



South Coast Fly Anglers



NEWSLETTER March 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.

This month we have a full calendar of events for the coming months, which should satisfy the most critical members, (not that we have any critical members in SCFA, of course.)
Don't miss the AGM on March 30th. Members are assured that they will not be forced onto the committee, even if their arms may be a bit sore after the meeting.

It is thanks to the various contributors, that we also have a good selection of articles on outings.
Arthur.

Events Calendar

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Event</u> | <u>Venue</u> | <u>Time</u> |
|--------------------|--------------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| 9th March | Fly tying Workshop | Neil's home | 18h15 |
| 25th March | Paddock bass Compo | Paddock area | Early |
| 30th March | AGM | Umtentweni Tennis Club | 18h00 for 18h30 |
| 12th April | Fly tying Workshop | Neil's home | 18h15 |
| 14th to 17th April | Trout outing | Wattled Crane | TBD |
| 27th April | Monthly Meeting | Umtentweni Tennis Club | 18h00 for 18h30 |
| 30th April | Saltwater outing | 'Tweni Grannies Pool | 07h00 |
| 3rd May | Committee Meeting | Pieter's home | 18h00 |

Coming Events.

Note that the Fly-tying Workshop will be at Neil's home on Thursday 9th March at 18h15. We will tie the Epoxy Squid and the Midnite Express. Recipes have been sent to members.

Registration for the **Paddock bass Compo is on Friday 24th March while fishing is on Saturday and Sunday 25th and 26th March.** See "What's On" in the South Coast Herald or contact > elanorh@vodamail.co.za < for full details.

The **AGM is at the 'Tweni Tennis Club on Thursday 30th March.** Give some further thought to who you would like to see on the committee for the coming year. Don't forget to bring some boodle, in fact bring lots of boodle, as the Master at Arms has a bone to pick with each and every one of you. You will not escape a fine by missing the meeting, as his book has the full list of mistakes made during the year.

The Fly-tying workshop is again at Neil's home on Wednesday 12th April at 18h15.

There is a trout outing to Wattled Crane from Friday 14th April to Monday 17th April. The grub and travel arrangements will probably be discussed at the fly-tying workshop on the 12th April.

Past Events.

SCFA outing to Saxonholme Dam. Murchison area. Sunday 19th February 2023. By Stephen Brand.

John, Arthur, Warren, Ken, Dave, Marion, Conner, Neil, Steve, Kevin, Winston (a friend of Ken's) all arrived around 7am all on the water and fishing shortly after.

John 8, Steve 6, Kevin 1, Stan 3, Conner 10, Warren 21, Arthur 15, Dave 2, Ken 6, Neil 10, Total 92. *(The last time that members fished this dam, hundreds of very small fish were caught. The main aim of fishing the dam this time was to cull the smaller ones (6 inches to 8 inches,) but for some reason we got mainly the larger fish, 10 inches up to 12 inches,) so we only removed 13 small ones. Ed.)*



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Kevin was hungry, so he started the braai around 10 am. There were mixed reports of a good and bad days fishing.

There are a lot of water lilies around the dam, which make kick-boating a necessity. Weather was overcast with a northerly breeze blowing. A very pleasant day overall. 13 small fish were culled. Flies used Black Woolly Bugger, Jacaranda, Bent Back Bass Fly, to name a few.

Monthly Meeting. Thursday 23rd February 2023. Umtentweni Tennis Club.

Present: 16 members. **Visitors:** Chris Shuttleworth and Shaun Dickson from Xplorer in Durban.

The meeting took the form of a fly-tying demo by Protea angler, Shaun Dickson. Shaun and Chris had been invited down by Dick, as Shaun had offered to give members a fly-tying demonstration. He tied a No Name dry fly consisting of an Elk hair and squirrel tail / wing and an orange Para Post as a sighter. Only Neil, Jaco and Dick had the courage to bring their tying tools and materials and tied with him.

Fly of the Month: Judged by Chris.

Freshwater: Filoplume Dragon: Neil, Mitch, John, Mitch, Neil, Sean, Steve, Arthur.

Saltwater: Mylar Sprat: John, Arthur, Steve, Sean, Neil, Mitch.

As we have come to expect, Steve had prepared a very presentable fire and we had a very sociable braai afterwards and as usual, caught more fish than we had on any recent outing!!!

Saltwater outing to TO Strand. Sunday 26th February. 2023. By John New.

After the threat of rain and wind, Ken, David, Arthur, Steve, Sean and Neil all tried their luck at T.O Strand beach.

The wind and rain held off until we were on our way home.

Steve arrived and found out that he had left his reel at home and had to pop home to fetch it.

All the guys had a full go, but the fish as per usual would not feed well. Ken caught 7 Wave Garrick. Sean caught 6. Steve caught 3. The rest all caught nothing, but it sometimes goes like that.

Mike and Toi came down to check on the fishermen, as did John. We then went up to the car park for a coffee and sarmie and a chat about the fishing and what some had done wrong. Next time things will be better.

Prize Giving. The home of Steve and Olga. Saturday 4th March.

Prize giving was not surprisingly, once again, a huge success. To the few that missed it, "Sorry you lost, big time." This year the format was slightly changed, in that, SCFA sponsored the dinner, in the form of a main course of roast beef, Yorkshire Pudding and veg. There was also a starter and desert afterwards, supplied by Olga and Belinda. (In years past it was a case of BYO braai and the committee provided the salads.) Thanks for the preparation of all the eats and Prizes must go to Olga, Steve and Belinda, who worked their butts off to get it all done in time. Afterwards we all pushed off home and left them to clear the mess and do the washing up as well!!!!!!!!!!!!!! SCFA are extremely blessed to have them on board.

Steve, once again excelled in getting dozens of really super prizes from a host of sponsons. These came from Red Rhino Farm, Coastals, Lawn Mower Place, Industrial Place, Luckies (Manaba,) Luckies (Port Shepstone,) Xplorer Fly Fishing, Wolf Security, Doug's Hardware, M and F Tractor Parts, Battery Tech Shelly Beach and Gracedmed Pharmacy. SCFA are really grateful for the sponsorship.

List of prize winners:

Most Prestigious Fish: 4kg Brown Trout caught by Sakkie Mc Cay in Mountain Lake.

2nd Most Prestigious Fish: 80 cm Giant Trevally caught by Liam vd Merwe in the Seychelles

Most Prolific Angler: Sean Tharratt with 253 fish.

Most Improved Angler: Sean Tharratt having made the B National trials team.

Saltwater Fly-Tier of the Year: Neil Scott with 33 points out of a maximum of 40.

Fresh Water Fly-Tier of the Year: Neil Scott with 32 points out of a maximum of 40.

Chris van Wyk Chairman's Award: Dick Plaistowe for a series of newspaper articles on SCFA activities.



Honorary membership: Pieter vd Merwe, who has had a total of 10 years on the committee since he joined SCFA in 2004.

Merit Award for Most Species Caught: Liam vd Merwe. 10 species. Rainbow Trout, Black tip King Fish, Thorn Fish, Dorado, Large Spot Pompano, Small Spot Pompano, Toby, Giant Trevally, Emperor, Bonito.

Merit Award: Jaco Strauss and Sean Tharratt for being selected for B national trials.

Foul Hook Merit Award: Stan Park: The only person who can roll a triangular samoosa off a horizontal braai grid into the sand.

Winners of the Flies of the Month fly boxes: 1st Rob Nicholas. 2nd Warren Booth. 3rd Mike Skellern.

Saltwater outing to Impenjati, Sunday 5th March. By Arthur Cary.

We had a surprisingly good turn out of members and spouses / partners for this outing, considering that it was the night after prize giving. There were also a number of apologies from members who were getting ready for a trout outing to Wattled Crane.

A steady north easter was blowing when we arrived at the car park and tackled up just after six thirty. This gradually picked up and by nine thirty was blowing half a gale, which was enough to persuade the majority of anglers to head back to the car park, where a well secured gazebo provided the shade.

Kevin's braai-fire just made the grade, but everyone managed to get their meat done in time. . He definitely needs more guidance, before he can hope to replace Steve!

Apart from the 13 wave Garrick that were caught, by Sean 5, John 2, Matt 1, Arthur 3, Ken and Warren 1 each Ken got a thorn fish, while Warren caught an, as yet unidentified fish. (Had horizontal green stripes along the body.) Steve, David and Kevin had a couple of knocks, which they could unfortunately not convert into "Catch Register Entries." Dick, you need to select a south westerly wind and actually bring a rod, before you can hope to get your name into the book!

Flies that did the trick this time include: Orange White Got Cha, Chartreuse Crazy Charlie, Surf Puff, Mylar Sprat, Orange and Gully Bugger

No one was brave or stupid enough to fish the estuary from a kick boat, as the water did not smell at all good. Sewerage works is obviously kaput.

It was great that, Jan, Kate, Stacey and Marion brought some respectability to the group.

Fry, Fingerling and Stockie Stories.



Members have probably seen (and forgotten) that Steve sent out photos of a list of items that can be ordered. Included are SCFA badges, wide brim, flap and bucket hats and caps. If you are interested, contact him now, as stocks are limited.

Last Cast.

It is once again time to thank the many folk who helped to make the newsletter what it was over the last 12 months. Accept my apologies for the various mistakes that regularly seem to find their way into numerous editions of the newsletter.

Thank you to the contributors of articles; these are after all, what makes the newsletter what it is.

Thank you too, to the readers who offered encouraging advice and criticism; always much appreciated.

A huge "Thank you," goes to June, my proof-reader *par excellence* for her corrections of my grammar and spelling. Without her help, readers would at times, have to read phonetically in order to make out what I have tried to say.

Last, but by no means least, thank you to you, the readers, who suffer my written word without complaint. This may of course be, that would-be complainants keep mum, because they fear that they may inherit the title, "SCFA Scribe." When your turn comes, you will find that "Scribe" is in fact quite a pleasant task, and ensures that one is abreast of the happenings within SCFA all the time.

Cheers for now. See you at the meetings and on the water. Arthur.

