



Surf Casting and Angling Club of WA (Inc.)

PO Box 2834, Malaga WA 6944

ABN 29 925 237 020

Telephone 08 9209 2117 Email surfcast@iinet.net.au

Club Web page <http://www.surfcasters.iinet.net.au>

Field Day report Cervantes October 2012

Synopsis. The October 2012 field day was spread from Jurien to Cervantes with the majority of persons fishing the Hill river area. Mixed catches resulted from these locations. Some persons, who thought they would fish locally, looked at weather on Saturday afternoon and gave it away based on weather and weed.

In summary, for the field day location at Cervantes, particularly the Sunday morning, resulted in good catches of tailor and I have not seen so many smiles at the weigh in for a long time.

The Trip. The sign on at the Hill River car park was at 11 am Saturday 15 October with lines down at noon with fishing through until through Sunday with the weigh-in at 11:00 at the same car park. A total of 15 Anglers signed on. (George Holman, Pat McKeown, Greg and son Morgan Keet, Martin Wearmouth, Shane and daughter Sarah Wignell, Peet and Sandra Wessels, Victor and Slavka Schilo, Mark Hansen, Eddie and Debbie Korin and Peter Osborne.

Pat McKeown and George Holman tried the sandy point just south of the Jurien township. All was quiet during the afternoon but as dusk arrived, the tailor turned up. George tried for shark with a heavier outfit and before long he was on – but it turned out to be a ray. Here goes the low point of the weekend. George was turning the ray upside down to take the hooks out but did not distance himself correctly. The ray whipped its tail around and buried its tail spike in to the bone just above the ankle. Anyone that has been spiked by a ray will tell you the pain is excruciating.

Pat took George to the local medical centre and after a wait for a nurse he was given appropriate attention, as for the majority of marine stings, hot water is part of the solution to relieve the pain. Hence George spent part of Saturday night sitting under a hot shower. This curtailed George's and Pat's fishing time but they did have some tailor. Despite the wound becoming more aggressive a few days later, you can't hold a good man down and George is now up and about.

Greg and his son Morgan tried the jetty at Jurien, but fish were scarce there. The usual pike showed up as well as a couple of herring. When they saw the tailor the rest of the members caught, they recognized they had chosen the wrong spot.



The Wessels know how to catch Tailor



Sandra's bragging rights - a 1.0 + kg flathead

The rest of us fished from the mouth of the Hill River to Cervantes. Mark went to his usual spot, south of the river mouth, Black Point, but found it badly weeded and water brown from the weed run-off. He then went to the jetty at Cervantes and was the only one of us to get into some herring and a few pike. On coming back to the beaches south of Hill River on Sunday morning, he managed a good bag of tailor. He had good average weight of tailor and had the second heaviest bag overall of 5.9 kg.

The Wessels fished hard and both got their bag limit of tailor. Peet's bag had slightly heavier tailor on average than Sandra, plus he had some skippy, herring and a flounder, however Sandra's bag was heavier due to a couple of good skippy and some quality flathead. One of her flathead went 0.97 kg gutted – a really good flathead from the shore. Flathead tails are one of my favourite fish meals.

Just to confirm that the womenfolk know how to fish, the Korins also had a good session on tailor, with Debbie getting a respectable bag of tailor of 4.48 kg, while Eddie's bag of also 8 tailor was 3.74 kg. Eddie, your lady is going to give you a run for your money with skills like that. Like the rest of us, some had much higher averages tailor weights and at least one much larger than others. Debbie managed to land, on average, the bigger fish.

However, while Slavka had a slightly heavier maximum size tailor than Victor, Victor's average weight of tailor was better than his wife's giving him a bag weight of 4.1 kg. There has been a friendly feud between this couple on field days since they joined the club, but finally Victor was able to show his wife how it could be done, albeit his bag was only 0.26 kg heavier than Slavka's. It's great to see newcomers to the club get their share of fish via a hot tailor bite, and able to enjoy some good fish dinners in the following days.

Martin Wearmouth also managed a good bag of tailor plus 3 skippy. One of the latter went 0.60 kg cleaned. He was trying to repeat an effort of 3 days earlier than our field day. With school holidays the preceding week, he took his boys up to Jurien. This particular evening, as a tryout for tailor, instead of fishing in his usual spots at or close to the mouth of the river he turned left at the car park and tried a beach further south.

Just before dark, he telephoned me and advised there were some weed, but with a balmy night, he was enjoying catching tailor. Apparently on finishing the call and settling down to get some more tailor, whack – a fish of a lifetime. When you catch your first ever pink snapper, it's not something you will ever forget. Of course he could not duplicate this on the field day – but what a fish. He managed to capture this fish a few days before the snapper /demersal closure date.

Continuing the man/woman fishing skills comparisons, Sarah Wignell had to relent and let her dad get a bigger bag of fish than hers. Traditionally she has out fished her dad by a fair margin but not so on this field day. Sarah had a good bag of 8 tailor and a good skippy, however Shane had not only a heavier bag of tailor, but some herring, skippy and flathead. Shane's bag at a total of 7.3 kg was the heaviest for the field day, plus he also had the heaviest tailor at 1.07 kg cleaned. Congratulations to Shane for this excellent effort.



Martin's 5.2 kg Pink Snapper caught 10 Oct before the Field day



Shane's biggest tailor – 1.1 + kg

Now my story goes as follows: - Following sign-on, on arriving at the mouth of the Hill River and getting my rod set up with mulie bait and into the water at 12:05 pm, I managed a tailor by 12:10pm. Continuing I had 5 species by a little after 1 pm. I thought that despite the wind and weed it looked like shaping up to a good weekend.

Not so, nothing much happened over the rest of the afternoon. Adding to the species caught by 1 pm, I managed odd skippy, whiting, herring, flathead (just size) and a good tarwhine all caught on 3/0 ganged hooks.

Then a few tailor and a pike just on dusk, followed by some interesting action starting at 8 pm just when I thought of giving it away. First hit, a mulloway, but at 48 cm it was just under legal minimum size of 50 cm.

Despite trying and wishing of getting into a good size mulloway I only managed a catch and release on another 7 mulloway, all between 42 and 45 cm. Gee they are a magnificent looking fish at this size, a perfectly shaped, polished silver specimen. With no size fish coming in I pulled gear up, had bite to eat and retired for the night about 9:30 pm.

The wind had dropped considerably on dark and the following morning, at sunup, (5:30 am) wind very light and nearly all the weed had shifted off the beach. I poured myself cereal for breakfast, then walked down and put two rods out with tailor set-ups. I turned my back to sit in my chair to have my breakfast and watch the rod tips. I didn't get to eat my breakfast until an hour and a half later. As soon as I turned around and looked at my rods, both were rattling away. Boy did the tailor come on. Like all the others that were fishing the beaches south of me, we were really into a hot tailor bite. I immediately switched to one rod only as when the bait hit the water or no longer than a minute later there was a tailor bite.

It was great to have Surfcasters get into such a hot bite. Most had a bag of 8 tailor where the bag weights of tailor ranged from about 4.0 kg to 5.6kg. Review of the past few months show that Peet and Sandra Wessels and I tended to dominate catches, but this weekend the scores were very close and I can see some competition coming up with some of the newer members. As noted above, Shane Wignell had the heaviest bag and the heaviest fish, followed by Mark Hansen with the second heaviest bag of 5.9 kg.

The top ten fisherpersons are listed elsewhere in Reel Talk. The bulk of the points scored for each field day derive from the weight of the fish put across the weigh-in scales. As you are aware, attendance at the General meetings and field day attendance also give extra points, plus additional points are added for the number of different species. I managed to just scrape ahead of Shane on points only because I had 7 species, whereas Shane had 4, even though he had the heavier bag.

But close behind on points were Mark, George, Martin, Peet and Sandra, Eddie and Debbie, and Victor and Slavka, and then further down were Pat and Greg. Morgan fished hard but the venue chosen, Jurien jetty, was deficient of fish, however he did manage a good pike so he gets the Mini Junior certificate.



Sarah also had a good bag that was right up there with the top scores of seniors and like last month gets a well-deserved Junior Certificate.

Sarah is presented with her Junior Certificate and prize for the September Field day effort. She had a great bag, despite September conditions being more severe than in October.

As you can see, lots of smiles from Surfcasters as a result of a hot tailor bite on our field day weekend.

From left to right: Victor Schilo, George Holman, Greg Keet, Morgan Keet, Pat McKeown, Eddie Korin, Debbie Korin, Peet Wessels, Sandra Wessels, Peter Osborne, Sarah Wignell, Martin Wearmouth, Shane Wignell, Slavka Schilo



All smiles at the weigh-in.

We will be going to Cervantes again for the November field day and hopefully with less wind and weed all gone by then, all anglers should be able to more than duplicate fish caught from our October field day. Hope to see you at our November field day at Cervantes

Tight lines

Field Day Officer, Peter Osborne

Sportsperson of the Year winners for October 2012

Best scale fish	Shane Wignell	Tailor	1.07 kg
Best bag of scale fish	Shane Wignell	Mixed Bag	7.30 kg

Field day section winners for October 2012

Best scale fish	Shane Wignell	Tailor	1.07 kg
Best bag of scale fish	Mark Hansen	Mixed Bag	5.90 kg

Catch results and points for October Field Day

Angler	Weight	Species	Fish	Points
Peter Osborne	5.77 kg	7	16	177.7
Shane Wignell	7.3 kg	4	14	163
Peet Wessels	5.1 kg	4	13	141
Sandra Wessels	5.49 kg	3	12	134.9
Mark Hansen	5.9 kg	3	25	129
George Holman	4.78 kg	2	8	117.8
Martin Wearmouth	5.59 kg	2	11	115.9
Sarah Wignell	4.7 kg	2	9	107
Debbie Korin	4.48 kg	1	8	104.8
Victor Schilo	4.1 kg	1	8	101
Slavka Schilo	3.84 kg	1	8	98.4
Eddie Korin	3.74 kg	1	8	97.4
Pat McKeown	1.7 kg	2	5	87
Greg Keet	0.46 kg	2	3	74.6
Morgan Keet	0.13 kg	1	1	51.3

Points include Field day and October General meeting points. Species weighed at the Cervantes Field day were tailor, Australian herring, skipjack trevally, flathead, whiting (other), flounder, tarwhine and long finned pike.

Field Day top scores for 2012/13

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 2013, and adjusted scores will be published after that.

Name	Points	Rank	Name	Points	Rank	Name	Points	Rank
Peter Osborne	1152.9	1	Shane Wignell	255.3	11	Josh Gorringe	99	21
Peet Wessels	862.4	2	Francis Ford	251.8	12	Eddie Korin	97.4	22
Sandra Wessels	669.9	3	Ian Taggart	242.3	13	Justin Rose	65.1	23
George Holman	613.5	4	Sarah Wignell	226.4	14	Geoff Raftis	59.7	24
Mark Hansen	389.2	5	Theo Van Niekerk	177.6	15	Beverley Grigo	40	25
Slavka Schilo	327.8	6	John Crompton	167	16	Raymond Walker	40	26
Martin Wearmouth	324.2	7	Morgan Keet	160.8	17	Chris Stickells	34.5	27
Pat McKeown	298.8	8	Wendy Hansen	116.2	18	Christian Wearmouth	22.2	28
Greg Keet	295.1	9	Francis Gaudin	115.7	19	Thomas Wearmouth	21	29
Victor Schilo	289.2	10	Debbie Korin	104.8	20	Allan Jones	20	30

Cervantes October 2012 Field Day

Cervantes was to be our first overnight “camping” field day. We had promised our grandson Zavier, that we would take him on this adventure. Not being “camping people” we approached this challenge with our usual over the top methodology. First things first, what do we need? We started off by purchasing a tent, then an air mattress, camping table, stove, kettle and most importantly an ensuite tent and toilet.

Having never set up a tent and knowing how difficult, following instruction sheets, I enlisted Zavier’s assistance in a trial run. If you ever missed seeing the Keystone Cops, you could have caught all the action on this trial setup. I fail to understand why it is so difficult to insert graphite poles into the correct sections of the tent. Finally the tent was up and to everyone’s surprise it looked similar to the picture on the box.



The loaded trailer, Victor, Eddie and Debbie

What else do we take and how do we fit all this into the X5? We needed my brother’s trailer. Now that we had the trailer, there was room for the ice box and Engel fridge/freezer plus anything else that may come in handy. Loaded up we looked as if we were moving house and not just going overnight.

We left at 6am on Saturday, picked up Zavier and off we went looking more like the Hillbilly Clampetts than two oldies taking their grandson fishing. Surprisingly the trip was very comfortable, we had breakfast at the Cervantes Road house and off to the Hill River car park. It’s just after 9am and there’s no one there. Are we at the right place? So I phoned George Holman to find out. Only to be told “No one will be there before 10.30”.

So that we could keep in touch, Slavka had exchanged phone numbers with Debbie and Eddie Korin and whilst I was on the phone with George, Eddie had left a message to say that they were in Cervantes. “Did you take the Korin’s phone numbers?” asked Slavka. Of course I hadn’t, so there was no way to return the call. Back to the road house we go where we run into Sandra and Peet Wessels and agreed to follow them back to the Hill River car park.

On arriving, we met up with Deb and Eddie and after the sign on, started looking for a place to setup camp. We drove up the north track where the X5 complete with trailer bogged in the sand. Luckily after letting down the tyre pressure I was able to get back on track. Picking a suitable fishing spot was a nightmare – weed everywhere.

We finally settled on an area where the weed was not too bad. Time to setup camp. Eddie and Deb had the ideal tent – it looked as if it went up by itself.

The wind was picking up and setting up our tent was a bit different from setting it up on the front lawn. Finally with a helping hand from Eddie we were nearly there. Needless to say the ensuite toilet was not put up, for it would have ended up in Kalgoorlie.

It was great to have Deb and Eddie camping next door and with the wind blowing a mini gale and the weed moving every time you looked at it, we decided to have a cup of tea.

The wind gradually increased and it started to rain. The weed was getting thicker and it looked as if fishing was out of the equation.



Victor and Eddie setting up the tent

At about 2pm I was ready to pack up and go home to a warm bed. But Xavier wanted to stay so stay we did.



Weed everywhere here

During the afternoon Eddie and I walked up and down the beach looking for an area where at least the weed was not as thick or wide.

At around 4.30pm we went back to the washed out boat ramp area where some locals were catching an occasional tailor.

Back to the camp, picked up the girls, Xavier and the fishing gear and finally threw in a line. It worked out to be a successful few hours with me landing 6 and Slavka 3 tailor.

Back to our camp, clean the fish, have dinner and off to bed.

I don't know if anyone has experienced trying to sleep on a queen size air bed but let me say it was an impossible task. If I moved, Slavka fell off and vice versa. The solution was to lay head to toe. Xavier had no problems in falling asleep he had his sleeping bag and mattress. Trying to sleep with the wind blowing a gale, the tent flapping all night made me realise why we were not "camping people". What a night, I could not wait for daylight.

The morning was a lot calmer and we noticed that Deb and Eddie were fishing back at the boat ramp. We rigged up and off we went.

Thankfully the tailor were on the bite and even Xavier landed a nice size tailor. Mark Hansen joined us and we soon had our bag limit.

It was great to catch up with everyone at the weigh in and hearing the stories of the night's catches. George recanted his unfortunate experience of being speared in the leg by a sting ray. We said our goodbyes and went our separate ways.



Xavier ready for the next bite

Once again I must say that one of the best things that we have done for a long time was to join this club. It has given us an opportunity to finally enjoy and share a hobby. Although sometimes I think that it's me sharing Slavka's hobby. All in all it was a great weekend with good fishing and best of all, great company.

The other thing that the weekend has shown is that apart from learning that one does not have to take everything including the kitchen sink, we are not cut out for tent type camping. In fact the tent, mattress and pump were sold on Tuesday.

Victor Schilo

Jurien holiday and Field day

3 months ago I was wondering what to do with the kids in the school holidays and where to go for a few days, I decided to go to Jurien Bay for 4 nights so I called the Tourist Park and booked a chalet for 4 days.

On Monday 8 October we packed the car and headed for Jurien. I arrived about 2pm and unpacked the car. Thomas and Christian had found the giant bouncy pillow in the park and were having so much fun that we did not go fishing that day.

On Tuesday I managed to get them into the car and headed off to Sandy Cape to see if we could find a good spot. On arrival we headed south along the beach but the wind was so strong that it was unfishable. We did some exploring along the beach and some tracks hoping for a protected spot or the wind to drop, but after 2 hours I decided that the wind was not going away and headed home empty handed,

On Wednesday I decided to head south to Hill River. On arrival I headed north and found that it had too much weed, so went back south and found a spot with no weed. Started fishing about 5pm and by 7pm we had 5 tailor and 1 herring and the kids were wanting to go. I started cleaning the fish and had my line in after a few missed fish and lost bait, at about 7.20pm the line took off.

I jumped up and set the hooks to find quite a bit of weight on the end. After 5 minutes and the fish still pulling and shaking I knew this was a good fish. Another 5 minutes saw a 66cm 5kg pink snapper come onto the beach. To say I was happy would be an understatement.

Then I thought "damn, when does the demersal ban start?" I rushed back to the car and checked the guide, it started on Monday 15/10, so this fish was mine.



Martin's 5.2 kg Pink Snapper caught before the Field day

Last day, Thursday and I headed back to Hill River to try again, no snapper but got 6 tailor and 5 nice skippy.

Hill River is my favourite fishing spot!

We headed back to Perth on Friday morning and left the kids at home. Then on Saturday I headed back to Hill River for the field day. On arrival Shane and I decided to fish together and we headed south to one of the spots I had fished.

The tailor started biting at 3.30pm and the bait was taken within a minute of it hitting the water.

This went on for about 2 hours and I had to release about 15 fish after getting my 8. I did get 3 skippy and 1 flounder. On Sunday morning I got 4 more tailor and 2 huge nor west blowies.



Matching tailor and skippy

Martin Wearmouth

Field Day sections 2012/13

Up to and including October 2012 Field Day.

1A	Best scale fish (1st six months)	Peet Wessels	Mulloway	7.8 kg	June
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)	Peet Wessels	Mulloway	7.8 kg	June
5	Best Tailor (1.0kg min)	Peter Osborne	Tailor	1.22 kg	Sep
6	Best Salmon (3kg min)	George Holman	Salmon	3.79 kg	Sep
7	Best Skipjack Trevally (0.5 kg min)	Peet Wessels	Skipjack Trevally	1.42 kg	Aug
8	Best Mackerel (2kg Min)				
9	Best scale fish (other than above)	Sandra Wessels	Yellowtail Kingfish	4.72 kg	Aug
10	Best bag of scale fish	Peter Osborne	Mixed Bag	15.04 kg	Aug
11	Best bag of Mulloway (2 fish Min)				
12	Best bag of Tailor (2 fish Min)	Shane Wignell	Tailor	5.59 kg	Oct
13	Best fish on S/H rod 4kg b/s line (max)				
14	Best fish caught on fly rod	Frank Gaudin	Wrasse	0.54 kg	May