



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

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### **February field day Cervantes/Jurien 15/16 February**

**Synopsis.** The February 2014 field day was spread from Jurien to Cervantes with members fishing the Hill River area, south of the car park and south point at Jurien.

Generally weather conditions were good however only small catches were made with only a few people finding schools of either tailor or herring from these locations. No one fished locally.

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.

In summary, the field day location at Cervantes, particularly the Saturday evening, gave small catches of tailor and odd herring at the various locations. Hence some smiles at the weigh-in as we all had a feed of fish.

**The trip.** The sign on at the Cervantes Service Station was at 12:30 pm Saturday 15 February with lines down at 2pm and fishing through until Sunday 16 February. The usual lines up at 10am with the weigh-in conducted at 11:30am at the sign-on location.

A total of 13 SCAC anglers came to the away sign-on. George Holman, Pat McKeown, Dean Stewart, Martin Wearmouth, Shane and daughter Sarah Wignell, Victor and Slavka Schilo, Gary Parkinson, Peet and Sandra Wessels, Ken Howells and Peter Osborne. No Surfcasters attended the local field day.

The team of Pat McKeown, Dean Stewart and George Holman first looked at the asphalt/gravel road to the car park around the corner from the dog beach, but the water in front of the beach had sanded out, was dirty and shallow so they headed to where they knew Peter, Slavka and Victor would be fishing.

Driving past and checking on activity, looking as though other fishers were not having any success, they drove further down the track and on to the beach about half a kilometre around the corner from the dog beach/sandy point just south of the Jurien township.

All was quiet during the afternoon but as dusk settled in, the tailor turned up, most were finicky biters not the usual tailor aggressive hits. George managed to get 5 tailor, Pat and Dean got 3 each.

George fished hard after dark and managed to land 3 more tailor for his tailor bag limit and also 3 herring. Their efforts in the morning gave nil results.

When the sign on started, Peter tried the Jurien Marina. This calm stretch of water has been noted for capture of sand whiting and bream. Immediate action: in the first 20 minutes of fishing, 12 tarwhine were landed, but all returned as they were in the 18 to 20 cm size range.

A 28 cm tailor was also caught on a small hook and a piece of worm, and this also returned to the water to grow a bit larger. About 2:30 pm, Victor and Slavka Schilo and Peter Osborne tried about half a kilometre around the corner from the dog beach/sandy point just south of the Jurien township.

Highlight was that mid-afternoon; Slavka landed a tarwhine which just made the legal size of 25 cm. Hence Slavka has the 10th fish to qualify her for the SCAC species badge.



*Slavka puts her bag across the scales.  
What is this fish?*



*Yep, Slavka it's a tarwhine,  
you now have fish species number 10  
for your Species Badge.*

All was quiet during the afternoon but as the sun approached and dropped over the horizon the tailor turned up, most were finicky biters not the usual tailor aggressive hits. Peter managed to get 6 tailor; Slavka landed 3 plus her tarwhine and Victor 2 plus 1 herring. Not a big tailor run as it lasted only an hour but this spot did not let us down on catching tailor.

Slavka's skill level is improving and this time she showed her husband how to fish.

Peter Osborne managed to pull a hamstring towards the end of the tailor session which effectively ended his fishing activity for the weekend.

Martin Wearmouth, Shane and Sarah Wignell together with Peet and Sandra Wessels went to their favourite location a couple of kilometres south of the Hill River access car park. Tailor were very scarce with only Sandra and Peet getting 1 tailor each, but the herring made a better showing. Peet and Sandra also landed 11 and 9 herring each respectively. Martin managed a bag of 11 herring, Shane managed the biggest bag of 13 herring, and unfortunately Sarah managed only 3 herring. It is noted that this piece of beach yielded reasonable bags of herring.

The feeding activity for these fish captures generally correlated with the sun lunar prime times, in particular the 2 pm start gave good action for most fish being captured in this first hour, then the light switch went out. A few more herring caught around 8 pm on Saturday night, and a few at 7 to 8 am on Sunday morning. Of course a few northwest blowies were also landed or lines retrieved with no hooks. Based on previous efforts and field days at this particular location it was very disappointing not to have schools of tailor arrive at sundown.

At about 8 pm Peter Osborne joined Ken Howells and Gary Parkinson at a clearing halfway between the Hill River car park and the mouth of Hill River. On arriving there in the dark to bed down for the night, Peter joined Ken and Gary to watch some members of another club about 50 metres south of where we were standing getting some real excitement.

Apparently they had caught a few herring in the afternoon, dug a large hole in the sand, put in a plastic liner and filled the hole with water and placed the live herring into their pond. After dark they put out some live herring. When Peter arrived to join the duo, two of their club members were hooked into large animals. Apparently one was a large ray that they busted off, but they did land the other. From where we were standing and what we could make out a whaler shark of about 7 feet.

Ken managed a small bag of just 1 tailor and 1 herring and Gary managed hook-ups to land 2 tailor. As for most, Sunday morning was deficient of fish.

However there was one departure from this, the club fishing just south of Ken and Gary had a school of tailor concentrated just in front of their group. From what was observed, all or nearly all caught a bag limit of tailor. Both Ken and Gary could not raise a bite despite being only some 50 to 70 metres further north. Peter Osborne managed a sleep and got up when the sun came up, but then returned to Jurien to take it easy and have a good cup of coffee. From all reports from field day attendees, not fishing Sunday morning was a good decision.



Peet, what's in your bag?



Peet's bag of quality herring

Fish capture results and the top scorers are listed elsewhere in Reel Talk.

Everyone was pleased that they had a feed of fish.

However bag sizes were well down on expectations for this venue and only three different species of fish came across the weigh-in table.



The members at Cervantes.

Left to right.

Peet Wessels,  
Gary Parkinson,  
Pat McKeown,  
Martin Wearmouth,  
Sarah Wignell,  
Shane Wignell,  
George Holman,  
Ken Howells,  
Peter Osborne,  
Dean Stewart,  
Victor and Slavka Schilo.

Hope to see you at our March field day at Bluff Creek, high expectations for this venue.

Tight lines

Field Day Officer, Peter Osborne

### **Catch results and points for February Field Day**

Angler	Weight	Species	Fish	Points
George Holman	3.63kg	2	11	76.3
Peter Osborne	2.82kg	1	6	58.2
Peet Wessels	1.81kg	2	12	58.1
Sandra Wessels	1.42kg	2	10	54.2
Slavka Schilo	1.96kg	2	15	49.6
Victor Schilo	0.9kg	2	3	49
Martin Wearmouth	1.6kg	1	11	46
Shane Wignell	1.41kg	1	13	44.1
Ken Howells	0.35kg	2	2	43.5
Dean Stewart	1.25kg	1	3	42.5
Pat McKeown	1.19kg	1	3	41.9
Gary Parkinson	0.72kg	1	2	37.2
Sarah Wignell	0.36kg	1	3	23.6

Points include Field day and February General meeting points.

Species weighed at the Field day were tailor, herring and tarwhine.

### **Sportsperson of the Year section winners for February 2014**

Best scale fish	Peter Osborne	Tailor	0.67 kg
Best bag of scale fish	George Holman	Mixed Bag	3.63 kg

### **Field day section winners for February 2014**

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Best bag of scale fish	George Holman	Mixed Bag	3.63 kg