



## South Coast Fly Anglers



# NEWSLETTER July 2022

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**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)  
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### Preparing to cast.

In this newsletter we have news of the cancelled Pont outing, (replaced by a visit to the "Kulu mouth on Sunday 10th July,) the fly tying workshop, a scheduled outing to Ramsgate and the monthly meeting on the 28th, as well as reports on a couple of outings. Thanks to Steve and to Dick for the contributions on three of these last month.

Cheers Arthur.

### Events Calendar

| <u>Date</u>                              | <u>Event</u>           | <u>Venue</u>           | <u>Time</u>     |
|--|------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| 10 <sup>th</sup> July                    | Estuary outing         | Kulu mouth             | 07h00           |
| 20 <sup>th</sup> Jul                     | Fly tying Workshop     | Neil's home            | 18h15 for 18h30 |
| 24 <sup>th</sup> Jul                     | Salt water outing      | Ramsgate               | 07h00           |
| 28 <sup>th</sup> Jul                     | Monthly meeting        | Umtentweni Tennis Club | 18h00 for 18h30 |
| 7 <sup>th</sup> Aug                      | Salt water outing      | Tweni Beach            | 07h00           |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> Aug                     | Fly tying Workshop     | Neil's home            | 18h15 for 18h30 |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> Aug                     | Grub 'n travel meeting | Neil's home            | After fly tying |
| 19 <sup>th</sup> to 26 <sup>th</sup> Aug | Salt water outing      | St Lucia               | TBD             |

### Coming Events.

Instead of fishing the Pont on the **9th and 10th July**, we will fish the 'Kulu mouth. Entry to The Pont has been increased exponentially, so we will give the 'Kulu a try. Bring sarmies and refreshments for the natter afterwards.

**Note the change: Fly tying at Neil's home on Wednesday 20th July, not the 13th!!!!** We will be tying the salt water Clacker Clouser and the fresh water Marabou and Copper. Recipes have been sent to members.

**Ramsgate is the place to be on Sunday 24th July, when we have our saltwater outing .** With a bit of luck and a favourable wind, the water will be cleaner than it was at Trafalgar in June. Sarmies and liquid refreshments will go down well afterwards.

**Monthly meeting, as usual at the 'Tweni Tennis Club on Thursday 28th July at 18h00 for 18h30.**

There is a trip to **St Lucia planned for 19th to 26th August.** Accommodation will be at Neil's timeshare in St Lucia and the chaps will probably travel through to Cape Vidal on most days. Contact Neil (083 265 6608) if you are interested in joining this group. Dick (082 453 8618) is going from 22nd to 26th. Join him, if you cannot make the whole week. Not many spaces left, so let Neil know now if you want to be included.

### Past Events.

**Trout trip to Wattled Crane. Friday 10th June to Monday 13th June.** By Stephen Brand.

Neil, John, Sakkie and Stan arrived at 08h30, after taking a slow drive up, followed by Steve, Piet and Liam at 09h30. There was a rush and a flurry of activity, as we all unpacked and assembled our kick boats.

As usual Stan was first on the water, followed by the rest of us. The wind came up and the Antarctic cold kicked in. Neil 1, John 3, Steve 2, Piet 0, Sakkie 0, Liam 2 and Stan 4.

Neil made hamburgers and chips for supper and then Fannie Gous and Peeky Binders came out and the rest is history. *(You would have had to be present to understand this lingo. Tastes good, what ever the name. Ed.)*



**Saturday.**

Stan was first on the water and the rest of us followed, as the sun came over the hill. Neil 3, John 3, Steve 1, Piet 2, Sakkie 2, Liam 7, Stan 2..

Curry was on the menu, which warmed us up, with Neil's chilli in the sambels. Fannie Gous had a subdued evening.

**Sunday.**

There was again a flush and a flurry for the coffee station at 06h30 and the boys were ready to go, until they put their noses out of the door. Brrr cold, but the breeze soon dropped and it became bearable.

Stan was on the water at 07h00, followed by the others, but Sakkie and Steve waited to warm up with the sun. Neil did his usual mince and beans for brunch; supper was spaghetti Bolognese.

Neil 0, John 3, Steve 0, Piet 1 Sakkie 0, Liam 7, Stan 2.

**Monday.**

Neil and Steve had a rough night with a shrew that bugged them, but we were all at the coffee station around 06h30 and then off to fish.

There was little to no wind, but only a few fish were caught.

Neil 2, Liam 1, Stan 1.

**Total for the week-end = 49.** We left at 11h45.

**Saltwater outing to Trafalgar. Sunday 26th June.** By Dick Plaistowe.

Six fishing members (Steve, Arthur, Warren, Ken, David and Dick) turned up on a beautiful morning at Trafalgar main beach, arriving from sunrise until 08.00, but no names no pack drill and Neil pitched for a chat and a coffee a bit later. Six wave garrick were caught (Warren and Dick one each, and David four; well done David).

Unfortunately the water was still murky which has been the case for sometime since the floods, although the surf conditions were good. *(Ken has a different opinion, as a heavier-than-expected-wave, bashed him over. Ed)* (The most noteworthy issue for the morning was that Steve rather carelessly left his Ford Ranger keys on his vehicle's tailgate, which Dick inadvertently picked up, when he went home to Southbroom. A very observant Dick found the strange keys on his return home, and promptly called Stephen as the only known owner of a "Ford". Enough said.)

**Trout trip to Wattled Crane. Monday 27th June to Thursday 30th June.** By Dick Plaistowe.

Neil Scott, John Neaves and Dick Plaistowe fished Wattled Crane from the afternoon session on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> June departing Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> after a mornings fishing. The weather was sunny, crisp and clear every day, although the farmers burning the fire breaks did generate plenty of smoke from mid day onwards; this only made long distance visibility bad and had no impact on the fishing, that we were conscious of. The temperature plummeted from 16h30 and the cold had us off the water by 17h00 latest. Thank God for plenty of wood and coal for the fire, which burnt throughout the night.

A total of fifteen fish were caught and released, all in magnificent condition and all between 40 cm and 50 cm, beautiful colours, fat and full of fight. Interestingly the bulk of the fish were caught in the afternoon sessions, unfortunately we didn't record the exact details. Dick's fish were definitely caught after lunch, but maybe this had more to do with Dick, than with the fish !!!!

Successful flies included Papa Roach, various beaded Leeches, Woolly Bugger variants, and some old favourites, with Mrs Simpson, GRHE and Muddler Minnows. In a world that is constantly looking for the new generation "killer" fly it is refreshing and maybe just common sense to remember that the "Golden Oldies" are deemed as such, because they have "stood the test of time".

Floating lines were used in the shallower areas at the top of the dam and intermediate and sinking lines elsewhere. Multi-fly leaders were used with two or three flies, but all fish were caught on the bottom fly.

It goes without saying that Wattled Crane is a gem for the SCFA members being relatively close to the South Coast, isolated, not a night light in sight, no sign of the outside world, scenic and good fishing, which is so important for people in this topsy-turvy world that we now live in.

**Monthly meeting. Thursday 30th June. Umtentweni Tennis Club.**

**Present:** 12 members. **Apologies:** Rob, Ian, Jaco, Ken, David, Mike, Kevin, Bill and of course Capetonian, Pat.

**Visitor:** Stacey.



**Flies of the Month:** Judged by Dean.

**Freshwater: Griffith's Gnat:** Liam, Neil, Sean, John and Arthur.

**Saltwater: Surf Candy:** Neil, John, Sean, Arthur and Neil. *(A question arises, "How in heaven's name, did Arthur beat Neil's 2nd Surf Candy?" Herein lies a tale, Dean decided that the barb of Neil's 2nd Candy had not been squashed sufficiently. The Editor is not taking sides, but thanks Dean, it saved you from being verbally abused for your judging of both the salt and freshwater flies!!!! Ed.)*

**Coming Events:** (See page 1 for details)

The proposed Pont outing on 9th and 10th July has been moved to the 'Kulu mouth for Sunday 10th July. Fly tying workshop at Neil's home on Wednesday 20th July. **Note : it was originally scheduled for Wednesday 13th.**

Saltwater outing to Ramsgate on 24th July and the monthly meeting at the 'Tweni Tennis Club on 28th July. Give some serious thought to joining in on the proposed trip to St Lucia and Cape Vidal in August. Contact Neil if you are at all interested.

The Natal Scaly Workshop being held at Nyala Pans from 2nd to 4th Sept., is fully booked. Michael Shuttleworth is considering running another one from 9th to 11th Sept, if there is sufficient interest. Cost is R 1300.00. This includes accommodation and meals, but not drinks.

The workshop includes: Practical demonstrations on Euro-nymphing, tackle setup, river craft and where and how to find scalies. There is a limit on the number of anglers that can be accommodated, so book your spot now if you are interested. Contact Neil or Michael (082 923 5347) or >mshuttleworth7@icloud.com < for further details.

### **General.**

Sean gave a brief report of the trials that he and Jaco fished over the week end of 24th to 26th June. These were held in the Underberg district and among the venues that were used, was the huge Gox Hill Lake on the Pulela River. Fishing was extremely tough, with Sean only getting one rainbow, admittedly a beaut. of 63 cm. Jaco had a couple of on-offs and break-offs but nothing for the net. Well done to you two. Keep the flag flying chaps.

Steve reported that a couple of friends fished Lake St Bernard over the week end and caught some really nice fish from the bank. Sounds as though this water has at long last been stocked!

### **Committee Meeting held at Pieter's home on Wednesday 6th July.**

Items discussed at the committee meeting are detailed in the Events Calendar or in Fry, Fingerlings and Stockie Stories below.

#### **Fry, Fingerling and Stockie Stories.**



Bill has kindly donated a Dabbie Floatmaster float tube to the club. This will be sold to increase club funds. If any one knows of a willing buyer, contact Arthur, (Cell 076 312 0417) or e-mail caryaj@xsinet.co.za and make an honest offer.



Good news, but at the same time bad news, if you understand my Irish. The sale of Bill and Sharon's house has finally gone through and they will be leaving for Pretoria on Thursday 21st July. He will not be changing his cell phne or e-mail contact details.



A friend of Dick's has donated various fly tying items to the club, which will be available at the next monthly meeting. Besides assorted dumbbell eyes and other goodies, there are also fly lines of various weights and sink rates. Bring some extra dosh and take advantage of the bargains that will be on offer.



Steve has requested some help with a problem that he has in his dam. For some inexplicable reason,



frogs are dying at the inlet and outlet to this patch of water. Over the rest of the dam, they are happily croaking away, but at the inlet and outlet they have croaked their last croak and now float belly-up. There is no sign of poison or excessive fertilization in up-stream lands. Any ideas from anyone???. Give Steve a shout if you can help. (082 551 9010)



At our last monthly meeting the subject of sponsorship for stocking Mountain Lake and Wattled Crane was briefly raised. We did not get round to discussing this at the Committee meeting, so will keep it over till the next one in September, which will be at Dick's home.

### **Last Cast.**

We are indeed fortunate to reside on the Natal South Coast, (in certain respects that is.) At this time of year, days normally start with a magnificent sunrise, followed by a cloudless and windless 10 hours of sunshine. We could actually do with a spit and a spot of rain to replenish our dwindling supplies of tank water, but all in all life is not too bad at all.

Things will actually improve when load shedding slows down and when we get a guaranteed supply of municipal water.

Life will be even more blissful when the missing shad tire of chasing the sardines up north, return and we do not have to eat fillet steak and lamb chops every day. (Chaps, it will happen, even if it seems to be a distant dream at the moment. Just think positive waves)

Count your blessings and make the most of life by attending as many SCFA outings as you can.

Hope to see most of you, at most of them. Cheers Arthur.

