



## NEWSLETTER August 2021

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**Chairman:** John New (078 203 4549) **Treasurer:** Stephen Brand (082 551 9010) **Secretary:** Dick Plaistowe (082 453 8618)  
**Liaison and Records Clerk:** Pieter vd Merwe (083 543 7005) **Scribe:** Arthur Cary (039 681 3274) **Member:** Neil Scott (083 265 6608)

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### Preparing to cast.

Another packed calendar, so take advantage of the opportunity while you can.

### Events Calendar

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Venue</u>	<u>Time</u>
4 <sup>th</sup> August	Fly tying workshop	Neil's home	18h15 for 18h30
9 <sup>th</sup> August	Grub'n travel meeting	Buchaneer's restaurant	18h00
11 <sup>th</sup> August	Committee meeting	Dick's home	18h00
13 <sup>th</sup> to 15 <sup>th</sup> August	Trout outing	Valley Lakes	TBA
20 <sup>th</sup> to 27 <sup>th</sup> August	Saltwater outing	St Lucia & Cape Vidal	TBA
26 <sup>th</sup> August	Monthly meeting	Umtentweni Tennis Club	18h00 for 18h30
4 <sup>th</sup> to 12 <sup>th</sup> September	Yellow fish outing	Plato Lodge. Upington area	Very early
15 <sup>th</sup> September	Fly tying workshop	Neil's home	18h15 for 18h30
26 <sup>th</sup> September	Saltwater outing	Umtentweni beach	Early
30 <sup>th</sup> September	Monthly meeting	Umtentweni Tennis Club	18h00 for 18h30

### Coming Events.

The **fly tying workshop is at Neil's home on 4th August**. We will tie John's "Go To" bass fly and the saltwater Calamari. Recipes have been sent to members.

**The Grub 'n travel meeting for the Valley Lakes trip will be held at the Buchaneer's Restaurant on Monday 9th August at 18h00.**

We have a **committee meeting at Dick's home in Ramsgate on Wednesday 11th August.**

**The trout trip to Valley Lakes, in the Underberg area is from Friday 13th August to Sunday the 15th.**

There is a trip to **St Lucia and Cape Vidal from 20th to 27th September**. Accommodation is at Neil's time share in St Lucia. If you want to join him, contact him now on 083 265 6608.

**The monthly meeting is again at the 'Tweni Tennis Club on Thursday 26th August.**

### Past Events.

**Saltwater outing. Impenjati. Sunday 4th July.** By Sean Tharratt.

It was time for the Mpenjati outing. Sean and John were the first to arrive, much to their surprise. They rigged up rods and then Rob arrived. The river looked good, but the water was ice cold as we crossed it to get onto the beach.

We spread out across the surf, which had a few flat spots and a few spots with a side current, so we had to walk and look for a spot that was fishable. We almost swam a few times, as the waves were unpredictable and caught us off sides on occasions. Sean was lucky enough (some of it skill) to get three wave garrick in three casts!

Neil later arrived on the beach to give it a go. Closer to 10 am we decided that it was time to end the session and headed to the car park for coffee, snacks and a chat. At the car park we were greeted by Steve and Kevin. Steve was out of action as he had broken his foot. (I will let him tell you how that happened.) Whilst chatting, the fish were active in the river splashing and jumping around despite the cold water.

Sean 6 wave garrick on a Chartreuse Charlie. Rob 2 wave garrick on an Orange Charlie.

John 1 wave garrick on a White Surf Puff. Attendees were Sean, John, Neil, Rob, Sakkie, Steve and Kevin.



**A quick mid-week trip to Wattled Crane.** By Arthur Cary.

Arthur and his son, James, chose to fish Wattled Crane, only days before the coldest spell of the year hit KZN. Fortunately the unrest in the area had subsided when they left on Tuesday 20th July, arriving in glorious weather: sunny, warm and hardly a breath of wind.

Alas it was also a virtually fishless day, with only one beauty of possibly 3.0 kg caught by James on a self tied Speed Cop. (*Arthur is obviously a better coach than he is a tier of flies!!! Ed*) A few very soft takes and a couple of on-offs, but nothing to show for it.

The cool weather started to arrive during the night and Wednesday saw a cold east wind and morning temperatures of 2 deg; cold but fishable. The water was down to a chilly 8 deg. A fruitless morning was spent up in the shallows, so Arthur went out at about 1 pm and got 3 stockies in quick succession on a Flash Back Nymph near the inlet on the north bank. Needing back-up, he took about half an hour of hard kicking against a freshening wind to get back to the cottage and persuaded James to join in the fun, but by the time they returned to the hot-spot, it had cooled off and they only managed one more stockie on a Speed Cop. Fishing the deep section for the rest of the afternoon, on the west side of the dam, resulted in a couple on hook-ups, but the wily fish, swimming strongly towards the offending rod, did not allow the anglers to keep the lines tight and they escaped. We both headed for the warmth of the cottage at about 16h30, as the wind had now switched to the west and was unpleasant, to say the least.

The wind continued to howl all night and by morning the mercury had dropped to minus 2 deg. and with the strong westerly, a suspended thermometer saw it down to minus 8!! Totally unfishable, so we packed up and headed for home.

Our return trip was not uneventful however, as we could make no headway up the hill, towards the wattle trees, adjacent to the centre pivots. These had worked the previous day and although frozen that morning, the wet clay road- surface provided us with absolutely no traction and we had to get the assistance of a tractor to pull us out of a ditch. It was interesting to watch our saviour coming slowly down the decline and being unable to stop, as the rear wheels locked on braking and it just slid over the greasy surface.

Not a very successful trip as far as numbers of fish are concerned, but still very, very enjoyable. We will be back.

**Outing to the Marina Beach. Sunday 25th July.** By Arthur Cary.

Despite the unfavourable weather forecast, Ken, David, Sean, Rob, John, Ian and Arthur chose to try their luck in the surf at Marina Beach. Paula, Marion and Steve, with his broken foot in a huge brace, came to help carry the booty.

Ken was the most successful with 4 Wave Garrick, David got 3, John 2 and Ian landed one. Arthur, Sean and Rob blanked, despite trying various patterns and colours. All anglers had many "touches" which can, unfortunately, not be registered in the Catch Record Book. Small consolation, that the numerous bait anglers, fishing off the rocks, were also having very little success. "Very little" translating to "Nil."

Fly pattern and colour did not really seem to matter as white, orange and chartreuse Charlies, Surf Puffs and Orange Ruffies. were successful.

After giving it a good go for a couple of hours, we all retired to the local Mariner's Restaurant, where a hearty breakfast of hamburger, hake and chips or toasted sandwiches was enjoyed.

Marina Beach, like most of the beaches in the south, is very flat and fishing was actually a delight. No holes for John and Arthur to take a tumble. Sorry chaps, no laughs this time!

**Monthly Meeting. Thursday 29th July. Umtentweni Tennis Club.**

**Present.** 16 members. **Apologies.** Ken, David, Sakkie. Stan, Paula and Jaco..

**Flies of the Month.** Judged by Bill

**Freshwater: Flashback PTN:** Dick, Neil, Sean, Neil, John and Arthur.

**Saltwater: Ukatan Charlie:** Sean, Neil, Arthur, Dick and John.

Bill is certainly a tough taskmaster and picked up on a couple of mistakes in the flies that were entered. Arthur was soundly criticised for presenting a recipe and picture of a Flash Back Nymph instead of the required Flash Back PTN. His entry of a Nymph was accordingly demoted to last place.

A severe fine will definitely be imposed by the Master-at-Arms for this blaps.

John's near-perfect Charlie was down graded, because he had tied the bead-chain eyes on the top of the shank.



**General.**

Dick said that he would ask fly angler extraordinaire John Neaves to give us a talk at the August meeting. John has fished all over the world and has some wonderful stories to tell of his experiences.

Ian has a connection with a dam in the Southport area, that offers good carp fishing. A suitable date would be selected by the committee for us to fish this dam. Watch this space.

Steve announced that he and John have finally managed to get the club ABSA account sorted out. SCFA funds are still very healthy, despite the club sponsoring the accommodation for the upcoming trip to Valley Lakes.

**Fry, Fingerling and Stockie Stories.**



The daily fees for Wattled Crane have been increased to R280.00 per person per night. This includes the rod fee. The minimum charge per night remains at R800.00 and the cleaning fee remains at R150.00 for a trip

**Last Cast.**

It was disappointing to see that only 5 members presented flies for judging. Hard to believe that the remaining 20 SCFA members do not tie their own flies. A personal view is that members actually have a duty to support all aspects of SCFA activities. I am sure that SCFA members are not members to only receive the benefits of being a member of the club, but the more you put into the club, the more you can expect and the more that you will receive from it.

Cheers Arthur

