

THE BOBBIN

The newsletter of the



www.durbanflytyers.co.za



December 2017

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Next Meeting

Visitors and beginners are welcome.

Date	7 November 2017
Venue	Room G1 Westville Library
Time	7pm for 7.30pm
	Christmas party
Presentation	Jay Smit

CHAIRMAN'S CHIRP

FOSAF...what does it mean to you?

Two weeks ago I attended a FOSAF information-sharing meeting. Ilan Lax set out the history of the disagreements with DEA in a succinct way. Takeaway message is that all costs we must resist the defining of trout as INVASIVE as this triggers the legal obligation to CONTROL trout and ERADICATE trout. What I also learnt was indigenous fish introduced OUTSIDE of their normal geographical range are ALIEN IN THOSE WATERS.



An interesting conundrum is playing out in the Mzimkhulu River. The recent discovery (Sunday Times 19/11/2017) of the Maluti Minnow, can only have two possible explanations. It was placed there outside of its geographical range. If this is the case, it is an ALIEN there. If it always existed there and has to date slipped under the radar then it coexisted with trout for as long as the two species have been in the Mzimkulu system. If so then surely trout CANNOT be INVASIVE by definition! Further scientific research is needed including genetic analysis with other breeding populations of Maluti Minnows to conclude this debate.

FOSAF is doing great work on our behalf's and we should, as both individuals and the Club, be supporting FOSAF in this endeavour.

Lastly let me wish all of you a blessed Xmas and festive New Year. Those of you travelling, please travel safely. I hope to see many of you at the Xmas party.

FROM THE EDITOR

Bloody hell another year done and dusted and I still haven't got things done that I said last year I would do this year. Unbelievably it is also coming up to 5 years since I took over the Bobbin from Alan Jellis. Yup in May will be 5 years done and dusted, my 55 deadline met, which begs the question if I can get it right 55 times on the trot- why not elsewhere. Some questions are best not asked, let alone answered.



It is also some 6 months since Andrew Mather took on the job of club chairman and I must say I think he is doing a fine job. He and Terry Andrews have been hard at work finding tyers for us since the beginning of the year. If you look at who has tied for us this year, you really cannot complain: Gerhard Goosen February and Terry Andrews, March and Rob Hibberd, April all three freshwater, Tom Gifford in June - Salt, Rob Pretorius in July, Peter Brig in August, Wayne Stegen in September – all three Freshwater, Arno Van der Nest in October – Salt and Mac Muller in November – fresh water. Yup freshwater dominates but that is because it's hard to find variety in the salt water space so the idea is to achieve a mix of between 1:3 or 1:4.

Oh and happy Christmas to you all. May your fish be as big as you say they are.

"Do you really believe your husband when he tells you he goes fishing every weekend?" asks Vicky's best friend, Myra.

"Why shouldn't I", Myra?' responds Vicky. "Well, maybe he is having an affair?" comments Myra. "No way," laughs Vicky, "he never comes home with any fish."

IT'S A GIGGLE



THE MONTHLY TIE

HBD Dragon by Mac Muller

HBD stands for "Here be Dragons" Andrew Savides



Materials

Eyes: Black plastic bath chain

Tail: Green Deer hair

Abdomen: McFly chartreuse yarn

Thorax: Rabbit zonker and ice dub and FLYWORX custom dragon dubbing

Flash: Organza strands

Wing case: Peacock

- Step 1: Tie eyes on just behind hook eye
- Step 2: Tie in deer hair so that it will support abdomen.
- Step 3: Take a strand of Mcfly yarn, cut into two and then lay both pieces together. Tie the two strands in the middle with mono and trim back mono tags. Fold this at the mono point and stroke fibres back. Add a small drop of superglue on the point with the mono and shape to a point. Tie this in on top of deer hair.
- Step 4: Tie in 2 strands of organza on each side and trim to body length
- Step 5: Prepare a dubbing loop and add in zonker fibres and ice dub. Spin and wrap collar leaving a small gap behind eyes.
- Step 6: Tie in legs facing backwards and trim to $\frac{3}{4}$ of body
- Step 7: Dub around eyes to build up head.
- Step 8: Tie in more organza over back
- Step 9: Tie in 6-8 strands peacock herl behind eyes and wrap twice in front of eyes
- Step 10: Dub lightly behind eyes
- Step 11: Pull back peacock and tie off using superglue behind eyes.

Fish with floating or sinking line. Use a very slow retrieve occasionally giving a small sharp twitch to imitate the attack-motion dragon's use.

FLY TYING AND OTHER TIPS

Cool flies

Gary Glen Young – Flies that catch fish

- [The GUN](#)
- [the G Force](#)

From the web

- [Three classic flies for new tyers](#)
- [Barometric pressure and trout feeding habits](#)
- [Slime is so not sick](#)
- [Williams hackle technique](#)

REPORTS

A meeting between the KZN clubs and FOSAF

A very good meeting was held during November between the KZN Branch of FOSA and the KZN clubs to discuss where the trout fight is going and the role FOSAF plays in fly fisher's lives.

It is just as well that the meeting was held as it turns out that even club committee members do not read. The result is that surprisingly few people knew what was going on or what FOSAF is doing despite the tens of thousands of word that Ilan Lax and I have written on the subject.

Comments like "I never knew" and "why was this not written up" to the more understandable, "reading gets in the way of my fishing time" abounded.

So here is the short version in four simple points:

1. The "War on Trout" has not arisen because the trout value chain refuses to work with the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA). FOSAF, Trout SA and others in the value chain have been trying to work with DEA to find win wins since DEA first threatened to list trout as invasive and is still trying to do so. The trouble is that DEA only wants to cut deals that are unlawful.
2. It is also not about whether trout are invasive. They are not, at least not as the terms is defined in law. The trout value chain will win that fight if it ever goes to court. But going to court is a last resort.
3. Protecting the trout value chain and the rights of trout anglers is about holding DEA to a process that is lawful and about ensuring that any agreements that the value chain reaches with DEA are lawful. Unlawful deal making with DEA is not only morally wrong it is also unsustainable. Worse still, Just as unlawful law making corrupts the law and society; unlawful deal making is very likely itself corrupt and therefore a crime.
4. Trout anglers and indeed all fly fishers should support FOSAF because FOSAF works to protect and promote fly fishing, especially trout fishing.

Once in a while you will stumble upon the truth but most of us manage to pick ourselves up and hurry along as if nothing had happened. -Winston Churchill

The Maloti Minnow

By Ian Cox



Andrew Mather mentioned in his chirp (Bobbin December 2017) that specimens of the Maloti Minnow have been found in the uMzimkhulu. You can access the short note published recently in the African Journal of Aquatic Science rather misleadingly under the heading "[The Maloti minnow *Pseudobarbus quathlambae* \(Barnard, 1938\) is not extinct in South Africa](#)".

I say misleadingly for two rather big reasons:

1. First there is no compelling evidence which establishes that the Maloti Minnow occurred naturally within South Africa and can thus be said to be indigenous or native to the country. It never therefore became extinct.
2. Second while the specimens that Patrick Skhumbuzo Kubheka and his team say they found in a tributary of uMzimkhulu look like Maloti Minnow, this still needs to be independently verified and confirmed by genetic research.

While I think that it is likely that he did indeed find specimens of the Maloti Minnow in the uMzimkhulu the claim that this is a native population of naturally occurring Maloti Minnow is very unlikely. It is more likely so that that it is an alien fish introduced as other minnow species were during the 1930's, to feed trout. It could even be a later introduction undertaken as part of an attempt to preserve the Maloti Minnow by introducing it outside what is a threatened natural distribution range in Lesotho. Click [here](#) for more

ARTICLES

Parts 2 and 3 of Andrew Mathers epic trip

In pursuit of Bars of Gold: Part 2

[The Riet, Orange and Vaal Rivers](#)

By Andrew Mather



We left Lilydale and headed back into Kimberley the next morning to stock up on grog. Seems the Lads had underestimated the demand for gin and tonics, beer, wine and whisky. Rob found himself a bottle of a small batch whisky which was quite nice apparently.

We took advantage of the bright lights of Kimberley to get lunch before we headed back south towards Douglas. We were to meet up with three other Lads travelling up from Durban, namely Nick Davies, Mike Chisholm and Shane Sclanders. Nick had been busy brewing his homemade beer and the lads were eagerly anticipating sampling some.

Click [here](#) for more.

In pursuit of Bars of Gold: Part 3

[The Riet, Orange and Vaal Rivers](#)

By Andrew Mather



The last part of the two-week fishing odyssey ends with this trip to the 20th Elgro River Lodge fly fishing festival on the Vaal. Setting off early from Durban I head up the N3 towards Johannesburg. At Harrismith I turned, not because this was the shortest route, but just to be able to revisit Kroonstad. Kroonstad was the base of the Engineers Corps where I spent my first 6 months of military training. That was 30 years ago. Well, it doesn't seem to me that the town has changed much in the ensuing years.

Out of Kroonstad, I got onto the smaller tarred roads in the middle of the Freestate. Flat, dry country that is quite sparsely populated. I spotted several dead Barn Owls along the road. I couldn't resist. I carry Borax powder with me so it was just a matter of separating wings and tails from mangled bodies and bagging them. Suffice it to say I've had it on good authority that these feathers make great hopper bodies. Click [here](#) for more

A Pan Am 727 flight waiting for start clearance in Munich overheard the following:

Lufthansa (in German): "Ground, what is our start clearance time?"

Ground (in English): "If you want an answer you must speak in English."

Lufthansa (in English): "I am a German, flying a German airplane, in Germany. Why must I speak English?"

Unknown voice from another plane (in a beautiful British accent): "Because you lost the bloody war."

IN THE MARKET

Mike Benson's Kiradashi



Waterfall knife maker Mark Benson has come up with gem for fly tyers who love beautiful tools. The is a Japanese woodworking tool but to fly tyers it is a super sharp knife that can trim thread

and cut hackles right against the hook. This is because the blade is only beveled on one side. Peter is making kiradashis for fly tyers out of top quality German stainless knife steel. They are works of art and sharp enough to shave with. At R495.00 they are also very reasonably priced. I bought two my wife took the first. She makes dolls houses and it was just what she was looking for. You or can contact Mike at bensoanknives@gmail.com or on 078 804 5844

CLUB STUFF

General club stuff

Subs are **OVERDUE** and are:

Joining Fee	R200 senior R100 Junior
Senior Member	R220
Junior Member	R120
Family Member	R220 plus R50% of fee for each subsequent family member.

No cash deposits. Cash will only be accepted by Dave Smith at meetings of the DFT. All other payment to be made by eft into the club bank account.

Bank details

Bank: Standard Bank

Branch: Westville

Branch Code: 045 426

Account Number: 053 189 647

Please e mail Dave Smith smiffam@absamail.co.za proof of payment stating the type of members and the member(s) names.

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 and Vice Chairman	Andrew Mather and Stelios Comninos	083 3090233 083 255 3334	andrewmather@telkomsa.net stelios.comninos@gmail.com
Administration and Communications	Dave Smith – treasurer Bruce Curry- secretarial and entertainment Warren Prior - It	083 251 1629 082 774 5514 083 348 9790	smiffam@absamail.co.za Bruce.curry.too@gmail.com warren@bahaflyfishing.co.za
Membership Development	Andrew Mather Terry Andrews Stelios Comninos	083 3090233 083 2519264 083 255 3334	andrewmather@telkomsa.net 81tbone@gmail.com stelios.comninos@gmail.com
The Bobbin	Ian Cox Warren Prior	082 574 3722 083 348 9790	iancox@coxattorneys.co.za warren@bahaflyfishing.co.za
Outings	The Committee		



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@durbanflytvers.co.za



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Paul Leisegang: 082 338 0026

J-Vice Fly Tying Vice



Jay Smit

Cell: 0832508211

Email: jay@ismit.co.za

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



Honey sales: Anja Smith 0832951669

Bee removal: Dave Smith:
083 251 1629

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Cell: 076 0365 123

Email:

harvey.mulder@yahoo.co.za



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045 974 9290



<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.
The Fish Eagle	105 Victoria Rd Pietermaritzburg, KwaZulu-Natal https://www.facebook.com/THEFISHEAGLE/	Jan Korrubel runs this shop. Say no more!!!
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
Stream X	http://www.streamxflyfishing.co.za/	
The African Fly Fisher	http://www.theafricanflyangler.co.za/	Morne Bayman's shop
KZN Fly Fishing Guides		
Jan Korrubel	083 99 33 870 jkorrubel@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 Rochester	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/	
FOSAF	http://www.fosaf.org.za/	
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	