

THE BOBBIN

The newsletter of the



www.durbanflytyers.co.za



February 2016

CONTENTS

CHAIRMAN'S CHIRP	2
FROM THE EDITOR	2
IT'S A GIGGLE	3
FLY TYING AND OTHER TIPS	4
Tying a simplified blood knot	4
Tying Big	4
On preserving materials	4
On creating a fly pack	5
From the FFT Facebook page	7
REPORTS	7
Mpumalanga 2015/16 Trout Association AGM	7
Complaint to the Director General of the Department of Environmental Affairs	8
ARTICLES	8
Community	8
The trouble with water	8
IN THE MARKET	9
Stippled Beauties	9
CLUB STUFF	9
ADVERTISEMENTS	10
QUICK LINKS	11

Next Meeting

Visitors and beginners are welcome.

Date	1 February 2016
Venue	Room G1 Westville Library
Time	7pm for 7.30pm
Tie	Salt Water
Tyer	Ian cox
Pattern	Organza shrimp
Special Instructions	Bring superglue and white thread and a bodkin.

CHAIRMAN'S CHIRP

Here's hoping that you all had a wonderful and relaxed time over the festive season and that you are not totally broke. Our rate of exchange seems to have taken a bit of strain of late and looks as if we are in for a beating since Uncle Jacob took matters into his own hands. We are seeing it at the shop already. Some new stuff just arriving has attracted increases of between 15% and in some cases it looks like 30% at least. This is obviously going to put a lot of strain on pockets when it comes to buying tackle and tying materials. A thought I had a while back was that certain materials could be shared with a buddy or two, in the instance of things like chenilles and strung feathers and marabou. Just a thought.



Enough of the bad news. I hope everyone has had a good chance to get in some fishing over this time and that some success was had as well. We have had some really good stories at the shop as well as some tales of woe. By all accounts salt fishing has been really great over the last few months. Some really good catches in the harbour as well as on the coastline. This also applies to bait and drop shotting. Fresh water seems a bit slow at times but I think this is largely due to there being very little water to none at all in our rivers and dams. Reports are trickling in about reasonable rain in some areas but we are still a long way from home right now.

I have been chatting with our good friend Billox recently, after he had a total knee replacement which was long overdue. A lot of pain and discomfort but he is on the mend. Once he is able to get around I will fetch him for a meeting.

Ian Cox has kindly offered his services to tie for us this month. He has been experimenting with organza and will be showing us something new.

FROM THE EDITOR

Another year begins. Sadly it is going to be a very difficult year so when I wish everyone the very best for 2016, I really mean it.

Last year was South Africa's driest year on record and this year is stacking up to be as bad if not worse. This is not good news for fishing or indeed anything else. The news is not great on the fly tying front either. The rand is worth about a third of what it was worth against the dollar five years ago and half of what it was worth against the pound. The result is that materials have doubled in price and are going to increase even more. This is going to impact on volumes which in turn will affect the viability of businesses that make their living importing fly tying material.



The fact that retail therapy is rapidly becoming a particularly painful type of sado-masochism does not mean that our fly tying need be constrained. It just means that we are going to have to be a lot smarter than we have in the past. Necessity is the mother of invention, so who knows it may result in the development of something new. It also means that we must look after what we have accumulated by way of fly tying materials and be a lot more innovative about what we buy and where we source it from. I deal with this in more detail in an article entitled Stretching Feathers.

The February tie is another example of tying at little cost. Organza is dirt cheap but nonetheless a cool material.

I am delighted that Billox is on the med and may me mending his way back to the club. We really do miss him!

IT'S A GIGGLE

Some contributions from John Warrick

For those who took the festive season literally

As you know, people have been known to have unexpected brushes with the authorities from time to time, often on the way home after a "social session" with family or friends.

Well, a few days ago, it happened to me. I was out for the evening to a Christmas Party and had more than several margaritas coupled with a bottle of rather nice red wine. It was held at a great Mexican restaurant!!

Although relaxed, I still had the common sense to know I was slightly over the limit.

That's when I did something I've never done before - I took a taxi home!

Sure enough on the way home there was a police roadblock, but since it was a taxi they waved it past and I arrived home safely without incident. These roadblocks can be anywhere and I realized how lucky I was to have chosen to take a taxi!!

This was a real surprise to me, because I had never driven a taxi before. I don't know where I got it, and now that it's in my garage I don't know what to do with it.

So, anyway, if you want to borrow it give me a call.

On managing 2016



"Your anger management therapist is here early. Shall I tell him to fuck off?"

FLY TYING AND OTHER TIPS

Tying a simplified blood knot

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C848Ow88Jqo>

Tying Big

<http://globalflyfisher.com/tie-better/wanna-tie-a-big-fly>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sFznC82vBoA>

On preserving materials

By Ian Cox



My annual Christmas tidy up extended beyond cleaning out the garage this year. My wife had got there first so all I had to do in the garage was sort stuff back into a format where I could find it. So I turned my unrequited tidy up bug to sorting out my collection of fly tying materials. Click [here](#) for more .

In this busy, noisy, impatient world, faster often seems better. Many of us wear stress like a badge of honor and take pride in exhaustion. Perhaps we won't solve these problems by going fishing. But I like to think it can't hurt.

Shaun Terrich

On creating a fly pack

By Ian Cox



If you are anything like me, your fly tying divides into two parts, tying to fish and tying for the lekker of it. The product of the former which makes up the bulk of my tying finds its way into my fly boxes and the latter into an increasing collection of plastic storage boxes.

The former has utility but the latter has very little other than the pleasure that one derives from it and perhaps the lessons that are learnt from tying something new. Most of my tying is focused on the former but if I look at my fly tying material, I have invested very considerably in the latter.

This was brought home to me over Christmas when a bout of clearing out the garage became infectious and prompted me to tidy up my fly tying materials. I found that my failure to do so for some years had resulted in the deterioration of some material to the point of having to throw it away. Worse still bugs were beginning to get in necessitating urgent counter measures. (See: [On preserving materials](#))

I also found that the vast bulk of what is now a large investment in fly tying materials had nothing to do with what I actually fished with. Tom Sutcliffe ran an interesting series on various fly fishers top six small stream flies. It got me thinking what flies do I use by and large when fishing fresh water and salt?

I am a neophyte dilatant salt water fly fisher so did not get beyond five , all targeting inshore fish like wave garrick, moonies and shad so the less said about them, the better. However I came up with 20 fresh water flies that I use more often than not. I use 40% of them predominantly on still waters and 60% on rivers. 70% are wet flies (100% in the case of Stillwater and 50% in the case of rivers) and 30% are dry which I suppose is normal for someone who fishes largely KZN waters.

Now I think we have all had the experience of sitting down to tie a batch of flies, only to spend the first half hour or so searching through ones materials for the right fly. It's a drag, right? Tom Sutcliffe has suggested that we store all the materials we need to tie a particular fly in a bag. I have followed his advice and have consequently owned a ZAK pack for years. But the truth is if you create a pack for a particular fly and then multiply it by say twenty, you find yourself duplicating materials which can get expensive. So what happens if thought if you created a pack for your top 20 flies? And that is what I did during a couple of days over Christmas.



Now creating that list is easier said than done. You start with the flies, then you move onto the recipes for each fly and from that you compile a materials list. You can access that list by clicking [here](#).

Material list - Top 20

		4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18
Hooks	Type								
	Grip 12803				x	x	x		
	Grip 1011BL						x	x	x
	Grip 14012BL			x			x	x	
	Hanak Competition H390BL						x	x	
	Mustad 50-94840	x	x	x		x	x	x	x
Linx 650053				x(3)		x (1)			
Beads		2.7	3	3.5	4				
	Brass	x	x		x				

What I found interesting is how little (relatively speaking one requires in the way of materials to tie these flies. Indeed I was able to condense all the materials required into a small pack that would fit easily along with tools in the J Vice carry bag.

The other interesting thing is how much of a cape (which can cost well over R1 000.00 rand today is wasted). I estimate that if I use 20% of a cape to tie flies I actually fish with it is a lot.

I also found that for all the blather about hooks, I actually use very few types of the vast collection of hooks I do own. For the most part that selection is determined by gape, keep it wide (it must be easy to get a bead onto it) and shank length (for the most part keep it short).

From the FFT Facebook page

I have taken to posting interesting fly tying and fly fishing trips to the Durban Fly Tyers Facebook page. That page now has ____ followers and s is growing rapidly. Here are January's posts.

The history of the gurgler

<http://www.gurglersonline.com/gurgler-history/>

The underwater world of trout

http://www.dailymotion.com/video/xzubvt_the-underwater-world-of-trout-discovery_tv

The Fluorocarbon Myth

<http://activeanglingnz.com/2016/01/04/the-fluorocarbon-myth/>

Tying Emergers

<http://www.rakkenes.com/tying-bwo-emergers/>

Losing Fish

<http://www.ginkandgasoline.com/fly-fishing-tips-technique/three-ways-we-lose-fish/>

Targeting carp

<http://activeanglingnz.com/2015/12/26/how-carp-feed/>

REPORTS

[Mpumalanga 2015/16 Trout Association AGM](#)

By Ian Cox



I attended the annual general meeting of the Mpumalanga Trout Forum on 21 January.

Three important things emerged namely:

1. The massive role trout fishing plays in the economy of the area. Over 20% of Dullstroom is employed directly as a result of trout fishing. Trout fishing accounts for most of the employment in the adjacent Sakhelwe Township. Click [here](#) to read more.

Complaint to the Director General of the Department of Environmental Affairs

By Ian Cox

If you want to see firsthand just how dirty environmentalists fights when they are given power, read the very extensive complaint lodged by Trout SA concerning the Department of Environmental affairs failure to honour the Phakisa Agreement. Click [here](#) for the representations, [here](#) for the chronology and [here](#) for the annexures. Needless to say we are still waiting for a response but hopefully will have done so by the time the next Bobbin is published.

ARTICLES

Community

By Gordon Van der Spuy and courtesy of FOSAF



Gordon Van der Spuy wrote an excellent piece on the Fly Fishing Community which was published in in the November issue of the Tippet. We reproduce it [here](#).

The trouble with water

By Ian Cox



I wrote an article for the August 2012 Bobbin entitled Water (click [here](#) for that article) that warned of the problems we are currently experiencing and in particular the fact that it is not just the shortage of water which is the problem but what we and in particular municipal water works are doing to it. Click her to read [more](#).

IN THE MARKET

Stippled Beauties

by Andrew Fowler

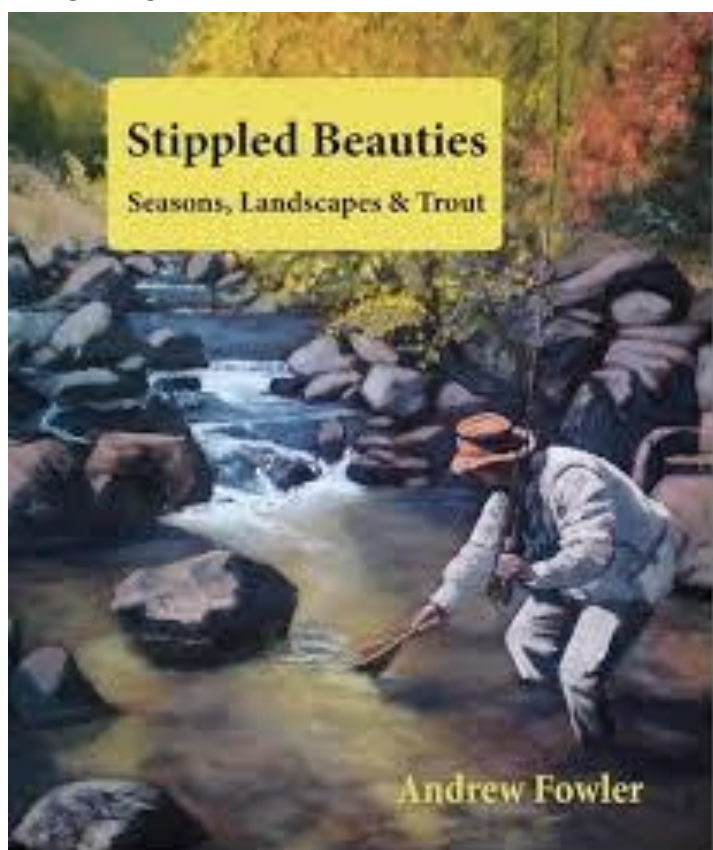
I imagine a great number of club members insisted that Andrew's beauty of a book found its way into their

Christmas stockings but if this was not the case then I strongly suggest that you go out and get it.

Andrew is a fly fisher who harkens to another age while being thoroughly part of the present. He is a quintessentially a gentleman who manages to combine a strong environmental activism with selling irrigation equipment for a living and fishing for trout for pleasure.

The honest ease with which he accomplishes this feat makes is enough to make this book interesting. That it is well written as well makes it delightful. The fact that he has also shared a great deal of local KwaZulu Natal fishing knowledge makes it a gem.

I think this is a book that will rank in the KwaZulu Natal flyfishers s affections alongside the writings of Neville Nuttall. Go out and buy this book if you have not already done so.



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
Secretary	Stelios Comninos	083 255 3334	stelios.comninos@gmail.com
Treasurer	Dave Smith	083 251 1629	smiffam@absamail.co.za
IT	Warren Prior	083 348 9790	warren@bahaflyfishing.co.za
Outings	The Committee		
Entertainment	Bruce Curry	082 774 5514	Bruce.curry.too@gmail.com
Editor	Ian Cox	082 574 3722	iancox@coxattorneys.co.za
	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@durbanflytyvers.co.za



MAGNETIC READERS

Hang around your neck so they never get lost or damaged. Click open and closed.

ONLY R100.00 each.

STRENGTHS : From 1.0 to 3.5

Colours: Blue, Red, Black, Brown, Grey, Pink, Tortoise Shell

Contact:

Linda Arbuthnot: 082 7750 555

Paul Leisegang: 082 338 0026

J-Vice Fly Tying Vice



Jay Smit

Cell: 0832508211

Email: jay@ismit.co.za

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

Anniversary

HONEY

NATURAL RAW HONEY FROM KWAZULU-NATAL

anniversaryhoney@difu.co.za
 +27(0)31 2665367

IT IS NORMAL FOR RAW HONEY TO CRISTALLIZE.
 HEAT GENTLY IN WARM WATER TO DISSOLVE.

Honey sales: Anja Smith 0832951669

Bee removal: Dave Smith:
083 251 1629

THE ULTIMATE LANDING NET Made in South Africa



Hand crafted Landing Net made in 2 Exotic woods.

The mesh is hand knotted using a soft multi-strand nylon to protect the fish which is to be released. The lease clip allows the net to hang high up horizontally on your vest so it will not get caught up in vegetation. Personalised name an optional.

Contact: Harvey Mulder

Cell: 076 0365 123

Email:

harvey.mulder@yahoo.co.za



Walkerbouts Inn - Rhodes
bookings@walkerbouts.co.za
www.walkerbouts.co.za
 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.
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 jlkorubel@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	