



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 2004/2005

President / Dry Casting Officer

Vice President

Immediate Past President

George Holman

Ross Kember

Secretary/Reel Talk Editor/Web Page

Treasurer

Assistant Treasurer

Terry Fuller

All club mail to:-

Paul Thompson

All club mail to:-

John Romano

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Field Day Officer

Property Officer

Recorder

Malcolm Harris

Vix Alexander

Ian Cook

Assistant Field Day Officer

Assistant Drycasting Officer

Social Coordinator

Peter Stoeckel

Terry Willison

Chas Riegert

Committee Person

A.A.A. Delegates

Bob Henderson

Andrew Aubrey

George Holman

Chas Riegert

Terry Fuller

(is away from Perth and really mobile from mid January, 2005)

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Minutes of General Meeting, 9 February 2005

- Venue:-** Coolbinia West Perth Amateur Football and Sporting Club room
Time 8:00 pm. Vice President George Holman presiding.
- Present:-** 28 members.
- Apologies:-** Dean Stewart, Paul Thompson, John Romano, Trevor Stam, Terry Fuller at Recfishwest meeting and will be late.
- Visitors:-** John Keys, Gillian.
- Instruction Period:-** Moved Chas Riegert, seconded Peter Stoeckel suspension of standing orders. Paul Willis gave a very entertaining and informative talk on fishing for bream and mulloway in the rivers. Moved Chas Riegert, seconded Allan Jones resumption of standing orders.
- New Member:-** None.
- Previous Minutes:-** As published in the Reel Talk. Moved Peter Stoeckel , seconded Jim Strong, these are a true record. Carried.
- Previous Committee:-** George Holman outlined actions from the previous Committee meeting. No business arising.
There is a vacancy on Committee - anyone interested?.
- Correspondence In:-**
- | | |
|-------------------------|--|
| Westpac Bank | Bank statement for January. |
| Ray White Kalbarri | Statement for January (plus cheque for \$597.49) and list of Kalbarri bookings |
| AAA | Minutes of January AAA Delegates' Meeting. |
| City of Stirling | Bookings needed for Yokine Reserve |
| Dial an Engel 9206 3575 | 10% discount offer |
| Taylor Made Insurance | Info/offer about Public Liability Insurance |
- Correspondence Out:-** City of Stirling Dry Casting bookings dates for Yokine Reserve
- Treasurer's Report:-** Paul Thompson and John Romano have given apologies for the meeting. Terry Fuller provided the following:-
- | | |
|----------------------------|-------------|
| Bank balance at 8 Feb 2005 | \$15,012.22 |
| Cheque to be banked | \$597.49 |
| Accounts for payment | No details. |
- Moved** Ian Cook seconded Peter Stoeckel, report be received, carried.
- Property Officer** Vix Alexander reported. Terry Fuller is making up railing/balustrading for the back verandah, assemble in Perth and taking up on 19 February. A report from Andrew Aubrey's wife has raised some issues – most of which are known to the Committee. A question was raised about a barbecue which was for sale - have been supplied before but have gone missing. To be discussed at committee.
- Field Day Officer:-** Malcolm Harris reported briefly on the January Field day. A large bait ball was a surprising thing not often seen in this area. Several field day awards were presented.
February Field day will be an Open as listed in Reel Talk.
March Field Day will be split between Bremer Bay and Bluff Creek.
- Dry Casting Officer:-** Terry Willison thanked Geoff Raftis for helping with scoring and bringing in equipment at the end of the day.
Chas Riegert reported on the February dry casting as in Reel Talk.
Future arrangement for bringing and looking after the dry casting equipment was discussed because Terry Willison will not be available after August due to an operation.
- AAA Report:-** Seventeen people have committed to go to Yeppoon following the recent meeting at George's home.
The AAA State Boat Angling Championships will be held on 19 March at Hillarys.
An AAA Year Book is being planned for the second half of the year.
George Holman passed on some information about commercial whitebait catches in Geographe Bay where some were catching the very small ones probably before they had a chance to breed.
Peter Stoeckel reported on the AAA Rock and Beach Championship planned for 28/29 May at Cape to Cape. A booklet has been prepared to advertise the event. A sub committee meeting at the Sportsman's Club Thursday 10 Feb and SCAC people are welcome to come. George like to see more Surfcasters at these events.
- Social Organiser:-** Marmion Angling and Aquatic Club has been booked for the Presentation night, Saturday 18 June 2005. Peter Stoeckel and Andrew Aubrey will organise this.
- Recorder:-** Ian Cook showed two entries, John Jardine, mackerel and Tony Ong, golden trevally.
He has done some work on sorting Club records. Some details will be in a future Reel Talk.
He asked if members have any photos of their record fish to help identification, particularly sharks.
Notices of Motion were put in some time ago to change the Open and Species list. To be voted on at April meeting.
- Rottnest Field Day:-** Options as listed in the February Reel Talk were discussed. After discussion, it was agreed that the May Field day will be with the AAA State Rock and Beach Championships 28/29 May at Cape to Cape, and the Rottnest Field Day will be on the long weekend 4/5/6 June. Costs are as indicated in Reel Talk.

Secretary's Report.

Terry Fuller reported on the "No More Lamingtons" (NML) proposal. Members pay for goods or services, commissions are split between NML and the Club 50-50 and the member gets a small gift from NML to a value of up to 10% of the commission. Terry has looked at NML's website and has discussed this proposal with the NML representative. At this stage he is unwilling and unable to recommend this to the Club members because there are a number of unanswered questions, such as no or sketchy information about NML's suppliers; one supplier with a website which has been emptied of any information; ambiguous or meaningless wording in privacy policy statements; lack of any links to existing users of NML's services to check their satisfaction, and a general amateur look and wording of publicity and other statements about the services. Nothing else to report other than covered by correspondence or in general business.

- Reel Talk Editor:-**
- Notices of Motion:-**
- General Business:-**

Nothing to report.
None.
George reminded members of the need to put in suggestions for Field Days for the coming season – see sheet in January Reel Talk.
The next meeting instruction period was going to be the No More Lamingtons, but if this is not ready, then a Question and Answer period will be used.
Terry Fuller reported on some items from tonight's February Recfishwest meeting. See the more detailed report and articles in the Reel Talk.
Allan Jones has some information on laser measuring devices for Dry Casting. He will come to a Committee meeting to show this.

- Instruction Period:-**
- Meeting closed:-**

Held earlier in the night.
10:05 pm.

Coming Club Events.

March Dry Casting.

- When:-** Sunday 13 March - changed for Field Day casting starts at 8:30am.
- Where:-** Yokine Reserve, Wordsworth Avenue.
- Events:-** Double handed accuracy, Single handed accuracy, 56 gram distance Artificial bait distance, 112 gram distance, **PLUS** 112 gram Open.

A Change:- Commencing in February 2005, the order for Dry Casting will be altered slightly.
Casts will be in the order of: **1. 56 gram, 2. Artificial Bait, 3. 112 gram**, to be the same as the order in both the AAA State and AAA National distance casting events.

All casters please assist Terry Willison with the retrieval and packing up of the casting equipment at the end of the day's events. Help with the setting up at the beginning will also be greatly appreciated.

March General Meeting.

- When:-** Wednesday 9 March 2005, 8:00 pm.
- Where:-** Coolbinia West Perth Amateur Football and Sporting Club room, off Wordsworth Avenue, Yokine, about 200 metres south east of the Yokine Bowling Club.

Instruction Period:- Question and Answer period

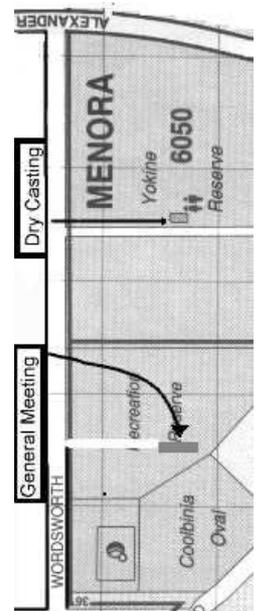
March 2005 Field Day – Bluff Creek and Bremer Bay.

- When:-** Saturday/Sunday/Monday 5/6/7 March 2005.
- Sign On:-** Saturday 11 am Bluff Creek camping area. Bremer Bay at fish cleaning facility near the mouth of the inlet.
- Lines Down:-** 12 noon.
- Weigh in:-** Monday 10 am same place as sign on.
- Boundaries:-** Bremer Bay. Point Charles to Reef Beach. Bluff Creek:- As far as you can walk past the rocks at each end of the beach.

Tides for Albany	Saturday 5 Mar	0.29m at 4:38 am	1.10m at 7:57 pm	Sunrise:-	About 5:55 am
	Sunday 6 Mar	0.22m at 4:53 am	1.19m at 8:55 pm	Sunset:-	About 6:35 pm
	Monday 7 Mar	0.20m at 5:15 am	0.79m at 12:33 pm		
Moon Albany	Saturday 5 Mar			Moonset:-	About 3:00 pm
	Sunday 6 Mar			Moonset:-	About 4:00 pm
	Monday 7 Mar			Last Quarter-	Thursday 3 March

Local Field Day for March 2005.

- When:-** Saturday/Sunday/Monday 5/6/7 March 2005.
- Sign On:-** At the General Meeting or to the FDO by 18:00 Friday.
- Lines Down:-** Saturday 12 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 north wall of the Two Rocks Marina, including the Swan River and both the North and South Moles.

<u>Tides for</u>	Saturday 5 Mar	0.38m at 3:08 am	1.04m at 5:04 pm	Sunrise:-	About 6:10 am
	Sunday 6 Mar	0.35m at 3:41 am	1.07m at 6:38 pm	Sunset:-	About 6:45 pm
<u>Fremantle</u>	Monday 7 Mar	0.34m at 4:15 am	1.09m at 7:45 pm		

April 2005 Field Day – Port Gregory to Kalbarri.

When:- Saturday/Sunday/Monday 23/24/25 April 2005 Anzac Day LWE.

Sign On:- Saturday 12 noon (see April Reel Talk).

Lines Down:- After sign on.

Weigh in:- See April Reel Talk.

Boundaries:- Hutt River to as far as you can walk north of the Murchison River mouth.

<u>Tides for</u>	Saturday 23 Apr	0.95m at 9:52 am	0.56m at 4:18 pm	0.79m at 10:24 pm	Sunrise 6:45 am
	Sunday 24 Apr	0.63m at 2:43 am	1.01m at 10:15 am	0.49m at 5:01 pm	0.74m at 11:06 pm
	Monday 25 Apr	0.63m at 2:06 am	1.07m at 10:40 a		Sunset 6:00 pm
<u>Moon</u>	Saturday 23 Apr	Moonrise:-	About 5:15 pm		
	Sunday 24 Apr	Moonrise:-	About 5:50 pm	Moonset:-	About 6:20 am
	Monday 25 Apr	Moonset:-	About 7:25 am	Full Moon-	Sun 24 April

Local Field Day for April 2005.

When:- Saturday/Sunday/Monday 23/24/25 April 2005 Anzac Day LWE.

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

Lines Down:- Saturday 12 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 north wall of the Two Rocks Marina, including the Swan River and both the North and South Moles.

<u>Tides for</u>	Saturday 23 Apr	1.02m at 9:20 am	0.68m at 4:17 pm	0.84m at 10:25 pm	Sunrise 6:45 am
	Sunday 24 Apr	0.72m at 2:27 am	1.08m at 9:29 am	0.62m at 5:10 pm	0.79m at 11:30 pm
<u>Fremantle</u>	Monday 25 Apr	0.73m at 2:28 am	1.14m at 9:46 am		Sunset 5:45 pm

Rottneest Field Day June 2005

The February General Meeting decided that we support the AAA State Rock and Beach Championships Cape to Cape on 28/29 May and combine one of our field days with this event.

And decided we go to Rottneest on the LWE of 4/5/6 June as our June field day. Those are just one week apart.

The format for the Rottneest field day on the LWE 4/5/6 June would remain the same as we have used before. Cost estimated on 15 persons = \$130 each, 10 persons = \$150 each.

Deposits of \$75 are required by the March General Meeting.

Full payment of between \$130 to \$150 (depends on numbers going) will be required by the April General Meeting.

This is a deadline you must meet if you want to go to Rottneest – no exceptions.

No further bookings will be taken after the April General Meeting and the accomodation will be booked only for the members who have paid by the April General Meeting. If you haven't paid by then, you will have to make your own arrangements for accomodation and transport on Rottneest.

2004/2005 Field Day Dates and Venues.

This list was voted in by the members at the April General Meeting.

Saturday/Sun/Mon 5/6/7 March 2005 LWE

Bremer Bay. Point Charles to Reef Beach **AND** Bluff Creek, as decided at January 2005 General Meeting.

Saturday/Sunday/Monday 23/24/25 April 2005 Anzac Day LWE

Port Gregory to Kalbarri. Boundaries Hutt River to as far as you can walk north of the Murchison River mouth.

Club Competition Rules and Constitution.

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

Happy Birthday to:-

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

Kaitlin Stoeckel, 20 March

Terry Willison, 20 March

Wanted - Aluminium Cans.

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

New Member Acceptances.

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

New Member Application.

Applications for membership have been received and will come before the November 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. None

Kalbarri House For Rent.

The Club has a house in Kalbarri. The house is situated close to the river, beaches and town. It has two bedrooms and will sleep up to eight (max) in 1 double bed and 3 bunks, has reverse cycle air conditioning and ceiling fans to keep you cool in the summer months. Users need to bring their own linen, blankets and towels, tea towels, etc.

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

Public:- Off season \$250 per week, On season \$390 per week } all plus \$50

Club Members:- Off season \$160 per week, On Season \$210 per week } deposit / bond.

Club Members:- Short term \$45 for one night, \$40 per night for two or more nights} plus \$55.00 cleaning

Bookings taken for the school holidays go from Saturday to Saturday (leaving by 10am). Outside of school holidays it does not matter. The club has decided that cleaning will need to be paid for and is \$55.00 extra on the rates above for future new bookings. The club is now being charged GST on the cleaning.

Contact Property Officer Vix Alexander for more details and for bookings.

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.

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

Sponsorship by Yallingup Beach Holiday Park

As you can see by the inside front cover, we have a new sponsor for 12 months. The Yallingup Beach Holiday Park has provided the club with an accommodation voucher to the value of \$250 for two adults for two nights in one of their Malibu ensuite cabins.

The voucher would be ideal as accommodation for the AAA Beach and Rock Championships 28/29 May 2005.

This voucher was raffled at the February General Meeting and was won by Tony D'Alonzo.

The park has a waterfront location with spectacular views over Yallingup Bay. Opposite is a safe swimming lagoon and an excellent fishing beach plus the world famous Yallingup surf break.

On site accommodation includes ensuite cabins and standard cabins (for the budget conscious) plus plenty of well grassed van and tent sites.

This is an ideal base from which to visit the numerous nearby wineries, go whale watching, take scenic drives and walk trails and visit the spectacular Yallingup Ngilgi Cave, or of course, go fishing!!.

Check the website at <http://www.yallingupbeach.com.au/>

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. Thanks to Bob Henderson for the articles in this Reel Talk

Life Members of the Club.

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

Dry Casting Sausage Sizzle.

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

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

Everything is one dollar each. You can get:-

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

February Dry Casting Report.

First day in the saddle after Hendo's departure and it looked like a typical summer pattern dry casting day, but where was the wind? On my arrival at Yokine the sky was blue, the temperature mild, and everything looked great.

Got started putting gear together and Nic turned up, and so did the damn wind. SO, if anyone wants to blame someone for the wind, this month it is Nic's fault.

A south easter pushing into our faces initially caused a little consternation, as the nine casting seniors were first up on distance. With the format now following the State and National AAA sequence for casting, the 56 grams looked like they wouldn't be going too far. Most casts in the 120-130 metre mark with the exception of one at 153 metres. 54 casts between these guys in that wind and only two casts were out of court and one break off. I think that is a pretty good result.

The most pleasing aspect of the day in my mind was the distance casting of TT1. A slight modification to his technique and his distances not only improved, but he got ALL six scoring casts down the centre of the court. WELL DONE Buddy.

Not being in the company of the veterans I can't comment too much on their day. However I can say a very BIG welcome to Peter Osborne. Peter has not been casting for a period of years now, but on his return, it was like he has never been away. Longest distances in the 112 gram and Artificial Bait, along with highest points in the single handed accuracy are a fair indication of his capabilities and the competition he brings into the ranks of the veterans. Tony was his usual impeccably accurate self, top scoring the D/H accuracy with 154 points.

I think we might have to get Gilder's to step out of the seniors into the veteran's area and give Tony some competition. He has been a veteran now for some 3 or 4 years.

Geoff Raftis' shoulder started giving him some trouble and he was not able to complete all the casts. All in all a good day was had by everyone except for one silly bugger. Me. I didn't put any sun screen on and wore shorts. Now as I sit typing this report, the sunburn on the back of the legs is excruciating.

A little note. After everyone had gone home, George and I stayed around a bit and had a few extra throws. George was experimenting with various combinations he has and I was mucking around with some new line on a multiplier for another type of competition. George was putting the 112 gram well out over the 190 metre mark. For an old cripple with only one good leg, this was impressive to say the least. Mind you, by this time the wind had turned and was in our favor somewhat. Still a great effort.

NOTE: March dry casting will incorporate a 112 gram open event. See ya then. TT2

Donations for Trophies.

Very soon we will be looking for trophies for this competition year. Please give us your suggestions for people / companies / etc to contact.

There are some things members can do:-

1. Donate a trophy yourself – particularly if you have been on the on the receiving end in past years.
2. When buying your gear and getting your services from our trophy donors and advertisers, make sure you let them know that you are a member of the Surf Casting and Angling Club, so that if or when we contact them, they will know that this Club's members support them..

Dry Casting Results, 6 February 2005.

Results for the day	112 gram			56 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 1 (m)	Cast 2 (m)	Points	Target Number									Target distance					
										3	3	1	1	4	4	2	2	Points	L	S	L	S	Points	
	Seniors.	1 (m)	2 (m)	Points	1 (m)	2 (m)	Points	1 (m)	2 (m)	Points	3	3	1	1	4	4	2	2	Points	L	S	L	S	
Gary Gildersleeves	118	130	25	107	119	23	99	108	21	22	19	18	25	17	16	9	18	144	5	2	7	8	22	235
George Holman	0	154	15	132	133	27	118	116	23	14	18	24	22	4	19	23	17	141	7	5	3	5	20	226
Mal Harris	125	119	24	125	118	24	118	123	24	2	15	24	11	20	18	20	19	129	0	9	3	8	20	221
Chas Riegert	0	155	16	143	153	30	114	121	24	24	9	24	20	4	9	22	11	123	6	8	3	5	22	215
Nic Allsworth	153	151	30	127	140	27	131	123	25	11	9	15	14	21	10	8	19	107	0	3	0	7	10	199
Terry Willison	133	132	27	129	128	26	108	118	23	12	8	0	17	11	10	10	21	89	1	9	0	9	19	184
Ric Parker	137	124	26	109	114	22	108	111	22	0	22	22	9	0	20	11	10	94	0	5	5	7	17	181
Tony Ong	133	137	27	118	119	24	103	119	22	17	0	20	12	0	7	12	9	77	0	3	0	0	3	153
Mark Hansen	111	119	23	95	0	10	103	84	19	0	9	3	1	0	0	13	0	26	0	6	0	0	6	84
Veterans																								
Tony D'Alonzo	127	127	25	116	106	22	87	105	19	22	21	18	21	17	17	16	22	154	2	8	6	7	23	243
Mal Head	117	124	24	91	95	19	89	96	19	22	12	18	22	18	21	18	13	144	0	5	0	9	14	220
Terry Fuller	101	104	21	74	93	17	81	82	16	17	21	18	24	13	16	24	12	145	6	0	3	6	15	214
Alan Jones	127	143	27	105	107	21	0	112	11	23	12	23	17	17	21	11	21	145	1	2	0	6	9	213
Jim Strong	101	97	20	90	85	18	84	80	16	23	15	23	24	19	18	13	2	137	0	4	0	0	4	195
Peter Osborne	140	135	28	0	112	11	94	115	21	15	17	22	23	0	8	9	10	104	6	6	7	7	26	190
Trevor Stam	96	109	21	70	53	12	82	0	8	13	4	0	15	14	4	2	23	75	1	0	0	8	9	125
Geoff Raftis									0	9	5	8	6	13				41						41
Ladies																								
Vix Alexander	87	78	17	79	86	17	0	72	7	0	16	7	22	14	0	18	12	89	0	0	0	0	0	130

Event:	Seniors Winner	Veterans Winner	Ladies Winner
112 gram Distance	Nic Allsworth 30	Peter Osborne 28	Vix Alexander 17
56 gram Distance	Chas Riegert 30	Tony D'Alonzo 22	Vix Alexander 17
Artificial Bait	Nic Allsworth 25	Peter Osborne 21	Vix Alexander 7
Double Handed Acc.	Gary Gildersleeves 144	Tony D'Alonzo 154	Vix Alexander 89
Single Handed Acc	Gary & Chas 22	Peter Osborne 26	
Days High Points	Tony D'Alonzo 243		

February 2005 Field Day.

Results for the February 2005 Field Day:-

Angler	Weight	Species	Fish	Points
Tony D'Alonzo	60.475 kg	9	26	744.75
John Romano	7.45 kg	3	9	144.5
Vix Alexander	4.475 kg	4	7	134.75
Malcolm Harris	5.3 kg	1	8	113
Charles Riegert	1.1 kg	2	6	81
George Holman	0.9 kg	1	5	69
Grant Taggart	0.35 kg	1	1	63.5
Spencer King	0 kg	0	0	50
Ian Taggart	0 kg	0	0	50
Terry Willison	0 kg	0	0	10

Sportsperson of the Year Sections for February 2005.

Best Scale Fish	Vix Alexander	Mulloway	2.25kg
Best Bag of Scale fish	Tony D'Alonzo	Mixed Bag	15.925kg
Best Shark	Tony D'Alonzo	Black Tipped Whaler	24.45kg
Best Bag Including Sharks	Tony D'Alonzo	Mixed Bag	60.475kg

Field Day prizes for February 2005.

Best Scale Fish	Vix Alexander	Mulloway	2.25kg
Best Bag of Scale fish	Tony D'Alonzo	Mixed Bag	15.925kg

Field Day Top Ten for 2004/2005 up to February 2005.

	Angler	Total Points		Angler	Total Points
1	Tony D'Alonzo	2819.0	6	Spencer King	435.0
2	Malcolm Harris	783.0	7	Grant Taggart	349.5
3	Vix Alexander	697.3	8	Peter Stoeckel	287.2
4	Filomena D'Alonzo	686.0	9	Ian Taggart	283.0
5	George Holman	643.5	10	Cha Riegert	279.0

Field Day Sections for 2004/2005 up to February 2005.

1A	Best Scale Fish (1st Six Months)	Tony D'Alonzo	Mulloway	10.05 kg
1B	Best Scale Fish (2nd Six Months)	Vix Alexander	Mulloway	2.25 kg
3	Best Shark (4.5kg min)	Tony D'Alonzo	Shark	24.45 kg
4	Best Mulloway	Tony D'Alonzo	Mulloway	10.05 kg
5	Best Tailor	Malcolm Harris	Tailor	1.70 kg
6	Best Salmon	George Holman	Salmon	3.65 kg
7	Best Skipjack Trevally (0.5 kg min)	Tony D'Alonzo	Skipjack Trevally	1.15 kg
9	Best Scale Fish (Other than above)	Tony D'Alonzo	Snook	2.0 kg
10	Best Bag Of Scale Fish	Tony D'Alonzo	Mixed Bag	24.575 kg
11	Best Bag Of Mulloway (2 Fish Min)	Tony D'Alonzo	Mulloway	19.85 kg
12	Best Bag Of Tailor (2 Fish Min)	Tony D'Alonzo	Tailor	7.3 kg

Club Polo Shirts, Jackets and Caps.

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

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.

February 2005 Recfishwest Board Meeting.

Here are some of the main points from the RFW Board meeting on 9 February.

Recfishwest has not received any response from the Greens to RFW's Election Policy questions. The Coalition's Environment Policy is still awaited. Labor's Environment Policy and Fisheries Policy are still awaited.

WAFIC have objected to some of the fish size limit changes as proposed in the South Coast and Pilbara/Kimberley recreational fishing reviews.

RFW has been advised that the Hillarys Yacht Club will take up the issue of congestion and changes to parking arrangements at the Hillarys boat launching ramps. Jim Penn from Department of Fisheries has written a letter about the problems.

Department of Fisheries has written to Recfishwest agreeing with most of the points made by AAA in the review of the filleting at sea regulations.

Terry Fuller will provide a summary of the Recfishwest board meeting similar to these notes for publication on the Recfishwest website for a trial period of three months.

Recfishwest is to write a letter to all radio stations offering Frank Prokop to be involved in a recreational fishing show. Frank Prokop to offer to write a column in the Western Fisheries magazine produced by the Department of Fisheries.

Some Recfishwest policies have been reviewed and will be considered for adoption at the next board meeting.

No RFAC meetings have been held because their term has expired and no new appointments have been made by the Minister and cannot now be made because of the election. RFAC unlikely to be able to make submissions to the Integrated Fisheries Management process because the legislation does not allow the chairman to continue until he is replaced or reappointed.

The Rottneest Island Marine Management Working Group is continuing with problems. Two members with recreational fishing experience did raise the possibility of special reduced bag limits at Rottneest Island for scale fish, but there is a question whether this will appear in the draft strategy, or indeed if the draft strategy will collapse.

The State of Environment Marine Committee has been dealing with water quality so far. Have not yet dealt with biodiversity. There are several specific committees, and Dr. Howard Gill has been recommended as Recfishwest representative on the fish committee.

The aims and objectives of the Recreational Fishing Alliance were outlined, and the differences between what that group could do and what Recfishwest would be prepared to do were discussed.

Changes have been made to the intake and outlet pipes for the Desalination Plant, moving them 500 metres towards the shipping channel. Fremantle Ports are not happy, and the design is being reconsidered.

The Fremantle Ports representative offered to discuss the impact of the proposed Outer Harbour on recreational fishing use of Cockburn Sound. There was discussion on having fishing platforms under the bridge to the reclaimed areas and they wish to have Recfishwest input on these.

The proposed boat launching ramp at Rous Head was discussed but there is some confusion about the proposed location, following on from some comments from the Fremantle Ports representative about their concerns.

John Baas reported on Integrated Fisheries Management and Native Title issues for Western rock lobster allocations, based on the difficulty of getting any catch data.

The issue of commercial rock lobster boats operating in surf break zones on the southwest coast has heated up, with the commercials trying to include recreational anglers in the restrictions, and turn this into a resource sharing issue. Recfishwest has not made any public comments on this issue. An independent mediator is required.

Frank Prokop reported that it has been very busy and successful few months for Recfishwest and the impact in the lead up to the State election is good for recreational anglers. Colin Barnett specifically mentioned recreational fishing in his speech, and Dr Geoff Gallop made a categorical statement about no take zones at Rottneest. The Fisheries Minister and Tourism Minister are both very happy.

Other examples of where Recfishwest and recreational anglers are well recognised was at the launch of the Tsunami appeal, where the introduction was "everyone knows Frank Prokop without whom no fisheries management changes would be possible" and "Recfishwest, without whom this appeal would not be possible"

Commercial fishermen have been warned to be aware of the recreational fishing position or risk being irrelevant in management changes.

A meeting was held with the Marine Conservation Committee of the Conservation Council, where the standing of recreational anglers was acknowledged, unwittingly. There is some recognition that they need

the support of recreational anglers to achieve their aims, and that the radical statements of some hard liners are driving middle Australia away from the conservation agenda.

Recfishwest has the go-ahead to move to the Waterman's research building when it is vacated by the Department of Fisheries midyear.

The Recfishwest Board has approved in principle subject to some funding being received, staff changes and increases to handle Integrated Fisheries Management, Natural Resource Management, increases in the Fishing Clinics, and administrative workloads.

Recfishwest will prepare a major submission on the Fisheries Management Papers 189 to 191 dealing with the Wetline Review and allocation.

A Recfish Australia meeting was to be held on 10 February to discuss the recreational only status for Northern bluefin tuna as promised in the Federal election. There are some problems with one Recfish Australia person contacting commercial fishermen and affecting the negotiating position.

Recfishwest will raise the issue of the Recfish Australia representative on the National Oceans Office marine strategic planning and policy committee.

Recfishwest will raise the issue of the recreational fishing representative on the Marine Parks Reserves Authority after the election of the new government. The current appointment expires December 2005.

There is some concern that the investigation into the Coral Bay boat ramp between Monks Head or North Bills Bay will not be thorough and unbiased.

Samson fish tagging off Fremantle has concluded with 2700 caught, tagged and released, and will now move into the recapture phase. The weather has been unkind and windy. There has been a lot of support and a lot of publicity for this work, which is seen as a lead for getting the techniques for research into spawning aggregations of other species.

Club Competition Rules and Constitution.

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

Garden Island Field Day 16/17 June 1962

Weather conditions:- North - Westerly, backing Northerly by the morning. The beaches were in reasonable state, though several of the bays on the northern side were heavily weeded and for a change, the spotlight centred on the northern beaches down from the guns.

Twenty seven members, five juniors and four visitors, plus four junior visitors made a total of thirty nine, which was quite a good attendance considering the inclement weather.

Eight members journeyed over in the early boat and the remainder of the lads packed the late boat. No doubt they had been watching and hoping that the weather would hold out, which fortunately it did, though of course we did have a few heavy showers during the afternoon and evening.

"Snow" Tate and Allan Livesey decided on a change of venue and settled in near the rifle range, where they had heard the skippy were plentiful the week before, and they sure hit the jackpot, for the bag of skips they weighed-in certainly caused gasps and praise from all members present. After the weigh-in we took a photo of the catch. Allan just missed the heaviest bag of scale fish by four pound.

Mick Doscas and Bob Tichbon decided on the south end when our runner, Ron Shirley, reported in with the news that several of the northern bays were filled with. Weed. Allan and "Snow" did the right thing by giving the south away for most of those who fished the rocks fished for nought. For all that area showed in the fish bags of those who were there were a few herring etc.

Bob Lilly and myself decided on a tour of the northern beaches and reckoned that we may be there at just the right time. So off we went at a brisk pace. Soon the gun appeared in view and we were soon on the beach which looked excellent, good deep water and the complete absence of weed, which certainly gladdened our hearts.

Having set up camp we rigged up, though several heavy showers sent us running for shelter. After ducking and dodging several showers and with the approach of field day time, we thought "to hell with it, lots get fishing". About three forty five Bob went into action and in a few minutes had a good sized Mulloway up on the beach. From then on the game was on with a vengeance. Almost as fast as we could feed them mulies, the Kingies were taking the hook.

The Tailor came on the bite just after six o'clock, rather small, though some were up to two pound. Bob did land one Tailor four pound. As Bob was working his fish in through the surf, I was busy with a six pound Kingie. I was using only fifteen pound line - I had meant to change spools but with the fish coming on to bite I just didn't seem to find time.

The sort of thing was happening that you always hoped for and I wondered how we would be able to lift them, let alone carry them back to base, and it came to pass that when I cast my rig away, I welcomed the

break as the means of having a rest while I put on a new one. As we would cast a Mulie, with a savage grab they would pick up the bait and swim parallel to the shore which meant that we had to bring them in across the surge - which took no little effort.

Bob was in his element and did not give them an inch, and holding the rod upright, reeled for all his worth. My arms were aching with the unaccustomed effort, though I really did not mind. It did not seem to worry Bob. It really was something.

Shortly after nine o'clock we started to gather up the fish and what a shock we received, for the bags were packed tight and at our first attempt we failed to lift them off the ground. Using our rods and taking a chance we eventually managed to get mobile. I don't know how we really managed to carry our fish, plus gear along the beach and up the hill to the gun site. Under summer conditions I'm sure we would never have made it. At arrival at the gun our bags packed up and we were forced to leave our gear and try to carry our catch back the best we could. What a journey - we made many a stop along the road back, at times I thought that that ribbon of road was elastic and was stretching and we would never make it at all. But with perseverance we eventually made it back to the hut. At one stage we had to retrace our steps for we overshot the track in - as if the walk wasn't far enough.

Entering the hut via the kitchen it only took a matter of a few seconds for the news of the catch to bring quite a few of the lads out of their warm beds to see the two strange characters who had just shattered the silence and who looked and smelt like the Mulloway they were carrying, and to have a "bo-peep" at the catch. Several of the boys, after many questions of where they were caught etc. quickly got "fish fever" and with a scramble of gathering gear together, Norrie Cross, Doug Savage and his mate, Nick Crouch, Hal Neil, Charlie Crouch, and there might have been several others were off on the run. This was at about 12:00 a.m., to try their luck at the area we had just vacated, for we had told them that the fish were still biting when we left, and as we had jettisoned the Mulies we had left into the water, when we started back, the area should be pretty well berleyed, and there should be no reason to believe that the fish would not be still there.

These lads are certainly keen types - getting dressed and going off to try their luck after already putting in about eight or more hours fishing, and I am pleased to say that their effort wasn't for nought, for several of them caught fish in the "hot spot". Norrie Cross was all smiles when he weighed-in his three Mulloway, and he remarked that at long last he has caught a reasonable sized fish at Garden Island. Doug Savage's 6½lb mulloway just pipped the 6lb one I had caught earlier, which just goes to show that there is always a bigger fish in the sea.

Down south at the Ledge, John Griffith, Doug Newton and the other lads fishing there had a lean time of it as the Tailor -and Mulloway were conspicuous by their absence by way of a change, for they have in the past caught good fish in that area. Also the "rifle range" produced very few fish, though of course the hole just north of the "rifle range" where Allan and "Snow" fished, paid off very handsomely. Further north again where Bob Jensen and his party usually fish was also practically non-productive, except for one Salmon and an odd Tailor or Herring.

There was much activity at the weigh in as many of the boys waited to see just what fish would come in from the various centres. Ron Shirley was in a state of shock when he observed all the Mulloway and the heaps of Skips. It has been reported that he was last seen and heard talking golf.

The trip buck top Palm Beach had many thrills, and the lads down the back of the boat who were nice and dry, got nice and wet when the skipper nearly got into trouble trying to tie-up at Palm Beach, and had to back the boat into the sea to make another approach. For a while there it appeared as if we were going under the jetty as the strong sea and gusty north wind made its presence felt, but after other like incidents we eventually made it and finally disembarked, and with sighs of relief headed for our various vehicles with our rods and gear.

(To those of us who missed out on fish I would like to offer my thanks for a hand-out from those who were more fortunate and did catch some, because it is certainly nice to arrive home with a fish even if you didn't catch it yourself. Such gestures go a long way to cement an already solid friendship with one member to another, even if he isn't a constant fishing mate, and helps to make this Club of ours stronger than it already is - Editor).

So closed another field day. To the award winners I would like to offer my congratulations and many thanks for the help I received at the venue.

It was pleasing to see the juniors appearing in larger numbers. One lad remarked to me that he had had the time of his life and that the fish he saw at the weigh-in certainly amazed him and that next time just can't come quick enough. So look out you Dads.

The next field day is to be held at Garden Island also, on the 14th and 15th July. Boat timetable is 9.30 a.m. and 2 p.m. from Palm Beach, Saturday. Departure time from the Island Sunday 10 a.m. If possible endeavour to have correct change - 5/- hut, 2/- sweep, juniors 2/6 hut.

Weigh-in to be at 8 a.m. to 9 a.m. only, Norm Clark or myself to attend to this matter. Field day time starts for fish captures at 4 p.m. Saturday to 8 a.m. Sunday.

Jim Strong F.D.O. 1962

Garden Island Field Day 14/15 July 1962

Weather conditions:- North to North-West winds, heavy rain during the night and early morning. Northern beaches heavily weeded - though further North (gun position) the beach was in a really excellent condition with a low tide, and once again the interest centred around this area, which appears to be getting very popular with the lads.

Twenty eight seniors and nine juniors made the crossing to the Island which was quite a fair attendance considering the inclement weather. During the week many lads phoned me and advised that owing to flu and colds etc. they would not be able to attend the venue and I thank them for letting me know and sincerely hope that they will soon be up and fishing again in the near future.

This was quite an amazing venue - for a number of the South-end stickers changed coats and visited the Northern waters in an endeavour to knock off a few Mulloway, and it is good to see the boys moving around, though evidently a few of the lads, Lofty Griffiths, Doug Newton and his boys and Joe Kuba decided that a little bit of the North goes a long way for they later returned to the South end, evidently looking for the elusive Tailor and Salmon.

There was quite a constant procession up and down the beaches, as the lads visited the various bays etc. Phil Neri, Gary Davidson and myself started the ball rolling for after looking over the gun position we strolled back down South as far as the first bay, however, all these bays were heavily weeded so we returned to the North, and on the second time round Doug Newton remarked that if we passed him again he would go crazy and follow us. Little did he realize that we were only the forerunners of many groups of the boys who got walkabout fever.

I noticed a new member, Joe Kuba in action who is a very keen angler and it was pleasing to see him on the venue, and he landed several good sized King George whiting from a hole alongside the reef from which he caught quite a few Mulloway several weeks ago.

It looks like Joe is starting to learn his way around, though after his excursion he sure looked tired on the boat going back. Come to think of it, most of the boys were dead beat, even George Greenham was noticed having forty winks which was most unusual for George.

Having finally returned to the gun position we waited for the lads from the second boat to arrive, and while waiting for them Phil and I strolled further up the beach and had a chat with Alan Livesey and "Snow" Tate who are strangers to the area and I guess that it may be a while before they return as they sure took a beating during the night.

We also met "Tiger" Lilly, Ron Kildahl, Hugh Gregory, Ted Savage, Bob Tichbon and George Greenham who were preparing for the night's fray with the fish. Though at this time they were sitting around a fire having a brew and a chat about recent fish captures and other lies. Also with them was another new member in Jerry Windus.

Having said our Hullo, Good Luck and Goodbyes we returned to meet the second boat boys as they came over the hill. Norm Giles, Bob Tucker (flu and all - can't keep a good man down said our President Bob), Norm Clark, Tom Backhouse and Tom Smith and it wasn't long before we were one happy gang of merry anglers all ready to tangle with the big ones.

Tom Smith, then Gary Davidson showed the way with nice sized Mulloway, and then Tom Backhouse landed a nice 5½ lb Mulloway. Norm Clark followed suit and soon had a Mulloway flapping on the beach, then not to be outdone I landed a Tailor, but suddenly the fish went off the bite, just when things were starting to get interesting.

In the meantime Alf Rutland's party joined Doug Newton just around the corner of the reef. Further south Bob Jensen got on the move north and had his party coming our way looking for likely spots. These boys started from the rifle range and walked right around the beach to join up with us. Doug Newton gave up fishing and became guide and social organiser, and he remarked that he has never met as many anglers on the beach before.

There was new interest as Ron McQueen landed a fine Mulloway and Alf landed several Tailor. While this activity was taking place, Charlie and Nick Crouch fished on in the second bay. Weed or seaweed they are stop-put boys. It takes more than weed to deter them - with the result that Nick landed a Tailor at 4¾ lb out of all the rubbish that was in the water there which was no mean effort on Nick's part so off goes another section to a new holder. Good luck Nick you certainly deserve it, as the conditions were mighty rough and tough for catching and landing fish.

Further North, fishing was very slow and Ron Kildahl walked by and informed us that further up the beach the fish had not shown at all. In our group Phil Neri and Norm Giles were having a lean time. Bob Tucker gave a mighty yell and played a Mulloway through the surf, which made him forget his cold for a while. He certainly works hard for his fish and his casting was a pleasure to see.

Shortly after 8:30 we climbed the hills and waited near the gun, and after a while Lofty Griffiths and party arrived who had made previous arrangements for the truck to take them back south. Lofty proudly showed

his efforts of about seven hours fishing - a two oz. whiting. I don't think he is too keen about the north, by the few choice descriptive words he used.

Little he knew that the Mulloway were only resting, up and waiting for us to retire from the area before they ventured out and you know the rest. "Tiger" Lilly, Ron Kildahl and George Greenham were waiting for them, though it was not until the early hours that the boys really got into them. In the mean time Alan, "Snow", Hugh and the others slept (?) on in the gun dug-outs close by.

To those who stopped and fished through that night I have every respect for they certainly deserve some reward for sitting through that rain and wind, and like the true sports that they are they later handed out fish that they did not require for their own needs, to those who hadn't caught a fish, showing real Club spirit. Chaps who will sit through the night - a night like it was - and then hand out fish to others - I consider really have something.

In the early morning Phil Neri, Norm Clark and myself visited the rifle range, on the way we ran into a heavy shower, which I later heard was the reason for the remainder of the boys to remain in their sleeping bags. The Blowies however; were waiting; for us and soon stripped our Mulies to the bone, though Norm was the lucky player and landed one Tailor.

On returning to the hut, the weigh-in commenced and we were all waiting to hear how the lads up north had fared in the night and morning period. Ron Kildahl was all smiles with his bag and "Tiger" Lilly was satisfied with his efforts, though he sure looked played out. Even though the overall fish captures were not great quite a few of the boys caught fish.

So closed an extremely busy Field Day, and I don't think that anyone can say that they don't know all the areas on the Island after that week-end, for quite a few of us saw spots that we had not seen before. As fish men we make good hikers.

My congrats to the award winners, they certainly earned them, and many thanks for the help I received on the venue and here's hoping for a larger roll-up on the next field day at Garden Island on the 11th & 12th August. Boat timetable 9:30a.m. and 2.00p.m. from Palm Beach.

Will members, juniors and seniors, please MARK all packs etc. etc. with marking ink so that they can be plainly seen and identified, as one bag did go astray containing Mitchell Reels etc. to the value of £25 at our last venue, and we would not like an occurrence of this again. Please double check all your packs etc. etc.

In future please place all gear being unloaded in one place so that before I leave I can check to see if everything has been claimed, Any gear found please hand to me and I will see that the member receives it. Make sure your name is on your packs etc., and then double check to make sure you have all your packs on board your vehicle before you leave the parking area.

I have just had the Club scales checked by the Weights and Measures branch and passed as being correct, so be in it next Field Day and let's get them working recording fish captures. Members to note also that our Club stands firmly behind the Fisheries Department as to legal length of fish caught. So even though we like catching fish, let's make sure that we have none in our fish bags that are under legal length.

Jim Strong FDO 1962.

Don't Blame the Blade - Reel Talk July 1962

How often have you heard a mate complaining or saying "This darn thing wouldn't cut butter" or some such like remark, which in most cases it isn't the knife itself that is at fault, but the task of sharpening same was not done properly, or not done at all. For although most of us use a knife every day of the week, and more often on fishing trips, rare indeed is the bod that knows how to sharpen his knife properly, which can effect a saving in time, effort and most important of all - temper, and it is invariably the blunt knife which cuts its owner. This is mainly due to the fact of the knife not cutting in to the material, .but because of its lack of ability to cut, it slips - and out comes the band aid.

There are only two basic rules for proper blade sharpening. First, bevel the cutting edge down to a gradual taper and secondly, make the finish of the edge agree with the type of cutting you expect to do. The first rule is merely an application of an ancient physics principle, but has caused more or a greater loss of temper and wholesale discarding of knives than all the faulty metal produced by knife manufacturers.

This principal is aptly illustrated when you stick an ice pick and a wedge in the ground. The pick slips in effortlessly, because it offers less resistance to the ground, while the bulk of the wedge forces you to exert a great deal more pressure to push it into the ground. Now picture the same effect in the cross section of a knife blade, but magnify it and you will see why you had so much trouble trying to fillet that fish, and why a razor blade could cut so readily.

Most knives are machine sharpened before they are packed for sale and the resulting edge is a perfect illustration of how "not" to sharpen a knife. The blade tapers down only slightly towards the cutting edge and then goes into an accentuated "V" edge that can hardly be forced into the material to be cut.

Then, to further aggravate the conditions, when you do sharpen the knife, since it is easier to simply sharpen the actual cutting edge, we grind it into an even wider "V" and the knife gets progressively and more rapidly dull.

If, when you sharpen a blade, you take that little bit of extra time and energy required to grind the "bilge curve" just above the cutting edge and so make a blade edge that gradually tapers into the cutting edge - you will be repaid your energy and effort many times when the time comes to use the blade.

The second sharpening rule is to keep the degree of the cutting edge to the type of work you require it to do, and as most of us require a very fine and sharp edge, the degree of taper to the edge must as a consequence be fine. A knife cuts because of the multitude of minute saw-tooth serrations that make up its cutting edge. Magnified, your blade looks like a saw, and the size that these teeth should be is determined by the taper you require or work you are going to do with the blade.

This degree of edge finish will be determined by the coarseness of the sharpening stone used. The most desirable sharpening stone is the two texture type oilstone with a rough and fine side. The coarse is used only for rough grinding and for beginning the proper taper. The fine side of the stone is for finishing after the proper taper has been obtained. A light machine oil should always be used on the stone since it fuses the abrasive around the face being sharpened and gives the blade a smoother, finish.

After your knife blade is sharpened to your satisfaction, it should be finished off on a piece of leather. An old belt or leather strap will do once it has been smoothed down by a few strokes of the knife. Strop the blade in one direction for each side only. The degree of sharpness of your blade can be tested quite easily by holding a strip of newspaper in one hand and dragging the knife lightly across it. If the blade catches and rips the paper, the finish is too coarse and should be stropped or sharpened to a finer degree. If it makes a clean slicing cut through the paper the blade is ready for any cutting job including shaving. (Though I wouldn't really recommend it).

Both the coarse sharpening and the preliminary fine sharpening should be done with a rotary motion of the blade and with the blade slanted away from the stone enough to give a long tapering cross section to the blade. Begin at the blade tip and work slowly back towards the handle, always keeping the same constant circular grinding motion.

Each time you sharpen your knife maintain the same taper by grinding off metal towards the back of the blade. If you get lazy and cut down the taper angle, you will only pay for it later when you cut with the knife - by finding that the edge quickly loses its cutting ability, and you have all the work before you again by bringing your blade up to how you really want it.

The final fine sharpening strokes should be in one direction, towards the cutting edge - in order to avoid a fuzzy edge which comes when your cutting edge is coming to its sharpest point. You can feel its fuzzy edge by running your finger or thumbnail towards the edge of the blade. The two essentials to keeping your knife sharp are to keep the bevel angle small and to finish the sharpening on a very fine oil stone or leather. To verify these two simple rules, the next time you are at your hairdresser, ask him and I am sure he will demonstrate to you quite readily what the rules of taper and leather stropping do to a blade edge, for if anyone has to have a sharp cutting instrument it is the hairdresser.

I would suggest to all members that when they go angling they carry two knives. I have done so for quite a while, and I find it most useful. One I carry in a sheath which is razor sharp and never used, unless I really need it - which invariably happens because I always seem to be losing or misplacing in the dark the other. The second knife is a small, flat bladed knife, which is just as sharp at the beginning of an angling jaunt as the other but by constant use, cutting bait on sand covered boards or stone etc. etc., at the end of a fishing trip usually finishes up with the edge taken off it. But by sharpening as had been mentioned in this article, neither of these knives take much of an effort to bring back to good order.

By ??? - (the original 1962 article was not signed.)

Fishing mate wanted

Posted by Jim Ward bebew@eftel.com.au on the Surfcasters Message Board on 12 February.

With old age & Parkinson's catching up on me I would like someone from western suburbs to accompany me to go fishing at City Beach.

I am mobile etc but with no one in family interested apart from providing transport.

Please contact the Secretary if you can help and don't have email.

The Trip - Part 1.

A farewell cooked breakfast with my son Matt, his partner Fiona and my old mate Terry Willison gave us the time for those last few words before we hit Highway 1 on our trip around Australia. As we left the Metro area there were signs of a hot day ahead with a strong southwesterly breeze.

By the time we got to Regans Ford and caught up with my brother Ron and his wife Nisi in their old khombi, the temperature was rising. We headed for Jurien via the Cervantes Road but turned off at the Hill River development Road and headed for the beach parking area. The temperature gauge read 44 degrees C.

Straight into a cool ocean did we go for a swim, no breeze but the sun sure had a bite to it. As we set up an overnight camp (what sign?) a few locals turned up and spent an hour or so chucking in a line with only a couple of rays as the result. The only female decided to have a go and on her first cast caught a 38

centimetre yellowfin whiting which was as thick as my wrist. Hooping and hollering and parading around that fish shrank five centimetres and lost half a kilo due to the heat. Why it even was partially cooked. Mumbles of frustration from her male friends and the next thing they packed up and were off as the sun went down. To hell with fishing said I and downed another coldie.

Around 7:30 pm the southwest wind picked up and we had a blustery night. An early morning swim and we packed up and headed into Jurien to refuel and ice up. Moving on we had a stop at Green Head and Leeman. (So bloody hot again.) Checked out a couple of roadside camp spots near the squatters shacks and decided to continue on into Port Dennison. Somehow we lost contact with the khombi and after a lot of back searching got an SMS message that they were in Greenough. Caught up with them and booked into the caravan park.

Thought we might try to put a line in, but was very disappointed as the water was very murky and full of seaweed and a 25 knot southwest wind. Oh well, we did the touristy bit in Geraldton, agreed that my brother would join us for a few more days - I was his backup if anything went wrong with the khombi - and it went well with a tailwind.

So on to the 440 to refuel then into Coronation Beach for a looksee. Bloody wind, blasted weed and 20 odd parasailors and sailborders of all nationalities. The smell of rotting seaweed had us moving on towards Port Gregory. Stopped at the Hutt River mouth and decided to inspect the area.

"What no camping sign, we were only parking to have a look around" I said to the ranting and raving local land owner as he insisted we nick off. "Bloody mongrels rubbished the area, light fires and ruined the place" he said. "None of the above" said I, Mr Nice Guy here and the more I grovelled and that third can smoothed things over.

The ocean was a mess so the beach umbrella went up and we had a fishing competition for bream in the River. A few undersized fish were landed and released, a camp was set up and another windy night had us up early for a walk to the beach to toss in a line. Two hours and not a bite so a pack up was made, we ventured into Port Gregory, spoke to some other holidaymakers, got stories of woe, lots of wind, no fish and lots of heat. So decided to try Lucky Bay - big mistake.

Amid the sand hills there was no breeze and the temperature soared. On the beach it was howling and sandblasted your tan off. More tales of woe and we were out of there and into Kalbarri. A bit of shopping, we refuelled then had lunch and a swim in the River. The conditions were the same all over the place, a discussion took place on what, when, where, and why and we headed out to Highway 1 and onto the campsite at Galena Bridge at the Murchison River crossing for the night.

The first five days on our trip have seen us put up with temperatures around the 40 degrees C mark, continuous gusty southwesterly winds, and no let up in sight. Still I am not complaining because the car and caravan's air conditioners are working a treat. My brother's Aussie Air was not up to scratch when his water got warm.

On to the Overlander for fuel then in towards Denham but a stopover at Whalebone Bay was agreed. A reasonably sheltered bay with skinny water but a good place for a dip. The tide was out so a walk around the rocky headland and I noticed some dark shapes about one metre long in ones and twos cruising close to shore. A race back for rod and assorted lures had my heart thumping. No matter what lure, how I approached them or whatever, every time that lure came close they would streak for deeper water. I would have disturbed at least a dozen of the sods with not an ounce of luck, but I did not recognise the buggers, they were cobia and my gear came very, very close to following them into deeper water.

Reasonably sheltered did I say?. Pigs b., that southwesterly came in with the blast around 7 p.m. and blew all night. Oh well, into Denham in the morning, into the caravan park, a walk around the foreshore, and a visit to the jetty. Weed, weed and more weed. Tried to have a fish that night but not a bite. Still we did end up six good sized squid.

So we played the tourist and went to Monkey Mia for the morning, toured a bit around Denham and sat back and a relaxed. Tales of woe because of the heat and the wind and I consoled myself with the coldie or seven.

Carnarvon was the next stop but we headed for a spot called "New Beach". A track led us to the edge of a mangrove section with a nice little run off creek. As the tide was out, it gave us a chance to tour the skinny waters around the area. The gentle breeze, the refreshing dip in the creek, a shady spot to camp and we were contented.

As it got dark the tide started to move in so it was a good place to give the females some fishing lessons. A few small longtoms, a sand whiting and a couple of "dem things" gave us some enjoyment. All caught by the females.

On a single handed four kilogram unit Leonie hooked up and played a fish for at least 15 minutes and landed a spotted or leopard ray of about 1½ to 2 kilograms. Photos were taken and the fish released. Me, I caught nothing.

The next morning we ventured into Carnarvon and into the caravan park. As the weather was the same here, we played the tourist. We used the train to go out onto the jetty and cleaned up our gear. A stroll

around the back streets saw us collect a couple of dozen mangoes which had fallen off the trees and onto the roadside verge. It took another six days of coaxing them to ripen individually.

A drive out to Miaboolya Beach, just like Lucky Bay, some discussions with people heading home from Quobba and Coral Bay, tales of woe everywhere about wind, weed and no fish and my brother said he had had enough and headed home the next day.

We stayed an extra day, decided to give Quobba, Waroora Station and Coral Bay a miss and will head for Onslow. Surely the wind must abate up here some time.

Bugger, bugger, bugger "So far too quick"

Hendo

Samson Fish Tagging Snippets

Report for 3 Feb. The aggregations fished well until about 9am when all went quiet, but still heaps of fish on the sounder. The boys aboard Splash II, for example, had tagged 25 by 7.30am but ended up with only 32 for the day.

We fished all schools plus some other sambo patches that had not been fished for a while. Still all poor but plenty of fish on the sounder. We knew something strange was up.

Saw a navy boat towing a target about 11am then a sub popped up about 4 miles off westend about an hour later. Those fishers out there today would have also seen two jets scream over at about 9.30. Seems the war games may have disrupted the fish big time (high powered sonar maybe??). Apparently it happened last year as well. Food for thought.

Numbers. They are still a way off getting all the data entered, checked and analysed but they think they'll end up with about 2700 fish tagged. A very credible effort in spite of all that nature and (possibly) navy could throw at them.

The project is more or less on track. With the 5 day extension to the tagging period the recapture period will now run from the 10 – 20 February but the finish date may also be extended.

Recaptures. One recapture off Hopetoun already!!!!!! Yep, 900km in 3 weeks.

Samson fish double tag 46491 and 46492. Tagged on the North Barge aboard Offshore Fishing Charters vessel "Top Cat" on 22 January. Recaptured on 16 Feb south of Hopetoun in 100m by Grant Martin. Fish was in good condition. It's great to see the commercial fishers reporting tagged sambos. Grant captured and reported a tagged sambo (from Rotto) to the Esperance fisheries office last January as well.

Another sambo was recaptured SW of Mandurah last week. Samson fish tag 47897. Tagged by D. Rosenbrook aboard Ian Rodgers boat Footloose on 23 January. Recaptured by Rod Willet on 12 February, 29 miles SW of Mandurah in 48m in good condition

Venting. Sampson fish are very tough and can be brought up from the deep and don't seem to suffer the blown swim bladder and bulging bits like many other species. The researchers are just in the preliminary stages of investigating this venting behaviour in sambos. The gases in the swim bladder expand as a fish is pulled up from depth. For some species the result is the stomach pushed out of the mouth (such as dhufish).

At this stage, for samson fish, it seems the gas is released when a membrane under the gill plate is ruptured. It looks like gas is exiting the swim bladder in this region. This may or may not be voluntarily, yet it seems that free swimmers (fish following up hooked fish) also release large amounts of gas as they ascend. The researchers have underwater photos of gas being released from the gill region (courtesy of Garry Lilley). One fish autopsied had a small hole where the gas was released. As for the exact mechanisms behind it all, they are unsure, but hopefully they can shed more light on this soon.

Donations for Trophies.

Very soon we will be looking for trophies for this competition year. Please give us your suggestions for people / companies / etc to contact.

There are some things members can do:-

1. Donate a trophy yourself – particularly if you have been on the on the receiving end in past years.
2. When buying your gear and getting your services from our trophy donors and advertisers, make sure you let them know that you are a member of the Surf Casting and Angling Club, so that if or when we contact them, they will know that this Club's members support them..

Recreational Fishing Alliance.

The Recreational Fishing Alliance represents individuals and interest groups who believe current marine park planning and implementation unfairly discriminates against fishers and others who access the State's waterways for recreational purposes.

The Alliance has been formed in response to what is seen as a massive and unjustified reduction in access for fishers with potential for further erosion of those rights if the current process is not halted and then managed sensibly.

The principle objectives of the RFA is to support the rights of current and future generations to enjoy access to responsible and sustainable fishing in WA's coastal and offshore waters by changing the current policies on Marine Park planning.

The RFA strongly supports appropriate and properly evaluated conservation measures for marine ecosystems.

Responsible recreational fishers should be encouraged to enjoy their pastime in a sustainable and equitable manner without having access unfairly restricted.

Please support us by reading about our campaign on the website <http://www.rfa.asn.au/> and ensure you register to support our charter.

Your support will help us to change the current marine Park planning process.

Happy fishing, Ben Patrick, RFA President

Recreational Fishing Alliance - Charter.

The Recreational Fishing Alliance (RFA) represents a wide cross-section of individuals and interest groups who believe the current marine park planning and implementation process unfairly discriminates against fishers and others who access the State's waterways for recreation.

The alliance has been formed in response to what is seen as a massive and unjustified reduction in access for fishers with potential for further erosion of those rights if the process is not halted and then managed at a sensible level.

The principal objective of the alliance is to support the rights of current and future generations to enjoy access to sustainable recreational fishing in WA's coastal and offshore waters. By definition, we strongly support appropriate and properly evaluated conservation measures for marine ecosystems.

Responsible recreational fishers should be encouraged to enjoy their pastime in a sustainable and equitable manner without having access unnecessarily restricted.

The Current Situation

Recreational fishers have actively supported a range of management initiatives in the past 15 years, many of which have been accepted on a precautionary basis. These have included a raft of fisheries management measures such as adjusted possession, bag and size limits, spawning closures, reduced fishing seasons.

In recent years the increased rate of establishment of marine parks has seen a proliferation of proposals for no-take zones in key recreational fishing areas. These exceed what the recreational fishing community sees as reasonable, have been promoted on largely theoretical and ideological grounds, have little or no supporting locally relevant scientific justification, and have vague objectives which make claims that are largely impossible to either quantify or evaluate in a meaningful way.

The RFA supports well-considered well-planned multiple use marine parks. It gives strong support to the implementation of appropriate management programs where an environmental threat has been clearly identified and substantiated. Specific investigations that take into account the best available information from all sources are essential to define the nature of such threats, and establish appropriate management.

Recreational fishers remain concerned that no-fishing areas are being planned and implemented without proper review of the existing knowledge from all sources, such as consultation with expert bodies like the Marine Parks and Reserves Scientific Advisory Committee, or an objective review of the desired management outcomes and the appropriate strategies to achieve these. The current process for marine park planning ignores expert local scientific advice including that of the government's own highly acclaimed fisheries managers and scientists – the Fisheries Department, considered a world leader in fisheries management.

Further concern is that recreational fishing input into the marine park planning process is all too frequently ignored. Working groups are made up primarily from non-fishing people and many members of the marine park working groups have no accountability to a clear constituency for the outcomes. Many simple and workable management tools have been proposed by fishing interest groups and individuals, but these have been largely overlooked in preference to declaring no-fishing zones aimed at completely excluding recreational fishermen.

This current agenda to lock up vast areas, rather than find workable solutions to clearly identified and defined problems is confronting, unreasonable and unacceptable to recreational fishermen. Recreational fishers reject the Gallop government approach, which recently has resulted in significant no-fishing areas being created. Examples are, Ningaloo Marine Park, Jurien Bay Marine Park, Rowley Shoals and the Monte Bello Islands/Barrow Island Marine Park.

The RFA finds it inconsistent that in the case of the Dampier Archipelago Marine Park, which is in a marginal electorate, it is proposed to remove only a small area from recreational fishing.

The Wilson Report appears to be the blue-print for further management direction of the present government. If adopted fully, other proposed parks will include The Capes region, (with massive closures being proposed); many areas in the Kimberley including the Cambridge Gulf and Roebuck Bay; Dirk Hartog Island

and Steep Point; all of the Kalbarri area; the Abrolhos Islands; Five Fathom Bank; parts of Peel Inlet; several areas around Albany; Bremer Bay to Hopetoun and all of the Recherche Archipelago at Esperance. In other words, just about all of the best fishing locations in the entire State may become marine parks, no doubt with associated fishing closures.

The Recreational Fishing Alliance is concerned that the closures to date have been driven by political expediency with inadequate recognition of stakeholder interests and could roll on to affect huge areas of our coast, in particular those of greatest interest to recreational fishers.

The Solution.

The current push for total exclusion areas should be seen as a last resort for marine protection, not the first course of action. One option is wilderness fishing zones where only one fish can be taken for personal consumption and catch and release is encouraged. Many remote areas such as the Rowley Shoals should be considered as no take away zones, where fish can be caught and released or consumed on site and no fish should be taken from the area.

The planning process must involve all stakeholders including recreational fishing interests and the Fisheries Department of Western Australia. The Marine Parks and Reserves Scientific Advisory Committee, required under CALM legislation, must function correctly and be open and transparent. Critically, planners must look to achieving the required outcomes as a result of scientific analysis.

Most importantly the effectiveness of such management must be evaluated against the objectives put forward. There is a high risk that the creation of closed areas within State waters is a currently trendy political and ideological placebo which in the long-term will mask the real problems associated with human impact on the marine environment. It will also divert significant public funds away from scientific research, assessment and evaluation into high levels of compliance and management for a strategy which will ultimately prove ineffective. If you can't measure it, you can't manage it.

The RFA believes that all Western Australians are entitled to a fair go and that the state's 650,000 recreational fishers must be adequately accommodated in the marine park planning process. The current practice of locking up key fishing areas must be reassessed and social considerations must be met.

The Marine Park planning process must involve all stakeholders and remained focused on achieving defined conservation outcomes rather than using it as a tool to ban fishing in huge areas of WA's marine environment. Accordingly, the proclamation of the Ningaloo, Monte Bello Islands and Rowley Shoals Marine Parks must be postponed until a thorough review of the planning process is conducted.

A logical well conceived approach to regional marine planning already exists in Australia. The RFA supports the 1998 Strategic Plan of Action for the National Representative System of Marine Protected Areas which can be found at <http://www.deh.gov.au/coasts/mpa/nrsmpa/spa.html>

Email Address: info@rfa.asn.au Postal Mail: Recreational Fishing Alliance, c-/ Atticus Communications Suite 7, 154 Hampden Road, Nedlands WA 6009

Political Parties' Policies on Recreational Fishing/Marine Planning.

The promises and commitments from all Political Parties are very important for the future of recreational angling in this State.

The statements of policy/position should be kept so that you know what has been promised by whichever Party you vote for, and whichever Party wins Government at the WA State Election on 26 February.

The State Liberal National Coalition Parties' Recreational Fisheries Position Statement was copied in the February Reel Talk, unedited, for Club members' information.

At the time of preparing this March edition of Reel Talk (4 pm, 18 February), the Labor Party's Commercial fishing policy, Recreational fishing policy and Environment and Marine Parks policy have not been released. Labor's Media Releases are at <http://betterfuture.com.au/media.html> and Policies are at <http://betterfuture.com.au/policy.html>

The Liberal Party's Recreational Fisheries Policy had some assurances about Marine Park planning, but their Environment and Marine Parks policy have not been released - a draft is around but is not yet on the website. Liberal Party's Media Statements are at <http://www.wa.liberal.org.au/walibs/news.aspx> and Policies are at <http://www.wa.liberal.org.au/walibs/policies.aspx>

I have left it to the last possible minute, but the policies have not yet been released so I cannot give you copies of them. I have given the Internet links and there is sure to be some publicity in the media when they are released.

Does anyone want to have a bet that just as I have folded and put the sticky tape on the last couple of Reel Talks ready to post them, there will be a ding from my email which will tell me that some of the policies have been released?.

So if you find a few extra pages poked into your Reel Talk somewhere, you will know that is what happened.

TerryF

Recreational Anglers and Marine Parks.

If anyone tries to make out that recreational anglers are against Marine Parks and sanctuary zones because they just want free access to be able to do whatever they like, to catch as much as they want, and because they have no concerns about the environment or conservation, then ask them to consider this.

Anglers are against the push for No take zones and Marine Parks as "**the**" cure for all problems, without any acknowledgement that Marine Parks and No take zones should be only one part of a whole range of essential actions which when applied together in a **balanced combination** to meet the real threats in that location, will really protect spawning areas and nursery areas, and which will fix and preserve and enhance the environment and will be supported by many recreational anglers who want a good fishing future.

It is a reaction to the message by Ron Campbell who resigned over Government changes to the Ningaloo Marine Park which made a mockery of 14 months of hard work by the Coral Coast Committee. See page 14 of the January 2005 Reel Talk.

It is a reaction to a report "Premier Geoff Gallop said yesterday that the Government's chief adviser on Ningaloo was the CALM appointed Marine Parks Reserve Authority. The Marine Parks Reserve Authority are our major adviser on that matter and **we took their advice.**" Followed by a report which I have had separately confirmed by a source I trust completely which quotes Barry Wilson, Chairman of the MPRA, saying that MPRA had nothing to do with, and no knowledge of, the extra zones and increased areas that were put in by the Government.

It is a reaction to several full page advertisements costing \$11,000 each and their misrepresentation of the contents of the report "Status of Coral Reefs of the World 2004" as were claimed to specifically support what the Govt had done when it **did not**. The report does **NOT** find or identify any plans which it says are **actually needed** or it even **recommended** at Ningaloo.

It is a reaction to Recreational anglers being wrongly portrayed as being against Marine Parks, when they aren't against them except in the way we have been force fed so far - "trust us, we are scientists, we know, this is for your own good" - even though other experts including from the Department of Fisheries don't agree with the details.

It is a reaction to comments like "anglers holding out and using delaying tactics against the great body of knowledge", where we are expected to accept and apply the "knowledge" without question, even when that research used to justify the no take zones is done in very different environments with different species and different threats. After all, included in the justification used for WA Marine Parks is "the unique environment and unique species, the unique Pole flowing Leeuwin Current," etc

It is a reaction to statements about the losses to anglers being "only small" and measured in percentage of areas or length of coastline locked up, and not in the percentage of fishing spots lost, which is often a lot more than the area/length percentage lost. It is a reaction to the misleading use of statistics and figures and reports.

The extra closure time of Cockburn Sound for catching Pink Snapper during November 2004 was an example where **recreational anglers** pushed for, and got, a closure to protect a spawning stock of fish, even though it cost them some good catches of big Pink Snapper .

Are some people scared at the mention of **local research** and application to the local situation because some of that local research might show that some of the claimed benefits of the locked up areas just aren't there? And are they scared that research might show that **some other actions** other than just "lock it up" might actually achieve a lot and would weaken "the case" for closed areas as the main or sole action taken? You bet!!.

TerryF

Make Your Vote Count.

This edition of the Reel Talk is out earlier than normal because I had hoped to put in some of the political parties' policies and promises about Recreational Fishing and Marine Parks and get those to you before the election on 26 February.

I am heading off to Kalbarri early on Saturday 19 February to install some railings on the back verandah and the side steps of the club's Kalbarri house. I will not be back in time to copy and post the Reel Talk for you to get it before the election on the 26 February if I wait until I come back from Kalbarri.

There is some information in this edition about the Recreational Fishing Alliance which you may find interesting.

If you have any concerns about your future recreational fishing, and you should have concerns, please make sure that you are informed about the alternatives and please make sure your vote counts.

In case it is not obvious, I want to make it clear that I have not tried to tell you how to vote, or even suggested how you should vote.

I just tried to **give you information which you can use to help decide for yourself.**

Please look back over past Reel Talks and read the articles, and make your vote counts on Saturday 26 February.