



Surf Casting and Angling Club of WA (Inc.)

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November field day Swan and Canning rivers

Synopsis. The November 2013 field day was in the Swan and Canning Rivers with members fishing various spots in both systems. The SCAC competition was run in parallel with the AAAWA State Estuary titles.

Weather was exceptionally comfortable with the fish not being too aggressive or on the bite, only a few bream, whiting, yellowtail grunter and flathead were caught. Some persons did not get a fish to 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 results. The sign on was at the November General meeting or by telephone. Peet and Sandra Wessels, Mark Hansen, Peter Pekaar fished together with his son Andrew and brother Robert, the latter two only fishing the AAA competition and not the field day, George Holman and Pat McKeown fished together as did John Crompton, Allan Jones, Gary Parkinson, Ken Howells, and Jeff Hewton. Peter Osborne and Martin Wearmouth fished together on Saturday. Greg Keet and his kids, Felicity, Morgan and Olivia, fished on Sunday morning, but did not find fish.

Peter Pekaar, Andrew and Robert did poorly on flathead. On Saturday afternoon, they all fished together at the Rossmoyne area. In windy conditions using lures, they waded the flats and managed to land only one flathead. Very disappointing, as Peter Pekaar and Peter Osborne had been doing research for the couple of weeks beforehand in anticipation of getting quality bags not only for the SCAC field day but for the AAA Estuary competition. In various test runs to multiple locations, we felt we had eliminated some spots but identified ones that were working. But as above and the following results confirm this research did not come up with the fish captures we were anticipating.

Peet and Sandra Wessels went well up river to various spots chasing bream, with lots of hours expended, where a few fish caught but all were undersize. Based on my very early capture of a bream and a telephone conversation with Peet, they pulled up stakes from their current spot closer to Guildford and they joined us (Peter Osborne and Martin Wearmouth) at Bayswater. They managed some undersize bream and surprise, Peet landed a very much undersize tailor shows river is healthy to capture such a fish this far upriver. They moved out of this spot when we left and as Sandra was not feeling great they decided not to continue fishing.

When Martin and I were fishing this spot we realized George and Pat had set up at a different access point some 50 metres downstream. George and Pat did not find any fish here so moved to Maylands, where they found plenty of undersize fish with George getting a size bream and a Pat a good size flathead and a yellowtail grunter. The latter is eligible for the AAA competition but is not currently on the SCAC species listing. George and Pat also turned up where we were tailor fish as we were leaving, but their effort also resulted in nil sized fish.

They then went down to Fremantle and late at night they found some whiting. Pat captured one that went 0.18 kg gilled and gutted which is a great for this species. George also got one just a few grams smaller.

After their whiting session, as it was late they decided to pack up and go home for sleep, waking up in time to attend the weigh-in.

Pat is still not looking after George well enough. At the bream spot adjacent to Martin and me, Pat walked past a tree with a wild bee hive, he alerted the bees and with George close behind, guess who got badly stung on the ear.....ouch.

Our larger troupe of John Crompton, Jeff Hewton, Gary Parkinson, Ken Howells, and Allan Jones, gave Chidley Point a good work-over. Again they fished till late, but being empty handed they all decided they had had enough and decided to retire from the competition and get some sleep.

However for a short period there was some excitement. After dark, Allan Jones was on with a big fish. Initially the battle was thought to involve a good mulloway, but after a while it was behaving not in accordance with this call and upon retrieving turned out to be a blue spot ray. Not using the George Holman's. method of release, they cut the line and allowed it to swim off.

Mark Hansen tried his usual flathead spots and he managed three small ones on lures but could not entice any other species.

The Keets tried a couple of places on Sunday morning, but no fish. Like all of us, using baits resulted in blowies.

Martin and I started at one of Peter Pekaar's favourite spots at Rossmoyne. Thinking the wind a bit high, and potentially to get worse we went to the other side of the Canning river to Salter Point. On arriving and walking down to the sandbar point, we saw lots of silver flashes in the water. Initially we thought they were a school of tailor, but on closer examination turned out to be yellowtail grunter. They would not touch a bait, nor could we find a flathead interested in our lures.

Hence we decided to move to a bream spot in Bayswater, a spot provided by Victor. On arriving and using a piece of mullet for bait in less than 5 minutes I had a size bream.



Martin Wearnmouth's flathead and black bream caught on the very small lure shown.

Less than five minutes later another bream but a centimetre undersize, however within minutes, Martin using a small lure also captured a size bream. We both thought Christmas had come as we thought were going to experience a hot bream session - was not to be. The inactive fishing period for the afternoon was only broken up by arrival of the Wessels and George and Pat. Late afternoon we started to think about shifting, Martin said just one more cast, and with the same lure he landed a good flathead.

We then went to the Applecross Jetty and arriving just before dark we tried for tailor. With a nearly 3 hour session, again plenty of blowies with the few tailor landed being undersize. I managed one close to 29 cm, but just not good enough.

Martin and I decided to part company and have a look around before retiring to bed for a few hours' sleep. I had a look around the Narrows Bridge, but there appeared to be no action so I crossed this off my list for an early morning start.

The following morning Martin got up a little later than he had planned and went to the Narrows, but only action came from some fellows already there that had caught undersize tailor on Mr Twisty lures. He could not extract any tailor or any other species prior to going to the weigh-in.

I had climbed out of bed at 3:40am to fish Sunday morning. I arrived at North Fremantle by 4:45am, tried a couple of places, Rocky bay and then the south side at the Traffic Bridge, looking for tailor, skippy or tarwhine, but to no avail, only heaps of blowies.

All of us returning to Troy Park for the weigh-in ran into traffic flow problems due to a big bicycle tournament. Not a major problem as most had left plenty of time to get back due to the poor fishing conditions.

Summary of results

SCAC Field Day. The heaviest bag of fish was closely contested. Fortunately our small scales had just been calibrated and were used to compare the weights. Pat was the winner as his bag weighed 0.622kg with Martin's bag weighing 0.620kg, a close call but good on you Pat.

However not to be outdone and again with a close call on weight, Martin had a 0.34kg flathead and Pat had a 0.32kg flathead, a win for Martin for the heaviest fish.

AAA Estuary Competition. One of the best participations by Surfcasters, 15 persons involved, plus the Keets fishing in the SCAC competition.

While not making any headway in the Juniors, Ladies or Seniors, can proudly say that our Veterans can hold their heads high. The SCAC Veterans team are now the current Estuary team Champion for 2013, and another great result our Social Officer as he must know how to fish as he is in now the current Veterans State Estuary Champion Angler. Congratulations Pat McKeown.

Hope to see you at our December field day at White Hills.

Tight lines



Introducing the new Veterans State Estuary Champion Angler

From Surfcasters, Mr Pat McKeown

Field Day Officer, Peter Osborne

November field day Local

There was no separate local field day for November.

Catch results and points for November 2013 Field Day

Angler	Weight	Species	Fish	Points
Martin Wearmouth	0.62kg	2	2	46.2
Pat McKeown	0.62kg	2	3	46.2
George Holman	0.48kg	2	3	44.8
Mark Hansen	0.52kg	1	3	35.2
Peter Osborne	0.25kg	1	1	32.5
Allan Jones				20
Gary Parkinson				20
John Crompton				20
Ken Howells				20
Peter Pekaar				20
Peet Wessels				20
Sandra Wessels				20
Felicity Keet				10
Greg Keet				10
Jeff Hewton				10
Morgan Keet				10

Points include Field day and November General meeting points.

Species weighed at the Swan and Canning Rivers field day: flathead, bream, yellowfin whiting.

Sportsperson of the Year section winners for November 2013

Best scale fish	Martin Wearmouth	Flathead	0.34 kg
Best bag of scale fish	Pat McKeown	Mixed Bag	0.62 kg

Field day section winners for November 2013

Best scale fish	Martin Wearmouth	Flathead	0.34 kg
Best bag of scale fish	Pat McKeown	Mixed Bag	0.62 kg

Field Day top scores for 2013/14

Total scores up to and including November 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	458.9	1	Peter Pekaar	111.7	12	Wendy Hansen	37.3	23
Peter Osborne	404.5	2	Justin Rose	106.8	13	Sarah Wignell	31.3	24
Sandra Wessels	376.7	3	Frank Rystenber	100.8	14	Slavka Schilo	30	25
Theo Van Niekerk	310.2	4	Allan Jones	86.5	15	Christian Wearmouth	20	26
Pat McKeown	293	5	Matt Howells	76.9	16	Raymond Walker	20	27
Ken Howells	287.4	6	Victor Schilo	54.1	17	Thomas Wearmouth	20	28
Martin Wearmouth	280.5	7	Dean Stewart	51.7	18	Felicity Keet	10	29
George Holman	259.1	8	Gerald Wearmouth	51	19	Jeff Hewton	10	30
Mark Hansen	231.8	9	John Crompton	50	20	Morgan Keet	10	31
Gary Parkinson	152.7	10	Shane Wignell	49.2	21	Neil Maxted	10	32
Greg Keet	124.2	11	Ian Taggart	38.6	22	Tino Baiardo	10	33

Field Day sections 2013/14

Up to and including November 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)	Martin Wearmouth	Flathead	0.34 kg	November
14	Best fish caught on fly rod				