

# REEL TALK

A wide-angle photograph of a sandy beach under a clear blue sky. In the foreground, two fishing rods are planted in the sand. Two SUVs are parked on the beach: a white one on the left and a silver one on the right. The silver SUV has a surfboard on its roof rack. A person in a yellow shirt is standing near the silver SUV. The ocean is visible in the background with waves breaking. The text 'REEL TALK' is overlaid in large red letters at the top.

MAY 2022





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

### **May 2022 : Reel Talk Contents**

Cover	Bluff Creek
	Contents
	Club Committee and Life Members
5	President's Report
5	May Birthdays
6	2022 – 2023 Field Days calendar
7 - 8	Drycasting Report and Results
9 – 14	Fishing Field Day Report
15 – 17	Fishing Results
18	Quabba Safari
19	2002 Bluff Creek fishing report

# **Club Committee for 2021-22**

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

PO Box 2056, Marmion WA 6020

## **President**

*Martin Wearmouth*

0407 301 195

[martin.wearmouth@gmail.com](mailto:martin.wearmouth@gmail.com)

## **Vice President**

*Shane Wignell*

## **Treasurer**

*Victor Schilo*

0413 152 550

[treasurer@scac.net.au](mailto:treasurer@scac.net.au)

## **Secretary**

*John Curtis*

0412 776 558

[secretary@scac.net.au](mailto:secretary@scac.net.au)

## **Reel Talk Editor**

*Martin Wearmouth*

## **Dry Casting Officer**

*Ron Thomas*

0407 630 053

[dee.ron@bigpond.com](mailto:dee.ron@bigpond.com)

## **Field Day Officer**

*Martin Wearmouth*

0407 301 195

[martin.wearmouth@gmail.com](mailto:martin.wearmouth@gmail.com)

## **Assistant Field Day Officer**

*Vince Tomazin*

## **Assistant Drycasting Officer**

*Bob Henderson*

## **Committee Persons**

*Gary Parkinson*

*Chris Stickells*

## **Recorder**

*Peet Wessels*

[peetwessels@gmail.com](mailto:peetwessels@gmail.com)

## **Website Coordinator**

*Peet Wessels*



## **SCAC Life Members**

*George Holman, 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, Eric Parker*





## **President's Report - May 2022**

After a great field day at Bluff Creek at Easter we have a few weeks till our May field day, this is the start of our new season so I hope to see a few out fishing over the next 12 months.

John has done a great job with the competition rules, giving them a good clean up.

Vince has stepped up to take on the Treasurers position from 1<sup>st</sup> July

---

*Martin Wearmouth; President*

## **May General Meeting** **Wednesday 11th** **Croatian Club in Wishart Street Gwelup**

**Meal at 7.00pm with meeting at 8.00pm**

---

## **May Birthdays**

Robert Pekaar 11<sup>th</sup> May  
Thomas Wearmouth 29<sup>th</sup> May  
Victor Tomazin 30<sup>th</sup> May



# Fishing calendar 2022-2023

<b>Field day venues for 2022/2023</b>		
<b>Dates</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Boundaries</b>
<b>28 -30 May 2022</b> New moon 30th	Rottnest Island and Open Lines down 6am Saturday Lines up 9am Monday	Rottnest and Open anywhere in WA
<b>11 - 12 June 2022</b> Full moon 14th	Open - Cape to Cape area Lines down 6am Saturday Lines up 9am Sunday	Open anywhere in WA
<b>16 - 18 July 2022</b> Long weekend due to safari Full moon 14th	Open Lines down 6am Saturday Lines up 9am Monday	Open anywhere in WA
<b>16 - 24 July 2022</b> Quobba Station safari	Quobba Station safari 2 fishing days to be chosen by traveling group once at the location	Quobba Station area
<b>27 - 29 August 2022</b> New moon 27th	Rottnest Island and Open Lines down 6am Saturday Lines up 9am Monday	Rottnest and Open anywhere in WA
<b>24 - 26 September 2022</b> Long Weekend New moon 26th	Open – Dongara area Lines down 6am Saturday Lines up 9am Monday	Open anywhere in WA
<b>22 - 23 October 2022</b> New moon 25th	Yallingup to Preston Lines down 6am Saturday Lines up 9am Sunday	Yallingup to Preston and local as below at bottom of page
<b>26 - 27 November 2022</b> New moon 24th	Lancelin to Jurien Bay Lines down 6am Saturday Lines up 9am Sunday	Lancelin to Jurien Bay and local as below at bottom of page
<b>10 - 11 December 2022</b> Full moon 8th	Lancelin to Leeman Lines down 6am Saturday Lines up 9am Sunday	Lancelin to Leeman and local as below at bottom of page
<b>21 – 22 January 2023</b> New moon 22nd	Open Lines down 6am Saturday Lines up 9am Sunday	Open anywhere in WA
<b>4 - 5 February 2023</b> Full moon 6th	Lancelin to Jurien Bay Lines down 6am Saturday Lines up 9am Sunday	Lancelin to Jurien Bay and local as below at bottom of page
<b>4 - 6 March 2023</b> Long Weekend Full moon 7th	Open – Reef Beach Lines down 6am Saturday Lines up 9am Monday	Open anywhere in WA
<b>8 – 10 April 2023</b> Easter Long weekend Full moon 6th	Open - Bluff Creek area Lines down 6am Saturday Lines up 9am Monday	Open anywhere in WA
<b>Local boundaries are from Lancelin in the North to Preston Beach in the South</b> Lines Down on Standard weekends – Saturday 6.00am Lines up on Standard weekends – Sunday 9.00am Lines Down for long weekends and Rottnest – Saturday 6.00am Lines up for long weekends and Rottnest – Monday 9.00am <b>Sign-on / Weigh-in times, possible fish together spots and locations to be decided at the general meeting prior to the Field Day.</b>		

## DRY CASTING REPORT – 4TH APRIL 2022

Another year has come and gone with some good results and some not so good, but it doesn't matter whether it is fishing or casting or whatever, we can only do our best, sometimes it works sometimes it doesn't.

I suppose the same person will win the year again but that may all come to an end. What I mean to say is, if the members are in favour of what I have worked out for casting in the future, any one of us can win Caster of the Year, we will see.

The wind in the morning was going to be south-south east so that's how I set the course up, but the wind changed its mind and blew from the east, that's not the first time and it won't be the last.

Best casts for the day were 56gr 138.65m, Art Bait 123.13m, 112g 147.54m.

Gary had a top day in the DHA with 166, 27 was the best in the SHA by myself.

Mark continues on his way winning every month being the only person in the open section.

Best casts for the year were

### Open section

Mark had some top scores especially in the accuracy

56gr	123.68
Art bait	109.01
112gr	129.06
DHA	163
SHA	29

### Vets section

56gr	157.57m	Ron Thomas
Art bait	137.80m	Ron Thomas
112gr	166.21m	Ron Thomas
DHA	166	Gary Gildersleeve
SHA	34	Bob Henderson & Ron Thomas

My term for Dry Casting Officer has come to an end after 10 years, so I am hoping there is someone who is willing to take on the job.

### DCO

**Ron Thomas**

## SURF CASTING & ANGLING CLUB

### Dry casting results - 4th April 2022

	<u>56gram</u>				<u>Artificial Bait</u>				<u>112gram</u>			
	<u>Cast</u>	<u>Cast</u>	<u>Total</u>		<u>Cast</u>	<u>Cast</u>	<u>Total</u>		<u>Cast</u>	<u>Cast</u>	<u>Total</u>	
	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>		<u>%</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>		<u>%</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>		<u>%</u>
BOB HENDERSON	125.67	125.08	250.75	92.28	106.96	107.39	214.35	88.60	126.63	125.52	252.15	86.83
MAL HEAD	83.98	90.63	174.61	64.26	88.23	87.25	175.48	72.53	106.63	105.57	212.20	73.07
GARY GILDERSLEEVE	121.32	122.53	243.85	89.74	103.12	109.00	212.12	87.68	117.87	120.16	238.03	81.97
RON THOMAS	133.08	138.65	271.73	100.00	123.15	118.78	241.93	100.00	147.54	142.85	290.39	100.00
GEOFF RAFTIS	103.89	102.11	206.00	75.81	78.87	69.53	148.40	61.34	94.38	94.36	188.74	65.00
<b>MENS</b>												
MARK HANSEN	114.50	119.71	234.21	100.00	90.85	97.17	188.02	100.00	OUT	112.29	112.29	100.00

## SURFCASTING & ANGLING CLUB

### Dry casting results - 4th April 2022

	<u>Double Handed Accuracy</u>										<u>Single Handed Accuracy</u>						<u>Total</u>	<u>Attendance</u>	<u>Total</u>
	<u>Target number</u>										<u>Target distance</u>							<u>D/Casting</u>	<u>Points</u>
	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>1st</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>1st</u>	<u>2nd</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>%</u>	<u>%</u>		
BOB HENDERSON	11	5	11	25	0	9	25	18	104	62.65	2	9	8	5	24	88.89	419.25	10	429.25
MAL HEAD	19	4	19	17	15	3	3	21	101	60.84	4	8	7	0	19	70.37	341.07	10	351.07
GARY GILDERSLEEVE	19	22	21	19	23	23	16	23	166	100.00	10	7	8	0	25	92.59	451.98	10	461.98
RON THOMAS	24	15	20	24	11	23	11	21	149	89.76	8	2	9	8	27	100.00	489.76	10	499.76
GEOFF RAFTIS	0	8	11	11	17	20	0	5	72	43.37	0	7	0	8	15	55.55	301.07	10	311.07
MARK HANSEN	11	19	17	0	2	17	0	6	72	100.00	7	7	4	7	25	100.00	500.00	10	510.00

### VETERANS BEST CASTS FOR THE YEAR 2021 - 2022

LONGEST 56 GRAM	157.57	RON THOMAS
LONGEST ARTIFICIAL BAIT	137.80	RON THOMAS
LONGEST 112 GRAM	166.21	RON THOMAS
HIGHEST DOUBLE HANDED ACCURACY	166	GARY GILDERSLEEVE
HIGHEST SINGLE HANDED ACCURACY	34	BOB HENDERSON & RON THOMAS

### SENIORS BEST CASTS FOR THE YEAR 2021 - 2022

LONGEST 56 GRAM	123.68	MARK HANSEN
LONGEST ARTIFICIAL BAIT	109.01	MARK HANSEN
LONGEST 112 GRAM	129.06	MARK HANSEN
HIGHEST DOUBLE HANDED ACCURACY	163	MARK HANSEN
HIGHEST SINGLE HANDED ACCURACY	29	MARK HANSEN



## Surf Casters April 2022 field day report

Shane and I met early on Good Friday for the trip to Bluff Creek, numbers were well down for this trip but the weather forecast was good so with just 2 going we headed off down Albany hwy, we arrived in Mount Barker for our last stop to get fuel and food then headed for the coast, it had been overcast most of the way but as we headed out of Mount Barker the sun came out and stayed like that for the rest of the day.

We arrived at the track at 1pm and after letting down the tyres we made our way to the beach, once over the last sand dune the water looked good, as usual a nice gutter running the whole way along the beach, the width of the beach was a lot less than our last trip, as we got close to the reef area it got even thinner and at high tide I could see the water was lapping at the sand dunes and would not be passable but the tide and swell was low so we got through to the creek we normally camp at ok,



Creek a bit deep to cross for us

We had seen a few cars on the beach but no one was at our camping area near the creek, we took a look at the shack and no one was using it but the creek was nearly 1m deep in one spot so we decided not to try to cross and set up camp behind the dunes.

After a rest and lunch we headed east on the beach to look for some fishing spots, the beach east was wider than normal and we were able to drive all the way to the eastern end easily, the gutter close to the beach seemed to have a lot more reef areas all the way from the creek, and a lot looked very good with nice clear water.

We fished for a few hours close to the end and got a few Herring and Skippy before heading back for dinner, the weather was still great and we had a nice fire to keep us warm as the night became cooler.

Saturday morning we fished next to the creek and found so many Herring, I have never seen Herring like this so many that once you hooked one another 30 followed it in right to the beach, I used the hook and lumo straw rig and caught one on every cast, and these were not small herring most around the 25cm with some going 28cm, all morning we had Dolphins jumping, playing and surfing the waves what a great sight we are so lucky to be able to enjoy sights like this.





In amongst this Shane and I also got a couple of Skippy and I managed a 12.8kg Eagle ray that launched out of the water twice and gave me a very good fight for 15 minutes, after 2 hours we decided to move east and see if we could escape the Herring madness and find some Skippy and Salmon, we drove about 2km east and found a spot close to a nice reef.

Still plenty of Herring at this spot and Shane got a 30cm 330gm herring but most were around the 25cm size, we stayed here till 12pm then headed back to camp for lunch and an afternoon nap.

At 4pm we headed out again east about 2km and fished the other side of the reef we fished in the morning, this proved to be a good move as 1<sup>st</sup> cast I got a 38cm 650gm Skippy, the herring and skippy came in one after the other for both of us, all day had been one fish after the other the only way to sit down was to pull the lines out of the water and take a rest, once you cast a bait out it was not long till a herring or skippy had the hooks.





As the sun set a few more species hit the beach, we both got Banded Sweep, Flathead and whiting before heading back at 7pm for dinner, we only had one other 2 person group fishing on this section of beach and for an Easter weekend it was very quite.



Sunday morning we headed back to the same spot 2km east next to the reef and started fishing about 7am, a bit of a sleep in to recover from the full on fishing the day before, again quite a few Herring and Skippy, 1 Herring I caught was 31cm and 350gm and the Skippy between 34 to 40cm, I love catching Skippy this size they put up a great fight and use the wave and water action to try to pull the hooks, Shane got 3 good size Tarwhine and the biggest was 860gm with the other 2 not much smaller, I managed a Salmon of 3.8kg we fished till 11.30am then headed back for lunch and a rest.





At 3.30pm we headed east again to the same spot, the fishing was slower but I caught a 30cm 550gm Banded Sweep I had never seen one this big, still a few herring and Skippy and Shane got a couple of Flathead, we headed back about 6pm and enjoyed the fire and our last night at bluff creek under the stars.

What a great trip, I think this is the best weather and fishing I have ever had at Bluff Creek, it was overcast some times and we had some rain Saturday night but the wind and swell was low so fishing was easy and so many fish eager to take the baits, best of all no sea weed.

Ron and Sri fished at Hill River up close to the river mouth and did well getting a great bag of fish each.

Dave and Rob also fished at Hill River south of the car park and managed a couple of fish each.

Mark fished the south mole on Monday morning, Catching and releasing 2 tarwhine and a wrasse, and also caught an undersized snapper.

Thanks to all those that fished, this was the last field day for our competition year, it all starts again next month and I wish everyone good luck and I hope to see a few members out wetting a line.



Shane with skippy



Shane with Tarwhine





Martin with salmon



Martin with skipper



Eagle ray





We had the only camp next to the creek



ANGLER		Species Herring Australian	Species Trevally Silver Skippy	Species Tarwhine	Species Flathead (all species)	Species Sweep Banded	Species Whiting	Species Salmon Western Australian	Species Stingray Eagle	Total weight	No. of Species	No. of fish	F.D. points	Attendance Field Day	General Meeting	Total points
<b>Bluff Creek</b>																
Martin Wearmouth	Number	24	16		3	3	2	2	1	32.88	7	51	449.8	1	1	469.8
	Total weight	4.80	9.60		1.05	1.05	0.20	4.66	11.52							
	Weight of best	0.32	0.88					3.42								
	Number	24	14	3	2	1	2									
Shane Wignell	Total weight	4.80	8.40	2.12	0.70	0.35	0.20			16.57	6	46	271.7	1		281.7
	Weight of best	0.31		0.78												
<b>Hill River</b>																
ANGLER		Species Herring Australian	Species Trevally Silver Skippy	Species Tarwhine	Species Flathead (all species)	Species Whiting	Species Tailor	Species Butterfish Western	Species Pike	Total weight	No. of Species	No. of fish	F.D. points	Attendance Field Day	General Meeting	Total points
Ron Thomas	Number	2	6		1	19	5	6	2							
	Total weight	0.40	2.19		0.33	3.22	1.91	1.19	0.27	9.51	7	41	206.1	1	1	226.1
	Weight of best		0.44													
Sri Srigandan	Number	4	5		1	5		1		4.42	5	16	110.2	1		120.2
	Total weight	0.70	2.11		0.23	1.16		0.22								
	Weight of best		0.46													
Robert Wilding	Number					2	1			0.72	2	3	30.2	1		40.2
	Total weight					0.34	0.38									
	Weight of best															
David Wilding	Number	1				1				0.37	2	2	25.7	1		35.7
	Total weight	0.20				0.17										
	Weight of best															
<b>Local</b>																
ANGLER		Species Tarwhine	Species Wrasse Brown Spotted							Total weight	No. of Species	No. of fish	F.D. points	Attendance Field Day	General Meeting	Total points
Mark Hansen	Number	2	1							0.60	2	3	29.2	1	1	49.2
	Total weight	0.40	0.20													
	Weight of best															

Field day prizes for April			
Section	Angler	Species	Weight
Best scale fish	Martin Wearmouth	Salmon Western Australian	3.42
Best bag of scale fish	Martin Wearmouth		32.88
Best shark			
Best bag including sharks			

Top scores up to April		
Rank	Angler	Total points
1	Martin Wearmouth	2379.2
2	Ron Thomas	2008.6
3	Peet Wessels	1462.5
4	Mark Hansen	1136.9
5	Sandra Wessels	927.2
6	Vince Tomazin	831.7
7	Gary Parkinson	554.5
8	Shane Wignell	522.5
9	Sabby Pizzolante	361.7
10	Tino Baiardo	355.8
11	Justin Rose	349.2
12	Chris Stickells	298.7
13	Alan Green	250.7
14	Robert Wilding	193.4
15	Brad Zaknich (visitor)	148.0
16	George Matrakis	138.6
17	David Wilding	134.7
18	Stuart Waterman	130.1
19	Morris Kolman	117.6
20	Theo Van Niekerk	109.2
21	Norm Vojdinoski	106.6
22	Sarah Wignell	87.6
23	Geoff Raftis	83.3
24	Oliver Wessels	75.5
25	David Wessels	66.0
26	Helen Carnell	56.1
27	Ian Taggart	55.0
28	Dom (visitor)	52.3
29	Steve Harrison	35.1

## **Open fishing competition 2021/22**

The Open Competition is for fish caught between 1 May 2021 and 30 April 2022, other than on Club gazetted Field days. Entries for the Open competition close **30 days after capture**. See Competition Rules Section 4.

<b>Section</b>	<b>For</b>	<b>Minimum weight</b>	<b>Entry</b>
1	Most meritorious capture	None	To be awarded by Committee
2	Best Shark	4.5 kg	
3	Best Mulloway	4 kg	4.1kg / 73 cm. Peet Wessels, Preston Beach. 31/12/21.
4	Best Salmon	3.5kg	4.77 kg Gary Parkinson, Poison Creek Esperance 9/3/22.
5	Best Dhufish	4 kg	
6	Best Tailor	1 kg	1.38kg / 55 cm. Martin Wearmouth, Dongara South Beach. 29/1/22.
7	Best Samson fish	2 kg	
8	Best fish on single handed rod maximum 4kg line class (Bait)	Legal size	0.34 kg Martin Wearmouth, Thomas River Esperance 12/3/22.
9	Best Pink snapper	2 kg	3.4kg George Matrakis, Dirk Hartog Island 17/7/21
10	Best Tarwhine	0.5 kg	0.56 kg Gary Parkinson, Dongara South Beach 29/1/22.
11	Best Mackerel	4 kg	22.5 kg Martin Wearmouth, Dirk Hartog Island 22/7/21
12	Best Skipjack trevally (southern)	0.5 kg	3.82 kg Martin Wearmouth, Thomas River Esperance 11/3/22.
13	Best Trevally (northern)	2 kg	3kg Vince Tomazin, Dirk Hartog Island 23/7/21
14	Best Flathead	0.5 kg	
15	Best Black or Yellow finned Bream	0.5 kg	
16	Best scale fish other than sections 3-15	2 kg	3.5kg Spangled Emperor, Justin Rose, Dirk Hartog Island 22/7/21
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	0.46kg Rainbow Trout, Darcy Tomlinson, Warren River – Pemberton. 3/1/2022.
19	Best fish caught by Drone	Legal size	



## Surf Casters Quobba Station safari July 2022

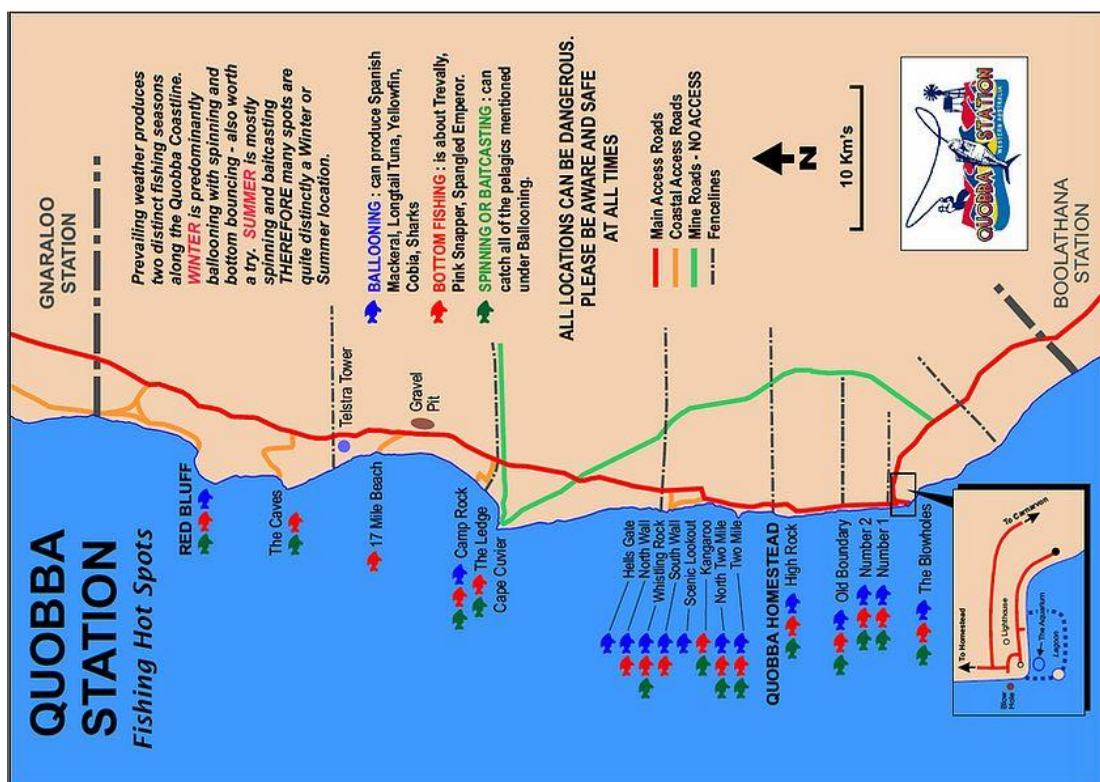
- Check In Date Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> July 2022
- Check Out Date Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> July 2022
- Number Of Nights 8

Staying at The Long Cottage – **Contact Martin if you are interested in going ASAP**

The Long Cottage sleeps 8 people, with one double bed, six singles. It consists of a self-contained kitchen covered veranda, shower and toilet facilities (donkey hot water system - you have to light a fire under 'donkey' to heat water for shower), 24-hour power to lights and fridge (10-hour power to power points and BBQ facilities). This cottage is ideal for larger groups or the budget minded family.

\*Bed linen/towels/pillows **NOT** supplied.

\*\*Fire wood collection is not allowed on the station so please bring your own supply for the Donkey hot water system, otherwise wood can be purchased at the office.





## **Below is from the 2002 Bluff Creek field day as reported in the Reel Talk**

### **Surfcasters Bluff Creek Field Day – 2/3/4 March 2002.**

The wind was blowing gently from the south-east when we woke up early on the Saturday morning at Bluff Creek. The sky was clear with no hint of rain and the camps were slowly stirring into activity. We had arrived in the wee hours of the morning and set up camp hastily before retiring to sleep. Later that morning more and more parties arrived and set up camp in the lee of the low dunes. Some interesting stories were told about difficulties encountered while negotiating the track with some of the larger trailers.

The sign on was well attended with a typically enthusiastic bunch of keen anglers present. Some late arrivals to the sign on (Cookie/Terry/Derry) pleaded vehicle problems as their excuse for their tardiness but were signed on regardless.

We planned a recce down the beach to assess potential spots. The first surprise was the extensive remodelling of the creek bed with a large washout creating a waterfall along the creek bed effectively blocking access up the creek to the campsites. Once on the beach the effects of some big seas and high tides could be seen with the reef well exposed and lots of snags and rocks showing in the gutters towards the eastern end of the beach. Here there were some extensive cut-aways and deep gutters with a sandbar out wide. Towards the rocks on the eastern end the beach was shallower with less well-defined gutters and the sand firmer making driving easier.

Damian and I decided on a walk along the rocks in search of a pod of salmon. The young bloke was incapacitated to some degree having undergone knee surgery only days earlier but there was no stopping him as we hiked out over the high sloping granite boulders to the distant headland. At this time the easterly was blowing strongly and the whole bay was covered in white caps.

No salmon were seen and prospecting with lures resulted in hook-up after hook-up on feisty herring. Keeping a few of the larger specimens we walked back but were unable to find any salmon schools. Driving back along the beach we saw many groups of anglers prospecting the gutters but no salmon were sighted and we decided we might as well set up along the beach as well. Choosing a spot with a deep gutter and an opening through the sandbar we soon had baits soaking and rods in the holders. But the wind was strong and with dropping tide and increasing wave action we had difficulty holding bottom with anything less than a 6oz-grapple sinker. As the sun was beginning to set one rod bent to a run that resulted in a solid hook-up with a salmon exploding from the water in a gill-rattling leap. This was a good fish and after a solid fight it was washed out onto the sand. A few minutes later the sequence was repeated when a slightly smaller fish was hooked and landed. Anticipation was high for a while and as the sun set and the wind seemed even more cold and fierce we battened down for a long evening. But conditions worsened and it was impossible to keep a bait in the water with serious current drift through the gutter. So we decided to call it quits and headed back to camp for tea and an early night.

At 5.00 am the next morning the alarm went off and we drove out to the rocks for an early morning spin session. With the cold easterly wind at our backs we whipped metal lures out into the silvery water. Within minutes Damian was whooping with delight as a salmon leapt and thrashed about stripping line off the reel, before he gained the upper hand and eventually washed the fish up onto the rocks. A few casts later he repeated the performance while I stood by as an observer, not getting a hit at any time. That was the morning action for us and despite our every effort no further fish were forthcoming.

We stopped and chatted to many anglers along the beach and most reported occasional fish but few salmon. Back to camp we went for a break before heading out again looking for likely water. We stopped and tried for some skippy on a rising tide and although the going was slow a few fish were about. Just as the bite was getting good however we had to stop for the midday lines down.

During the break we heard from Terry and Cookie that a few salmon pods had moved along the rocks when they were out there fishing for skippy before lunch. So as soon as we could we headed back to the rocks to see if we could locate a school. As luck would have it a very large school loomed into view moving at some speed towards the east. Our first casts landed in the school and the hook-ups were immediate. Fantastic fun as we fought the fish to the rocks and landed them before heading back to locate the fast disappearing fish. With one fish each landed and more than our fair share shedding hooks and cutting us off in the reefy territory we made a dash over the rocks and ridges to try and get a last shot before they headed for the beach. But our frantic efforts were futile as the school swam out of range as we arrived on the rock. Hot, sweaty but elated with the excitement of the chase we retired to the vehicle for a break.

We followed the school down the beach but they moved along well outside casting range. Hoping they may come into the inshore gutter at some stage we headed westwards to set up again in a deep open gutter. But to no avail as the salmon swam past some time later staying well out of reach. The afternoon turned to evening

and the conditions were beautiful. The winds were light, the skies clear and the water looked fantastic. The current had dropped and we could hold baits out with no problem. But the action was rather slow with little happening through the sunset and into the dark. A few missed strikes and one good run just on moonrise, resulted in one more salmon in the bag. But as the moon rose in the sky the action slowed further still. Mindful of the long drive home the next day we had to make a tactical decision. Chas wandered over to report that George had landed a tailor and some salmon but Bob, Terry W and Rick seemed as devoid of fish as we were. So we opted for the early night and an early morning start for a last spin session on the rocks.

First light saw two hopeful figures casting lures from the rocks. This time our luck was out and nothing was moving. Heading further along the rocks we tried again, all the time hoping to spot a pod resting up. Spinning with small lures for herring resulted in Damian hooking another salmon and after a torrid fight in very unfriendly terrain he landed a good fish on a small raider. He now had a 4 fish bag of salmon all on lures. A very commendable effort and didn't he let me know about it!

And so, happy with our efforts, we headed back to the weigh-in. A large gathering of anglers was present to witness one of the closest weigh-ins in recent months. Most anglers had at least a few fish to weigh. Even Terry Willison broke his 3-year drought with a commendable capture of 4 herring and a flathead. George Holman, Damian, Tony D'Alonzo and myself had all managed a 4 fish bag of salmon. But the fish were generally small and the average weight was less than 3 kg and the best went 5.1 kg. Don Batchelor had a great bag of skippy including one beautiful specimen of 1.0 kg. Most anglers had managed a few species but overall the fishing had been fairly tough for all. Visitors Malcolm Harris and Vix Alexander (have now applied for membership) also weighed in with Malcolm catching some great skippy. George and Barry Tomlinson even caught a few tailor with George having one of over a kilo. Some flathead, sweep (ineligible), blackfish, wrasse and a few small whiting made up the species. Tony D'Alonzo clinched the Field Day with 4 salmon and an impressive bag of 20 skippy as well as a mixture of other species.

With many of the club members staying longer, it was with envy that those of us who had to leave broke camp and left them to the wind, the dunes, the surf and the sand at that fantastic beach.

John Jardine, Field Day Officer.

**Attendance: Seniors 19 - Juniors 0 - Mini-Juniors 0 - Visitors 5 - Total 24**

Angler	Total Weight	No of Species	No of fish	Total Points
Tony D'Alonzo	21.20 kg	6	30	322
Holman George	19.80 kg	5	16	298
John Jardine	19.90 kg	3	24	279
Damian D'Mello	13.75 kg	3	12	218
Darren Batchelor	6.68 kg	5	29	157
Don Batchelor	7.28 kg	3	30	143
Chas Riegert	6.95 kg	2	4	140
Ian Cook	3.25 kg	3	19	113
Dave Maxted	4.30 kg	2	3	103
Dave Freeman (Visitor)	3.40 kg	2	5	94
Barry Tomlinson (Visitor)	2.28 kg	3	11	93
Terry Willison	1.1 kg	3	6	91
Malcolm Harris (Visitor)	2.70 kg	1	7	87
Bob Henderson	1.50 kg	2	8	85
Heather Freeman (Visitor)	3.00 kg	1	20	80
Terry Fuller	1.10 kg	1	9	71
Vix Alexander (Visitor)	0.33 kg	1	1	63
Ryan Tomlinson (Visitor)	0.30 kg	1	2	53
Derry Barber	0.00 kg	0	0	50
Eric Parker	0.00 kg	0	0	50
Spencer King	1.05 kg	1	2	41
John Burgess (Visitor)	0.00 kg	0	0	40
Ken Black	0.33 kg	1	1	23