



# 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 2003/2004

President / Social Organiser /  
Membership Coordinator  
Bob Henderson

Vice President.  
George Holman

Dry Casting Officer  
Chas Riegert

Secretary / Reel Talk Editor / Web Page  
Terry Fuller  
**All club mail to:-  
PO Box 2032,  
Marmion W A  
6020**

Treasurer  
  
Contact Secretary Terry Fuller

Recorder.  
Ian Cook

Email:- [surfcast@iinet.net.au](mailto:surfcast@iinet.net.au)

Field Day Officer  
Malcolm Harris

Property Officer  
Vix Alexander

Committee Person  
Andrew Aubrey

Assistant Drycasting Officer  
Terry Willison

Assistant Field Day Officer  
Peter Stoeckel

Immediate Past President  
Ross Kember

A.A.A. Delegates  
George Holman  
Terry Fuller  
Bob Henderson

## March 2004 Reel Talk Contents.

Minutes of General Meeting, 11 February 2004 .....	2	Club Competition Rules and Constitution .....	8
March Dry Casting .....	3	Dry Casting Sausage Sizzle .....	8
March General Meeting .....	3	January 2004 Field Day, Dawesville Cut to Binningup .....	9
March 2004 Field Day - Bluff Creek .....	3	Dry Casting Report, 1 February 2004 .....	9
Local Field Day for March 2004 .....	3	Dry Casting Results, 1 February 2004 .....	10
April Field Day - Denmark - Walpole .....	3	Wanted - Back Copies of Reel Talk .....	11
Local Field Day for April 2004 .....	4	Wanted - Fish Smokers .....	11
Field Day and Dry Casting Fees .....	4	Car Rally .....	11
Field Day Boundaries .....	4	Your Club's Future .....	11
2003/2004 Field Day Dates, Venues and Boundaries .....	4	Consultation About Changes to Recreational Fishing Rules .....	11
2003/2004 Dry Casting Dates .....	4	Member's Stories, Photos, Tips, etc .....	11
2003/2004 General Meetings .....	5	AAA Future Events .....	12
Draft SCAC Event Calendar 2004/2005 .....	5	Life Members of the Club .....	12
2004/2005 Field Day Dates and Venues .....	5	Open Competition Results to February 2004 .....	12
2004/2005 Possible Dry Casting Dates .....	6	Where Are All the Fishing Stories? .....	12
2004/2005 Calendar .....	6	Club Raffle .....	12
Spot the (Deliberate?) Mistake(s) .....	6	Club Competition Rules and Constitution .....	12
2004/2005 General Meetings .....	7	2004 SCAC Dinner/Presentation of Trophies .....	12
AAA Estuary State Championships .....	7	Fishing at a Young Age .....	12
AAA Rock and Beach State Championships .....	7	My First Mulloway .....	13
Starters for May Rottneest Field Day .....	7	Xmas in Kakadu .....	14
Safari 2004 - Warroora Station .....	7	Fishing for Stamps? .....	15
Happy Birthday to:- .....	8	Comments on Draft Extensions to Ningaloo Marine Park .....	16
Wanted - Aluminium Cans .....	8	Deaths of Former Members .....	20
New Member Acceptances .....	8	Hardy Inlet Estuarine Fishery Options .....	20
New Member Application .....	8	Donations for Trophies .....	21
Kalbarri House For Rent .....	8	February 2004 Field Day, Open .....	21
Club Polo Shirts, Jackets and Caps .....	8	Field Day Sections for 2003/2004 .....	22

## Minutes of General Meeting, 11 February 2004

**Venue:-** Coolbinia West Perth Amateur Football and Sporting Club room  
Time 8:05 pm. President Bob Henderson presiding.

**Present:-** 31 members, 2 visitors.

**Apologies:-** Ian Cook, Terry Ring, John Jardine, Damian D'Mello, Terry Willison.

**Visitors:-** Eric Britto, Abra Deklerk.

**Suspension of Standing Orders:-** Suspension of standing orders was moved George Holman seconded Roy Killick and carried.

**Instruction Period:-** Ross Beadon and Lance Black gave a talk on Customs matters and suggested ways we can help as people who might see unusual things in isolate areas. Custom Watch number 1800 06 1800

**Resumption of Standing Orders:-** Resumption of standing orders was moved Chas Reigert seconded Allan Jones and carried.

**Previous Minutes:-** As published in the Reel Talk. Moved Allan Jones seconded Mal Head, these are a true record. Carried. No business arising.

**Previous Committee:-** Bob Henderson outlined actions from the previous Committee meeting. No business arising.

**Correspondence In:-**

Challenge Bank	Statement for January.	
Ray White Kalbarri	Statement for January + cheque \$535.60	
City of Stirling	Account for Yokine reserve usage.	
TA Mairs	Tax Return	
TA Mairs	Audit Report not done	Needs Decision
BT Funds Management	Statement to 31 December.	
CALM	Marine Conservation Matters newsletter.	

**Correspondence Out:-**

Ian Blamey, Adrienne Dinn	Acceptance as members.
Nick Hocking	Reminder about unpaid membership fees.
Daniel Chapman	Reminder about unpaid membership fees.
City of Stirling	Yokine Reserve booking.
President AAA	Thanks for work on Recreational Fishing Regulations.

Moved Jim Strong seconded Peter Stoeckel that correspondence be accepted: Carried.

**Treasurer's Report:-** Terry Fuller reported. Accounts for payment:-

TA Mairs	Preparation of Tax Return	\$297.00
City of Stirling	Yokine reserve hire	\$209.88
	Total Accounts for Payment	\$506.88
	Outstanding cheques	\$0.00
Challenge bank Account 880334.	Balance as at 11/2/2004	\$12,688.21
Available after accounts paid		\$12,181.33
Plus money held to be deposited		\$968.60
	Total	\$13,149.33

Moved George Holman, seconded Malcolm Harris, Treasurers report be accepted and accounts passed for payment - carried.

**Secretary report:-** Terry Fuller advised that he had had only a few more suggestions for field Day venues and the presentation venue and time in response to the articles in the January Reel Talk.

**Property Officer:-** Vix Alexander reported on a trip to Kalbarri in January. Details to be discussed by the sub committee.

**Field Day Officer:-** Field Day Officer Malcolm Harris reported on the coming February Open and March Bluff Creek Field days as in Reel Talk. Assistant FDO Peter Stoeckel reported on the January Field Day as in Reel Talk. Tony D'Alonzo was back on deck and won the heaviest bag.

**Dry Casting Officer:-** Chas Riegert gave details of the February Dry Casting as in Reel Talk.

**AAA Report:-** A dry casting meeting had been held at the George Holman's place on 9 February. Boating Championships would be held 27 March. Estuary 17/19 April as in Reel Talk. Terry Fuller reported on the Capes and Ningaloo Marine Parks activities.

**Social Organiser:-** Bob Henderson advised members that a car rally will be held on 21 March.

**Recorder:-** Not present. Terry Fuller advised entries received from Tony Ong for Golden Trevally and Whaler Shark.

**Reel Talk Editor:-** Nothing to report. Still looking for articles from members.

**Notices of Motion:-** None.

**General Business:-** Past member Don Bibby had died recently.  
Chas Riegert advised names listed for the safari to Warroora in May. Money is required by tonight's General meeting as advised in the January Reel Talk. Thursday night during the safari is Matt Sneddon's 21st birthday and there will be celebrations.  
George Holman advised he has 12 names for Yeppoon 2005 plus 2 possibles.  
John Jardine offered to help organise the May Rottnest trip.

**Instruction Period:-** Already held.

**Meeting closed.** 9:50 pm

## Coming Club Events.

### March Dry Casting.

- When:-** Sunday 7 March 2004, casting starts at 8:30 am.  
**Where:-** Yokine Reserve, Wordsworth Avenue.  
**Events:-** 112 gram distance, 56 gram distance, Double handed accuracy, Single handed accuracy, 112 gram Open.  
**Barbecue** At Terry Willison's instead of sausage sizzle at Yokine Reserve.

### March General Meeting.

- When:-** Wednesday 10 March 2003, 8:00 pm.  
**Where:-** Coolbinia West Perth Amateur Football and Sporting Club room, off Wordsworth Avenue, Yokine, about 200 metres south east of the Yokine Bowling Club.

**Instruction Period:-** To be advised.

### March 2004 Field Day - Bluff Creek.

- When:-** Saturday/Sunday 28/29 February / 1 March 2004 Long weekend.  
**Don't miss it - often the best field day of the year!!**

**Sign On:-** Saturday 12 noon Bluff Creek Camping area.

**Lines Down:-** After you've signed on.

**Barbecue:-** 12 noon Sunday to 2:00 pm Sunday. See the March Reel Talk for confirmation of times, and check at the sign on. If you don't come to the barbecue, you must stop fishing for those times. It's a great time for socialising with your fellow club members and yet another highlight of the Bluff Creek field day when we go back to how field days used to be "in the good old days".

**Weigh in:-** Monday 10:00 am at Bluff Creek camping area.

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

<b>Tides for Albany</b>	Saturday 28 Feb	0.43m at 5:37 am	0.97m at 2:02 pm		
	Sunday 29 Feb	0.41m at 5:29 am	0.95m at 3:00 pm	0.94m at 4:41 pm	0.95m at 7:10 pm
	Monday 1 March	0.39m at 5:17 am	1.02m at 8:13 pm		
<b>Sun and Moon Bluff Creek</b>	Sunrise:-	About 5:55 am	Sunset:-	About 6:45 pm	
	Saturday 28 Feb	Moonrise:-1:21 pm	Moonset:-11:10 pm		
	Sunday 29 Feb	Moonrise:- 2:19 pm	Moonset:-11:55 pm		
	Monday 1 March	Moonrise:- 3:15 pm	First quarter	Saturday 28 Feb	

### Local Field Day for March 2004.

**When:-** Saturday/Sunday 28/29 February / 1 March 2004 Long weekend.

**Sign On:-** At the February General Meeting or to the FDO by 6:00pm Friday, but preferably much earlier.

**Lines Down:-** Saturday 12:00 noon

**Weigh in:-** Monday 10:00 am at G. Holman's house. 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 on the Field Day sheet. No Money = no points. Results to be phoned to Field Day Officer by 8:00 pm that night.

**Boundaries:-** Penguin Island to north wall of the Two Rocks Marina, including the Swan River and both the North and South Moles.

<b>Tides for Fremantle</b>	Saturday 28 Feb	0.50m at 4:30 am	0.94m at 3:05 pm	Sunrise:	About 6:05 am
	Sunday 29 Feb	0.48m at 4:15 am	0.95m at 4:12 pm		
	Monday 1 March	0.46m at 4:00 am	0.97m at 5:28 pm	Sunset:-	About 6:52 pm

### April Field Day - Denmark - Walpole.

**When:-** Saturday/Sunday/Monday 24/25/26 April 2004 Anzac Day Long Weekend.

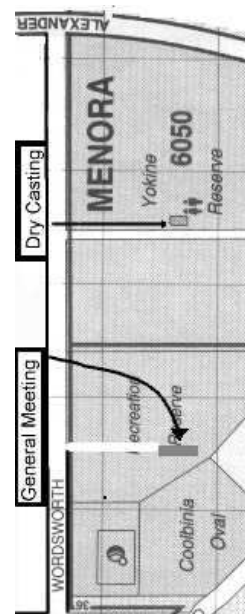
**Sign On:-** 12:00 noon at park alongside river, right hand side of road going west on Denmark side of the river.

**Lines Down:-** After the sign on.

**Weigh in:-** As for the sign on at 11:00 am Monday.

**Boundaries:-** Denmark to Walpole. Boundaries:- eastern end of Ocean Beach at Denmark to Clifty Head near Mandalay Beach west of Walpole.

<b>Tides for Albany Denmark</b>	Saturday 24 Apr	0.60m at 3:41 am	1.27m at 12:02pm	0.68m at 8:50 pm	0.69m at 10:05pm
	Sunday 25 Apr	0.58m at 3:38 am	1.23m at 12:25pm	Sunrise:-	About 6:45 am
	Monday 26 Apr	0.57m at 3:30 am	1.18m at 12:47pm	Sunset:-	About 5:45 pm
	Saturday 24 Apr	Moonrise:-	About 11:00 am	Moonset:-	About 8:30 pm
	Sunday 25 Apr	Moonrise:-	About 11:54 am	Moonset:-	About 9:20 pm
	Monday 26 Apr	Moonrise:-	About 12:42 pm	Moon First quarter	28 April



## Local Field Day for April 2004.

- When:-** Saturday/Sunday/Monday 24/25/26 April 2004 Anzac Day Long Weekend.  
**Sign On:-** At the April General Meeting or to the FDO by 6:00pm Friday, but preferably earlier.  
**Lines Down:-** Saturday 12:00 noon  
**Weigh in:-** Monday 11:00 am at G. Holman's house. 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 on the Field Day sheet. No Money = no points. Results to be phoned to Field Day Officer by 8:00 pm that night.
- Boundaries:-** Penguin Island to north wall of the Two Rocks Marina, including the Swan River and both the North and South Moles.

<b>Tides for</b>	Saturday 24 Apr	1.14m at 11:13 am	0.62m at 10:04 pm	0.62m at 11:15 pm	
<b>Fremantle</b>	Sunday 25 Apr	0.61m at 12:37 am	1.13m at 11:44 am	Sunrise:	About 6:45 am
	Monday 26 Apr	0.61m at 1:09 am	1.10m at 12:15 pm	Sunset:-	About 5:45 pm

## Field Day and Dry Casting Fees.

Field Day Fees:- \$7 for an individual, \$9 for families. Dry Casting Fees:- \$6 for an individual, \$8 for families.

## Field Day Boundaries

Club Competition Rules 2.1.6 says "The boundaries for the Field Day will be published in Reel Talk. Boundaries may be changed at the sign on at the discretion of the Field Day Officer and by consensus of the majority of the participating members. Any competitor fishing outside the boundaries during the fishing times shall be disqualified."

This has generally been accepted to mean that the boundaries may be changed if weather or weed or beach or water conditions mean that it would be difficult to find enough fishing spots within the advertised boundaries, and an extension would allow fishing in some places with better conditions. It does NOT mean that the boundaries can be extended because someone has a favourite spot outside the boundaries, or has heard of fish being caught outside the boundaries.

In future, the boundaries will be discussed and set at or before the April General Meeting when the venues are being chosen, and everyone will have a chance to say what they want. Boundaries have been set for the remainder of the venues for 2003/4 as below. These can be still be discussed and altered at the General Meeting.

## 2003/2004 Field Day Dates, Venues and Boundaries.

Saturday/Sun/Mon 28/29 February /1 March 2004 Long Weekend Bluff Creek. The track to this beach needs four wheel drive. Boundaries:- as far as you can walk past the rocks at each end of the beach. Plus the Cheynes Beach area for people who only have two wheel drive vehicles.

**Saturday/Sunday 17/18 April 2004** **AAA State Estuary Championships 2003/2004.** Bunbury/Leschenault Inlet/ Collie River. Shore based fishing allowed in the Cut, no boat fishing in the Cut. **Form a Surfcasters team.**

Saturday/Sunday/Monday 24/25/26 April 2004 Anzac Day Long Weekend Denmark to Walpole. Boundaries:- eastern end of Ocean Beach at Denmark to Clifty Head near Mandalay Beach west of Walpole.

## Calendar for Next Three Months.

Here's a calendar showing the dates we will use for Dry Casting, General and Committee Meetings, and Fishing Field Days in the next three months.

<u>17</u>	AAA Event																			
<u>7</u>	Dry Casting							10	General Meeting			<u>14</u>	<u>15</u>	Field Day		17	Committee Meeting			
March 2004							April 2004							May 2004 (New Competition Year)						
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
<u>1</u>	2	3	4	5	6	<u>7</u>				1	2	3	<u>4</u>	31					1	<u>2</u>
8	9	<u>10</u>	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
15	16	<u>17</u>	18	19	20	21	12	13	<u>14</u>	15	16	<u>17</u>	<u>18</u>	10	11	<u>12</u>	13	14	<u>15</u>	<u>16</u>
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	<u>21</u>	22	23	<u>24</u>	<u>25</u>	17	18	<u>19</u>	20	21	22	23
29	30	31					<u>26</u>	27	28	29	30			24	25	26	27	28	29	30

## 2003/2004 Dry Casting Dates.

All are at Yokine Reserve, Wordsworth Avenue, Yokine, starting at 8:30 am.

Sunday 7 March 2004

Sunday 4 April 2004

## 2003/2004 General Meetings.

All at Coolbinia West Perth Amateur Football and Sporting Club room, off Wordsworth Avenue, Yokine, about 200 metres south east of the Yokine Bowling Club, starting at 8:00pm.

Wednesday 10 March 2004

Wednesday 14 April 2004

## Draft SCAC Event Calendar 2004/2005.

Public Holidays are, from [http://www.docep.wa.gov.au/default\\_lr.asp?id=lr/wages/pub\\_hol1&menu=lr\\_wages](http://www.docep.wa.gov.au/default_lr.asp?id=lr/wages/pub_hol1&menu=lr_wages) are:-

Foundation Day	Monday 7 June 2004	Queen's Birthday	Monday 4 October 2004
Australia Day	Wednesday 26 January 2005	Labor Day	Monday 7 March 2005
Anzac Day	Monday 25 April 2005	Easter	Friday 25 March - Mon 28 March 2005

School holidays for Primary and Secondary students in Government schools in WA, taken from

<http://www.eddept.wa.edu.au/termdates/termDates.htm>, are:-

Saturday 10 July - Sunday 25 July 2004	Saturday 2 October - Sunday 17 October 2004
Friday 17 December - Sunday 30 January 2005	Saturday 9 April - Monday 25 April 2005

Other dates which needed to be considered are May 9, Mothers' Day. September 5, Fathers' Day. Dry Casting events are not listed for Mothers' and Fathers' days. Dependent on the date for the Presentation night, we may have to change the June Dry casting date.

The following are listings of the "normal" dates that would be used in 2004/2005 if the club follows what has been done in most previous years. If we want to go to Rottneest in May, this needs to be booked by late February. See article on page 5 of the January Reel Talk

## 2004/2005 Field Day Dates and Venues.

Seven nominations have been received from Club members and the following list has been taken from the most recommended locations, and are the Committee's suggestions. Discussions will be held at the March Club Meeting, finalise the list at the March Committee meeting for the April Reel Talk, to be voted on by the members at the April General Meeting.

Saturday/Sun 15/16 May 2004 (misses Mother's Day)	Rottneest (90% requested)
Saturday/Sunday/Monday 5/6/7 June 2004 LWE	Denmark to Walpole (60% requested) Second main suggestion was Emu Springs.
Saturday/Sunday 17/18 July 2004	Cape to Cape (Busselton Jetty to Cape Leeuwin) 90% requested
Saturday/Sunday 14/15 August 2004	Rottneest (nobody wants to change)
Saturday/Sunday 11/12 September 2004	Cervantes (southern boundary of town to Hill River as far as you can walk.) 90% requested
Saturday/Sun/Mon 2/3/4 October 2004 LWE	S/Bend (Dongara to Greenough river mouth) or Dongara (Cliff Head to S/Bend). (75% requested)
Saturday/Sunday 13/14 November 2004	Cervantes to Sandy Point (90% requested)
<b>Saturday/Sunday 27/28 November 2004</b>	<b>AAA State Estuary Championships.</b>
Saturday/Sunday 11/12 December 2004	Local only (no further than Two Rocks to Pt Peron) 80% requested.
Saturday/Sunday 15/16 January 2005	Dawesville Cut to Myalup (90% requested)
Saturday/Sunday 12/13 February 2005	Cervantes or Open
Saturday/Sun/Mon 5/6/7 March 2005 LWE	Bluff Creek or Emu Springs (majority but one recommendation for Bremer Bay)
Saturday/Sunday 23/24/25 April 2005 Anzac Day LWE	Port Gregory to Kalbarri. <b>Note</b> Change of dates.

Current Competition Rules are available from the Secretary or see the club's web site <http://www.surfcasters.iinet.net.au> for the online versions.

Please realise that the Committee just wants to do what the members want to do, but if you don't tell us, then we will have to make the decision from suggestions we get or from Committee members' ideas. What we don't want is to have all the discussions and the changes at the last minute at the April General Meeting - that's not the way to make good decisions.

Also, please think about your involvement. If you're not able to go to some of the field days, then please consider leaving the discussion, the voting and the decisions to those members who will go on those field days.

Ideally, we should decide all the boundaries, times, sign on locations etc by or at the April General Meeting so these can be published.



## 2004/2005 General Meetings.

All at Coolbinia West Perth Amateur Football and Sporting Club room, Wordsworth Avenue, Yokine, starting at 8:00pm.

Wednesday 12 May 2004

Wednesday 9 June 2004

Wednesday 14 July 2004

Wednesday 11 August 2004

Wednesday 8 September 2004

Wednesday 13 October 2004

Wednesday 10 November 2004

Wednesday 8 December 2004

Wednesday 12 January 2005

Wednesday 9 February 2005

Wednesday 9 March 2005

Wednesday 13 April 2005

## AAA Estuary State Championships

2003/2004	Location	Bunbury/Leschenault Inlet.
	Headquarters	Collie River Boat Ramp.
	17/18 April 2004	(not the usual last weekend in month due to Anzac Day.)
	Boundaries	Australind and its tributaries with shore based fishing allowed in the Cut, no boat fishing in the Cut.
2004/2005	Location	Swan River.
	Headquarters	Troy Park.
	27/28 November 2004.	
	Boundaries	Swan and Canning Rivers, upstream from the Old Traffic Bridge.

## AAA Rock and Beach State Championships

2004/2005	Location	Cape to Cape
	Date	Saturday and Sunday 28/29 May 2005 (that's in our 2005/6 competition year)

## Starters for May Rottnest Field Day.

May is usually a Rottnest field day, so this article assumes Rottnest will be the venue for May this year. Any trip to Rottnest needs to have accommodation and transport booked well in advance, and fully paid to the Rottnest Island Authority two months in advance. This year, the safari is to Warroora from 15 May to 22 May 2004 which covers the usual field day weekend.

The total cost is likely to be around \$110 per person, a guess allowing for increased prices, but that depends on the number going to share the cost of the accommodation, transport around the Island, etc. Some people will be away at the Warroora Safari, so the number going to Rottnest may be down.

If you've ever tried to book accommodation at Rottnest, you'll understand the amount of work Cookie has to do to organise these trips. He has organised plenty of Rottnest trips and knows what's involved, and it never gets any easier. So he needs to get the number going early enough so that it can all be done properly. It simply isn't possible to leave it until close to the field day weekend and expect him to be able to organise it, particularly since he's going to Warroora and won't be around to do last minute changes.

Any one interested in going to Rottnest **MUST** have put their name down and paid a deposit **by the 11 February General Meeting** so that the Committee can see if there are enough starters for Rottnest, and advise the likely cost.

If you want to go to the May Rottnest Field Day, you **MUST** have paid \$110 by the **final closing date of 10 March General Meeting**, or you won't be included, no exceptions.

Contact Cookie for any more details, but **don't pay him**. All payments must go to Treasurer Terry Fuller, please, directly at a club event or by post to PO Box 2032 Marmion WA 6020.

## Safari 2004 - Warroora Station.

I needed payment by the February 2004 General Meeting in order to pay for the accommodation and ENSURE we get in. Any one trying to get included after the January General Meeting **can not be guaranteed accommodation** and will have to make their own arrangements - maybe camping 15 km away from everyone else in the club. This destination is a popular stopover for tourist buses and confirmed paid for bookings are essential.

The current list of names I have is as follows:-

Bob Henderson	Chas Riegert	Peter Stoeckel	Brian Stokes
John Romano	Matt Snedden	Ian Cook	Terry Fuller
Morris Kolman	Abra Deklerk	Mark and Wendy Hansen	Eric Britto
Jim Yeates	Rick Parker		

If your name is not on this list and you want to be there, name and money up front gets you there. Contact me  
Chas Riegert.

## **Happy Birthday to:-**

A lot of members haven't told us their birth date, so there may be more birthdays. Dob them in!

Derry Barber, 4 March

Nick Hocking, 10 March

Kaitlin Stoeckel, 20 March

Terry Willison, 20 March

Tony Slate, 25 March

## **Wanted - Aluminium Cans.**

Wanted - Aluminium cans. Please bring them along to the General Meeting or to Mal Head's home, but not to Dry Casting. Mal saves them up and takes them to the recyclers when he has enough, and the price is right, and donates all the proceeds to the Club.

## **New Member Acceptances.**

The following application for membership has been accepted, and will be invited to the next General Meeting to be welcomed into the Club. - None for this month.

## **New Member Application.**

Applications for membership have been received and will come before the February Committee meeting. If any member has any reason why any of the applications should not be accepted, please contact a Committee Member and state the reason. Abra and Wiann de Klerk.

## **Kalbarri House For Rent.**

The Club has a 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) in 1 double bed and 3 bunks, has reverse cycle air conditioning and ceiling fans to keep you cool in the summer months. Users need to bring their own linen, blankets and towels, tea towels, etc.

It has a radio and television, stove with oven, microwave oven, crockery and cutlery and all cooking utensils, fridge and freezer. It does not have a washing machine, but there is a laundromat in town. Outside has a fish cleaning facility and a full width verandah. Rates are:-

Public:-	Off season	\$250 per week,	On season	\$390 per week	} all
Club Members:-	Off season	\$160 per week,	On Season	\$210 per week	} plus \$50
Club Members:-	Short term	\$45 for one night, \$40 per night for two or more nights			} deposit / bond.

Bookings taken for the school holidays go from Saturday to Saturday (leaving by 10am). Outside of school holidays it does not matter. Club members need to do their own cleaning on departure, or we can arrange cleaners at around \$49 per clean, extra on the rates above.

Check in time is 1pm. Check out time is 10am. Keys can be picked up from Ray White, Shop 1, Kalbarri Arcade. If people arrive after hours, they leave a note on the door of their office with a map of how to get to the house and telling them where the key will be.

As at late January, the house is available in 2004 from 4 Apr to 9 Apr, 5 May to 10 Sep, 25 Sep to 15 Oct, and 6 Nov to 24 Dec 2004. Contact Property Officer Vix Alexander for bookings.

If any work needs to be done in, on or around the house, please contact the Property Officer for approval. Members who are staying in the house are not allowed to authorise any repairs or services on the house without authority from the Property Officer, Treasurer or President.

## **Club Polo Shirts, Jackets and Caps.**

We now have some stocks of short and long sleeved Club Polo shirts, long sleeved Club Jackets and baseball style caps with a club logo for sale to members. These are in the club colours of Gold (Yellow) and Black, and help to identify you as a "Surfcaster" member.

## **Club Competition Rules and Constitution.**

Printed copies of the Club's current Fishing and Dry Casting Competition Rules and Club Constitution are available. Contact the Secretary or see the club's web site <http://www.surfcasters.iinet.net.au> for the online versions.

## **Dry Casting Sausage Sizzle.**

We usually hold a sausage sizzle on every Sunday after the dry casting. Gives everyone a chance to talk over the morning's casting, gear to use, what's coming up, fishing, the state of the world or whatever, over some lunch.

But the sausage sizzle is not free, much as we would like it to be. It has to be paid for somehow, and the prices are quite reasonable compared to what you would pay elsewhere. **Don't forget to put the money in, please.**

Everything is one dollar each. You can get:-

1 drink plus 1 sausage in bread for	\$2.00	Extra drink for	\$1.00	Extra sausage in bread for	\$1.00
-------------------------------------	--------	-----------------	--------	----------------------------	--------



## January 2004 Field Day, Dawesville Cut to Binningup.

Chas came and grabbed the trailer, filled it up with all the gear and then set off with Daniel and myself. We left home about 10am and headed down to Mandurah for the sign on. Urgent stop on the way down at KFC for refueling purposes.

Met with everyone at the Dawesville Cut for the sign on – Tony and Filomena D’Alonzo, Mark and Wendy Hansen, Ken and Marcelle Black (who had to call for directions!), Chas, Daniel and myself.

After sign on, a few of us headed down to Tim’s Thicket area and set up camp. We started fishing without much success as the dolphins coming right into shore made sure that they got the fish and we didn’t!! Got a bit blowy into the evening and didn’t let up. There were a few fish caught- a lot of undersize tarwhine and whiting. One tailor was caught in that area by Mr Black.

So we gave up and had some grub to eat and a few drinks. Before we knew, it was gone 11pm! Fished then for about half hour or so then gave for the night and went to bed.

Morning didn’t bring any changes, so we packed up early and headed back to White Hills parking bay for the weigh in. Tony and Filomena surprised us all being there before time was up! The weigh in was finished up early so Tony offered to take everyone out for a coffee.

After filling up on cakes and coffee, we all headed for home.

Many thanks to Chas for the lift and the good (?) company!

AFDO, Peter Stoeckel.

Species caught on this field day were:- herring, tailor, tarwhine and whiting.

Results for the January 2004 Field Day:-.

Angler	Weight	Species	Fish	Points
Tony D’Alonzo	4.8 kg	3	30	128
Filomena D’Alonzo	2.0 kg	3	17	90
Ken Black	0.95 kg	2	6	79.5
Mark Hansen	0.8 kg	1	8	68
John Romano	0.5 kg	1	2	50
George Holman	0.35 kg	2	2	50
Paul Thompson	0 kg	0	0	43.5
Chas Riegert	0 kg	0	0	40
Peter Stoeckel	0 kg	0	0	40
Daniel Stoeckel	0 kg	0	0	40
Wendy Hansen	0 kg	0	0	35
Marcelle Black	0 kg	0	0	20

### **Field Day prizes and Sportsperson of the Year Sections for January 2004.**

Best Scale Fish	Ken Black	Tailor	0.25 kg
Best Bag of Scale fish	Tony D’Alonzo	Mixed Bag	4.8 kg

## Dry Casting Report, 1 February 2004.

Summer morning easterlies are here to stay it seems. Once again upon arrival at Yokine Reserve, Willow was located out in the middle setting up the casting courts.

This day I arrived a little earlier to help out as Hendo has done his back in again. Our sympathy goes out to him, as does our envy as to the reason for it.

Nick Allsworth, Peter Stoeckel and Mal Head turned up early to help out with setting up as well. A very big THANKS to these guys. Your effort was truly appreciated.

A couple of members from days past turned up in the form of Jim King and Roy Lundy. Roy bringing his grandson, Luke Bonnett, along to have a go as a junior. Looks like we have another promising junior.

Seniors kicked off on distance with 112 gram and Artificial Bait while the veterans/ladies/juniors took to the accuracy courts. These veterans make things look real easy, as the sound of the target clanging away become repetitive. Roy, Jimmy and TerryF all connecting on the bulls eye.

Young Luke had a grin like a Cheshire Cat, so I guess he was enjoying himself.

Andrew Stoeckel has been taught very well on how to run a sausage sizzle. His cooking was exemplary and everyone was grateful for his efforts. Thanks Andrew.

The day’s results reflect the windy conditions once again and can be seen in the table below.

Please note that next month we will be having our last 112 gram open and our normal casting will be 112 and 56 gram events.

Until then, Practise, practise, practise.

TT2 DCO



## **Wanted - Back Copies of Reel Talk.**

We are looking for donations of old Reel Talks, 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 2002 Reel Talk.

## **Wanted - Fish Smokers**

No, not the type that are hard to light when wet BUT the ubeaunt ones that use various types of sawdust to obtain those special flavours.

I would like to borrow 3 or 4 to run a fish smoking demonstration and tasting event for Club members at a future date. Contact Hendo on 9451 6341 if you can help.

## **Car Rally**

Sunday 21 March starting at 9:30am from the Club meeting hall car park then ending up at gawd knows where. BYO your own food (b/b/cue facilities) and the cool drinks provided .

Cost:- only \$5 per person. (you will receive some goodies for this).

## **Your Club's Future**

To survive and prosper, the Club needs the participation of all it's members in the various activities that we run. Membership numbers need to be maintained at a level so that the work load is spread and burnout is eliminated. We all have a common interest, achieve individual rewards and obtain a magnificent prize called comradery.

### **Well I need your input so I can guide the club into the future.**

Give me your thoughts on our 2004 Dinner/dance and presentation of trophies.

I want your field day recommendations.

Got any new ideas to improve our Club

Any ideas on fund raising etc.

Are you prepared to put your hand up and assist.

What can we get involved in...why, when how.

What we should not do.

No one person runs the Club. The committee is there to guide you.

It only takes a phone call, a note on a piece of paper, a new fandangled email, but most of all it's posterior reaction.

El Presidente, Hendo.

## **Consultation About Changes to Recreational Fishing Rules.**

As reported in the last couple of issues of Reel Talk, one of quite a few "stings in the tail" of the new recreational fishing regulations is the limits the "filleting at sea" and "boating possession limits" place on people who fish from the shore at Rottnest island after going there by ferry.

The Australian Anglers Association wants to be assured that the revised regulations don't introduce other problems and any other "unintended consequences", so has written to the Minister and Department of Fisheries.

At the time of writing this article (24 February) there has **STILL** not been any publicity about the changes from the Department of Fisheries, but we have received a reply from the Minister,as follows:-

Thank you for your letter of 3 January to the Minister for Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries regarding changes to the management arrangements for recreational fishing.

I have been advised that recreational fishing regulations currently being drafted by Parliamentary Council will be discussed with Recfishwest and the Australian Anglers Association (AAA), prior to the regulations being finalised.

If you have any questions on the draft regulations please contact Mr Nathan Harrison at the Department of Fisheries on 9482 7368.

Thank you for raising your concerns with me and I look forward to your ongoing participation in the management of recreational fishing.

Yours sincerely Bob Kucera APM JP MLA A/G MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY AND FISHERIES

We have an email reply from Fisheries saying that they will be in touch once they have a draft of the regulations - **but we're still waiting.**

We'll keep you informed about how this consultation goes. Check the AAA website <http://www.aaawa.iinet.net.au/> for updates.

## **Member's Stories, Photos, Tips, etc.**

Does anyone have any new stories, photos, tips, news items, etc, etc, to share? Please send them in to the Reel Talk Editor.

## **AAA Future Events.**

**Boating.** The next Australian Anglers Association championship will be the State Boat Angling Championships to be conducted on 27 March 2004, or possibly the 28th if the weather is not suitable on the 27th. This will be based at the Mandurah Offshore Fishing and Sailing Club Headquarters.

This event is being organised by the Boating Sub Committee and will be open to any member of a club affiliated with the Australian Anglers Association.

The scoring for the championship encourages people to catch a range of species of fish. Each entrant is allowed to weigh in only ONE fish of each eligible species. Points are awarded based on the number of eligible species weighed plus four points per kilogram of total bag weight. The points for species increase as more species are entered.

There will be both team and individual events and these are divided into four divisions:- Open, Ladies, Veterans (over 55 years) and Juniors (10 to under 16 years) and so caters for participation by all the family.

**Estuary.** The AAA State Estuary Championships for 2003/2004 will be held on Saturday and Sunday 17/18 April 2004 at Bunbury in the Leschenault Inlet and Collie River. Shore based fishing will allowed in the Cut, but no boat fishing in the Cut.

## **Life Members of the Club.**

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

## **Open Competition Results to February 2004**

Section	For	Weight	Name and place
3.	Best Mulloway	12.5 kg	Matthew Henderson, Scarborough
4.	Best Salmon	7.25 kg	John Jardine, Scarborough Beach
6.	Best Tailor	2.5 kg	John Jardine, Scarborough Beach
7.	Best Samson Fish	10.0 kg	John Jardine, Cape Hamelin
8.	Best Fish on single handed rod, maximum 4kg line class	1.6 kg	Snook, Chas Riegert, Cervantes
13.	Best Trevally (northern)	10.2 kg	Damian D'Mello, Quobba
14.	Best Snook/Pike	1.6 kg	Snook, Chas Riegert, Cervantes
15.	Best Fish caught on Fly Rod	6.3 kg	Longtail Tuna, John Jardine, Quobba

## **Where Are All the Fishing Stories?**

Looking at the list of contents for the Reel Talk this month, where are all the fishing stories? I'll print what I'm given, or I have to search for stories, and then what you see is what you get.

Special thanks to Hendo for his articles in this Reel Talk.

Let's keep this series going. Where and when did you start fishing and what did you get up to? Tell us all about it.

## **Club Raffle.**

Called the "One Hundred" club, we sell one hundred tickets at \$10 each, with the first prize being \$400, second \$50, third prize \$50.

Great odds and a good fund raiser, so come to the next club meeting and participate in the raffle.

## **Club Competition Rules and Constitution.**

Printed copies of the Club's current Fishing and Dry Casting Competition Rules and Club Constitution are available. Contact the Secretary or see the club's web site <http://www.surfcasters.iinet.net.au> for the online versions.

## **2004 SCAC Dinner/Presentation of Trophies.**

The nominations received by the Club indicate that the preferred location for our Dinner/Presentation of Trophies is the Marmion Aquatic and Angling Centre on a Saturday night.

The committee has acted quickly and has booked the centre for 19 June 2004.

Discussions have been carried out with the catering department, and a carvery buffet organised. I can assure you that you will receive a generous meal.

Prices for the event have not been finalised yet.

**ORGANISE YOUR PARTY NOW.**

## **Fishing at a Young Age.**

Our Reel Talk editor's request for some fishing stories from one's past disturbed a small working part of my brain & quite a few memories emerged from hidden depths like a celestial gathering.

How can one express in writing locations that no longer exist, actual events with no factual evidence, mates, pals & buddies that have moved on, could be dead, dormant or avoiding me? How can I describe a childhood that

bordered on vagrancy, truancy, sheer devilment, delinquency, but freedom & loads of fun. Adventures that kids of today could never experience or believe when I try to explain yesterdays society, values, standards & ethics.

Anyway, I'm gunna start trying to recall my illspent youth & put pen to paper & give you some insight to the fun I've had as I've tried to grow up. Stories will cover the Freo area from the Power station south of Robb's jetty to the South Mole, the North & South Wharves (on top & below), the old wooden train bridge, the Freo traffic bridge, the foreshore of east freo, blackwall reach area. Then there's the North Mole thru to the Cable station.

Give a kid a handline or an old cane pole to use as a fishing rod, supply him with a treadley & instruct him to go forth & hunt for his supper.

Prepare yourself for I'm about to explain why & how I spent my wellspent youth & turned out to such a wonderful person who is revered by..... Hendo

### **My First Mulloway.**

The following tale is a vague recall of an incident many years ago BUT has been verified by my cousin Bill Monger & on reminiscence a few more could be told.

As a young lad (say about 10 years old) I was introduced to serous fishing by my Uncle Bill, who lived next door to a renown fisho called George Brown. George had a bicycle & tackle shop over on Canning Highway in Bicton. Many a Saturday morning was spent loitering around in George's shop rummaging thru his tackle, sponging old bait or hooks, & perving on the sheilas in the deli next door.

George & big Bill would allow us to join them on some evening fishing trips down on the rivers edge in Bicton. Perched on a limestone rock or a rickety old jetty we were in awe as these blokes pulled in tailor & mulloway on handlines or George's cane rod.

With our kero lamps us lads scoured the foreshore for small crabs, cobbler, prawns & blue manna crabs. Many a night I came home with more skin missing than what was in my catch bag.

There's one special night that has stuck in my memory all this time & that was the night Uncle Bill landed a whopper of a mulloway but failed to acknowledge my participation.

Big Bill had taken his Little Bill & I down early to catch some live bait for him & soon we had yellowtail & trumpeter in the bait trap. Big Bill ran his line up & down the rickety jetty, baited with one of the livies, tossed it out under a cork float, shoved the wooden spool in a crack, looped a beer bottle around the line then sat back & had a fag or two. Meanwhile little Bill & I mucked around in the shallows pretending to be Zane Grey.

It must have been two hours later when the line took off, the beer bottle rattling along the jetty, Big Bill manhandling the line & putting on some drag. We clambered onto the jetty tripping around his legs squealing in delight for a monster was on the line & a huge battle was about to begin. Now here's where the fishing lesson begins.

The night was as black as a draught horses bum, not a breath of wind, no stars no nuffin. Suddenly Big Bill yelled out that he had no line left & a snap off was imminent for the spool was in his hand & the end of the jetty was close.

"NO WAIT" he had a bright idea. Grabbing ME by the scruff of the neck he shoved that spool into my hands & in a VERY SERIOUS TONE OF VOICE" told me not to let go "OR ELSE NO MATTER WHAT". Being 3 foot 6 inches tall & weighing in about 4 stone ringing wet wiff a bloody great fish heading gawd knows where the results were obvious.

Straight off the jetty I went down into the briney did I go, visions of a death so horrible & being nibbled on by all the gobbleyguts, blowies & crabs in the river. Surfacing a million miles away from the jetty all I could hear was Big Bills voice bellowing into the night "DON'T YOU LOSE MY BLOODY LINE.....DON'T LET GO....ORRRR ELSE

I must have been dragged up river a bit before my legs touched bottom & I scrambled for shore where Big Bill wrenched HIS LINE out my hands & proceeded to grapple with HIS FISH. Coughing & spluttering I was in no position to argue & the fear factor had not rescinded yet.

Up & down did Big Bill stagger with that fish till eventually a humungous shiny monster was belly up on the foreshore. Gawd it was big...I could have saddled it & gone to Rotto & back on it.

Big Bill heaved this monster onto his shoulders & staggered back to the jetty to collect our gear. "TOO BIG" to carry home so Big Bill ordered us to stand guard whilst he went home to collect the car. Pitch black, chilled to the bone, huddled in the dark, every noise had us on edge. A torch flashed in the dark & soon we were on our way home to display OUR CATCH.....pigs b....

NOBODY was interested or prepared to come & see our catch not even neighbour GEORGE who told me to rack off as he has to work tomorrow.

Now cos we didn't have a camera (I don't think they were invented then) Big Bill hacked up that fish & I remember hauling a school bag full of fish on my treadly the next day as I headed home. Years later Big Bill would recount that nights events with glee & sprout off about his fishing ability BUT never a mention of my heroic deeds that helped get that bloody fish.

Not to worry though, cos when the boasting got louder after a few beers I use to stand back at a safe distance & remind him & everyone else the true facts in a clear & loud voice.....then run like hell to avoid being hit by the "empty" that came my way.

TIS TRUE.....you know I don't fib.....

HENDO

## Xmas in Kakadu

The following tale is an account of a visit to Jabiru NT to visit my son Jamie & spend Xmas fishing & sight seeing the area.

A four and a half hour flight was anticipated from Perth to Darwin direct, and was quite smooth flying conditions.

The pilot assured us of a safe flight to Darwin but due to cyclone Debbie hovering over the area it was changing into a rain depression and there was a possibility of heavy rain & strong winds. Dropping down to land in Darwin I reckon he underestimated his statement. Torrential rain, strong blustery winds had the aircraft rocking & rolling which had quite a few hitting the panic button.

I really became concerned when the pilot in command walked down the aisle wearing a bloody parachute, stating that we was having problems with the landing gear, and was going ahead to get help. With the seat belt warning light flashing, my heart thumping (& a quick glance whose bum I would kiss if we crashed), the hostess came on the airwaves & mentioned that we had a cloud ceiling of 180 metres so could all passengers please raise our window shades & the first person that sights land is to yell out "We're getting close".

Hitting the runway 3 of us ran forward & assisted the copilot pull on the hand brake as we aquaplaned down the runway. Boy was it hissing down, we could not see the terminal until we nosed up to the aerobridge.

Torrential rain & blustery winds joined me as I picked up the hire vehicle & headed south down the Stuart Highway for 60kms before I turned onto the Arnhem Highway & headed for the Kakadu National Park & Jabiru. Didn't get far before I was stopped by the "LAW" & informed that there was numerous floodways under water but was open to 4x4's & trucks only.

I took it easy & encountered 5 flood sections that ran about 4 to 500 centimetres deep & were hassle free. The side plains were flooded, the bush lush & thick, the road a dream & the CD player & aircon a pleasure.

160km on, I paid my entry fee (\$16-50) to the Park, stopped at a bridge crossing & chatted to some locals then continued into Jabiru where Jamie met me at the crossroad. The humidity was running around 85%.

The temp about 35c, and my shirt stuck to me quickly & a drink was needed. Unpacking & yapping, and quenching my thirst, I was then given a tour of the town site, then a quick shower and on to the mine mess for dinner.

Sumptuous food was consumed (hey, I have to rough it you know) & we were back at the unit to some more catching up & planning for the many fishing excursions.

Tues morning, Jamie had to work the morning so the dingy hire from Jabiru dingy hire was organised (highly recommend as the service was first class). I had a walk around the small shopping centre, visited the local pool & did some laps then wandered back to the unit. Rain & drizzle followed me everywhere I went but it only took 5 minutes & you were dry again. After lunch we headed out of town approx 45kms to a bridge crossing.

An hour of lure tossing produced a couple of undersized barra (about 45cm) and with a quick release had my appetite wetted. Attacked by swarms of mozzies and march flies we called it quits.

Wednesday morning and a walk to the pool then a visit to the local library for some info on Jabiru. A snooze during the arvo then we headed for the golf clubhouse to spend xmas eve with Jamie's mates, playing pool, give the jukebox a workout (crappy music), and indulge in a drinking contest (silly young bugger thought I was passed it and lost big time). Staggered back to the unit in happy mood.

Wednesday morning saw us up early, load the dingy and head west for the South Alligator river boat ramp where on arrival we were confronted by the local Handbag (4 metre) as we put the boat in the water. It was here that the law was laid down regarding having any part of ones body protruding over any part of the boat. Throwing stones or telling handbags to nick off just doesn't work anymore as they just don't listen. The locals have grown accustomed to us humans, have got bigger and have a communication problem.

It seemed to take half the morning to travel right up to the top of the river where the small runoffs were. Jamie said we had traveled about 26km and had never been this far upriver but the heavy rain had given us rarely fished areas. Sighting so many "Handbags" on the way that would not move as we got close to them had me on tenterhooks.

Pounding the area with shallow diving lures produced quite a few barras but no legal sized ones. The acrobatics of the fish was sluggish the fight quite timid and I was left disappointed. Using the landing net it was catch and release and by the time we had drifted back about 10km, caught and released quite a few undersized barra, the score was nearly equal except for the croc which took Jamie's fish, did the roll and wound about 30 metres of 30lb fireline around his snout before we cut off. 1 "handbag" that will keep his trap shut for a while. The run back to the boat ramp was very quick as the river was running about 8/10 knots. Being instructed to load the dingy onto the trailer whilst having my tootsies in the water started an argument that I think I won. I'm not stupid!!!!

Gawd I had an uneasy night, dreams of a croc wearing a napkin, holdin a knife/n/fork and me being the main course, of barra that both of us could not lift into the boat, catfish with whiskers 1 metre long, an empty esky and outa fuel.

Thursday morning and Jamie had to work so it was pool time and walking that kept me active. Lunchtime saw us heading for Yellow waters and lines in the water by 1pm. Because of the flooding and humungous amounts of water around we were able to motor along the walkways and cross to other billabongs and a place called "Threeways" on Home billabong. The local "handbags" greeted us at every opportunity.

Non stop casting using shallow and deep divers had us once again connecting up with barra, saratoga and tarpon. Only a couple were legal size but I thoroughly enjoyed the antics of the tarpon who jumped higher, twisted and contorted, and threw lures right back at you if you didn't keep the pressure on. Weed was a problem but I'm used to that. As the area was flooded to the max we were able to stretch our boundaries and enjoy the magnificent habitat, the birdlife, mozzies and flies.

The local handbags were up close and getting personal and when they use the landing net as dental floss it's time to move. More trolling, more casting, more tarpon, bugger all sized barra and I was exhausted, sunburnt, bitten and looking forward to a cold drink OFF the water.

Saturday morning allowed us a sleep in, view the cricket, walk to the pool and do some laps. Around noon we headed out to Muirella Park (nutha billabong), put the boat in and trolled, cast and mucked around for 3 hours WITHOUT a single capture. A few bumps and follows and snags but that's it. The sun had come out with a vengeance, backed up by hordes of mozzies and flies, the humidity climbed a notch or two and life started to look bleak. As we cruised back we disturbed the fruit bats that filled the air with flapping and screeching, and flew over us and dropped their greetings onto us in a hail. Not the first time for me!!!!

Sunday morning saw us heading out to the East Alligator River and Cahill's crossing. The normal water level is 100/300cm but at 1:8 metres is a tad difficult to cross. The resident "handbag"...Mr BIG ERIC (all 5 metres of it) was in residence and caution was required. Water flow was extreme as we motored upstream for approx 15km to the floodplains then tried every rockbar, rockface, sandbar, snag and runoff. NOT A TOUCH... even though we changed lures to rubbertails. We were getting close to the boat ramp when the action picked up and the tarpon put on their displays that had us giggling like yobbo's for the next hour or so. Once again the barra were undersize (45 to 53cm) and were lethargic.

After numerous snags, lure retrieves, lure losses, bloody tired arms, the sweat streaming off us, biting flies and exhaustion got the better of us so we headed back. We ran the dingy right up onto the boat ramp and trailer, gave "BIG ERIC" the finger and traveled home with the knowledge that we had well and truly satisfied our appetite for fishing.

I've just had 7 days of fabulous company, delicious food, exciting fishing, truly magnificent country, abundance of wildlife and whetted the tonsils. Met some great people, been given every assistance and co operation and can honestly say I've had a ball. A xmas experience that will live in my heart and memories for a long time into the future. Recommend you try it someday. HENDO

## **Fishing for Stamps?**

Chances are if you asked anyone who was born in the late 1930's or 1940's if they had ever fished the answer would be in the affirmative. Better still if you asked them, especially if they were male, did they collect stamps at one time or another the answer again would be in the affirmative.

Fishing is the largest sport or recreational leisure hobby in the world with stamp collecting or philately the largest indulged hobby in the world. So how do these two vastly different pastimes co-join?

As a youngster I fished enthusiastically up to the age of 12 years and would also, when pocket money allow it, buy and later swap stamps. It was not uncommon in those days to collect, cigarette packet labels, cricket cards, cards out of cereal packets, playing cards, you name it, and chances were that it was a collectable. Even today kids, and many adults, still collect items of interest and to support this "need" there are numerous stamp shops, hobby shops, Hobby Fairs devoted to this "industry". I have seen grandchildren con their parents into buying various cereals to get the cards inside.

As the hobby of philately grew postal authorities were quick to realize that here was a growth industry and fostered it by producing stamps of interest to many collectors and I might add investors. And so was born here in Australia many Philately outlets. If you visit [www.auspost.com.au/philately/stamps/stampshops](http://www.auspost.com.au/philately/stamps/stampshops) you will have your eyes opened up to a Home Page, Entry to stamp shop, and 9 other sub headings.

It is amazing to think that when you post a letter that all you have to do is buy a stamp, lick it (sometimes as we now have self adhesive stamps!) seal the envelope and away it goes but that it item in the top RH corner will be a collectable to someone and amongst other things a revenue raiser for many institutions who buy bulk used stamps and sell them overseas to stamp dealers for packets.

Because of the expense involved in collecting a total collection of a particular country many collectors collect themes and this type of person is a Thematic Collector. Themes vary widely and include ships, flags, cars, film stars, inventors and such but another extremely popular theme is fish and fishing. Realising this Australia Post decided to "cash in" on this theme and on February 17th 2003 released a set of 5 stamps that depicted five of the nations most sought after recreational fish being - the snapper, barramundi, Murray cod, brown trout and yellowfin tuna. The set was known as the Fishing Australia series.

Such was the advertising hype behind the pre release of this series that Rex Hunt was recruited to do the launch in Melbourne. I now unashamedly quote from fishvictoria website. For those wishing to see the article in detail go to the following - [www.fishvictoria.com/pnewgear/aust\\_post/030225\\_stamps.php](http://www.fishvictoria.com/pnewgear/aust_post/030225_stamps.php)

"Rex Hunt enlisted the help of a somewhat slippery friend on 17 Feb 2003 to launch a series of stamps dedicated to fishing. Rex was in Melbourne to launch "Fishing in Australia" which is now available in Post Shops.

Recreational fishing is a national obsession in this country so it's great to see it represented on stamps. Anglers love to collect all-things-fishing and will be a hit amongst the fishing community, said Rex.

Australia Post's Gary Highland said the release of the stamps was in response to strong public demand. We have had numerous requests for fishing to be given its own set of stamps - which is not surprising since most year. Fishing is one of our nation's best loved pastimes. It is enjoyed by people of all ages, from all walks of life in all states of Australia. Mr Highland said that the stamp series highlighted the great diversity of Australian fishing. We wanted to ensure that both freshwater and saltwater as well as northern and southern fish were represented. He further added that the fish chosen by Australia Post are in many respects the icons of recreational fishing in Australia.

The snapper must be one of the most eagerly anticipated fish in Australia each year - particularly when it makes its run into Port Phillip Bay. The barramundi, outside of the closed season, is a fulltime obsession for northern anglers just as the yellowfin tuna is eagerly pursued by game fishers all round Australia. The introduced brown trout and native Murray Cod would rank as among our most elusive and sought after fish.

The stamps were illustrated by Sydney artist Ego Guiotto and the stamps also feature lures and flies associated with each fish."

There are fish depicted on Australian Territories stamps of Christmas Island and I would suggest that there is not a country that has not issued a stamp that depicts a fish, fishing or something that accords our hobby the recognition it richly deserves.  
Jim Atkinson.

### **Comments on Draft Extensions to Ningaloo Marine Park.**

The Australian Anglers Association has put in the following comments on draft plans to extend the sanctuary and no take zones at the Ningaloo Marine Park.

Stuart Field, Marine Planning Officer,  
Department of Conservation and Land Management, Marine Branch  
47 Henry Street, FREMANTLE WA 6160

Dear Stuart

#### **Comments on draft revised zoning scheme for Ningaloo Marine Park and proposed additions.**

The following comments on the draft document have been prepared on behalf of the Australian Anglers Association by Secretary Terry Fuller.

#### **General.**

The Association places great importance on the future of recreational fishing, the habitats and the fish resource it depends on, and equitable access to areas for fishing. These are all very high priority in the Association's objectives.

The Association fully supports and actively promotes conservation and responsible fishing, and will not argue with any changes which are proven to be really necessary and will be effective for the preservation of the environment and/or conservation of fish stocks.

We ask that the process of deciding those changes be supported by data which shows that these are needed and will be effective, equitable and will share the effort and impact among all parties which are involved in affecting the abundance of fish or the environment.

We recognise the unique values of the Ningaloo Reef and agree that Marine Park status is appropriate.

#### **Fisheries Management and Marine Parks.**

A principal issue is the failure of the Western Australian government system to integrate the responsibilities and contributions of the two departments involved in Marine Parks, CALM and the Department of Fisheries.

The Fisheries Department manages fish stocks and fish captures State and region wide, with additional special controls in some particular regions or areas. CALM appears to wish to overlay no take zones and area controls and use "the need to manage the take of fish" as a justification for these zones, when fish are already managed on a wider scale. We also object to proposals to close areas to fishing if fishing has nothing to do with other things which might really need to be protected or managed in those areas.

The current lack of interaction with the Department of Fisheries is exemplified by the way that the Proposed Zoning Scheme appears to have ignored the recent changes to fishing regulations in the Gascoyne region which have reduced the daily bag limits for many targeted species.

Far larger impacts occurs from large scale extraction of finfish species in the region or nearby areas or during their migration to or around the area, and proper fisheries management everywhere has greater potential for improvement in fish abundance than banning fishing for them in some areas.

If CALM has reservations about the effectiveness of fisheries management by the Department of Fisheries, those issues need to be resolved but not by duplication or additional closed area restrictions introduced by CALM.

Control for increased pressure along the coast must be for the whole of the park and region and if that needs tighter region wide restrictions, that's the right way to go. Sanctuary areas must not be used in an attempt to compensate for any failure in any other fisheries or environmental management.



It appears to the Association that the opinions of a limited group, including the CCPAC, have been used in lieu of good scientific information. This is particularly apparent in Section 3.9 of the Framework for the Review where it says "Whether this regional (recreational fishing rules) approach is, in itself, adequate to manage the greater pressure on targeted fish stocks in the Park, compared to other parts of the region, requires careful consideration."

We note the MPRA position in the Framework for the Review of Ningaloo Marine Park Management Plan was that "current management arrangements for recreational fishing in NMP be reviewed, including the option of seasonal closures during spawning periods for selected species". Despite this statement, there is no indication that this has occurred other than to push for increases in no-take areas.

If one part of the problem is simply that too many fish are being caught, and if that is supported by real research data, then that should be handled by catch limits, and not by closing areas.

We believe that targeted seasonal closures with the specific purpose of handling any seasonal issues such as protecting fish spawning aggregations would receive significant public support from recreational anglers. These need to be supported by the data which shows they are necessary, and targeted seasonal closures will be much more acceptable than complete spatial closures.

The Association accepts the possibility that the current Gascoyne recreational Fishing rules may not all be suitable for the Ningaloo Marine Park, and believes that there should be a separate Marine Park Fisheries Management group to examine and assess fishery management issues for the marine park.

#### **Marine Conservation by No Take Closures based on Area.**

The Association believes there is an over concentration on No Take Zones as the principal method of marine conservation effort by CALM in Marine Parks.

The draft document seems to rely on a general area based objective for No Take Zones to justify the increase in the no take sanctuary zones in the Ningaloo Marine Park.

The scientific criteria developed for the Representative Areas Program (RAP) for the Great Barrier Reef World Heritage Area of 30-50% of the total area of a bioregion as recommended by the Townsville Declaration on Coral Reef Research and Management has been used without any attempt to justify or explain if or how this translates to the Ningaloo Marine Park.

The Great Barrier Reef is subject to different pressures from the level of exploitation and use and heavy run off of silt, fertilisers, herbicides and pesticides from very large areas of intensive farming in an area of high rainfall. Some tropical reefs in other parts of the world are subjected to massive overfishing with inappropriate and damaging fishing methods which do not occur in Western Australia, yet the needs and experience in these parts of the world are used as "justification" for large closures in the Ningaloo Marine Park.

CALM uses reports of the success of some closed no take areas in some other parts of the world to justify the need for closed areas in WA. But some of those areas were VERY heavily fished and fish stocks were in VERY serious decline and thus closing areas DID have a big effect. That experience does not necessarily translate to WA where fish stocks are generally not under such pressure.

One potential danger of closing extra areas where existing fishing is claimed to be detrimental, is that it will simply transfer and put more fishing pressure on the adjacent areas and other areas which remain open. That will cause those areas to be affected even more, (assuming local fishing is actually the major impact), which will lead for pressure to close those, as has already been used as justification for the proposed extra closures in Ningaloo.

CALM are required to manage the WHOLE park, not just the closed sanctuary areas, and simply transferring the fishing effort is not a responsible action nor an effective response to a perceived problem.

Problems come when CALM tries to use or justify area closures to manage fish stocks, or close areas to fishing when fishing has nothing to do with other things which might really need to be protected or managed in those areas.

#### **Impact of Recreational Catches.**

Justification for extra closed areas includes an assumption explained in "Recent research in NMP by Westera (2003) showed evidence of trophic cascades in the recreation zone adjacent to the Mandu sanctuary zone that are likely to have resulted from the removal of 'top-end' predators targeted by recreational fishermen".

The study does not provide any evidence of "overfishing" in terms of recruitment overfishing. There is no evidence to suggest that current levels of fishing are causing adult stocks to be reduced to the extent that recruits produced are insufficient to maintain the current populations.

We note that there is no evidence offered that the catch by recreational anglers is solely responsible for this effect. We question what impact professional fishing activities including the finfish bycatch and mortality due to Prawn trawling in Exmouth Gulf has on the stocks of mature fish in the northern part of the Marine Park.

The assumption implies that recreational catches are solely responsible, since the "cure" includes increased no take zones which (we understand) only or mainly affect recreational anglers. This reinforces the view that recreational fishermen are the "soft target" where "something" can be done, but not necessarily what really needs to be done to solve the problems.

Where is the action on total catches in the region including those by professional fishermen? We submit that an alternative "cure" for the impacts seen could well be different management of fishing activities in other parts of the region including outside of the Marine Park boundaries.

Recreational anglers have had tighter catch limits imposed on them, but there have not yet been corresponding changes to the management of professional fishing. Recreational anglers want Department of Fisheries to move forward with outcomes from the wetline review and integrated management. CALM and the Committee should use its influence to push for the Department of Fisheries to implement an Integrated Fishery management that ensures an Ecologically Sustainable Managed Fishery, because we believe this has the potential for much greater improvement in fish stocks than sanctuary zones.

#### **Choice and Justification of Areas for No Take Zones.**

A limitation in the review process which resulted in these proposals is the notable absence of scientific data as a base for any alterations to current zoning and management. The changes proposed in the draft zoning plan are certainly not supported by scientific information. The Ningaloo Marine Park Management Plan 1989-1999 emphasised the need for research and monitoring as a basis for proper management of the Park.

The document does not contain enough information about why the particular areas shown on the map have been chosen for us to give many detailed comments about their suitability for achieving some objectives or otherwise. In our opinion, the document does not have give an adequate explanation of the objectives or why these particular areas were chosen.

The documentation needs to establish what is to be protected from what threat from what activities. The actual zones recommended need to be justified to make sure that any sanctuary/no take zones are the only way of achieving the protection, and are no larger than they need to be to protect whatever is decided needs to be protected in that area.

#### **Allowed Activities.**

It is completely unacceptable that activities such as trolling for pelagic fish outside the reef should be banned in the sanctuary areas. There is no justification for preventing trolling because it could not possibly have any impact on anything that might need to be protected in sanctuary zones.

We submit that all activities should be allowed in all zones unless those activities are proven to be incompatible with the declared purpose for the existence of the zone.

It is believed CALM has concerns about compliance, and has concerns about the difficulties of checking activities if some things are allowed in the sanctuary zones. We do not accept complete closures simply to make it easy for someone to check compliance, particularly in the current environment of little effective compliance checking anyway.

Shore based fishing zones should allow recreational line fishing for finfish from the shore or by wading, standing on rocks, reefs, etc. in at least a 200m strip from the shore line.

#### **Marine Conservation in Western Australia.**

The Association is dissatisfied with the current process for planning marine conservation reserves in Western Australia.

A particular concern is a later step of "a 3 month public submission period". We are concerned at what is missing in this process, based on the experience with the equivalent part of the consultation process over the Jurien Bay Marine Park which was misrepresented to many people.

The review of the public submissions is closed and within CALM / MPRA and therefore liable to claims of bias and selective interpretation of the submissions. We do not believe this process delivers what it appears to promise. Without the process being open, it is not acceptable to many people.

The Indicative management plan can be changed considerably and offered to the Ministers without any opportunity for the public to know if or how their submissions were used. It is claimed that a summary of submissions is also made available to the public. We agree this should happen, but it has still not been completed for Jurien Bay even though the Park was dedicated over 5 months ago.

The process needs to be changed to require the release of the final proposed version for public information before any version is locked in by gazettal.

We expect that the residents of W.A. will know what is proposed before it is submitted to Parliament and applied. That is real transparency, and it is as expressed in CALM's Public Participation Policy [http://www.calm.wa.gov.au/calm\\_public\\_participation.html](http://www.calm.wa.gov.au/calm_public_participation.html) , which says:-

4. The participatory process will be objective, open, fair and carried out in a responsible and accountable manner.
5. Public participation processes will emphasise the sharing of information, joint learning and understanding.
6. Data and information used in the decision making process will be available to stakeholders, and
10. Participants will be informed as to how their involvement affected the Department's or Government's decisions.

### **Composition of Coral Coast Parks Advisory Committee (CCPAC).**

The MPRA and CALM appear to have opted for a process in which they use local supporters of a proposed park, with strong philosophical support for the CALM process, and do not engage in general consultation on the wider issues which arise when there is formal stakeholder representation. The recreational fishing sector will be impacted upon by these proposals to the greatest extent, yet the peak recreational fishing body has been excluded from the formal process.

As previously elsewhere, it appears to the Association that the opinions of a limited group, including the CCPAC, have been used in lieu of good scientific information.

While the Association recognises the need for significant local community involvement, the Marine Park is a resource for the entire community and the importance of a strategic, State-wide outlook must not be overlooked especially when visitor interests are extremely important as at Ningaloo.

### **Public Consultation.**

The Association strongly supports the decision to release this proposed zoning scheme for public comment prior to preparation of the formal draft plan for formal public consultation. We understand the multi step process and the early stages of the Ningaloo proposals.

However, the Association believes this places an unnecessary onus on recreational anglers to argue against proposals which appear to have already been decided and which have a significant impact on their access to areas in the Marine Park.

If necessary, anglers have to try to convince a committee that the areas should be changed, instead of having a say in the choice of the areas in the first place.

### **Impact of Removal of Pelagic Species.**

The Association questions the impact of catching the common pelagic species in the numbers taken from some of these areas, compared to the total number taken in the region.

We understand that MPRA / CALM want to be able to adjust management to suit the circumstances, but these only ever seem to result in increased restrictions. We submit that flexibility needs to be a two-way process, and must include restrictions being removed or relaxed if they are later found not to be necessary.

Would we be given a guarantee in the management plan that if no research is done, or if the research can't address that issue, or if the research shows that any change in the ecosystem from removal of the pelagic species is ecologically sustainable and insufficient to justify the ban on recreational line fishing from the shore, that areas will be reopened to that sort of fishing in the next review in 10 years time?.

Proper management of fish can include timed closures, area closures, species bans, limits on the gear used, or combinations of these for spawning or nursery areas, areas/species under too much pressure, areas set aside for special purposes, etc. but these must all be justified by research and data which shows that these are right and necessary and will actually be effective.

### **Specific responses to proposed zoning changes and additions**

The only information available about the proposed areas is as shown on the A3 sized maps with very little details of the exact locations of the boundaries or the size of the zones. Any comments on this draft are subject to additional comments when the exact details are provided.

**Point Murat.** The Association has no strong objection to this proposed extension. The objectives for having a closed area around the jetty itself should be explained and listed, and the maximum possible length of beach should remain open for fishing from the shore. The distance from the jetty where fishing is not allowed should only be the minimum necessary to achieve the stated objectives.

**Bundegi.** The Association supports a small extension but without adequate explanation of the reasons for or size of the proposed extension, we are unable to comment further.

**Lighthouse Bay.** The proposal to establish a sanctuary zone of the size proposed closed to fishing in Lighthouse Bay is strongly opposed. This would have a high social cost as there are a variety of users of this area. It is popular for shore-based fishing due to the proximity to a major caravan park patronised by many Western Australian, interstate and overseas visitors.

**Jurabi.** This proposal is opposed. It is an area of the park which is close to visitor accommodation and a boat ramp and has high amenity value for recreational fishers. We wonder why the area proposed is taken only from the existing recreational area and does not include any of the deeper water in the General use zone, yet the Management Plan seeks to address "poorly represented in the northern section of the Park and in the deeper waters" (page 8).

**Tantabiddi.** The Association is opposed to this proposal. It is extremely close to the boat ramp at which quite small boats are launched to fish in the safe area near the boat ramp. There does not seem to be any logic in proposing this area as a sanctuary zone, particularly in the absence of any scientific justification. A more specific explanation is required.

**New Zones.** The Association is opposed to restrictions on shore based fishing in almost all of the new zones proposed, including all zones in the proposed extension. The Association sees no reason why the low impact

activity of shore fishing with a rod and line should be excluded from all these areas without explanation and justification.

**Other proposals.** The Association has no detailed comments on other proposals at this stage as outlined earlier, other than to object to the seaward extension of zones beyond the outer reef without further justification.

There is little justification for the expansion of current sanctuary zones seaward. Using the paper by Westera & Hyndes (2001) as one of the reasons for the extensions is ludicrous. To suggest that areas would provide the "potential" to protect a single genus of demersal fish by closing an area that may represent habitats "often" associated with spawning sites does little to justify the extension.

#### **Overview of response to proposed zoning scheme.**

- The CALM planning process continues to ignore fisheries management as a tool to maintain ecological sustainability of fish catches.
- There is a critical need to establish an understanding between the Department of Fisheries and CALM regarding marine parks in general and Ningaloo in particular.
- It is imperative that fisheries management be involved as an important component in the planning and management process for Marine Parks.
- The Townsville Declaration on Coral Reef Research and Management must be put into context as being largely concerned with addressing problems associated with subsistence fishing in underdeveloped islands of the Indo/Pacific region that are predominantly void of any realistic recreational and/or commercial fishery management, and may not apply to Ningaloo Marine Park.
- Zoning by itself is not the solution. There is a need to recognise that zoning is only one of the management tools available for natural resource management and that other fisheries management tools have been successful and strongly supported by recreational anglers where there has been meaningful input into their development.
- Zone changes have been proposed in the absence of scientific data to support those extensions. Information from the few scientific papers referred to have largely been taken out of context and in particular do not justify the seaward extensions of sanctuary zones into deeper waters.
- Even fourteen years after the establishment of the Park, a precautionary approach has been adopted without any significant use of the experience gained over that period.
- There is urgent need for strategically planned and ongoing scientific evaluation to become part of the process.
- Boundaries need to be clearly marked and readily identifiable for understanding of their extent.
- The Committee must understand the importance of developing a zoning scheme that is appropriate, practically feasible and socially acceptable to users of area and supported by the wider community. This follows one of the Strategic Objectives as set out in the framework Paper namely "To facilitate and manage recreational activities in the Park within an equitable and ecologically sustainable framework."

#### **Conclusion.**

The Association is not satisfied with this review process which has excluded adequate recreational fishing representation, and has not justified or explained the proposals.

This review of Ningaloo Marine Park appears to have ignored the proper role of fisheries management to the objectives of the Park. Although current fisheries management is not all it should be, closing more areas is not the solution.

It is suggested that the consultation and coordination with the Department of Fisheries would lead to a better outcome. The Association believes the government should ensure that such an integrated approach is used.

The Association requests that a different committee which properly represents the range of stakeholders be asked to consider the submissions on the Proposed Zoning Scheme and to assist in completing the Draft Management Plan for formal public consultation.

Please contact me for any further information or clarification.

Yours sincerely, Terry Fuller, Secretary, Australian Anglers Association (WA Division) Inc.

#### **Deaths of Former Members.**

Former members Allan Egan, Wally Thompson and Don Bibby have died recently.

#### **Hardy Inlet Estuarine Fishery Options.**

Department of Fisheries has released a paper titled "Hardy Inlet Estuarine Fishery Management Issues and Options" as Fisheries Management Paper Number 169. It is available from their web site at <http://www.fish.wa.gov.au/comm/broc/mp/mp169/index.html> or a paper copy can be obtained from the Department of Fisheries. Public comment and submissions on this paper close on 3 May 2004.

The summary says "In November 1999, Fisheries Management Paper No. 131: Management Directions for Western Australia's Estuarine and Marine Embayment Fisheries - A Strategic Approach to Management was

released for public comment. Submissions made to that paper highlighted a number of matters specific to the Hardy Inlet Estuarine Fishery.

To further ascertain the key issues facing the future management of the Hardy Inlet Estuarine Fishery a number of key stakeholder group meetings were held in December 2002. Present at these meetings were members of the South West Recreational Fishing Advisory Committee, the Molloy Island Home Owners' Association, Recfishwest, the Western Australian Fishing Industry Council (WAFIC), the commercial fisherman, fishing tour operators, local fish retailers, Augusta Margaret River Shire Councillors, the Editor of Fishing Western Australia (WA), the Editor of Western Angler, a Murdoch University scientist involved in the black bream re-stocking program and Department of Fisheries researchers and compliance officers.

The purpose of the stakeholder meetings was to present the most recent information regarding the fishery, and determine which matters needed to be addressed to facilitate acceptable management arrangements. A summary of the matters raised is provided in Appendix 1.

The two key fisheries matters arising from the meetings that became the focus of this paper are:

- The sustainability of black bream stocks; and
- Sharing the black bream resource between the recreational and commercial sectors, specifically in the Blackwood River.

These discussions have highlighted the relatively recent emergence of black bream as an "icon" recreational species. Two fishing tour operators ("fishing guides") have commenced operations in this area in the past few years; more recently, bream fishing competitions, predominantly catch and release, are attracting a small band of dedicated competitors. Black bream have also been historically targeted by commercial fishermen during the winter months and provide the sole remaining fisherman with his primary source of income in those months.

This paper presents information available on fish resources in the Hardy Inlet/Blackwood River system, and discusses the key management matters and likely impacts of a number of possible management measures.'

### **Donations for Trophies.**

It's March already - where did 2003 go?. Soon we will be looking for trophies for this competition year.

There are some things members can do:-

1. Get involved in the competition - there are still some open and field day competition sections which don't have entries.
2. Donate a trophy yourself - particularly if you have been on the on the receiving end in past years.
3. When buying your gear and getting your services from potential 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 soon, they will know that this Club's members support them.

### **February 2004 Field Day, Open.**

The boundaries for the open is anywhere within the Western Australian tidal waters, provided that you can get back to the weigh in by Sunday afternoon. Eight members chose to fish the weekend in locations that ranged from Wagoe to Seabird. The wind gods where not smiling on us for most of the weekend so conditions were less than perfect.

As Wagoe would have to be Tony's and Filomena's favorite fishing spot it is no surprise that was the location they chose. With plenty of time to spare before lines down, Tony set about gathering some of the abundant abalone that inhabit the Wago reef, just the thing for a tasty meal. Unfortunately as he was removing one from its shell the knife slipped and sliced deeply into Tony's hand. The cut was deep enough to prevent fishing with two hands, but not enough to send him home, so it was a single-handed fishing affair from then on. Even with one hand Tony managed a good mixed bag that I for one would have been happy with.

George and Dave headed to Cervantes to try their luck and at the same time check out the reported new access road to the coast north of the town. They each returned good bags of tailor and dart as well as a gardie each, which will complete their requirement for their species badges.

Chas and new member Abra Deklerk headed to Seabird for the Saturday afternoon and evening session. Hampered by the conditions, all Chas could land was a Wobbegong, which is outside our catch categories.

Vix and I opted for a run up to S Bend to get amongst the three kilo tailor that had been reported during the week. By the time we arrived on midday on Saturday the wind had beaten us there, which only exacerbated the already weedy situation. Needless to say we returned the next day with nothing to show for a not so leisurely drive in the country.

All in all not a very productive weekend in terms of fish weighed in, but that's why it's called fishing and not catching. The other consoling thought is that there is only a few days wait until Bluff Creek, now that should be a good one.

Hope to see you on the beach next time.

Malcolm Harris Field Day Officer.

Species caught on this field day were:- herring, tailor, tarwhine, dart, flathead, garfish and skippy.

Results for the February 2004 Field Day:-

Angler	Weight	Species	Fish	Points
Tony D'Alonzo	3.6 kg	4	14	126
George Holman	4.5 kg	5	10	145
David Maxted	3.2 kg	3	7	112
Charles Riegert	0	0	0	0
Malcolm Harris	0	0	0	0
Filomena D'Alonzo	0	0	0	0
Vix Alexander	0	0	0	0

**Field Day prizes and Sportsperson of the Year Sections for February 2004.**

Best Scale Fish	David Maxted	Tailor	0.91 kg
Best Bag of Scale fish	George Holman	Mixed Bag	4.5 kg

**Field Day Top Ten for 2003/2004 up to February.**

	Angler	Total Points		Angler	Total Points
1	Tony D'Alonzo	1574.9	6	Filomena D'Alonzo	418.0
2	Malcolm Harris	626.4	7	John Romano	416.8
3	George Holman	476.3	8	Charles Riegert	336.6
4	Ian Cook	452.0	9	John Jardine	293.5
5	Vix Alexander	424.9	10	Peter Stoeckel	292.5

**Field Day Sections for 2003/2004**

**Field Day Sections for 2003/2004 up to February 2004.**

1A	Best Scale Fish (1st Six Months)	Tony D'Alonzo	Dhufish	10.5 kg
1B	Best Scale Fish (2nd Six Months)	David Maxted	Tailor	0.91 kg
3	Best Shark (4.5kg min)	Matt Henderson	Shark	4.6 kg
4	Best Mulloway (2.0kg min)	Filomena D'Alonzo	Mulloway	7.05 kg
5	Best Tailor (1.0kg min)	John Jardine	Tailor	4.3 kg
7	Best Skipjack Trevally (0.5 kg min)	Tony D'Alonzo	Skipjack Trevally	0.65 kg
9	Best Scale Fish (Other than above)	Tony D'Alonzo	Parrot Fish	3.95 kg
10	Best Bag Of Scale Fish	Tony D'Alonzo	Mixed Bag	38.3 kg
11	Best Bag Of Mulloway (2 Fish Min)	Tony D'Alonzo	Mulloway	10.2 kg
12	Best Bag Of Tailor (2 Fish Min)	George Holman	Tailor	4.8 kg
13	Best Fish On S/H Rod 4kg b/s line (max)	Matt Henderson	Tailor	0.425 kg
14	Best Fish Caught on Fly Rod	Matt Henderson	Tailor	0.3 kg



*The end of Busselton Jetty. How many more winter storms will it survive?*