



## South Coast Fly Anglers



# NEWSLETTER February 2021

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**Chairman:** John New (078 203 4549) **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)  
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### Preparing to cast.

Even though the newsletter is late this month, no apologies are offered, as this was planned in order to get in some news of our lads fishing the trials up at Kamberg last week-end. We also have the Events Calendar up to the AGM at the end of March as well as reports on a couple of outings.

### Events Calendar

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Venue</u>	<u>Time</u>
10 <sup>th</sup> Feb	Flytying Workshop	Neil's home	18h15 for 18h30
21 <sup>st</sup> Feb	Saltwater outing	Trafalgar	06h00
25 <sup>th</sup> February	Monthly meeting	Tweni Tennis Club	18h00 for 18h30
6 <sup>th</sup> March	Prize Giving	Steve's home	16h00
7 <sup>th</sup> March	Saltwater outing	Shelly Beach Ski Boat Club	06h00
10 <sup>th</sup> March	Flytying Workshop	Neil's home	18h15 for 18h30
15 <sup>th</sup> to 19 <sup>th</sup> March	Yellowfish outing	Quantani	TBA
25 <sup>th</sup> March	Annual General Meeting	Tweni Tennis Club	18h00 for 18h30

### Coming Events.

**At the Fly tying Workshop to be held at Neil's home on Wednesday 10th February**, we will be tying Steve's Orange Paparoch and the Mylar Sprat. Recipes for both flies have been distributed to members.

The **saltwater outing is to Trafalgar on Sunday 21st February**. As there are no braai facilities at this venue, bring your sarmies and liquid refreshments.

We will hopefully be able to hold the **monthly meeting at the 'Tweni Tennis Club on Thursday 25th February**. Keep an eye open for the SMS from Steve. As usual, bring your own meat for the braai, but beers and soft drinks must be purchased from the club.

**In the longer term:** When water conditions improve, a scalie outing to a suitable venue will be organised at short notice, so keep an ear open for a call from Steve.

As mentioned in last month's newsletter, Neil has booked his Quantani Time Share from Monday 15th to Friday, 19th March. There are still a couple of places available and applications will be handled on first-come-first-served basis. Fishing will be from the bank. Contact Neil on 083 265 6608.

### Past Events.

#### Bass outing to Steve's dam. Sunday 10th January. By Sean Tharratt.

It started out as a very windy morning, but the wind calmed down a bit as the morning wore on. Steve was the first on the water and had already caught a bass as the rest were still traveling to the dam. Kevin was setting up his boat when Sean arrived shortly after 6am, with Stan right behind and John and Arthur arrived shortly after them. Kickboats were set up and out onto the water we went. There was a fair amount of smaller fish around, some around the 300 gram to 400 gram range. All put up a good fight for their size.

Mitch showed up later into the morning and fished from the bank. The wind calmed down into the morning, with a few slight gusts now and then.

A good number of bass were caught and Sean managed to catch a Tilapia. At about 9:30am everyone decided time to pack up as the bite started slowing down.



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Sean 20 bass. 1 tilapia... Flipper and PTN.

Steve 6 bass. Steve's Orange Roach.

Arthur 13 bass on a flipper

John. Stopped counting when he got to twenty.

Kevin. As was the case with the rest of us, he lost more than he landed.

Mitch. *(Mitch came along, not so much to fish, but as an excuse to buy a Chelsea Bun at a local establishment. Ed)*

Stan. Also lost many fish to Mr Long Line Release.

### **Neil's Yellowfish trip to Quantani. Monday 25th to Friday 29th January.**

Neil took advantage of an invite to Quantani on the Sterkfontein dam, towards the end of January in order to get some practise before the outing in mid-March.

The weather was really foul all over the country, for a few days and Quantani was not spared. There were certainly times when the chop on the water and the resulting shore break discoloured the water very badly, especially along the banks, but fishing was, in general, not affected too much, as they had a boat and could get onto the leeward side of the land and be fairly comfortable there, from where they were at least able to cast.

He used 6X and 7X tippet on his 3 wt rod most of the time; got snapped off too many times to recall, but managed to land 6 yellows, all on dry flies. Fish were, as always, fussy and would often approach the fly, see something that they did not like about it and turn away.

All in all, it bodes well for the March trip.

### **Results of the Flies of the Month competition for January.** Judged by Bill.

Entries were again of a high standard and Bill had a particularly tough time in selecting the best flies. *(The fact that Arthur was cleaning his 9 mm on the table where Bill was judging did, I'm sure, not influence the results to any great extent. Ed.)*

**Saltwater: Crazy Charlie:** Piet, Piet, Sean, Piet, Mitch, Arthur, Arthur, Neil, Mitch, John, Mitch.

**Freshwater: Gold Bead Bug:** Arthur, Arthur, Neil, Sean, Sean, John,

There are still no suggestions for flies for 2021 from members. If members give this some serious thought, we should be able to draw up an interesting list at the February meeting.

### **Bass outing to Voight's dam. Sunday 7th February.** By Arthur Cary

The decision to change the venue for this outing from the Old Garlick's dam to Voights in Paddock, turned out to be a good one.

The eight members and one visiting angler, Nick Wiedemann, totalled over 80 bass and 4 tilapia between them. This time Steve's Roach let the designer down and he did not catch any fish on this fly. Conner used a Black Woolly Bugger to good effect and also got Nick to catch three bass on the brown and black versions of this pattern. *(Nick's first fish on fly. Well done, young man. Ed.)*

Both Neil and John each landed a bucket full of bass on a combination of Woolly Worms, Dave's Demon, Spiders and Flippers. John also landed two vey nice tilapia, while Warren, (using a Zonker) Rob and Arthur with his Sparkle Shrimp also caught a tilapia each. Rob used a Green and Black Something or Other *(or was it Black and Green S.O.O? Ed.)* Sakkie was his normal subdued self until he landed a very nice fish of about a half kilo. (The vast majority of the bass were in the 4" to 8" range.) Despite this, both Warren and Arthur were broken off by fish that were much bigger than that and Neil and John also landed a couple of really nice fish among their haul of little ones .

A "foreign" angler, using a spinner bait caught one bass that pulled the scale to 4.4kg! A real beauty, which shows that the bigger ones are there. We fly anglers just have to persist.

Steve got a super fire going on his birthday-braai before the rest of us were off the water and some really good social-distanced socialising was had in the shade of the lapa. All in all, a very successful outing.



**KZNFFA trials at Thendela. Saturday 6th and Sunday 7th February.** By Pieter vd Merwe.

It was a tight squeeze to fit five anglers into an Avanza with all the kit, but we managed the 300km to Thendela and back without any incidents.

Arriving at Glengarry by mid day on Friday, the boys were eager to go and fish at Kamberg. The Mooi river that runs through Kamberg and into Thendela was full, but relatively clean. The afternoon session did not produce too many fish and we called time when the thunderstorm came too close. Justin was staying at Kamberg and the rest of us at Glengarry.

Saturday morning we all met up with our fishing buddies, many of whom we last saw a year back. After the usual paper war and obeying covid regulations, we got down to the good stuff.

After drawing beats, (the section of river one was allocated to fish) we were divided up into groups of two and went our separate ways.

First session was two and a half hours long, the river was flowing strongly as a result of the daily thunder storms, and fishing was tough.

Liam and Justin did very well in their allocated beats and just by fluke they drew beat 10. Liam and Justin both ending on 16 fish each, the rest of us all on one each.

After a long lunch break, we drew new beats and new partners. Same procedure different result.

Everyone again got fish: Liam 8, Justin 6, Sean 2, Jaco 2 and myself 1.

The whole afternoon the thunderstorm was brewing, but luckily stayed on the other side of the mountain.

Sunday morning same procedure and this time Sean got 10, Liam 6, Justin and Jaco 1 each and I blanked. With the long road ahead and we still had to go and pack, we opted to not fish the afternoon session. We squeezed back into the Avanza and had a safe trip home. Thanks to the club that assisted us with some petrol money

**Fry, Fingerling and Stockie Stories.**



**A sincere request.** Has anyone sent some decent photos of KZN South Coast beaches or rivers to Peter Ardene? Come on chaps, there must be a few good ones floating around! If you can help, please drop him a line at >mwardern@mweb.co.za<

**Last Cast.**

Hopefully if the daily toll of new Covid infections stays low and the severe lockdown regulations remain a thing of the past, we will be able to get back to our normal free'n'easy style of operating.

As usual, keep an eye and ear open for an SMS from Steve, regarding any changes to the published schedule.

Cheers Arthur.

