



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 2002/2003

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Ian Cook

Field Day Officer

Malcolm Harris

Property Officer

Vix Alexander

Committee Person

Andrew Aubrey

Social Organiser

Derry Barber

Membership Coordinator

Chas Riegert

Committee Person

Peter Stoeckel

Immediate Past President.

George Holman

A.A.A. Delegates

George Holman

Bob Henderson

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Minutes of General Meeting, 9 April 2003

- Venue:-** Coolbinia West Perth Amateur Football and Sporting Club room Time 8:10 PM. President Ross Kember presiding. Ross gave birthday wishes to members as listed in the Reel Talk, plus Jim Strong.
- Present:-** 23 senior members, 5 visitors.
- Apologies:-** Mal Head John Hall, Maureen Lissimman, Joy Brann, Ian Taggart, Morris Kolman, Terry Ring.
- Visitors:-** Daniel Chapman, Neil Quinn, Tom Lund, Mark Holdsworth, Martin Johannesen.
- Instruction Period:-** Ian Cook Moved suspension of standing orders, seconded Chas Riegert and carried. Nathan Harrison, Fisheries, spoke on changes to recreational fishing rules proposed to commence 1 July 2003. Allan Jones moved resumption of standing orders, seconded by Peter Stoeckel carried.
- New Members:-** None.
- Previous Minutes:-** Published in the Reel Talk. Moved Chas Riegert seconded Peter Stoeckel, these are a true record. Carried.
- Previous Committee:-** Ross Kember outlined actions from the previous Committee meeting. No business arising.
- Correspondence. In**
- | | |
|--|---|
| Ray White Kalbarri, | Statement for March 2003 (Cleaning still to be paid for) |
| Challenge Bank | Statement for March 2003 |
| Vic Dunstan | Resignation from the Club due to illness. |
| Aust Post | Receipt for payment for PO box |
| Geraldton and Districts Offshore Fishing Club, | Tagged fish competition Easter. |
| Seniors Recreation Council | Gemini Ball, Club Management Awards, "Be Active" Seniors recreation forum on 1 May 2003 |
| AON Risk Services | Club Personal Accident Renewal Details |
- Correspondence. Out**
- | | |
|---|---|
| Brian Stokes | Acceptance as member and invitation to this meeting |
| Tom Lund, Mark Sharples, Rex White, Diana Locke | Information about the club. |
- Moved** Trevor Stam, seconded Peter Stoeckel, that correspondence be accepted: Carried.
- Treasurer's Report:-** Treasurer John Hall not present. T Fuller reported Account Balance \$8,473.29
Accounts for payment - Jiffy Print, \$???.??, April 2003 Reel Talk
Moved Jim Strong, seconded Peter Stoeckel account be passed for payment - carried.
- Property Officer:-** Vix Alexander reported on new bookings for Kalbarri. House is available as in Reel Talk. Bathroom fan has been replaced. Cleaning is an issue. Thanks to Eric Parker for the work on the house.
- Field Day Officer:-** Arrangements for the April Cape to Cape field day were discussed. Due to rough weather forecast, boundaries are extended from Busselton jetty to Blackwood River.
- Dry Casting Officer:-** Bob Henderson gave details of the April Dry Casting as in Reel Talk. Perpetual Trophies need to be returned to the club
- AAA Report:-** George Holman reported on issues with the management plans for commercial fisheries, plans for the fishing clinics in July and September, and trip to Denmark for the opening of new club house.
- Social Organiser:-** Club shirts and jackets and hats are available. Advised of the car rally, and a movie and dinner night will be arranged. Annual dinner and trophy presentation night is 14 June.
- Recorder:-** Ian Cook advised arrangements for the 17/18 May Rottneest Field Day. He reminded people at the club pays for the Sunday night accommodation and anybody who wishes to stay over should contact Ian Cook.
- Reel Talk Editor:-** Nothing to report. What you see is what you get.
- Notices of Motion:-** None.
- General Business:-** Many dry casters will be away at Yamba and will not be able to attend club dry casting in August. Ian Cook **moved** seconded Peter Stoeckel that 11 days' scores to be used for drycasting in 2003/4. Carried.
- 2003/4 Field Days.** The list as published in Reel Talk was discussed. June to be Emu Springs. AAA will not run a Mandurah 500 in 2004. January changed to be Dawesville Cut to Binningup. April the Denmark to Walpole option on long weekend selected. All local field days be from Penguin Island to Two Rocks. Peter Stoeckel **moved**, seconded George Holman that list of Field day venues as discussed be accepted - carried.
- Ian Cook **moved**, Rick Parker seconded that Open competition rules, weights and sizes be accepted, carried.
- Terry Fuller **moved** seconded Peter Stoeckel that the following species be added to the list of eligible fish in section 2.3.1:- Barramundi, Mangrove Jack, Emperor (all species) Sea Perch (all species) Back Jew (northern mullet) Tusk fish (including baldchin groper) and Bonito (all species). As recommended by sub committee - carried
- Dry Casting Rules.** Section 3.2.10 SAFETY OF MARKERS AND OTHERS. Add "Any caster wishing to use a pendulum or backwards style casting action, must notify the Dry Casting Officer prior to commencement of any dry casting event."
- Section 3.3.3 WEIGHTS. Add words so that it now reads "Weights up to 112 grams may be used for Double Handed Accuracy events, and up to 56 grams for single handed events."
- Section 3.3.2 SINGLE HANDED EQUIPMENT. Add words so that it now reads "A single handed rod shall be defined as a rod that is used in only one hand and must not be braced in any manner during the cast."
- Section 3.3.7 PLASTIC TUBE. Delete "Colour is optional." Add "Colour must be flouro pink." (Applies to plastic tube.)

Rods are best taken in a rod tube or at least taped into a bundle. We can't guarantee they will be treated properly on the boat - in fact, on past experience it's a good bet they will be mistreated at some time.

The list of people and huts to be used is attached. Any changes required **MUST** be arranged through Ian Cook prior to the Field Day.

Hut 1	Hut 2	Hut 3	Hut 4
Julie Kember	Vix Alexander	Eric Parker	Tony D'Alonzo
Ross Kember	Malcolm Harris	George Holman	Ian Taggart
Ian Cook	John Jardine	Vic Terpkos (visitor)	Grant Taggart (visitor)
Terry Fuller	John Romano	Paul Terpkos	Gavin Skumin (visitor)
Mark Farnay	Morris Kolman	? Terpkos (visitor)	Brad Zaknich
	Spencer King (replaced by Nick Hocking - visitor)		

Local Field Day for May.

When:- Saturday/Sunday 17/18 May 2003.

Sign On:- At the General Meeting or to the FDO by 18:00 Friday.

Lines Down:- Saturday 12:00 noon

Weigh in:- Sunday 12.00 midday 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 Two Rocks, including the Swan River.

June Field Day - Emu Springs in Flinders Bay.

When:- Saturday/Sunday/Monday 31 May, 1, 2 June 2003.

Sign On:- Saturday 12.00 midday.

Barbecue and Stop Fishing 12 noon to 2 pm Sunday.

Weigh in:- Monday 10.00 am at the camping area.

Boundaries:- White Point to the real Emu Springs which is about 8 km west of the camping area.

<u>Tides for</u>	Saturday 31 May	1.33m at 9:33 am	0.59m at 6:49 pm	Sunrise:-	About 7:17 am
<u>Augusta</u>	Sunday 1 June	1.35m at 9:59 am	0.59m at 7:35 pm	Sunset:-	About 5:18 pm
	Monday 1 June	1.36m at 10:30 am	0.60m at 8:48 pm		
<u>Moon</u>	Saturday 31 May	Moonrise:-	About 7:10 am	Moonset:-	About 5:20 pm
	Sunday 1 June	Moonrise:-	About 8:10 am	Moonset:-	About 6:00 pm
	Monday 2 June	Moonrise:-	About 9:05 am	Moonset:-	About 6:50 pm

How to Get to Emu Springs, Flinders Bay. There are no towns and possibly no service stations on this route after you leave the Capel area, unless you deviate via Nannup, so make sure of your fuel, water and other supplies.

As shown on the RAC "Lower South West" road map, travel about 18 km south west of Capel along the main road to Busselton, then south via Sue's Road, then 13 km east along the Brockman Highway, at Cane Break picnic area turn south west down Milyeannup Coast Road (previously called Cane Break Road). This quickly turns into a gravel road. Head towards the coast for about 20 km. You will cross a narrow bridge over the Scott River.

About 2km on there is a road to the left, veer right and go on a further 2 km on a sandy road. The access gate to the property is tucked away on the left hand side. Follow this track through the peppermint trees till you reach the camp site. A club sign will be put near the access gate. Please pick up a map for details of how to get there at the May General Meeting. Instructions for access through the locked gate will be also given at the May General Meeting to people who are going. I will probably be going down on the Thursday afternoon so access will be available from Friday morning onwards.

This is a really great field day to take the whole family. The camping area is native grass and is well sheltered from the wind with large peppermint trees. Those who have been there previously with remember the good fishing and great social atmosphere. There will be a get together and barbecue on Sunday between 12:00 noon and 2:00 pm. Fishing will be suspended during this time.

The area allows for children to fish as easily as the senior members if there is no wind. Fish caught range from Skipjack Trevally, Herring, Bream, Whiting, through to Tailor, Mulloway and School shark. There has been good catches of large tailor, mulloway and sharks since Christmas. So we can live in hope of some rewarding results.

The property and camping area is accessible to conventional vehicles with a camper unit or trailer. Driving on the beach is usually very difficult and is not recommended. There is a 4wd track behind the first sand hills, which gives access to the fishing spots with a short walk. You can drive about 8 km west and east of the camping site. Access to White Point is via the Scott River road. People without a 4wd should make prior arrangements to get a lift to fishing locations, or fish in front of the camping area.

There is no drinking or washing water available at the camp site - so bring all you need. No firewood is available so bring your own. Care must be taken with open fires as Peppermint trees and leaf litter is full of oil and burns easily.

This is a private property which the Club has been given permission to use. All members and visitors need to show extra care and observe the Club's Code of Ethics for vehicles and camping so that we will be welcomed back for future field days. The Club's Code of Ethics are printed on page 21. If you bring a visitor, you must make sure that person's activities meet our Code of Ethics or you must do whatever is necessary to prevent any problems. Make sure that vehicles do not disturb Dave's cows and calves because we camp in the calving paddock. Remove all rubbish and dispose of it in a local dump.

Dogs are not allowed on this private property unless **prior permission** has been arranged. Contact Ian Cook prior to 10 May if you wish to take a dog, otherwise you and/or your dog will/may be refused entry.

Please dig yourselves a deep pit toilet some distance from camp site.

Please let Ian Cook know no later than the May General Meeting if you are going on this Field Day. Ian Cook.

Local Field Day for June.

When:- Saturday/Sunday/Monday 31 May, 1, 2 June 2003.

Sign On:- At the General Meeting or to the FDO by 18:00 Friday.

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 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:- Penguin Island to Two Rocks, including the Swan River.

Tides for	Saturday 31 May	1.22m at 9:00 am	0.61m at 6:45 pm	Sunrise:-	About 7:10 am	
Fremantle	Sunday 1 June	1.24m at 9:30 am	0.60m at 7:25 pm	Sunset:-	About 5:20 pm	
	Monday 2 June	1.24m at 10:00 am	0.59m at 8:05 pm			
Moon	Saturday 31 May		Moonrise:-	About 7:00 am	Moonset:-	About 5:20 pm
	Sunday 1 June		Moonrise:-	About 8:00 am	Moonset:-	About 6:00 pm
	Monday 2 June		Moonrise:-	About 9:00 am	Moonset:-	About 6:50 pm

Local Field Days.

All local field days for 2003/4 will have boundaries from Penguin Island to Two Rocks, including the Swan River, which is the combination of the North and South local field days as held in 2002/3.

2003-2004 Field Day Dates and Venues.

Field Day venues and dates for the May 2003 to April 2004 competition year were set at the April General Meeting.

Saturday/Sunday 17/18 May 2003	Rottnest.
Saturday/Sunday/Monday 31 May, 1/2 June 2003 LWE	Emu Springs, east of Augusta.
Saturday/Sunday 12/13 July 2003	Cape to Cape.
Saturday/Sunday 16/17 August 2003	Rottnest. See article on page 7 if you want to go.
Saturday/Sunday 13/14 September 2003	Moore River.
Saturday/Sun/Mon 27/28/29 September 2003 LWE	Horrocks to Kalbarri / AAA Rock and Beach Angling Championships is over 2 days, 27/28 September.
Saturday/Sunday 15/16 November 2003	Cervantes.
Saturday/Sunday 13/14 December 2003	Local, Penguin Island to Two Rocks including the Swan River, plus Christmas night cast.
Saturday/Sunday 17/18 January 2004	Dawesville Cut to Binningup.
Saturday/Sunday 14/15 February 2004	Open - all WA tidal waters.
Saturday/Sun/Mon 28/29 February /1 March 2004 LWE	Bluff Creek.
Saturday/Sunday/Monday 24/25/26 April 2004 LWE	Denmark to Walpole.

2003/2004 Dry Casting Dates.

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

Sunday 4 May 2003	Sunday 8 June 2003 (changed for Field Day)
Sunday 6 July 2003	Sunday 3 August 2003
Sunday 7 September 2003	Sunday 5 October 2003
Sunday 2 November	Sunday 7 December 2003
Sunday 4 January 2004	Sunday 1 February 2003
Sunday 7 March 2004	Sunday 4 April 2004

Several committee members will not be standing for the jobs they have done this year 2002/3, so replacements will be needed. Please consider standing for Committee. You will find the work interesting and it will help you to be part of the club and get more out of being a club member. Remember you get out what you put in.

The responsibilities of all committee positions have been listed, so you can easily find out what's involved in any job. Contact the Secretary or any committee member for more details.

Membership Fees Are Due After 1 July.

Club membership fees paid for past years were for the year from 1 May to 30 April, but the financial year is from 1 July to 30 June. This made it difficult to know how the club was going financially.

The February General Meeting changed the Constitution so that membership fees for the ensuing year become due and payable on the 1st of July in each year, and must be paid by 31 July. This change was so that money was received and paid out for services to members over the same financial year period.

The Committee decided that just for this year, the "missed" two months membership from 1 May to 30 June would be paid for after 1 July pro rata with the 2003/4 fees. The fees for 2003/4 will be set at the June Committee meeting and advised in the Reel Talk which comes out by early July.

You don't need to pay any fees until after 1 July, but you will need to pay a bit extra to cover those extra two months. At last year's rates, this will be about \$12.50 for a single membership and about \$14.15 for a family membership, plus the year's membership fee. This must be paid by 31 July, or the July General meeting if you want to vote at the Annual General meeting, and will take your membership up to 30 June 2004.

2003 Presentation of Trophies Night.

The Marmion Angling and Aquatic Club, West Coast Highway Marmion, has been booked for 14 June for the Club's Dinner and presentation of trophies.

This is the premier event of the year when we acknowledge the achievements of our friends. The evening commences with drinks followed by entree, main meal with presentations of trophies concluding shortly before or after sweets and/or tea/coffees. Festivities continue throughout the evening with door prizes, spot prizes, raffles & our old favourite "sliders". This is the opportunity to bring both families & friends, socialise with all members whilst overlooking the ocean at the Marmion Angling Club which is situated at the ocean side of West Coast Highway, providing an excellent venue & view.

Costs are being finalised and will be ratified at the next committee meeting which are likely to be a little above last year's figure. Please put this date in your diary and advise your intention to join us on the 14 June with your family and/or friends. Bookings will be available at next General Meeting on Wednesday 14 May. Reserve your seat or book your table by contacting either the Treasurer, John Hall or Social Officer, Derry Barber on the 14th or phone Derry Barber.

Rottnest May Field Day Anniversary Trophy.

For some years, Don Batchelor has donated an anniversary trophy to be fished for at the Rottnest May Field Day. Don wrote a letter to the club dated 10 April 2003 as follows "*As of the above date, I will not be donating the anniversary trophy fished on the May Field Day. No one is interested in fishing competitions so it will not be missed. Don Batchelor*"

See the report on the recent AAA Beach and Rock Angling Championships on page 8 of this Reel Talk.

August Rottnest Field Day.

The August Field Day will be Rottnest on 16/17 August. Any trip to Rottnest must have accommodation and transport booked and fully paid to the Rottnest Island Authority about two months in advance.

The total cost is likely to be around \$105 per person, 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 Yamba AAA National Championships, so the number going to Rottnest may be down. Any excess will be refunded after the field day.

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.

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

If you want to go to the August Rottnest Field Day, you **MUST** have paid \$105 by the **final closing date** of 11 June General Meeting, or you won't be included, no exceptions.

A reminder that under the Constitution, visitors are allowed to attend no more than three club events any one competition year. After that, we would expect some commitment from them to be part of the club. Some potential visitors were turned away from the May Rottnest Field Day because the numbers were getting to the limit which could be handled by the transport. If it comes to a choice between new visitors who may join the club and become active members, and past visitors who have shown no interest in joining the club, the choice would be obvious.

AAA and Affiliated Club Coming Events.

This information has been updated from the November 2002 AAA report. Some dates are still being finalised so check for updates in later Reel Talks.

May 17/18, 2003	Fremantle AAC Field Day	Rottnest.
May 31/June 1/2 2003	Fremantle AAC Field Day	Albany area.
July 19/20, 2003	Fremantle AAC Field Day	Rottnest.
September 27/28, 2003	AAA State Beach and Rock Championship	Horrocks to Kalbarri. <u>Date Change</u> LWE, AAA comp over 2 days only.
October 26, 2003	AAA State Dry Casting Championships	Yokine Reserve.
March 27, 2003	AAA State Boat Angling Championships	Mandurah OFSC.
March or April 2004	AAA State Estuary Championships	Collie River / Leschenault Estuary.

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.

Happy Birthday to:-

Jim Strong, 26 April

Matt Willis, 2 May

Malcolm Harris, 3 May

John Barnes 9 May,

Luke Agnello, 21 May

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

Wanted – Aluminium Cans.

Wanted - Aluminium cans. Please bring them along to the General Meeting and give them to Mal Head. 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.

Mal will be away for a while after the April General Meeting, so please hold them until he returns. RTFRT for when that will be.

New Member Applications.

Applications for membership have been received and will come before the May 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.

Martin and Lesley Johannesen

Tom Lund

AAA Rock and Beach Angling Championships.



Jim Strong at Preston Beach with one of his "monster" herring. It's there - look closely!

The Australian Anglers Association ran its annual 2003 State Beach and Rock Angling Championships from Myalup to Halls Head on 29 and 30 March 2003. Weigh in was at the Preston Beach Caravan Park on Sunday.

These championships are a social event with a competitive outlook for club members, and a time when clubs can get together and talk fishing. The Surfcasters had 4 men, 4 veterans and 3 ladies, and overall 37 men, 17 ladies, 21 veterans, 4 juniors and 7 mini Juniors signed on for the event and enjoyed the autumn weather up to the time the thunderstorms started.

The fishing area was about 60 km long, from Halls Head to Myalup, and the weather you got depended on where you were, like it often does with thunderstorms. It was surprising to hear about the severe storms in Perth on Saturday night, but there was no sign of bad weather at the sign on at 11am on Saturday at Preston Beach.

In the Preston Beach area, Saturday afternoon and up to 11 pm were really good conditions weather wise - light winds, calm seas, just a brief shower but no heavy rain or lightning anywhere near us. The stars were out, there was plenty of distant inland and north east lightning flashes at times, but we couldn't hear any thunder, so all this was a long way off.

There was only one short and small thunderstorm and rain period during the early hours. Sunday was a calm morning with a few rain and lightning cells well out to sea, and just

a few drops of rain before it all cleared up. There was some rain in the White Hills area overnight but the Sunday morning was good conditions.

Winds were light and variable for the weekend, except where the thunderstorm cells were, and the seas and swell were light, making for very easy fishing conditions.

Unfortunately, as often happens with calm conditions and changes in the weather, the fish seemed to have gone on holiday. There were plenty of tiddlers, but the usual fish were pretty scarce. Catching and returning undersize herring, tailor and tarwhine kept us moving but didn't add to the bag.

Jim Strong was in his element on the beach, despite the restrictions of a hernia which he had aggravated recently while practicing dry casting. You would never know watching him cast for hours on end. He showed his expertise with a blob and wogs for bait, and caught lots of herring. Pity some of them were so small and were put back, but he got a good bag of reasonable sized ones anyway. He had not signed on for the AAA competition, but would not have been disgraced by many of the bags weighed in by others.

Angelo Perna weighed in a beautiful Mulloway of 16.5 kg, George Holman had two nice skippy of 1.65 kg and 1.5 kg, Daniel Bell had a hammerhead shark of 5 kg.

We had sunshine during the weigh in and presentation, from 11 am Sunday. We started home from Preston Beach about 1:30 pm Sunday in sunshine, but hit the heavy rain, flooded roads and lightning about 20 km south of Mandurah.

Heaviest fish of species caught were:-

Mulloway	16.5 kg	Angelo Perna	Fremantle Amateur Angling Club
Tailor	500g	Mark Beauchamp	Fremantle Amateur Angling Club
Flounder	275g	Greg Cummins	Northern Districts Angling Club
Whiting	125g	Adam Eastman	Melville Angling Club
Tarwhine	300g	Adam Eastman	Melville Angling Club
Shark	5.0 kg	Daniel Bell	Whitfords Sea Sports Club
Herring	275g	Mark Sinclair	Offshore Angling Club
Skippy	1.6 kg	George Holman	Surf Casting and Angling Club

Individual Winners.

Men winner	Adam Eastman from the Melville Angling Club	132.3 points, 9 species, 27 fish, 3.83 kg.
Veterans winner	Don Batchelor from Surf Casting and Angling Club	49.4 points, 3 species, 13 fish, 1.6 kg.
Ladies winner	Janet Hughes from Bunbury Angling Club	65.9 points, 4 species, 18 fish, 1.98 kg.
Junior winner	Daniel Bell from Whitfords Sea Sports Club	66.6 points, 3 species, 11 fish, 6.4 kg.
Mini Junior winner	Katelynne Kinnell from Bunbury Angling Club	34.4 points, 2 species, 9 fish, 1.35 kg.

The Surf Casting and Angling Club Veterans team of Don Batchelor, Tony D'Alonzo, Morris Kolman and Terry Fuller was the winner with 108.1 points, second team Offshore closely behind with 104.8 points. Don Batchelor wasn't present at the presentations to receive the Veterans winner's individual trophy and Veterans team trophy, so I don't have any photos of him.

The Ladies Surf Casting and Angling Club team of Filomena D'Alonzo, Vix Alexander and Julie Kember was runner up with 93.0 points, trailing the winners Bunbury who scored a convincing win with 180.5 points.

Looking After Your Fish.

If anyone every needed a demonstration of the benefits of looking after the fish you keep and want to eat, eg bleeding, gilling and gutting fish and putting them ice, you could have had it at Preston Beach.

Example 1. A 46 kg shovel nosed ray was weighed by a member of another Club (not SCAC) after the AAA weigh in finished. That fish was not part of the AAA competition, because that species isn't eligible, and that particular fish possibly would not have been eligible for weighing in anyway because of it's condition.

I'm told it was caught during Saturday night, and it was weighed just before noon on Sunday. It was brought over to the scales on a plastic tarpaulin, and as it was lifted up onto the scales, it let go a quantity of fluid which could only be described as really "stinky", and the "memory" lingered in the air long after the fish was taken away. Some comments from some of the onlookers couldn't be printed in a family magazine.



SCAC Winning Veterans team members Terry Fuller and Tony D'Alonzo with AAA Patron George Brown. Team members Don Batchelor and Morris Kolman not present.

The shovel nosed ray had been upside down on the tarpaulin, and the skin on the upper side of the fish was bright red, and the red colour had spread around to most of the underside of the fish, which is normally white. Not a pretty sight, as the colour photos show.

We asked what was going to be done with it, and I have since been told that it was cleaned, cut up and distributed to the members of that club. I wonder what it tasted like?

By the way, shovel nose ray is really good to eat if you look after it.

Example 2. Normally I cut the throat of all my fish as I catch them, gill and gut them soon afterwards and put them on ice as soon as possible, then fillet and eat them or freeze some soon afterwards. So I have to admit that I am used to filleting and eating fish which I think are in the best possible condition. Yum.

AAA competitions don't require fish to be gilled or gutted, but AAA has a rule that any fish with the throat cut for bleeding, or gilled and gutted, even if the neck is not broken, must be one centimeter longer than the legal size or competition minimum size of 20 cm. There is a motion to change that rule. Also we have all been warned that fish which are kept on ice overnight shrink in length, and that's true.

Fish of any decent size were pretty scarce on Saturday at Preston Beach where we were fishing, and I had three herring which might have been 21 or 22 cm. I didn't cut the throat to bleed or gill and gut these ones, because I thought that they might end up too small and be ineligible for the weigh in (oh, the shame to have to admit that I couldn't catch any decent fish!!!!). But they went onto the ice a short while after being caught.

I caught some more herring on Sunday morning, but not enough "big" ones to bleed, gill and gut. (more shame!!!) When I got home to Perth and cleaned the fish on Sunday about 5 pm, the quality of three of the herring was decidedly worse than the rest of the fish. The belly cavity was going yellow and the flesh was separating from the bones in the belly. I haven't seen that for a long time in any of the fish which I have bled, gilled and gutted and iced as above.

That convinced me that leaving fish for 24 hours without at least gutting them affects their quality, even if they are on ice. It has also convinced me, if the AAA rule isn't changed as expected, then I will at least gut all my fish for future AAA competitions - assuming I can catch some bigger ones in future!

But I don't expect everyone just to take my word for it. Try it for yourself next time you are on an overnight trip. Treat some fish by bleeding as they are caught, gill and gut them soon after catching, and put them straight on the ice. Leave some other fish not bled and not cleaned and put them straight on the ice. Finish the cleaning, filleting etc. when you get home and just do the look and taste comparison test for yourself.

Some people from some other clubs are violently opposed to any requirement for gilling and gutting before weigh in, as the Surfcasters do. They claim that the condition of some species of fish is actually worse after gilling and gutting and storage because bacteria can get in. But I do it for all species, and reckon it is a great improvement for some common species like herring, skippy, salmon, tailor, and helps for any fish.

What is your experience and what do you think? Let us know, please.

TerryF.

Life Members of the Club.

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

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. Outside has a fish cleaning facility and a full width verandah. Rates are:-

Public:-	Off season	\$220 per week,	On season	\$360 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		} 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 mid April, the house is available in 2003 from 2 May to 9 May, 17 May to 13 July, 18 July to 25 September, 30 September to 17 October, 22 November to 26 December, and 10 January 2004 on. Contact Property Officer Vix Alexander for bookings.

If you have a bond which has been deposited with the club for a long time, please contact Vix Alexander with the details. The Committee decided recently that all bonds should be refunded after using the house to be sure that the club's financial position is reported accurately.

Dry Casting Rule Changes.

The following changes were passed at the April General Meeting.

Eleven (11) monthly scores to count for the 2003/2004 drycasting competition to cater for the members who will not be able to attend the August casting due to their attendance at the Yamba National Championships representing the State (and the club).

3.2.10 SAFETY OF MARKERS AND OTHERS. Added "Any caster wishing to use a pendulum or backwards style casting action, must notify the Dry Casting Officer prior to commencement of any dry casting event."

3.3.3 WEIGHTS Added words to read "Weights up to 112 grams may be used for Double Handed Accuracy events, and up to 56 grams for single handed events."

3.3.2 SINGLE HANDED EQUIPMENT. Added words to read "A single handed rod shall be defined as a rod that is used in only one hand and must not be braced in any manner during the cast."

3.3.7 PLASTIC TUBE. Deleted "Colour is optional." Added "Colour must be flouro pink."

3.3.9 ACCURACY TARGETS. Delete "normally yellow". Added "Must be a distinctive colour (flouro pink)"

The following changes were passed at the March General Meeting.

Competition Rules, Section 3.2.3 Markers Casts, amended to read:- "All markers competing in casting shall carry out their respective competition casting at the completion of each event."

Added a third paragraph to Competition Rules, Section 3.2.10, to read:- "There shall be two (2) markers for each event."

Growing and Keeping Wogs.

Many WA fishermen say that the best bait for herring and garfish are wogs, a nickname for blowfly maggots. Some times herring get really fussy, and if you don't have wogs you might not get many fish, at other times and places they will take anything you can throw at them. But it still gets frustrating when other people are catching herring with wogs and they will not look at the bait or lures you are using. Good wogs are relatively tough bait, and you can catch a few herring or miss some bites on one bait, and just keep topping them up if you need to every couple of fish.

Why are they called "wogs"? I can remember back when flies were a real problem in Western Australia, and there were no such things as spray-on fly repellents to keep the little so-and-so's away from you. If you let on that you were breeding and using fly maggots for bait, some people considered that to be quite irresponsible, and thought that you must be contributing to the fly problem.

Since a rose by any other name smells just as sweet, you could avoid a lot of problems by calling your bait something else, eg "wogs". Most people in the know didn't care, and those that didn't know thought all fishermen used worms for bait, and everyone was happy. Anyway we found that calling them wogs caused a lot less concern, so they will always be "wogs" to us. I remember from reading the fishing magazines of the time that maggots were used overseas in freshwater fishing, where they were called gentles, and they were dyed in all the colours of the rainbow to tempt (or fool?) the really fussy fish - or was it to catch the fishermen?.

Nowadays you can go into your nearest friendly fishing tackle shop and buy yourself a little container of wogs. But that wasn't always possible. When my brothers and I first started breeding wogs for herring bait, we were still living at home. So whatever way used to breed wogs, my Mum and Dad were the most important people we had to convince that breeding wogs was not causing a problem.

Their priorities were:- no smell, or at least not enough to cause the neighbours to complain, and no escapees to add to the fly problem. Our priority was to get enough good sized wogs to catch fish with. After trying a few methods, some of which failed dismally (read messy and smelly), we settled on the following one, which has been refined over the years.

You need about a half to three-quarters of a kilo of whole or part fish or fish scraps, heads, backbones, wings or whatever, with plenty of flesh. Fish heads with gills are okay, but don't use the other innards. Herring heads are good, and it's one way to recycle a few of them. If you have whole fish, take the fillets off or make several cuts in the skin.

You need lots of newspaper. It helps a lot if you have some broadsheets like the "Australian" or Eastern States papers. A roll of 50mm wide masking tape. Some strong plastic bags. A few kilos of pollard. A small sieve with a mesh about fly wire size, or some fly wire. A 20 litre bucket. A plastic screwtop container. A few containers like 2 litre icecream tubs, or buckets. A rubbish bin, plastic or metal. A piece of flywire or shade cloth to go over the bin, instead of the lid. A covered area away from your house and your neighbours' windows.

1. It's best if you start on a warm sunny day with not too much wind, but except for stormy winter's days, it's always possible to get started, it just might take longer (all day) to get enough blowfly eggs. Put some of the fish out in the open in the shade in a place sheltered from the wind, where



Eggs compared to a 5 cent piece.

the blowflies can find it and the local cats and ants or your dog can't get at it. I use a 2 litre icecream container standing in a tray of water to keep out the ants, covered with some wire mesh to keep out the animals.

2. Check on the fish after an hour or so. The blowfly eggs are creamy white and about 1 to 1.5 mm long, laid in clusters. When you can see that the blow flies have laid enough eggs to cover a 5 cent piece, wrap all of the fish in four or five sheets of newspaper. Repeat the wrapping until you have wrapped it in five or six layers, each of four or five sheets of newspaper. Don't wrap too tightly. Use a felt pen to number the layers, useful later as you unwrap. Use some masking tape to stop the package unwrapping.

3. Sieve some of the pollard and put some in the bottom of the 20 litre bucket and the rubbish bin. Put this 20 litre bucket in the bin, and put the package of fish in the bucket and put the bin somewhere in the open but sheltered from any rain. Put the shadecloth or flywire over the top of the bin and tie it around the side of the bin. This keeps out any flies and insects, but lets the package breathe. Don't try to use a lid, because often all you get is a lot of condensation and more smells.

4. After one and a half to two days, or when a smell starts, wrap the package in two or three more layers of 3 or 4 sheets of newspaper. By this time, you'll really need the broadsheet size of papers. If the smell gets a bit much, wrap in more layers of newspaper. Don't be put off, if you use enough wraps, the smell is hardly noticeable. Alternatively, you can wrap the parcel up in lots of layers on the first day, but I think the progressive wrapping is better in the end.

5. Depending on the temperature, it takes from 3 days in 35 plus degree summer weather to 6 days in cold winter weather to get to the next stage. This part relies on the wogs to move away from the fish when they are mature. Some will work their way round and round the newspaper wrappings until they get to the outside layer, but most will stop before that. That's one reason not to wrap too tightly. While moving through the paper, the wogs clean themselves outside and inside. Any which get to the outside of the parcel will drop into the pollard in the bucket and bury themselves there. Really persistent ones (and some are) will crawl straight up the inside of the bucket and drop into the pollard in the bin. Hopefully you'll catch them before they tackle the side of the bin.

6. Keep a watch on the parcel. As soon as you see any wogs outside, it's time to unwrap and collect them. Sieve some more pollard to get rid of any large pieces or lumps, and put it into a bucket. Get some clean paper, some strong plastic bags, the masking tape, rubber or disposable gloves and some soap and water to wash with. Start unwrapping the parcel and use the sheets of newspaper to tip the wogs into the pollard in the bucket. Remember some wogs will be between the separate sheets of paper which make up one wrap. Long before you get anywhere near the fish, all of the wogs should have been collected. You'll know which layer you are down to because they were numbered as you wrapped them. Always leave at least a couple of the original layers in place. If you find lots of small wogs, then you had too many eggs for the amount of food.

7. Wrap the used fish parcel in clean newspaper, put it in a strong plastic bag, seal with masking tape and wrap in more paper. Wrap up the rest of the used paper in a separate parcel and seal it in a strong plastic bag. These can go in the bin, or I often wrap it in more paper and plastic bag layers and put it into the bait freezer to be sure any wogs not collected are killed before they go into the bin.

8. If you have left the wogs long enough to work their way through the paper, nearly all will be clean and creamy white without any dark parts. If they are clean, you can put them in pollard in the screw top plastic container and into the fridge. If they are not clean, leave them in the pollard for 12 hours or so until they are clean, sieve them out of that pollard, put them into some clean pollard and then into the fridge. Wogs are consummate escape artists. They can crawl up the vertical inside of a dry shiny bucket without missing a beat, so use lids, but beware of condensation inside any containers. Or use fine mosquito net and tie it tightly around the top of the container.



Wogs straight out of the wrapping paper, ready to use as bait, or to store in the fridge.

9. Once in the fridge, check them regularly. For the first 12 hours or so until they go dormant with the cold, roll the container occasionally so that they are distributed through the pollard and most are kept away from the walls of the container. Do this every few days. The biggest danger is condensation and dampness inside the container, and clumping of the wogs which leads to fungous attack which kills them really quickly.

10. With care, the wogs will last 6 weeks or more in the bottom of the fridge. One part wogs to 5 or more parts pollard is a reasonable ratio, and ventilation holes aren't needed. If the fridge is too cold, or you put them too close to the freezer part and they freeze, they will be killed and be no good for bait. Take care with any wogs you take out fishing, and don't put damp ones or ones mixed up with burley back into the main container.

Any wogs which have turned into brown cylinders have moved to the next stage of the fly's life cycle and are not much good for bait. Surplus wogs, or ones which have been kept too long can be prevented from hatching into flies by putting in the freezer for 24 hours or more, since they can't survive freezing.

Now you have a ready supply of top bait for small fish during autumn and winter. A bunch of eight to ten wriggling wogs on a size 6 to 8 suicide or beak hook on a 2 or 3 kg trace behind a burley cage or burley blob is really irresistible if you are a herring or a gardie or a yellow eye mullet (pilch). Smaller gardies need smaller hooks and fewer wogs.

TerryF.

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. Past member Ted Horsley holds the record for the earliest Reel Talk donated - October 1952. Thanks also to past member Vern Pocklington, the designer of the Reel Talk logo, for copies of the March and June 1953 issues.

February 1957 Reel Talk

Here's the February 1957 issue of Reel Talk, when the Club was the Surf Casting and Angling Association of WA.

President: Noel Knight, Secretary: Doug Edward, Treasurer: Ben Elliott

The March meeting will take place on Wednesday 13th. March in the National Fitness Rooms, James St. at 8pm sharp. Would all Committee Members be on time please.

Field Day. You asked for Garden Island, so here it is. We will be leaving Palm Beach at 3 pm. Saturday, March 6th returning at 9 a.m. Sunday from the Island. The cost to each member will only be 10/- which is the cheapest week end one would wish to have. Garden Island has always been one of our "hot spots", and most come home with a nice bag of good fish.

Vic Davis has given the following information for the benefit of those new members who intend making the trip over.

I would like to pass on to you, how to organise your fishing gear and personal belongings, so that you can function efficiently, and with the maximum of comfort. I will be going over, and I suppose if there are no fish, I'll have to swim home.

Personal Gear. You have to eat, drink, and sleep and be completely self sufficient. If you are going to leave all of your gear at the hut, and walk over to the beach to fish, and then walk back to the hut to eat and sleep, the problem is easy.

Remember we do not have the "Queen Mary" to take our gear over, so do not overdo it. If you are sleeping on the beach it means carrying your belongings about a mile, so follow these suggestions, and I am sure they will pay off. Comfort and portability is the main aim. Your bed roll should contain a warm coat or pullover. It must be light, and must be a balanced part of the total load on your back or shoulders not in your hand.

Food. If you have to open all your food on a sandy beach to have a bite to eat you will find that the remaining food will get covered in grit and sand. Make up your total food supply. (3 meals) in separate parcels, all in one knapsack of course. Don't forget your water bottles plural - you won't fish all weekend on one bottle of water.

Polaroids. Sun glasses are a must and so is a proper hat. A cap or beret is absolutely useless in the boiling sun. If you propose to go out on the reef spinning, don't forget a pair of old shoes. Lacerated feet are no fun.

Fishing Gear. Check over your reels for faulty gears and level winds. Wrap your reels separately. or carry them in small cloth bags with a draw string. Make up at least a dozen rigs. Corks on all rigs. Sharp knife Torch with fresh batteries. A good supply of all types of sinkers. Plenty of bait. If you feed all our bait to the blowies before the tailor come on the bite it will be your own fault. Take a sharp gaff with a cork on the point, please. Don't forget a bag to bring the fish home in.

Please remember the 25 yard rule. This means that you must fish 25 yards from the next rod. Vic Davis.

Social And Dance. Make a note on the social calendar for the 15th. June. A Long way off yet, but not too early to get moving. The dance will be held in the Claremont Football Pavilion, and will be a very inexpensive evening.

Instruction. It is hoped that at this meeting we will have Mr. Munro from the State Fisheries Dept. to give a talk on Fisheries Department activities. Mr Munro has spoken to some of us earlier, and his talks have been most interesting. To those who have not heard these I would suggest you make a point of being at the March meeting.

All Members Please Take Note. Enclosed you will find an entry form to join the SURF CASTING AND ANGLING CLUB OF W.A. INC.

The Objects of the new Club, together with the Rules are listed below, (not copied here) and I think cover all that we require. You will note that the new Club is "Incorporated", and this in itself gives every financial member many advantages, which have been clearly explained by Alf Rutland at our last meeting.

Would you please be good enough to fill in this form and bring it with you at the next meeting. Only financial members need apply. At the March meeting these entry forms will be signed, and later in the evening, the changeover will take place. Those members who are not able to attend should post the forms to me as soon as possible. No fee will be required until 30th. June.

Lancelin Island Field Day Report, February 1957.

The party moved off on time aboard a 6 ton Dodge truck. This has been fitted with an excellent rod carrier, and better seating. An ice box is also aboard for carrying bait. etc.

Only eleven members attended plus the driver's party - which left plenty of room to get comfortable, The run to Gingin via Bullsbrook on the bitumen road was very comfortable. During a short stop for lunch, "Skip" Gilligan was

seen to boil the billy in the middle of the Highway. The road to the Moore River was sandy limestone, and gave us a sample of what was to come. The turnoff to Lancelin brought a deterioration in the track, and it was necessary to detour, and times give a heave.

Ledge Point which is 2 to 3 miles off the main tracks is a very calm reef bound bay, and looks ideal for boat fishing, but too shallow and calm on the beach for our type of fishing.

After a quick conference, we then returned to the main track, and carried on to Lancelin. We had to traverse some very loose sand and arrived at 4:15pm

Lancelin Bay is again very calm and reef bound. It was reported that tailor had been caught from several jetties in the bay. We moved further north past the point on which the hotel is built. The party settled in on rather a calm but deep clean beach. The first cast with a spinner produced a nice tailor. This was however misleading, as the fish appeared to traverse the beach once in the hour, and then head for the open sea.

Only 46 lbs were recorded by the following:-

			Visitors	
Dick Davis	6 ½ lbs		Frank Paxmann	1 ½ lb
Skip Gilligan	8 lbs		Max Warr	2 ½ lbs
Steve Dumetro	1 ½ lbs		Tom Williams	7 lbs
Merv. Britten	3 lbs		Norm Croull	4 lbs
Eric Barker	3 lbs			
Bill Davey	6 lbs			
Mick Doscas	6 ½ lbs			
Alf Rutland	1 lb			

An inspection made of the Cray processing plan, and this was enjoyed by all. A bag of cray heads made very good burley.
By "Over-Run"

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.

Club Badges Now in Stock.

We now have new supplies of Club Badges. If you are recent new member and didn't get a club badge, contact the Secretary at any club meeting and get yours now.

Club Polo Shirts, Jackets and Caps.

Derry Barber now has 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.

Social Officer's Report.

Advance notice of a future proposed Social Event. A Movie/Meal package designed to coincide with a blockbuster premiere anticipated to be September 2003, watch this space !

2003/4 AAA Beach and Rock Angling Championships.

The following information has been taken from the minutes of the latest AAA Rock and Beach sub committee meeting.

Date	September LWE (27 and 28 September 2003)
Registration and weigh-in	Port Gregory Caravan Park.
Boundaries	North of Bowes River and south of Murchison River.

The AAA Rock and Beach organising committee believe that there should be strong encouragement for competitors to stay overnight after the weigh-in. As such, the following times were proposed to be taken back to clubs for discussion.

<u>Sign-on</u>	1pm - 2pm Saturday.	<u>Lines down</u>	3pm Saturday	<u>Weigh-in</u>	3pm Sunday.
<u>BBQ</u>	4pm Sunday	<u>Presentations</u>	5pm Sunday		

At this stage the Port Gregory beach championships is planned to start and finish a little later than the usual times. The later start allows for extra travel time to get to Port Gregory. A barbecue is planned to be run immediately after the event and the late finish will link it into being the evening meal. The intention is for participants not to travel after the event, but stay at Port Gregory overnight and travel on Monday. The barbecue should provide the basis for a simple social function.

The caravan park has a limited number of cabins and early bookings will be necessary. The park will be able to accommodate a quantity of tents and these too should be booked in early. When making bookings, mention AAA and John Ward so that the owners can put us in the same area.

The Surfcasters have their "October" Field Day at the same location to fit in with the AAA competition, but members will fish the Sunday night and Monday morning, as well as during the AAA times.

AAA Report.

Management of Professional Fisheries. The Australian Anglers Association is concerned at the delays in the plans for management of professional catches of finfish species shared with recreational fishers. We sent a letter to the Minister for Fisheries, Hon. Kim Chance, as summarised in the April Reel Talk.

We hope the message received was:- "AAA agree management is needed, so please do whatever is needed to manage the professionals' catches of finfish stocks shared with recreational fishers by 1 July 2003, but if you can't or won't do that, then please defer the changes to Recreational limits."

This was not just a claim to defer the changes to Recreational limits. We realise that the Minister could announce changes at any time up to 1 July, but that's only 2 months away and the sooner everyone knows the better.

At the time of writing this article, AAA has not had a positive response from the Minister.

Swan River Crab Netting.

If you ever think of trying to catch some crabs in the Swan River, read on. The following information was obtained from Recfishwest Media releases around Easter time.

Catching crabs is one of the most popular recreational fishing activities in Western Australia. People from the Perth metropolitan area travel to Mandurah regularly over the summer period and are rarely disappointed.

But although on their doorstep, few even consider the Swan River when they think about a day's crabbing. When asked why, the usual response is that you cannot catch many crabs in the Swan. They are right, but this has little to do with the number of crabs in the river. In the 70s and 80's crabbing in the Swan River was a popular activity.

So what has changed? The one big change has been a shift by commercial fishers in the last decade to specifically target Swan River crabs as their principal catch. They switched from gill netting fish such as mullet and Perth herring to netting for crabs.

The result of this has been that while the total catch of crabs from the Swan River has remained relatively constant, the proportion of crabs taken by commercial nets has increased. Based on the last official survey undertaken in 1998/99, commercial fishers took 75% of the total catch of crabs leaving 25% for recreational fishing. This is in stark contrast to the Mandurah estuary where the reverse is the case. 75% of the crabs are taken recreationally and only 25% by commercial fishers.

Despite the Government spending a lot buying out commercial fishers from the Swan River (and there are only 4 left), a combination of switching fishing activities and circumvention of the fishing regulations by commercial fishers has made the situation worse. Each night each commercial fisher has been setting up to 1000m of crab tangle net in the Swan River. This means that up to 4 kilometers of tangle net are in the Swan River each night.

Commercial fishers are only allowed to use half that amount, but that the Department of Fisheries has turned a blind eye for years. Fish Resources Management Act Regulation 54 says:- (2) A person who is the holder of a commercial fishing licence who is using a fishing net to fish for crabs in the waters referred to in subregulation (1) must not use (a) more than 8 fishing nets at any one time; or (b) any fishing net exceeding 64 metres in length. Penalty: \$5,000. 8 nets at 64 metres equals 512 metres maximum.

Recfishwest insisted in a letter last July that the fishermen must only use 512 metres of net as described in Regulation 54 until the matter had been resolved. The Fisheries Department has responded by saying that because the fishermen have not been complying with the regulation for a long time, then they shouldn't start to make them fish to the rules now.

Recfishwest thought that it was obvious that the Fisheries Department should enforce its own regulations. However, further correspondence from the Fisheries Department indicated that it was comfortable with its interpretation that although 1024 metres of net was set, the fishermen were only pulling in 512 metres each night. The Fisheries Department has said that because the fishermen have not been complying with the regulation for a long time, then they shouldn't start to make them fish to the rules now.

This kind of response is totally unacceptable to Recfishwest. The Fisheries Department has had many occasions when it could have changed the rules but chose not to. To knowingly allow anyone to operate outside of the regulations sends the wrong message to the community and should be examined by the government." Executive Director of Recfishwest Frank Prokop said.

Recfishwest has asked if this interpretation meant that a recreational rock lobster fisherman could set four pots per person as long as they only pulled two pots each day. We were told that this would be illegal and subject to prosecution.

Recfishwest asked the Minister for Fisheries to ensure that the Department applied the Act, but he is reluctant to get involved even though the credibility of the government might well be compromised.

This decision to favour commercial fishing interests in the Swan River is part of Recfishwest's increasing concerns about double standards for commercial and recreational fishing. The Fisheries Department is happy to implement reductions in recreational bag limits in the Gascoyne and West Coast regions but has taken years to make even the slightest attempt to bring commercial wetfishing under management.

Recfishwest is outraged that this is being allowed to happen and call on all recreational fishers to let the Government know that this is not acceptable by contacting the Minister for Fisheries office on Telephone: 9213 6701, Fax: 9213 6701 or E-mail k-chance@dpc.wa.gov.au

Wetline Fishing Panels Announced.

On 11 April, Fisheries Minister Kim Chance announced the creation of two new panels to provide advice on proposed access and management arrangements for WA's commercial wetline fisheries.

The first regions to be reviewed are the West Coast and Gascoyne, to line up with changes in those regions for recreational catches.

The Commercial Access Panel (CAP) will provide advice on a method to determine who will gain access and the degree of that access to wetline fisheries in each region. The Management Planning Panel (MPP) will provide separate advice on the future management arrangements that will apply to those who gain access. The separation of advice on access and management is aimed at ensuring an efficient and fair allocation of entitlements and allows us to tailor the membership to suit each committee's function.

Mr Chance has appointed Elizabeth Woods (chair), John Cole and John Jenkins to the three-member CAP. Ms Woods is currently deputy chief magistrate of the Court of Petty Sessions. Mr Cole is a former chair of the WA Fishing Industry Council, the State's peak commercial body, and Mr Jenkins is a business consultant.

Mr Chance has appointed David Smith (chair), Doug Rogers, Neil Dorrington, Gary Finlay, Steve Lodge, Norman Halse and a Department of Fisheries Officer to the MPP. Mr Smith is a former State MP and Bunbury solicitor. Mr Rogers, Mr Dorrington and Mr Finlay are commercial fishermen, Mr Lodge a fish processor and Norm Halse is chairman of Recfishwest.

Mr Chance said the establishment of the advisory panels was consistent with the Government's aims of ecologically sustainable management of the State's fisheries. "Government and the Department of Fisheries are strongly committed to ensuring that stocks continue to be fished in a sustainable manner," the Minister said.

"The management committees will be developing management arrangements within the commercial fishery sector only and will not be providing advice on the allocation of fish resources between commercial, recreational and other users. Allocation decisions between sectors will be undertaken in the future as part of the Integrated Fisheries Management (IFM) process currently being considered by the State Government.

The Minister did not announce any timetables for output from these panels.

Rottnest Island Management Plan.

The October 2002 Reel Talk covered the Club's submission on and objections to the Rottnest Island Authority's draft management plan which proposed closing 30% of the Rottnest shoreline to recreational fishing.

In late March, Tourism Minister Clive Brown released the revised plan, advising that the Rottnest Island Authority had a huge response from the community and interest groups, over 700 submissions on issues such as the proposed marine management zones, (fishing exclusions) the management of moorings, accommodation and the marine environment.

The revised Rottnest Island Management Plan as released does not have any extra restrictions on recreational fishing. The Authority is still committed in its plan to managing the Marine Reserve to ensure that conflicts between recreational pursuits are managed, and environmental values are protected.

This will be done with the Department of Fisheries through the development of a Marine Management Strategy, in consultation with relevant stakeholder groups and informed by available research. The Department of Fisheries and its interest groups have a considerable involvement in the marine component of the Rottnest Island Reserve, and the important social values of recreational fishing in this area.

The Strategy will address issues specific to the use of the Rottnest Island Reserve by recreational fishers and other user groups, and will be informed by stakeholders through intensive consultation.

The media release said it is also essential that spatial management (read "areas closed to fishing") at Rottnest Island complements the wider fisheries management framework which is aimed at the sustainability of all fish stocks common to the West Coast.

As part of the Management Plan, the Rottnest Island Authority will also develop and implement a research program to monitor fish stocks and gain an understanding of the level of recreational fishing in the Rottnest Island Reserve.

It seems that the public outcry has been listened to, and the RIA will now do the research it should have done before proposing restrictions which were not justified by any data, just "we don't know, so lock it away in case there's a problem, or in case there might be a problem in future".

TerryF

2002/3 Barron Lure Competition.

Sponsored by Barron Lures, Ric Parker.

Heaviest Tailor on Lure.	George Holman, 4.2 kg at False Entrance
Heaviest Salmon on Lure.	John Jardine, 4.7 kg, Cape Naturaliste
Heaviest Scale Fish on Lure.	John Jardine Spanish Mackerel 8.1kg, False Entrance.

2002/2003 Open Competition Results to April 2003.

Section	For	Min weight	Current Leader.	Weight and location
3.	Best Mulloway	5.0 kg	George Holman	7.0 kg at False Entrance.
4.	Best Salmon	3.5 kg	John Jardine	5.1 kg at Cape Naturaliste.
6.	Best Tailor	1.5 kg	George Holman	4.2 kg at False Entrance.
11.	Best Mackerel	4.0 kg	John Jardine	8.5 kg Mackerel at Quobba.
15.	Best Scale fish other than sections 3 to 14	2.0 kg	John Jardine	19.0 kg Cobia at Quobba.
16.	Best Fish caught on Fly Rod.	Legal size	Ross Kember	0.32 kg Bartailed Flathead.

Recorders Report.

Only a few changes this month to the sections for salmon, caught by John Jardine. Sections not listed above have not had any entries.

The 2002/3 competition is for fish caught up to 30 April 2003, so you may have a day or so left to catch something after you get this Reel Talk. Entries for the Open Competition must be lodged with the Recorder within thirty (30) days of capture on the form available from the Club. Ian Cook.

AAA "Postal" Casting - May Casting Day.

We have been approached by the NSW casting group to participate in a "postal" casting competition. Every State will hold a casting day using AAA rules and regulations, cast the normal AAA events and send the tally sheets to pick a winner.

We intend to hold this on our May casting day using our normal club V court inside the wider AAA V court in the same place. So bring along your 112 gram, 56 gram, artificial bait and double and single handed accuracy gear. The same casts will count for both the club day and the AAA day, with artificial bait added which would not normally be cast on our May club day. Hendo.

Dry Casting Sausage Sizzle.

We 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

Dry Casting Report, 6 April 2003.

Deserted by "Willo" (reckons he had family commitments) I called for volunteers to assist in the scoring and was mobbed by the lads willing to help. A quick information talk and all was set for another good day.

With the seniors on distance first up, I participated with the vets in the double handed accuracy event. Boy, were they on fire, a double bullseye by Roy the Boy, TerryF and AJ both belted out a clanger, and with Mal, Trev, Jim and Alphonse scaring the ##### out of the marker cones, the pressure was really on. But, with sheer determination, a touch of class, and a lot of ..., I brilliantly overcame the pressure and took them all on!!!

Meanwhile I overheard the seniors having a good time and stirring each other. Guess the cross wind put a few off because the score sheet shows a few out of bounds casts. Still, some encouraging distances were obtained, especially Joe Pullella's distances. Nic took the honours for the 112 gram and shared the artificial bait event with George. Good to see Aubs back into the swing of things.

"Juvenile Jim" is suffering from a hernia so he has pulled out of the distance events (big operation soon), Trevor's double handed accuracy results had him over the moon and distracted his attention during the distance events, good to see Mal put down some good ones and Vix had a problem allowing for the wind.

The vets hit the single handed accuracy event and started with a very lack lustre show, but when "Roy the Boy" banged the target twice, the lads lifted to gain better results. It ended with Roy and George sharing the honours.

With constant efficiency, Roy took the top honours for the day. Well done, Roy.

Thanks to all for another great day. Keep it straight and long.

Hendo.

Next Dry Casting:- Sunday 4 May 2003, Yokine Reserve, 8:30 am start.

Club Events:-	112 gram Distance,	56 gram distance.	Double Handed accuracy
	Single Handed accuracy.		
AAA Postal Drycasting	112 gram Distance,	56 gram distance.	Double Handed accuracy
	Artificial Bait distance		(all individual. no teams)

Dry Casting Results, 6 April 2003.

Results for the day	112 gram			Artificial bait			Double Handed Accuracy									Single Handed Accuracy					Day Total	
	Cast 1 (m)	Cast 2 (m)	Points	Cast 1 (m)	Cast 2 (m)	Points	Cast number								Points	Cast number				Points		
							1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8		1	2	3	4			
Seniors.																						
Gary Gildersleeves	142	143	29	117	116	23	5	15	14	23	21	14	25	16	133	6	8	1	0	15	200	
George Holman	148	0	15	123	124	25	5	16	16	20	11	12	21	23	124	7	9	8	8	32	196	
Joe Pullella AAA	164	156	32	130	130	26	16	22	10	25	9	9	17	10	118	0	0	0	8	8	184	
Nick Allsworth	146	151	30	120	127	25	0	14	18	22	10	7	4	24	99	8	8	6	8	30	184	
Eric Parker	129	0	13	106	104	21	18	2	22	22	0	11	22	24	121	6	7	0	5	18	173	
Chas Riegert	0	157	16	131	0	13	8	6	23	8	11	25	7	23	111	0	8	0	7	15	155	
Andrew Aubrey	126	0	13	0	0	0	23	12	11	10	13	6	16	1	92	5	4	0	0	9	114	
Veterans.																						
Roy Killick	116	121	24	102	97	20	10	10	25	22	11	24	25	23	150	6	10	10	6	32	226	
Tony D'Alonzo	117	120	24	100	98	20	19	9	21	13	17	24	20	23	146	2	6	9	6	23	213	
Bob Henderson	125	120	25	105	0	11	23	17	24	20	17	15	14	23	153	0	2	0	5	7	196	
Mal Head	116	120	24	101	100	20	18	0	21	12	16	20	14	23	124	9	4	5	5	23	191	
Trevor Stam	0	0	0	0	86	9	20	21	15	17	24	24	14	14	149	0	4	5	0	9	167	
Terry Fuller	88	100	19	64	70	13	16	3	25	18	0	19	13	14	108	0	9	4	9	22	162	
Jim Strong			0			0	19	20	19	19	15	14	17	14	137	4	0	7	6	17	154	
Allan Jones	105	115	22	103	96	20	0	4	20	0	21	8	22	25	100	0	2	1	5	8	150	
Geoff Raftis	0	91	9	0	0	0	18	9	3	17	0	12	3	5	67	5	6	3	0	14	90	
Martin Johanssen	0	0	0	0	50	5	0	0	23	15	0	0	17	0	55	0	1	0	1	2	62	
Ladies.																						
Vix Alexander	93	0	9	71	0	7	14	17	6	13	9	20	12	12	103	0	8	0	6	14	133	
Junior																						
Rhys Jones	98	86	18	71	80	15	15	0	21	9	10	0	3	16	74	0	0	2	9	11	118	

Highest points on the Day	Roy Killick	226		
112 gram Seniors winner	Nick Allsworth	30	112 gram Veterans winner	Bob Henderson 25
Artificial bait Seniors winners	Nick Allsworth / George Holman	25	Artificial bait Veterans winners	Roy Killick / Allan Jones / Tony D'Alonzo / Mal Head 20
Double Handed Accuracy Seniors winner	Gary Gildersleeves	133	Double Handed Accuracy Veterans winner	Bob Henderson 153
Single Handed Accuracy Seniors winner	George Holman	32	Single Handed Accuracy Veterans winner	Roy Killick 32
Ladies winner	Vix Alexander	133	Junior winner	Rhys Jones 118

Special Request
Would all drycasters please wear club shirts and name badge at monthly casting days.
Hendo

Vital Information Missing!

Chas Riegert proved that someone does RTFRT by asking about the car rally starting time when he couldn't find it in the April Reel Talk. Whatever was supplied in time for the publication deadline for the Reel Talk was published.

April 2003 Field Day, Cape to Cape.

It's a funny thing about the weather, one day it can be blowing a gale and bucketing down, the next day calm conditions can prevail. So it was on the Cape-to-Cape field day. Friday and Saturday was only fit for a duck but Sunday was glorious. So all you fair weather fishers, you missed out big time.

Only 8 hardy souls braved the conditions to sign on at the Busselton Jetty. The boundaries had been extended to the Busselton jetty to allow access to sheltered water in light of the forecasted bad weather. All fished from Bunkers Bay to Dunsborough. The west coast was under a serious barrage of 5 metre swells that sent spray tens of metres into the air.

The word around town was that Salmon had arrived on their migration north. Although this was good news for us, it was also good news for the locals as well as all the other visitors to the area. Even the weather on Saturday did not deter them, so getting a good spot was like winning the lottery. Not being ones for crowds, Vix and I moved around on Saturday with only a few herring to show for it.

With rising panic we decided we would have to confront the hoards early the next morning. We arrived at the rocks near Eagle Bay before sunrise only to be greeted by three other vehicles. Obviously some people don't have homes to go to. Not long after sunrise all the positions were taken and not very much longer after that the first salmon were caught. They would arrive in small pods, which would mean three or four hook ups would occur at a time. Then all would go quiet for another half hour or so apart from the plague of resident herring. It was great to be there, a calm morning, clear waters and salmon leaping out of the water. That's the thing about fishing, one days a sow's ear and the next day a silk purse.

Tip:- if you want to get to the weigh in on time with more than 30 seconds to spare, don't leave a live bait in the water when there are salmon around. They wreak havoc to your time schedule.

The weigh in at Busselton showed some healthy catches. Everybody caught salmon. Terry 2, Tony 2, John 1, Vix 1, Spencer 4, Kade 4 and 3 for me. Tony displayed his usual fishing prowess with a range of species including 11 blackfish. Spencer and Kade presented a good catch of skippy, herring and salmon, one of which scored Kade the heaviest scale fish, at 4.12 kgs.

Another terrific fishing trip, even the ordinary weather on Saturday would have to be better than staying at home.

A word of warning though, some of the salmon down South can be difficult to subdue at times and will try to tear your leg off if you are not careful!

Hope to see you on the beach next time. Malcolm Harris, Field Day Officer.

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Vix Alexander seems to have got into the swing of things with the responsibilities of a fishing mate when it comes to helping land fish. Malcolm Harris had a live herring bait out and looked like he was tearing his clothes in frustration after the third salmon (or was it the fourth?) had gone for a run and spat the herring and hooks back out again. He claims one of his earlier salmon had taken to his trousers, but I ask you - how could a salmon do so much damage? Pack up time had arrived and the bait was left in the water while the gear was taken up to the car.

Anyway the rod went off once again and Malcolm scrambled down to the rocks and had the salmon well hooked this time. Most of the gear was up at the car in sight, but the doors were open and Vix was trying to keep one eye on the valuables and one eye on the salmon. She gaffed this one for her fishing partner, at the price of a ducking and sore back when she slipped on the rocks and ended up in the shallow water with the fish.

Vix, we know you got a good natured ribbing when the one and only full sized Bluff Creek salmon caught by a club member "miraculously grew legs, out ran its pursuer and scuttled back into the water", but you've more than made up for it now. Greater love..... So that's the reason Mal and Vix arrived at the weigh in at about 30 seconds to 12.

Just in case anyone thinks that falling into the water from the rocks on the south west coast is dangerous, and it isn't right to treat it lightly, we were fishing from low, safe rocks on the protected side of the Cape in super calm conditions on the sunny Sunday morning. Even during the full fury of the storm on Friday and Saturday, I had been standing less than half a metre above sea level and didn't get more than my feet wet - apart from all that rain from above..... The waves were moving parallel to the rocks and were not breaking on to them. Those reef boots with the steel spikes are just so good for moving around on the rocks. TerryF.

Fish species caught on this field day were:- herring, salmon, skippy, wrasse, western rock blackfish, tailor (small), tarwhine and rock cod.

Results for the April Field Day:-.

Field Day prizes for April and Sportserson of the Year Sections for April.

Best Scale Fish	Kade Ross	Salmon	4.12 kg
Best Bag of Scale fish	Tony D'Alonzo	Mixed bag	17.8 kg



FDO Malcolm Harris wearing the latest fashion in "air conditioned" trousers, courtesy of a thrashing salmon.

Angler	Weight	Species	Fish	Points
Tony D'Alonzo	17.8 kg	7	30	298.3
Kade Ross	16.5 kg	3	11	245.3
Spencer King	16.2 kg	3	12	241.8
Malcolm Harris	11.5 kg	3	15	184.8
Terry Fuller	11.3 kg	2	30	183
John Romano	6.3 kg	2	23	132.5
Vix Alexander	4.7 kg	2	8	116.5
Filomena D'Alonzo	0 kg	0	0	40

Final Field Day Top Ten for 2002/2003.

	Angler	Total Points		Angler	Total Points
1	Tony D'Alonzo	3621.2	6	Terry Fuller	592.6
2	Malcolm Harris	1343.9	7	Ross Kember	558.1
3	Vix Alexander	1068.3	8	John Romano	470.7
4	George Holman	950.6	9	Filomena D'Alonzo	466.6
5	Spencer King	608	10	Ken Black	451

Field Day Sections for 2002/2003

Final Field Day Sections for 2002/2003. Sections not listed have not had any entries.

1A	Best Scale Fish (1st Six Months)	Spencer King	Salmon	4.475 kg
1B	Best Scale Fish (2nd Six Months)	Tony D'Alonzo	Cobia	12.45 kg
3	Best Shark (4.5 kg min)	Tony D'Alonzo	Shark	8.15 kg
4	Best Mulloway (2.0 kg min)	Tony D'Alonzo	Mulloway	4.35 kg
5	Best Tailor (1.0 kg min)	Tony D'Alonzo	Tailor	2.1 kg
6	Best Salmon (3 kg min)	Spencer King	Salmon	4.475 kg
7	Best Skipjack Trevally (0.5 kg min)	Paul Terpkos	Trevally, Skipjack	1.5 kg
9	Best Scale Fish (Other than above)	Tony D'Alonzo	Pink Snapper	2.45 kg
10	Best Bag Of Scale Fish	Tony D'Alonzo	Mixed Bag	33.05 kg
11	Best Bag Of Mulloway (2 Fish Min)	Tony D'Alonzo	Mulloway	13.3 kg
12	Best Bag Of Tailor (2 Fish Min)	George Holman	Tailor	7.1 kg
13	Best Fish On S/H Rod 4kg b/s line (max)	Bob Henderson	Black Bream	0.646 kg
14	Best Fish Caught on Fly Rod	John Jardine	Tailor	0.875 kg

New Fisheries Officers Ready to Hit the Water.

The Government promised more Fisheries Officers. A media release in early April advised that 16 people have completed training as fully fledged Fisheries Officers. The Department of Fisheries received a total of 1200 applications to fill only 16 Fisheries Officer vacancies.

The successful applicants received six weeks training and will be heading out to all corners of the State to help ensure that there are fish for the future.

Two officers will be joining the Department of Fisheries' mobile patrols based in Broome and Bunbury. "The mobile patrols are highly versatile operations which can shift compliance duties across Western Australia to suit the recreational season," Manager of Central Support Greg Finlay said. "This means as the recreational seasons change, the department's officers can respond swiftly to patrol areas of high pressure."

One officer has been specifically selected to recruit and train Aboriginal Fisheries Liaison Officers under the State Government's Aboriginal fishing strategy. Another will be posted to the department's international operations group based in Fremantle to police the Australian Fishing Zone on behalf of the Australian Fisheries Management Authority.

The other officers will be posted to Albany, Denham, Geraldton, Jurien, Fremantle, Bunbury and two officers will join the department's patrol boat fleet.

President's Notes April 2003

This last month has seen a number of deeply concerning incidents take place, thankfully not to members of this club, but concerning never the less.

What is the price of a fish? Do not turn your back on the ocean! We have had these lessons drummed into us for as long as I can remember but we still are confronted with the tragedy of people being washed off rocks and out of boats.

We often look at rough conditions and make the right decision to try another location or day, but it is often the case that tragedy occurs when conditions are fine and the sea is calm. It is in these conditions that we grow complacent

and undertake a task that would normally not be undertaken. Like getting down and wet to retrieve that fish that may be wallowing at the very edge. This is the time that we are at most danger.

The term rogue or freak wave is a misnomer. Larger than normal waves are a natural occurrence. We learnt that about every seventh set of waves would be larger than the rest and that they would contain a set of three or four waves of diminishing size. Sometimes this set is bound to be larger than the last. We must be mindful of this fact ALL the time that we are in close proximity to the ocean.

Certainly of lesser importance but also concerning is the report that the Cockburn Sound is in danger of dying. This maybe too strong a word but we are definitely seeing degradation in the playground of the blue-collar set. Sea grass is not only being eaten up by shellsand dredging but it is being swamped by the detritus left over from industry that surrounds what is almost an impoundment. But it has been reported that even the seagrass beds that are to date untouched, are being smothered and are becoming stunted. We are our worst enemy but it is not yet too late to make waves of protest.

I went for a walk along the southern side of Woodman point and I was not pleased to call myself a fisherman. The beach was littered with plastic bait bags, admittedly a great advert for bait companies but not a great advert for the responsible anglers that we are. Or should be. Of great interest was that only three "blue bait bands" were sighted among the detritus, so it would seem that the "other side" may be doing their bit.

I was most disappointed at the display of hands when the request was put "Who is planning to attend the Car Rally?" Six indicated that they were planning to support the efforts of the organising group. This event is not a fundraiser, just a chance to do something different as a group. My feelings go out to the organisers at this lack of support.

Summary.

DO NOT TAKE RISKS.

CLEAN UP AFTER AN ANGLING EXPEDITION. YOU ARE ALLOWED TO TAKE OTHER PEOPLE'S RUBBISH.

SUPPORT YOUR COMMITTEE. THEY DESERVE IT.

I wish you all good health and successful angling and/or casting for the coming year.

Ross Kember, President 2002/2003.

Club's Code of Ethics.

With the June Field Day to be held at a private property, all members and visitors need to observe the Club's Code of Ethics so that we will be welcomed back for future field days. If you bring a visitor, you must make sure that person's activities meet our Code of Ethics, or you must do whatever is necessary to prevent any problems.

USE OF VEHICLES

Vehicles using beaches or accessing beaches shall be encouraged to use a pole carrying a flag or bunting which shall be a minimum of three (3) metres from ground level on all field trips whilst off road.

The maximum speed on beach or tracks shall not exceed 50 km per hour. Members must always drive with caution when there are other people sighted in any location. All vehicles entering or leaving the beach should preserve vegetation at all times and keep to made tracks where ever possible.

Offer aid and assistance to any fisherman or motor vehicle in trouble on the beach.

CAMPING AND ENVIRONMENT

Respect local, state and national statutes and the rights of property owners, particularly in regard to camping.

Do not litter the beach or campsites. Use rubbish bins when available, or take your rubbish with you to prevent pollution and to protect wildlife

Leave the campsite clean and tidy.

OUR FISHERY

Take no more than your immediate needs.

Understand and observe all fishing regulations.

Support and encourage activities that restore and enhance fisheries and fish habitats.

Observe the rules of common courtesy on the beach. Try not to overcrowd and leave room for fellow anglers.

Quickly and correctly return unwanted or illegal catch to the water.

Use only legal tackle, attend your gear and value your catch.

Respect the rights of others and treat fish humanely. Inform and encourage other people to adopt a code of ethics.

The philosophy of "Catch and Release" should be encouraged at all times.

Wanted to Buy.

Old fishing reels, wooden, bakelite, metal. Pre 1965. Aluminium drum reels, overheads, sidecasts, etc.

Halco, Surfmaster, Graeme, Taylor, etc. Also cane creels, rods, lures, etc.

Phone Mark Farnay on 9246 0898 or 0419 915 230.

Salmon Are on the Way.

As reported in the April Field Day report, enough salmon were around the Geographe Bay side of Cape Naturaliste to make the fishing interesting. Reports on the internet bulletin boards are also promising for salmon in the metro area. A big school was seen at the northern end of Garden Island, and they have been caught at some beaches north and south of Mandurah, at the North Mole, at Yancheep and at Rottneest. Go get them.

The West Australian of 24 April had a report about professional catches of salmon on the south coast. It reported that the fishermen were paid \$430 per tonne, or just 43 cents per kilogram, mainly for canning in South Australia. The fisherman was reported as saying that unless the price went up, he might not be fishing for salmon the next year, because he needs at least \$600 per tonne to keep going, with some fisherman putting the price needed at \$700 to \$800 per tonne.

That's still only \$4 for a 5 kg salmon, but what would that salmon be worth in the dollars spent by a recreational angler to catch? Accommodation, bait, fuel, food, tackle, all adding to the return from tourism in these areas.

Marketing initiatives in Australia and overseas are trying to boost returns to the professional fishermen by showing that salmon and herring are good eating and that their poor image because of their darker flesh and stronger flavours is not justified if they are handled properly and with the temperature controlled.

Many recreational anglers already know how good salmon are to eat. I wonder if the professionals are prepared to do enough to get the best out of salmon? They don't bleed them for a start, and without doing that, salmon can be very ordinary eating, compared to lots of other species.

If you do manage to catch a salmon, and want to try one for taste, treat it as covered in the article "Looking After Your Fish" on page 9 of this Reel Talk. After filleting it, lay the fish fillet skin side down on a cutting board, and take off slices of fish around 10 to 15 mm thick. Trim off any red, dark flesh and skin. An average salmon will give around 1½ to 2 kilograms of pieces, which will be several servings. One fish is enough - the rest can be catch and release.

One secret is to put the fish pieces in a container and cover them with milk - full cream milk seems best. Put in the fridge for 12 to 24 hours. When ready to cook, drain off the milk, partly dry the fish pieces using paper towels, and cook the fish your favourite way. Try coated in beaten egg and dipped in flour or breadcrumbs.

Filletts of smaller fish like herring can be treated the same way and left whole or may be skinned if you like them that way.

Another way is to wrap the whole cleaned salmon in aluminium foil and bake it with just a dash of your favourite herbs, but the plain fish has plenty of taste of it's own, so try that sometime.

The offcuts and the skin with a thin layer of flesh make great, tough baits. Unless you have very strong fingers, you'll need pliers to get the skin off the hooks if you use fresh bait, so the fish can really go to town on them without stealing it in one go like they can do with some softer baits.

Cut them in strips of the size you want, from baits for small gangs of hooks for herring or skippy sized baits, to baits for larger gangs of hooks for salmon or tailor sized baits. Either salt or freeze them, or better still, go fishing again and use them fresh. Adding a handful of pollard to the bait will stop them sticking together and provide some berley when it hits the water. The red flesh can also be used for baits or berley. Way back before mulies came on the scene, cut salmon baits were among the baits recommended for tailor, sharks, and a lot of other species caught from the beach or rocks.

Trophies Wanted.

We need trophies for this competition year. Times are tough in the tackle trade and the club can't expect the same level of support we have had in the past.

Please consider donating a trophy or some money to be put towards a trophy. Everything welcome. We usually acknowledge the donations as they are received, but I don't think the list of donations is very long this year, and I've just thought of this item and squeezed it in just before this edition was sent to be printed.

Thanks to Derry and Dianne Barber for the donation of \$100 received in the post today.

2003 Dinner, Dance and Presentation of Trophies.

The Surfcasters Dinner, Dance and Presentation of Trophies for 2002/3 will be held on Saturday 14 June 2003. Some of the following details are based on last year - check the June Reel Talk for this year's details.

Where:- Marmion Angling and Aquatic Club (licensed so no BYO drinks, please).

Time:- 5:30 pm start with pre dinner drinks, sherries and orange juice.

Food:- See the June Reel Talk. **Close:-** Midnight.

Entertainment:- Presentation of trophies for 2002/2003, door prizes, music, dancing, raffles, sliders and good company.

Cost:- See June Reel Talk, or contact Social Organiser Derry Barber.

Tickets:- From Treasurer. Must be bought by the deadline, the General Meeting 11 June.

Family members are welcome, and visitors are welcome provided they come along with a Club member.

All Club members receiving awards for the Field Day, Dry Casting or Open Competitions are asked to come to the presentation night, or offer an apology, please.

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This is your personal invitation! Make up a party!

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