

THE BOBBIN

The newsletter of the



www.durbanflytyers.co.za

March 2017



CONTENTS	
CHAIRMAN'S CHIRP	2
IT'S A GIGGLE	2
FLY TYING AND OTHER TIPS	3
Cool flies	3
From the web	3
REPORTS	4
February at Sterkfontein	4
ARTICLES	5
BARBED / BARBLESS HOOKS	5
IN THE MARKET	6
Cheap Marabou	6
Frontier Fly Fishing	6
Trout Hunter Tippet	6
CLUB STUFF	8
ADVERTISEMENTS	9
QUICK LINKS	10

Next Meeting

Visitors and beginners are welcome.

Date	6 March 2017
Venue	Room G1 Westville Library
Time	7pm for 7.30pm
Tie	Freshwater
Tyer	Rob Hibberd
Pattern	Yellow Control Fly
Special Instructions	N/A

CHAIRMAN'S CHIRP

I think those who attended last month's tie will all agree that Gerhard's Hopper was a special albeit difficult tie. I decamped to Sterkies a week or so later and the couple I tied got a lot of attention. See [my report](#) on that outing.

This month's tie looks like a much easier proposition. Rob Hibbert will be tying what Terry tells me is a control fly used when hunting yellows on the Vaal. It's tied on a 2/0 Mustad



circle hook so perhaps control

should read anchor. I will say no more about it lest I frighten the more delicate souls in the club who spend their time tying Wally wings on size 18 barbless hooks.

We also have an interesting article from [Laurence Davies](#) on the relative advantages of barbed and barbless hooks.

No real news on the trout wars front other than to say that as expected the legal position taken by environmental authorities is beginning to unravel. How they will respond to this is anyone's guess. My sense is badly but then being miserable is what I do for a living!



IT'S A GIGGLE



"To go fishing is the chance to wash one's soul with pure air, with the rush of the brook, or with the shimmer of sun on blue water. It brings meekness and inspiration from the decency of nature, charity toward tackle-makers, patience toward fish, a mockery of profits and egos, a quieting of hate, a rejoicing that you do not have to decide a darned thing until next week. And it is discipline in the equality of men - for all men are equal before fish."

~ Herbert Hoover

FLY TYING AND OTHER TIPS

Cool flies



Worm sign, and Wayne Stegen's latest #18 midge emerger



Gerhardt Goosen's Black Bear Rab and a Bojan Novakovic's buggy nymph Gordon playing with CDC on a #18



Mac Muller's variant of the white death and his crippled may tied on a #18 with klippies and CDC

From the web

- [Xplorer's Keith Falconer on tying the snacher](#)
- [From Midcurrent on Ph Levels](#)
- [Do fish feel pain](#) see also [my bobbin article on the subject](#)

REPORTS

[February at Sterkfontein](#)

By Ian Cox



I have spent a weekend at Sterkfontein in February for some eight years now. Originally I used to stay and fish with Dave weaver but when a bunch of friends with boats started fishing out of Quantani, well I jumped ship. Click [here](#) for more.



ARTICLES

[BARBED / BARBLESS HOOKS](#)

Laurence Davies



I posed the question in the FFA newsletter, asking who was fishing flies with barbed hooks, or fishing barbless, and why. I asked this after a comment from Steve Brooks, when he was telling me that he had reverted back to fishing with barbed hooks on his recent Eastern Cape trip with Ian Cox and Martin Davies, where he was fishing trophy trout waters. He had made this decision after having lost a number of good saltwater fish, and didn't want the same to happen on his trip. Click [here](#) to read more

[Blanking in paradise](#)

By Ian Cox



I am at my happiest fishing small streams. Happiness becomes unadulterated joy when those streams are in tight precipitous valleys surrounded by rock. Its then that fishing and adventure merge. For more [click](#) here

IN THE MARKET

Cheap Marabou



For those who find the cost of materials on the steep side craft and haberdashery shops not to mention florists often offer an much cheaper alternative FTSA member Michael Stephenson picked this marabou up at the Jhb decor retailer supplier [Grandiflora](#) for R9.00 a packet. I imagine craft shops party suppliers and the like must to the same in Durban. Terry swears by [Craft Concepts](#) in Buro Crescent Westmead. The [Crazy Store](#) is another bet. I am sure there are many more.

Frontier Fly Fishing



I never thought I would say this but I recently visited [Frontier Fly Fishing](#) and found that what is an very extensive range of fly tying materials very reasonably priced given what prices are today. The range of dubbing, for example is awesome and the prices range from R18 00 to R40 on average. Feathers were in many cases a good deal cheaper than Durban and the quality is outstanding. Hooks were on te pricey side though the range is largely Tiemco which is top end. All in all I was pleasantly surprised. You can drop big money at Frontier but there is enough there to keep the budget fly angler very happy as well. And if you are a bamboo fanatic, there is no one better to talk to than Tom Lewin though Dean Riphagen is catching up pretty quick.

Trout Hunter Tippet



I was most fortunaate oto spend a day fisching with Craig richardson on my recent trip to Sterkfontein. Craif for those who may not habve heard of him was a member of teh RSA junior flyfishing team that took bronze at World Chapmpas a couple of years back. He is a much sought professioanl fishing guide wthese days and thus a good bloke to tap for infor on what was teh best. So of course I asked him what was the best tippet material and he replied Trout Hunter without a doubt.

Now Alan Hobson and Dean Riphagen say the same thing but they sell the stuff.

What makes the difference is that this stuff is a lot thinner pound for pound than other tippet material. Shoot outs such as the one set out below tend to confirm this. See below

Final Results		Best in Test														Grand Total
Rank	Maximum points available in category	Price \$	Tippet Spool Design	Adv. Size VS Tested Size	Adv. Strength vs Tested Strength	Tested Diameter vs Industry Avg.	Avg. Tested Diameter	Avg. Tested Breaking Strength	Tippet to Tippet Knot Strength	Tippet to Fly Knot	Wind Knot Strength	Abrasion Resistance	Invisibility to the fish	Casting Accuracy	Expert Angler's Preference	
		20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	280
1	TroutHunter Fluorocarbon	13	#	#	18	17	17	18	17	17	17	20	#	#	#	254
2	Seguar GrandMax Fluorocarbon	10	19	19	17	17	17	19	17	17	17	20	#	#	#	249
3	Rio Powerflex Nylon	#	19	19	19	19	#	17	#	#	#	14	10	15	15	243
4	Stroft GTM Nylon	18	13	16	20	18	18	#	18	18	17	15	10	#	14	235
5	Rio Fluoroflex Plus Fluorocarbon	15	19	15	15	13	15	16	13	13	13	20	#	18	18	223
6	Frog Hair Nylon	18	17	15	16	17	16	15	17	17	17	15	10	17	9	216

If you compare fluorocarbon leaders only Trout Hunter still top the charts. Critically the Rioflex fluorocarbon tends to run oversize. This can be a problem when fishing places like Sterkfontein.

However Rio Powerflex tops the charts as far as nylon tippets go. Trout Hunter is the go to nylon tippet if you are looking for stretch and suppleness.

Trout Hunter Rio and Powerflex are also the best priced in their genres on a cost per metre basis. (Remember the Rio spool holds 25m while the Trout Hunter spool takes 50m.)

This is what the report says about the two products.

Trout Hunter

In our closest shootout ever, TroutHunter is our 2012 tippet shootout winner by a hair. While TroutHunter's double structure fluorocarbon consistently produced exceptional breaking and knot strengths throughout our tests (like Seaguar), what really set this material apart from the competition was its price and outstanding spool design. While the \$22.95 price per spool may give buyer's initial sticker shock, at .46 cents/per meter it is a great value. You get more than twice as much material on each spool compared to 23 - 30 meters on the competitions spools. TroutHunter fluorocarbon pulls of the spool perfectly smooth with no line memory or damage to the tippet. The color-coded bands are both water and UV proof, which will protect your material from the elements.

Rio Powerflex

Rio Powerflex offers anglers the best bang for their buck out of any of the tippets we tested. It was one of the top materials for best all-around knot strength and stayed close to standard diameters, actually measuring slightly smaller in most sizes. Rio Powerflex is definitely the winner for price conscious anglers, which is why we probably see this material in more guide boats than any other material tested.

"Nothing grows faster than a fish from when it bites until it gets away."

CLUB STUFF

Subs for 2016/17 are overdue.

The new subs are:

Joining Fee	R200 senior R100 Junior
Senior Member	R200
Junior Member	R100
Family Member	R200 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 advise 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	Ian Cox and Stelios Comninos	082 574 3722 083 255 3334	iancox@coxattorneys.co.za 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@durbanflytyers.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>



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 jlkorrubel@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	