

**Fishing Gear**  
**Weekly Times Column**  
**By Warren Joel**

What makes that old fishing rod and the reel collectable?

Good question to ask but not a simple answer. As with any collectable there are some key elements that must be present to get any sort of sale value. With fishing equipment it is all about who made each of the items, then things like condition, age, and what it was used for will start to come into the mix.

Now boys (and girls) before you get excited about selling all that old fishing gear in the back of the shed we are looking for some very specialized gear to realise significant dollar value. At the top of the market in the reel department will be a fly fishing reel by Hardy. The right model in good condition can sell for hundreds of dollars. To go with that reel we need a split cane matched to the reel and we are starting to get into the \$1,000 plus price range.

It is not just the rod and reel that have a value in this area of collecting. Books on fishing and fishing equipment like Fishing Library by Pickard sells for over a thousand dollars. A quick look at international auction records shows lots of sales of vintage fishing related gear selling well. I was surprised to see a 1940's fish decoy selling in America for over \$1,000(US).

The other fishing gear that also sells well is the old game fishing reel. Those great big reels used to catch even bigger fish. One name to look for with these is Penn, but again it is not all game reels by Penn that will bring big money.

*Next week: Children's toys and board games*

**Free Valuation for Weekly Times readers.**

Byjoel will do a free valuation of your collectables via email. If you send a photo and description of your item to [valuations@byjoel.com.au](mailto:valuations@byjoel.com.au) I will access the item and respond.

**Warren Joel**

Warren is a third generation auctioneer and valuer specialising in Art, Antiques and Collectables, accredited by the Commonwealth in 2002 different areas of collectables.

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