



Surf Casting and Angling Club of WA (Inc.)

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April 2012 Field Day, Cape to Cape

Despite voting levels over a year ago showing a good number of Surfcasters indicating an interest in participating, attendance for this particular event and numbers were down.

Peet and Sandra were back in South Africa for a few weeks so we lacked their enthusiasm and participation in this fishing venue.

As Assistant Field Day Officer I took over Peet's role. Hence for the four away participants and for the four local participants, here is an overview of how the weekend went.

The Wignell family was holidaying at Hamelin Bay and fished that area. Unfortunately they had problems with weed and struggled finding clean water. On dark, attracted by any light, they were also plagued with clouds of small flies which made the night fishing impossible. Shane, my guess this is a result of flies breeding in seaweed washed up on the beach.

Notwithstanding this they did find some herring and a whiting. Sarah's results again showed she was hot on the heels of her Dad's score. While there were reports of salmon in that area, none was caught.

Shane did confirm an expectation as the professionals were dotted along the beach with nets etc, all scouring the ocean for schools of salmon, but he saw them only watching.

At the sign on also met up with Melvin Wee. We discussed locations with Melvin wanting to find some beach that he could also sleep in his car after night fishing. As I wanted to fish some confined rock ledges, Melvin went off and checked out a few potential spots. He initially fished alongside others in Gracetown area but no fish there. He then tried beaches south of there. He then got caught up in some very rough bush tracks and beaches with very soft sand, but finally found a suitable spot and fished through late afternoon and evening. Melvin caught a bag of quality herring and some pike. One of his herring went 0.30 kg. Despite trying a number of places he could not find salmon.

I tried my usual favourite haunts around Yallingup and Wyadup, again looking for salmon that have appeared in at least one of these places in the past, but not to be.

In the places I fished I was plagued by herring. While targeting other species I had mulies stripped by herring while still catching some on larger hooks. Caught 30 odd over the field day, some of which were around the 0.25 kg mark, plus I must have thrown back a couple of dozen. Did also manage one tailor, some skippy, one tarwhine, a wrasse, and good bag of western rock blackfish.

I caught the tailor from the rocks when the sun was low. With an expectation of finding a school, I was disappointed as this one specimen appeared to be a loner. However on my next cast had a terrific hook-up, line being stripped, real power, aha a salmon. What a disappointment, a Buff Bream that must have been 6kg+ that I finally worked to the edge. Kept casting, but only managed another half dozen Buffies, not as large as the first one but still big ones. I felt I was trying to dethrone Sandra. For your edification, based on fishing Rottneest the last couple of years, Sandra has been dubbed the "Buff Queen". She has a particular skill in catching large numbers of large Buffies.

Given the Leeuwin current, and warmer water down south, the expectation of finding Salmon was not to be. A service station attendant stated there had been some salmon caught around Dunsborough.

The keen Surfcasters that fished local had a hard time finding fish. George Holman, John Crompton, and the Pekaars all fished their usual haunts. They found lots of water between fish, or better definition would be nearly no fish in at our local beaches. Peter Pekaar managed a herring. While a good social get together, a very poor result for the fishing effort.

At our next field day venue at the Capes (July), I am looking forward to finding more active fish activity and resulting good catches by all, including salmon.

Peter Osborne, Assistant Field Day Officer

Local Field day, April 2012

Saturday afternoon saw seven of us roll up to one of our local beaches. We met up with John Crompton, Jeff Hewton, Allan Jones, George Holman, and Ric Parker. Even though the catch was not plentiful, we all had a nice time feeding the whiting, practising our casting, and chatting amongst ourselves on the beach. Pete and I left around 7pm, having only caught one herring, and headed to our usual pizza venue for dinner. George came down much later than us and he and some of the others fished for a while after us, but as far as we know not a long time.

Newer members are encouraged to join us on local field days where they will have an opportunity to have one-on-one tuition with our more experienced anglers. These local field days can be quite productive, sometimes, in terms of fish caught, but also knowledge shared regarding rods, reels, and tackle generally is invaluable. Please ask at the general meeting where any of us might be fishing locally and feel free to come on down, bringing with you any rod/reel combination you might like to try out and/or discuss.

On Sunday morning we headed to the South Mole in search of gardies. Sadly we had no luck there either; probably too early in the season. The best Pete did was snag a "Water World" hat floating in the ocean. Jeff Hewton joined us in the morning, having been to the E Shed Harbour beforehand, catching bait.

Marcia and Peter Pekaar

Catch results and points for April Field Day

Angler	Weight	Species	Fish	Points
Peter Osborne	10.56 kg	6	30	165.6
Shane Wignell	2.55 kg	2	16	95.5
Melvin Wee	2.27 kg	2	14	82.7
Sarah Wignell	1.75 kg	2	11	77.5
Peter Pekaar	0.15 kg	1	1	31.5
George Holman	0	0	0	20
John Crompton	0	0	0	20
Marcia Pekaar	0	0	0	20

Points include Field Day and April General Meeting points. Species weighed at the Capes Field Day were:- Herring, Western Rock Blackfish, Pike, Whiting, Tarwhine, Tailor, Wrasse and Skipjack Trevally. Species weighed at the Local Field Day were:- Herring.

Sportsperson of the Year winners for April 2012

Best scale fish	Peter Osborne	Western Rock Blackfish	1.04 kg
Best bag of scale fish	Peter Osborne	Mixed bag	10.56 kg

Field day section winners for April 2012

Best scale fish	Peter Osborne	Western Rock Blackfish	1.04 kg
Best bag of scale fish	Shane Wignell	Herring	2.55 kg

Field Day top scores for 2011/12

Total scores up to and including April 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 2012, and adjusted scores will be published after that.

Name	Points	Rank	Name	Points	Rank	Name	Points	Rank
Peet Wessels	1726.9	1	Ray Walker	250.3	18	Liam Wignell	98.9	35
Peter Osborne	1623.9	2	Allan Jones	232	19	Geoff Raftis	85	36
Sandra Wessels	1386.3	3	Marcia Pekaar	220.7	20	Malcolm Head	67.2	37
George Holman	1235.9	4	Christian Wearmouth	191.5	21	Morgan Keet	66.3	38
Mark Hansen	833.7	5	Sumarie Gaudin	188.5	22	Felicity Keet	62.5	39
Shane Wignell	603.8	6	Thomas Wearmouth	179	23	Wayne Shaw	57	40
Theo Van Niekerk	505.7	7	Ian Taggart	174.2	24	Stephen Pekaar	52.4	41
Sarah Wignell	439.1	8	David Maxted	173.5	25	Bev Grigo	50	42
Wendy Hansen	404.5	9	Chris Stickells	172.6	26	Bob Henderson	50	43
John Crompton	386.9	10	Melvin Wee	167	27	Dean Stewart	50	44
Pat McKeown	373.1	11	Aniello Pizzolante	164.6	28	Des De Villiers	40	45
Peter Pekaar	363.3	12	Michael Gaudin	123.5	29	Ian Cook	40	46
Martin Wearmouth	357.3	13	Stuart Spickett	108.8	30	Lachlan Spickett	40	47
Justin Rose	336.1	14	Nick Edwards	103.6	31	Louise Van Niekerk	40	48
Greg Keet	324.7	15	Terry Fuller	102.1	32	Olivia Keet	40	49
Frank Gaudin	290.2	16	Ron Lindsay	100	33	Sharon Osborne	40	50
Sabby Pizzolante	261.8	17	Shane Becu	100	34	John Curtis	20	51

Field Day sections 2011/12

Up to and including April Field Day.

1A	Best scale fish (1st six months)	George Holman	Pink Snapper	6.55 kg
1B	Best scale fish (2nd six months)	George Holman	Tailor	1.26 kg
2	Most meritorious fish	To be awarded by Committee		
3	Best Shark (4.5kg min)	George Holman	Bronze Whaler	5.48 kg
4	Best Mulloway (2.0kg min)			
5	Best Tailor (1.0kg min)	Justin Rose	Tailor	1.92 kg
6	Best Salmon (3kg min)			
7	Best Skipjack Trevally (0.5 kg min)	Sandra Wessels	Trevally, Skipjack	1.13 kg
8	Best Mackerel (2kg Min)			
9	Best scale fish (other than above)	Peet Wessels	Yellowtail Kingfish	5.83 kg
10	Best bag of scale fish	Peter Osborne	Mixed Bag	17.38 kg
11	Best bag of Mulloway (2 fish Min)			
12	Best bag of Tailor (2 fish Min)	Justin Rose	Tailor	5.58 kg
13	Best fish on S/H rod 4kg b/s line (max)	Peter Osborne	Wrasse	0.36 kg
14	Best fish caught on fly rod	Frank Gaudin	Trevally, Skipjack	0.75 kg