



South Coast Fly Anglers



NEWSLETTER October 2023

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)

Preparing to cast.

The committee did a great job in drawing up the calendar for the next few months, as you can see from the list events below. As has been said many times in the past, get your monies worth by attending as many of these outings as you can. See you there.

Cheers Arthur

Calendar of Coming Events.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Venue</u>	<u>Time</u>
8th October	Saltwater outing	Mzamba	06h00
11th October	Fly tying Workshop	Dick's home	18h15
22nd October	Bass outing	Voigt's dam. Paddock	06h00
26th October	Monthly Meeting	Umtentweni Tennis Club	08h00 for 18h30
1st November	Committee meeting	Steve's home	18h00
4th-5th November	Trout outing	Matatiele. Mountain Lake	TBD
8th November	Fly tying Workshop	Neil's home	18h15
20th November	Travel & grub meeting	Neil's home	18h00
24th to 27th November	Trout outing	Silver streams	TBD
30th November	Monthly Meeting	Umtentweni Tennis Club	1800 for 18h30
3rd December	Year-end Bass outing	Steve's dam or Impenjati	Early
10th January	Fly tying Workshop	Neil's home	18h15
February	Committee meeting	Arthur's home	18h00

The first event in **October is a saltwater outing to Mzamba on Sunday 8th**. Kick-boats if you want to fish the river. We will braai afterwards, so bring the necessary for this. We will hopefully have a more successful outing than was the case in September.

The flies for October are the saltwater Glassy Minnow and the freshwater Para RAB. Come along to the workshop at **Dick's home (9 Captain Smith Road. Southbroom.) on Wednesday 11th October** to get some advice and to practise tying these very effective patterns. Details have been sent to members.

October 22nd is the date for a bass outing to Voigt's dam in Paddock. An early start, kick-boats and braai will ensure that we have a great outing.

As usual, the **monthly meeting will be at the Umtentweni Tennis Club on Thursday 26th October.** Normal time (18h15 for 18h30) and braai afterwards.

There is a **committee meeting at Steve's home on 1st November at 18h00.**

Past Events.

Saltwater outing to Mzamba. Sunday 10th September. By John New

There seems to have been a bugger-up with meeting arrangements; the original meeting time was 7 am at the gate, but because of the wind that was going to come through, this was brought forward to 6 am.

I picked Sakkie up at 5 and got to the gate at 05h30. Waited until just after 6, then went through to the beach. We set up our rods and hit the beach. It looked great, but no bites. I then moved into the estuary, but also no bites.



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By then the wind started to pump and by the time I got to the car Steve and Sakkie were getting off the beach, because the sand was stinging their legs.

We took our rods apart and sought shelter in the car, because it was so bad. We had coffee and Steve and Kev decided to fish Steve's dam for bass. Sakkie and I pushed off. We decided to fish the same spot the following Sunday, if it is not windy again.

Cheers John.

(On Sunday the 17th September, due to an extreme south westerly wind, the sea was on its head and the surf was huge. Any fishing was totally out of the question. The sea was so high that even lunch at the Mariner's Restaurant in Marina Beach was also out of the question, because this establishment was partially demolished by a rogue wave. Ed)

Trout outing to Mountain Lake. Friday 22nd September to Monday 25th September. By Sean Tharratt

On Friday morning around 6 am, seven of us headed off to Matat to spend the king weekend at Mountain Lake. Everyone was excited, as some of us had not been there for a few years, because of the bad condition of the road up to the lake. It was, in fact, Steve's first time going to Matat.

The road up to the lake has been fixed very well, maybe a bit too well, some would say. *(Makes access to the lake too easy.)* Friday was sunny and a bit windy, but we set up kick boats and went off to fish. Fishing was tough and we didn't get many bites, even though we tried all the usual spots, where we have found fish in the past, but the fish were just not there. The area is dry and there are few weed beds in the areas that used to fish very well.

On Saturday morning the weather started very well, just before 6am, when we were all awake and having coffee, there were plenty of rises. When we got to the water, the wind picked up slightly and the rises weren't visible. The wind behaved for a few hours, then it was blowing strongly till the afternoon. Everyone managed to get at least 1 fish by then and others seemed to be on the right spot and got at least 3 fish.

Sunday morning was coolish, with thick mist around. We all dressed up warmly and braved the miserable weather. The weather forecast predicted rain later in the day. A few drops fell here and there, but not too much and we all got a few hours on the water. There was a bit of wind around, but not too bad and 3 fish were caught between the group that went out onto the water. The ones that got away don't count, as it was quiet for a while then a bigger fish would hit the fly and take off or jump towards you and before you could react fast enough, he would be gone.

Dale from Matat and his future son in law, Damian Scott and two gents from Kokstad joined us for the Annual Compass Compo which is a friendly get together with the anglers from different areas to fish and catch up.

Damian managed to get a 57cm rainbow and took the trophy home this year.

Total fish for the weekend was 19 between 7 anglers; a wide variety of flies were used from the general Speed Cop, Papa Roach, Red Eyed Damsel, Mrs Simpson and Fritz Buggers. We all changed flies a lot to try and get a bite, but I think the fish took which ever fly you had on when they came past.

All in all, we had a good time despite the weather. The company was great as always and thanks to Neil for arranging and making good grub to keep everyone well fed.

Monthly Meeting. Umtentweni Tennis Club. Thursday 27th September.

Members present: 14. **Apologies:** Jaco, Warren, Conner, Kevin, Mike K.

Flies of the Month: Judged by Liam.

Salt water: Organza Shrimp: John, Sean, Neil, Sean, Arthur, Mitch.

Fresh water: Lee's Little Black: Sean, Neil, John.

Coming Events:

Seven members are interested in going to Silver Streams from the 24th to 27th November, where we will camp. The Grub and Travel meeting will be held at Neil's home on 20th November at 18h00. If you would like to add your name to the list, give Pieter a shout, (083 543 7005,) so that he can alter the camp-site booking list.

Depending on water and weather conditions, the Christmas outing venue may be changed from Steve's Dam to Impenjati, so keep an ear to the ground and an eye on the newsletter and for Steve's SMS.



General:

Sean gave a report on the outing to Mountain Lake. (See report above.)

Dick reported that he has a number of fly-fishing books that were given to him. He suggested that these be raffled at the Year- End Outing. (See venue in “Calendar of Coming Events.” He also said that Sean Dickson, from Explorer was prepared to once again give fly-tying demo. At a monthly meeting. Arthur suggested that he tie a fly that we normally use in our waters. Dick will follow up.

Mitch suggested that we have a “free style “ fly as one of the flies for our fly of the month competition. For this, entrants will tie any fly of their choice. This idea will be considered by the committee in the new year, so watch this space for developments.

Steve once again reported that there had been little change to the club finances, which were “very healthy.” He added that he was not happy with the showering facilities at Mountain Lake. He and a bucket shower don’t go together very well.

Liam gave a demo. tying the Bauer Crab, using a painted 3D skeleton, deer hair and fur under-body, a fair degree of patience and a lot of skill and finger dexterity. The end result was a really great fly that will tempt the most fussy Trigger Fish in the waters of the Seychelles to take a bite at this tasty morsal.

Fry, Fingerling and Stockie Stories.



At the Committee meeting in September, Neil gave an overview of fishing and accommodation in the vicinity of Nyala Pans on the Umkomaas River. The area has various options for camping, a tented camp and lodges. A visit to this area is being considered, possibly for early next year, so keep your eyes and ears open for this one.



There was a Facebook post on Monday 25th September, (with photos) showing extensive poaching of the Orange River in the De Hoop (Richtersveld) area. It would appear that men from the Namibian side are using inflatables to span nets across the river. This goes on from early morning to late afternoon.



Here is the flyer for the Matatiele Compo, which is being held on 4th and 5th November. Only Sean and Mitch have come forward for this event, but if you would like to join them, contact Sean (079 434 6168) to book your bed. They will be camping, as Matat messed up the booking of the cottage, Sean should have received first option) Sean and mitch will arrange their own grub n’ travel meeting.

**MATATIELE LAKE
FLY FISHING
COMPO**

Start Sat: 4th NOVEMBER 05:00
to Sun: 5th NOVEMBER 11:00

1st R 2000-00
2nd R 1500-00
3rd R 1000-00

& MANY MORE OTHER PRIZES

ENTRY FEE : R 500

Fee includes : Saturday Dinner / SPIT
Sunday Breakfast
Tea / Coffee and Rusks
Very limited Cash Bar

Registration or Enquiries Contact :

Shane Sweetnam (083 299 4996)
Dale Tribe (081 401 0027)

Camping and Ablutions available

Last Cast. Have to reduce the size of our fly-angler and then there is only space for a very quick “Cheers.” Arthur.

