



## NEWSLETTER

### September 2018

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**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:** Dean Angove (071 880 2971)

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#### Preparing to cast.

We start with the usual update of planned meetings and outings. These include flytying workshops and monthly meetings, as well as saltwater outings to Impenjati, Durban Bay and Cape Vidal and a yellow fish outing to the Umzimkulu. Don't miss out! Be there! There are also a couple of reports on recent outings; one in the salt and one on the Compass Compo held at Mountain Lake.

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#### Events Calendar

<u>Date</u>	<u>Outing</u>	<u>Venue</u>	<u>Time</u>
9 <sup>th</sup> September	Saltwater outing	Impenjati	07h00
11 <sup>th</sup> September	Fly tying Workshop	Dean's home	18h30
23 <sup>rd</sup> September	Saltwater outing	Durban Bay	TBA
26 <sup>th</sup> September	Monthly meeting	Ski Boat Club	18h00 for 18h30
3 <sup>rd</sup> October	Committee meeting	Dean's home	18h00
9 <sup>th</sup> October	Fly tying Workshop	Dean's home	18h30
14 <sup>th</sup> October	Yellowfish outing	Umzimkulu	08h30
22 <sup>nd</sup> October	Grub & travel meeting	Ski Boat Club	18h00
26 <sup>th</sup> to 28 <sup>th</sup> October	Saltwater outing	Cape Vidal	TBA
31 <sup>st</sup> October	Monthly meeting	Ski Boat Club	18h00 for 18h30

#### Coming Events.

The first outing is to **Impenjati on Sunday 9th September. Gates open at 07h00.** Quality of the water is questionable, so the safety of using a kick boat is unsure, but we can fish from the bank as well as the surf.

At the **flytying workshop, which will be held at Dean's home on Tuesday September 11th**, we will be tying the Copper John and the Soft Calamarie. As usual, you should have received the recipes of both flies by the time that you read this. If not, contact Arthur now.

The proposed trip to **Injasutu** has been cancelled, due to a lack of interest. Instead, the DFT chaps have invited us to fish **Durban Bay** with them **on Sunday the 23rd September**. Meet at the Southport filling station at 05h00 and we will travel up in convoy. **If you are late, keep in contact with John (078 203 4549) or Arthur (076 312 0417) for directions.**

The **monthly meeting** is, as usual, at the **Ski Boat Club on Wednesday 26th September at 18h00 for 18h30.**

Note that we have a **Cape Vidal trip planned for the 26th to 28th October**. We need to know numbers, in order to book the appropriate chalet or camp site. According to reports, the cabins are in a very poor state at the moment, so camping may be a better option. Contact Arthur now **and pay your money** at the meeting on 26th September. (Accommodation costs will vary depending on numbers, but roughly R1100.00 each if we stay in a log cabin and R270.00 each if we camp.)

Dick, Sean, Rob, John and Arthur have so far booked their spots.



Past Events.

Saltwater Outing to Sunwich Port. Sunday 5th August. By Bill Derman.

On Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> August the scheduled outing at Sunwich Port took place. The expected weather, which was high winds and rain, did not materialize and we woke up to a slight breeze and relatively cool morning.. Members started arriving at 06h15 and a rather quiet fishing day started at 06h30.

Arthur was the first fly fisherman in the water followed by Bill, Rob and Ken. John was present for support as he could not fish due to injury.

Mitch arrived to check proceedings and Marion and Dave were the last supporters to arrive. Arthur was the only successful angler, having caught a juvenile Yellow Tail Kingfish and a rather small wave gave him a good dunking. Ken also managed to catch a small wave.

The fishing stories were great with the majority being about Ken, Dave and Marion's Tiger trip. The bait fishermen had no luck as well and the event was over by 09h45 with all of us returning home safely. The overall conclusion was that the numerous schools of bait fish, visible beyond the breakers, was the reason for our lack of success!!!!

Trout Outing to Mountain Lake (Compass Compo). Friday 17th to Sunday 19th August. By Jaco Strauss.

On Friday morning the 17th of August myself and Jerome left for Matatiele for the weekend's Compass Compo at Mountain Lake, which would be from Saturday 12 noon till Sunday at 10am.

We arrived at the Lake around 08h45, with perfect conditions and no wind. We stopped at the jetty, got our rods out and started fishing. Uncle Stan and Sakkie arrived around 10h30 and shortly after that Arthur, Sean, Dean and Justin.

Uncle Stan and Sakkie got their kick boats ready while Arthur, Sean, Dean and Justin packed out, getting their room ready; the top store room, which has bunk beds, was made available for the club to stay in. Myself and Jerome also decided to get our tent up and get organized.

We all fished the afternoon, as we couldn't wait to get in and catch some fish while the weather was good. In the afternoon the guys from Howick arrived and they stayed in the cottage. That Friday night was a night we won't easily forget. When Jerome and I got off the water, from his bass boat, I remember telling him "I've never really been in snow conditions, but this icy wind and air feels like snow." We later heard that there was a 90% possibility for snow.

While sitting around the fire warming ourselves, we starting seeing ice falling like rain and we braced ourselves for a cold night ahead, with myself and Jerome in our tent, Uncle Stan and Sakkie in their tent and the others in the top store room.

I've never been so cold; I would say I had enough warm clothes and bedding, but it didn't seem to help, I shivered the whole night, without sleeping, and this while I could hear the guys next door in the room snoring.... hahahaha. Everything outside was ice, even inside the 2 tents and our rods were covered with ice on the back of the trailer. Uncle Stan and Sakkie battled to get the zip of their tent open, even with hot water.

On Saturday morning it was freezing, with some snow around; we had to dip our rods in the water to get the ice off and the other guys started heading out early, to get in some fishing up until 10am; 2 hours before the start of the compo. The other guys from Matatiele, Kokstad, Durban and Pietermaritzburg started arriving, excited to start fishing .

The compo started at 12 noon and everyone was out to their spots with their measuring gutters, in order catch the longest trout, as this was the requirement in order to win the compo

On Saturday evening all the club guys from various regions got together around the fire, having boerewors rolls, salads etc. It was great meeting everyone and interacting with the various clubs.

Saturday night was a better night, as it wasn't as cold as Friday evening. I think we all had a better sleep, as we prepared not to get so cold again, even sitting later into the night, around the fire

On Sunday morning we were all out again, searching in expectation to catch the longest possible trout, up until 10am (the closing time of the compo.)

In the end the floating trophy was handed to Dean for the longest trout of 61.5 cm. The club (*It is actually Dean's duty. Ed*) now has to arrange the Compass Compo for next year, with us (*him*) having the privelege in choosing the date and venue.... which I'm sure will be Matat.



Thank you to everyone who fished the compo on behalf of the South Coast region and thank you to the management of the club for sponsoring us for this awesome weekend.

**Catches for the weekend:**

*Justin 37, Dean 22 (longest rainbow hen 61.5 cm), Sean 5, Stan 5, Jerome 4, Arthur 1, Jaco 1, Sakkie 0*

*Flies: Woolly Bugger, Pheasant Tail Nymph, Mop Fly, Buzzers.*

**Monthly meeting.** Wednesday 29th August. Shelly Beach Ski Boat Club.

**Present:** 16, including "long-time-no-see" Pat and Dick. It is also good to see that Duval and Werner are becoming regular attendees.

**Apologies:** Neil, Jaco, Jerome, Duane, Bianca, Mitch, Pieter and Liam.

**Flies of the Month for April:** Judged by Justin.

**Freshwater: Griffith's Gnat:** Arthur, Dean, John, Werner, Werner, Bill, Sean. (Sean may have been done a nasty, as Justin mislaid his fly when judging. Show them next month Sean!!)

**Saltwater: Organza Shrimp:** Bill, Arthur, Dean, John.

**General:**

A number of reports on the recent Compass Compo were given by those who competed. By all accounts, members really appreciate the sponsorship from the club. A fair spot of cash will be generated by all the fines that will accrue, when the Master at Arms has his say, at a later date.

Due to problems in obtaining the correct materials for Dean's Sardine fly, scheduled for November, a couple of changes to the FotM list have been suggested. Amendments will be distributed soon.

**Fry, Fingerling and Stockie Stories.**



Sincere condolences go to Neil and his family on the passing of Yvonne. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.



Spare a thought for ex member Jono Hunt and family as Jono's son is gravely ill in Durban.



Mitch Rorich has a 9'6" Explorer Guide Series rod for sale. It comes with a protective rod tube and has hardly been used. Anyone who knows Mitch will know that his equipment is always very well cared for and at R850.00, this sounds like a very good buy. Contact him on 039 695 2603 or 072 954 7981.



The Kokstad fly Fishing club is holding an open day at the Kokstad Junior School sportsfields on Saturday 27th October from 09h00 to 12h00. A casting clinic, as well as distance and accuracy casting competitions and fly tying demonstrations will be held. There will also be an opportunity to fish their waters, but for this you need to book, as space is limited. Contact: Outings and socials organiser, Stompie Kemp (082 866 6678), Club Secretary, Dave Raw (083 267 8999) or Club Chairman, Marius Jonker (082 322 1093.)

**Last Cast.**

On behalf of those who competed in the mountain Lake compass Compo, many thanks to the SCFA committee for the sponsorship received. As a result of this, the week-end only cost us the R100.00 entry fee; fuel and grub was on the house.

I doubt if there are many clubs in the country that do as much for their members, as does SCFA. Thanks must also go to you, the members, for all the donations, fines-monies and raffle-ticket-sales, that make this possible.

In order to enable Steve to balance his books, which have taken a beating recently, we will soon have to do a spot of membership-canvassing and fund raising! But with a grand bunch like you doing the job, that is no problem at all.

Hope to see many of you at the various meetings and outings.

Cheers Arthur

