

THE BOBBIN

The newsletter of the

Durban Fly Tyers



www.durbanflytyers.co.za



April 2016

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Next Meeting

Visitors and beginners are welcome.

Date	4 April 2016
Venue	Room G1 Westville Library
Time	7pm for 7.30pm
Tie	Salt Water
Tyer	Jay Smit
Pattern	Flexo Crab
Special Instructions	Bring white or clear thread and a bobbin threader

CHAIRMAN'S CHIRP

A big thank you to Daniel Factor for giving up an evening to demo the Amy's Ant for us. A very interesting tie that could also be used for bass.

We are almost at the end of another financial year at DFT and that means trophies and certificates. The standard of tying has again been top class and as a club I think we could stand our ground against any other club.

The guest tyers have once more also been top class and we hope this will carry on. At this stage the race for Tyer of the year is extremely close as it was last year, and we also need some nominations for the Foul Hook award .If there are any proposals please let us know.

From a fishing news point of view there is none because unfortunately I get very little if any feedback from members although we so often ask for this as well as short articles for the Bobbin. Recently Jay and Steve got in a trip to the Maldives and appear to have had a successful time and by the time you all read this they would have returned from a Seychelles trip as well. I hope to be able to catch them for a story or two. Word has it that the catchment area for St Lucia has had a good lot of rain and is slowly trickling in so hopefully this bodes well as this area has had a hammering over a few years now.



A very deep interest of mine is motorcycles of any kind or vintage. On Friday 11th March I went up to Hillcrest to watch the entrants leave on the annual Durban to Jo`burg motorcycle rally. An entrant of special interest was our own Andrew Mather. A man of many talents and very good at them all according to what the grapevine tells me .He did very well achieving 5th position overall on his 1933 OK SUPREME. This is a machine that he has rebuilt on his own, somewhere in his obviously busy schedule.

Very well done Andrew and I look forward to seeing you off next year.

For our April meeting Jay Smit has kindly agreed to share with us the Flexo Crab pattern used in the Maldives and Seychelles. This will be the last tie before the AGM and therefore the last opportunity to gather points.

FROM THE EDITOR

Thank you Stelios and Graeme for the contributions to the Bobbin. Sadly Stelios could not give us the second in his series on his latest trip to South America. That is coming next month. In the meantime he has written on a trip to Alaska back in 2002.

Remember contributions are gratefully received.

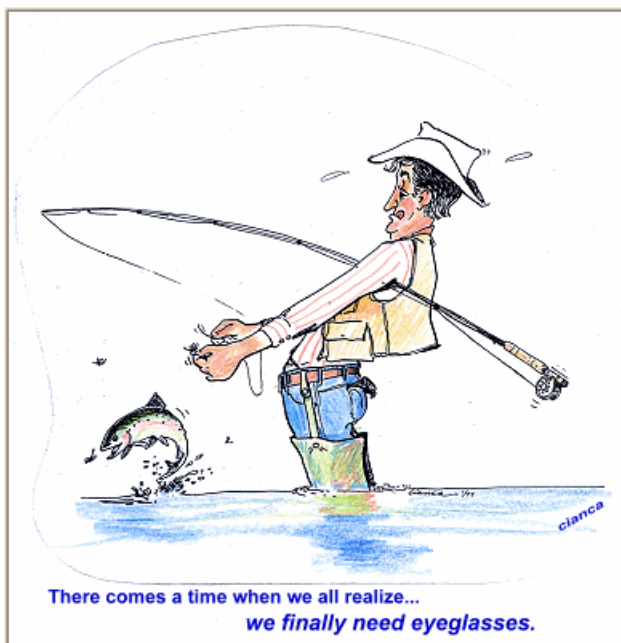
The Aquaculture Bill has created a huge stir with most of the industry up in arms over the idea that one can only carry on aquaculture with a government license. Some very interesting submissions have been made which point to a hardening of attitudes towards governments' attempts to bring everything under state control.

According to Cape nature it cost them R300.00 for each catchable fish placed in Cape waters back in 1986. It will cost you R60.00 a fish to do the same thing today. That is R60.00 in today's money. R300.00 in 1986 money is worth R3 000.00 today. This gives you some idea how much more costly state run enterprises are when compared to privately run ones!

Sadly I have had very little time to fish lately but May is looking up with a trip to Mpumalanga in the offing.



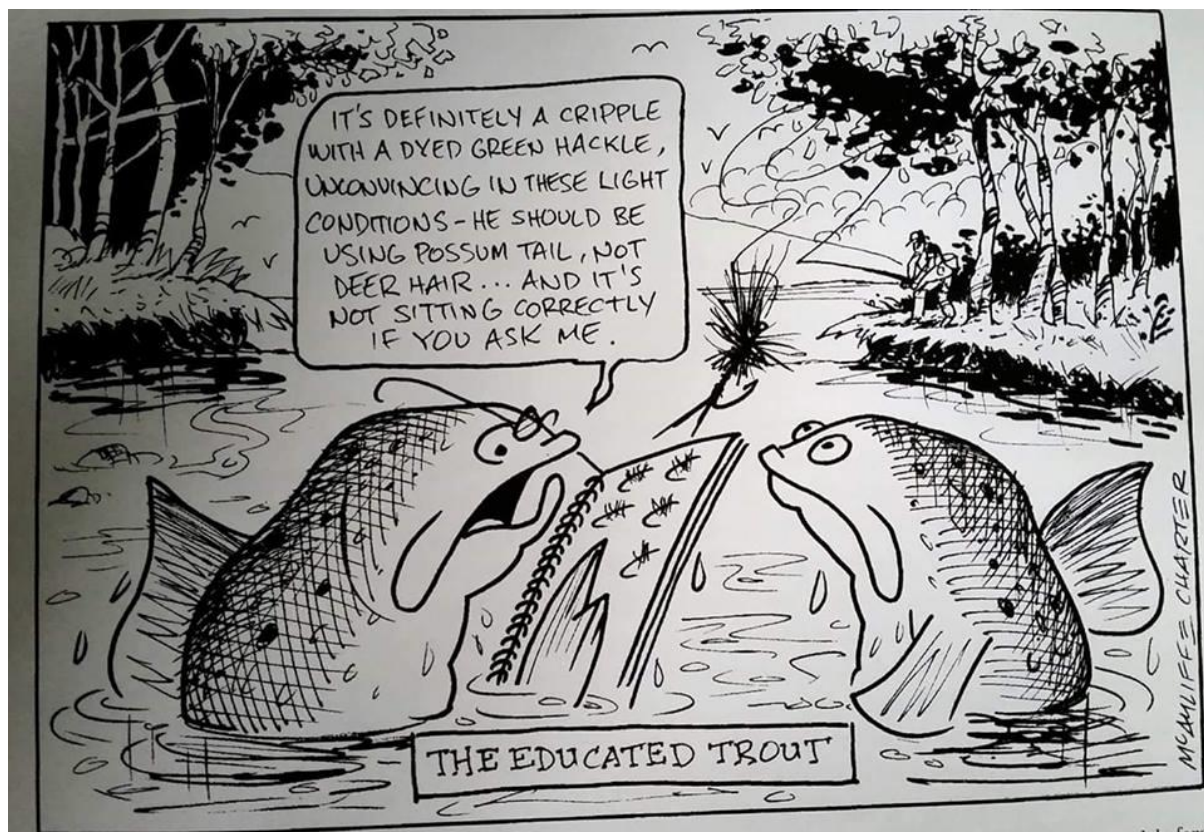
IT'S A GIGGLE



The story of my life



"If I'm not going to catch anything, then I'd rather not catch anything on flies." Bob Lawless.



FLY TYING AND OTHER TIPS

Check your backing

By

Graeme Neary

I did mention this story at the last DFT meeting so although some have heard it already I think it is an important message and a quiet warning to the serious salt water fly fishers among us. We were recently asked by a client at the shop if we could clean up some #9 and #12 weight reels and spools as well as the lines on them, and to run off the backing and check it.

The backing on the first spool that I stripped came off in four pieces, the first piece at about the one hundred meters mark. Fortunately all the backing on the other spools was good. Although the reels are very well kept by the owner, the reason for the break was a build-up of salt crystals out of sight, between the spool rim and the backing. With salt being hygroscopic, all that was needed was one crystal to be caught up in that area and it would have fed off any moisture around and increased in size all the time, eventually doing the damage it did.

What happened here could not have been predicted by anyone due to the location on the reel where the side of the rim and the base of the spool meet.

A word of advice is that once you have washed and cleaned your reels and rods is to leave them open for as long as possible, so they can air dry and don't pack them into covers until you really need to. Packing them prematurely into covers will allow any moisture left behind, the time it requires to cause any damage it can. What happened here could have resulted in this gent losing the fish of a life time, so if this leaves any of you in doubt, bring your reels in and for a nominal fee we can run the backing off and check it for you.

On hand tying salmon flies

https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=3haTXem2umw

REPORTS

A warning to officials and officialdom from the opening paragraph of the Constitutional Court's Nkandla judgement

One of the crucial elements of our constitutional vision is to make a decisive break from the unchecked abuse of State power and resources that was virtually institutionalised during the apartheid era. To achieve this goal, we adopted accountability, the rule of law and the supremacy of the Constitution as values of our constitutional democracy. For this reason, public office-bearers ignore their constitutional obligations at their peril. This is so because constitutionalism, accountability and the rule of law constitute the sharp and mighty sword that stands ready to chop the ugly head of impunity off its stiffened neck. It is against this backdrop that the following remarks must be understood

When truth is stranger than a fly fisher's tale

More on NEMBA

By Ian Cox

I wrote in last month's Bobbin (March 2016) that I hoped to tell you more on what I said was good news coming out of a meeting between Trout SA FOSAF and the Director's generals of the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) and the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (DAFF). Well I was half right! Click [here](#) for more.

ARTICLES

Memories of trout fishing in Alaska 2002

By Stelios Comninos



Seen from the plane the river was wide, very wide as it snaked through the desolate tundra. I could see the odd boat moving through the channels and up the strong current. A swarm of float planes of all sizes were scattered around the sky and on the river in amongst sport and commercial fishing boats. It was 8.30am as the Alaskan Airlines twin

engine plane swept low over the Naknek River before landing at in the rainy cold town of King Salmon in Bristol Bay. Click [here](#) for more.

IN THE MARKET



I make no bones about it. I loved fishing the margins. It got me into collecting South African trout literature so when Paul wrote to me saying he was sending me the updated version, fishing wiser Margins I was super chuffed.

The new version extends its range into Southern Africa and now includes all fishing disciplines. What is fascinating is that although trout or fly fishing are relatively small when reckoned in numbers its literary output is at least equal to if not greater than the rest of the angling output combined.

I do not know if I will extend my collecting habits beyond the realm of fly fishing but I know that I have a good base should I decide to do so. You see nestled at home is subscribers copy number 2 of JBL Smiths Fishes of Southern Africa. That book is family. My grandfather, Bransby Key, played an important part in bringing the book to print. He was a great collector of what is now known as Afrikaner and though he died very young was instrumental in seeing some notable examples of what is now very collectible Afrikaner into print. Sadly most of it was sold into what is now the Brenthurst collection on his death. The proceeds of what had been an investment of pennies and shillings paid for the education of my mother and her three siblings.

I am also particularly grateful for the expanded section on Bertie Bennion. I think he is one of the forgotten heroes of South African Fly Fishing. So unpretentious, so on the money and so far ahead of his time. Fishing with him must have been a delight.

CLUB STUFF

DFT Committee

A number of members have asked that these details be published in the Bobbin. All we ask is that any communication via email be kept to that of fly fishing and club matters.

Chairman	Graeme Neary	083 232 2837	gneary@telkomsa.net
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	Neill Van Rooyen	082 928 1654	neillvanrooyen@gmail.com



ADVERTISEMENTS

These are free for club members. A modest advertising charged is levied in respect of advertisements placed by non-members. Contact Dave Smith For details.

dave@durbanflytyers.co.za



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Jay Smit

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Web: <http://www.jvice.com>



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Cell: 076 0365 123

Email:

harvey.mulder@yahoo.co.za



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<http://www.xplorerflyfishing.co.za/>

QUICK LINKS

Name	Address	Comments
Durban Shops That stock Fly Tying Material		
The Complete Angler	Shop 1 6 Village Rd Kloof,3610 Tel 031 764 1488	Superb freshwater selection of fly tying materials. Salty stuff too
Kingfisher	http://www.kingfisher.co.za/shop.php	A wide selection of fly tying materials balanced more towards the salt.
South African Online Shops		
Frontier Fly Fishing	http://www.frontierflyfishing.co.za/	Situated at Coachman's Crossing, Centre, Peter Place, Bryanston, and Johannesburg.
Netbooks	http://www.netbooks.co.za/	The Home of Craig Thom Check him out at the Ufudu Fair.
Stream X	http://www.streamxflyfishing.co.za/	
The African Fly Fisher	http://www.theafricanflyangler.co.za/	Morne Bayman's new shop
KZN Fly Fishing Guides		
Jan Korrubel	083 99 33 870 jlkorrubel@gmail.com jan@wildfly.co.za	small streams and custom fly tying
Grevin Price	082 896 3688 grevin@wildfly.co.za	river and still water (including yellowfish)
Juan-Pierre Rossouw	076 208 5602 juan@wildfly.co.za	river and still water (including yellowfish)
Leon Vermeulen	082 442 4846 / leon@wildbrowns.co.za	River
KZN Fly Casting Instructors		
All the fishing guides listed above also give casting instruction.		
Graham McCall	079 303 3735	
Jeremy Rotchester	083 607 6100	
KZN Fly Fishing and Fly Tying Clubs & Associations		
The Fly Fishers Association (FFA)	flyfishersassociation@gmail.com	
The KZN Fly Fishing Association KZNFFA)	http://www.kznffa.org/public/index.asp?pageid=847	
The Natal Fly Fishing Club	http://www.nffc.co.za/	
South Coast Fly Fishers		
The Underberg and Himeville Trout Club	http://www.uhtfc.co.za/	
Wildfly	http://www.wildflytravel.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=282&Itemid=451	
Tides Charts		
Durban	http://www.swell.co.za/durban/tides	Gives you a surf report too.
Weather		
Durban	http://www.windguru.cz/int/index.php?sc=4865	