



NEWSLETTER

October 2019

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)

Preparing to cast.

The newsletter is a tad later than normal this month, as it had to wait for the committee meeting on the 2nd October, in order to get an update to the Events Calendar. As you will see, it was worth the delay; we have a full house for the coming months.

This month we also have a bundle of reports on past events, including a rare one from Stan on a private outing to Matat. Pat reports on a very unproductive outing to 'Mpenjati, Steve relives the yellow fish trip to the Richtersveld and Pieter has a note on an outing to Barclay East.

Events Calendar

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Venue</u>	<u>Time</u>
8 th October	Fly tying Workshop	Neil's home	18h15 for 18h30
20 th October	Salt outing	Shelly Beach Ski Boat Club	06h00
31 st October	Monthly meeting	Shelly Beach Ski Boat Club	18h00 for 18h30
5 th November	Fly tying Workshop	Neil's home	18h15 for 18h30
10 th November	Bass Outing	Voight's Dam	06h00
24 th November	Salt outing	Trafalgar Swimming pool	06h00
28 th November	Monthly meeting	Shelly Beach Ski Boat Club	18h00 for 18h30
31 st November	Christmas outing	Steve's dam	06h00

Coming Events.

We have the usual **Fly tying Workshop and the monthly meeting on the 8th and 31st of October** respectively and there is a **salt outing to the Ski Boat Club on the 20th October**. Breakfast at the club afterwards.

In November we will fish **Voight's dam on the 10th, the Trafalgar pool on the 24th and the Christmas outing is at Steve's dam on Saturday the 30th**. Braai facilities will be available at all these venues. B.Y.O. Fly tying and monthly meetings are on the normal scheduled days.

A trip to **Quantani on the Sterkfontein Dam** has been planned from **Monday the 3rd of February to Friday the 7th**. If you want to go, chat to Neil.(083 265 6608)

Past Events.

A quick trip to Matat by Stan and Frances Park.

We left on Sunday morning 8th September and on arrival at Mountain Lake, we found the weather to be ideal for fishing. It remained perfect for the next three days as well.

The fishing, however was poor. Stan fished hard in the early mornings and late afternoons; on occasions, till dark and only managed to land 5 fish, the biggest of which weighed 2.1 kg. We really enjoyed the stay and especially the braais at night.

Saltwater outing to 'Mpenjati. Sunday 22nd September. By Pat Leary.

Arrived at the gate at 06h00. Gate locked, so proceeded to have a sleep. Woken up by guard at 06h30 Tested one rig to affirm what line was on. Ken, David and Marion arrived at 07h00.

We rigged up and made our way to the fishing area. David and Ken to the surf and myself to the lagoon mouth.



Unfortunately the mouth was closed, but at least the wind was coming in over my right shoulder. (southerly at 30 knots)

After about half an hour of no action, I went to join the other two. Ken informed me that the wind was impossible and David had already had to remove two flies from various parts of his anatomy (the only action they had.)

I then made my way back to the lagoon, after being dive-bombed by two Plovers for intruding in their nest area.

Ken and David decided to try the lagoon area as well, with the wind coming from behind them. Ken still remained luckless, but David managed to land a small thorn fish, using a clouser. He said he was going to the taxidermist for a glass fibre copy of his catch to use as a key ring. It wasn't long before the two of them also decided to pack it in.

On the way back Ken was also attacked by the Plovers, which caused him to trip and fall, so he arrived back in the car park covered in mud.

I decided to leave them and go home and catch up on sleep. Ken and David did no more fishing, but Ken went and chatted to some bait anglers who caught two grunter while he was there. They left at about 09h30

Dean rocked up at about 10h00 and proceeded to catch a few mullet. He informed the meeting that the two bait anglers also caught a garrick on live bait, so the fish are THERE.

Richtersveld 2019. 8th to the 19th September. By Stephen Brand.

Neil Scott, (organiser) Mick Birkett, Arthur Cary, Sakkie McKay, John New, Mike Kirkham and Stephen Brand. (Writer of this article.)

Saturday 7 September 3pm Mike and John arrived to pack the kit for the trip; every last nook and cranny of truck and trailer was stuffed with something. The others met at Neil's house to pack.

Sunday 8th Morning 4am we were on the road and travelled through to pick up Mike and we were on our way. We travelled the route through Kokstad, Matatiele, Maclear, Dordrecht and stopped in Prieska at around 4pm and stayed at the River Lodge, very comfortable accommodation. Marty (our host) cooked supper for us. Chicken schnitzel and chips were enjoyed by all.

Monday 9th We hit the road at 7am and drove through to Port Nolloth via Upington, Poffadder, Keimoes, Kakamas and Springbok. We saw a few flowers in and around Springbok, but nothing to write home about. As we approached Port Nolloth the mist rolled in over town. We stayed at McDougal's Municipal camp and went to Vespetti for supper and most ordered fish and chips, while John tried to eat a stuffed calamari, which he battled to finish and it did the rounds around the table. A chilly night.

Tuesday 10th We left a cold Port Nolloth at 7am and stopped off in Alexander Bay to buy some bread and then headed for Senderlingsdrift. We arrived there around 11am checked in at reception and all had a look at the colourful plant life on display in the garden, as well as a lump of fossilized wood. We all bundled in to the vans and were off to De Hoop camp, passing several vehicles ahead of us and landing the same camp site as last time at 13h30. We all set up camp and sorted out our sleeping quarters and settled for the first beer. Three or four Guys went and threw a line at the rising barbel, Mick was the only one to get a take. Mike K. made the fire and after two attempts with Steve's tea bag fire lighters, got it going and kindly volunteered to braai the burgers, while Neil baked the chips in his fancy oven. Compliments went to the chefs for an outstanding meal.

Wednesday 11th Some of us rose early and started to get our kit ready for fishing. Most of the guys were on the water at around 9am. John fixed the toilet system, pulling out a stone, which had blocked the inlet pipe. When Neil got back to camp, he was approached by the Park Officers and was asked to move camp, because some cycle event was taking place and they wanted to set up their kitchen and medical tent where we were camping, to which he replied that it took us half a day to set up camp and we weren't moving. The reception at Senderlingsdrift were supposed to tell us not to camp here, but obviously forgot.

Today's catch.

Arthur 2 small mouth yellow(smy) 1 muddy, **Steve** 1 sm yellow, **Mike K** 0, **Neil** 4 smy, **John** 5 smy, **Mick** 1 smy, **Sakkie** 1 smy and 1 muddy, **Days total 16.**

Tonight's supper beef curry and rice. *(Curry provided and pre-cooked by the Brand family. Ed)*

Wow what a curry! The guys finished the lot after we had a few beers, whiskeys and Jeripigos.



Thursday 12th The guys were up early. Neil tried his hand at landing a barbel, but they were not interested, so decided to cook us a handsome breakfast of bacon and eggs. 08h30 and down came the rain, as I had predicted. At least it settled the dust. The wind and breezes haven't stopped since we arrived. Then the Park Cavalry arrived and asked Neil to move camp and we flatly refused to move, after about half an hour of negotiations, they let us stay. It would have taken us a good part of the day to move if we had, which would have been a days fishing lost. Neil and Mick took the boat and had a fish down stream, but it was more investigating than fish caught.

Today Neil made us bully beef jaffles for lunch. Supper Mike kindly did the honours of a braai for us. Chicken was cooked to perfection and Neil's coleslaw salad was a hit, with pap and sauce by Sakkie,

Today's catch.

Neil 1 smy and 1 muddy, **John** 4 smy, **Steve** 1 smy, **Arthur** 4 smy, **Mick** 1 smy, **Sakkie** 0, **Mike K** 0
Total 12 (28)

Friday 13th We all had an early start. Wheat-bix, coffee and rusks for breakfast and tuna mayo for lunch. Around 5 pm the canoeing teams came in. They were doing a Trans Frontier hike; canoe, cycle, hiking trip down the Fish River canyon and Gariep (Orange) River, crossing over into South West Namibia and ending in Hoobabis Ais-Ais. Sakkie was very grumpy; someone had taken his beers out of the river. Fortunately, John found them in one of the canoes! Obviously taken out when all the canoes came in.

Today's catch.

Neil 4 smy, **John** 3 smy, **Mick** 10 smy (1 x 3.4 kg) 2 muddies, **Mike K** 1 smy (1 x 42cm) 1 muddy, 1 silver fish (tilapia), **Sakkie** 0, **Steve** 0, **Arthur** 0

Total 22 (50)

Neil treated us to Spaghetti Bolognese for supper and we consumed a small amount of alcohol and ended off with peaches and custard.

Saturday 14th Most of us rose early all except Mike B, who seems to enjoy his sleep. Around 10am we went off to fish, John stayed behind to relax and catch up on some sleep and keep guard of the camp. Neil and Mike B went off and got a bakkie load of wood for tonight's braai; steak and pap. Awesome food. Thanks to Mike and Sakkie for cooking.

Today's catch. **Sakkie** 2 smy, 1 muddy, **Steve** 0, **Mike K** 0, **Mick** 5 smy, **Neil** 2 muddy, 6 smy, (1 of 2.4 kg) **John** 2 smy, **Arthur** 2 smy.

Total 20 (70)

Sunday 15th Guys were up early as usual and went off after breakfast, cereal and coffee. Neil and Mick went off down river to row the boat and fish. Neil came back with a grin from ear to ear he had caught a Large Mouth yellow of 3 kg which Mick miss-netted twice, which woke it up and it went down stream at a rate of knots; finally he landed it after a 20 minute fight.

Mike and Steve went off to explore down river and acquire some fire wood, when the canopy handle wire snapped off. Mike and I fixed it with a cable tie borrowed from Arthur and hex keys from Neil. Our first breakdown of the trip; lucky it didn't happen on the way home. Lunch was cheese sandwiches and supper was Beef Stew, voted as The Best Meal of the trip. (*Again pre-cooked by the Brand family. Ed.*)

Today's catch. **Mick** 2 smy, **Mike K** 1 smy, **Arthur** 2 smy and 1 muddy, **Neil** 1 smy 1 Lmy (3kg) 1 muddy, **Sakkie** 0 (7 muddies lost), **John** 3 smy, **Steve** 0.

Total 12 (82)

Monday 16th We got up at the usual time; had a delicious cooked breakfast, with home made bread by Neil and went off to fish. Today is pack up day, so some were back early to start sorting their stuff and pack away the gear, dismantled the rods etc. Sandwiches for lunch and supper was a braai cooked by Mike and Sakkie's pap and sauce

Today's catch. **Neil** 1 tilapia, **John** 1 smy, **Sakkie** 0, **Steve** 0, **Arthur** 0, **Mick** 3 smy, **Mike K** 2 smy, and 1 barbel

Total 8 (90)

So the final tally is as follows:

Mick Birkett: 22 small mouth yellows, 2 mudfish. **Total 24 fish.**

Neil 16 small mouth yellows, 1 large mouth yellow, 4 mud fish, 1 tilapia. **Total 22 fish.**

John 18 small mouth yellows. **Total 18 fish.**



Arthur 10 small mouth yellows, 2 mud fish. **Total 12 fish.**

Mike Kirkham 4 small mouth yellows, 1 mud fish, 1 tilapia, 1 barbel. **Total 7 fish.**

Sakkie: 3 small mouth yellows, 2 mud fish. **Total 5 fish**

Steve 2 small mouth yellows. **Total 2 fish.** (*The reason that Steve did not murder them, was that Arthur actually pinched his spot of 2 year's ago. Ed*)

Grand total 90 fish.

Tuesday 17th I was up at 4am and couldn't get back to sleep, so around 5am I got up and started packing. Every one else crawled out shortly thereafter and followed suit. After packing up, loading and a quick wash, we were on the road around 8am for the long haul home. It felt like we were never going to get to Keimoes, but we arrived at around 18h00 at La Palma. We went out to supper at Pub and Grill, where the chicken schnitzel was a hit.

Wednesday 18th We left Keimoes at 7am and headed to Upington to fix Neil's van (fuel filter problem) and left there later than planned and arrived in Clarens at 18h30 and booked into the Clarens Inn and Backpackers and then went out to supper at the Claret and Grouse. The Pot pies were out of this world and all enjoyed.

Thursday 19th We left Clarens at 6 am and drove through Golden Gate Park only to be met by mist. Arrived at Windmills for breakfast a few hours later and then headed home arriving at around 13:00.

2019 SAFFA Youth Nationals Barkley East. By Pieter vd Merwe.

The SAFFA Youth Nationals were held in the beautiful town of Barkley East in the Eastern Cape. Twelve five-man teams came together to compete for the National title. The tournament was held from 25th to the 28th of September.

The waters of the Krom and Kraai were very low and some spots were purely on the luck of the draw, as to determine how you would fare in the section.

There were two beated river sections and two scrum sessions (all the competitors in one block on the river) as well as a dam-bank session.

Fish species were large and small yellowfish, rainbow and brown trout as well as mudfish.

The trip there was surprisingly short and it only took us 6 hours after stopping four times to get there. Barkley East has a variety of accommodation facilities available and the fishing will be excellent once the rivers fill up. They have a wonderful fishing club there and the farmers are very accommodating when it comes to anglers.

Justin was our best angler and won the trophy for the most fish and biggest fish caught. He was also awarded his green SASACC blazer. (South African Sports Anglers and Casting Confederation.) Liam got the Willem Pretorius trophy of excellence for the best performing Protea at the World Champs. KZN angler William Gilbert received the trophy for the longest cast and KZN angler Tom Walters claimed individual 3rd place.

A friendly between the Czech team, the Protea team and the SASACC team saw Justin getting a bronze medal.

The Barkley East community invited us all to visit their part of the world. One could leave here in the morning and fish a small stream in the afternoon. If that is too far then we can always stop in Maclear. Apparently the fishing is just as good there.

Monthly Meeting. Thursday 26th September.

Present: 15. **Apologies:** No apologies and no visitors. (*We are slipping!! Ed*)

Flies of the Month: Judged by Steve.

Freshwater: DDD: Neil, Sean, Arthur

Saltwater: Salty Bugger: David, David, David, Sean, Neil, Sean, Arthur.

General:

Various members gave input on the various outings that took place during the month. (See articles above.)

Stan, Sakkie, Dean, Sean and Jaco are fishing the Matat and Compass Compo over the week end of 5th and 6th October. We wish them tight lines!

Jaco reported that he had caught a 2.2 kg cockfish at Mountain Lake recently and also brought a 2.0 kg bass to the net at a local bass dam. The latter was taken on a brown Fritz Bugger.



Fry, fingerling and stockie stories.



The Tackle Box in Shelly Beach has a supply of fly lines in stock and are prepared to get any fly tackle that you order.



Sean has a 7 weight 9 foot 4 piece Wright and McGill fly rod for sale. Contact him on 079 434 6168.)



Pat has sent me the recipe and photos of the Morrisfoam Predator fly, which is an unusual take on a dragonfly nymph. We will tie this as the freshwater fly for November and the recipe and photos will be sent out next month.

Last Cast.

A real bumper issue of the newsletter this month, thankyou for all the contributions received. It was a real pleasure to put it all together.

Hope to see good turnouts at the numerous events and meetings that have been planned for the rest of the month.

Cheers, Arthur.

