

Man Caves

By

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I draw inspiration for this article from Tom Sutcliffe who of 60 or so years a fly fisher, fly tyer, author and artist has just taken up occupation in his first man cave. (See his April 2016 newsletter for details). It made me wonder how many of the fly tying community can boast a man cave of any sort at all?

I certainly don't. I sojourn in a man passage that links the house to the new garage. My wife, bless her has a woman cave (or is it coven) that takes up the entire old garage and spills over into the Gemini hut that used to pass as my workshop. It is everything a cave should be with lots of working space, expensive machinery properly arrayed for easy use, copious draws and expansive cupboards that store a treasure trove of interesting stuff not to mention an easy chair where one can just contemplate the infinite.

This I am told I'm the secret to a successful marriage and I am sure this is true. But how many of us enjoy this basic marital amenity. I suggest precious few. There are of course exceptions like Andrew Mather whose man cave I told is a splendid thing to see or Jay Smit who has converted a man cave into a man house but I suspect these are exceptions. Most of us have to make do in whatever space is not occupied by the household we are putatively head of.

We can of course dream and occasionally our dreams actually come true hence the mouth-watering photographs we see on the internet depicting the crème de la crème of man caves.



So who in the club has a mancave and who is relegated to the dining room table as long as he cleans up before the next meal?