



Surf Casting and Angling Club of WA (Inc.)

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December 2014 fishing field day

White Hills 13 and 14 December 2014. Synopsis. The December 2014 field day was spread from south wall of the Dawesville cut to Preston Beach with the majority of persons fishing a stretch of beach approximately 15km south of the White Hills road. A few quality tailor were captured in one section of the beach, as were some small mulloway. Schools of herring were prolific for one group on one beach area but pretty thin elsewhere.

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.

Literally dozens of tiny tarwhine were landed with less than a handful being size. All had a feed to take back home. Local fishos managed to catch at least one fish but quantity and size were well down.

The Field Day highlights. Accompanied by most having a good cup of coffee and a hot pie for lunch, the sign on at the Miami Bakery was at noon Saturday 13 January with lines down at 2pm. The fishing period was through until Sunday with the weigh-in at noon at the car park at the back at the same bakery.

A total of 3 anglers fished locally, George Holman, Glen Wong, and Michael Pisano. For the away trip, 7 anglers signed on. Ken Howells, Gary Parkinson, Mark Nurse, Peet and Sandra Wessels, Ray Walker, and Peter Osborne.) Our starting point has become a tradition to sign on at the Miami Bakery. As noted above, this gives the opportunity on both arrival and departure to treat oneself to a good cup of coffee with a pie and/or donuts or other goodies.

Ken, Gary and Mark headed down to Preston and went north along the beach, The rest of us let down tires on the last major sand dune to the White Hills beach track. The track along the beach was very soft in most sections and in one area we had to turn off the beach behind sand dunes and then return to the beach. Some 4WD skills were needed to negotiate the beach. We could see this could have the same problem for our return trip. Holidays had not started for all schools, so beach traffic while heavy was not as bad as last year. We did observe how some drove with tires over inflated resulting in some sections of the tracks becoming badly cut up.

Initially the wind was a slight southwester and stayed that way all afternoon and evening, a really balmy night for beach fishing. Sunday morning slight winds only which gave very comfortable fishing conditions.

We fished in two small groups along the beach looking for a bit of reef structure that appears intermittently along this bit of coastline. Some 15km down from the White Hills entrance track we, Peet and Sandra, Ray and Peter found some suitable reef area that was not occupied.

Ken, Mark and Gary went a similar distance north of Preston and also found some reef with deeper water in front of the reef. Hence both parties ended up fishing less than a kilometre from each other.

The latter group on setting up and starting to fish with very little use of burley found they had a school of herring in front of them. These fish continued to be caught on both Saturday and Sundays. They tried to catch bigger fish but mulie baits were quickly stripped. Late afternoon some chopper tailor appeared with each getting only one or two of this species. Ken worked hard and was successful in getting a great little gummy shark. Mark also managed to find a size whiting among the herring and very small tarwhine. At the weigh-in Peter asked Ken if he wanted to swap his shark for some fish from his bag. Answer was a resounding "no". For those that aren't aware, gummy sharks are extremely good eating

Congratulations must go to Gary, as along with a tailor; he weighed in a herring as he did not throw it away. Hopefully we will see him put more fish across the scales in future events.

It is noted that with plenty of herring available, Mark and Ken bagged and put on ice their herring needs and then went into the mode of catch and release. As they had released more than sufficient numbers, on weigh-in they were able to notify the Field Day Officer and add additional herring to equate to the bag limit of 30 fish in total.



At right: Gary Parkinson proves he can catch fish including herring

Mark added 9 catch and release fish at nominated weight of 0.1 kg each and Ken added 11 catch and release fish at 0.1 kg each. All members please note rule 2.3.6 of the Competition rules there is provision that, with-in the 30 fish bag limit, there is a mechanism to add additional numbers of fish with a nominated weight to their bag for the field day spread sheet point's calculation. Keep this rule for makeup on fish quantity in mind when ability to catch fish exceeds numbers to be retained.

For the group that came in from White Hills, throughout the fishing period, all had issues with very small fish stripping mulies. This turned out to be very much undersize tarwhine and some blowies. Only Peter and Sandra managed to find a size tarwhine among the tiddlers. Through the afternoon, this gave periods of having lines out but no bait on the hooks. Sandra hooked the first tailor but there was a large time gaps between fish coming in.

For this group, the field day was about catching mulloway, most were undersize however some were landed in the 55 to 60 cm range, a great eating fish.

Ray has some accolades coming to him as he started this part of the story. Early afternoon he pulled in a Mulloway that looked as though it could be size, Peter went across to assist and on measure was found to be some 49 cm, darn just undersize. Some smaller ones, less than 45 cm were also caught intermittently by all.



Ray Walker with his bag of mulloway

However at about 4pm Ray pulled in a bigger fish that looked size, Peter, fishing only 5 meters away went across and checked size. Beauty was over 55cm. On checking size and unhooking the fish and putting on ice, Ray immediately put out another cast. Peter had walked back to his rods and no sooner got there than Ray was hooked up again, with another slightly bigger mulloway.

Over the period with Peter getting frustrated with not getting a mulloway, Ray reiterated the story of over a year ago fishing at Frustration at Kalbarri, Ray could not get a bite, but Peter landed good mulloway and got busted up by big fish.

However, Peter finally landed a size mulloway late Sunday morning. Ray enjoyed rubbing it in to Peter as his prowess in catching mulloway. Accolades must also go Ray as one of his mulloway was the largest fish caught on the Field Day.



Peet Wessels on the beach on Sunday morning with 2 mulloway

The mulloway story continues with Peet Wessels also having good success in landing 5 size mulloway over the field day period. He also noted Peter's frustration in not getting a mulloway, but he was frustrated in not getting a tailor. Peter had one tailor by Saturday evening, and both Peter and Peet got up at sun-up Sunday morning to try for tailor. For the first 1½ hours nothing happens (except the tarwhine problem) then some tailor came through.

Peter hooked up and landed two in a row, quality size fish. Peet moved across alongside Peter and to rub it in both Peet and Peter dropped a good tailor virtually at their feet immediately followed by Peter landing a double header of tailor.

At a lot of beaches with this type of fishing, Peter uses a double hook set rig, set of hooks for a mulie on the bottom, 3/0 hooks and off the top swivel a set of 3 number 3 hooks for a small bait.

You may remember George Holman gave us a demo of the rig at an instruction period at a General meeting earlier this year. Peet kept trying but only managed some more mulloway. Peter at this stage finally caught his one mulloway along with a couple of skippy and bagging out one short of the tailor limit of 8 fish.

During both evening and morning Sandra was quietly working away at catching a mulloway, a couple of tailor, a skippy and a size tarwhine. But do have to admit that when Sandra gets hooked up to a good fish she yells out, loud enough that friends in South Africa can hear her.

While the group from Preston were overwhelmed with herring, they did not appear in front of the White Hills group. Only evidence of herring was on Sunday morning Peter's set rod sporting top hook using a white bait, resulted that on reeling in this top bait hook there was a well chewed herring head. Suspect the live bait attracted and was ravaged by some of that tailor school.

The drive back along the beach to the weigh-in required the same good 4WD driving skills to tackle the soft sand beach. An hour was required for the drive back including time to inflate tires.



Sandra Wessels with her mulloway



Ray Walker also knows how to catch tailor

Local Field Day participants. As noted above, three of Surfcaster members fished locally for shorter time periods due to family and social obligations.

Fish were somewhat scarce. Results were that:

George only fished the middle section of the night. Like the rest of us he was besieged by undersize tarwhine. He finally managed to get one tarwhine that was size but no tailor or as in the recent past, quality mulloway.

Michael and Glen fished the evening with Glen capturing one tailor and Michael capturing three herring.

Hope to see you at our January Field Day weigh-in. Full details are in the Reel Talk.

In summary, 17/18 January with boundaries from Binningup to Jurien for lines in 2 pm Saturday and lines out at 11am Sunday with the weigh-in at 3pm under the south side of the Narrows Bridge in South Perth. Sign on at the January 2015 General meeting.

Tight lines

Field Day Officer, Peter Osborne

Sportsperson of the Year section winners for December 2014

Best scale fish	Ray Walker	Mulloway	2.19kg
Best bag of scale fish	Peter Osborne	Mixed bag	6.85kg
Best shark	Ken Howells	Gummy shark	2.30kg
Best bag including sharks	Ken Howells	Mixed bag and shark	4.60kg

Field day section winners for December 2014

Best scale fish	Ray Walker	Mulloway	2.19kg
Best bag of scale fish	Peter Osborne	Mixed bag	6.85kg
Best shark	Ken Howells	Gummy shark	2.30kg
Best bag including sharks	Each winner can win only one section		

Catch results and points for December 2014 Field Day

Angler	Weight	Species	Fish	Points
Peter Osborne	6.85kg	4	11	128.5
Ken Howells	5.7kg	3	30	107
Ray Walker	5.14kg	2	4	91.4
Sandra Wessels	3.09kg	4	5	90.9
Mark Nurse	3.91kg	3	30	89.1
Peet Wessels	4.14kg	2	3	81.4
Gary Parkinson	0.68kg	2	2	46.8
Glen Wong	0.83kg	1	1	38.3
Michael Pisano	0.3kg	1	3	33
George Holman	0.25kg	1	1	32.5

Points include Field day and December General meeting points.

Species weighed at the December field day were: tailor, herring, mulloway, skippy, whiting, tarwhine and gummy shark.

Species weighed at the December local field day were: tarwhine

Field Day top scores for 2014/15

Total scores calculated automatically by the field day scoring spreadsheet including December 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 2015, and adjusted scores will be published after that. Names with equal scores are sorted alphabetically.

Name	Points	Rank	Name	Points	Rank	Name	Points	Rank
Peter Osborne	915.3	1	Peter Pekaar	157.4	13	Christian Wearmouth	38.1	25
George Holman	867.3	2	Peter Butland	145.8	14	George Belin	33.7	26
Peet Wessels	692.8	3	Geoff Raftis	124.6	15	Victor Schilo	32.3	27
Sandra Wessels	573.3	4	Terry Fuller	110.6	16	Jason Zerella	30	28
Martin Wearmouth	388	5	Gary Gildersleeves	109.9	17	Nicolas Terpkos	28.5	29
Pat McKeown	361.3	6	Paul Terpkos	84.6	18	Slavka Schilo	22.2	30
Glen Wong	317.8	7	Michael Pisano	65.9	19	David Macted	20	31
Ken Howells	227.6	8	Dean Stewart	58.8	20	Ian Taggart	10	32
Ray Walker	227.4	9	Shane Wignell	54.9	21	Robert Pekaar	10	33
Mark Nurse	210	10	Sarah Wignell	52	22	Alan Osborne	10	34
Theo Van Niekerk	175.7	11	Klaus Schönwolf	40	23			
Gary Parkinson	166.8	12	Thomas Wearmouth	38.5	24			

The Newbie report

So Peter is away on a Christmas adventure spree
Thus the Newbie report has fallen to me
Opportunity to lie, bend the truth and even to brag
Like did you know at Cervantes the Newbies got a full bag

White Hills was the chosen venue
Toothy sea critters were on the menu
It was only my third club fish
To catch one or two my only wish

Ken and I arrived on Friday with a great wind blowing
My dreams of tons of fish slowing
I managed to put up my swag
In seconds sand filled up the whole bag

Setting up camp had me pulling at my hair
Sand had me living in despair
We couldn't sit or stand around
Without instantly being covered in ground

Later, Ken, Gary and I sat and had a chat
In the howling wind we sat
Deciding it wasn't any fun to cast a line
The call for sleep came at the perfect time

In no time I was fast sleep
In what seemed like seconds the alarm started to beep
I first listened for the wind, it was no more
I did however hear the sounds of a Ken snore

Gary was up and had a first throw
An immediate bite and a tailor was in tow
Filletted and straight into a hot pan
Fresher breakfast cannot be found by any man

Later in the day the Wessels arrived via CB in
spectacular style
Always a warm greeting and a friendly smile
Hulle sal ons nooit vertstaan as on praat van geheime
plekke
En groot visse was eet so lekker

Now we had to wait to start at 2
A few hours to find out what was biting is what we
decided to do
Now as the hour to go drew close
The wind decided to give us another dose

We toiled until at 10 we had enough
Holding 14 foot rod upright in that wind was tough
We had caught herring, whiting, a shark and a tailor or
two
But that wind, well even a huge mulloway wouldn't have
stopped me feeling blue

Back in my sleeping bag and off to dream land
All was ok except for my teeth still crunching sand
If the morning wasn't calm
The word I would use wasn't darn

Early on I got a big bite and solid run
I can say my first ever stingray was a lot of fun
Putting him back had me turning pale
I was terrified of that spiky horrid tail

A quick tailor and 100 more herring were caught
Cast herring, cast herring, one day I'll show you the lure I
recently bought
Soon it was time to start the big pack
Time to finish the event and head back

The weigh in saw Peter put down a huge bag
The word I used wasn't shag
Was he fishing in a different sea
The fish he caught were all bigger and different to me

Not to outdone you should have seen Sandra, Peet and
Ray
There isn't much more for me to say
I will say with the utmost pluck
The word I used wasn't duck

Too see big mulloway was a total treat
Huge slabs of shining silver fish meat
I am not going to tell a lie
They were more beautiful than a Miami Bake House pie

All too soon it was time to say farewell
Off to our homes, no more tales to tell
I had some time on the homeward drive to think
How the weekend was like a soul quenching cold drink

It was a big decision to leave our South African home
There are days when I feel so alone
It's not easy leaving for a foreign land
But I'm starting to love my feet being in your white sand

Each time I get together with a fellow club member
There are memories and laughs to remember
So as I ponder my family's fates
I know they will be golden with my new Aussie mates

So on to next month and a new place to fish
Big mulloway and sharks on the dish
I can't wait for the continued fun
Of our adventures under the Australian sun

Newbie Mark Nurse

Field Day sections 2014/15

Up to and including December 2014 Field Day.

1A	Best scale fish (1st six months)	George Holman	Mulloway	15.6kg	August
1B	Best scale fish (2nd six months)	Ray Walker	Mulloway	2.19kg	December
2	Most meritorious fish	To be awarded by Committee			
3	Best Shark (4.5kg min)				
4	Best Mulloway (2.0kg min)	George Holman	Mulloway	15.6kg	August
5	Best Tailor (1.0kg min)	George Holman	Tailor	1.51kg	September
6	Best Salmon (3kg min)	Peter Osborne	Salmon	4.08kg	May
7	Best Skipjack Trevally (0.5 kg min)	Theo Van Niekerk	Skipjack Trevally	1.11kg	August
8	Best Mackerel (2kg min)				
9	Best Yellowtail Kingfish, Samson or Amberjack (4kg min)	Theo Van Niekerk	Yellowtail Kingfish	2.79kg	August
10	Best scale fish (other than above)	Martin Wearmouth	Dart	0.96kg	September
11	Best bag of scale fish	Peter Osborne	Mixed bag	19.56kg	May
12	Best bag of Mulloway (2 fish min)	Peet Wessels	Mulloway	3.99kg	December
13	Best bag of Tailor (2 fish min)	George Holman	Tailor	7.96kg	September
14	Best fish on single handed rod (4kg line max)	Martin Wearmouth	Tarwhine	0.64kg	September
15	Best fish caught on fly rod				
16	Best fish caught on single handed rod (4kg line max) and a soft plastic lure				
17	Best fish caught on single handed rod (4kg line max) and a hard body lure				

Field day spreadsheet developer, Terry Fuller