



GERALDTON
FISHERMEN'S
CO-OPERATIVE

Rock Lobster Exporters

the BROLOS Catcher

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Welshpool Update

GFC members will be delighted to hear that our Welshpool Live Lobster Export Facility is restocked and has been operating successfully since mid-May. Initial customer feedback is excellent and our own product quality testing in China shows that lobster exported from Welshpool have been achieving better quality and survival rates than our Fremantle facilities.

You may recall we made use of Welshpool during the Chinese New Year period but, at that time, working around the final construction activities presented challenges. When some equipment did not perform to design specifications, we handed the facility back to our construction partner DRA to finish everything perfectly before we recommenced use.

Before formal handover of the site back to GFC, we made sure the recirculating seawater systems passed extensive reliability and performance testing. We also used the downtime at Welshpool to complete installation of the mechanised pack-out area. We have now used this for many pack-outs and have seen improved efficiencies as a result.



Above & Below: Brolos product being packed-out from GFC's Welshpool Facility, now fully operational.



Welshpool Update (cont.)

In the coming weeks, we will also start packing direct into airline Unit Load Devices, or ULDs. These are single-design lightweight pallets or containers used to load luggage and freight on wide-body aircraft. The advantage in doing this is that it will reduce the transit time for GFC lobster by up to one and a half hours. Getting product to our customers more quickly will result in even better quality.

The drivers of the Welshpool Live Lobster Holding Facility are clear:

- **To increase our live lobster holding capacity by 50%**
- **Improve live lobster quality and survival**
- **Improve logistics, especially by reducing transport time to market**
- **Create a world-class facility to showcase our product, our people and our company**
- **Maximise returns to our members**

We look forward to showing you this world-class facility at the Grand Opening on 30 June. Over the past month invitations to the opening have gone out to GFC stakeholders. If you haven't responded to the invitation, and would still like to join the celebration, please let us know by contacting Maxine Dwyer on +61 8 9965 9035 or maxined@brolos.com.au.

See you on the 30th!

Right: Unit Load Devices arrive at Welshpool for a trial run in May.



Market Update

Demand for small grades has been low for the last few weeks which, until recently, has been gradually driving prices for A to C grades down. Alongside this we saw prices for the larger grades strengthen in the first week of June, only to come down again over the last week.

Different regions in China tend to have a preference for different sizes. As a general rule, the larger sizes are more favoured in the north eastern and south eastern regions while the smaller grades are more favoured in the central eastern regions. Because of this, grade-by-grade prices tend to be a reflection of supply and demand in those different regions.

The recent weaker price for small lobsters resulted in a reduction in fishermen landings for these grades in the first weeks of June. Therefore, the market became short of the smaller grades which is why we have started to see a modest spike in demand and slight improvement in prices for these grades in the last day or two. Whether this trend continues will largely depend on how fishermen respond from here.

AFL Footy Tipping Update

We are now half way through what has proven to be a pretty unpredictable AFL season, and it's still anyone's game. The Adelaide Crows are back on top of the ladder with a healthy margin over Greater Western Sydney and Geelong.

In that regard the AFL Ladder is not dissimilar to our own GFC AFL Footy Tipping Ladder. Our front runner, Billy Trent, is now out to a comfortable lead with a total score of 85, two points clear of second place, and four points clear of third. That battle, between second and third places, is being fought between Brendon Hancock and Jay Pynenburg, with only a two point margin separating the pair. With 11 rounds to go, and a few more Joker Rounds in the mix, the leaderboard will likely change a few more times before we hit the finish line.

Our current second placeholder Brendon Hancock has been with the footy competition two years in a row and seems to have found his stride coming into the second half of this season. Brendon has been with the Co-op since 2014, he skips the boat 'Aussie Dreams' for Ken Lovedee, and is an A zone fisherman. He comes from a family with strong ties to the Western Rock Lobster fishery, his dad Barry Hancock fished for many years before becoming an investor with GFC.



Above: Second place holder Brendon Hancock.

RANK	TIPPER	RD 12 MARGIN	RD 12 SCORE	TOTAL MARGIN	TOTAL SCORE
1	Billy Trent	25	3	256	85
2	Brendon Hancock	21	3	241	83
3	Jay Pynenburg	34	3	263	81
4	Jared Ash	26	3	240	80
5	Darren Wass	60	3	283	80
6	Don Kitson	13	3	333	80
7	Mario La Verghetta	21	5	354	80
8	Mark Davidson	23	3	243	79
9	Lucy Cockman	50	2	263	79
10	Louis Krummenacher	56	2	263	79

A Day in the Life of a Brolos Fisherman

Your pictures and videos keep rolling in. Thanks to everyone who has contributed! This fortnight's first picture (below) comes from Karen Armstrong, wife of A zone fisherman Peter Armstrong, and it's a beauty! Karen wrote in and told us "It was a glass off morning at Basile Island, the kids went for a paddle and came across a friend wanting to play."

The second picture (top right) comes from GFC's Kalbarri Depot Manager, Bruce Bentley, and shows some of the wildlife seen at Seabird. The third photo (centre) is another of Ricki Mouchemore's awesome drone shots, this one features North Island with his boat, Strait Edge, in front.

We will continue featuring your photos in upcoming editions of the Catcher, as well as on [GFC's Facebook page](#). Remember, don't stop now, keep on sending us your best stuff! Email or MMS your photos and videos to Matt Harrison at matthewh@brolos.com.au or 0439 104 766.



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THIS PACK INCLUDES:

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- HOOK & LOOP
- HAND STRAP
- HEAD STRAP
- CHEST MOUNT
- FLEXIBLE TRIPOD
- RUBBER FLOATY
- SEATPOST MOUNT
- WRIST AND HELMET MOUNT
- 360 DEGREE ROTATION WRIST MOUNT
- ADAPTOR MOUNT
- BUCKLE BASIC MOUNT
- HOOK BUCKLE MOUNT
- 360 ROTATION CLIP
- PLUS MORE!



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