



South Coast Fly Anglers



NEWSLETTER April 2019

Chairman: John New (039 681 3459) **Treasurer:** Stephen Brand (082 551 9010) **Liaison:** Pieter vd Merwe (083 543 7005)
Secretary and Records Clerk: Sean Tharratt (079 434 6168) **Scribe:** Arthur Cary (039 681 3274)
Member: Neil Scott (083 265 6608)

Preparing to cast.

As you see from above the list of committee members, Neil makes a very welcome return to the committee. With his input we are in for a great year. Make sure that you attend as many events as you can and stay abreast of what is on the go.
 This newsletter also has a couple of reports on recent happenings as well as a list of upcoming events.

Events Calendar

<u>Date</u>	<u>Outing</u>	<u>Venue</u>	<u>Time</u>
7 th April	Salt outing	Shelly Beach Ski Boat Club	06h00
9 th April	Fly tying Workshop	Neil's home	18h30
15 th April	Grub & travel meeting	Ski Boat Club	18h00
19 th to 22 nd April	Trout outing	Maclear	TBA
25 th April	Monthly meeting	Ski Boat Club	18h00 for 18h30

Long term planning includes: St Lucia from 19 August to 23rd August
 Richtersveld from 8th September to 19th September
 Compass Compo in Mountain Lake from 5th October to 6th October

Even though the following outings are not SCFA events, keep them in mind:
 Kokstad Trout Festival 3rd to 5th May.
 Matatiele Trout Compo. 15th to 17th June. The road to the lake is in very poor condition at present and this compo may be postponed, if the Matat. Municipality does not do the necessary repairs. We will remain in touch with the organisers and will give updates as they become available.

Coming Events.

On Sunday 7th April we will fish the Shelly Beach area. Park at the Ski Boat Club.

Fly tying workshop is on Tuesday 9th April at Neil's home. We will be tying the Papa Roach and a free style Crazy Charlie, i.e. a Charlie in the colours of your choice. These are the FotM for April.

The grub and travel meeting is being held at the Ski Boat Club on April 15th. This, in preparation for the trout trip to **Maclear, over the Easter week-end, 19th to 22nd April.** If you want to go, be there!!

The monthly meeting on **Thursday 25 April is at the Ski Boat Club.** Note the change of date. "Happy hour" is no longer as popular as it once was, so we will revert to the last Thursday of the month for our meetings. I hope that this encourages a few more members to attend.

Past Events.

SCFA trip to Hoatson's dam near Harding. Sunday 10th March. By Stephen Brand.

Neil, John, Arthur, Sean and (Mr. Late) Steve went on this outing. Dam is large, next to the road with a lovely braai place and afdak to sit under for lunch. Fish were small, averaging between 100 mm and 260 mm.



Water was clean with structure and weed in the water and most of the fish were caught within about 5 metres of the bank.

Results:

Neil 19 on a Mouse Fly and Nomad.

John 15 on Popper and Half-a-Chicken, an orange chenille "something-or-other" and Grass Hopper flies.

Sean 13 on Flipper and Black Bait Fish.

Arthur 5 on Speed Cop and Red Eye Damsel.

Steve 4 on a small green Woolly Bugger.

Total 56 fish.

Wattled Crane Outing. Thursday March 21st to Sunday 24th by Mitch Rorich.

Day 1.

Neil, Stan, Sakkie, John, Steve and Mitch travelled to Wattled Crane on the public holiday, intending to add an additional day to our usual weekend outings.

East Griqualand has experienced excellent rainfall recently and without the use of 4 x vehicles, access to the venue would have been a nightmare!

The cottage however, was as usual, immaculate, so we settled in and got onto the water in warm misty weather with the water temp. a surprising 18 degrees. The days fishing was excellent and produced 27 rainbows by sunset. John leading the score sheet with 12 fish in the bag. The others adding nicely to their personal tallies and Steve a beauty of 44 cms.

Day 2.

Weather was misty and cool with slight drizzle and a moderate breeze. Stan, Neil and John braved the conditions and put in two sessions producing 20 good rainbows. "Stayer Stan" leading the pack, with Neil and John doing their bit.

Day 3.

The sporadic misty, drizzly breezy weather persisted but the group put in two sessions producing 31 rainbows ranging from 1,7 kg to 800 gram stockies.

Day 4.

We awoke to a beautiful sunny morning with the lake a mirror! The trout however had lockjaw and only 5 stockies were landed. This was a reasonably short session and by 10 a.m. we were off the water and starting to pack for home.

Thanks to Neil as always, Steve and Stan, our meals were excellent with variety and flavour.

A varied selection of flies were used including Woolly Buggers, Papa Roaches, Red Setters, Brown Flying Ant, Marabou and Copper, Montanas and a few other buggers to add.

In general, conditions weren't ideal, but perseverance definitely produces good angling and the group ended a trying but thoroughly enjoyable outing with a final tally of 83 fish, all of which were released.

Pretty good methinks !!

Annual General Meeting. Wednesday 27th March.

Present: 14 members. (Slightly up on last year, but could have been better.).

Apologies: Pat, Bill, Bianca and Duane.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read by Sean and accepted.

John gave his Chairman's Report in which he thanked the committee for their efforts during the year, as well as the members for the improved attendance at meetings and outings, compared to last year, that is. He commended our juniors, Justin, Liam and Pieter for their accomplishments on the competitive fly fishing scene, and again stressed the need for SCFA to increase the number of members. (*We currently stand at 25, but a number of members normally do not renew membership at the end of the year, so we can expect a slight drop in numbers as a matter of course. Ed*)

Financial Report.

Although SCFA finances are down on those of last year, Treasurer, Steve, said that this is to be expected due to the sponsorship of the outings to Glen Cairn and to the Matatiele Compass Compo in October. (Total cost to the club for these two outings was over R6000.00.) (*He is doing his usual excellent job of curtailing expenses at present and the bank balance is again in a very healthy state. Well done Steve. Ed*)



Presentation of Awards. John presented Certificates of Merit to both Ken and David as they were absent (with permission) at the Prize Giving Braai. These awards were for fish caught last year.

Election of the Committee. Apart from Neil, who takes over from Dean, the rest of the committee were re-elected unopposed. Office bearers will be elected at the committee meeting on 2nd April.

Master-at-Arms. Fines dished out by the Master-at-Arms amounted to a tad over R950.00. Thanks to those who contributed. (Those who did not attend, will not get off Scott free, so when you defaulters next come to a meeting, you had better bring a wad of dosh.)

General.

Rob and Sakkie thanked John and the committee for the work done during the year.

Ken gave a brief account of the Schultz holiday to the Cape. He and David fished the famed Lakenvlei, hoping for a decent trout or two, but only managed a few bass.

At Velddrift however, they fared much better and landed a total of about 15 shad and a 40 cm garrick. These fish were chasing shoals of harders in the shallow water. Fishing early mornings and late afternoon, off the numerous jetties on the Berg River, using a long winged grey Crazy Charlie, proved ideal.

At Knysna, the fish were once again not co-operative at all and they blanked once again.

Neil has booked a campsite on the Orange River for the Richtersveld trip. The group will leave on Sunday 8th September and get back on Thursday 19th September.

Committee meeting. John's home. Tuesday 2nd April.

Allocation of Office Bearers. Office bearers were elected in the usual SCFA democratic manner, by every one electing to retain their previous portfolios. (See list at the head of this newsletter.)

Calendar for the next couple of months. This was sorted out up to the end of June. To give members a chance to plan, this will be circulated in a separate e-mail. Remember, if you would like to visit a particular venue, contact a committee member or better still, discuss it at a monthly meeting.

Fry, Fingerling and Stockie Stories.



Subs are due. Make sure that you pay your R110.00 before the end of April, to avoid being wiped off the list. Get hold of Steve now to avoid having to pay a R30.00 joining fee.



Cathy's banking details for the Wattled Crane Cottage have been changed. If you need these, get them from Pieter (083 543 7005)



The Kokstad Fly Fishing Club is holding their annual Festival over the week-end, 3rd to 5th May. This is a fund raising event to raise funds for stocking their dams. Contact Marius Jonker (082 322 1093) or Dave Raw ((083 267 8999) for details. Arthur has entry forms.

Last Cast.

Well, members of South Coast Fly Anglers, you once again had an opportunity to get me to shut up for a while, but since you missed out, you are in for another year of my blab in the newsletter.

There is actually an easy escape route, which I must say, has been used to good effect in past years. Do your bit in jotting down a few words on an outing and "Voila," you get a good article in the place of my bumph. I look forward to your contributions.

Cheers Arthur

