

# REEL TALK

A group of surfcasters are standing in the ocean, holding long fishing rods. The sky is filled with large, dramatic clouds, and the water is dark with white foam from the waves. The scene is captured from a low angle, emphasizing the vastness of the ocean and sky.

**SURF CASTING & ANGLING CLUB INC**

**SEPTEMBER 2020**



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

PO Box 2834, Malaga WA 6944

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

Club Web page: <http://www.scac.net.au>

### **Acknowledgement of Donors**

*The club gratefully acknowledges the support from companies, organisations, club members and families for the donations towards our Presentation night.*

### **Club Members:**

Mal Head, Peter Osborne, John Curtis,

Bob Henderson, Alan Jones, Pat McKeown

Mark Hansen

### **Company Sponsors:**

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***Thank you for your valued support.***

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**Assistant Drycasting Officer**

Bob Henderson

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Chris Stickells

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**Website Coordinator**

Peet Wessels

**AAAWA Delegates**

Martin Wearmouth, John Curtis

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 2834, Malaga WA 6944

**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 - September 2020**



After a great Rottneest trip and some hectic skippy action, enjoyed by those who attended, we are now heading into Spring. I hope to see a few more out casting and fishing in the next few months as the weather warms up.

We have our Presentation Night this month, so if you have not already put your hand up to attend, please do so ASAP. It will be a great night and a good chance to catch up with other members while enjoying a meal.

Those that now have their new club shirts, can you please remember to wear them at all club events, if you have not got one please send your sizes to the secretary ASAP. (See shirt information at the back of this Reel Talk).

*Martin Wearmouth; President*

## **Membership Fees**

The SCAC Membership Fees for the 2020/21 year are due as at the 1st July.

But there is good news, fees for 20/21 are now:

Single Membership	\$70
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Family Membership	\$80
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Concession Membership	\$50
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Concession Family	\$60
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Payment can be made via EFT (Please note your name in the remittance), Cheque or Cash at the monthly meetings.

The Secretary has sent out Membership Forms for all members to complete and return.

Please return them promptly, with all details completed in full.

**Bank details:**      **Surf Casting and Angling Club**

BSB: 036 059

A/C: 880334

<b>Field Day Venues For 2020/2021</b>		
<b>Dates</b>	<b>Venue</b>	<b>Boundaries</b>
<b>26 - 28 September 2020 Long Weekend</b>	Albany to Bremer Bay and standard local Lines down 6 am Saturday Lines up 9 am Monday	Albany to Bremer Bay and local as below at bottom of page
<b>17 - 18 October 2020</b>	Dunsborough to White Hills Lines down 9.00 am Saturday Lines up 9 am Sunday	Dunsborough to White Hills and local as below at bottom of page
<b>14 - 15 November 2020</b>	Cervantes to Leeman Lines down 9.00 am Saturday Lines up 9 am Sunday	Cervantes to Leeman and local as below at bottom of page
<b>12 - 13 December 2020</b>	Lancelin to Greenhead Lines down 9.00 am Saturday Lines up 9 am Sunday	Lancelin to Greenhead and local as below at bottom of page
<b>Sunday 24 January and Monday 25th January 2021 make own long weekend Australia Day is Tuesday 26th</b>	Open Lines down 6.00 am Sunday Lines up 9 am Tuesday	Open anywhere in WA
<b>13 - 14 February 2021</b>	Dunsborough to White Hills Lines down 9.00 am Saturday Lines up 9 am Sunday	Dunsborough to White Hills and local as below at bottom of page
<b>27 Feb - 1 March 2021 Long Weekend</b>	Geraldton to Kalbarri Lines down 6 am Saturday Lines up 9 am Monday	Geraldton to Kalbarri and local as below at bottom of page
<b>3 April – 5 April 2021 Easter Long weekend</b>	Bluff Creek and standard local Lines down 6 am Saturday Lines up 9 am Monday	Cheynes and Bluff Creek area and local as below at bottom of page
<b>Local boundaries are from Lancelin in the North to Point Peron in the South</b> Lines Down for long weekends and Rottnest – Saturday 6.00 am Lines up for long weekends and Rottnest – Monday 9.00 am Lines Down on Standard weekends – Saturday 9.00 am Lines up on Standard weekends – Sunday 9.00 am <b>Sign-on / Weigh-in times; Where possible please fish together; Spots and locations are to be decided at the General Meeting prior to the Field Day</b>		

## **Birthdays for September**

Sharon Osborne 3<sup>rd</sup>; Dee Thomas 8<sup>th</sup>; Peet Wessels 20<sup>th</sup>; Sabby Pizzolante 27<sup>th</sup>

*Enjoy your special day*

# **Club Presentation Night**

Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> September – 6.30pm

At The Croatian Club

18 Wishart St, GWELUP

**FREE TO ALL MEMBERS**

Save the date

**Contact: John Curtis before the 11<sup>th</sup> of  
September to book your table.**

0412 776 558

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

An angler was telling his friend:

"I had a funny dream last night. I dreamed I was going up to Heaven on a ladder. The bottom of the ladder was right in our angling club.

The members who were climbing up had to put chalk marks on the side of the ladder for all the tall stories they'd told about the fish they'd caught. I looked up and saw another member coming down in a tearing hurry."

"Who was it?"

"It was you. You said you were coming down for more chalk."

## Surf Casters September 2020 Field Day report by Martin Wearmouth



S C A C Rottneest Team August 2020

With an improving weather forecast and a lot of eager Surf Casters we had 12 members leaving from Fremantle to fish our August Rottneest trip, Chris and Helen had left in the morning and enjoyed the day exploring the island, the rest took the 5.50 pm ferry from Northport and compared to last year the trip was very enjoyable with only 1 m swell and very light winds we arrived fresh and ready for our weekend. Last August the late ferry had been cancelled due to a storm front moving in so we all left early afternoon and with 4 m swell and strong winds, the trip across was one you will not soon forget.

On arrival we all headed to the bungalows and waited for the luggage to be delivered, once we all unpacked and had dinner it was great to catch up with all the people that we had not seen for a while, Sabby again spoilt us all with some pizza his mum had made, that he shared with everyone. The fishing stories and general chat went on for a while after dinner till everyone decided to get a good night's sleep ready for our fishing adventure the next day.



The morning was fairly laid back with everyone getting all the fishing gear ready, after a walk around the main settlement a lot of re development is going on at Rottneest now. The Quokka Arms is mostly shut with some major renovations and new accommodation being built, the area around the bakery is also fenced off and being re-developed. New road works are replacing the bitumen and the Island seems to have a lot more people than the last few trips with most of the accommodation being used. COVID-19 seems to have made Rottneest a lot busier.



The bus picked us all up at 11 am, and after a stop at the bakery, we headed out to west end. On arrival a few went down to Wilsons and the rest made their way down the cliffs to Tennis Courts and Radar Reef. As we got down we could see 2 people already fishing in Tennis Courts, after a chat they had not caught much so we all started fishing. Vince got a herring on his first cast and most struggled to hook a fish with the wrasse and small fish taking the baits very quickly. It was slow going over the afternoon with not a lot of fish coming out other than wrasse. Chris did catch a moonlighter and so did Mark. We all fished a bit and rested a bit till it was time to walk out onto the reef.

Around 4 pm most made their way out onto the reef to bait cast for skippy and yellowtail kingfish. Another group of 4 had also come out onto the reef so it was packed with the best spots being shoulder to shoulder, but everyone was able to fish and enjoy the location. It really is surprising we do not get more crossed lines or tangles, especially when a fish takes you up and down the reef. Everyone just gives way and tries to help each other.



I managed the first skippy at about 4.30 pm, and a ytk just after 5 pm, casting towards Fish Hook Bay on the northern side of the reef, but not many fish got caught until after the sun went down. Just after dark the skippy started to fire up with fish being pulled in from all the spots, along with a few ytk's. Sabby was fishing next to me and was unstoppable for about an hour pulling in and releasing a lot of Skippy. I got into double figures too, as did most people on the reef, releasing a lot of skippy to fight another day. Chris caught his first YTK and I caught a small Octopus on my gang hooks that was quickly dispatched and used for bait by Theo.

Everyone started to head back to the rocks around 6.30 pm and by 7.15 pm all had made their way back to clean fish, pack up and head back up the cliffs. I was one of the last to get back up and just as I made it back to the road, as the bus arrived 30 minutes early. Everything was loaded back onto the bus and we headed back to Thomson Bay for a shower and dinner. After dinner the talk centred around the relief that the big 1 kg plus skippy had come back, as last year we did not have the hot skippy fishing we could normally count on after sunset on Radar reef.



Sunday morning most set about sorting out the fishing gear and getting ready for another afternoon at West End, everyone had smiles after a great afternoon on Saturday. As is normal, the bus picked us up at 11 am, and after a stop at the bakery, we got dropped off at West End. Vince, Shane, Sabby and I all decided to walk to the northern side and try fishing at Mabel Cove. On arrival, the small bay was full of sea weed so we walked a bit further and found another small bay that had no sea weed. Sabby started fishing with a small lure and hooked a herring on his first cast, I fished with my float rig and caught a few wrasse before getting a blackfish. Then I caught a nice 40 cm goatfish and another blackfish, but after that only wrasse. Vince got a herring and Shane got some herring and a skippy before we packed up and went back to Radar Reef.

When we arrived back at our eskies we had a break with some food and drink before heading back down the cliff to Radar Reef. While we waited, one of the group from the day before arrived on his bike and after a chat, we all headed down the cliff to Radar Reef. Sabby and I fished in Tennis Courts for an hour or so with Sabby catching some herring on his lure, with a hot 10 minutes it was a fish a cast. I only managed a few wrasse and a moonlighter on my bait rig.

Most again headed out onto the reef about 4 pm. Vince and I waited till 5 pm to make our way out. A couple of skippy came in, but again once darkness approached the skippy came on the bite. After dark the mayhem skippy action was on again. I fished next to Jason who had arrived by bike. Through the night we had a few chats and he is a very keen and capable fisherman. At first he was using a popper type lure but was not able to hook anything and then as it got dark switched to a bait cast mulie like the rest of us and caught and released many large skippy. Most on the reef got into double figures again as the skippy action went on for over an hour.

Sandra hooked a large bronze whaler shark that was over 2 m long after a tug of war the shark finally bit through the leader and swam back off which Sandra said was a great relief. The water we all were standing in was over knee deep. It would have been very interesting trying to land the large shark. Shane caught the only ytk that night, and was the biggest for the trip. I went to help him secure it but as I held the leader and lifted the fish the leader broke and the fish took off back over the reef edge.

Everyone headed back to the rocks between 6.30 pm and 7 pm to pack up and head back up the cliff, the bus again arrived early and we got back to the accommodation, all with big smiles but sore, after 2 days of cliff climbing and large skippy action. I know everyone will be back for more next year.

Ron Thomas fished at Hill River on Saturday and managed a few fish, Gary Parkinson fished at Yanchep on Saturday afternoon but did not catch anything.



Goatfish caught at Mabel Cove





Moonlighter



What makes fishing at Rottneest so special

ANGLER		Species	Species	Species	Species	Species	Species	Species	Species	Species	Species	Species	Total weight	No. of Species	No. of fish	F.D. points	Attendance		Total points
		Yellowtail Kingfish	Trevally Silver Skippy	Wrasse (all species) 1 only	Herring Australian	Moonlightgill 1	Buttfish - Silver Drummer 1 only	Leatherjacket	Warrah 1 only	Western Rock Blackfish	Tarwhine	Breaksea Cod					Goatfish	Field Day	
Mark Hansen	Number	2	16	1	13	1	1						25.60	6	34	350.0	1	1	370.0
	Total weight	5.50	14.25	0.30	1.40	0.15	4.00												
	Weight of best	2.69	1.17																
	Number	2	16	1			1												
Theo Van Niekerk	Total weight	4.66	12.67	0.30			4.00						22.14	5	21	292.4	1		302.4
	Weight of best		0.94																
	Number		16	1															
	Total weight		15.67	0.30	0.11				1	2	2	1							
Peet Wessels	Weight of best		1.17						0.20	1.00	0.80	0.40					1	1	298.8
	Number		16	1									18.48	7	24	278.8	1	1	
	Total weight		15.67	0.30	0.11														
	Weight of best		1.17																
Martin Wearmouth	Number	1	16	1		1					3	1	19.36	6	23	276.6	1	1	296.6
	Total weight	2.49	14.32	0.30		0.15					1.20								
	Weight of best		1.00																
	Number		16	1															
Sandra Wessels	Number		16	1	1		1				1		18.78	5	20	257.8	1	1	277.8
	Total weight		13.97	0.30	0.11		4.00				0.40								
	Weight of best		1.17																
	Number	1	16	1	2														
Shane Wignell	Total weight	2.36	14.87	0.30	0.22								17.75	4	20	237.5	1	1	257.5
	Weight of best		1.60																
	Number		16		10						1								
	Total weight		14.24		1.10						0.40		15.74	3	27	214.4	1		224.4
Sabby Pizzolante	Weight of best																		
	Number		8	1			1						10.02	4	11	151.2	1		161.2
	Total weight		5.21	0.30			4.00												
	Weight of best																		
Chris Stickells	Number	1	6	1	1	1							7.22	5	10	132.2	1	1	152.2
	Total weight	1.94	4.74	0.30	0.09	0.15													
	Weight of best																		
	Number		6		2														
Vince Tomazin	Total weight		5.53		0.21								5.74	2	8	85.4	1	1	105.4
	Weight of best		1.08																
	Number																		
	Total weight																		
Ian Taggart	Weight of best																1		10.0
	Number																		
	Total weight																		
	Weight of best																		
ANGLER		Species	Species	Species	Species	Species	Species						Total weight	No. of Species	No. of fish	F.D. points	Attendance		Total points
		Tailor	Flathead (all)	Herring Australian	Whiting	Flounder (all)	Butterfish Western										Field Day	General Meeting	
	Number	6	4	12	7	1	4						6.52	6	34	159.2	1	1	179.2
	Total weight	2.05	1.46	1.54	0.32	0.32	0.83												
Ron Thomas	Weight of best																		
	Number																		
	Total weight																		
	Weight of best																		
Gary Parkinson	Total weight																1	1	20.0
	Weight of best																		
	Number																		
	Total weight																		



Top scores up to August		
Rank	Angler	Total points
1	Martin Wearmouth	919.3
2	Peet Wessels	805.5
3	Mark Hansen	569.1
4	Ron Thomas	438.1
5	Sandra Wessels	435.8
6	Vince Tomazin	320.0
7	Theo Van Niekerk	302.4
8	Shane Wignell	257.5
9	Sabby Pizzolante	224.4
10	Gary Parkinson	214.7
11	Brad Zaknich (visitor)	161.2
12	Chris Stickells	152.2
13	Dom - visitor	120.0
14	David Wilding	59.0
15	David Trainer	30.0
16	Ian Taggart	10.0

Field day prizes for August			
Section	Angler	Species	Weight
Best scale fish	Mark Hansen	Yellowtail Kingfish	2.69
Best bag of scale fish	Mark Hansen		25.60
Best shark			
Best bag including sharks			

## DRY CASTING REPORT - AUGUST 2020.

Thanks go out to Hendo for filling in for me at the July casting day, and by the way a roll up of 10 people for the day. Maybe that's telling me to stay away more often and go and fish my favourite spot, Quobba.

Okay, enough of the dribble, let's get down to the nitty gritty. Seven members and one visitor turned up for what was supposed to be a little wet by about 10 in the morning, but did not eventuate, and so the casting and BBQ went by without any rain whatsoever.

Everyone was going to win the DHA, and so it was a dollar in for the best score. Klaus started off with a 25 but then had 2 donuts on the 4th target. That was the end of Klaus. Hendo started off slowly but then picked up until the second 4th and threw a 9 (ouch). Gary took out the honours and the money with 149 along with the best in the SHA with 30. Chas had the best in the 56 g and 112 g with 140 and 164. The longest artificial bait went to myself with 118 m.

Look forward to seeing a few more people at the next casting day.

RON THOMAS  
DCO

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A woman said to the proprietor of her fish shop: "You've got a good business here. You're making a lot of money. How is it that you're so smart?" "Because of the special fish I eat."

"You'd better sell me some." "Sure." He sold her the fish. Later she came back.

"That special fish you sold me at such a price. When I ate it I discovered it was only herring."

"See? It's working already."

## **CALLING NEW VOLUNTEERS!**

Fishability, an organisation providing recreational fishing opportunities for people with disabilities, is calling for new volunteers, for our upcoming season, commencing in September.

Fishability is a long established Western Australian not for profit organisation, that works with the community to promote fishing activities as a means of acceptance and inclusion for people with disabilities.

Fishability provides a range of jetty and boat activities throughout the Perth metro area and regional programs in Geraldton, Mandurah, Busselton and Albany. With support from a team of volunteers, and with the use of modified rods, reels and vessels, Fishability caters for children and adults living in our communities with disabilities, offering fishing experiences in a safe and welcoming environment.

The Program is run entirely by volunteers and Fishability is seeking **NEW VOLUNTEERS** for our Perth Metro North and Perth Metro South Programs.

Volunteers with Fishability enjoy:

- The great outdoors and meeting people;
- Helping those who may need a little extra support;
- Working as part of a team and sharing knowledge, stories and a laugh;
- Fishing! Even those with minimal experience but a willingness to learn are welcome.

As a valued member of the Fishability team, you will have access to ongoing training opportunities, networking and camaraderie from a group of likeminded people.

The Fishability program is delivered year-round (except July/Aug due to the weather) with various jetty and boat schedules. There is a time and a location to suit everybody!

For further information and to begin your volunteering journey with us, please contact Fishability's Development Officer, Jade Hurst at [developmentofficer@fishability.org.au](mailto:developmentofficer@fishability.org.au) or ph: 0434 522 050.

### **Tailor**

*Pomatomus saltatrix*



Fish illustrations © R.Swainston/www.anima.net.au

Tailor is one of the most popular recreational fishing species along the west coast of Western Australia. They are relentless hunters that prowl in packs along inshore coastal waters, estuaries and nearshore reefs, slicing their way through schools of bait fish.

With a missile-shaped head, forked tail and powerful streamlined frame, they are ideally suited to the turbulent waters of surf beaches and coastal reefs. The most striking feature of the tailor is its impressive protruding lower jaw with a mouthful of razor sharp teeth. These 'choppers' are ideal for slicing through schools of bait fish and can be a risk to the fingers of unwary fishers.

Although they are silvery in colour, they can display a distinctly green, olive or bluish tinge along their backs. Their fins are a pale green with a tinge of yellow. The common name, tailor, originates from the fish's ability to cut through fishing nets with its sharp teeth.

## **Distribution**

Tailor are widely distributed in cool tropical and warm temperate waters of most oceans, in eight isolated populations along the coast of Brazil, the west coast of the USA, Mediterranean and Black seas, western Africa, southern Africa, and the east and west coasts of Australia.

Across its distribution, tailor are known by many different names, such as bluefish in the USA, elf on the west coast of South Africa, shad on the east coast of South Africa, and either anchova or enchova in South America.

In WA, tailor range from Exmouth all the way down the coast, as far south as Albany. Tailor are the only species belonging to the family Pomatomidae. Growing up fast tailor spend their entire lives chasing and eating a wide range of fish, a high protein diet that helps to fuel their fast growth rate. Research shows that, on average, tailor grow at rate of 0.39 millimetres a day. In WA, tailor reach about 20 centimetres in length at around one year of age, and reach spawning size at about 35 centimetres, when they are between two and three years old.

By five years they can weigh over a kilogram and measure over 60 centimetres in length. In 1996, one of the largest tailor ever recorded in the world died at the Aquarium of Western Australia (formerly Underwater World). This fish measured over a metre long and 15.7 kilograms. When aged by the Department of Fisheries, it was believed to be 11 years old. More recently, Department of Fisheries research scientists received a fish frame (skeleton with the fish's head and guts intact) for the tailor research program that exceeded one metre in length. The bands in the otolith (ear bone) of the fish show the fish to have been more than 10 years old.

## **Feeding frenzy.**

Juvenile tailor feed on small bait fish (such as whitebait, blue sardines, whiting, gobies and anchovies) and crustaceans. These small tailor, up to about 30 centimetres in length, are often referred to 'choppers' because of their behaviour in biting prey into pieces before consuming them. Usually, the tail is bitten off first to disable the prey, with the remains cleaned up afterwards or by other fish in the school. Feeding frenzies on schools of baitfish have been witnessed within a couple of metres off the water's edge.

Adult tailor will prey on sea mullet, yellow-eye mullet, whiting, garfish, mulies and blue mackerel. They will also eat small or injured members of their own species. It is not unusual to see tailor with varying degrees of scars and healed bite marks.

During daylight hours, schools of tailor tend to rest in deeper waters away from the shore. They wait until dusk and dawn to begin their main feeding runs close to shore. Tailor, in turn, are food for a number of shark species.

## **Surf's up**

Tailor prowl the surf zone in packs that can sometimes be spotted cruising behind breaking waves. Their well-suited body shape and design enables them to navigate through the turbulent surf with ease. Tailor are also found around rocky outcrops and reefs along the shoreline. Offshore reefs are another prime habitat, especially for larger tailor.

## **Reproduction**

Tailor are 'serial spawners' – they release eggs and milt on a number of occasions during the spawning season. The fecundity of females (number of eggs released per spawning) increases rapidly with age, from about 370,000 when around 30 centimetres in length, to 1.2 million eggs at 54 centimetres.

Spawning occurs along the WA coast at various sites, from spring through to autumn, depending on the location.

Tailor eggs and larvae are planktonic and are dispersed by ocean currents. Once they metamorphose into juveniles, young tailor swim into sheltered marine areas and estuaries. It is likely that yearly variations in coastal currents influence where juvenile tailor settle or end up. As a result, the level of recruitment into specific regions along the coast varies from one year to the next.

## **On the move**

Tailor move in schools of similar size and prefer a narrow water temperature range of between 18° C and 25° C. Scientists have tagged tailor to show that some fish migrate in both a northerly and southerly direction along the coast while others prefer to stay close to home.

One tailor was tagged at Port Gregory (between Geraldton and Kalbarri) and was recaptured two weeks later at Jurien after traveling some 374 kilometres. When tailor reach maturity, they leave the protection of estuaries and begin schooling along the beaches during spring and summer. This migration from estuaries is referred to as the 'summer run' of tailor by many fishers.

As water temperatures begin to cool down after summer, these tailor move offshore in what is thought to be a pre-spawning migration.

## **Fishy science**

The Department of Fisheries' tailor research program has been running since 1994. Tailor have been caught, measured and released at various locations on the Swan River and along metropolitan beaches. This is one of a number of examples where volunteers, under the supervision of Department of Fisheries' scientists, have provided crucial help with fisheries research.

The catch-rate of juvenile tailor caught each year by volunteer fishers provides an index of annual recruitment strength. This is used by researchers to monitor the status – or health – of the Perth tailor fishery.

Otoliths (ear bones) of juvenile tailor are also being studied in detail to enable researchers to assess the age of the fish samples. As tailor is a fast-growing fish, researchers can estimate the fish's age in days, rather than years. This information is used to calculate the day they were spawned and, if combined with information on prevailing currents, can be used to deduce possible areas where they were spawned.

Evidence from juvenile tailor research in the Swan River suggests that tailor in Perth originate from two separate spawning events. These juveniles usually comprise two separate size groups of fish, which differ in age by approximately three to four months. It appears that one group is spawned locally around Perth during autumn, while the other group is spawned to the north, probably around Geraldton or Kalbarri, during spring. The northern group are transported as larvae to Perth by ocean currents.

Therefore, fisheries managers need to carefully manage tailor populations in both spawning areas, not just in Perth, to ensure the sustainability of the Perth fishery.

A pilot study is being conducted on the movement of tailor using 'high tech' fisheries acoustic tags. These tags are surgically implanted into the fish and emit regular signals that are picked up by acoustic receivers or listening posts. The length frequency of tailor caught in the Swan River showing two distinct size groups. The number and frequency of juvenile tailor caught by the participants in the monitoring program.

## **Monsters and jumbos**

The waters between Carnarvon and Kalbarri are the renowned haunt for the largest 'monster' tailor in the State. In the southern part of its range, large tailor, often called 'jumbos' by recreational fishers, can occasionally be found following schools of Western Australian salmon.

## **Tackling tailor**

Tailor are a major focus of recreational shore fishing along beaches and estuaries on the west coast of WA. Most of the recreational catch is focused along the coast from Jurien Bay to Bunbury. Their ferocious appetites, schooling behaviour and distribution close to shore can make them an easy catch. When tailor schools are 'on the bite', it is possible to catch a fish every cast.

In years gone by, thousands of fishers were often seen along Perth beaches chasing the annual tailor run. This targeted fishing effort appears to have contributed to a decline in the average size and numbers of tailor caught within the Perth metropolitan area since the 1980's.

Adding to the problem has been an extended period of low recruitment of juvenile tailor to the Perth metropolitan area in the early to mid-1990's, indicated by the Point Walter tailor angling research program. These recent problems have shown that tailor is a vulnerable species that requires careful management. It is therefore important to know more about this species (age structure, reproduction, movement, recruitment dynamics etc.) in order to best manage tailor stocks to protect them for the future.

Studies have demonstrated that tailor have a high chance of survival when released if ganged hooks or lures with no treble hooks are used in combination with appropriate handling techniques. Commercial fishing for tailor

Most commercial landings of tailor in Western Australia are taken from Shark Bay using haul nets and beach seines. Further south, in the West Coast and South Coast bioregions, the situation is reversed – commercial fishers only take about five per cent of the tailor caught in these areas. Minor commercial catches are taken in the estuarine fisheries of the West Coast and South Coast bioregions using gill nets, haul nets and beach seines.

## **Further Information**

### **References**

#### **Websites**

Department of Fisheries, Western Australia [www.fish.wa.gov.au](http://www.fish.wa.gov.au)

Research Angler Program – Department of Fisheries, Western Australia

<http://www.fish.wa.gov.au/docs/macs/research/rap.php?0000>

Australian Museum <http://australianmuseum.net.au/Tailor-Pomatomus-saltatrix>

Western Angler Magazine <http://www.westernangler.com.au/fishing-info/fish-guide/166-tailor>

Extracted from Department of Fisheries fact sheet # 17.



# Dirk Hartog Island Safari

## Dirk Hartog Safari July 2021

Dates: Friday 16/7/2021 to Sunday 25/7/2021

That includes 2 days traveling and 8 days on the island, staying at The Block

Please contact Vince Tomazin for further details, if you are interested in going.



Trip details as follows

- 16/7 - Drive to Shelter Bay, Shark Bay and camp overnight.
- 17/7-24/7 - 7.30am - Barge picks up vehicles and transport to DHI. Drive north to The Block, unpack and fish for 8 days
- 25/7 - Pack up drive south to pick up point by the barge and camp overnight. More fishing (if you feel like it)
- 26/7 - 7.30am Barge picks up vehicles and transports to shelter bay. Drive to Perth.

1. Camping Fees - \$20/night per person.
2. Barge fees - average of \$665 per vehicle. To DHI and back to mainland and a one of fee of \$35 per person  
Average cost/person for 10 nights camping (8 nights on The Block) is  
Camping 10 x \$20 = \$200,  
Approx cost if 2 per car is \$525.00 ea plus fuel, food and bait.

Contact Vince Tomazin for further details. Ph 0417 910 531, [stptax@gmail.com](mailto:stptax@gmail.com)

# Surf Casters Club Polo Shirts Ordering Details

1 free shirt per member with payment of 2020 membership fees

## PS20 Black/Gold Men's short sleeve polo shirt Embroidered on Chest with SCAC logo



### PS20 Men's CoolDry® Raglan Short Sleeve Contrast Polo

EASY FIT	S	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL	4XL	5XL
Half Chest	53.5	56.0	58.5	61.0	63.5	66.0	68.5	71.0
Body Length	70.0	72.0	74.0	76.0	78.0	80.0	82.0	84.0

Weight & size measurements are for guidance only



## PS43 Black/Gold Men's long sleeve polo shirt Embroidered on Chest with SCAC logo



### PS43 Men's CoolDry® Raglan Long Sleeve Contrast Polo

EASY FIT	S	M	L	XL	2XL	3XL	4XL	5XL
Half Chest	53.5	56.0	58.5	61.0	63.5	66.0	68.5	71.0
Body Length	70.0	72.0	74.0	76.0	78.0	80.0	82.0	84.0

Weight & size measurements are for guidance only



## PS19 Black/Gold Ladies short sleeve polo shirt Embroidered on Chest with SCAC logo



### PS19 Ladies' CoolDry® Raglan Short Sleeve Contrast Polo

EASY FIT	8	10	12	14	16	18
Half Chest	46.0	48.5	51.0	53.5	56.0	58.5
Body Length	62.0	64.0	66.0	68.0	70.0	72.0

Weight & size measurements are for guidance only



## PS44 Black/Gold Ladies long sleeve polo shirt Embroidered on Chest with SCAC logo



### PS44 Ladies' CoolDry® Raglan Long Sleeve Contrast Polo

MODERN FIT	8	10	12	14	16	18
Half Chest	46.0	48.5	51.0	53.5	56.0	58.5
Body Length	62.0	64.0	66.0	68.0	70.0	72.0

Weight & size measurements are for guidance only



## PS24 Black/Gold Kids short sleeve polo shirt Embroidered on Chest with SCAC logo



### PS24 Kids' CoolDry® Raglan Short Sleeve Contrast Polo

EASY FIT	4K	6K	8K	10K	12K	14K	16K
Half Chest	38.5	41.0	43.5	46.0	48.5	51.0	53.5
Body Length	52.0	55.0	58.0	61.0	64.0	67.0	70.0

Weight & size measurements are for guidance only



## PS43K Black/Gold Kids long sleeve polo shirt Embroidered on Chest with SCAC logo



### PS43K Kids' CoolDry® Raglan Long Sleeve Contrast Polo

EASY FIT	4K	6K	8K	10K	12K	14K	16K
Half Chest	38.5	41.0	43.5	46.0	48.5	51.0	53.5
Body Length	52.0	55.0	58.0	61.0	64.0	67.0	70.0

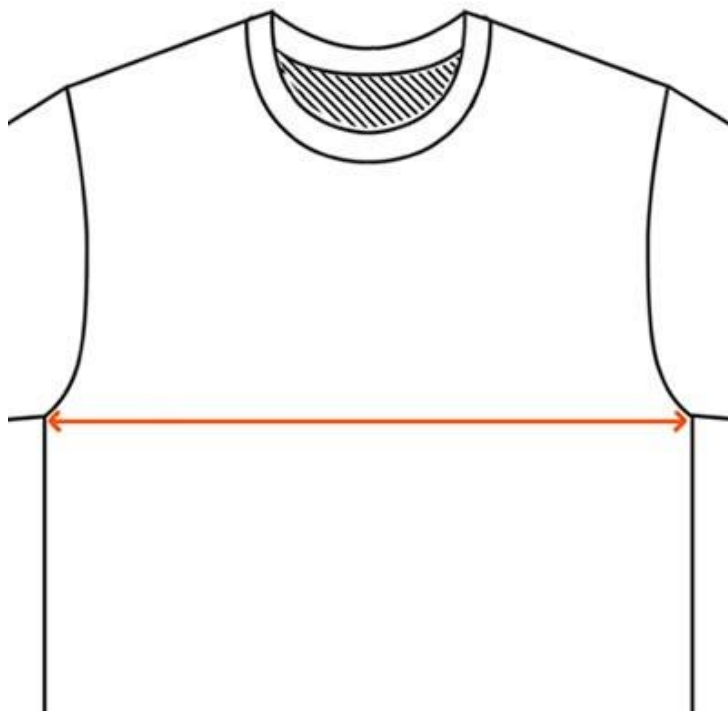
Weight & size measurements are for guidance only





On a shirt that fits you well lay it flat on a table to measure just under the arms from seam to seam, Place one end of the measuring tape to the end of the seam and stretch it across the chest to the other seam.

Once you have your size compare that to the half chest size on the above charts, it will be best to go up in size if you measurement is between 2 sizes, eg if you measure a men's shirt half chest at 62 cm go up to a size 2XL which is 63.5 cm.



Ordering form below, please fill in and take to a meeting or email all details to [secretary@scac.net.au](mailto:secretary@scac.net.au)

<b>Members name</b> 1 free shirt per member with payment of 2020 membership fees	<b>Polo style</b> Eg PS20 Men's short sleeve	<b>Size</b> Eg XL	<b>Add pocket on left chest</b> Optional Yes or No

Shirts will be embroidered to order allow 3 weeks for them to be ready, you can collect at a meeting or from Bladon WA in Balcatta (contact Martin 0407 301 195)

Extra shirts can be purchased if needed prices are below

Men's, Ladies and Kids Short Sleeve \$22.00 each (add a pocket extra \$5.00 total \$27.00)

Men's, Ladies and Kids Long Sleeve \$25.00 each (add a pocket extra \$5.00 total \$30.00)



# SOLUNAR PREDICTIONS FOR PERTH FOR SEPTEMBER 2020

DAY / DATE	PREDICTION	PREDICTED PRIME TIMES		MOON PHASE
Tues 01	GOOD	21:53 – 23:53	09:30 – 11:30	FULL MOON
Wed 02	GOOD	22:38 – 00:38	10:16 – 12:16	
Thurs 03	BEST	23:20 – 01:20	10:59 – 12:59	
Fri 04	FAIR	=	11:41 – 13:41	
Sat 05	FAIR	00:01 – 02:01	12:22 – 14:22	
Sun 06	POOR	00:42 – 02:42	13:02 – 15:02	LAST GIBBOUS
Mon 07	POOR	01:23 – 03:23	13:44 – 15:44	
Tues 08	POOR	02:05 – 04:04	14:27 – 16:27	
Wed 09	POOR	02:49 – 04:49	15:12 – 17:12	
Thurs 10	POOR	03:36 – 05:36	16:01 – 18:01	LAST QUARTER
Fri 11	FAIR	04:26 – 06:26	16:52 – 18:52	
Sat 12	GOOD	05:19 – 07:19	17:46 – 19:46	
Sun 13	GOOD	06:14 – 08:14	18:42 – 20:42	LAST CRESCENT
Mon 14	FAIR	07:11 – 09:11	19:39 – 21:39	
Tues 15	FAIR	08:07 – 10:07	20:20 – 22:20	
Wed 16	FAIR	09:03 – 11:03	21:30 – 23:30	
Thurs 17	GOOD	10:57 – 12:57	22:24 – 00:24	NEW MOON
Fri 18	BEST	10:51 – 12:51	23:17 – 01:17	
Sat 19	BEST	11:44 – 13:44	23:10 – 01:10	
Sun 20	BEST	12:37 – 14:37	=	FIRST CRESCENT
Mon 21	GOOD	13:32 – 15:32	01:04 – 03:04	
Tues 22	FAIR	14:28 – 16:28	02:00 – 04:00	SPRING EQUINOX*
Wed 23	POOR	15:25 – 17:25	02:56 – 04:56	
Thurs 24	POOR	16:22 – 18:22	03:54 – 05:54	FIRST QUARTER
Fri 25	POOR	17:18 – 19:18	04:51 – 06:51	
Sat 26	POOR	18:13 – 20:13	05:46 – 07:46	
Sun 27	POOR	19:03 – 21:03	06:38 – 08:38	
Mon 28	GOOD	19:51 – 21:51	07:28 – 09:28	
Tues 29	GOOD	20:36 – 22:36	08:14 – 10:14	
Wed 30	BEST	21:19 – 23:19	08:58 – 10:58	

These are the predicted **MAJOR** Solunar periods for this month, adjusted to Perth time.

For anglers in the Pilbara and in Esperance, they will need to deduct approximately 15 minutes.

For minor periods add approximately 6 hours 45 minutes to these times.

\* Spring Equinox – Day and night are of equal length.

## SUNRISE, SUNSET, MOONRISE AND MOONSET TIMES FOR PERTH SEPTEMBER 2020

DAY / DATE	SUNRISE	SUNSET	MOONRISE	MOONSET
Tues 01	06:33	18:00	17:05 p	06:09
Wed 02	06:32	18:01	18:02 p	06:44
Thurs 03	06:31	18:01	18:58 p	07:15
Fri 04	06:30	18:02	19:52 p	07:44
Sat 05	06:28	18:03	20:46 p	08:12
Sun 06	06:27	18:03	21:39 p	08:40
Mon 07	06:26	18:04	22:33 p	09:09
Tues 08	06:24	18:04	23:29 p	09:40
Wed 09	06:23	18:05	=	10:14
Thurs 10	06:22	18:06	00:25	10:53
Fri 11	06:21	18:06	01:22	11:38
Sat 12	06:19	18:07	02:19	12:29
Sun 13	06:18	18:07	03:14	13:27
Mon 14	16:17	18:08	04:05	14:30
Tues 15	06:15	18:09	04:53	15:38
Wed 16	06:14	18:09	05:36	16:47
Thurs 17	06:13	18:10	06:15	17:57
Fri 18	06:11	18:10	06:53	19:07
Sat 19	06:10	18:11	07:29	20:17
Sun 20	06:09	18:12	08:06	21:27
Mon 21	06:07	18:12	08:45	22:37
Tues 22	06:06	18:13	09:28	23:45
Wed 23	06:05	18:14	10:15	=
Thurs 24	06:03	18:14	11:07	00:50 f
Fri 25	06:02	18:15	12:02	01:50 f
Sat 26	06:01	18:15	13:01	02:43 f
Sun 27	05:59	18:16	14:00	03:30 f
Mon 28	05:58	18:17	14:59	04:10 f
Tues 29	05:57	18:17	15:56	04:46 f
Wed 30	05:56	18:18	16:52	05:18 f

### Please Note:

These times will be adequate for general purpose use in the Perth metropolitan area. However, corrections must be applied for other locations in Western Australia.

### Moon Rise:

Where a rise time is noted with a 'p', it means that the time listed is for the day previous.

Where a set time is noted with an 'f', it means that the time listed is for the following day.

This complication is because the Moon rises, transits and sets almost an hour later every night, so every few days there is a 24-hour 'calendar day' in which the Moon either doesn't rise, or doesn't set.

# PREDICTED FREMANTLE TIDES SEPTEMBER 2020

DAY / DATE	TIME AND PREDICTED HEIGHT							
<b>Tues 01</b>	00:45	0.73	08:55	1.05	17:00	0.58	23:20	0.75
<b>Wed 02</b>	01:51	0.71	09:24	1.03	17:10	0.61	23:25	0.77
<b>Thurs 03</b>	02:40	0.69	09:47	0.99	17:13	0.64	23:32	0.80
<b>Fri 04</b>	03:27	0.68	10:07	0.95	17:03	0.66	23:41	0.83
<b>Sat 05</b>	04:14	0.68	10:26	0.90	17:01	0.67	23:15	0.87
<b>Sun 06</b>	05:02	0.69	10:48	0.84	17:10	0.67	23:30	0.91
<b>Mon 07</b>	05:56	0.70	11:10	0.79	17:14	0.68	23:56	0.94
<b>Tues 08</b>	06:52	0.72	08:51	0.74	16:22	0.67		
<b>Wed 09</b>	00:24	0.95	16:12	0.65				
<b>Thurs 10</b>	00:58	0.96	14:35	0.61				
<b>Fri 11</b>	01:48	0.96	02:29	0.96	03:11	0.96	14:55	0.57
<b>Sat 12</b>	04:29	0.98	15:15	0.53				
<b>Sun 13</b>	05:50	1.01	15:34	0.50				
<b>Mon 14</b>	07:02	1.05	15:52	0.49				
<b>Tues 15</b>	07:57	1.07	16:10	0.50	23:04	0.74		
<b>Wed 16</b>	01:22	0.72	08:46	1.07	16:30	0.52	22:52	0.76
<b>Thurs 17</b>	02:21	0.68	09:40	1.04	16:49	0.57	23:11	0.79
<b>Fri 18</b>	03:29	0.65	10:45	0.97	17:04	0.63	23:36	0.84
<b>Sat 19</b>	04:50	0.62	11:55	0.88	16:41	0.68		
<b>Sun 20</b>	00:00	0.89	05:57	0.62	12:55	0.77	16:07	0.69
<b>Mon 21</b>	00:19	0.94	08:55	0.60	23:15	0.98		
<b>Tues 22</b>	12:26	0.54	23:37	1.00				
<b>Wed 23</b>	13:14	0.48						
<b>Thurs 24</b>	00:08	1.00	01:45	0.98	02:20	0.98	13:56	0.46
<b>Fri 25</b>	00:45	0.97	02:08	0.95	03:15	0.96	14:35	0.46
<b>Sat 26</b>	01:32	0.92	02:23	0.92	04:18	0.94	15:09	0.49
<b>Sun 27</b>	06:58	0.93	15:33	0.52				
<b>Mon 28</b>	07:44	0.93	15:35	0.56	22:10	0.75		
<b>Tues 29</b>	00:37	0.73	08:21	0.93	15:35	0.58	21:58	0.77
<b>Wed 30</b>	01:40	0.70	08:54	0.91	15:46	0.61	21:59	0.80

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

## Old Man Snapper.?

Dr Julian Pepperell

Talking on the fishing club circuit over many years, some generic questions seem to crop up very frequently. Probably the most common of these is "How old is that fish?"

Two things affect the answer to this. Firstly, growth rates in fish do vary considerably depending on environmental conditions, and secondly, it is very difficult to age a fish without having the specimen. However, with a bit of detective work, a reasonable guess can usually be made. It's worthwhile explaining the process involved in ageing fishes generally. Several methods have been devised, but two are used most commonly.

The first involves measuring the lengths of many fish from a population, and then plotting the frequency of each size group. Because most fishes have one distinct annual spawning period, sizes of fish in a population tend to be bunched into groups, or size classes. More often than not, these size classes correspond to groups of fish of similar ages, each separated by a year, and are therefore termed year classes. This method is particularly useful during the first few years of life, when the year classes tend to be clearly distinguishable. As the ages increase, the distinctions between the year classes become less apparent.

The second, more widely known, method of ageing fishes is by means of counting rings or bands on various bony structures, such as the scales, or better, the otoliths (tiny bones in the middle ear). Because fish are cold blooded, they grow in spurts (faster in summer and slower in winter). Their bones and scales grow in proportion, and this is reflected by distinct banding patterns within those structures. Most people are familiar with the phenomenon of counting rings on a tree to determine its age (before it was cut down), and this is also the case for fish, provided that the rings do in fact represent yearly events. This is where care is necessary, since events other than winter can cause rings to appear on scales and otoliths.

For example, spawning is a major event in the life of a fish, and metabolic changes during this time can cause a ring to be laid down in the scale or otolith. Similarly, drought, floods or other environmental changes can also cause changes in growth of the whole body, and of the bony structures. For these reasons, it is important to collect scales and or otoliths from large numbers of fish covering all sizes over as long a period as is practicable to allow for these sorts of possible effects to be taken into account. Surprisingly, very little work has ever been done on the growth rates of snapper off the Australian east coast. Fortunately however, Gary Henry of NSW State Fisheries conducted a study in the mid 1980's on

the snapper population off Coffs Harbour. Gary aged over 1700 fish by counting rings on scales and otoliths, and verified his ages by examining the size structure of the population of smaller fish. Perhaps not surprisingly, he came across very few large fish, but his sample of large fish was sufficient to give an estimate of the age of a 9 kg fish at between 16 and 22 years. This may seem imprecise, but it is quite normal to be less certain about ages of fish the larger they are, since the rings cram closer together, and also since size at a given age becomes much more variable through time. The age of a fish of the same size taken in Victorian or South Australian waters would be quite different. Unfortunately, we do not as yet have reliable age estimates from those areas.

Arriving at an age for any particular fish without examining it is a guess at best, and relies heavily on previous repetitious and meticulous work having been done on that species in the fisheries laboratories around Australia. It is therefore of particular interest to note that the Australian Fish Ageing Facility within the grounds of the Marine Science Laboratories of the Victorian Fisheries Department at Queenscliff, headed by Dr David Smith, exists solely to age fish from hard parts sampled from fish populations around Australia. Priorities necessarily lean towards commercial species of fish but this facility is proving to be of immense importance to recreational fisheries as well. The perennial question "How old is that fish." hopefully will now be more readily answered.

Finally, if you do catch a fish and are curious about its age, and would like an expert's opinion, take down its length in addition to its weight. All fish should be measured in millimetres "on the flat", i.e. in a straight line from the tip of the snout or projecting lower jaw (mouth closed) to the fork in the tail. Some scales taken from behind the pectoral fin would also assist, or better still, the otoliths (ear bones, or "jewels") from inside the skull. Pop the hard parts (scales or otoliths) into an envelope, and carefully label it with the measurement details as well as the date and location of capture. Your local Fisheries Department would then be the next port of call, where hopefully, an expert technician or biologist will provide you with a good "guesstimate" of the age of your fish, especially if that particular species has been studied in any detail.

A husband and wife were surf fishing together. The husband hooked a big salmon, but as he reeled it in it became tangled in a large clump of seaweed. He yelled to his wife:

"Quick! Race in and free the line before the sharks get to him."

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The teacher asked David: "Do fish grow fast?"

"I'll say they do. My Dad caught one last week and it gets bigger every time he talks about it."

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Two fishermen had been at it all day. In the late afternoon one said:

"We've been here since early morning and haven't had a touch."

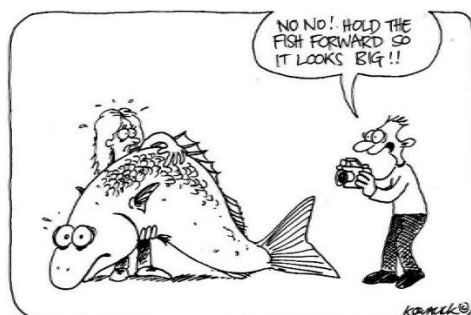
"Don't be impatient. They'll come on soon."

They were still there in the early hours of the morning. "Gosh, it's almost daylight and we still haven't had a bite."

"They'll come on presently."

The sun was high when the first man announced: "I've had enough of this. It's eleven o'clock. I'm going home."

"Gee, you're easily discouraged, aren't you?"



## FIERY CAMPFIRE VEGGIES

Yield: 6 servings.

Prep Time: 5 Minutes

Cook Time: 10 Minutes

Fresh sweet veggies are placed on the grill in a cast iron skillet, drizzled with olive oil and sriracha, and then sprinkled with more fire with crushed red pepper flakes, before being toasted to perfection. The end result is sweet and spicy tender veggies with a hint of the grill and a bit of crispy crunch.

### Ingredients:

1 medium zucchini, sliced  
3 medium corn on the cob, sliced into thirds  
2 medium capsicum, deseeded and chopped  
1 medium sweet onion, chopped  
1 Tbsp olive oil  
1 Tbsp crushed red pepper flakes, or less depending on spice preference  
1 Tbsp parsley, chopped  
½ Tbsp paprika

### Method:

Heat your grill over medium-high heat.

Place all veggies into a large skillet. Drizzle with olive oil.

Sprinkle with spices and stir to coat well.

Place on the grill for 10 - 15 minutes (stirring occasionally) or until your veggies start to brighten in colour and become tender.

## CAMPING MAC N' CHEESE

This Mac n Cheese recipe is the easiest and cheesiest make ahead meal! Get ready for the best camping dinner experience you've ever had.

SERVINGS: 4

PREP TIME: 20 mins

COOK TIME: 10 mins

### Ingredients:

1½ cups elbow macaroni  
8 oz prepared Alfredo sauce just over half a jar  
½ cup grated sharp cheddar cheese  
½ cup grated Parmesan cheese  
¼ cup mozzarella cheese  
¼ - ½ cup whole milk  
Salt and pepper to taste

### Method:

Cook pasta according to package directions. Drain and rinse with cold water.

Stir alfredo sauce into the cooked pasta with the three cheeses and enough milk to keep things loose.

{This is so your mac and cheese doesn't dry out while it's staying cool.} Stir in salt and pepper to taste.

Divide between four mini aluminium pie tins {or one big one}, sprayed with non-stick cooking spray. Spray one side of aluminium foil with more non-stick cooking spray and cover each individual mac and cheese portion, sprayed side down, facing the food. Seal well. Store in a large plastic food storage bag in a cooler until ready to cook.

Prepare a fire and let it burn down to the coals. Place a cooking rack over top that would be 50 - 75 mm above. Place each pie tin over the hot coals and cook 8-10 minutes or until hot. Remove from fire and serve immediately.

### \*\*SHORTCUT MAC AND CHEESE DIRECTIONS

\*\*You can also just bake these at home in a glass or ceramic baking dish at 180 C degree oven for 20-25 minutes or until hot and melted.