: Martin shared driving with Gary Parkinson, with their 3 large dogs. my daughter Heather and partner Simmo shared driving, Sri Srigandan drove by himself, and I drove by myself.

After a stopover for food and fuel in Mount Barker this first group arrived mid-afternoon and had their camp within an hour. Shane Wignell and daughter Sarah arrived shortly thereafter. The track in was in the usual conditions, i.e. narrow, parts heavily overgrown - so some vehicle scratches - with some steep dunes to climb over and soft sand.

The run along the beach was good except soft sand is sometimes encountered. When driving off the beach, over a small dune and into the camping area, I managed to get myself bogged when I took too sharp a turn going up through a sand dune to get to our camp site. Due to the large number of people spending the weekend at this location the tracks were badly cut up and got progressively worse over the weekend.

Our usual camp site near the creek was crowded out and after driving around the area we found a suitable open area to fit us all in. Martin and Gary set up a communal gazebo and the little house on the hill. Peet and Sandra arrived shortly thereafter and dropped off the club Generator. Peet and Sandra and their grandson did not set up their usual camp as their vehicle had been set up sleeping and cooking. Hence, they fished and camped wherever along the beach. Ron Thomas did a similar thing

Conditions were pleasantly warm during the day and pleasantly cool during the evening and no rain. Only a moderate swell and with the outer sandbanks, the shore wave break was not very large. Some wind but not usual gale force so fishing conditions were very good.

Unfortunately, Sarah managed to get a stomach upset (food poisoning) and accompanied by Sri, she and her Dad left Sunday morning.

Our trip back was with incident, i.e. about 12 km north of Williams the traffic ground to a halt. There was a spiral of smoke just around the next bend, so I initially thought a local bush fire. Slowly worked forward and was then stopped and we were addressed by a policeman. He told us to divert as a serious accident had just occurred. A vehicle and two motorcycles had collided resulting in the vehicle catching fire, a bushfire and some serious injury and a death. Hence like most we turned around, backtracked to Williams and went NW to Boddington and then NE to return to the highway. This delay added another couple of hours to the return trip. Martin was lucky in that at Mount Barker, I stayed longer to finish a coffee, Heather exercised her dogs and Martin drove off some 10 minutes before us. The accident had not yet occurred when he drove through this area.

The Fishing

We have never encountered Herring as thick as this in any other venue. Most of us realized that mulies were not the bait of choice, when initially casting out a mulie, before the sinker had reached the bottom it was likely that Herring had stripped the hooks clean.

Hence everyone had their bag limit of Herring including some bull Herring. e.g. some of the better bags consisted of their 12 Herring, all from 0.20 to 0.30 kg uncleaned. The bag limit of Herring extended to Sri, Shane and Sarah, even though they left early. A number of times I put one rod out set it in the spike

and then cast the other rod out. By the time I set this second rod up, the first rod was bouncing and I hauled in a double header of Herring, then immediately turned around and hauled up the second rod also with double header. For each rod, two set of hooks from ganged 3/0 and 4/0 to single no 4's with baits from prawns, squid to pieces of herring invariably Herring hook-ups.

Over the weekend, no Salmon schools were in evidence along the shore line, but some others on the beach advised they had seen a couple of schools go through well out past the outer sand bank. However, a couple of loners were captured just on the other side of the creek. Martin initially caught a small legal size one, then later caught one that would have been about 3.0 kg uncleaned. I fished the same spot on Sunday morning with a bit of success.

I had a live Herring out on my heavy rod. My light rod had a whiting rig out with very small cubes of Herring for bait. I thought my live Herring had been out for quite so had just pulled it in put a fresh smaller livie. As I was doing this on looking up saw a Salmon jumping like crazy further out, gee better get that fresh bait out. Then I realized that my light rod was bent double with the reel screaming. Knowing that the rig I had on here was set up with no 7 or 8 chemically sharpened longshank whiting hooks on about 10 lb lead. So, I carefully playing it for some 20 minutes and managed to get it to the shore break and also managed to get it into a breaking wave that put in on the sand. Quickly stepped down and grabbed the leader to drag it up the sand, immediately the leader broke but then grabbed the fish by the tail before the next wave and carried it up to the car – Beauty. She was very fat fish as when cleaned she had a very large squid in her stomach and two sacks of row about as big as the smaller herring I used for bait.

From the cleaned weight and her estimate of gut and gill contents I consider, as landed, she would have been 5.0 +kg. While I took some satisfaction of the skill I applied, there was a great deal of luck involved – this capture made my weekend

Martin picked up a good bag of Skippy in small reef/gutters just beside the main reef. He told me about this so next session I tried the same spot, got a Banded Sweep and a couple of Skippy but.... Martin and Gary returned to the spot beside the creek where we had the Salmon success - no Salmon, but lots of Skippy. Before the info from Martin this is where I intended to return. Hence kept going to the right spots but at the wrong time. But as all of us know that's what fishing is all about. Some of us had a few Skippy but Martin had a full bag and at the weigh-in learnt Peet also had a full bag of Skippy. For some of us a few misc. species came in including some Banded Sweep and Wrasse

Hope to see you at our May field day at Rottnest –expectations for this venue are high as we have a history of bagging out on Yellowtail Kingfish quality Skippy and misc. others. The latter included both Peet Wessels and myself landed Dhufish off the reef, so am looking for repeats of all of this.





Field day results for April 2018:

ANGLER	Total weight	No. of Species	No. of fish	F.D. points	Attendance			Total points
					Field Day	Local	General Meeting	
Martin Wearmouth	11.92	6	27	179.2	1		1	199.2
Oliver Wessels	0.30	1	2	13.0	1			23.0
Sandra Wessels	4.91	4	20	89.1	1		1	109.1
Peet Wessels	6.85	5	24	118.5	1		1	138.5
Peter Osborne	7.55	4	15	115.5	1		1	135.5
Gary Parkinson	3.06	3	16	60.6	1		1	80.6
Ron Thomas	4.20	2	18	62.0	1		1	82.0
Shane Wignell	2.55	2	14	45.5	1		1	65.5
Sarah Wignell	1.72	1	12	27.2	1		1	47.2
Sri Srigandan	1.92	2	13	39.2	1		1	59.2
Mark Hansen	8.50	3	22	115.0	1		1	135.0

Species for April 2018:

ANGLER		Species Salmon Australian	Species Skipjack Trevally	Species Herring, Australian	Species Flathead (all species)	Species Wrasse (all species) 1 only	Species Western Rock Blackfish	Species Whiting (other than listed)	Species Banded Sweep
Martin Wearmouth	Number	2	8	12		1		2	2
	Total weight	5.34	3.38	2.30		0.40		0.20	0.30
	Weight of best								
Oliver Wessels	Number			2					
	Total weight			0.30					
	Weight of best								
Sandra Wessels	Number		6	12		1	1		
	Total weight		2.19	1.72		0.40	0.60		
	Weight of best								
Peet Wessels	Number		8	12		1	2		1
	Total weight		3.38	1.72		0.40	1.20		0.15
	Weight of best								
Peter Osborne	Number	1	1	12					1
	Total weight	4.31	0.40	2.69					0.15
	Weight of best								
Gary Parkinson	Number		3	12				1	
	Total weight		1.24	1.72				0.10	
	Weight of best								
Ron Thomas	Number		6	12					
	Total weight		2.48	1.72					
	Weight of best								
Shane Wignell	Number		2	12					
	Total weight		0.83	1.72					
	Weight of best								
Sarah Wignell	Number			12					
	Total weight			1.72					
	Weight of best								
Sri Srigandan	Number			12	1				
	Total weight			1.72	0.20				
	Weight of best								
Mark Hansen	Number	2	8	12					
	Total weight	2.39	3.46	2.65					
	Weight of best								

Field Day Sections up to and including April				
	Section	Angler	Species	Weight
1A	Best scale fish (1st six months)	Sandra Wessels	Yellowtail Kingfish	8.20
1B	Best scale fish (2nd six months)	Peter Osborne	Salmon Australian	4.31
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)	Peter Osborne	Salmon Australian	4.31
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)	Martin Wearmouth	Tailor	4.28
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

Top scores up to April			
Rank	Angler	Total points	
1	Martin Wearmouth	1311.00	20.00
2	Peter Osborne	1222.68	19.00
3	Peet Wessels	967.81	15.00
4	Sandra Wessels	881.25	14.00
5	Mark Hansen	664.80	10.00
6	Theo Van Niekerk	618.48	9.00
7	Gary Parkinson	507.80	8.00
8	Vincent Tomazin	324.90	5.00
9	Ron Thomas	253.90	4.00
10	Mark Nurse	247.64	3.00
11	Brad Zaknich	227.91	3.00
12	Sri Srigandan	216.70	3.00
13	Shane Wignell	201.00	3.00
14	Sabby Pizzolante	187.92	3.00
15	Ian Taggart	181.58	3.00
16	Sarah Wignell	158.90	2.00
17	Paul Terpkos	116.50	2.00
18	Oliver Wessels	68.50	1.00
19	Pat McKeown	60.00	1.00
20	Justin Rose	54.80	1.00
21	Dean Stewart	20.00	0.00

Sport person and Field day prizes section for April 2018:

Sportsperson of the year sections for April			
Section	Angler	Species	Weight
Best scale fish	Peter Osborne	Salmon Australian	4.31
Best bag of scale fish	Martin Wearmouth	Mixed bag	11.92
Best shark			
Best bag including sharks			
Field day prizes for April			
Section	Angler	Species	Weight
Best scale fish	Peter Osborne	Salmon Australian	4.31
Best bag of scale fish	Martin Wearmouth	Mixed bag	11.92
Best shark			
Best bag including sharks			

Dry Casting Report 8th April 2018

Not much to write about this month as there were only 6 casters on the day which, by the way, was almost perfect conditions once again. The oval itself is looking better each month and according to John, the president of the Polo Club, the ground will get even better as it has to be up to national standards.

Mark had an up and down day, with 3 outs in the distance events, but scored 141 in the DHA. Mal top scored in the accuracy with 151, along with 26 in the SHA.

The longest cast for the day was 159m by myself.

Hope to see a few more members on the next dry casting day which is 6th May, 2018 at 8.30am.

Ron Thomas – Drycasting Officer

SURF CASTING & ANGLING CLUB

Dry casting results - 8th April 2018

	56 gram				-	Artificial Bait				-	112gram			
	<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>	1	2		%		1	2		%		1	2		%
ALAN JONES	83.92	79.83	163.75	62.27		81.80	79.00	160.80	68.44		95.31	94.23	189.54	62.87
KLAUS SCHONWOLF	111.28	109.04	220.32	83.97		84.78	90.68	175.46	74.68		117.13	114.92	232.05	76.97
RON THOMAS	130.36	132.01	262.37	100.00		117.43	117.52	234.95	100.00		159.01	142.48	301.49	100.00
PETER OSBORNE	81.61	92.00	173.61	66.17		85.38	85.30	170.68	72.65		109.29	114.92	224.21	74.37
MAL HEAD	98.71	87.61	186.32	71.01		86.68	82.85	169.53	72.16		109.58	B/O	109.58	36.35
<u>Seniors</u>														
MARK HANSON	OUT	OUT	0.00	0.00		97.70	103.13	200.83	100.00		124.41	OUT	124.41	100.00

SURF CASTING & ANGLING CLUB

Dry casting results - 8th April 2018

	Double Handed Accuracy										Single Handed Accuracy							Total	Attendance	Total
	Target number										Target distance								D/Casting	Points
Veterans	3	3	1	1	4	4	2	2	Total	%	L	S	L	S	Total	%		%		
ALAN JONES	22	20	12	22	0	8	21	23	128	84.77	5	0	0	1	6	23.08		301.43	10	311.43
KLAUS SCHONWOLF	DNC								0	0.00	6	9	3	7	25	96.15		331.77	10	341.77
RON THOMAS	16	23	17	12	20	20	5	18	131	86.75	8	6	6	6	26	100.00		486.75	10	496.75
PETER OSBORNE	0	0	13	22	0	0	1	9	45	29.80	1	5	2	3	11	42.30		285.29	10	295.29
MAL HEAD	23	15	22	22	12	12	21	24	151	100.00	9	7	3	7	26	100.00		379.52	10	389.52
Seniors																				
MARK HANSON	12	21	19	15	19	17	22	16	141	100.00	0	7	8	2	17	100.00		400.00	10	410.00

<u>VETERANS BEST CASTS FOR THE YEAR 2017 - 2018</u>			
LONGEST 56 GRAM	144.90	RON THOMAS	
LONGEST ARTIFICIAL BAIT	130.90	RON THOMAS	
LONGEST 112G	162.33	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	115.29	SHANE WIGNELL	
LONGEST ARTIFICIAL BAIT	115.43	JEFF HEWTON	
LONGEST 112G	135.14	JEFF HEWTON	
HIGHEST DOUBLE HANDED ACCURACY	134	MARK HANSON	
HIGHEST SINGLE HANDED ACCURACY	25	MARK HANSON	

Birthdays for May

Robert Pekaar 11th; Thomas Wearmouth 29th; Victor Tomazin 30th.

We wish you all the best for your special day

Rigging Up for Snapper

As we are now well into Autumn and there are winter storms on the way, a lot of angler's thoughts are turning to those first storms of winter. There will be many anglers testing out their gear and knots, reading everything they can on new techniques and tackle. Locations will be discussed with mates, each location having its good and bad points, what baits are available, tides and moon phases will also be looked at.

There are many locations around the metropolitan area that produce some excellent fishing for snapper from the rocks or jetties. Also, don't forget that many of our metropolitan beaches also produce some very good snapper, particularly in late April and May.

Snapper are one of those fish that anyone who has picked up a fishing rod dreams about catching. Catching a trophy fish from a land based platform in a storm presents a real challenge. Those dreams often go along the lines of pulling in a trophy fish and taking some pictures for posterity. But you will be lucky if you catch a prize fish on your first few trips as snapper are very smart and fussy feeders, especially the big ones.

Rod and Reel

For shore-based anglers a rod between 3 and 4 metres that is rated to 10 kg is adequate, A lot of manufacturers are over rating their rods and this leads anglers to use line that is far too heavy for the reel or the outfit. This leads to broken rods and damaged reels and disappointment for the angler.

For reels there are a plethora of good reels on the market that will suit. The choice of overhead or spinning reel is for the angler to decide. When it comes to spinning reels, the choice is limited by what you are prepared to spend. Don't look at the price, check out the number of bearings, what they are made of and what type of material the drag is made from. Size wise it will need to carry 300 m of 8 - 10 kg line. Speed of retrieve is not of the essence in snapper fishing, but the quality of the main and pinion gear is.

If an outfit is balanced, and this doesn't mean that it sits on a pivot point, but that the line, reel and rod are matched, then you will have a good outfit. If an angler is using reasonable gear that is well maintained and serviced regularly, they can handle fish that are 5 times the breaking strain of the line. This means that you DO NOT have to use heavy braid lines to catch fish. Those who present fishing shows on television are sponsored by the wholesalers and their aim is to sell more fishing tackle. This is regardless of how appropriate it is for the average angler – don't get sucked in.

Mono or Braid?

While a well-balanced rod and reel spooled with either braid or mono is important to catch a good snapper, it's what is at the end of the rig that is the most vital. With snapper being such hard and strong fighters, you really need to have tough and strong terminal rigs to even be in with a chance. Whether you spool your reel with braid or mono depends on what you prefer and what sort of water depths you are fishing in. I have found that generally braid being thinner doesn't, tend to be impacted on by wind and tide as much as nylon.

Braid is also good because it is very responsive, and you can feel every single bump and hit. Mono around 8 kg breaking strain is better to use when fishing in shallow water of 8 m or less, as it has stretch in the line for when that big fish takes off and you strike at it.

I have found when fishing in shallow water using braid, as a fish runs and I go to strike then it can pull the hook out of the fish's mouth because the braid has minimal stretch. It is for this reason that I tend to use circle hooks and as a fish picks up the bait and starts to move off on a run I just put my hand onto the spool to slow it down a little. I don't strike at all.

Terminal Tackle

Once you have selected the right main line for your particular spot, the most important part of the set up now comes down to your terminal tackle.

Swivels

Choose a swivel that suits the line strengths you are using. I use black rolling swivels as they are well-constructed, small in size, and are of exceptional strength for size.

Leader

The next part of the equation is what trace or leader material to use. Using a heavy piece of mono of the same type as your main line works but as it is not invisible in water, which can be a hindrance especially when fishing in shallow, clear water. For fishing in shallow water a fluorocarbon leader is a better choice, as it is almost invisible in the water and most importantly, not visible to the fish. I generally use 60 lb fluorocarbon leader with 8 - 10 kg main line. It will handle a good sized snapper and for that matter any other fish you are likely to pick up. If fishing around rocks it also has good abrasion resistance and minimizes break offs where it rubs against rocks.

The strength of your leader will also depend on whether you are using braid or mono. Try and use the lightest leader possible but make sure it's still strong enough to hold that big snapper, as these fish do have quite abrasive mouths and during a long tussle they can wear a thinner leader down.

If the leader isn't strong enough or is worn it will simply break and the fish will be gone. The other point with leader is how long to make it. Having a long leader is especially useful when lightly floating baits down the water column when fishing from a boat. The longer the leader, the less chance of the fish seeing where it is connected to the swivel and main line. This also gives you more stretch once again for those powerful runs that the big snapper always do.

When fishing in deep water a paternoster rig is generally employed, as this allows the angler to get the bait to the bottom quicker than the floater rig. If you are using mono as your trace and not getting any bites but you can see fish on the sounder, then try a fluorocarbon leader. As always in fishing if you try a certain method and it is not working, try another option or presentation.

Hooks

Hooks are probably the most vital parts of your terminal tackle. A good sharp strong hook is just so important when trying to lure a snapper. When that trophy fish bites you really want them to bite into a hook that is constructed strong enough to withstand the pressure that will be exerted on it. Of course the other vital part of this equation is that the hook is sharp enough to penetrate the hard bony mouth of a snapper.

There are a myriad of hooks on the market that come in many different shapes and sizes. Hooks such as your standard Beak patterns work very well and are the most popular for snapper fishing. Circle hooks are another type that are quite effective as you don't need to strike at the fish, as they are designed to hook the fish themselves. If you do strike while using a circle hook, you inevitably end up missing the fish so these hooks can make things a bit easier.

The other type of hook used is the gang hook. They are generally joined together into a set of four or long enough to suit the length of bait being used. In the past sets of 4/0 ganged hooks were my preference for snapper fishing and I used them for quite a while. I started experimenting with differing rigs, firstly with a single hook rig and after a while using a snooded rig consisting of two hooks spaced about 125 mm apart.

Using a rig like this takes away all the metal of a ganged rig and allows the bait to float naturally in the water column rather than it being so stiff when using a gang of four gang hooks. The two hooks can also be set and hidden better in the offering as the big snapper are smart, they will only attack bait that looks as natural as possible.

Another good thing about this rig is that the final hook can be threaded through the bait several times before it is set. This allows the inspecting fish a few goes at it and the bait is not easily ripped from the hooks. The top hook is set at the top of the bait and guides the bait as it descends in the water column naturally.

Knots:

Knot tying is a very important part of your rig. You can have all the right lines and tackle you like but without a strong knot holding it all together forget it. A well-tied, strong holding knot makes all the difference when fighting that big snapper. If the knot is even that little bit suspect you will only find out how bad it is when a big fish is connected. The last thing an angler wants is to lose that trophy fish for the sake of a badly tied knot.

The knot I use for tying main line and trace to swivels is a Centauri knot. For the two-hook snooded rig the top hook is wound around the shaft (snelled) and the bottom hook again uses the Centauri knot. I have been using these knots for quite a while now and have had no problem with breakage. The main thing to remember is to wet the knot when tightening as this helps to eliminate friction in the line and keep it at its stated strength. As the Centauri is really a hitch rather than a knot it has a breaking strength close to 100%.

Tying leaders to braid or nylon I use an FG knot. Occasionally I will use a PR knot but I don't always carry the bobbin with me and I can now tie FG knots fairly quickly and consistently.

Baits

Fresh bait will out do any offering that is frozen, but if you can't get access to fresh bait then the next best thing is fresh frozen. Live bait will generally beat any offering of dead bait but snapper are sometimes fussy eaters and hard to predict. Sometimes snapper will just smash an offering of pilchard and then suddenly those same baits won't even get a touch and your live bait will get punished, which is why it's so important to have a variety of live and dead baits.

My favourite baits for snapper fishing are small mullet, herring and yellowtail scad. Fresh fillets of herring tend to be the best when fishing in shallow water. The next best is small whole mullet when used as live bait or fresh dead bait. Then there is yellowtail scad. Scad is the fallback bait if fresh herring or small mullet can't be located. Fillets or whole blue mackerel are also excellent baits.

Also, don't forget the old favourite baits of pilchards and fresh squid. Pilchards certainly work well but they can be a one hit wonder and are probably in my opinion more suited to deepwater fishing. Squid is also a snapper favourite and will not be knocked back by a hungry snapper when offered. Other baits that are just as effective are whole cuttlefish, whole mullet fillets, mullet strips and even fillets of tailor cut into strips. Make sure you use baits that are local to the places you are fishing. The fresher the bait the better.

Presentation

The next important factor in your hunt for a trophy snapper is how to present this fresh bait that you have acquired. There are many ways to rig a bait and the choice you make will come down to experimentation and experience. The most important thing about baiting up that I have learnt is to try different ways if the fish aren't biting on the ones that I know work. It just might be the difference between bringing home that whopper snapper or nothing at all. To allow a bait to be presented naturally remember to use only sufficient weight to get the bait into the strike zone.

Experimenting is the key

The most important thing to remember when chasing a trophy snapper is to experiment with each part of the process. This will help you to find the right lines and rigs that suit the areas you fish in. It is also imperative you buy the best quality gear that you can afford. This will give you a better chance of landing that prized snapper.

Article by John Curtis

FILLETS OF FISH IN A CURRY SAUCE.



Ingredients:

- 500 g fish fillets
- ½ red capsicum, sliced
- ½ green capsicum, sliced
- 2 large onions, sliced
- 2 garlic cloves, crushed
- 1 Tbsp curry powder
- 1 tsp ground cumin seeds
- 1 Tbsp oat bran
- 1 bacon stock cube
- 1 cup water
- 1 tsp tomato juice

Method

Place capsicum, onions, garlic and tomato juice in fry pan. Cover and gently simmer for 5 minutes.

Add curry powder and oat bran, stirring until smooth.

Crumble stock cube in water and add to pan. Simmer until sauce thickens slightly.

Place fish fillets on sauce in pan, cover and cook gently for 5 minutes or until fish is cooked. (Fish is cooked when it 'flakes' when touched with a fork.)

Sprinkle lightly with freshly ground pepper and serve with steamed vegetables.

Baked Tailor

This recipe has been handed down and was how fresh tailor was always prepared.



To cook on a campfire, the fish was layered in a baking pan covered with foil and placed over hot coals till done.

Ingredients:

- skinned fillets of tailor
- butter
- lemon juice
- onion, finely sliced
- salt and pepper
- Worcestershire sauce and brown sugar in equal amounts mixed to a thick paste.

Method:

Place fillets in well buttered pan. 30 minutes before cooking, sprinkle fillets with lemon juice. Top with onion slices, then tomato slices and sprinkle generously with salt and pepper and black sauce mixture. Cook at 200° C until just done, approximately 15 minutes.

Feel free to top dish with seasoned breadcrumbs or favourite herbs. Serve with whole baked potatoes.

Recipes supplied by: John Curtis

MARINE PARKS INFORMATION

The information below is current as at 17 April 2018. It is subject to change, however this is not likely. Commonwealth Marine Parks will have little impact on recreational angling as the waters contained in them are, in the majority of cases, located well offshore.

State Marine Parks are a different matter and anglers are advised to keep up to date on changes to recreational fishing rules pertaining to State Marine Parks that will come into effect mid next year

COMMONWEALTH MARINE PARKS

The Commonwealth Marine Park management plans were recently released and although there was a disallowance motion put forward by the Labour Party this motion was unsuccessful.

There remain the possibility the Greens and Labor will try separate disallowance motions for each Management plan however considering the entire cross bench (minus the greens of course) voted against the last disallowance motion it is doubtful any future motions will be successful.

Attached are a comparison of the former plans and the new plans for each of the marine parks in the Southwest and Northwest network of marine parks.

Regulations surrounding these new zones are scheduled to come into force on 1st July 2018.

You can view or download the plans at parksaustralia.gov.au/marine

This is what Recfishwest had to say about the plans and the disallowance motion.

<https://recfishwest.org.au/news/new-commonwealth-marine-parks-announced/>

STATE MARINE PARKS

On Tuesday 10 April 2018, the Ngari Capes Marine Park zoning scheme was gazetted under section 62 of the Conservation and Land Management Act 1984 (CALM Act). Whilst the marine park has now been created and zoning scheme implemented under the CALM Act, the fishing prohibitions have not yet taken effect under the Fish Resources Management Act 1994 (FRMA) and fishing continues to be permitted throughout the marine park (for the next 12 months or so without change).

Implementation of fishing prohibitions

A 12-month transition period will apply between gazettal of a marine park zoning scheme under the CALM Act and the introduction of fishing prohibitions under the FRMA.

This means that fishing prohibitions in the Ngari Capes Marine Park will not take effect under the FRMA (or Aquatic Resources Management Act 2016) until 10 April 2019.

This transition period will ensure that any current fishing licences can be used to their full extent after zones are gazetted. It also means that all fishing activities will be affected on the same date which is a fair and equitable outcome for all marine park users.

Attached is a map of the Ngari Capes zoning, permitted uses and co-ordinates and the Department is currently developing a Frequently asked questions sheet which will be available shortly.

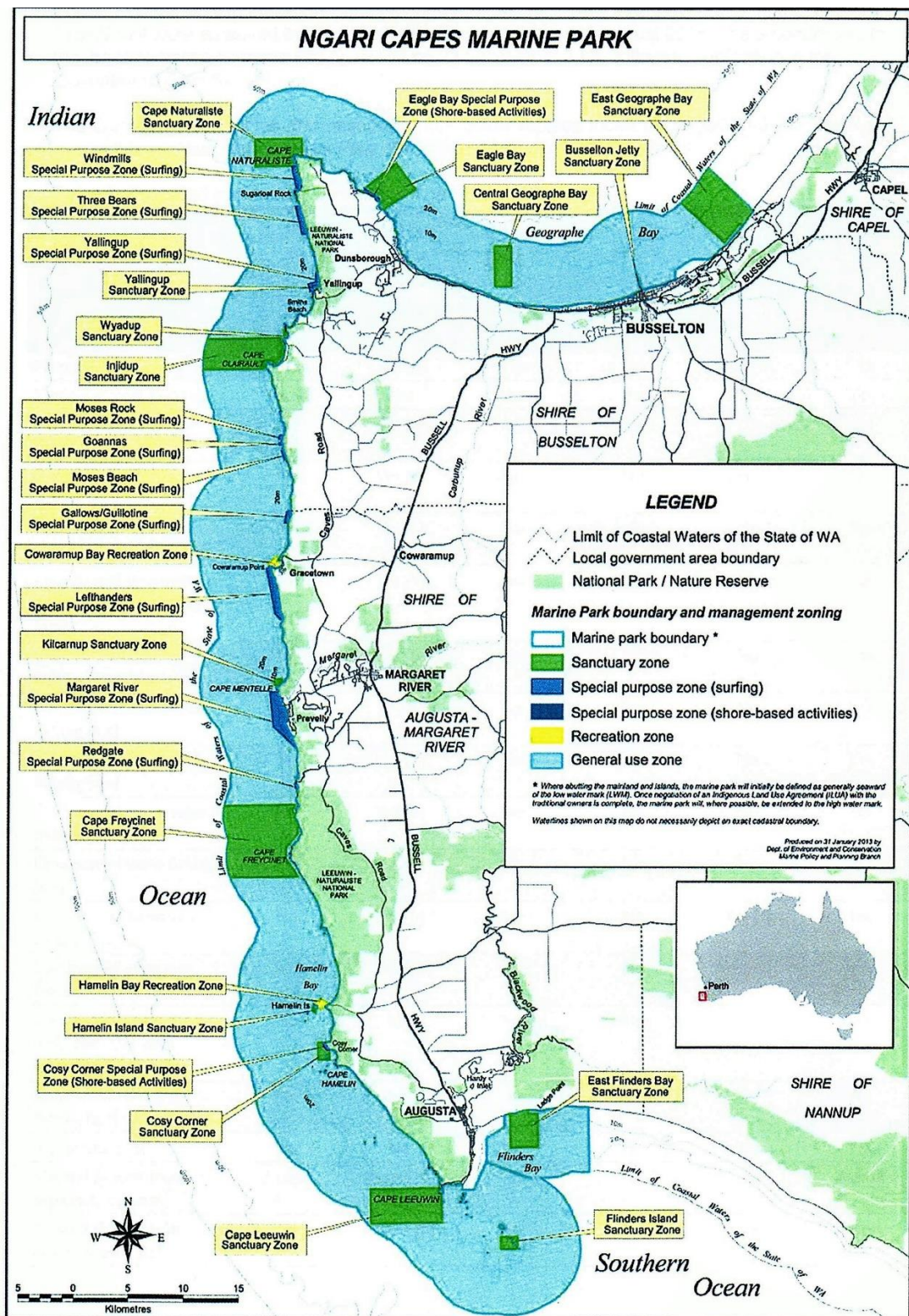


Figure 3: Ngari Capes Marine Park management zoning scheme

To Spin or Soak

When beach fishing, deciding whether to cast lures or soak baits for tailor and salmon is isn't always clear-cut. Each day presents different conditions that can dramatically affect the way we fish for these two species. While both styles will often produce the goods, there are definitely times when one style trumps the other.

Casting mulies or strips of fish flesh into the surf is the best way to consistently target tailor and salmon. A mulie on a set of ganged hooks is iconic in the surf fishing scene, simply because it's so effective at catching fish.

When fishing any beach, I like to begin the session by reading the beach before casting a mulie into the surf. By picking the holes and gutters out it will optimise your chances of finding fish relatively quickly. find that whenever fish aren't in a feeding mood, a mulie is more likely to attract some interest than a lure.

If you're familiar with a beach and know where the fish frequent, then the need to search for them isn't that high. Instead, soaking a bait and waiting for a school to swim by or begin actively feeding is often an effective way to score a bite.

Casting lures

Spinning the surf is such an enjoyable and productive way to catch fish – when they're in the mood! A hungry school of salmon or tailor make for great sporting fun on lure casting tackle. When the fish are thick, lures will out fish baits as more fish can be hooked and released quicker; there's no time wasted re-rigging baits.

However, often the schools aren't as big or as hungry as we hope. In times like this strikes can be frustratingly difficult to score, especially if you're fishing a large gutter.

Undoubtedly, the biggest advantage a metal lure has is to be able to reach schools hanging a long way off the beach. A lure is heavier, more aerodynamic and durable than a mulie and as a result, can be belted out to sea to reach fish if that's where they're holding.

Double dipping

Starting a session by soaking baits is a great idea. When a school of fish move in on them, you can quickly swap to lures to try and maximise the number of fish caught before they move on. Often the bites are short-lived, so this isn't always successful.

On the flip side, if you walk onto a seemingly featureless beach and have no idea where to start, covering a lot of ground by casting lures can be a good place to begin. After you find a patch of fish you can then focus your attention on them. Even if they're not fired-up, soaking baits in the area and waiting for the fish to come on is likely to end with good results

OUR SOCIAL LICENCE: GREYHOUND RACING AND FISHING IN SIMILAR BOATS

By John Newbery Fishing World magazine

Greyhound racing in NSW and the ACT was almost a thing of the past until the NSW Baird Government back flipped on its controversial decision earlier this week.

How did we get so close to the end of greyhound racing in Australia's most populous state? Well, to paraphrase the government decision makers and racing opponents, greyhound racing had lost its "social licence" to operate. Bad behaviour by a significant minority in the industry had meant that all participants will be out of the business. The report suggests that the size of that minority is about 20 per cent of the total number involved, but that their behaviour is so bad that society (in the form of elected government) should consider withdrawing all members' licences to operate.

How bad was bad? Pretty bad. Using small native and domestic animals to "blood" dogs in the belief that it would make them run faster. Hiding the rate and severity of injuries amongst racing dogs. Killing off dogs not considered to be fast enough in really big numbers - 68,000 over 12 years - and not always humanely. Exporting unwanted dogs to Macau where treatment is even worse. And, really significantly, failing to clean up their acts once they were exposed in the media and through investigation.

Having said that, many industry participants loved their dogs and treated them well. Probably a majority. But the actions of the minority were deemed to be so bad that the total social licence to operate was revoked.

Anti-live export proponents and anti-super trawler activists use similar social licence arguments to support their respective causes. Bad behaviour at a number of overseas abattoirs is publicised widely and could eventually close down the trade. By-catch of non-target species by that cursed *Geelong Star* is used to argue against the continued operation of very large trawlers in our waters (without going into a definition of “super” here). Exporters of live cattle and bulk harvesters of small fish could go the same way as greyhound racers; as have whalers, koala shooters and platypus trappers in earlier times.

So, what’s all that got to do with rec fishing? Every time there’s a bad story about gross breaches of fishing regulations, or a picture of a big dead fish hanging on a gantry in a local daily paper, or a shot of a fish being gaffed, or of a bag of blue groper illegally speared, or a live bait on a hook, or fish not being well handled at a competition weigh in, those who would withdraw our social licence to fish are given more ammunition. There’s plenty of them around.

Think about that when doing your social media posts or posing for your next hero shot. Don’t take our social licence for granted.

BLUE RINGED OCTOPUS



This small octopus has the distinction of being one of the most deadly creatures in the country. It is small (usually only 5-10cm across) and unlike other octopus, it has short tentacles. If approached it will usually brighten its blue markings to a point where they almost appear to glow. They are found mostly in the tropics but can occur anywhere around the coast. They should never, under any circumstances, be handled. If you are gathering bait or exploring exposed reef in areas that this creature is likely to inhabit, take great care if you pick up large shells and refrain from putting your fingers under rocks. Keep an eye on children who may want to explore exposed reef at low tide as the octopus move about from one tidal pool to another at this time. They can release their toxin directly into the water and it can be dangerous if you have an open wound. There are 4 different species of blue ringed octopus although one species (*Hapalochlaena nierstraszi*) was described from a single specimen and there remains some doubt about whether it really was a different species at all.

The three fully recognised species are; Greater Blue-ringed Octopus, *Hapalochlaena lunulata*, The Lesser Blue-ringed Octopus, *Hapalochlaena maculosa* and The Blue-lined Octopus, *Hapalochlaena fasciata*. All are found in Australian coastal waters.

Like other octopus species the female will have only one clutch of eggs in her lifetime. She attaches about 50 eggs in a sheltered hole and will tend them without eating for 6 months until they hatch. At this time the female is so weakened by the lack of food that she will die. Blue ringed octopus are known to be cannibalistic and females have been observed killing and eating males with whom they have just mated.

The venom (tetrodotoxin) produced by bacteria in the salivary glands of the octopus, is said to be ten thousand times more potent than cyanide. Currently there is no anti-venom available and death is usually from suffocation brought on by oxygen starvation.

If someone is bitten by a blue ringed octopus then artificial respiration **MUST** be administered until the victim regains the ability to breathe on their own. This can take many hours but respiration has to continue in order for the person bitten to recover.

Someone bitten by a blue ringed octopus may suffer complete paralysis but they are still fully conscious even if they cannot respond. The first 24 hours are critical and most people who are still alive after this will recover completely.



Are you in the market to buy a new portable fridge

If you're in the market to buy a new portable fridge, the decision on which choice is getting harder to make. Throwing a few drinks and tucker in an chilled esky ready for that camping weekend, or for even more planned fare for touring weeks on end was pretty much the normal part of any 4WD trip, but now portable fridges have made esky's almost obsolete.

But why is choosing a fridge getting so confusing for many?

Because every company rolling out a new re-badged or unique portable fridge is under pressure to flood your field of view with glossy brochures, flyers, and every other advertisement, plus throw in a few gimmicky give-always to entice your wallet out of your pocket. Picking a winner is harder than the average Melbourne Cup office sweep.

But the sales banter is right on one thing though, not all fridges are equal and they never will be as long as there are different manufacturers using varying techniques and components to build and test them as well how they determine what they want you to read.

Now most average 4WDs and tourers will of course choose the average size fridge of around 50 litre capacity, unless of course you happen to be married to my wife and need an 80 litre fridge/freezer, a 50 litre freezer for the snags due to my lack of fishing prowess, and maybe an extra 35 litre drinks fridge just in case. Anyway the point being that if we look at the tech specs for this average size 50L fridge as an example you will find a huge variety of results, performance figures and warranties from each maker to inspire you to choose their version.

Let's look at some common brands most of us can recall.

Many people may straight away say Engel, a portable fridge brand that's been around longer than most 4WDers. So the fact it's been around for eons means it must be good right? Well so has the incandescent light bulb, but who goes out of their way to fit old bulbs to a new home nowadays? Others may recall names like Waeco, and they would be right in saying they have new designs and models coming out faster than Apple, but their decision to pursue Asian derived running gear instead of the ever reliable Danfoss is cause for concern in my opinion. Essentially the other end of the spectrum from Engel.

Portable Fridges

Many portable fridge manufacturers are still using the Danfoss range of compressors, to their credit in my view, and simply slot them into their own specifically design case. However this is where the differences really start to emerge, as variations of insulation material thickness, application, and even case material and component layout changes how the fridge will perform. The insulation is absolutely critical to any fridge performance and the same applies to the little one shoved in the back of your 4WD with the sun glaring through the window to add a little challenge to the compressor.

But when it comes to the 'performance figures' some manufacturers dance around how they come up with the reason why theirs is the best. How do they do that, you ask? By creating their own operating environment and conditions to obtain the desired results. Not suggesting any wrong doing as such, but more a case of putting their best foot forward in that proverbial dance I mentioned

Working in the real world

In some ways it's a bit like the fuel economy figures you get with a new car, most average drivers simply can't replicate them in the real world traffic. They would need an almost clinical environment in order to achieve the same results. When it comes to portable fridges some manufacturers may use a 25 degree C ambient environment in a special testing cabinet, some will use 32 degrees C.

Aside from my being professionally involved in the technical side of most portable fridge manufacturers over many years, this information can also be gleaned from the technical details in brochures or on websites if you care to look for them. But the problem is the outcomes can vary greatly. Along with ambient temperatures during testing, the different manufacturers use varying internal fridge temperatures as well, some only set at 5 degrees C barely enough to keep the Iced Coffee cold. Others may be set in the negative territory, not because they want to really challenge themselves, but because it's a better option for their test outcome.

Most comparisons buyers and sellers use to gauge performance is current draw, usually expressed in amps per hour. The testing of fridges are generally performed over a 24hour period and the average current draw of the cycling on and off phases are then calculated using an amp-hour accumulator which gives a reading of consumed power. The desired figures then go into the sales brochure for your reading pleasure, stating figures like "only 0.77Amps/hr" etcetera.

Fridges working in the real world

Unfortunately, the real-world use of a portable fridge will find the ambient temperature it works in generally much higher, especially in the back of a 4WD parked up next to that Outback billabong. As we know you simply can't leave dogs or kids locked in a car in our searing Australian climate due to the potential of severe over-heating, yet we think nothing of asking that little fridge to keep the beers at a chilly 2degC without skipping a beat.

When you think about it, that 25 degree C test environment is nowhere near reality. Then of course we will want to regularly reach into the fridge for that chilly beer, or perhaps the kids need some cold water or treats, and every time the lid gets opened and more cold air escapes it requires the compressor to fire up once again.

The more a fridge gets used, the worse it's performance results will be depending on design, insulation, and compressor start up demands. All of a sudden that 0.77A/h figure is a long way from achievable. So where does that leave the average traveller trying to figure out what is best for their hard-earned dollar.

Well it's almost impossible to offer a guide without knowing each person's individual circumstances.

A few tips

I know that sounds like an insurance PDS but here's a few tips to help you work it out. First, don't put amp/hours first. Look at the space you need for the sort of trips you enjoy, is that weekend getaways or longer travel adventures. Yes taking beer is important, but not a survival necessity in most circumstances. So work out your food space and drinks space you might normally want.

Simply don't buy a bigger fridge than you really need regardless of what the brochure says. Some fridges now have multiple size options in one package, so they really offer more advantages than any others for a variety of trips. Look at where you are going to place it in your vehicle, is footprint easier to accommodate than height or vice versa. Where or how will you access it and is the easiest option. Poor access can result in the lid being open longer than necessary, wasting precious energy.

Next, pack the fridge to the brim every time you head out. Yep, right to the top with no gaps. If it's just a weekend getaway you have planned, fill the bottom of the fridge with bottles of water before putting the bare essentials on top. This way your fridge is not working hard trying to simply chill air. **A full fridge is an efficient fridge.**

Prepare meals where possible and pre-freeze them in the house freezer in nice square, easy to pack shapes. Doing this takes the workload off the portable fridge, and placing them in when ready replaces warmer air with a cold equivalent of the same space, an instantly better result after closing the lid. Another option to consider is an insulating bag or cover, these can work well, but ensure the condenser has adequate ventilation. This is the section where the compressor resides usually and requires airflow through the fine tubing. Remember a condenser unit is nothing more than a heat exchanger, so poor airflow will result in the fridge working much harder and be less efficient on power consumption.

Next really easy to follow tip is using the 'drive time' to make the most of your opportunity to get fridge temperatures lower. Don't freeze the tomatoes of course, but drop the set temperature when driving along and use the fact the electrical system is all working along harmoniously whilst getting further down the track to the day's destination. Once you have reached your stop for the day, bring the temperature back up to a level that still keeps your food safe overnight but draws much less power by cycling less often. This will extend your battery time significantly especially if stopping for a few days.

But most importantly, make sure your battery and electrical system is in the best operating condition. The number of times I have seen amateurish electrical systems as the cause of poor fridge performance would astound many. Everything from bad battery selection and maintenance, ordinary management systems and components, poor electrical connections and a lot of inadequate cable sizes are the reason behind more fridge failures than the fridges themselves.

Bad systems will deliver bad fridge performance, full stop.

So when you read back and consider these few tips and considerations, the difference between 0.77A/hr and 0.83A/hr becomes much less of a concern doesn't it. So many portable fridge salespersons rely heavily on this one small technical element of their fridge credentials. If you find this is the best argument they offer as to why you should buy their fridge, you know they've got little else to offer. Keep looking.

So hopefully this has been of some help in understanding more about portable fridges, how they are 'rated' and how to select the best one to suit your needs. Then it's simply up to you to get the best performance out of it regardless of what the brochure states. Enjoy a cold one.

Published in Club 4x4: Article from [Australiaontrack](#)

Recorder Report

This month saw the keen fisho's head down to Bluff Creek for the annual trip, good numbers of fish were caught. As I was scrolling through the results I noticed Sandra had caught a reasonable sized Western Rock Blackfish, I looked at the club records and was surprised to see there had never been an entry for this species although many had been caught over the years.

So, I have entered Sandra's WRB as the inaugural club record for this species, well done Sandra! If anyone has a recollection of a larger one caught on a field day to challenge what is now Sandra's record (I should have evidence in the archives) or otherwise, let me know and I will follow it up.

The competition year 2017/2018 comes to the end on the 30th of April, as I write this report the open comp still has some sections open with no entry, but as of the first of May the slate is wiped clean and we can start again so I look forward to all the entries coming in. Salmon are already here and this time of year tends to be the best time to catch a prized land based snapper.

On a personal note, the last 12 months have been extremely busy with my youngest being born, renovating 2 houses and selling, I will be moving shortly. I have had to put fishing on hold temporarily and haven't been present at many meetings of late. Hopefully by the time June comes I will have moved and will certainly be looking forward to wetting a line much more frequently, it won't be long, and these kids will be casting a line

Justin Rose; Recorder.



Open fishing competition 2017/18

The Open Competition is for fish caught between 1 May 2017 and 30 April 2018, 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	
3	Best mullet	5 kg	Tino Bairdo, 19kg, 20 th November 2017, Wagoe
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	Darcy Tomlinson, Rainbow Trout 0.562kg, Warren River 6 th January 2018 Geoff Raftis, Tailor, 0.675kg, Jurien Bay 20 th November 2017

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



Club fishing records April 2018

Common name	Weight	Name	Caught at	Date
Barracouta	1.98 kg	Merv Britten	Cosy Corner	20 July 1960
Barracuda	9.5 kg	C Waddams	Steep Point	26 August 1980
Barramundi	Est 6.2Kg	Ray Walker	Home Valley Station	3 May 2016
Blackfish, Western Rock	0.60 kg	Sandra Wessels	Bluff Creek	1 April 2018
Blue Bastard	5.3 kg	Theo Van Niekerk	Waroora Station	8 th July 2017
Blue Devil, Western	0.36 kg	Sandra Wessels	Rottnest	17 August 2014
Bonefish	2.8 kg	George Holman	Steep Point	April 2007
Bream, Black	2.27 kg	Ken Hunt	Belmont	27 September 1962
Bream, Western Yellowfin	2.5 kg	Alby Norman	Useless Loop	18 July 1980
Buffalo Bream, Western	6.7 kg	Alby Norman	Useless Loop	14 June 1977
Catfish, Blue	3.2 kg	Brian Waddams	Steep Point	3 June 1980
Catfish, White-Lipped	0.6 kg	Ian Mascarenhas	Scarborough	17 August 1996
Cobia	33 kg	Allan Carr	Steep Point	2 October 1979
Cod, Greasy (Estuary)	29.48 kg	Les Tate	Kalbarri	30 April 1967
Dart, Common	3.29 kg	E J (Lofty) Griffiths	Cape Cuvier	1 June 1975
Drummer, Silver	7.62 kg	Bob Henderson	Dongara	26 September 2010
Emperor, Grass (Blue-Lined)	4.54 kg	Ted Savage	Wagoe	9 April 1970
Emperor, Red	1.5 kg	R Flynn	Steep Point	1980
Emperor, Spangled	4.08 kg	Brian Hanks	Exmouth	12 June 1972
Flathead, Bar Tailed	0.93kg	Justin Rose	Swan River	19 November 2015
Flathead, Dusky	2.92 kg	Dave Latto	Moore River	17 December 1966
Flathead, Southern Blue-Spotted	1.56 kg	Ian Cook	Wagoe	23 September 2010
Flounder	0.65 kg	Morris Kolman	Hill River	13 April 1996
Garfish, Southern	0.19 kg	Mark Hansen	Cervantes	14 November 2010
Goatfish	1.09 kg	Shane Wignell	Rottnest	15 August 2015
Grinner, Large-Scaled	0.5 kg	Phil Brayne	False Entrance	18 July 1997
Groper, Baldchin	4.3 kg	Mal Thompson	Steep Point	1980
Groper, Western Blue	26.31 kg	Vic Davis	Rottnest	6 January 1955
Harlequin Fish	1.81 kg	Ken Hunt	Rottnest	11 September 1967
Herring, Australian	0.65 kg	Norrie Cross	Yallingup	27 April 1960
Jewfish, West Australian	19.96 kg	Vic Davis	Rottnest	14 May 1961
Kingfish, Yellowtail	24.49 kg	Les Ellis	Yanchep	17 May 1959
Leatherjacket, Horseshoe	1.0 kg	Brian Waddams	Rottnest	16 August 1980
Longtom, Slender	4.1 kg	Graham Reeley	Cape Cuvier	22 June 1977
Mackerel, Narrow-Barred Spanish	31.92 kg	Don Bibby	Exmouth	15 September 1973
Mackerel, Shark	10 kg	C Friend	Steep Point	4 October 1979
Mackerel, Spotted Australian	4.54 kg	Jim Strong	Jurien Bay	9 March 1974
Mangrove Jack	1.81 kg	Doug Savage	Kalbarri	9 April 1967
Morwong	1.13 kg	Vic Davis	Rottnest	7 March 1960
Moses Perch	0.7 kg	Ron Thomas	Quobba	24 June 2014
Mullet, Sea	1.13 kg	Bert Payne	Trigg Island	24 May 1955
Mullet, Yellow Eye	0.36 kg	Sandra Wessels	Bremer Bay	3 rd March 2018
Mulloway	30.39 kg	Allan Livesy	Kalbarri	26 March 1968
Parrotfish, Blue-Barred Orange	4 kg	Dave Maxted	Steep Point	17 August 1996
Pennantfish	1.07 kg	Peet Wessels	Wagoe	3 June 2012
Queenfish	7.94 kg	Tony Howson	Coral Bay	13 September 1973
Rankin Cod	3.1 kg	Ron Thomas	Quobba	17 July 2014

Notes:

Weights in pounds and ounces have been converted to kilograms and rounded to 2 decimal places (the nearest 10 grams).

Some common names are no longer in use. Some species are no longer eligible. See the list in the Club's Competition Rules <http://www.surfcasters.iinet.net.au/Competition Rules.pdf>

Common name	Weight	Name	Caught at	Date
Ray, Eagle	56.25 kg	Vic Davis	Rottnest	12 May 1955
Ray, White pointer	27.22 kg	Kevin Hawker	Quinns Beach	23 November 1959
Ray, White-Spotted Shovelnose	50.8 kg	George Holman	Preston	13 January 1971
Sailfish	30.2 kg	Graham Reeley	Steep Point	28 April 1985
Salmon, Western Australian	7.17 kg	Peet Wessels	Bluff Creek	5 March 2016
Samson Fish	23.13 kg	Rudy Lerch	Kalbarri	4 March 1973
Sand Bass	0.38 kg	Mark Hansen	Rottnest	17 August 2014
Sea Perch, Black Banded	0.13kg est	Mark Hansen	Reef Beach	4 March 2017
Sea Perch, Dark Tailed	2.1 kg	Justin Rose	Steep Point	16 November 2016
Sea Perch, Stripey	2.2 kg	Ian Cook	Dirk Hartog Island	15 July 1999
Shark, Blacktip	27.1 kg	George Holman	Steep Point	14 August 1996
Shark, Bronze whaler	76.66 kg	Ron Shirley	Kalbarri	26 February 1973
Shark, Grey Nurse	106.14 kg	E J (Lofty) Griffiths	Kalbarri	26 February 1973
Shark, Gummy	10.43 kg	Allan Bunnnett	Jurien Bay	9 October 1965
Shark, Hammerhead	23.25 kg	Tom Vivian	Kalbarri	2 March 1969
Shark, Lemon	48 kg	Darren Batchelor	Dirk Hartog Island	25 May 1999
Shark, Tiger	38.1 kg	John Devitt	Kalbarri	13 April 1970
Slender Suckerfish	0.35 kg	Peter Osborne	Kalbarri	29 October 2011
Snapper, Pink	16.02 kg	A J Werner	Waikiki	19 November 1953
Snapper, Queen	2.27 kg	J Graham	Cosy Corner	27 June 1955
Snook	3.37 kg	Noel Knight	Augusta	30 May 1970
Sombre Sweetlips	0.55 kg	Mark Hansen	Cervantes	1 February 2013
Surge Wrasse	1.31 kg	Peet Wessels	Rottnest	13 August 2013
Sweetlips, Gold-Spotted	1.5 kg	Bob Klein	Quobba	1 June 1979
Tailor	6.30 kg	Peet Wessels	Bremer Bay	17 September 2014
Tarwhine	1.36 kg	Bob Tucker	Garden Island	16 July 1961
Threadfin Salmon, King	Est 8 Kg	Ray Walker	Eighty Mile Beach	3 June 2015
Threadfin Salmon, Striped	1.1 kg	Rom Niciejewski	Serrurier Island	10 July 1997
Toadfish, Silver (NW Blowie)	6.8 kg	Bert Payne	Monkey Mia	17 November 1965
Trevally, Bludger	7.26 kg	Alby Norman	Wagoe	22 April 1973
Trevally, Giant (Lowly)	27.5 kg	Bob Klein	Cape Cuvier	3 May 1975
Trevally, Golden	15 kg	A Tuvik	Steep Point	12 December 1980
Trevally, Gold-Spotted (Turrum)	9.08 kg	Dennis Green	Cape Cuvier	2 June 1974
Trevally, Silver (Skipjack)	5.44 kg	W Cooper	Trigg Island	16 September 1955
Trevally, Thick Lip	0.38 kg	Mark Hansen	Rottnest	15 May 2011
Tripletail Maori Wrasse	1.1 kg	Ron Thomas	Quobba	31 May 2014
Trout, Coronation	4 kg	L Clifton	Steep Point	20 April 1984
Trout, Brown	1.26 kg	J Bennett	Drakesbrook	3 November 1999
Trout, Rainbow	0.562 kg	Darcy Tomlinson	Warren River	6 th January 2018
Tuna, Mackerel	8.93 kg	T O'Hara	Cape Cuvier	3 June 1973
Tuna, Long Tail	22.28 kg	Glen Wong	Preston Beach	10 April 2016
Tuna, Yellowfin	16 kg	Tony Richardson	Steep Point	21 May 1981
Tuskfish, Blackspot	2.4 kg	Peet Wessels	Shelter Bay	9 July 2012
Tuskfish, Blue	4.25 kg	D Stigelmayer	Steep Point	26 March 1985
Western Pigfish	0.80 kg	Sandra Wessels	Rottnest	15 May 2011
Whiting, King George	1.53 kg	John Lee	Garden Island	12 May 1973
Whiting, sand	0.57 kg	George Holman	Wedge Island	28 December 1972
Wirrah	1.81 kg	Tom Smith	Kalbarri	1 September 1965
Wirrah, Leopard	1.44 kg	Peet Wessels	Rottnest	15 May 2011
Wrasse, Brown Spotted	0.92kg	Mark Hansen	Reef Beach	4 March 2017
Wrasse, Seven Banded	0.68 kg	Peter Osborne	Wagoe	29 July 2011
Wrasse, Western King	0.36 kg	Peter Osborne	Rottnest	15 May 2011
Zebra fish	0.39kg	Mark Nurse	Rottnest	21 May 2016