

THE BOBBIN

The newsletter of the

Durban Fly Tyers



www.durbanflytyers.co.za

June 2014



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Next Meeting

Visitors and beginners are welcome.

| | |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Date | 2 June 2014 |
| Venue | Room G1 Westville Library |
| Time | 7pm for 7.30pm |
| Tie | Fresh Water |
| Tyer | Ian Cox |
| Pattern | The hotspot pheasant tail jig |
| Special Instructions | Bring orange thread |

Chairman's Chirp

The new committee elected at the AGM (some were coerced into serving!) met for the first time on 20 May.

The main focus of the first committee meeting was to organise club activities for the rest of the year. It was decided that club activities would be reformatted to make our fly tying more relevant. Each club trip will be now preceded by an article the Bobbin describing the upcoming trip. The coordinator of the trip will organise the fly tying evening and make a presentation on the trip venue, tackle, flies and techniques and a trip relevant fly will be tied. There will also be a short report back any previous trip undertaken.



The proposed trips are set out in the trip roster which appears later in this newsletter.

It was also decided that it may be useful to survey our 50 or so members to get an understanding of who we are, what our real interests are and what we would like to get out of being a member. The survey will be short and simple and should appear in your inbox soon. Please complete and return it via email. For those who would prefer to complete the survey manually, it will be made available at one of the upcoming meetings.

From the Editor

There was a moderate turn out at this year's AGM, perhaps because I was talking on the painful topic of what government wants to do to the trout industry. I deal further with the latest on this later so enough said.

Well done to Neil Scott for winning the senior fly tyer of the year award and to Christain Calliontzis for winning it yet again. Christian tells me he is now tying as a senior so all you other juniors, here is your chance.



And thank you Stelios Comninos for stepping in (under duress) and taking on the role of chairman, albeit temporarily, he tells us. Stelios is a newcomer to the club but not to flyfishing or chairing organisations. When I first met Stelios a lifetime ago he was chairman of the Natal University Mountain Club. Stelios has spent the intervening period advising countries and communities on how to rebuild after the fighting stops. His insights are already apparent as you can see from his chirp. He tells us that he is taking this on a temporary assignment of three months so we are still in the search for a chairman.

In closing can you please let me have some articles? It has been a while now since anyone has given me anything. Input is a necessary incident of output so let's have a few.

Oh by the bye, this is edition marks the 20th anniversary of the Bobbin. I was going to make a show of it but did not have enough time so I haven't.

And lastly, thank you Jan Korrubel for the photograph on the front page and in the trip report on the Bushmans.

It's A Giggle

Some Observations

On the holy estate of matrimony
(in Scotland and elsewhere)

Two Glasgow boys, Hamish and Jock, are sitting in the pub discussing Jock's forthcoming wedding.

'Aye, it's all going like magic,' says Jock. 'I've got everything organized already: the flowers, the church, the cars, the reception, the rings, the minister, even ma stag night.'

Hamish nods approvingly.

'Hell, I've even bought a kilt to be married in!' continues Jock.

'A kilt?' exclaims Hamish, 'That's grand; you'll look pure smart in that! And what's the tartin?'

'I imagine she'll be in white.' says Jock



A man was sitting reading his papers when his wife hit him round the head with a frying pan. 'What was that for?' the man asked. The wife replied, 'That was for the piece of paper with the name Jenny on it that I found in your pants pocket'.

The man then said 'When I was at the races last week, Jenny was the name of the horse I bet on.' The wife apologized and went on with the housework. Three days later the man is watching TV when his wife bashes him on the head with an even bigger frying pan, knocking him unconscious. Upon re-gaining consciousness the man asked why she had hit again. Wife replied. 'Your horse phoned'.

Bride's och aye, the poo!

A FUMING bride DECKED her kilt-wearing hubby when he sat on her knee at the reception and left a SKIDMARK on her wedding dress!

Like all true Scotsmen, Angus McClure, 26, didn't wear pants under his kilt when he married sweetheart Sarah Grant in Greenock, Renfrewshire.

But his traditionalism led to uproar when he perched his poorly-wiped backside on 24-year-old Sarah's pristine frock, leaving an unsightly smear.

After Sarah swiped at Angus, the well-refreshed McClure and Grant clans led the reception into bloody mayhem.

A police source said: "I've been a police officer in Greenock for nearly 20 years and so I've seen a lot of wedding parties turn nasty but this was something else."

In total, seven people were arrested in the grounds of wedding venue, Greenock Reformed Temperance Hall, and face public order offences.

It's believed that Angus and Sarah were reconciled when they sobered up, and have no memory whatsoever of the melee.

Fly Tying and Other Tips

Fly Fishing for Scalie

By

Ian Cox



When you find warmer water this can happen not that the scalie seem to mind.

I embark on this task with some sense of trepidation as I cannot claim any expertise when it comes to fishing for this species. My pursuit of the scalie is limited to the winter months when the rivers are clear and the black mamba is asleep. Call me timid, but bhudu basing in the middle of summer through the front yard of the world's most dangerous snake has never appealed to me. Nor has nymphing rivers so brown a Texan would call them coffee. So here I am, a neophyte of less than ten scalie fishing trips (at least three of which blanked) passing on advice on how to catch these critters. But judging from the paucity of information on the internet this may be enough to qualify me as an expert. So here goes. If you agree and want more, click [here](#).

Tying Tips beyond the Blue Zulu

With grateful thanks to Davie McPhail



You can often find the greatest value in the simplest of things. So it is with Davie McPhail's latest video demonstration on how to tie the Blue Zulu. For those who don't know the Blue Zulu, it is a famous Scottish sea trout fly that has been around so long ago that no one can say who developed it. It is the progenitor of the woolly bugger and like the woolly bugger is easy to tie but difficult to get perfectly right. Davie McPhail is one of the foremost fly tying instructors on the planet. His easy to follow engaging videos on you tube are a first port of call for anyone serious about tying a fly

right. His Blue Zulu demonstration is no exception. To see that demonstration, click [here](#). For those who want it quick and in writing click [here](#).

Articles

[Another NEM:BA update](#)

May 2014

By Ian Cox



I know precious few of you guys read the Bobbin but I think government might be. Why? because the Department of Environmental Affairs' Biosecurity Unit have just given proof to what I surmised last month by publishing their latest proposal for trout. I said that they had to bully this through at all costs and this is precisely what they are trying to do. Version five of their cunning plan for trout was announced to the press on Monday 19 May 2014. It is an extraordinary document both given its content and the attack it launches on trout fisherman and the trout industry.

Check it out on the DEA website by clicking [here](#). To read more click [here](#).

Some wise words from Jim Slinsky

Government employees have good intentions. Unfortunately, they often accomplish exactly the opposite of what they originally intended to achieve.

A government without checks and balances is a government without a conscience.

It is far nobler to relentlessly fight to the conclusion of defeat than surrender and live in the shame of an unchallenged loss

May your waters be swift and pure, may your presentation be perfect, and of course, let there be trout

Reports

Some people are under the impression that all that is required to make a good fisherman is the ability to tell lies easily and without blushing. But that is a mistake. Mere bald fabrication is useless. It is in the circumstantial detail, the embellishing touches of probability, the general air of scrupulous---almost of pedantic---veracity, that the experienced angler is seen. – Jerome K Jerome

Blanking the Bushmans

By

Ian Cox



The annual club outing to the Bushmans did not have many takers this year. Perhaps members know something the three members who attended don't, because the fishing was unusually hard going. I had an inkling of what was to come some ten days earlier when I used the elections to steal a day on the Bushman's with Jan Korrubel. The river was in perfect condition but the fish were few and far between. It was a far cry from conditions a month earlier when Piet Taljaard and his mates knocked up a cricket score. Nick and Warren who also had hard time a couple of weeks earlier said I told you so. For more click [here](#).

I still don't know why I fish or
why other men fish, except we
like it and it makes us think
and feel.

Roderick L. Haig-Brown

[A Langabaan Interlude](#)

By

Graeme Neary



Wendy and I managed a ten day get away to Cape Town at the end of April to stay with friends. Ten days of perfect weather. Five days in Cape Town and five at Langebaan Lagoon. For more click [here](#)

In The Market

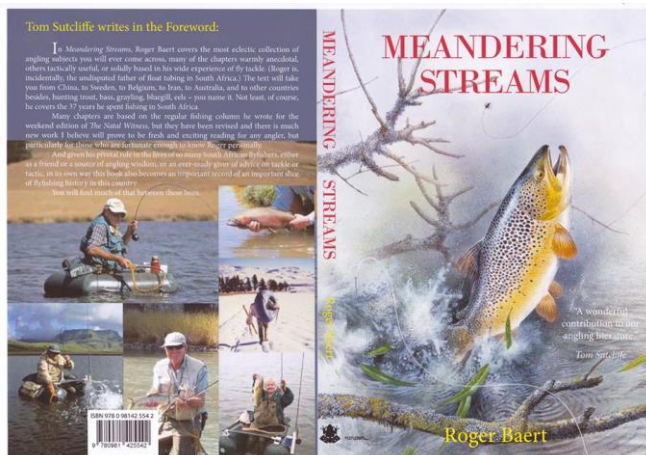
The Stealth Infinity 10' 3wt



The quality of our local brands is pretty good. Very good in fact as anyone who owns a Stealth Infinity fly rod will tell you. The stealth 9' 5wt is one of the best on the market. However it's a very different rod we are dealing

with here. There can be no doubt of the impact competition fly fishing has had on the recreational sport. And no that does not mean that we must become competitive in what we do. Perish the thought. It is just that increasingly top recreational anglers are realising that there is a lot to be learned from what completion fly anglers are doing. One of these innovations is the 10' nymph stick and the techniques that such a rod makes possible. The Stealth Infinity 10' 3wt is a superb example of such a rod. And if you fish medium size rivers a lot or target scalie it is a must have rod. And no it will not be my rod of choice fishing the Upper Bokspruit at Rhodes. My Boshoff bamboo or one of the Sage 0 series are the best rods for that task. But fishing wet on the Bushmans or the Umzimkhulu I think it is it is the rod of first choice. The new prices are around R2 900.00 but Neal says he may still have one in stock for R2 600.00.

Meandering Streams by Roger Baert



I don't think any of our members have not heard of Roger Baert. Far too many of us break rods for that to happen. But I suspect that less of us are know what an accomplished story teller he is. Tom Sutcliffe compares him to Peter Mayle of a Year in Provence fame and I don't think that is an exaggeration. Paul Curtis of Platanna press has published a collection of Roger's short stories. Many of these appeared in the Witness where he wrote a bi weekly column alternating with Wolf Avni. It is a delightful book which I heartily recommend. And the fact that he uses a fish finder on

dams and is not averse to a little trolling (especially of the wind assisted float tube variety) has nothing to do with it. It's just that vindication makes the read that much sweeter.

It would be remiss of me if I did not record how fortunate we are to have a publisher like Paul Curtiss who supports South African fly fishing writing. I should also mention that he has another project in the pipeline. Dr George Hughes avid fly fisher and former head of the Natal Parks Board is in the process of polishing an account of his time as a ranger at Giants Castle. I have seen a chapter and I can tell you it will be a delight. And yes trout do feature.

Club Stuff

Subs for 2013 are due.

The new subs remained unchanged at:

| | |
|---------------|--|
| Joining Fee | R20 senior R10 Junior |
| Senior Member | R150 |
| Junior Member | R80 |
| Family Member | R150 plus R50% of fee for each subsequent family member. |

Bank details

Bank : Standard Bank

Branch : Westville

Branch Code : 045 426

Account Number : 053 189 647

Please advise e mail Dave Smith 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 | Stelios Comninos | | stelios.comninos@gmail.com |
| Secretary | Christian Calliontzis | 083 232 2837 | |
| 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 |

Forthcoming Attractions

| Date | Event | Venue | Organiser | Status |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|---|
| | Winter Scalies | Nyala Pans | Ian Cox | Booking open |
| TBA but in July 2014 | Grabbing Gurnard | Durban Harbour | Christian Calliontzis | Meet outside the old Café Fish at a time TBA |
| 23 August 2014 | Day Fishing for winter trout | Brewitts | Bruce Curry | Booking open limited to 10 and kick boats essential |
| TBA but in September 2014 | Vidal | Vidal | Nick Nortje | Booking open |
| TBA but in October 2014 | Bass Bashing | TBA | Bruce Curry | |
| TBA but in November 2014 | Hunting Springer | Durban Harbour Centre bank | Stelios Comninos | Meet at Wilsons Warf at a time TBA |

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

Durban Fly Tyers Shirts

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



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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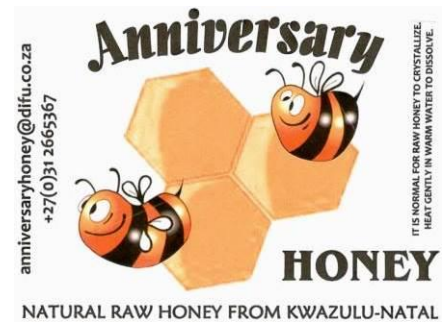
Jay Smit

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Email: jay@ismit.co.za

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Bee removal: Dave Smith:

083 251 1629

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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 jlkorubel@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 | |