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NSW Angel Ring Update

24th October 2010

DON'T PUT YOUR LIFE ON THE LINE THIS SUMMER

Angel Rings were used in 5 confirmed rescues in 10 days between September 25th and October 5th and this fact has the Angel Ring team concerned that many anglers are not following the most basic rules when fishing the rocks.

The most important thing that anglers need to consider is the golden rule – “If it’s too rough, go home”.

As recently as a few days ago, Angel Ring team member Tony Steiner had to persuade an angler from going fishing on the rocks without first watching the seas for at least 10 minutes. Tony and the angler stood on top of the cliff at Coogee in Sydney’s eastern suburbs and watched the anglers intended location become swamped by massive waves after 8 minutes.

What concerned Tony the most was that the angler had his lifejacket and rock cleats on, and in essence was well prepared to fish the rocks, except for the fact that he did not even bother to check the current conditions until Tony convinced him to wait.

The series of photos following highlights how a spot can change in only 8 minutes.

On the same day these photos were taken a 33 year old Japanese angler was reported missing at Bluefish Point on Sydney’s North Head.

Bluefish Point is only a few kilometers up the coast from Coogee.

The angler was fishing alone and his fishing equipment was found on the rocks and his locked car was discovered in the carpark almost a day later.

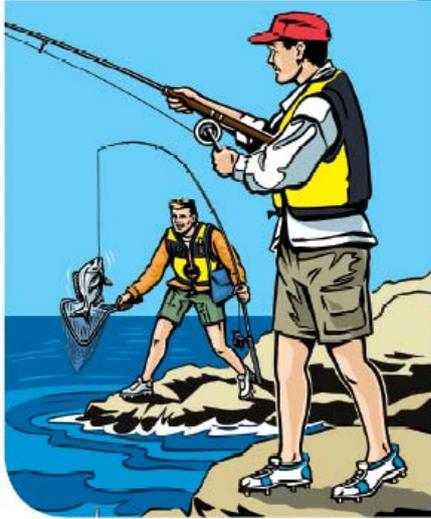
ANSA NSW Angel Ring Coordinator Stan Konstantaras is reminding anglers to “observe first, fish later”, “never fish alone” and “if it’s too rough go home”

More info www.angelrings.com.au
Email pastelli@netspace.net.au

These pictures were taken at the very spot the angler wanted to fish. The photos were taken 8 minutes apart from 2 different angles







Don't put your life on the line

Rock fishing safety

Know what to do in case of an emergency



BE SAFE – know the conditions

- Know the tide and weather
- Never fish alone
- If conditions worsen find a calmer, more sheltered spot – or go home.
- Ask local people for advice
- Fish only in places that you know are safe
- Tell someone where you are
- Spend at least half an hour watching the wind and wave action
- Plan an escape route
- Never turn your back on the sea

BE PREPARED – take the right gear

- Wear a life jacket
- Wear shoes with non-slip soles
- Wear light clothing
- Carry a mobile phone with you
- Carry a rope and float with you

SURVIVE

- Do NOT jump in if someone is washed into the water
- Dial 000 or 112 on your mobile phone or go to get help
- Use a rope or something that floats to rescue the person
- If you're swept in don't panic. Stay calm and swim away from the rocks
- If there's an Angel Ring nearby, know how to use it

For more information on fishing safety, including translated material, more fact sheets and free downloads visit www.safefishing.com.au



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