



## Surf Casting and Angling Club of WA (Inc.)

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### October 2013 field day Cervantes

**Synopsis.** The October 2013 field day was spread from Jurien to Cervantes with the persons fishing the Hill River area, south of the car park and South Point at Jurien. Due to weather conditions and heavy weed only small catches came from these locations.

Some persons who fish locally missed on attracting any sort of fish. In summary, the field day location at Cervantes, particularly the Saturday evening, gave small catches of tailor at all locations which resulted in some smiles at the weigh in.

The Club owns an air conditioned holiday house at Kalbarri which is available for rent to the public and club members at competitive rates. Link is above.

**The Trip.** The sign on at the Cervantes service station was at 12:30 pm Saturday 12 October. Lines down was at 2pm with fishing through until Sunday 13 October lines up at 10am, and weigh-in at 11:30 am at the sign-on location. A total of nine SCAC anglers plus two others came to the sign-on. George Holman, Pat McKeown, Martin Wearmouth with his dad a visitor, Shane and daughter Sarah Wignell, Victor and Slavka Schilo, Ken Howells and Peter Osborne, John Crompton with a non-competing member along for the ride, Gordon.

Pat McKeown and George Holman together with Victor and Slavka Schilo tried the sandy point just south of the Jurien township. All was quiet during the afternoon apart from pulling in tons of weed, but as dusk arrived a few tailor turned up. George managed to get a couple of tailor, Pat got one and Victor got three. Much to the disgust of Slavka she could not manage a hook-up. They tried a few places on Sunday morning, including south of the car park, but could not manage to find fish. Slavka was looking for a skipper to get her ten species and thus her species badge. Maybe next time Slavka.

Martin and his Dad Gerald, and Shane and Sarah Wignell tried a couple of kilometres south of the car park, found plenty of weed but fish were also scarce there, though better than our other spots. Martin managed a bag of six tailor and three herring, his dad managed two tailor, a flathead and a herring. Shane managed four tailor and two herring with his daughter getting three tailor. It is noted that this piece of beach yielded the only herring on the bite. Generally herring can be prolific along this bit of coastline.

Notwithstanding lack of excitement of catching fish, Sarah had a good workout on a stingray. After a bit of struggle she managed to pull it through the wave break and land it on the sand for releasing. Where's George, our ray de-hooking expert: not in sight. However a wise head prevailed and put into action a safe method by cutting the line and not touching the animal. Maybe George could learn something from this. Sorry George it is going to take years to forget the stingray/George interface story.

Early afternoon I joined Ken Howells and John Crompton at the car park and we proceeded to go along the track to the mouth of the Hill River. We encountered dips in the track filled with water, some nearly two feet deep. With diesel engines we decided to advance on crossing the first one, no problem. We watched and were ready to assist John in his petrol engine Jeep, but he managed to get through ok, even the deeper ones we encountered further up the track.



*John and Ken's sleeping accommodation on the beach right at Hill River. Good location but fish scarce and weed plentiful*

Ken and John then set up camp on the beach on Friday afternoon, tarp etc stretched between two vehicles. They fished the mouth of the Hill River. Ken managed a small bag of just size tailor.

John could not manage a hook-up. Like all of us they were plagued with weed and small fish stripping mulies. As for most, Sunday morning was deficient of fish.

Gordon did not fish competitively but was doing some fish research. He set up a trap in the actual Hill River itself. This yielded a count of some undersize bream that was to be passed onto his freshwater research team.

**My story** goes as follows: Went to Jurien on Friday morning to do a bit of research. Went to the mouth of the Hill River with John and Ken, but did not look good. Stayed the Friday night at the Apex dormitories, but tried the south point early evening. Only fished a couple of hours and just in dusk I managed a couple of tailor. The following morning I went to the mouth of the Hill River and joined John and Ken. Absolutely nothing, dead as a doornail except for weed. Following sign-on, and based on Friday night as having a positive catch rate and Saturday morning giving a nil catch rate, I decided to again fish the south point at Jurien. The place I fished was just around the point corner and north of George, Pat and the Schilo team.

Immediately set up my rods with mulie bait and into the water by 2:15 pm. I fished all afternoon, no fish apart from the tons of weed. As the mulies were being stripped within minutes of casting out by blowies or very small whiting, I decided to try some fresh fish flesh bait. Filleted the two tailor I caught on Friday night I then cut them into strips and had 8 fish flesh baits.

It was just getting dark and within 5 minutes of getting that tailor fillet in the water, whup, I was on it was a good fish. With a bit of a tussle incorporating see-sawing back and forward I pulled in a 3kg tailor, beauty. Over the next hour or less, I caught another four respectable size tailor. Of the five tailor, four of them were caught on tailor flesh.



*Peter's 3kg tailor. A great way to start, caught just on dusk*



Then all quiet again except for seaweed and as I had run out of the fish flesh bait, the mulies were being quickly stripped.

At about 9:15 felt that nothing more was going to happen so targeted 9:30 to give up. About 9:27, whup again and bit of see-sawing, I called it was going to be another large tailor. Wrong, a small mulloway. No it didn't weigh as much as the tailor at 2.5kg. Always think a catch of these two should be the other way around. Anyway, went to bed in the back of the vehicle with a smile on my face.

Boy was it a cold night, two sleeping bags and still freezing, not a good night's sleep. All of us that did not have top of the range sleeping bags felt the cold.

*Left: Peter Osborne with his little Mulloway, caught just after catching tailor and lots of weed. A nice surprise.*

As you can see below, smiles from Surfcasters as a result of a tailor bite that was really hard work, given the severe conditions. Any fish caught was well deserved and is a factor of dedication, perseverance, skill and a lot of luck as well ability to pull in a ton of weed.



*Victor and George found a few tailor amongst the weed at Jurien south point*



*Shane and daughter Sarah managed a good feed of tailor fishing at the same beach as Martin*



*Pat worked awfully hard to get this one tailor*



*Martin came close to bagging out on tailor and had a 1.75kg tailor in his bag.*



*Ken with two of his 3 tailor caught. Hard work, 1 ton of weed dragged in for every tailor caught.*

### **Tips from this trip:**

- Arriving at the field day location a day or two early can result in some research on different locations to pinpoint potential action.
- While mulies are an excellent bait, strips of fish flesh can elicit a bite from a good fish (tailor, mullet or bonito are excellent baits, even a strip of herring can work well. Martin gave the latter item some thought. He only had the one herring on Saturday afternoon and decided to keep for the weigh-in. He wished he could have had confidence in knowing he would get some herring on Sunday morning.
- As another fishing tip. I take reels loaded with 20lb, 30lb and 40lb line. Normally for tailor at Cervantes would fish with 20lb line, but with the weed factor went up to 30lb to allow retrieval of a rig loaded with weed without busting off.

Fish capture results and the top ten fisherpersons, based on the SCAC scoring system, are listed elsewhere in Reel Talk.

The field day points scoring system is covered in Competition Rules Section 2.4 and is

- 10 points per kilogram for the weight of the bag put across the weigh-in scales. Note that fish have to be gilled and gutted, hence the recorded weight is generally about 10% less weight than if weighed whole.
- 10 points per species for the number of different species.
- 10 points for attendance at the field day.
- 10 points for attendance at that month's General meeting.

Next February we will be going to Cervantes again for the SCAC field day and hopefully with less wind and no weed present, all anglers should be able to more than duplicate bags of fish caught on previous years' Cervantes field days.

Hope to see you at our November field day at the AAA Swan River Estuary Competition.

Tight lines

Field Day Officer, Peter Osborne

### **October field day Local**

Another great day but no fish locally. Mark Hansen and Gary Parkinson both rang in with no fish.

Mark had fished the South Mole and other locations around Fremantle and Gary fished Brighton Road, then Mullaloo Beach, then Hillarys Marina between 2pm and 11:30pm and nothing.

Brighton Road was very sandy with a wave break well offshore, Mullaloo Beach was heavily weeded and difficult to fish, and the marina just had no fish on the bite.

No one else rang in or came to the weigh in.

John Curtis, Acting FDO for Local Field day

### **Catch results and points for October 2013 Field Day**

Angler	Weight	Species	Fish	Points
Peter Osborne	7.86 kg	2	6	118.6
Martin Wearmouth	3.96 kg	2	9	69.6
Gerald Wearmouth	1.1 kg	3	4	51
Shane Wignell	1.92 kg	2	6	49.2
George Holman	1.75 kg	1	2	47.5
Victor Schilo	1.41 kg	1	3	44.1
Ken Howells	0.9 kg	1	3	39
Pat McKeown	0.52 kg	1	1	35.2
Sarah Wignell	1.13 kg	1	3	31.3
Gary Parkinson				20
John Crompton				20
Mark Hansen				20
Slavka Schilo				20

Points include Field day and October General meeting points.

Species weighed at the Cervantes field day: Tailor, Herring, Mulloway, Flathead.

Species weighed at the local field day: None.

### **Field Day top scores for 2013/14**

Total scores up to and including October Field day and General meeting. Competition Rules section 2.4.5 specifies only the best 11 months out of 12 will count at the end of the competition year. The winners will be announced at the Presentation of Trophies in June 2014, and adjusted scores will be published after that. Names with equal scores are sorted alphabetically.

Name	Points	Rank	Name	Points	Rank	Name	Points	Rank
Peet Wessels	438.9	1	Greg Keet	114.2	11	Ian Taggart	38.6	21
Peter Osborne	372	2	Justin Rose	106.8	12	Wendy Hansen	37.3	22
Sandra Wessels	356.7	3	Frank Rystenber	100.8	13	Sarah Wignell	31.3	23
Theo Van Niekerk	310.2	4	Peter Pekaar	91.7	14	John Crompton	30	24
Ken Howells	267.4	5	Matt Howells	76.9	15	Slavka Schilo	30	25
Pat McKeown	246.7	6	Allan Jones	66.5	16	Christian Wearmouth	20	26
Martin Wearmouth	234.3	7	Victor Schilo	54.1	17	Raymond Walker	20	27
George Holman	214.3	8	Dean Stewart	51.7	18	Thomas Wearmouth	20	28
Mark Hansen	196.6	9	Gerald Wearmouth	51	19	Neil Maxted	10	29
Gary Parkinson	132.7	10	Shane Wignell	49.2	20	Tino Baiardo	10	30

### **Sportsperson of the Year section winners for October 2013**

Best scale fish	Peter Osborne	Tailor	2.75 kg
Best bag of scale fish	Peter Osborne	Mixed Bag	7.86 kg

## Field day section winners for October 2013

Best scale fish	Peter Osborne	Tailor	2.75 kg
Best bag of scale fish	Martin Wearmouth	Mixed Bag	3.96 kg

## Field Day sections 2013/14

Up to and including October 2013 Field Day.

1A	Best scale fish (1st six months)	Ken Howells	Mulloway	6.28 kg	May
1B	Best scale fish (2nd six months)				
2	Most meritorious fish	To be awarded by Committee			
3	Best Shark (4.5kg min)				
4	Best Mulloway (2.0kg min)	Ken Howells	Mulloway	6.28 kg	May
5	Best Tailor (1.0kg min)	Peter Osborne	Tailor	2.74 kg	October
6	Best Salmon (3kg min)				
7	Best Skipjack Trevally (0.5 kg min)	Peet Wessels	Skipjack Trevally	2.0 kg	August
8	Best Mackerel (2kg Min)				
9	Best scale fish (other than above)	Martin Wearmouth	Pink Snapper	3.08 kg	September
10	Best bag of scale fish	Peet Wessels	Mixed bag	17.82 kg	August
11	Best bag of Mulloway (2 fish Min)				
12	Best bag of Tailor (2 fish Min)	Peter Osborne	Tailor	5.58 kg	October
13	Best fish on S/H rod 4kg b/s line (max)				
14	Best fish caught on fly rod				

## Update to Species Badge competition

The list of species registered to members has been updated for catches and entries during September and October. Martin Wearmouth has qualified for his badge with 10 species.

Name	Bream	Flathead	Flounder	Garfish	Herring	Yellow Eyed Mullet	Mackerel	Mulloway	Pink Snapper	Salmon	Samson Fish	Snook or Pike	Tailor	Tarwhine	Trevally	Whiting	Wrasse	Number of species caught
Martin Wearmouth	1	1			1			1	1	1		1	1		1	1		10
Gary Parkinson					1			1					1					3

Members who are close to getting the 10 species required for their Species Badge are:

Bob Henderson	9
Shane Wignell	9
Slavka Schilo	9
Ian Taggart	8

Melvin Wee	8
Terry Fuller	8
Allan Jones	7

Greg Keet	7
Sabby Pizzolante	7
Tino Baiardo	7

Recorder John Curtis