

THE BOBBIN

The newsletter of the

Durban Fly Tyers



www.durbanflytyers.co.za

December 2013



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Next Meeting

Visitors and beginners are welcome.

Date	2 December 2013
Venue	Room G1 Westville Library
Time	7pm for 7.30pm
Christmas Meeting	Drinks are free.

Bumper Xmas Bash

Not only will there be free drinks and eats but Jay will be telling us about his recent trip to the International Fly Tying Symposium as well as all the things you can do with a J Vice. Bring cash because Xplorer will be on hand to sell at ridiculously low prices their entire demo and test stock of rods and other stuff. Want a TX 50 10wt for R450.00 well you can! A list was sent to members earlier in the week. For those tyers whom enough materials is never enough, Graeme Neary will be selling off a lot of his surplus material. There will be some free stuff as well.

The Chairman's Chirp

Hi Everyone,

Thanks to Kieth for tying his buzzer patterns for us at the last meeting. Congratulations to Ian winning the senior tie at the last meeting and to Christian our junior winner.

I am back at JFK airport on my way home from the International Fly Tying Symposium in Somerset New Jersey. This show is all about fly tying with a bamboo rod casting competition thrown in. It showcased tyre's and fly tying clubs from around the US as well as the UK, Italy and the Netherlands.

Pete Gray a long time customer, friend and Jvice fan picked me up at the airport minute's after clearing customs. Then the fun began, he is a retired US Air force pilot and entertained us with his antics throughout the show, Between him and Faruk Ekich I don't think there was anyone they did not know and I was introduced to so many people it is impossible to remember them all.

Pete arrived at breakfast Sunday morning wearing a Bok jersey he had bought on eBay for the occasion.



Pete Gray



Faruk Ekich

Later in the afternoon Faruk arrived, he had driven down from Ottawa in Canada about an 8 hour drive. I was sitting in the foyer of the hotel and recognised him immediately. This man is a legend, the precision and his attention to detail that has gone into his Bobbin is unbelievable. I won't go into it all here as it would justify an article on its own. He showed me a great dubbing technique that I will share with you all on Monday night. Then

the stories he tells about fishing the Coppermine River in the Arctic are something else. He has given me a PDF article on this and with his permission will attach it to the next Bobbin.

All the big US material suppliers were there, Whiting Capes, Collins Hackle, Wapsi and a host of smaller outfits I have never heard of, you name them they were all there.



The US fly tying and fishing legends were there in force. As we walked in on the first morning Bob Popovich is sitting on a stool next to a water tank dragging a fly equipped with a pulse disk which gives amazing movement to the fly (more about this on Monday evening), Old Bob Clouser is wandering around, Lefty Kreh, Marc Petitjean, David Klausmeyer the editor of Fly Tier Magazine, you name them they were there.



Hans van Klinken was doing some workshops and I was fortunate to spend some time with him on Friday evening before the show at the hotel, he is an absolute wealth of fly fishing and tying knowledge. Besides fishing nearly everywhere in Europe and Scandinavia he has extensive fly fishing experience in Newfoundland. He showed me a preview of his book (still in electronic format) which will be released shortly. Some of the best pictures I have ever seen, this book will be a must have.



Gary Borger at our Stand

Bob Clouser also paid us a visit

I thought I would be sitting there tying dozens of flies over the two days but when I was not walking about taking in the show, and buying more tying materials than I could ever use just because the quality was so good, the stand was pretty busy and there was hardly a moment to spare for tying.



What Pete calls the Rebel Triad Alliance

People who I never dreamed of meeting came to the stand like Chris del Plato who runs Streamerlist.com where I am a member. Some years ago he had sent me out the correct long shank hooks so that I could enter the Carrie Stephens challenge to tie the Carries Favourite by hand not using a vice.

http://www.streamerlist.com/video/carrieschallenge-by-jay?xg_source=activity

Customer friends like Otto Lanz and David Albano were also there.

On the Saturday evening there was a Dinner and prize giving, all the International visitors were asked to stand up and introduce them. This was quite daunting and caught me totally by surprise. I was pretty relieved when that was over.

I plan to go again next year and if anyone is in for the trip we could have a DFT stand?

Well the year has nearly run its course and the Christmas do is around the corner. On Monday evening we will have our annual Christmas bash, there will be the usual drinks box with a few extras and some snacks. I will be giving some feedback on my visit to the International Fly Tying Symposium in Somerset New Jersey and also be doing a demo on rotary tying techniques.

From the Committee and myself I would like to wish you all Joyous Festive season and all the best for 2014

See you all on Monday evening.

Cheers

Jay

From The Editor

Another year gone and it seems like it has hardly started. So before its next year already I wish you all the best over the festive season and for the New Year.

As you can see the Bobbin is slowly evolving. Following Steve Brook's suggestion I am e mailing the various articles that used to be included in the newsletter as separate pdf's. This is because I am told that some of you actually do read them and what's more would like them a little more accessible than is the case given South Africa's increasingly fragile connectivity.



Again we have the two old stalwarts, namely Laurence and myself. Laurence's article came back to me the other day when reviewing chapters for a new book. The authors of this book also dealt with the importance of the swivel nymph technique so Laurence once again is on the money. An important new addition is Stelios Cominos' superb instruction on how to tie his variation of the Smuggler Nymph. More of same please.

You will note that as was the case last month, this Bobbin does not carry the Monthly Tie. This is because the photographs that accompany that contribution have again not been forthcoming. The Pongola trip is this weekend so you will have to wait until February for that report. Jay however has just returned from the [International Fly Tying Symposium](#) and that is written up in an extended chirp. He met up with Gary Borger and many household names. I gather Hans Weilenmann is blown away by the J Hackle Pliers which incidentally are reviewed in detail in the new [TCCF](#) magazine. Gary, however mentioned this and his impressions of the J Vice on his [blog](#).

It's A Giggle



**Santa's sexual harassment trial
takes a dramatic change for the worse**



"Fly fishermen are born honest, but they get over it." - Ed Zern

Understanding Engineers

The graduate with a science degree asks, "Why does it work?" The graduate with an engineering degree asks, "How does it work?" The graduate with an accounting degree asks, "How much will it cost?" The graduate with an arts degree asks, "Do you want fries with that?"

Three men died on Christmas Eve and were met by Saint Peter at the pearly gates.

'In honour of this holy season' Saint Peter said, 'You must each possess something that symbolizes Christmas to get into heaven.'

The Englishman fumbled through his pockets and pulled out a lighter. He flicked it on. 'It's a candle', he said.

'You may pass through the pearly gates' Saint Peter said.

The Scotsman reached into his pocket and pulled out a set of keys. He shook them and said, 'They're bells.'

Saint Peter said 'You may pass through the pearly gates'.

The Irishman started searching desperately through his pockets and finally pulled out a pair of women's panties.

St. Peter looked at the man with a raised eyebrow and asked, 'And just what do those symbolize?'

The paddy replied, 'These are Carols.'

Fly Tying And Other Tips



Ten Tying Tips of the Pros

By

Al and Gretchen Beatty

One of the great things about this new format that Jay came up with is that I can refer readers to great articles on the web. Less work for me a wider range for you. This collaboration between David Klausmeyer and Beatty's published on the superb [MidCurrent](#) web site which should be of interest to any fly tyer looking for ways to tie better flies. [Click here](#)

Surgeons Swivel

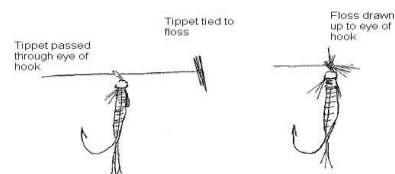
By

Laurence Davies

Have you ever wished for a few suspender nymph patterns in your fly



box but never had any? I know I have. In fact I have lost count of the times I have been frustrated by fish taking nymphs just below the surface. In this article Laurence Davies remembers a nifty way to turn any fast sinking nymph pattern into a suspender that does not involve attaching the fly to a parasol. I think it's brilliantly simple. [For more click here.](#)



Stelios Comminos On Hunting Yellows



DFT member Stelios Comminos' latest idea for enticing yellows to take a fly. I think it will work a treat. I love its buggyness, the CDC legs and the use of a yellow bead under the thorax as a hot spot. Tie a few and let me know how it goes. [Click here](#) for Stelios detailed how to tie this beauty.



Articles

Bloodworms and Midges

or Bugs That Bite

By

Ian Cox



The timing of this article is fortuitous given that Keith Falconer spoke to us at last month's meeting on this very subject. Bugs that bite or the order Diptera as they are properly called are one of the largest orders of insects and are a major food source, especially for still water trout. However it is only very recently that fly fisherman have started targeting midges as a successful means to fool fish. For more on this, [click here.](#)

In The Market

Stocking Fillers

It being Christmas and all I thought I would concentrate this edition of in the market on inexpensive gifts that can be used as stocking fillers.

First up is the ubiquitous tippet holder. Now these come in a bewildering array of different sizes and designs. You can even make them yourself. Click [here](#) for how to do this. But for the most of us Xplorer has the perfect solution and at about R50.00 they are not expensive. I find them very useful so much so that I have three of them, one loaded for dams, one loaded for small stream fishing and one intermediate.



This is probably stretching the line on stocking fillers but when I am on rivers my wading staff is my most important piece of equipment outside rod line and fly. I have lost count of the number of times this simple and inexpensive piece of equipment has made the difference between a good days fishing and a dangerous one. And they are not expensive. Most fly fishing shops offer the Xplorer model for about R 200.00.



Three times world Fly Fishing Champion Pascal Cognard taught me you can't have too many zingers. Everything in his vest other than fly boxed is attached to a zinger. This of course means you can't lose it which in my case is has resulted in a huge saving.



Finally this is a trick Ed Herbst taught me. If you are crawling about trying to me invisible Knee pads can make all the difference. This is a huge advantage in my case because thanks to rugby my knees are a mess. The usefulness of knee pads has not been lost on equipment suppliers who now offer a range of Knee pads for fly fisherman. Unfortunately they are not cheap. But this isn't a problem I have found that the cheap tillers knee pads sold at any hardware store work just as well.



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	Jay Smit	083 764 6369	jay@ismit.co.za
Secretary	Geoff Dettmer	083 785 4997	woollybug@telkomsa.net
Treasurer	Dave Smith	083 251 1629	smiffam@absamail.co.za
IT	Warren Prior	083 348 9790	warren@bahaflyfishing.co.za
Saltwater	Nick Nortje	083 782 9697	nick@bahaflyfishing.co.za
Freshwater	The Committee		
Entertainment	Bruce Curry	082 774 5514	Bruce.Curry@altech-multimedia.com
Editor	Ian Cox	082 574 3722	iancox@coxattorneys.co.za

Santa Claus has the right idea. Visit people only once a year.

- Victor Borge

Forthcoming Attractions

Date	Event	Venue	Organiser	Status
2 December	DFT Christmas meeting at which Jay will demonstrate various J Vice accessories.	Westville library as usual	None	N/A
January	Salt water outing	Mozambique	Dave Smith	Dates to be confirmed but booking open
February	Lesotho	Sani Top	Warren Prior	Dates to be confirmed but booking open
February	Sterkfontein	With Dave Weaver	Jay Smit	Dates to be confirmed but booking open
March	River and Dam on UHFFC Water	Underberg	Warren Prior	Dates to be confirmed but booking open
April	Vidal	Vidal	Nick Nortje	Dates to be confirmed but booking open
May	Bushmans	Snowflake	Ian Cox	Booking Open

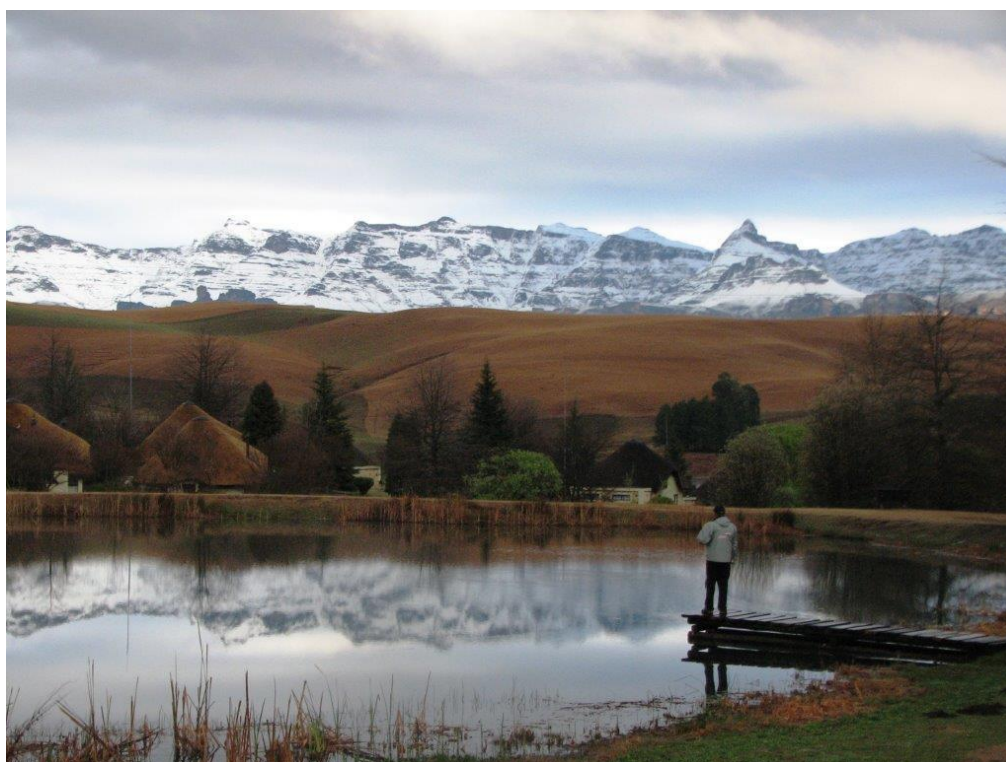
For Sale

If any club member would like advertise some fly tying kit for sale or is looking for said kit , please contact
iancox@durbanflytyers.co.za

Graeme Neary is selling off a lot of extra fly tying material he has accumulated. If you are interested contact him at gneary@telkomsa.net or on 083 232 2837

Durban Fly Tyers Shirts

BLUE shirts & BLUE hat @ R200.00 for both
 Contact Dave Smith



A taste of winter by Stelios Comninos

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



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

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Jay Smit

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Email: jay@ismit.co.za

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



Honey sales: Anja Smith 0832951669

Bee removal: Dave Smith:

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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
Simon Graham	081 87 44 855	still water 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.		
Ben Pretorius	http://www.ufudu.co.za/	
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	