



South Coast Fly Anglers



NEWSLETTER

March 2019

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 (062 520 4975)

Preparing to cast.

This month we have a slightly updated events-calendar, as well as a couple of reports on our outings and one on our Prize Giving function.

Events Calendar

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Venue</u>	<u>Time</u>
5 th March	Committee meeting	Arthur's home	18h00
10 th March	Bass outing	Houtsen's Dam. Harding area	05h00
12 th March	Fly tying Workshop	Neil's home	18h30
18 th March	Grub & travel meeting	Ski Boat Club	18h00
21 st to 24 th March	Trout outing	Wattled Crane	TBA
27 th March	AGM	Ski Boat Club	18h00 for 18h30

Coming Events.

The last committee meeting for the 2018/19 year is at Arthur's home on Tuesday 5th March. The calendar for the next couple of months needs to be sorted out, so committee members are asked to come to the meeting with some ideas of fish-yielding venues.

The Umzimkulu is still pretty dirty after the recent rains, so the planned yellow fish outing on the **10th March** has been cancelled. It has been decided to fish a dam in the Harding area instead. (Paddock dams are closed due to the Paddock compo at the end of March.) Meet at the Shell Filling Station in Main Harding Road Marburg at 05h00. As usual, we will have a braai after fishing, so bring your refreshments, etc.

The **fly tying workshop will be at Neil's home on Tuesday 12th March.** As we do not have a competition in March, we will tie the Wulff Spider. Bring your vices and necessary tools. Materials required: #14 dry fly hook, thin foam (brown or black,) white Antron, black dubbing material, pheasant tail. This dry fly is the one with which Neil had a considerable number of takes at Sterkfontein recently.

Committee members are reminded of the Committee dinner at the **La Cappannina Restaurant in Ramsgate at 18h00 on Friday 15th March.**

We have a trip to **Wattled Crane on the weekend 21st to 24th March. The Grub meeting is on Monday 18th at the Ski Boat Club. 18h00.** Because the Thursday is a public holiday, the trip has been extended to 4 days. Seven names are on the list.

The **AGM will be held on Wednesday 27th March.** Neil has once again "volunteered" his services as a committee member, so rest assured that no one else will be "press-ganged" onto the committee, because 5 of the present committee members are prepared to stay on. That is, unless we all get the boot at the AGM. *(That is wishful thinking. Ed)*

Members are reminded that subs are due. They remain at R110.00 for the year. I think that I can say without fear of contradiction, that South Coast Fly Anglers offers the "best value for money" of any club in the country. In the past there has been no problem in collecting the annual fees, and I am sure that this will again be the case in 2019. Members, please don't prove me wrong.

SCFA members can never say that they are not given sufficient time to plan their fishing calendar:

Neil's timeshare in St Lucia has been booked from 19th Aug to 23rd Aug. There are 5 spots available.

The Richtersveld trip is from September 8th to September 19th. Those wishing to join: **Start saving!**



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The Compass Compo. organised by the Matatiele Angling Club and held at Mountain Lake last year, is being organised by SCFA this year. It will probably be held over the first week-end of October and will again be at Mountain Lake. This event is a fun fly fishing competition between the north, east, south and west regions of KZN, hence the name. Notices will be sent to clubs in the various regions, once the details of the event have been finalised.

Past Events.

Saltwater outing to Pumula. Sunday, 10th February, by Bill Derman.

The Sunday weather schedule for the outing was forecast to be wet windy and pretty uninviting. Well it turned out to be the exact opposite with clear skies, no wind or rain, but unfortunately no fish, except for 1 Wave Garrick caught by Neil.

Fishing started at 06h20 with a beautiful calm sea and a slight breeze towards the sea which helped those of us that have difficulty casting, to throw a nice line.

Attendees were Bill, Arthur, Neil, Stan, Ken, David, Marion and Rob. Craig Saunders, a potential new member joined in on the Chat Groups and it is expected that he will be a member shortly.

Piet and Liam arrived as we were leaving at approximately 09h30 with their **SPEAR FISHING GEAR.**

They reported back to Arthur later that afternoon that there was a massive shoal of shad in the bay, but not even the bait fisherman managed to entice the elusive fish on the day.

The forecast "rain" arrived on Sunday evening and washed away the access road to the beach.

Cheers. Bill.

Saltwater outing to Impenjati. Sunday, 24th February, by Sean Tharratt.

The weather looked good for the outing at Mpenjati; sunny with a very slight breeze. Dean and his brother Mike were fishing the estuary first and Duane and Bianca were fishing in the surf when John, Arthur and Sean arrived at around 6:30am.

Tackle was being set up when the rest of the anglers arrived. The guys set out in different directions to try their luck.. Certain places in the surf were a bit rougher than others, so reading the water and choosing your spot to fish is very important.

The surf around the river mouth, that was open, was the calmest and Sean picked up 2 wave garrick there after a few casts. He took a long walk up North and made a few casts as he went up, getting a better size wave garrick of 28 cm fork length and then headed back down to the mouth area, where Ken caught some wave garrick, made a few casts and managed to get a tiny bastard mullet and another 2 wave garrick. Sean also caught a 58 cm lesser sand shark, which put up a very decent fight.

It is important to time your casts with the waves to get your line to stay in the strike zone longer and not immediately get washed back to your feet. An intermediate or sinking line is recommended.

The guys fished hard and some were rewarded and some were not. Flies used were mostly Crazy Charlies and Surf Puffs.

There were a lot of mullet in the estuary. Dean had a few bumps from these, but missed them. Duane and Bianca were lucky enough to find a spot in the river and got 2 nice size kingfish. The outing was well attended with 12 anglers giving it a go and Marion spectating and helping Sean with fish photography. See you guys and gals at the next outing.

Cheers. Sean

Monthly Meeting. Wednesday 27th February.

Present: 11 members.

Apologies: Stan, Bill, Ken, David, Sakkie, Bianca, Duane, Duval, Werner and Mitch. *(It appears as though work and holiday are having a material effect on our attendance numbers. Ed.)*

FotM for January:

Freshwater: Black and Peacock Spider: Arthur, John, Sean, David, David.

Saltwater: Freestyle Blonde: John, Arthur, Sean, David, David, David.



General:

Neil had a quick trip up to St Lucia and Cape Vidal. He reported that the surf at Vidal was unfishable on the Friday and Saturday, but Sunday dawned bright, clear and calm, which allowed him to get a couple of shad, bastard mullett and wave garrick.

The sponsorship, offered by Fishbooks will be discussed at the committee meeting on Tuesday 5th March.

Prize Giving Function. Saturday 2nd March, by Arthur Cary.

SCFA once again a huge "Thank you" goes to Steve and Olga for opening their home for the annual Prize Giving party. Thanks too, to Olga, Belinda and Sharon for all the preparation, the salads, the pudding and most of all, for washing the dishes and clearing up the mess after we had left. Steve, Belinda and Sharon, "Thank you" for all your work in preparing the certificates and the multitude of lucky dip prizes that you organised, many of which were home-made pickles, jams and marmalade. We owe a debt of gratitude to Lucky's, Manaba and Lucky's, Sheppie for sponsoring a number of the prizes. Thanks too to Philippa Makepeace, the South Coast Herald scribe for the Umtavuna region. She took a couple of photos of the prize winners and will give us a publicity plug in an upcoming edition of the Bonus Herald.

As always, the evening was a great success, and all 24 members and family who attended, thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

While 2018 was not the greatest fishing year, members certainly caught a variety of fish, and most importantly, derived a great deal of enjoyment from their efforts.

Congratulations to the prize-winners, listed below.

Chris van Wyk Chairman's Award: Justine Ashington. Despite being a junior, he is a regular attendee at meetings, is the ever-willing fire-lighter and a regular FotM judge.

Most Meritorious Fish: Bianca Luther. 3.6 kg rainbow trout

2nd Most Meritorious Fish: Stan Park. 2.5 kg rainbow trout.

Most Prolific Angler: Sean Tharrat. 69 fish.

Most Species Caught: Sean Tharrat. 11 species.

Most Improved Angler: Liam van der Merwe. Selected for the Junior Protea squad to fish in the Czech Republic later this year.

Salt Water Fly Tyer of the Year: Dean Angove

Fresh Water Fly Tyer of the Year: Dean Angove

Merit Awards:

Rob Nicholas: Lesser Sandshark. **David Schwartz:** 1.5 kg tiger fish. 1.4 kg blacktip kingfish.

Ken Schwartz: 1.5 kg tiger fish. 38 cm wave garrick. **Werner Grobler:** East coast sole. Lesser Sandshark.

Justine Ashington: Selected for the South African Sports Angling and Casting Confederation (SASACC) junior squad to fish in the Czech Republic in May.

Note: The above list was compiled mainly from the entries in the official Catch Record Book and from the FotM results. The committee searched in vain for an entry of a 5 kg shad reportedly caught in the Uvongo area, while entries of hundreds of fish (reportedly) caught at Mountain Lake have also "mysteriously disappeared."

Remember, if it is not in the book, it was not caught.

The raffle of the Flies of the Month, organised by Pieter and Steve, brought in just on R2000.00. Thank you to all who sold your lists.

1st prize: Neil Scott.

2nd prize: Dennis Graham. (John's neighbour.)

3rd prize: Tony Leary. (Pat will be claiming his prize.)

Fry, Fingerling and Stockie Stories.



Well done to Justine, who has been called up for the SASACC junior team. These youngsters will be going over to the Czech Republic in May. A wonderful experience for the boys. As mentioned last month, Liam will be fishing for the Protea squad later in the year.



Non-member, Dave Lambley, has a Water Snake sneaker motor available. Although in working condition, it does not have a switch or a handle, so at worst is suitable for spares . If any one is interested, give Arthur a shout (076 312 0417.)



The Paddock Fishing Compo. is being held over the last week-end of March; i.e. 30th and 31st. The briefing is at the Paddock Farmer's Club on Friday 29th at 19h00. For more info. contact 083 293 5265

Last Cast.

This is my last newsletter of 2018/9 and I would once again like to thank all those members who contributed articles during the past year. I also thank my wife June, who has the unenviable task of proof reading. Without her help, the newsletter would certainly contain a multitude of spelling and grammatical errors.

Members, without your input, the newsletter would just not happen and without a newsletter, the club would have difficulty in functioning and would certainly not function as efficiently as it does. I like to think that the newsletter keeps members informed, regarding past happenings and more importantly, what is on the horizon. This, in no small measure, is entirely of your doing. As scribe, I merely hammer your input into a sort-of-a-shape and send it out; sometimes. Members, once again, please take a well deserved bow and keep up the good work. Cheers Arthur

