

THE BOBBIN

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JUNE 2018

CHAIRMAN'S CHIRP

What a month it has been for the club. The AGM was reasonably well attended and all the committee agreed to stand for reelection. Those of you whom attended will know that proposal from FOSAF was discussed. I decided that it would be best if I led the discussions as I was aware that even within the committee there were diverse views. At one point in the discussions I asked FOSAF members to raise their hands and it was very obvious that FOSAF members were in the minority.

A number of questions about FOSAF were asked about FOSAF and responded to as best we could. The idea was to give DFTC members some insights into what was only a rough proposal at this stage and in so doing be able to provide feedback to FOSAF.

None of us were prepared for Ian Cox's resignation the following day as a direct result of the FOSAF discussions. We have asked him to write out his reasons in this Bobbin.

I would like to acknowledge Ian's work during his time with DFT. Of course I can only speak of Ian since I joined three or four years ago. At that stage he was already the editor of the Bobbin. I really looked forward to the Bobbin every month and still do. I think that he did a great job of it, he claims that he got a great start however for nearly 60 editions of the Bobbin he keep it going. As an editor of a professional magazine for five years I know that getting content to publish is always difficult. Ian handled this well, drawing on a diverse range of articles and stories, jokes and interesting looking flies form the internet.

Of course he was also given quite a lot of latitude to publish on the "Trout fight" and gave us much food for thought. I would describe him as a FOSAF crusader. He punted FOSAF whenever he could. His antics on Facebook, while some may think it was out of line, was specifically done to try and wake up the flyfishing community from its slumber. They say "desperate times call for desperate measures". We are in the midst of desperate times as government seeks to change the playing fields.

Ian, at great personal sacrifice, has given arguably years of his professional time in defense of trout. Any victories that the pro-trout camp gets will have had Ian fingerprints all over it. Ian has been one of those individuals whom have stood out above all other in every aspect of what he does. The Durban Fly Tyers is indebted to Ian for all his work and energy during his term with us.

Ian is of course not lost to us as many of us will retain our friendship with him into the future.

See you soon.



NEXT MEETING

4 June 2018 /19.00 9.30/ Room G1 Westville Library

Anton Martyn will be tying his Articulated Dragon

FROM THE EDITOR

Members who follow the DFTC What's App chat group will have noted that Ian Cox has resigned from the club and in so doing gave up editorship of the Bobbin – and I have been relegated the task of filling the huge vacuum created. Until I started off on this, my first edition, I had no idea of the time and effort required to edit this little newsletter! Losing Ian as editor of the Bobbin means that the depth and quality of analysis on issues of fly-fishing and the trout war is now lost. I encouraged Ian to write an article explaining why he has resigned from the club and also given up his mouthpiece especially given his involvement in the trout fight. I would suggest that all members read Ian's valedictory. Having been a long time member of the club Ian is well placed to provide sage commentary on how he sees the club - and has provided us all some serious points to ponder. Click here for Ian's full valedictory ([WHY – BY IAN COX](#))



I hope that I can match the sterling work done by Ian and his predecessors in editing the Bobbin. I also hope that members come to the party and get more involved in producing content for publication in the Bobbin – something that Ian has said is severely lacking. You don't have to be a Hemmingway to produce content – even photographs of flies and fish, short trip reports, tips and techniques will enhance the Bobbin. This is YOUR newsletter, use it in the best way you can! Send your contributions to me at stelios.comninos@gmail.com

THE FLYFISHING MAGAZINE

As many will have noticed the magazine FLYFISHING is no longer available on your bookstore shelves – nor is it obtainable by subscription. However it is now available FOR FREE. Click on this link to read the June 2018 issue of the magazine now by clicking here http://issuu.com/sheenacarnie/docs/flyfishing_june_2018.



Here are two articles that members may find interesting

DOWN THE RABBIT HOLE — A CRITIQUE OF DEA'S RISK ASSESSMENTS — BY ANDREW MATHER AND IAN COX

"As many of you will know, the Department of Environmental Affairs (DEA) published draft Alien Invasive Species (AIS) lists and regulations for comment on 16 February 2018. The contents of these draft AIS lists and regulations created a public outcry especially in the flyfishing community both in South Africa and abroad.....Ian Cox and Andrew Mather decided to write this article as a critique of these 'trout risk assessments' and in order to inform fellow flyfishers of just how weak these assessments are."

To read the full article, click here:

http://issuu.com/sheenacarnie/docs/flyfishing_june_2018/10?e=5594529/61645683>

UNDERVALUED GIANT – GETTING TO KNOW LAURENCE DAVIES BY PETER BRIGG

"In our flyfishing community there are those individuals who are in the limelight, and who are sometimes – rightly or wrongly – referred to as 'legends' because of their achievements. Then there are those who prefer to be in the kitchen at parties but love the sport and put as much into it as they get out of it. They do so quietly without asking for any recognition, but their participation has added considerably to flyfishing in South Africa. They are the 'stalwarts'. Laurence Davies is one of these."

To read the full article, click here:

http://issuu.com/sheenacarnie/docs/flyfishing_june_2018/10?e=5594529/61645683



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Almost a year ago I offered to relieve Ian Cox of his dual responsibilities of producing the Bobbin as well as the role of Chairman. Ian would readily admit that he much prefers being the Editor of the Bobbin and was only too happy to hand the reins over. At that time the Club was fortunate to have a dedicated committee with no vacancies. Ian had restructured the way the committee worked into groups or probably more correctly sub-committees to work on specific areas.

On the fly tyers front the Committee has endeavored to strive for a balance between salt and fresh water ties but on reflection fresh water flies have dominated the tying programme. If members have suggestions for future tyers, please chat to Terry/Stelios or myself. Working with the NFFC the Club jointly hosted a bamboo rod and fly-tying evening with Moreno Borero and Marc Petitjean. This presentation was well attended by members of both clubs as well as many non-members. While the Club made a small loss on this event it was in my opinion a great showcase for what the Club is doing in the region.

Finances are always a discussion point at AGM time. Dave will be presenting the budget to you shortly but there are two items that I believe we need to share with you. Fly tying material has continued to increase in price and remains the largest operating expense for the Club. Fly tying material for the most expensive tying evening this year came to just over R600. However due to the charity of some of our members and guest fly-tyers this year the Club had some months where there were no costs at all. The Club is gratefully for your generosity. As you all know Warren Prior emigrated and very kindly donated his entire fly tying materials and fly collection to the Club. Ian Cox and I have gone through this and have decided to set this up as the Club's stock. From this the Club will be able to draw materials and hopefully minimise future costs of materials. This will hopefully mitigate against the second major item we need to consider as a club, that of the data projector. Many of you will have seen the declining quality of the data projector image. We have been bringing other projectors along to stand in while we have the projector looked at and to find out if it can be repaired. Unfortunately, the sensors are gone and we are not able to get replacements. This means we need to purchase a new projector this coming financial year.

Lastly, I'd like to thank my fellow committee members, in no particular order. Bruce, Dave, Ian, Stelios, Terry and Warren for all their hard work over the last year. Keep up the good work.

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

The old committee stood down and were re-elected en block, apart from Warren Prior who has been exported to the Antipodes. Warren's departure has left a small hole in the generation / distribution of the Bobbin, especially regarding the use of Wordpress. Committee to look into this. Portfolios, if there are any changes, are to be decided at the next committee meeting

AWARDS

Senior Fly Tyer Of The Year was awarded to Tom Gifford with Andrew Mather as Runner Up. There being no Junior Fly Tyer in the club this year, no prize was awarded. It would appear that all members were super well behaved this past year and the Chairman accordingly declined to award the Foul Hook and Neil Scott (last years recipient) was asked to look after the trophy until next year. Neil must be commended for tying an excellent Foul Hook that can be considered as suitable atonement for his past misdemeanour.



The Bobbin is YOUR newsletter so get involved and write something now!

FLY TYING AND OTHER TIPS

HOW TO WRAP A TURKEY BIOT

Most fly tyers would agree that turkey biots can be difficult to use properly – from the selection of the type and size to orienting them so that the segmentation of a fly body is enhanced. Small, brittle and fiddly, they can be incredibly finicky to tie well.

This article (with great pictures) provides excellent instructive information on the use of turkey quills. Explore the blog for a range of other good tying tips and techniques. Click through and learn

Click on the link to read further: thequiltedtyer.com/fly-tying-tips-and-tricks/how-to-wrap-a-turkey-biot/



CARING FOR YOUR FLYFISHING LINES

How often do you clean your line? Do you clean your line every time you go out or every other time you go out? Or even, once a month? Be honest - more than likely you never clean your lines. If you take proper care of your lines and clean them at least every other trip, you will notice a dramatic increase in your casting ability. Whether you are fishing in frog scum-slime-slick slow water, a nice clean riffle filled stream, the surf or dirty Durban harbour cleaning your line can make a difference. The millions of micro particles that stick to your line every time you go out accumulate over time and will deteriorate your casting and deteriorate your line.

This article (culled from various internet sites) will give you:

- General pointers on line care
- How best to clean lines;
- Using line dressings
- Cleaning tips from various line manufacturers

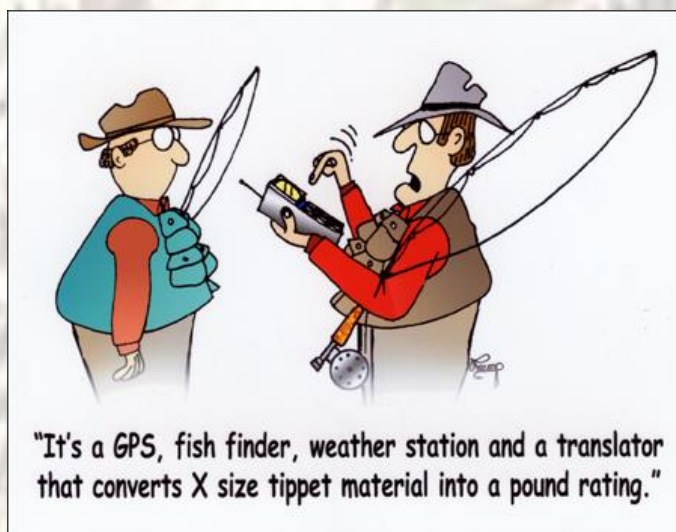


Click on the link and get started! ([CARING FOR YOUR FLY FISHING LINES](#))

TIPPET SELECTION

To help you in the decision-making process of matching tippet to fly, a couple of aids are available. But before going further, nothing in fly fishing is absolute except for the AFTMA standards. Any "how-to-do-it" guide is just that -- a guide. Since I believe something is better than nothing, try the 4-Rule.

Click through to read the article ([TIPPET SELECTION](#))



**TAKE OWNERSHIP OF
YOUR NEWSLETTER!!**

***If you have a tip, technique,
photo or article that you
would like to share, please
contact the editor***

ICONIC FLIES – THE ROYAL COACHMAN

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Royal_Coachman

In Royal Coachman—The Lore and Legends of Fly-Fishing (1999) Paul Schullery describes the Royal Coachman:

No fly better represents this freewheeling era [late 19th century] in fly tying than the Royal Coachman, which among the general public may be the world's best-known fly. Its name has the right combination of romance and class to appeal even to people who don't fish, and the fly has such a commanding appearance that few fly fisherman can resist having some permutation of the pattern in their fly boxes, even if they never use it. Most of them don't know it, but the Royal Coachman is the first great American fly pattern...

The Royal Coachman was first tied as a traditional winged wet fly and is a derivative of the Coachman wet fly. Mary Orvis Marbury in her: Favorite Flies and Their Histories (1892) tells the story of its creation as follows The Royal Coachman was first made in 1878 by John Haily, a professional fly-dresser living in New York City. In writing of other matters, he inclosed [sic] a sample of this fly for us to see, saying: "A gentleman wanted me to tie some Coachmen for him to take up into the north woods, and to make them extra strong, so I have tied them with a little band of silk in the middle, to prevent the peacock bodies from fraying out. I have also added a tail of the barred feathers of the wood-duck, and I think it makes a very handsome fly." A few evenings later, a circle of us were together "disputing the fly question," one of the party claiming that numbers were "quite as suitable to designate the flies as so many nonsensical names." The others did not agree with him, but he said: "What can you do? Here is a fly intended to be a Coachman, yet it is not the true Coachman; it is quite unlike it, and what can you call it?" Mr. L. C. Orvis, brother of Mr. Charles Orvis, who was present, said: "Oh, that is easy enough; call it the Royal Coachman, it is so finely dressed!" And this name in time came to be known and used by all who are familiar with the fly.

The Royal Coachman pattern is one of the very few patterns that appeared in Marbury's work that is still being tied and fished today in some form or another.

The Royal Coachman and its derivatives are considered attractor patterns, or as Dave Hughes in Trout Flies-The Tier's Reference (1999) calls them—searching patterns—as they do not resemble any specific insect or baitfish. Early in the 20th century, Theodore Gordon once was of the opinion that the Royal Coachman resembled some form of flying ant, while in the 1950s, Preston Jennings, a noted fly tier and angler thought the Royal Coachman resembled Isonychia mayflies.

The distinguishing features of any Royal Coachman or its derivatives are the peacock herl body partitioned with red silk or floss, a white wing and brown or red-brown hackle. Depending on whether the fly is tied as a dry fly, wet fly or streamer the white wing can be made with white duck quill, bucktail, calf tail, hen neck, hackle points or other white material. Tailing has varied over the years from the original wood duck flank to include golden pheasant tippet, brown or red hackle, moose, elk and deer hair.

There are many variations on the original Royal Coachman. Typically dry fly variations are tied on hook sizes 10-16, wet fly versions on hook sizes 8-14 and streamer versions on hook sizes 1 to 8.



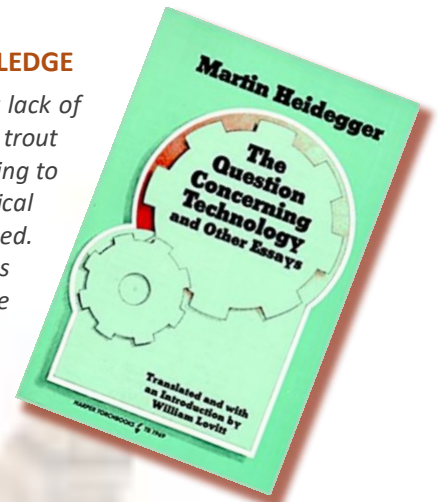
FLYFISHING FOR EGGHEADS

For the highbrow, bluestocking (or is it bluewader?) flyfishers - here are a few articles to wrap your brain tighter than the klippies on a DDD. Click the links to scratch your head and dare to be schooled!

FISH AND EPISTEMOLOGY: WHAT TROUT HAVE TO SAY ABOUT THEORIES OF KNOWLEDGE

"Properly speaking trout don't have anything to say about philosophical issues due to their lack of language, and if a trout could speak we probably couldn't understand it anyway. Thus, literally trout remain silent on issues of concerning the character of knowledge; however, the process of trying to catch them may reveal something about this issue. Typically, within current epistemological debates there are two different definitions of knowledge that are most frequently discussed. These characterize knowledge as justified true belief (JTB) and reliable true belief (RTB), and as evidenced by the process of catching fish I would like to argue the former is assailed by the fickle nature of trout."

Click here for the full article <http://web.colby.edu/en238-giallen/2016/01/25/fish-and-epistemology-what-trout-have-to-say-about-theories-of-knowledge/>



THE PHILOSOPHY OF FLY-FISHING

"When I was seventeen, I drove to Missoula, Montana, to learn how to fly-fish. The town is one of the best places to fish in the country. Rivers with names like the Bitterroot and Blackfoot crisscross the valley harboring trout the size of walruses. I spent that summer learning to cast and looking for the eddies and pools where fish might be lurking. I tried a thousand different flies and a hundred different rivers, and though I tensed my entire body to be ready for a strike, though I was living with a friend who made his living as a fishing guide, in three months I didn't catch a single fish. Not one. Published in 1653, might best be described as a curiosity cabinet of a pious Renaissance naturalist. Framed as a dialogue between a veteran angler, Pescator, and his eager student, Venator, the book came recommended by practiced anglers and seemed to promise some bit of knowledge I was lacking..... My curiosity was pricked....."

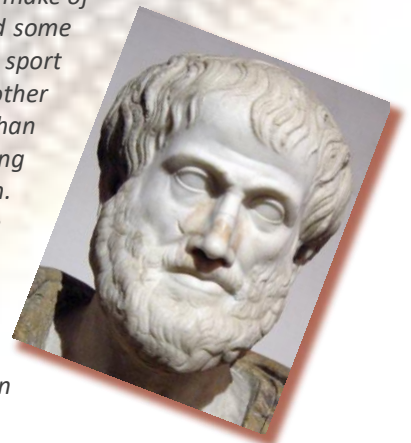
Click here for the full article <https://www.theparisreview.org/blog/2017/10/10/philosophy-fly-fishing/>



ARISTOTLE AND THE ART OF FLY FISHING

"I have heard it said that fly fishing is the only sport with its own literature. I am not sure what to make of this claim exactly, for I have acquaintances who insist that both baseball and golf have inspired some really fine writing. Fly fishing certainly has one thing going for it that the other two do not: it is a sport that always takes place in the most beautiful natural settings on earth. And I cannot think of any other sporting activity that is so satisfying to people of a contemplative disposition. Perhaps this more than anything else accounts for its allegedly unmatched literary aesthetic. But while good fly fishing literature certainly evokes this aesthetic, none of it seems to go quite far enough for my satisfaction. Maybe that is because I am particularly preoccupied, both professionally and personally, with the classical Greek philosophic mind, and am so impressed with the tradition's insights into reality that I have made a habit of noting them everywhere. As I have taught classical political philosophy for twenty years, and been fly fishing for almost that long, I have come to appreciate the unseen beauty of the sport, as it inheres in what I will call its naturalism. I have been thinking about the connections between the classical mind and fly fishing for some time now, even to the point of perhaps bringing my rod with me to lectures on Aristotle....."

Click here for the full article <https://faculty.isi.org/blog/post/view/id/247>



MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS

Subscriptions for 2018 are now due and payable. At the AGM the subscription was raised marginally. Subscriptions are now as follows

Joining Fee	R220 senior R120 Junior
Senior Member	R240
Junior Member	R140
Family Member	R240 plus R50% of fee for each subsequent family member

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. No direct cash deposits.

Bank details

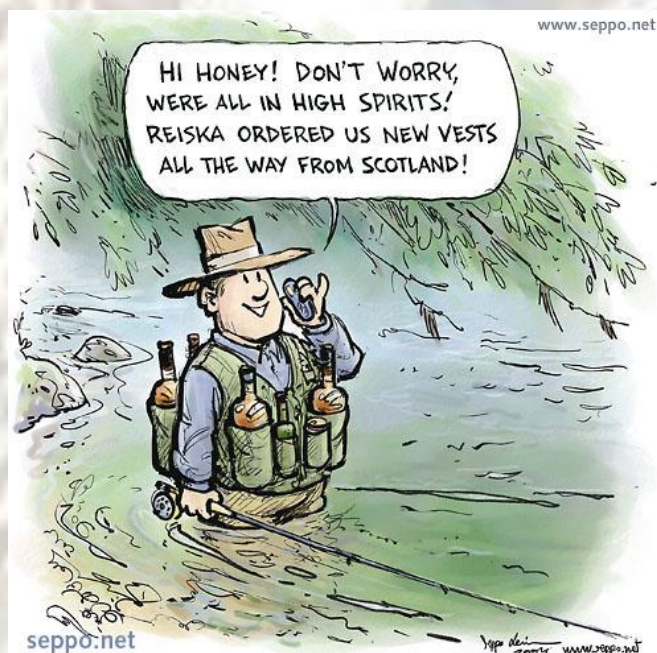
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Note:

If you pay by EFT, please e-mail Dave Smith smiffam@absamail.co.za with your proof of payment stating the type of members and the member(s) names.

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Vice Chairman	Stelios Comninos	083 255 3334	stelios.comninos@gmail.com
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	Terry Andrews	083 2519264	81tbone@gmail.com
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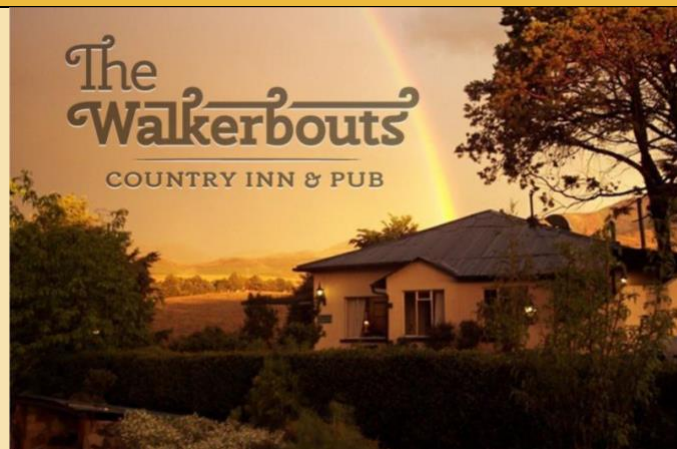
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QUICK LINKS

DURBAN SHOPS THAT STOCK FLY TYING MATERIAL

The Complete Angler	Shop 1 6 Village Rd Kloof, 3610, Tel 031 764 1488 <i>Superb freshwater selection of fly tying materials. Salty stuff too</i>
Kingfisher	http://www.kingfisher.co.za/shopphp <i>A wide selection of fly tying materials balanced more towards the salt</i>
The Fish Eagle	105 Victoria Rd, Pietermaritzburg, KwaZulu-Natal https://www.facebook.com/THEFISHEAGLE <i>Jan Korrubel runs this shop. Say no more!!!</i>

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

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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 fishing
Graham McCall	793 033 735 Casting Instructor
Jeremy Rochester	836 076 100 Casting Instructor

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
Federation of Southern African Flyfishers (FOSAF)	http://www.fosaf.org.za
The Underberg and Himeville Trout Club (UHTFC)	http://www.uhtfc.co.za
Wildfly	http://www.wildflytravel.com/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=282&Itemid=451

WEATHER AND TIDES

Durban tides	http://www.swell.co.za/durban/tides
Wind guru	http://www.windguru.cz/int/index.php?sc=4865
Real time Durban wind (good for Harbour)	http://fred.csir.co.za/windnet
Overall fishing conditions including tides and weather	http://www.tides4fishing.com/af/south-africa/durban