

Newsletter June 2008

Kenya's big game fishing season is generally over as of March/April this year and unfortunately for many of the charter businesses, bookings from mid January to the end of the season were cancelled due to the post election crisis. However, not to brood on the doom and gloom, Kenya's had the best billfish season in many years with numerous sailfish; marlin and some broadbill catches of note. The 2008 Kenya Fish records will be available in print by August and as soon as they are confirmed, we will include the billfish figures in our fishing newsletter. A hazard guess would be around the 1,000 mark total for billfish this year and at this stage this may be a conservative guess.

It is always a pleasure to see the boats coming in from a day's fishing and the flags flying often red for the sails; blue, black and green for the marlins; white with orange for the broadbills. The flag of note above all of these would be the red triangle with a white "T" indicating a tagged and/or released flag. Numerous billfish; giant trevally; shark, etc were also included in the release program this year.

As the weather in Kenya turns cooler with some heavy rains and strong winds, most of the fishing boats have been laid up waiting for the sun to shine in between the rain storms to get on with the maintenance program. If it's too wet, out come the rods and reels for servicing and old line taken off for new and serious thought goes into deciding what weight and colour of line goes back on.

Taking advantage of the wet season, Howard and I have gone off to England, France, and Wales and generally touring England where we are now, meeting various people who are interested in big game fishing. We will be back in Kenya mid July, hopefully leaving many people we have met with a better idea of Kenya and all that the country has to offer. We have our lap top with us so emails are easily accessed should anyone want to contact us or on mobile telephone number +44 (0) 7983 885676.

Although the English summer month of June has been a little on and off weather-wise, it is refreshing to tour the U.K. country side with the emerald green grass; flowers in full bloom and usually some sunshine somewhere in the country in between the rain! Kenya really does have a lot of sunshine to offer and whether you are out on the sea fishing or on a wildlife game drive, you just cannot beat the Kenya weather from September to April each year; the friendly faces and hospitality of the Kenyan people, the diversity of the countryside; flora and fauna and a relaxed atmosphere.

So, here's to the next season with new faces; new challenges and a great time. Where ever you are, TIGHT LINES and we hope to see some of you in Kenya.

Howard & Sue