



NFFC to hold a milestone event

Records indicate that as early as 1974, just two years after its formation, the Natal Fly Fishers Club (NFFC) was busying itself with the removal of wattle trees and willows that have at times choked the banks of rivers like the Little Mooi and the Umgeni.



It therefore comes as no surprise that the NFFC, one of KZN's most established and active fly fishing clubs, has been a major contributor to the #BRU initiative. The "BRU" stands for "Blue Ribbon Umgeni", and is an initiative building on the term given to premier trout streams worthy of particular care and recognition in the USA. The NFFC has had access to waters on the Umgeni since 1972. It currently enjoys permission to fly-fish about 11kms of the 17kms of Trout water, on this special Trout stream, which was one of the first three stocked with Browns 126 years ago. The NFFC has therefore contributed in cash, organization of volunteer days and placement of fencing stiles, in the three year old #BRU project.



The club prides itself in a 24/7 booking service, run through its website which also serves to provide catch return functionality, member communication, maps and other resources of interest to KZN midlands fly-fishers and regular visitors alike. Members also get to meet at the Old Main Brewery in Hilton every month to swap stories from the club's 25 stillwaters and 17 river beats. Those who tie flies also participate in the sister club, the "NFDS" (Natal Fly Dressers Society). Members and visitors enjoying this camaraderie and common interest are well placed to enjoy the club's waters on the Umgeni in particular, since it is as little as a 40 minute drive from the club's home town of Pietermaritzburg.

It is perhaps for this reason, as well as the fact that fly-fishermen tend to share a general conservation ethic, that has led the club to pursue "#BRU2", as it has been dubbed. The club has made approaches to landowners immediately above the 7.5kms of river that it has already helped clear of alien wattles and brambles. It is talking to them about a quid-pro-quo, in which the river could be cleared in return for some sort of access rights. In addition, agencies like the WWF, Working for Water, and DUCT are busy on side streams, and could do with some help. Furthermore, a section of the Mooi needs some work, and at the time of going to press we have just started exploring work and access on a previously celebrated trout stream that has receded into obscurity in recent years.

For this purpose as well as for ongoing maintenance of the beautiful stretches already cleared, the club is on a fundraising path. As such, we have planned a prestigious event to showcase our club and its waters, and to raise funds for what we believe is a noble and worthwhile cause.

For more information on the NFFC visit www.nffc.co.za, and for more on #BRU visit

<https://blueribbonumgeni.wordpress.com/>

To learn about this 'not-to-be-missed' event, read further.....

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Details of the Gala dinner & auction event:

Date: 6th May 2017

Venue: Victoria Country Club, Pietermaritzburg, KZN

Time: Wine tasting starts 5:00pm, Dinner 5:30 for 6pm

Ticket cost: R400pp

Tickets are on a 'First come, first served' basis and are limited to 220 in number.

To book your ticket, you will need to first make your payment, and then await confirmation that your booking has been successful (money will be returned if oversubscribed). We urge that if the event is of interest to you that you book as soon as possible.

All deposits must use the reference "NFFC GALA" + name of depositor.

Account details:

Culverwell & Co
Nedbank, Hayfields
Branch code 134-025
A/C # 1340-349108

Once payment has been received you will receive an electronic confirmation of your ticket number. Please kindly forward your proof of payment or a mail advising of payment to nffcqala@gmail.com.

- Cost of the ticket includes :
 - Saturday morning fishing (6th May) on a NFFC Water. Meet in Nottingham Road, for dam allocation, map and introduction to the Midlands. If this is of interest please contact Anton Smith (082 805 4962)
 - Saturday morning (6th May) guided 7.5km walk along the recently cleared section of the Umgeni River, suitable for non-fishing spouses, kids, and fishermen alike. Meet at Il Postino in the Dargle and return after the walk, for pizza lunch. (pizza not included). If this is of interest please contact Andrew Fowler (082 57 44 262)
 - Wine tasting
 - Luxury 3 course dinner
 - And a generous surprise gift at each and every table setting

- Order of events run by our MC Gordon van Der Spuy:
 - Wine tasting 5pm - 5:30pm
 - Welcoming – Chairman of the NFFC Andrew Fowler
 - Starters
 - Guest speaker – Dr Tom Sutcliffe
 - Main dinner
 - Auction (Auctioneer: Mark Hohls)
 - Thank you and special mentions
 - Dessert

*Cash Bar Available

So..... more about the sponsors and the 23 Auction Items:

The following items will be on auction on the night, in the below order.

There is no reserve price unless otherwise stated.

1. Autographed hard cover book: "Stippled Beauties: Seasons, Landscapes and Trout" no.99 of 100. The very last book available – courtesy of Andrew Fowler - Estimated Value - Priceless

2. Bushman's River Nets: A Customised Long Lake Net, courtesy of Andrew Sava - Estimated Value - Priceless
Bushman's River Nets are made under wide African skies. We are inspired by the beauty of our natural surroundings and try to recreate this in elegant but functional fishing tools. Our logo is one of two pieces of San rock art that are known to reflect a hunter with a fish and it is an image that we instinctively relate to.

We prefer to do as much of the work as is reasonably possible by hand and avoid using power tools wherever possible. As a result each piece is as unique as the river from which they take their name.

3. A Fully inclusive day guided fishing for 2 - Mavungana Flyfishing – estimated value at +/- R2,500
Spend a day with a Mavungana Instructor in Dullstroom, fishing on some of the country's most elite trout properties while learning the finer points of better casting, presentation, reading the water, fly line and fly selection, leader construction and how each rig should be fished. Enjoy having the fly fishing demystified, while you master techniques on private waters linked to Mavungana. We have access to exclusive stretches of river to hone your river skills but this is dependent on seasonal water levels.

Included - A morning and afternoon session allowing the anglers to fish on two different private properties not accessible to the public: only the owners and clients guided by Mavungana Flyfishing. Use of all the equipment and flies, rod fees and highly experienced Mavungana guide. (Guide and waters will be appointed upon booking)

Not Included - Use of Mavungana vehicle (Drive in your own suitable high clearance vehicle)

www.flyfishing.co.za

4. Weekend to Banchory – courtesy of Martin and Margie Firth – Estimated value at R3,300
Self catering accommodation for 2 nights for 6 people. The item applies to weekend bookings from 1 October 2017 to 30 April 2018 (Excluding school holidays and long weekends). Midweek bookings will be subject to availability, and a fishing rate of R 110 p.p. will apply)

5. Midge Lifecycle Fly box 168 flies – Tied by Wayne Stegen – we say no more.. Estimated Value - Priceless

6. Fish Art – courtesy of Gavin Erwin, we say no more.. Estimated Value - Priceless

7. Art Piece - courtesy of Peter Brigg, we say no more....Estimated Value – Priceless

8. R10 000 gift voucher for fly fishing materials or equipment of your choice, to be redeemed at the WildFly Shop in Nottingham Road.

WildFly, established in 2001 to manage Trout fisheries in the Natal Midlands has grown to a comprehensive fly fishing outfitter supplying all your fly fishing needs. From access to first class waters, guiding, tuition and events to a one stop fly fishing shop. www.wildfly.co.za

9. Weekend Stay & Fishing - Zingela River Safaris – Estimated Value at R3500
 Deep in the kingdom of the Zulus and in the heart of wild game country, you will discover Zingela Safaris bushcamp. Established in 1983 Zingela is an ideal family destination where campfire and conversation replaces television and cell phones. The romantic rooms are built from local materials and stretch the concept of outdoor living to its limits! Accommodation has extended over the years to include two self-catered camps as well as kitted out tented accommodation. Nature has provided a river for rafting, crags for abseiling, yellows for fly- fishermen, stars for the romantics , game for viewing and birds for the twitchers. Colenso is 2 hours from Durban and 4 from JHBurg. Zingela camp is a further 26kms of bush track from the town. Off road, high clearance vehicles only. Transfers also available from our Meet and Greet team. (Excludes accommodation in the venue known as “Laanie Lane”)
www.zingelasafaris.co.za
10. River & Stillwater Net & Fly Box –Courtesy of Shaun Futter (Trutta Angling Accessories) – Estimated Value - Priceless
 Trutta Angling Accessories produces handcrafted landing nets, fly boxes and other accessories for the discerning fly fisher.
www.facebook.com/TruttaAnglingAccessories/
11. Framed Custom Flies collection – Courtesy of Peter Briqq, Gordon Van Der Spuy, Ed Herbst & Dr Tom Sutcliffe, Fred Steynberg, Tim Rolston, Herman Botes, Gary Glen-Young, Marcel Terblanche and Edward Truter - Estimated Value – PRICELESS!!
12. New Bamboo Rod - Courtesy of Dr Andrew Mather from Mather Rod Works - Estimated Value - Priceless
 Bespoke bamboo fly rod builder and manufacturer of bamboo Rod making equipment.
13. Horizon Rod & Reel – from Frontier fly fishing. Estimated Value - R6,000
 Established in 2002 by Tom Lewin and Dean Riphagen. Frontier Fly Fishing is SA’s leading retailer of fly fishing equipment, supplying the world’s leading brands. The company also wholesales’ fly fishing brands to the fly fishing industry and offers hosted trips to the world’s finest fly fishing destinations.
www.frontierflyfishing.co.za
14. Fully inclusive full day guided fishing for 2 people – Fully inclusive full day guided fishing for 2 people – Courtesy of Angie and Jan Korrubel (Loxley House & AnglerFish) – Estimated value R6,000
 Loxley Guest House and Conference Venue is in the heart of the Midlands. The luxurious, landscaped garden makes Loxley House a sought after venue, the surrounding countryside offering numerous further scenic backdrops. Loxley House offers a State of the art conference venue with two additional breakaway rooms accommodating up to 40 delegates, and holistic massage and beauty therapies from our luxury Body Wellness rooms. With our 4-star quality service and staff, you will never leave disappointed!
 website : www.loxleyhouse.com / www.facebook.com/loxleyhousekzn
 ANGLERFISH : Anglerfish offers a number of services relating to fly fishing - these include fly fishing advice/instruction/guiding in both fishing and fly tying, as well as offering a custom fly tying service for those exclusive, specialist patterns.
 website : www.facebook.com/AnglerfishFFS
15. Customized J-Vice, Courtesy of Jay Smit. Estimated Value - Priceless
 The legendary J-Vice!
 All J-vices are produced in-house at my production facility in Kloof, KZN South Africa. The heart of the operation is a combination CNC lathe / milling machine which enables repeatability and ensures that all components are finished to precise specifications. All vices are produced, assembled and tested by myself before shipping.

16. Original Art from Dr Tom Sutcliffe: 6 frame-mounted pen and ink sketches for the book "The Elements of Fly Tying" - Dr Tom Sutcliffe Estimated Value – Priceless
17. 1 week trip for up to 6 people to Qwantani, Sterkfontein – Courtesy of the team at WildFly Travel. Estimated Value – R12600
Includes -: Accommodation in a 6 sleeper unit at Qwantani Resort for 1 week, with access to all resort facilities, including of course, the spectacular sight fishing for small mouth yellows!

WildFly Travel represents exclusive fly fishing properties around Africa, vetting each destination in terms of the quality of the fishery, resort services and facilities.
<http://www.wildflytravel.com>
18. 4 day Self-catering stay for 4 people including fishing at Highland Lodge courtesy of Vicky Bell. Estimated Value -R13,000!
(Stay delayed until late 2017 or 2018 due to low rainfall)
Self-catering but includes lodge basics (tea, coffee, soap, loo roll, dish liquid, salt etc.) The lodge does supply fire wood for the fire place but not for braai fires.
Staff members service the lodge daily.
19. Bokong River – Lesotho - 4 nights for 2 people, fully guided and all meals from Tourette Fishing. Estimated Value – R22,000!
Tourette Fishing is a dedicated team of African fishing travel experts and professional guides, operational in South Africa, Lesotho, Tanzania, Gabon, Botswana and Sudan. We specialise in establishing boutique fishing camps, cutting edge fishery management, community beneficiation, and conservation.
www.tourettefishing.com
20. 5 star Accommodation, meals & game drives and fishing on the Bushman's River - Shaka Lodge at Zulu Waters Game Reserve Value of the prize is approx. R25 000!
2 nights for 2 couples or a family of 4 at the 5 star Shaka Lodge at ZuluWaters Game Reserve
Shaka Lodge (exclusive use house, ie you have the use of the entire house for the period – no other parties are booked in) which comes with your own personal chef.
Prize includes accommodation, all meals and a game drive daily.
Drinks and other activities are excluded.
21. Vanderkloof Orange River - 3 nights for 2 people fully guided including all meals – Flycastaway (stay available Sun - Wed) – Estimated value R25,000
Includes: Full board and accommodation at Camp Vanderkloof based on single room accommodation.
Fully guided fishing, boats & fuel)
Vanderkloof Dam and the section of the Orange River that flows out of this enormous body of water offers world class fly fishing for Smallmouth and Largemouth Yellowfish! Comparable with some of the finest freshwater fisheries on the planet. The setting and the number of fish which reside in these lightly fished waters make it a must-fish venue for both local and international fly anglers. Whether your interest lies in throwing dry flies to sighted smallmouth Yellowfish cruising just below the surface, or throwing streamers for South Africa's premier freshwater predatory species :the Largemouth Yellowfish, Camp Vanderkloof is sure to impress. Situated just below the Vanderkloof Dam wall on a private working farm in South Africa's Northern Cape province, Camp Vanderkloof provides our guests with easy access to over 20km of highly productive Orange River as well as numerous coves, bays, rocky outcrops and islands on the dam itself. It is simply the ideal location! Guests are accommodated in a simple but comfortable lodge situated meters away from the Orange River and one of our premier fishing beats. The private lodge has 6

guest rooms each containing two single beds and en-suite bathroom, a large dining area where all breakfasts and evening meals are served, as well as self-contained bar area. Each guest will have his or her own room. Meals are a mix of international and South African cuisine, which are prepared daily by our resident chef, Marnus. On top of the self-drive option into camp (JHB – 6h 30min, CT – 8h 30 min, Durban – 8h 30 min) there are multiple commercial flight and airline options for guests to fly into Kimberley or Bloemfontein from Johannesburg, Durban or Cape Town.

It's an easy 2-hour drive from Kimberley or easy 3-hour drive from Bloemfontein. We can arrange transfers for guests or guests can arrange their own rental cars.

Exclusions: All travel and associated costs into camp including flights, hotels, transfers, self drive costs etc Soft drinks, water & local beers (guests are requested to bring their own) Spirits, wine, items of a personal nature. Gratuities for guides and boat staff (although gratuities are purely discretionary, we recommend ZAR250 per person per day for guides and R50 for lodge staff) Travel & medical insurance (medevac insurance is mandatory). Tackle & flies

22. 1 Person for 1 week 30 Sep – 7 Oct 2017 (fully inclusive) to Alphonse Island – courtesy of Alphonse Fishing Company – Estimated value at R120,000! *“Go on the fishing trip of your lifetime.” Now you can experience the world's best fly fishing with a specialised operator that truly understands the Seychelles islands. Our unique and tailor made trips will make your fishing dreams come true as we give you the chance to fish the island chain's abundant waters. This stunning Indian Ocean archipelago offers some of the world's richest saltwater fly fishing grounds which have brought fishermen numerous world record-sized catches.*

A dream destination for any fly fisherman, Alphonse Atoll in Seychelles is renowned for its expansive sea flats, which provide easy wading and world class fishing. The atolls are regarded as some of the most pristine, untouched islands in the world yet Alphonse Atoll is just a 60-minute flight from Mahé.

www.alphonse-island.com

Alphonse Fishing Co: www.alphonsefishingco.com

Includes:

7 Night package with all meals included
6 Days fishing St Francois and Alphonse
All hotel amenities and non motorised, land based activities
Complimentary scheduled communal excursions
All soft drinks during activities
Water, tea and coffee
Fly fishing rod and reel rental

Excludes:

Charter Flights to and from Alphonse @\$700
Conservation donations
Additional excursions
Alcoholic beverages
Soft drinks at the bar
Laundry
Telephone charges
International flights
Gratuities

23. A fishing trip to Slovenia hosted by Hunter Flyfishing - * Note there are reserve prices on the two items below.
- a. 10 days hosting for 2 people sharing.
 - b. 10 days hosting for 4 people sharing.

Trips include: hosting service where we pick up and drop off from the airport, drive to rivers every day and organize amazing site seeing trip on day off from fishing, accommodation, meals (breakfast, lunch spread at the river site and dinner), drinks (soft drinks and light alcohol beverages throughout fishing days and 2 drinks per person at dinner), 7 days of fishing at best rivers of Slovenia, even trophy sections - all licensing included, fish guide included, fly pack of 50 best flies specific for the area...

Day one would be arrival at the airport, driving to accommodation and prepare for the week. Start fishing on day 2. Have one day break from fishing either on day 5 or day 6 - depending on stamina and on day 10 would be packing up and wrapping up the trip with drop off at the airport.

Price does not include flights, visas, fishing gear but we can help out with those arrangements too.

Slovenia is this amazing small country in the middle of Europe. It shares borders with Italy, Austria, Hungary and Croatia. History and culture are ever also interesting as our land was under influences of Romans, Turks, Austro-Hungarians and plenty others. They all left their mark which shows in everyday life, from awesome architecture, and some fun habits. It is still very green country as two thirds are covered in beautiful forests and it is mandatory to recycle by law. It has amazing 22.000 kilometers of rivers flowing through and some spectacular fish species. It is a home to marble trout, which can only be found here, while Pike and Dunabe Salmon or Hucho Hucho give that hard tug to all thrill seekers in the winter time. During this fishing trip, you can expect to catch salmonids like rainbow, brown and brook trout with their cousin marble trout, greyling amongst other species. Fishing season is from 1st March till end of October, with May, June and September being best months for fishing as well as enjoying the countryside.

www.hunterflyfishing.com

[facebook/hunter fly fishing](https://www.facebook.com/hunterflyfishing)

info@hunterflyfishing.com

A Special thank you to our additional Sponsors

- *Vagabond Flymag*
- *Fly Fishing Magazine*
- *Hilton Safari Lodge*
- *Thirsti Water*
- *Heatherdon Syndicate for Hosting Dr Tom Sutcliffe Fishing*

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact:

- *Wayne / Roxanne Stegen – 084 400 8236 / 083 999 3 555*
- *Graeme Steart – 083 236 6235*
- *Andrew Beach – 079 525 4589*