

1957



September 1957

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The Official News Letter of  
**SURF CASTING AND ANGLING CLUB OF W.A. (Inc.)**

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PRESIDENT: Mick Coleman-Doscas.

HON. SECRETARY:

John Bellman, 31 Rowe Ave  
Belmont.

VICE PRESIDENT: Bert Payne.

TREASURER: Ben Elliott.

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The ~~Next~~<sup>SEPT</sup> Meeting of the Club will be held on  
Wednesday, 11th. September, 1957 in the National Fitness  
Rooms, 50 James Street, Perth, commencing at 8 p.m. sharp.

CASTING NOTES: We had our first casting outing for the  
season on Sunday, 18th. August at the Floreat Park  
Recreational Ground. This ground is ideal for our casting  
outings and we are indeed fortunate to have the use of  
such a first class oval.

Unfortunately we got away to a late start, but as we  
get better organised in committee these annoying hold-ups  
will be entirely eliminated.

The outing was quite a success and the attendance of  
24 club members was rather satisfying.

Two events were cast, and as we have not yet set new handicaps. Both events were judged on average distance.

The first event was the  $3\frac{1}{2}$  oz. Weight and Tom Neil won this with an average of  $132\frac{1}{2}$  yds, 2nd was John Bellman with  $120\frac{1}{2}$  yds and 3rd was Bert Payne with  $117\frac{1}{2}$  yds.

The second event was the spinner event and Noel Knight was first with an average of  $117\frac{1}{2}$  yds, Tom Neil 2nd with 110 yds, and Doug Edward 3rd with  $106\frac{1}{2}$  yds.

Main Point Scorers over both events were - Tom Neil 19, John Bellman 15, Doug Edward, Bert Payne, Noel Knight 14, Felix Hollywell 12 and Aubrey Badger 9.

All the above boys cast consistently well, but Hal Neil and Bert Payne in particular showed vast improvement on last year's performances. Looks like "Panther" is ready to graduate into the expert class. Of the newer members of the Club, two who showed particular good form were Aubrey Badger from Northam and Hal Cook, while the "Old Master" Felix Hollywell demonstrated his ability with his "Egg Beater" ably supported by Arch Ticklie.

It is very apparent that the majority of Club Members prefer to cast with their standard fishing gear and with this object your Committee has drawn up a proposed new set of Casting Rules and Events for future outings.

- Events to be cast:
1. Spinner Event
  2. Blobs Event
  3. Bait Event
  4. Scaly Mackerel Event (if a "Scaly" can be manufactured)
  5. Single Handed Event.

Will all members please study these, and be prepared to vote Conditions: for or against at the next meeting.

- (a) Only standard fishing gear as purchased over the counter to be used.
- (b) All lines to be level and no leaders to be used other than those used to attach baits, swivels etc.
- (c) The club will supply all blobs, baits, spinners etc.
- (d) The field will be laid down with a double row of flags 10-15 yds apart and casts landing inside this boundary will score an additional bonus point.

- (e) The first flag will be set at 50 yds from the starting line and casts landing short of this mark will not score. (This may be adjusted for single handed events).
- (f) That points be allocated to the first ten placegetters on a 10 down to 1 basis for each event and these points to be tallied in conjunction with points scored on our field day outings.
- (g) The competitions continue right throughout the year up until the Annual General Meeting and the winner (virtually the best all-round club man) to receive the Les Shand "Mystery Trophy" which is awarded annually.
- (h) As soon as a handicap system can be brought into operation all events will be on an Average Handicap System.
- (i) The Committee will have final say on what constitutes standard fishing gear.
- (j) Club members wishing to carry on experimenting and casting with the lighter types of gear will be given an opportunity at each outing, but there will be no competitions run with this gear.
- (k) When Field Days are run the Casting Day will be the second Sunday following monthly meeting.

The next Casting outing will be on Sunday, 22nd. Sept. at the Floreat Park Recreational Ground. Casting will commence at 10 a.m. sharp.

FISHING COMPETITION: Will all members please be prepared to vote on the following suggested amendments to our Fishing competition.

- (a) That weight of fish entered be published in each copy of the Reel Talk and to maintain interest an additional prize be allocated for a "Mystery Weight". This weight to be selected by our Patron, Mr. Jim Munro, and be placed in a sealed envelop and lodged with our bank until the completion of the competition. The member catching the fish nearest to this weight wins this section.
- (b) That consideration be given to fish caught on Field Days and entered in Section 5 of this competition earning additional Bonus Points.

If club members require entry forms they can be picked up from Charlie Cugley or Les Shand.

Stop Press - Les Shand wants to know if blowfish are eligible in the Point per lb Score - if so, he reckons he would be leading the competition.

FIELD DAY: Well chaps it's on again - Field Day Organiser Ray Porter has arranged the next field day to be at our old favourite haunt, Garden Island, on the weekend 14/15th September. Full details as to rendezvous and times of departure will be arranged and notified at the next meeting. Better get the gear out and give it the once over.

NEW MEMBERS: If any member has reasons why the following should not be accepted as members of our club, please contact the Secretary immediately.

Aubrey V. BADGER  
NORTHAM.

Lance BREEN  
Williams Rd.,  
PINJARRA.

Douglas Edward SAVAGE  
8 Roscoild Avenue  
MT. YOKINE.

John A. LEE  
151 Mars St.,  
CARLISLE.

DIRECTORY: As I intend to revise this shortly will all members who are on the phone please advise Les Shand of their phone numbers by the next meeting.

INSTRUCTION PERIOD: Mr. Jim Munro of the State Fisheries Dept. will give a talk at our next meeting.

FLY FISHING FOR TROUT: Trout Fly Fishing seems to be in the news of late, and as I have overheard several members asking the "whys" and "wherefores", I thought I would try and explain some of the rudiments of this art for the benefit of those of us who have never seen trout fly fishing.

I don't profess to be an authority on the subject though I have "flogged" trout streams for over 25 years and if I were to "flog" them for another 50 years I would still be learning.

The claim that certain local fish have been caught on trout flies I can well believe, but the claim that salmon and large sea taylor have been caught on them leaves some doubt in my mind - they might probably have been caught on sea trout or salmon flies - I will later try and explain why.

First of all there are two distinct methods of fly fishing - dry fly and wet fly fishing.

I expect most of you have at some time or other seen flies or insects drop on the water from overhanging branches, or blown on to the water by the breeze - on trout streams these are carried on the surface by the currents and are taken by the feeding trout.

Dry Fly Fishing is making an imitation of these flies and letting them float down on the surface - All these flies or insects - of which there are thousands of varieties have a name, not the long latin ones used by Entomologists, but simple ones given them by the Trout Anglers, such as "March Brown", "Red Spinner", "Coachman", "White Moth" etc. The imitations being made to kid the trout that they are the real thing. The materials used in the making up of these flies are not the brain waves of tackle makers. They are the materials brought to perfection by Trout Anglers, themselves experimenting throughout the years. Often we find flies named after the Angler who first devised them one comes easily to mind "Greenwells Glory", invented some 30 to 40 years by a Mr. Greenwell. No - Imitation are not just a few feathers tied to a hook.

For instance, the "March Brown" is made of brownish wool wound round the shank of the hook over a few fine strands of feather (woodcock) that protrude as a tail, then bound on with very fine gold tinsel - the legs - called tackle are made from a few twists of Red Hackle - these are those long glistening feathers one sees on the neck of a Rhode Island Red Rooster, then the wings are made from a piece of feather from a Woodcocks Wing.

So to catch those feeding trout all you have to do is to find which one of those thousands of flies they are feeding on and give them the works - you can narrow the field down quite a bit when you get to know your district

and get to know what month or even week these flies hatch out, as it is no good using a particular fly in August when the real thing only hatches out for a few weeks in January.

I have often watched these flies float down on local waters and have only seen them taken by river gardies. Once or twice I have seen pilchard rise just like trout to take surface flies, and a friend of mine who is another trout angler has often suggested we give those schools of mullet often seen near Riverton Bridge a go on trout flies as they often seem to be taking surface flies.

So much for Dry Fly Fishing.

Wet Fly Fishing is letting your fly sink below the surface and drift with the current or drawing it slowly through the water. These flies are usually made up a bit different to the Dry Flies, having more hackle and sometimes no wings and are chiefly made to imitate Nymphs and other aquatic insects. Now, if one of these in any way resembles our shrimp in the water, it can easily be understood why local fish - especially bream - are caught on them. One point mystifies me a little, in the Wet Fly Fishing for trout they never hook themselves and very seldom do you feel the bite. You watch the fly as soon as you see a swirl or the flash of the trout you strike and you have to be mighty quick on the strike as they take it and spit it out in one action, as soon as they feel it is an imitation it's out, probably our local are not educated to this yet and just swallow it.

As to ocean fishing I doubt very much whether Salmon or Sea Tailer will take these flies, they might take the much larger ones used for sea trout or salmon fishing.

These are much larger and much more brilliant in their colouring. What they imitate Heaven only knows, I often think fish take them just out of curiosity, anyway I have a few of these and one day when the tailer are on I will give them a go and report results.

Trust these few lines might help those members who have been reading "Rod and Line".

" RED SPINNER "

7.

GARDEN ISLAND "GEN": Ken Matthews, Ken Wiggins and I spent three days recently on Garden Island. The aim of the expedition was to disprove the opinion that the Island teems with gigantic scale fish. This was accomplished with success, at least by myself, as I concentrate more on the theoretical side of fishing and definitely do not believe in the Australian adage "Winge and Win".

Friday night's catch was 5 tailer from 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>-3lbs, 2 salmon 4-5lbs. Saturday's weather forced the trip to the jetty - result 1 tailer 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>ozs, 2 whiting ditto, and 2 herring - all good bait for a one hook lead.

Sunday evening's catch was one Kingie 3<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub>lbs by Ken Wiggins, whose theoretical knowledge could stand improvement, as he couldn't tell the difference between weed and fish. He was playing the weed and trying to dislodge the fish.

Anyway, after I untangled Ken's one hander from his tailer rod, and reeled it in, the catch was eventually hauled in stone dead, as a matter of fact it had started to turn, of course this is sour grapes on my part.

On Sunday morning we sighted what appeared to me to be a Carpet Snake in late pregnancy. An immediate caesarian operation was performed, with the aid of my two assistants, and to our surprise a small quokka emerged. The operation was a success, both patients died. (Who the snake and the quokka or the two Kens? Ed.).

In my innocence I did not know that snakes and quokkas do not believe in mixed marriages, also I have been informed that the snake was possibly a male which had gested the rodent.

I forgot to mention that when the snake was first sighted we were three, but within a second there were only little spurts of sand in the distance indicating the general direction Ken Matthews had taken. I believe a letter from the Indian Fakirs of snake charmers assn. has just arrived offering Ken the Presidency.

Anyway, the weekend was a great success and was just another indication of the fraternal value of our club, for despite the fact that the writer caught no worth while fish the enjoyment was no whit lessened.

MARCUS COLEMAN.

**REPORTS:** The road to the Moore River is in a shocking condition. It appears that the Army has been on manoeuvres in the area and the tanks have churned the roads and tracks up badly. In wet weather it is at present practically impossible to get through.

Hoc. Mainwaring from the Murchison advises visitors to bring their own scaly mackerel, if possible. Four fishermen who recently arrived with two cases of this bait staggered the local "Pros" with their catches on Rod and Reel.

We hear from a reliable source that Vic Davis is taking out a patent on a pistol grip butt for the single handed rod.

**SUBSCRIPTIONS:** Once again members a reminder that your subscriptions are due and a final warning that after this edition unfinancial members will be struck off the mailing list of our Reel Talk.

**CLUB OUTINGS:** Make a note of the following functions and outings of our club:

- Wednesday, 11th. September - Meeting
- Saturday, 14th. September - Field Day
- Sunday, 22nd. September - Casting Day (AM)
- Wednesday, 9th. October - Meeting
- Saturday, 12th. October - Field Day
- Sunday, 20th. October - Casting Day (AM)

**FOR SALE:** Three (3) Split Cane Fishing Rods

Hohn Bellman,  
31 Rowe Avenue, Belmont.

**PICTURE NIGHT:** On Thursday, 29th August the Club had a film evening at the residence of Mr. & Mrs. Ken Wiggins. For the staging of such a successful evening the Club is indebted to several persons. To Mr. Patterson, Sen. & Jun., Mr. & Mrs. Coleman, Charlie Cugley, and to Mr. & Mrs. Ken Wiggins for making their home available for the evening. When one considers that there were some 35 people at the filming club members will appreciate the contribution made by Ken and his wife. Once again thanks to all who helped to make the evening a success. (Ed.).