



THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF
The Surf Casting and Angling Club of W.A. (Inc.)

REEL TALK

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Surf Casting & Angling Club of W.A. (Inc.)

P.O. Box 2032, Marmion W.A. 6020 <http://www.surfcasters.iinet.net.au/>

Club Committee for the Year 2001/2002

President

Ross Kember

Drycasting Officer / Social Organiser

Bob Henderson

Assistant Drycasting Officer

Terry Willison

Vice President

Peter Stoeckel

Field Day Officer

John Jardine

Assistant Field Day Officer.

Damian D'Mello

Secretary / Reel Talk Editor / Web Page

Terry Fuller

9447 4545 (H)

E-mail:- terryfuller@bigpond.com

Treasurer / Property Officer

Robert Mitchell

Recorder

Ian Cook

Membership Coordinator

Derry Barber

Committee Person

Chas Riegert

Committee Person

Mathew Sneddon

Immediate Past President.

George Holman

A.A.A. Delegates

George Holman

Bob Henderson

CLUB INFORMATION

MEETINGS:- The monthly general meeting is usually held on the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 8.00 pm. All members should endeavour to attend the meeting so as to keep up with club matters.

DRYCASTING:- Competitions are usually held on the first Sunday of each month. Instruction is available to all new and existing members who want to learn and maintain the standard of their casting.

FIELD DAYS:- Are normally on the weekend following the General meeting. It is compulsory for safety reasons for anglers to attend both the sign on and the weigh in. Anglers who cannot attend the sign on for work or other unavoidable reasons may make prior arrangements for a late sign on.

ENTRIES:- for Game fish badges, Club records, and Open fishing competitions must be lodged with the Recorder within 30 days of capture, using the approved club forms.

MEMBERS:- Please notify the Secretary of any change of address, email or phone numbers.

MEMBERSHIP:- If any member intends to resign from the club, a letter of resignation should be sent to the Secretary. Membership fees must be paid to the Treasurer, become due on 1st May each year, and must be paid in full by the 31st July.

CLUB's CONSTITUTION and COMPETITION RULES:- cover all the rules under which the club and the members operate. Contact the Secretary for more information.

LIFE MEMBERS

Doug Edward, Lloyd Dunn, Ric Parker, Jim Strong, Bob Klein, George Holman, Ian Cook.

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Minutes of General Meeting, 13 February 2002

- Venue:-** Yokine Bowling Club Time 8:10 PM. President Ross Kember presiding.
- Present:-** 29 senior members, 1 junior member, 2 visitors, 1 guest speaker.
- Apologies:-** Rob Mitchell, Dave Maxted, Frank Shim.
- Visitors:-** Malcolm Harris and Vix Alexander, John Devitt.
- New Member:-** None
- Previous Minutes:-** Published in the Reel Talk. **Moved** Jim Strong seconded Peter Stoeckel, these are a true record. Carried.
- Correspondence Out:-** Julian Pace with club information.
Chris Pullella with club information.
Trevor Sheard with club information.
Fisheries Minister – objections to Cottesloe FHPA proposals.
Environment Minister – objections to Owen Anchorage shellsand dredging proposals.
Environment Minister – objections to proposals for management of Dirk Hartog Island National Park.
Commanding Officer HMAS Stirling Garden Island – proposals for February Field Day.
John Devitt about talk at February General Meeting.
Fax to Steve Sinclair, Garden Island with copy of letter of permission.
Commanding Officer HMAS Stirling Garden Island – acknowledgement of reply and message about a future field day when security relaxes.
Brian Leicester about the 50th Dinner dance.
Email to Malcolm Harris and Vix Alexander about coming to a club event.
- Correspondence In:-** Garden Island – advising Field Day not possible due to security.
Office of Appeals, Environment Protection Agency - acknowledgement of objections to Owen Anchorage shellsand dredging.
Fisheries Minister – reply on Cottesloe FHPA proposals.
Environment Minister – reply to Club's letter about the Jurien Bay Marine Park.
Environment Minister – acknowledgement of letter about management of Dirk Hartog Island National Park.
AAA minutes of January Delegates Meeting.
AAA minutes of January Boating sub-committee Meeting.
Derry Barber – suggestions for Instruction periods.
Dianne and Derry Barber \$100 for the 50th dinner dance.
Doug Edward, life member, with some personal good news about being made a life member of the Claremont RSL.
John Eyres – a wood carver specialising in fish carving, with some photos of his work, and offer of a 10% donation to the club for sales.
Emails from four people about things on the club web site.
Moved C Riegert, seconded P Stoeckel, correspondence be accepted: Carried
- Treasurer's Report:-** Bank balance is \$5295, less unrepresented cheques \$191 making total \$5104.
Accounts for payment :-
Jiffy Print \$86.60
Yokine Bowling Club \$50.00
Western Power \$153.30
Bond Refund \$50.00
Moved Jim Strong Seconded Derry Barber accounts be passed for payment - carried.
- Property Officer:-** Bookings available – see Reel Talk.
- Field Day Officer:-** Damian D'Mello gave details of the January Field Days (Mandurah 500) as in Reel Talk. John Jardine asked for members' views on February Field Day to replace Garden Island. Agreed Moore River – boundaries south as far as you can walk, north to Seabird. Times, etc. as for the proposed Garden Island Field Day. Bob Henderson will act as FDO. Sign on at caravan park.
John asked for an indication of those interested in a May Rottnest Field day.
Arrangements for Bluff Creek outlined.
John reminded members we are looking for suggestions for Field Day venues.
- Dry Casting Officer:-** Bob Henderson gave brief details of the February dry casting. Details in Reel Talk.
- AAA Report:-** Bob Henderson thanked people for help with Mandurah 500.
George Holman is preparing an article for the West Coast Fisherman paper and said that he would like inputs from clubs.
He advised the AAA web page is now operating.
- Recorder:-** John Jardine, 12.5kg cobia.

- Social Organiser:-** Bob Henderson gave details of Corporate bowls nights at the Yokine Bowling Club and a bowling/dry casting challenge. He gave some details about the car rally in March. Planning for Annual Dinner dance and 50th celebration is continuing.
- SubCommittee Report:** Chas Riegert reported on the Exmouth Safari – still a place available. He needs the balance for the accommodation (\$90 less whatever deposit you have already paid) by the March General Meeting. Ian Cook handed out copies of tide charts for areas around Exmouth.
- Notices of Motion:-** None.
- Sergeant at Arms:-** Several members were “fined” for their exploits at club and social events.
- General Business:-** Rick Parker has sent a card on behalf of the Club to Mark Franklin's family.
- Instruction Period:-** Visiting speaker, reel and drag wizard John Devitt talked on lubrication, care and maintenance of reels and drag systems. He gave lots of good advice on getting the best from reels under all conditions. Members spoke on what to expect at, and take to the Bluff Creek field day.

Meeting closed at 10:10 pm

Coming Club Events.

March Dry Casting.

- When:-** Sunday 10 March 2002, 8:30 am start. **NOT** first Sunday.
Where:- Yokine Reserve, Wordsworth Avenue.
Events:- 112 gram distance, Double Handed accuracy,
 56 gram distance, Single handed accuracy.
 Special Event:- 112 gram Open.

March General Meeting.

- When:-** Wednesday, 13 March 2002, 8:00 pm.
Where:- Yokine Bowling Club, 10 Wordsworth Avenue, Yokine.
Instruction Period:- Knots and rigs - John Jardine - bimini twist, shock leader.
 Terry Fuller – knots for tailor and salmon rig, double whitebait rig.
 Derry Barber – whiting rig, pike rig.

March Field Day.

- When:-** Saturday/Sunday/Monday 2/3/4 March 2002.
Where:- Bluff Creek. **Don't miss it!**
Sign On:- Saturday 12:00 noon at Bluff Creek camping area.
Weigh in:- Monday 10:00 am at Bluff Creek camping area.
Stop Fishing:- Sunday 12 noon to 2:00 pm for barbecue and get together at the camping area. If you don't want the barbecue, then come for the get together. If you don't want either, then just stop fishing.

Boundaries:- As far as you can walk past rocks at each end of the beach.

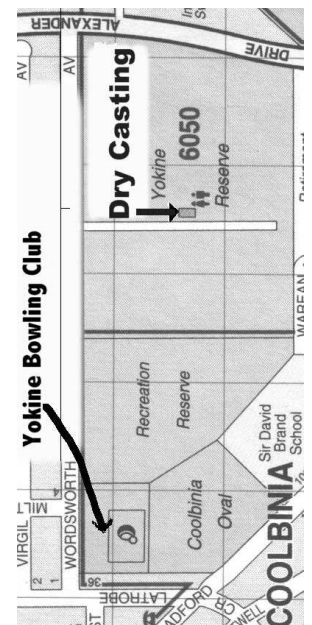
<u>Tides for Albany.</u>	Saturday 2 March	0.95m at 12:45 am	0.53m at 7:11 am	0.82m at 1:09 pm	0.61m at 7:08 pm
	Sunday 3 March	0.78m at 12:54 am	0.59m at 6:39 am	0.88m at 1:09 pm	
	Monday 4 March	0.55m at 4:57 am	0.93m at 1:05 pm		
Sun (Bluff Creek)	Sunrise:-	Around 5:55 am	Sunset:-	Around 6:40 pm	
Moon (Bluff Creek)	Moon Phase:-	Full Moon is on Wednesday 27 February.			
	Moonrise:-	Around 8:50 pm Saturday	Moonset:-	Around 10:00 am Sunday	
	Moonrise:-	Around 9:30 pm Sunday	Moonset:-	Around 11:10 am Monday	

Local Field Day for March.

- When:-** Saturday/Sunday/Monday 2/3/4 March 2002.
Sign On:- At the General Meeting or to the FDO by 18:00 Friday.
Lines Down:- Saturday 11:00 am
Weigh in:- Monday 11:00 am at G Holman's house, rear of 89 Clontarf St. Sorrento. Scales will be available on his back patio. An adult member must witness weights. Field Day money to be left with the scales in an envelope with your name and details written in the carbon copy Field Day book. No Money = no points. Results to be phoned to Field Day Officer by 8:00 pm that night.

Boundaries:- Rocks 500m south east of Point Peron to Mindarie Keys, excluding the Swan River.

<u>Tides for Fremantle.</u>	Saturday 2 March	0.83m at 00:05 am	0.57m at 6:05 am	0.80m at 1:08 pm	0.65m at 6:04 pm
	Sunday 3 March	0.71m at 1:01 am	0.58m at 5:08 am	0.85m at 1:30 pm	
	Monday 4 March	0.60m at 00:45	0.80m at 1:48 am	0.56m at 5:00 am	0.90m at 1:59pm



April 2002 Field Day – Changed to Open.

The April Field Day originally to Wago on the Easter long weekend was changed to an Open at the January General Meeting. So there's no need for a "Local" Field Day.

When:- Saturday/Sunday/Monday 30/31 March 1 April 2002, Easter.
Sign On:- At March General Meeting or to the FDO by 18:00 Friday - it's before the April GM.
Lines Down:- Saturday 11:00 am
Weigh in:- Monday 5:00 pm at G Holman's house, rear of 89 Clontarf St. Sorrento. Scales will be available on his back patio. An adult member must witness weights. Field Day money to be left with the scales in an envelope with your name and details written in the carbon copy Field Day book. No Money = no points. Results to be phoned to Field Day Officer by 8:00 pm that night.
Boundaries:- Open – that's anywhere in Western Australian Tidal waters. Remember the rule that the place must be accessible to all Club Members.

Tides for Fremantle.

Saturday 30 March	0.66m at 4:35 am	0.93m at 11:46 am	0.60m at 6:00 pm	
Sunday 31 March	0.74m at 12:31 am	0.66m at 3:40 am	0.98m at 12:05 pm	0.58m at 8:41 pm
Monday 1 April	0.64m at 1:27 am	0.63m at 3:30 am	1.01m at 12:15 pm	

Sun Moon

Sunrise:-	Around 6:25 am	Sunset:-	Around 6:15 pm
Moon Phase:-	Full Moon is on Friday 29 March.		
Moonrise:-	Around 7:35 pm Saturday	Moonset:-	Around 9:00 am Sunday
Moonrise:-	Around 8:15 pm Sunday	Moonset:-	Around 10:05 am Monday

Dry Casting.

Sunday 10 March 2002, 8:30 am	Yokine Reserve. Second Sunday because of Field Day.
Sunday 7 April 2002, 8:30 am	Yokine Reserve.
Sunday 5 May 2002, 8:30 am	Yokine Reserve (2002/2003 Competition Year)
Sunday 9 June 2002, (subject to Field Day date) 8:30 am	Yokine Reserve (2002/2003 Competition Year)

General Meetings.

Wednesday 13 March 2002, 8:00 pm	Yokine Bowling Club.
Wednesday 10 April 2002, 8:00 pm	Yokine Bowling Club.
Wednesday 8 May 2002, 8:00 pm	Yokine Bowling Club. (2002/2003 Competition Year)
Wednesday 12 June 2002, 8:00 pm	Yokine Bowling Club. (2002/2003 Competition Year)

2002/2003 Field Days.

To be decided at the April General Meeting. See the suggested list on page 14 of this Reel Talk.

March 2002							April 2002							May 2002						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
				1	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	2	3	4	5	6	<u>7</u>			1	2	3	4	<u>5</u>
<u>4</u>	5	6	7	8	9	<u>10</u>	8	9	<u>10</u>	11	12	13	14	6	7	<u>8</u>	9	10	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>
11	12	<u>13</u>	14	15	16	17	15	16	<u>17</u>	18	19	20	21	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>18</u>	19
18	19	<u>20</u>	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
25	26	27	28	29	<u>30</u>	<u>31</u>	29	30						27	28	29	30	31		

Meaning:-

<u>6</u>	Dry Casting	<u>9</u>	General Meeting	<u>12</u>	<u>13</u>	Field Day	<u>16</u>	Committee Meeting
11	---	18	Exmouth Safari					

Suggestions for Instruction Periods at General Meetings.

We asked in the January Reel Talk for members' suggestions. Well the response has been underwhelming (that's the opposite of "overwhelming", meaning we haven't received many.)

How can we give you what you want if you don't tell us? **We want your suggestions! Do it today, please.**

Dry Casting Report, 3 February 2002.

As usual those blasting and gusty north east winds greeted us again and they made it hard work for all casters, and they didn't abate later on. Still that didn't stop Nick Allsworth putting down good casts to take out top dog in the 112 gram and artificial bait events.

Mal Head produced a flash of brilliance to win the single handed event which gave Roy and me a chance to keep each other honest, but the best man won. I must mention that Alphonse put down a couple of good casts in the distance events.

Young Emily Woodford quietly went about her casting and was successful in toppling young Rhys for the first time.

If there ever was a bloke who can't take a break (or many snap offs) it's Willo. Not one distance cast stayed connected no matter who tied the knot – the line must be faulty.

Next month, March, there's the final of the 112 gram open event, so hang around and see if you can obtain some personal bests.

Keep it straight and long.

Hendo.

Results for the day:-

	112 gram			Artificial Bait			Double Handed Accuracy	Single Handed Accuracy	Day Total
	Cast 1	Cast 2	Points	Cast 1	Cast 2	Points			
Seniors.									
George Holman	132	127	26	102	91	19	138	20	203
Nick Allsworth	125	146	27	116	115	23	81	15	146
Ric Parker	115	120	24	84	86	17	60	13	114
Chas Riegert	130	127	26	96	103	20	40	19	105
Andrew Aubrey	0	110	11	86	0	9	77	6	103
Terry Willison	0	0	0	0	0	0	34	9	43
Peter Stoeckel	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	?	??

Veterans.

Bob Henderson	121	122	24	85	0	9	150	20	203
Roy Killick	114	127	24	96	94	19	143	16	202
Tony D'Alonzo	95	102	20	86	77	16	135	17	188
Terry Fuller	96	0	10	72	0	7	122	21	160
Mal Head	102	0	10	82	83	17	103	27	157
Alan Jones	95	105	20	74	93	17	100	16	153
Trevor Stam	0	84	8	61	0	6	120	6	140
Andy Thorgersen	60	0	6	56	47	10	82	19	117
Jim Strong	73	86	16	64	0	6	62	2	86

Mini Juniors.

Emily Woodford	53	56	11	54	38	9	66	10	96
Rhys Jones	72	64	14	59	0	6	53	17	90
Andrew Stoeckel	40	35	8	0	40	4	26	10	48

Day Winners.

112 gram winner	Nick Allsworth	27
Artificial Bait winner	Nick Allsworth	23
Double Handed Accuracy winner	Bob Henderson	150
Single Handed Accuracy winner	Mal Head	27
Winner of the Day	George Holman / Bob Henderson	203
Mini Junior winner	Emily Woodford	96

**Next Dry Casting:- Sunday 10
March 2002, 8:30 am start.**

Events:-

112 gram distance,

56 gram distance,

Double Handed accuracy,

Single Handed accuracy.

112 gram Open.

Surfcasters Moore River / Local Field Day – 16/17 February 2002.

Knocking off work early, I headed for the delightful Guilderton Caravan Park and set up camp in anticipation of fellow club members joining me. Sure enough, Ali Barber and Terry Ring arrived, and set up their mobile motel alongside me. The Stoeckel mob arrived just on dusk and we settled in for the night.

Slaving over a hot gas burner, Hendo's heavenly spaghetti bog was produced and woofed down. Even my two sons turned up and were game to eat my cooking. My visitors, (the Tomlinson family), arrived later, and a sigh of relief was heard when they were told what they had missed.

Saturday morning saw Chas, Nick, Spencer, that noisy sod Kade call in to sign on. George, Alphonsus and Terry arrived and all ventured off to their various secret spots. With gusty winds and lots of weed around the prospects looked grim.

That evening many disillusioned faces sat under the tarpaulin. But after getting the kitchen in full flow, a great barbecue was enjoyed by one and all. It was only after cleaning up was completed that the following true tale was exposed.

It appears that Chas and Kade had no luck in the salt water so decided to venture into the river and chase bream. It was stated that a couple of bream had been caught but were released as they were not over the minimum size.

While wading the shallows our gallant "Antonio Buggerus Riegert" came across a mud crab. No ordinary crab, but a "big bugger" in Antonio's description. So big that both ends of his claws were out of sight, so no width could be gauged. Our fearless fisho decided it was too big to grab hold of, so why not scribe his initials on its back and leave it to frighten some other fisho.

Flashing his magic wand, "El Antonio" stroked the crab's shell, annoying said crab, who whipped his humungous claw around and grasped said magic wand (actually an expensive fishing rod) and quickly snipped off a couple of inches of the tip. "El Antonio" leapt back to parry this vicious response, startling the crab who then brought his other claw into display.

Our brave fisho leapt to the bank, stuttering about humungous foes within the depths of the briny. Cries for reinforcements went unheeded and "Antonio Buggerus Riegert" retreated to fight another day.

It took some time for the laughter to subside and many throats needed moistening due to the dryness. It was a short while later that the Scrabble game started. What a devious and dubious lot tried to play this game and tried to score properly. Shifty fishos some of them may be, but when it comes Scrabble --- say no more.

Good planning had Ali Barber sleeping on the far side of his motel, and slumber time was "oh so peaceful". Unfortunately, our neighbours on that side gave us looks that could kill in the morning and departed early. By the way, said vehicle does not carry "everything" because a simple request for some alfoil could not be fulfilled.

With the 10 pm and 10 am weigh in done it was time to leave, so I take this opportunity to say thanks to all who attended and made it another enjoyable weekend. My visitors were impressed with the comradery and enjoyed themselves immensely.



Rig making session for visitors.

John Jardine fished local for a 2.22kg Mulloway.

Bob Henderson, acting Field Day Officer.

=====

For weeks, beaches have been calm with gin clear water. On Thursday, when the wind came up and blew strongly all day, I thought - mmmm - it's stirring up the water and getting a good load of weed to spread along the beaches to give us something to play with while we catch the fish. And it was so.

Arrived at the Guilderton Caravan Park to sign on to find the boys all set up in a cosy camp with visitors Barry Tomlinson, his dad, and his son busy making rigs under the

able direction of Peter Stoeckel, Bob Henderson and Derry Barber, with new member Terry Ring looking on and getting a repeat of the rig making session. Bob's sons Matt and Jamie were also there, but didn't enter the field day.

George Holman was heading off to have a look at the area around Seabird, so I followed him there and down the tracks heading back towards Moore River. Lots of reef to fish from, with a few nice holes, but the water was stirred up with quite a lot of weed in some of the best holes.



Weed and stirred up water at Seabird.

Some parts were fishable, but looked like it could be hard work bait casting or lure fishing to miss the weed - George said that most of it wasn't the sort of country to use sinkers and get many of them back again. George went further south looking for somewhere to fish, and I decided to go back to Moore River to fish with the rest of the boys - after all fishing together was one of the reasons for having the Field Day there.

There were a couple of successful fishers at Seabird who were skiting about the fish they had caught. They had it on display and kept coming near to show us - or so it seemed. The leading one had the back part of what looked like a dart in his claws.

Back at the river mouth, the boys were on the beach hoping for an early run of tailor. For most of the afternoon, the weed was more of a nuisance than a real problem. The drift wasn't very strong, and the weed came past slowly and in patches, and you just needed to watch where you were casting. If you waited for the patches to drift past, and cast into a relatively clear stretch of beach, there was no problem with the rig staying in the water. The weed you would get could be handled easily with the beach rods and Alvey reels. Some of the guys with lighter rods and threadline reels were finding the going a lot tougher.



Ospreys floating in the breeze near Seabird, showing off the catch.

The real problem were the hordes of small fish. I reckon the mulies were lasting about five seconds. There was rarely any bait left when you wound in, and if there was, it was just a skeleton. The fish were too small even for a whitebait - and they could get the bait off in a flash. So if there were tailor out there, it was hard to keep a bait out long enough for them to find it. Lures were the go, but didn't produce much.

We were treated to the sight of schools of mullet surfing towards the beach. Schools of 50 to 100 fish kept coming through all afternoon.

We were hoping for some tailor at dusk, but towards evening, the weed thickened and by dark it was getting hard to avoid. The wind swung around towards the south east, and for a while was blowing straight up the beach and that caused the weed to really get a move on. Spencer said he thought his luck had changed when he had a good powerful run that took him nearly 100 metres up the beach - until the lack of action told him it was just a lively lump of weed. Spencer and Nick caught some tailor up past the groyne, and Tony got a good

catch further up the beach. George caught nice tailor near Seabird. But everyone had to work hard for their fish, and Bob Henderson paid the price with a sore back from hauling in all the weed.

In the morning, the wind was down and the weed had settled so it was easy fishing. Unfortunately, the hordes of small fish had increased and were nearly impossible to get past, and only a few tailor and herring were caught near the river mouth.

Once again, I was impressed by the club spirit shown. George had parked outside the caravan park because of the hassles in getting past the boom gate, and had walked in with his catch to weigh on Saturday night. He was heading back to Perth and was going to have a quick meal before setting off. Nick, Spencer, Chas and Kade were also heading back, and went out to talk to George while he was having his meal and waited until he was ready so that he didn't need to drive back to Perth alone. We'll all be big boys and capable of looking after ourselves, but little things like that are really appreciated.

Terry Fuller.

Attendance: Seniors 12 Juniors 1 Mini-Juniors 2 Visitors 0 Total 15

11 other people attended, including members and visitors, but didn't sign on for the Field Day.

Angler	Total Weight	No of Species	No of fish	Total Points
Tony D' Alonzo	9.64 kg	5	30	196
George Holman	3.7 kg	3	9	117
John Jardine	2.9 kg	4	4	89
Spencer King	1.4 kg	2	4	84
Terry Fuller	0.55 kg	2	3	76
Nick Allsworth	1.85 kg	1	5	69
Kade Ross	0.3 kg	1	1	63
Bob Henderson	0 kg	0	0	50
Chas Riegert	0 kg	0	0	50
Peter Stoeckel	0 kg	0	0	50
Andrew Stoeckel	0 kg	0	0	40
Daniel Stoeckel	0 kg	0	0	40
Dave Maxted	0 kg	0	0	40
Damian D'Mello	0.1 kg	1	1	31

Changes to Field Day Sections for February..

Section	For	Angler	Species	Weight.
1b	Best Scale Fish (2nd 6 Months)	John Jardine	Mulloway	2.22 kg

Sportsperson of the Year Sections and Field Day Prizes for February.

Best Scale Fish	John Jardine	Mulloway	2.22 kg
Best Bag of Scale fish	Tony D'Alonzo	Mixed	9.64 kg

Top Ten up to February

	Angler	Total Points		Angler	Total Points
1	Tony D' Alonzo	2056.8	6	Andy Woodford	314
2	John Jardine	1216	7	Ian Cook	307
3	Damian D'Mello	809.5	8	Eric Parker	307
4	George Holman	794.1	9	Ken Black	270.5
5	Spencer King	426.5	10	Ian Taggart	255.5



John Jardine and Mulloway.

Membership Coordinator's Report.

There has been an increased interest in the Club, with five prospective new members currently considering their options. Thank you, for acceptance as Principal coordinators to:-

Chas Reigert who is providing induction services to Ron & Jill Delary-Simson; and Mathew Sneddon for Malcolm Harris and Vix Alexander.

The February Committee meeting will be addressing both General meetings and Social events which will precede the clubs next recruitment drive. Derry Barber.

Deep South Black Bream Survey Trip.

Black Bream Considerations. (Recommendations from Gary Shugg)

Use whole river prawns or ½ whitebait or bluebait, or live worms.

Place barb of hook in under belly of prawn, threading through body towards, head exposing business end of hook. Twitch (loop) line around tail of prawn which stretches prawn and gives impression of a live bait.

Throw tail of whitebait or bluebait in water as burley.

Use burley (old prawns mixed with pellets, but not in the Swan River due to blowies).

Leave burley overnight in preferred spots.

Best time is dawn, preferably with cloudy conditions.

Shut off motor and glide to spot for anchoring.

Allow 10 minutes, if no bites, move.

Bream in rivers like Kent & Bow don't like noise.

Can tie off to reeds or trees or bank and fish from there.

Always fish in shaded areas and look for branches in water, snag areas, etc.

Take Chumline to spray on bait, plus apply after applying sunscreen lotion (after cleaning hands).

Try prawnstar lures (trawl).

Derry Barber.

AAA Rock and Beach Championships.

AAA Rock and Beach Championships, 16/17 March 2002. Boundaries:- Cervantes to Green Head. Registration at Jurien Caravan Park 11am to 12 noon. Lines down at 2:00pm Saturday. Weigh in at Jurien Caravan Park at 10am sharp Sunday.

The club will be organising teams for the Rock and Beach Championships. Contact Peter Stoeckel or Bob Henderson if you are interested. Details will be finalised at the March General Meeting. Remember, all points go towards deciding the champion club and we are in a good position at the moment.

AAA State Boating Championships 27 April, 2002. More details in next month' s Reel Talk.

The AAA now has a website at <http://www.aaawa.iinet.net.au> If you think the appearance and layout are a lot like the Surfcasters website, you're right, and that's because TerryF has done both sites.

Car Rally.

Sunday 24 March. A lot of effort has gone into organising this event, so I hope you do your bit and try to get many friends to participate. Your destination is great for all ages, barbecue facilities are provided and there is also a restaurant on site. Bring your own barbecue food, or you can purchase some there. Get the kids to bring some carrots.

It starts at 9:30 am and each vehicle will depart at five minute intervals. Starting location is Yokine reserve carpark where we do our dry casting. Remember it is **not a race** and there are no penalties for taking your time. Directions are basic with points awarded for your ability to be alert. Driving last approximately 1 1/2 hours at normal speeds. Please **do not speed**.

All participants are asked to bring along a small flick rod. Don' t worry about tackle. Fun for one and all.

For more information ring Hendo.

Exmouth Safari 2002 Update.

Chas Riegert needs the balance for the accommodation (\$90 less whatever deposit you have already paid) by the March General Meeting.

Reel Talk March 2002

Social Report.

Over the past few weeks two groups of club members have participated in the Yokine bowling club's corporate bowls competition. Teams Surfcasters 1 and Surfcasters 2 gave good accounts of themselves even though we'd had limited experience.

Surfcasters 2 Cookie Monster, Head Waiter, the Gardener and his Apprentice) showed just how good they can be by trouncing the field to take out the overall champions award. We did obtain some assistance though, our club leader was put into the opposition team as they were one short. We reminded Rossco of the consequences of losing and he produced many great bowls that just didn' t score.

Surfcasters 1, Ali Barber and his Beauty, ding aling Ring and Ms. Julie, tried gallantly but at least didn' t finish last like last time. They did obtain some glory by giving the chook raffle a hiding each night.

Congratulations to all the competitors.

The Yokine bowling club is running another corporate bowls competition over the next four weeks. It starts on Wednesday February 27. A \$10 nomination fee per team, with \$5 per night per competitor. This covers the sausage sizzle before the bowls, loan of bowls and shoes.

Ask any club person who has been involved in past events and you will find out how enjoyable these nights are.

Interested? Give me a call.

I have put in a request for members to wear their club colours at State and Club events, and it has been great to see many of the members going along with it. How about buying a window sticker for your vehicle too? All shirts, cardigans, peak caps and stickers can be obtained by giving me a call. Hendo, Social Organiser.

Wanted.

Aluminium cans. Please bring them along to the meeting and give them to Mal Head. Mal saves them up and takes them to the recyclers when he has enough, and donates all the proceeds to the Club.

For Rent.

Club house in Kalbarri. The house is situated close to the river, beaches and town. It has two bedrooms and will sleep up to eight (max), has reverse cycle air conditioning and ceiling fans to keep you cool in the summer months. It has a radio and television, stove with oven, microwave oven, crockery and cutlery and all cooking utensils, fridge and freezer. Outside has a fish cleaning facility and a full width verandah. Rates are:-

Public:-	Off season	\$210 per week,	On season	\$350 per week	} all
Club Members:-	Off season	\$150 per week,	On Season	\$200 per week	} plus \$50
Club Members:-	Short term	\$45 for one night, \$40 per night for two or more nights			} bond.

For bookings and further information, contact the Property Officer, Rob Mitchell, after hours on (08) 9248 8164.

Bookings available as at 20 February are:- up to 15 March, 23 March - 5 April, 20 April - 10 May, 25 May on.

Club's 50th Anniversary.

The annual dinner, dance and 50th reunion is heading our way soon. It will be held on Saturday 29 June 2002 at the Yokine Bowling Club. I hope one and all are putting in special efforts for the open competitions and club competitions.

Have you ever thought about donating a trophy or a prize towards this evening? Have the actions of any club member giving you reason to put forward a special prize on this evening to show your appreciation? Ever thought of producing that "certain trophy" for some crazy reason?

This night is set aside to congratulate club members for their efforts over the past year. Surely a special award will create memories.
Bob Henderson.

New Member Approvals.

The following applications for membership were approved at the February Committee Meeting.

Terry Ring

Don Batchelor

Ron and Jill Delary-Simpson.

Donations for Trophies.

Very soon we will be looking for trophies for this competition year. **Please give us your suggestions for people / companies / etc to contact. We need to have a list by early March.**

There are some things members can do:-

1. Get involved in the competition – there are plenty of open competition sections which don't have entries.
2. **Donate a trophy yourself** – particularly if you have been on the receiving end in past years.
3. When buying your gear and getting your services from our trophy donors and advertisers, make sure you let them know that you are a member of the Surf Casting and Angling Club, so that when we contact them in a few months, they will know that this Club's members support them.

Our 2000/2001 trophy donors have been listed in 2001 Reel Talks. We haven't yet approached companies about donations for our current 2001/2002 year. Club donors so far are:-

George Holman - rod trophy not allocated last year.

Derry Barber - money not used last year.

Terry Fuller - money not all used last year.

Doug Edward

Trevor Stam

Dianne and Derry Barber

Lots of goodies!

Thanks Trevor

Money for the 50th Dinner /
Dance

If any names have been missed, please contact the Reel Talk Editor.

Our 2001/2002 trophy donors so far are:-

Seaducer Tackle Corporation.

Baitmate – Filleting stand

2001/2002 Open Competition.

Cookie needs more entries !!! Someone must have caught some fish ??? Or will catch some fish soon!

March is the annual pilgrimage to Bluff Creek. This is an ideal venue to cast Seducer Lures for salmon, which you can enter into the Seducer Lure competition.

For members going on the Exmouth Safari, the May field day will be held over one day (24 hours) probably on the Friday. Normal field day rules will apply to the field day. Ian will give details to the party on the Thursday night. Remember to take lots of entry forms for the Open Competition, Species Badge, Master/Grand Masters. You will probably catch some fish that are not in our club's record book, so take a list of the Club Records. Ian will be taking the club's 50 kg scales and a set of 15 kg digital scales. Both scales are certified.

Ian will be providing tide tables with times and graphical interpretation prior to our trip up north.

Good Fishing

Cookie Monster + "Hunter".

Changes to the lists published in the January/February 2002 Reel Talks are:-

Section	For	Min weight	Current Leader.
15	Best Scale fish other than Sections 3 to 14.	2 kg	John Jardine, 12.5 kg Cobia at Quobba.

Seaducer Lure Fishing Competition.

Chris Scobles has again been willing to support this competition and has already provided the lures for the prizes. Entries so far are:-

Heaviest Tailor

Mal Head 2.5kg at Red Bluff, Kalbarri.

Heaviest Salmon

No entry.

Heaviest Scale Fish

No entry.

Wanted - Back Copies of Reel Talk.

We are looking for donations, or can copy yours if you want to keep them. A few copies, eg all of what we have for the early months of 1982 are not in good condition, so we would take any better copies if they were offered.

See the list in the February Reel Talk.

Trip to Cape Leveque / Middle Lagoon.

A proposed trip to the above area, northwest of Broome, is being considered for club members and their friends later this year or sometime next year, with the latter probably the best option as several of our club members are going to Exmouth in May.

It would be in your best interest to take a boat and four persons per vehicle as the trip will be fairly expensive as it is approximately 2500 km to Cape Leveque. Accommodation at Middle Lagoon is cheaper than Cape Leveque and both are well equipped.

The fuel cost could be as much as \$1000 for the round trip including some for running around.

Interested persons should contact Wayne Morris and if enough interest is shown, a meeting will be held to discuss the trip further. The fishing in this area is excellent.

SCAC Event Calendar 2002/2003 – Draft Version February 2002.

2002/2003 Possible Dry Casting Dates.

These are the “normal” dates. Some dates may change to fit in with Field Day changes. All are at Yokine Reserve, Wordsworth Avenue, Yokine, starting at 8:30am.

- | | |
|---|---|
| Sunday 5 May 2002 | Sunday 3 November 2002 |
| Sunday 9 June 2002, (changed for Field Day) | Sunday 1 December 2002 |
| Sunday 7 July 2002 | Sunday 5 January 2003 |
| Sunday 4 August 2002 | Sunday 2 February 2003 |
| Sunday 1 September 2002, (change for Fathers’ Day?) | Sunday 9 March 2003 (changed for Field Day) |
| Sunday 6 October 2002 | Sunday 6 April 2003 |

2002/2003 General Meetings.

All at Yokine Bowling Club, Wordsworth Avenue, Yokine, starting at 8:00pm.

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Wednesday 8 May 2002 | Wednesday 13 November 2002 |
| Wednesday 12 June 2002 | Wednesday 11 December 2002 |
| Wednesday 10 July 2002 | Wednesday 8 January 2003 |
| Wednesday 14 August 2002 | Wednesday 12 February 2003 |
| Wednesday 11 September 2002 | Wednesday 12 March 2003 |
| Wednesday 9 October 2002 | Wednesday 9 April 2003 |

2002/2003 Proposed Field Day Dates and Venues.

These are the dates and venues recommended by the Committee. To be discussed and approved or changed by the members at the April General Meeting.

- | | |
|--|--|
| Saturday/Sun 11/12 May 2002 | Rottnest. See Page 21. |
| Saturday/Sun/Monday 1/2/3 June 2002 LWE | Bremer Bay or Peaceful Bay (one of these). |
| Saturday/Sunday 13/14 July 2002 | Cape Naturaliste to Cape Leeuwin. |
| Saturday/Sunday 17/18 August 2002 | Rottnest. |
| Saturday/Sun/Mon 28/29/30 September 2002 LWE | Greenough. |
| Saturday/Sunday 13/14 October 2002 | Cervantes to Jurien. |
| Saturday/Sunday 16/17 November 2002 | Lancelin to Cervantes. |
| Saturday/Sunday 14/15 December 2002 | Open. |
| Saturday/Sunday 11/12 January 2003 | Mandurah 500. |
| Saturday/Sunday 15/16 February 2003 | Two Rocks to Moore River. |
| Saturday/Sun/Mon 1/2/3 March 2003 LWE | Bluff Creek. |
| Saturday/Sunday 12/13 April 2003 | Cape Naturaliste to Cape Leeuwin. |

Here’s a 2002/2003 calendar with these **possible** dates marked on it, showing the dates we would use for Dry Casting, General and Committee Meetings, and Field Days, and assuming we have field days on the March, June, and September Queen’s Birthday long week ends.

6	Dry Casting	9	General Meeting	12	13	Field Day	16	Committee Meeting
11	---	18	Exmouth Safari					

SCAC Event Calendar 2002/2003 – Draft Version 20 February 2002. Dates still have to be confirmed.																				
May 2002							June 2002							July 2002						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
		1	2	3	4	<u>5</u>						<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	1	2	3	4	5	6	<u>7</u>
6	7	8	9	10	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>3</u>	4	5	6	7	8	<u>9</u>	8	9	10	11	12	<u>13</u>	<u>14</u>
<u>13</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>19</u>	10	11	<u>12</u>	13	14	15	16	15	16	<u>17</u>	18	19	20	21
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	17	18	<u>19</u>	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28
27	28	29	30	31			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31				
August 2002							September 2002							October 2002						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
			1	2	3	<u>4</u>	<u>30</u>						<u>1</u>		1	2	3	4	5	<u>6</u>
5	6	7	8	9	10	11	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7	8	<u>9</u>	10	11	<u>12</u>	<u>13</u>
12	13	<u>14</u>	15	16	<u>17</u>	<u>18</u>	9	10	<u>11</u>	12	13	14	15	14	15	<u>16</u>	17	18	19	20
19	20	<u>21</u>	22	23	24	25	16	17	<u>18</u>	19	20	21	22	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
26	27	28	29	30	31		23	24	25	26	27	<u>28</u>	<u>29</u>	28	29	30	31			
November 2002							December 2002							January 2003						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
				1	2	<u>3</u>	30	31					<u>1</u>			1	2	3	4	<u>5</u>
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	<u>8</u>	9	10	<u>11</u>	<u>12</u>
11	12	<u>13</u>	14	15	<u>16</u>	<u>17</u>	9	10	<u>11</u>	12	13	<u>14</u>	<u>15</u>	13	14	<u>15</u>	16	17	18	19
18	19	<u>20</u>	21	22	23	24	16	17	<u>18</u>	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
25	26	27	28	29	30		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30	31		
February 2003							March 2003							April 2003						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
					1	<u>2</u>	31					<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>		1	2	3	4	5	<u>6</u>
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	<u>3</u>	4	5	6	7	8	<u>9</u>	7	8	<u>9</u>	10	11	<u>12</u>	<u>13</u>
10	11	<u>12</u>	13	14	<u>15</u>	<u>16</u>	10	11	<u>12</u>	13	14	15	16	14	15	<u>16</u>	17	18	19	20
17	18	<u>19</u>	20	21	22	23	17	18	<u>19</u>	20	21	22	23	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
24	25	26	27	28			24	25	26	27	28	29	30	28	29	30				

2001/2002 Dinner, Dance and Presentation of Trophies.

This will be the club's 50th anniversary and will be held on Saturday 29 June 2002 at the Yokine Bowling Club, 10 Wordsworth Avenue.

AAA and Affiliated Club Coming Events.

This information has been updated from the January 2002 AAA report, the latest one which had a timetable of events. But there was some questions about the accuracy, so check for updates in later Reel Talks.

March 2/3/4, 2002	FAAC Field Day	Go anywhere.
March 16/17, 2002	AAA State Beach and Rock Championship	Cervantes/Green Head.
April 20/21, 2002	FAAC Field Day	Cape to Cape
April 27, 2002	AAA State Boat Angling Championships	Ocean Reef, Host:- Marmion AAC.
May 18/19, 2002	FAAC Field Day	Rottnest
June 1/2/3, 2002	FAAC Field Day	Cheyne Beach
October 27, 2002	AAA State Dry Casting Championships.	Yokine Reserve. (Don't miss it!)
November 23/24, 2002	AAA State Estuary Championships	Swan River.
January 11, 2003 (tentative)	AAA Mandurah 500	Dates/boundaries to be decided.
March 2003	AAA State Boat Angling Championships	Lancelin AAC.
April 2003	AAA State Beach and Rock Championship	Dawesville Cut to Binningup Cut.
Date To Be Advised 2003	AAA State Estuary Championships	Nornalup.
October 26, 2003	AAA State Dry Casting Championships	Yokine Reserve.

Mackerel Threat – Media Release by Recfishwest

Following is a media release which was sent out by Frank Prokop from Recfishwest on 7 February. He asks people who are concerned about this to write to the Minister. The club will send a letter, but you should write too.

The Minister's address is: Hon Kim Chance MLC., Minister for Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, 11th Floor Dumas House, 2 Havelock Street, West Perth WA 6005

The January Reel Talk has some information about the proposal. What really alarms me is the increase in the commercial catch to around 43 tonnes in the Southern zone – the area south of Shark Bay. Frank has access to the latest catch figures.

As I understand, one characteristic of mackerel is that they are a mobile fish, most of which move in the same regular path. So if you have a high catch effort in any particular area they pass through, the catches will continue and can be quite high, and it seems that there are still plenty of fish. But you are, in effect catching most of the fish, and at some time, they will simply stop coming, because there aren't many to come. Already, it seems, the average size of fish has dropped dramatically, - meaning many of the big fish have already been caught, and the smaller ones are now being caught and don't have a chance to grow bigger.

All in all – not a happy situation if you want to continue to catch mackerel !!

Terry Fuller

Media Release

Recfishwest, the peak body representing recreational fishers has called on all anglers to write to the Minister for Fisheries objecting to a draft plan for commercial Spanish mackerel fishing which threatens recreational fishing interests.

Executive Director Frank Prokop said "This plan was supposedly developed due to concerns about fishing pressure on mackerel stocks, yet the proposals which have not been released for public comment, would grant long term access to an inappropriate number of commercial fishers and gives no consideration whatsoever to recreational fishing interests."

Western Australia has commenced an integrated commercial and recreational fishery management process to bring in rational and coordinated management yet this plan appears to be designed to pre-empt the review by Justice Toohey and discriminate against recreational fishers and the general community.

The committee slashed the proposed entry criteria for commercial fishers by up to 90% in various zones of the fishery. They even abolished any entry criteria in the area south of Shark Bay allowing open slather of the stocks by commercial fishers. Indeed since management was mooted, commercial fishing of mackerel in this vital southern zone has increased from around 8 tonnes to around 43 tonnes.

"The recreational sector proposed that this southern zone become a recreational fishing zone with only a small commercial by-catch permitted. Our views have been totally ignored and if the commercial fishing effort continues to grow, mackerel could be seriously threatened in this area." Mr Prokop said.

These changes were developed by a committee that excluded recreational fishing interests.

"Recfishwest asked that recreational fishing be represented but was told it wasn't to be part of the process. Recfishwest has made three separate submissions to this group but not one of our recommendations have been given even a token consideration." Mr Prokop said.

The committee is also proposing to implement a quota management system. This quota management system is conservatively estimated to cost around \$200,000 a year to manage. There is not a strong scientific basis on which to base the catch level and the remote nature of the north makes effective compliance almost impossible.

"The value of the mackerel fishery in the year of highest exploitation was around \$2 million. Given that this fishery does not have to recover the costs of management, this fishery's costs will be almost totally subsidised by the tax payers of this state and if a buy back is required, the community will no doubt have to fund this as well."

"If the government spent the same proportion of the value of the industry on management, around \$65 million should be made available for recreational fisheries management." Mr Prokop commented.

The views of fisheries researchers, compliance officers, recreational fishers and a number of full time commercial fishers have been ignored in these proposals. They have only released the draft plan to a few people and we are concerned that without a wider community debate the draft plan could be accepted as the final plan.

Recfishwest is calling on recreational fishers to write to the Minister to express their concerns that this proposal should be scrapped and recreational interests must be properly represented.

"We owe it to our children to ensure that mackerel are available for them to catch. If this management is implemented we do not believe that we can look our children in the eye when they ask where all the mackerel have gone." Mr Prokop concluded.

Media contact: Frank Prokop Executive Director, Recfishwest (08) 9387 7864

Jurien Bay Marine Park – Reply from Ministers.

The Club has received the following letters from the Environment Minister and Fisheries Minister in response to the club's letters.

Reading these replies does not offer much hope for any significant changes to the proposals, because the words "some amendments" could mean anything.

It's particularly disappointing that the Environment Minister has rejected any release of the amended proposals, or the details of the comments received, for public information and comment before the Marine Park is created.

What do you think about these replies?

Reply from Minister for the Environment:-

Thank you for your letter of 30 September 2001 regarding the Indicative Management Plan for the Proposed Jurien Bay Marine Park.

I have noted your concerns in relation to both the planning process and the contents of the Plan and make the following comments.

The Marine Parks and Reserves Authority (MPRA) has considered the 81 public submissions and has recommended some amendments to the Indicative Management Plan in light of the submissions. The amended Plan is due to be forwarded to me shortly for consideration, and I will then seek the concurrence of both the Minister for State Development and the Minister for Fisheries for the creation of the marine park and the release of the Management Plan. A summary of public submissions will also be available when the Management Plan is finalised.

I do not believe it is necessary to undertake another public submission process. There has already been an extensive planning and consultation process and further consultation is unlikely to raise new issues that have not already been discussed extensively. The creation of marine reserves is always a complex task as it involves so many competing interests and it is difficult to achieve an outcome that fully satisfies all parties.

While I agree with you that fishing for rock lobster has a potential impact on the environment, it is a relatively low impact industry in terms of by-catch (ie. species other than rock lobster) and habitat damage and has recently been certified (in March 2000) as a "healthy and well-managed" fishery by the Marine Stewardship Council. The Council is an independent non-government organisation established in 1996 by the World Wide Fund for Nature and Unilever. Fin fishing, particularly recreational fin fishing, is quite a different management proposition and so can not be easily compared with rock lobster fishing.

With the planned construction of a coastal road and the general increase in fishing pressure throughout the central west coast, there is currently a window of opportunity to establish management strategies for recreational fishing and other pressures, to ensure the marine environment will be protected in the long term. The proposed marine park will provide opportunities to increase protection for fish stocks, maintain the balance of marine organisms on which these fish feed, and study the effectiveness of zoning and other management strategies.

While I appreciate your organisation's views regarding the proposal, I am sure you do not dispute the need for increased protection and management of the marine environment. The management objectives and strategies for the proposed Jurien Bay Marine Park may not be ideal from all points of view, however, the marine scientist Dr Graham Edgar who has extensive experience in other Australian marine protected areas and has been studying the proposed Jurien Bay reserve for the last three years states that "...the proposal as presently described will create the best marine protected area in southern Australia - with a long gap to second place".

I hope that this letter helps to explain some of the strategies within the Indicative Management Plan for the proposed Jurien Bay Marine Park and I look forward to your future support for this proposal.

Yours sincerely, Dr Judy Edwards, MLA MINISTER FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE, 29th FLOOR, ALLENDALE SQUARE, 77 ST. GEORGE' S TERRACE, PERTH 6000, Telephone: (08) 9220 5050 Facsimile: (08) 9221 4665/8 e-mail: judy-edwards@dpc.wa.gov.au 29 January 2002

Earlier reply from Minister for Fisheries.

Thank you for your letter of 30 September expressing concern about the public consultation and planning process associated with the proposed Jurien Bay Marine Park.

As you may know, the previous Minister for the Environment established a Community Consultative Committee which undertook an extensive consultation process and developed a Draft Management Plan for the proposal. This draft plan was considered by the Marine Parks and Reserves Authority who provided advice about some amendments before it was released. The draft was released for a period of three months for public comment and during that time, a range of interest groups including Recfishwest and your organisation provided an input. In addition, the Department of Fisheries made a submission outlining the matters of importance to the recreational fishing, commercial fishing and aquaculture industries.

The Department of Fisheries has advised me that the Department of Conservation and Land Management (CALM) is currently considering the public submissions and will make a recommendation to the Minister for the Environment about the final plan in the near future. I understand that CALM will produce a summary of submissions detailing how each submission has been considered during the preparation of the final plan. I also understand that the summary will be made available to the public.

The proposed establishment of the Jurien Bay Marine Park is part of the Government's policy to establish a system of representative marine reserves in Western Australia. The establishment of marine parks occurs for biodiversity conservation purposes and does not necessarily contribute to the management of fish stocks. Planning for and gazettal of marine parks usually results in some reallocation of marine resources between user groups.

This process can produce outcomes that do not benefit all users. I understand that the draft plan is likely to place some form of limitation on all user groups including recreational fishers.

May I take this opportunity to thank your organisation for its interest in the management of the marine environment.

Yours sincerely, Kim Chance MLC, MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES, 23/10/01

Update on Proposals for Sanctuary Area at Cottesloe FHPA

The club sent a letter to the Fisheries Minister objecting to proposals for a Sanctuary Zone at the Cottesloe Fish Habitat Protection Area – see the article in the February Reel Talk.

We've had a reply to that letter – and for once the news is good – at this stage.

But don't think this proposal is the last there'll ever be for these restrictions. The Sanctuary Committee has gone to the media again and got a colour photo and write up in the West Australian on Wed 20 Feb, so they won't give up and are continuing with their lobbying because they haven't yet got what they want. The spokesperson, Rowley Goonan, rang in to the ABC's Hook Line and Sinker program on Sat 23 Feb, and got a fairly strong response from Frank Prokop.

All that's needed is someone to do the wrong thing and the publicity machine and lobby group will use that incident to the maximum, and will then say more restrictions are "a necessary step in order to preserve fish stocks and the marine ecosystem of the area" as in the Minister's letter.

The Club also had comments from Frank Prokop, Recfishwest. "Thanks very much for that Terry. I can assure you that your efforts made a big difference up at the Minister's office to counter a letter writing campaign by the anti-fishing group at Cottesloe."

Reply from Fisheries Minister.

Thank you for your letter of 20 January expressing concern about the Cottesloe Marine Sanctuary Committee's support for a total ban on recreational line fishing between the Cottesloe groyne and the Mosman Cable station.

The original proposal put forward by the Cottesloe Marine Protection Group (CMPG) included a proposed ban on all fishing from boats south of the groyne. After considering all of the submissions on the CMPG proposal, I determined that some limited recreational fishing activity should continue.

In allowing recreational line fishing to continue, it was recognised that recreational fishers generally target open water shoal fish such as herring, tailor and whiting which swim into and out of the Cottesloe Fish Habitat Protection Area (FHPA) continuously. I do not believe that the banning of recreational fishing for these species would have been acceptable to the entire community and would not have provided any significant increase in the protection of fish habitat.

It should be noted that the vast majority of resident reef fish and other organisms such as coral, sponges, sea anemones and sea dragons are totally protected within the FHPA. I believe that this level of protection is adequate and that we can expect to see an increase in the biodiversity of the Cottesloe Reef System in future years.

The Department of Fisheries received almost 1,000 submissions on the draft Plan of Management and the overwhelming majority were supportive. I understand that the Cottesloe Marine Sanctuary Committee wish to

have all fishing banned in the area, but I do not believe this would be acceptable to the wider community at this stage. I am not prepared to consider a ban on recreational fishing within the FHPA unless on-going monitoring, instigated as a result of management strategies contained within the Plan of Management for the FHPA, clearly indicates that this is a necessary step in order to preserve fish stocks and the marine ecosystem of the area.

Thank you for your interest in this issue.

Yours sincerely, Kim Chance MLC, Minister for Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, 4/2/2002

Garden Island – What Happened?

Basically, we waited too long. In June, we had the OK for a field day. We could have had the field day any month before September.

But on September 11, everything changed. When we wrote recently telling of the details for the field day, we were told the base, like many other military installations, is still on “yellow alert” which means that security has been upgraded, and that includes restrictions on civilian groups entering Garden Island. At present entry to Garden Island is by official pass holders only.

So we have written back and said we understand, and hopefully that way we have kept the top level contacts open for some future time when security things quieten down. We have also written to Warrant Officer Steve Sinclair who tried hard but unsuccessfully to get an OK for us even with the restrictions.

The lesson for next time? Go soon after we get the OK, even if we have to put in an “extra” field day to fit it in!

Terry Fuller.

Caravan Park Land Taxes.

You may have seen the article in the Sunday Times in late January about land taxes for Caravan Parks going up 300 to 400 percent, based on the escalating values of nearby residential land. Some park owners said that this level of increase would either force them out of business or force them to increase their charges to a level that would drive away their customers. Either way, the holidaying and travelling public are the losers.

What does that mean to recreational fishers?. Well, you’re not allowed to camp in most areas, and if there are fewer caravan parks, you could run into the “sorry no camp sites” situation quite often. And if you do get a camp site, you might have to pay a lot more for it. Bit steep, when sometimes all you want is somewhere to spend the night.

WARCO is a group which is trying to get some changes to the restrictive camping laws in this State. But for quite some time they couldn’t get a meeting with the Minister to put their case.

Seems like it might need a lot of public pressure to get our politicians to see that land tax changes might not be in the best interests of anyone.

Terry Fuller.

Steve’s Story - The One That Nearly Got Away!

This story is completely true. It took place in early 1995, but I hope that the readers can learn a valuable lesson as well as having some fun. I took up fishing again in 1994 when I returned from working in Queensland after many years of missing out on all the enjoyment. I joined my original club and attended field days when possible, and found that the excitement of an expected catch had not dulled in over 25 years.

On these events I always pay particular attention to the drag setting on my unattended lines, as I know a couple of unnamed people who have lost all their tackle.

One long weekend I had the chance to go fishing with some very good friends. We headed off to Long Point (this was just before they banned 4WD on the beach) at 4.00am on what was a fairly cold morning for the time of the year. We were all wearing long pants to keep out the cold and had to keep telling the kids to keep dry (you know what the mums would have said if we brought home cold wet kids).

After finding our mulies disappearing to the small fry a chap named Steve and myself decided to put out lines with freshly caught live bait. Not long had gone by when we noticed Steve’s rod lying on the sand. On inspection it was found to have a stingray attached to the other end, a short discussion on drag settings was held then back to fishing.

Some time later while telling each other stories we were rudely interrupted by people yelling at us. We turned around to see Steve’s Alvey and rod slowly slide into the bright blue yonder. At the sight of this, Steve took off at a sprint that any athlete would be proud of, and when knee deep he leaped like a champion iron man into the surf (just one point here, Steve definitely does not look like a champion athlete or an Iron Man). For a second everything seemed to go silent then suddenly Steve shot from the water rod in hand ready to do battle. After

about 45 minutes a rather large stingray was brought to the water's edge and released. Not the best of catches but a lot of fun and at least he still had all his gear.

Steve's experience is not unique but points out the importance of a correct drag setting and good rod holder on an unattended line. It did however supply all of us with a whole lot of laughs and an entertaining morning's fishing. We all wish there had been a video camera running as we think it would have received a prize in funniest home videos.

Nick Allsworth.

Warning – Dangerous Computer Virus!

Well, I hope that got the attention of you computer users!. It's not really a virus, but it's just about as bad. It's called **an old email address**.

Why do people have old email addresses? It's just like shifting house and having a current and an old postal address. Many of us are forced to change our email address over the years, because some Internet Service Providers don't recognise that their description has the word "Service" in it, some go out of business, etc.

Once an email address gets into your computer, it's sometimes really hard to get rid of it. They seem to keep popping up again, causing emails to be sent to an old address, and go into limbo and your messages to get lost. Old email addresses hide and resurface when they can cause the most grief – a very good example of Murphy's Law – things will get lost when it's really important that they don't get lost.

In the ideal world, our friendly (??) Internet Service Providers, who collectively take megadollars off all their customers, would simply look at the address, and zap it back to the sender saying "no such email address" – much like a Australia Post postie would do if the address on an envelope was really wrong. Some ISPs do the right thing, but seem to be in the minority.

But it seems that many of our ISPs simply throw the message into the electronic rubbish bin, as though saying "Well, tough! If you can't get the address right, I'm not going to help you one little bit." Maybe a return message would add to the costs they have to pay for the volume of messages they send into the email system, and they are just cutting their costs.

You risk not getting email from people if they make the mistake of opening an old message and simply clicking on "reply". That's the electronic equivalent of getting a postal address off a 1985 letter and expecting the people still to be at that address.

You can't do much about other people's habits, except to tell them why their emails aren't getting through to you, and the possible/probable reasons.

But **you** can make sure your emails get to the people you send them to, by **never** clicking on "reply" to old emails which might have come from an old email address. Instead keep your Address list up to date, and use that.

Terry Fuller.

Win Some, Lose Some.

'Twas the day of the competition, the sign on had been completed, the journey to Preston Beach car park along with settling into a nice caravan, gave signs of an enjoyable weekend. The lads packed the sand traverser and headed for the beach, searching desperately for a possie between the hordes along the foreshore. Anticipation was high with so much berley being thrown into the briny.

Our intrepid motley crew geared up and spent the next four hours "trying" to catch a decent fish. Their insipid results had only produced a couple of small sand whiting and morale was low. That's when the "cookie king" decided to take a break, lay down his gear, and wander up the beach to the next mob, as they appeared to be having some small success. As he approached the next door mob, one of them unhooked a reasonable sized yellowfin whiting and tossed it back towards the surf.

That's when the seagull swooped, picked up the fish, but struggled to gain height due to the weight of the fish. Flapping like crazy the bird headed down the beach but it's hold on the fish broke down and said fish landed not more than three metres from the feet of this "Ali Barber".

An astonished expression came over "Ali Barber" and he was heard to express the following "bloody hell, even the ruddy seagulls can catch bigger fish than I can". Now Ali is a prime sucker for any decent sized whiting, and the gleam in his eyes spelt trouble for that seagull.

"All's fair in loose fish," muttered Ali, and proceeded to sprint towards the stranded fish, and pity any poor seagull between him and that fish. "Ha!" said Ali as he stood over that fish and with eyes skyward searching for that seagull, threatening death if it tried, but forgot to cover his bets (and his back.)

Nobody mentioned ownership to one of those diving gulls, and one individual swooped and collected said fish with ease and headed out to sea.

Who said grown men don't cry? Poor Ali stumbled back towards his fishing gear, shoulders down near his backside. Flopping on to the beach, clutching his head in his hands, poor Ali sat there in disbelief.

Remorse hung around the caravan site as offers of consolation were given (but not from me, I choked myself laughing.) Said gentlemen gradually recovered after a good feed and a few chilled wines. Or he got his own back by doing the scoring on the games that night as somehow he always won.

Venturing into the weigh in the following day, our intrepid fisherman sat and watched the prizes being given out. When it came to the final prize and lots of moolah was available, what do you think was selected to obtain said cash. Yup, a bloody whiting - any decent whiting, and who do you think would have carried off this if some ruddy diving gull had not been around? *(But maybe he'd decide he hadn't really "caught" it, and not weigh it in. - Editor.)*

Life wasn't meant to be easy!. (I wish some bugger had shot the bloke who said that.)

Hendo.

Replacement Rock Lobster Bait from Fish Waste.

A \$75,000 Waste Management and Recycling Fund grant from the landfill levy, will see the recycling of fish waste into a replacement bait for Western Australian long line tuna and rock lobster fishermen, Environment and Heritage Minister Judy Edwards said in a Ministerial Statement on 25 January.

The Katanning-based company, Aqua Feeds, would collect offal from fish processing factories between Esperance and Geraldton, and would process the waste into lobster bait and marron feed as an alternative to imported fish meal.

The proposals are based on previously researched and developed dry lobster bait and marron feed, and wet soft pliable feed, which has been assessed by the South Australian Research Development Institute as the best artificial feed product they have tested.

The fish offal to be recycled by Aqua Feeds was currently being disposed of at a cost to producers, with some 1,500 tonnes of offal being sent to landfill each year. The market for the proposed replacement bait is estimated to be some 16,000 tonnes each year. The bait could also be used as an alternative to the fish bait being imported by the rock lobster industry. Bait such as mulies are being imported due to a current shortage in Western Australia.

New Rules for Barramundi in the Kimberleys.

On 20 February, Fisheries Minister Kim Chance announced a new plan for the management of the State's barramundi fishery. To improve the quality of recreational fishing in the region and resolve resource sharing conflict, commercial barramundi fishing will be closed or restricted in the the Fitzroy River; around the townsite of Derby; in key recreational fishing areas around Broome; and on the Ord River.

To manage for growing recreational fishing pressure and to ensure the sustainability of barramundi stocks, the recreational fishing possession limit for barramundi is being reduced from five to two. In addition there will be three special barramundi conservation areas, the Ord and Fitzroy Rivers, and the Broome area, where different rules apply.

A minimum legal size for barramundi of 55cm applies across the State. In addition, a maximum size limit of 80cm applies in both the Fitzroy and Ord Rivers. Having a maximum size limit will help protect large spawning females and benefit the angler by promoting the opportunity for the capture and release of 'trophy' barramundi.

From March 1, all recreational set and haul netting will be prohibited from Beadon Creek (near Onslow) to the Western Australian/Northern Territory border. However, throw netting will still be permitted in open waters if the fisher holds a recreational netting licence.

"The new changes obviously raise issues of enforcement and the Government is actively working on ways to further improve compliance measures in the region," the Minister said.

Happy Birthday to:-

Christopher Mitchell, 26th March

Rottnest May Field Day.

All members interested in going to Rottnest in May please contact John Jardine and bring a \$50 deposit to the next general meeting. John would still like to hold the field day on the 11-12 May unless the participating group decide otherwise. He has no clear idea on cost but thinks it could be \$100+.

May 12 is Mothers Day - so you may need to get the home credits up!