

THE BOBBIN

The newsletter of the



www.durbanflytyers.co.za



November 2016

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Next Meeting

Visitors and beginners are welcome.

Date	7 November 2016
Venue	Room G1 Westville Library
Time	7pm for 7.30pm
Tie	Freshwater
Tyer	Ian Cox
Pattern	Terry Andrew's minnow imitation
Special Instructions	Bring a dull yellow or white 140 denier thread and if you have it a yellow pemament marker or highlighter and UV goo and torch or superglue.

CHAIRMAN'S CHIRP

Last month we had Sheldon Sink to tie his version of a foam hopper pattern. Mostly made up of foam, it appears a very simple but effective fly. This month Ian Cox will be tying Terry Andrew's minnow pattern. The survey is now ready and will be circulated to anyone willing to fill it out with regard to fly fishing in general. I encourage as many as possible to participate.

The Complete Angler continues to add to our stock of equipment as well as tying materials continuously so we look forward to seeing you.



The 9 weight Daiwa rod I mentioned last month has arrived and I have tested it. [The results are tabled separately.](#)

At this stage I have to advise you that this morning (1st November 2016) I sent a letter to the committee advising them, that with immediate effect I am stepping down as Chairman and from the committee.

I assure you it was a sad decision but not a hasty one. I took on the position nearly three years ago under quite a bit of pressure but decided to have fun at the same time as trying to inject some new spirit into the club. Well, I feel I gave it a good go and put in a lot of energy and time but due to various reasons I've decided my time is up as it is getting harder to kick start the fun factor anymore.

FROM THE EDITOR

Set out below is my report as written before Graeme Neary resigned as chairman. Graeme deals with his reasons in his Chirp so I will not dwell on them here. I am sorry to see Graeme go. I think he stepped into the breach at a time when no one would take on the job and performed his role admirably and under what were often trying circumstances.

The Committee met on 3 November and passed a vote of Thanks for Graeme's contribution. I was elected as the new chairman which role I will fulfill in addition to the Bobbin. The way forward in this regard is dealt with extensively under [Special Report](#).



SPECIAL REPORT

Graeme stepping down, as he has done, has given the committee a bit of a kick up the bum. We have been concerned for some time about certain listlessness in the club.

We have developed an immediate plan of action.

A recent look at membership levels has shown a slight drop. (We have 34 paid up and honorary members as opposed to 35 last year) This is down from 60 members some 5 years ago. More worrying, however, is:

1. The serious lack of communication that may have given rise to this. I was horrified, for example to learn that some members may not have been receiving the Bobbin. This was due in large measure to a lack of timeous information regarding membership.
2. The declining number of members who take part in the actual tie. Looking back over past records reveals that about 50% of those attending do not tie so this is not new. It's just that declining numbers has none reduced the number of tyers to below what is the critical mass of tyers necessary to sustain a good vibe at meetings. We have had meetings of late where less than 10 members participate in a tie. It has been a while since that number exceeded 20.

We have taken steps to address the first of these issues.

- Our membership lists have been updated and letters are being sent to old members asking if they will not consider re-joining and why it is that they no longer are members of the club.
- I have updated the Bobbin distribution lists so hopefully all members are now on the distribution list. Please let me know by e mailing iancox@coxattorneys.co.za if this is not the case.

The second is a more fundamental concern. The truth is club is in need of a serious injection of energy. We propose doing this bringing in new blood with a view to making the club relevant once again to fly tyers.

- Our first step in that direction has been to bring Terry Andrews and Andrew Mather onto the committee. We are very grateful and excited that they have agreed to do so.
- Secondly we have reorganised the way the committee is run. Committee members are now divided into teams who are responsible for delivering on those various aspects which we have identified as necessary to making the club a fun place. Thus we now have:
 1. Chairman and vice chairman – the two lawyers – Ian Cox and Stelios Comninos. Their job will be to guide the ship.
 2. The librarians. This is a mountaineering term that describes the bloke who keeps the gear in order on big multi day wall climbs. Our librarians are:
 - a. Dave Smith who keeps the role of treasurer; and
 - b. Bruce Curry who is our secretary and keeper of the booze and the controller of the fly tying competition.

3. Membership development which includes marketing, including advertising meetings and organising tyers, ensuring that we do not have stranded members at meetings and making sure that a material list and how to guide of the last tie is ready for publication on the web site and in the next Bobbin. The team will be will be Terry Andrews, Andrew Mather and Stelios Comninos. They will also be responsible for ensuring that the beginners table is manned by a suitable "volunteer". Division of labour will be left to them to sort out.
4. I will handle the Bobbin along with Warren Prior who will also handle IT.
5. The Committee will handle outings and planning the way forward.

The goal is to reenergise the club. We need to bring back the fun and a sense of community.

We met with Terry Andrews last month to discuss this. Terry Andrews who has started the enormously successful [Trout Talk](#) Facebook page has come onto the committee. He is founding member and committee members of the club. He pointed out that there is a whole new generation of passionate fly tyers out there and we need to reconnect with them. That means we need to give them something they want.

His key message was that as successful as social media has been in creating energy amongst South Africa's Fly Tyers, it was still impersonal. Fly tyers need to meet in person or as he put it to hook up. That is where the clubs like the DFT come in.

- There is a huge wealth of new talent out there who would love to show members what they do. There is a generation of fly tyers on line who would like to see them do it. We need to provide that meeting space.
- Terry has offered us access to Trout Talks and its 3 500 membership base to do so. This will also enable us to connect with a wider range of demonstration tyers and bring new members in. We will launch this with the first tie in February 2017.
- This means we need to know who we are and who is new. Name tags colour coded to differentiate between members and guests will be part of the future. We will also introduce new guests at the beginning of the meeting.
- The beginners table which we have resurrected will become a fixture. We will also run courses for those new tyers who need to come up to speed and who find the meeting an intimidation environment within which to do this. We had a go at this with Trout SA in September and it was well received.
- To start with we will do two official outings a year- one saltwater at Vidal and one fresh water outing probably based at Kamberg. Members will be encouraged to network informally on other trips.

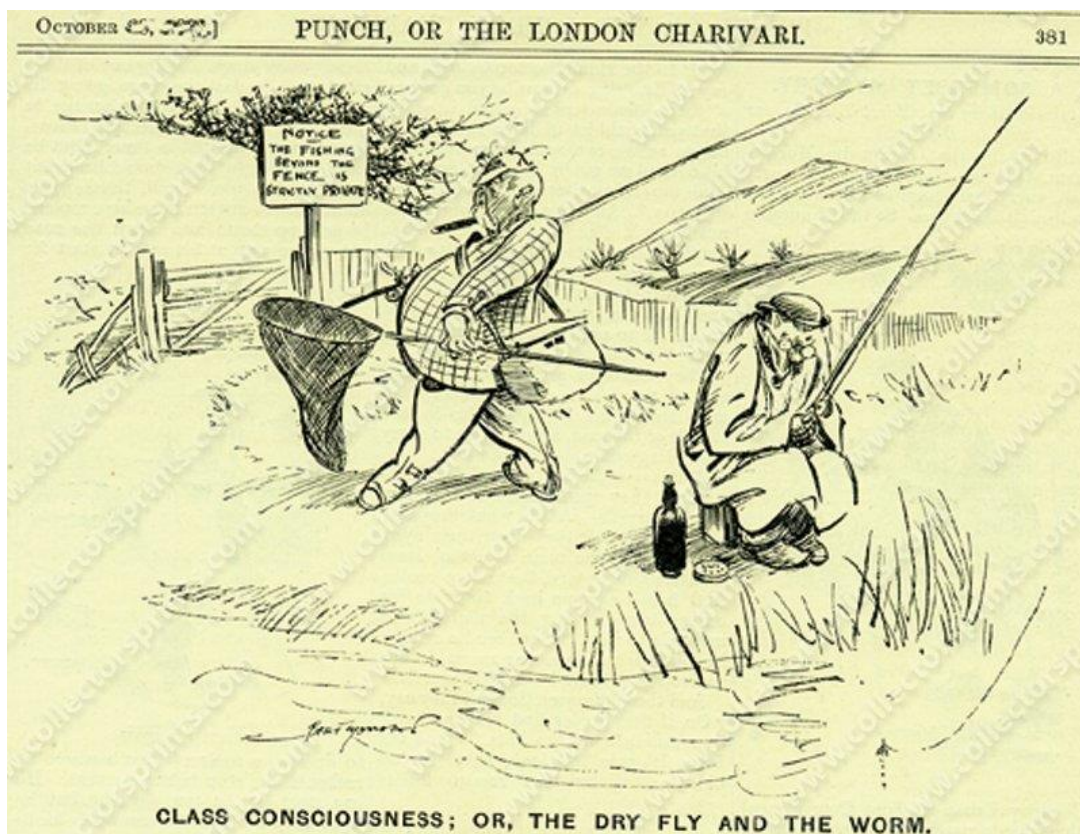
This is only the beginning.

- A member survey that has been on the table for a couple of years now will be launched at the February meeting.

- We are also looking at updating the logo also at the suggestion of Terry Andrew's who echoed the view of many on the committee that it is tired and outdated. We will deal with this in more detail in the next Bobbin but the idea is to make some suggestions and put it out to members for suggestions.

On that note helpful suggestions will be gratefully received.

IT'S A GIGGLE



If it was raining soup, the Irish would go out with forks.

Brendan Behan

FLY TYING AND OTHER TIPS

Fishing by moon phases

by Laurence Davies

THE EFFECTS OF THE MOON ON FISHING	
<u>NEW MOON</u>	
1 Day	Very good (8am)
2 Day	Very good (9am)
3 Day	Very good (2pm)
4 Day	Very good (3pm)
5 Day	Very good (5pm)
6 Day	Very Bad
7 Day	Fairly good (10am-3pm)
8 Day	Only passable (10am-3pm)
<u>FIRST QUARTER</u>	
Day	- Good in am - Passable in pm
Day	- Good in am - Better in pm
Day	- Only passable
Day	- Only passable
Day	- Only passable
Day	- Only passable
Day	Very Good (2pm to nightfall)
Day	Increasingly good all day
Day	Increasingly good all day
<u>FULL MOON</u>	
1 Day	Passable all day
2 Day	Bad
3 Day	Very bad
4 Day	Increasingly better as the day passes by
5 Day	Good in am, passable later
6 Day	Good in am - Only
7 Day	Good until 1-2pm
8 Day	Very good from noon till nightfall
<u>LAST QUARTER</u>	
Day	- Good after 1pm
Day	- Good in afternoon
Day	- Good about 3pm
Day	- Passable after 4pm
Day	- Good in afternoon
Day	- Fairly good in afternoon
Day	- Fairly good in afternoon
Day	- Passable in am. Fairly good in pm
Some Quarters vary from 7 to 9 days.	
Anglers wishing to make observation should repeat the 8 day forecast.	
Enjoy your fishing. With compliments from the Blue Shop, E.M. Vaid & Co.	

I remember Peter Dippenaar writing about fishing according to the moon phases He was talking about freshwater fishing, and he maintained that the best fishing was around moonrise and moonset.

Of course one of the items which is constantly debated is the effect of the full moon on our freshwater fishing, especially for trout. Opinions are divided on the impact of the full moon and following up on some of the opinions, I came across Dean Riphagen's comments from his book " Stillwater Trout in South Africa", an excellent book, where he states that he will **never** plan any trout fishing trip around the full moon. Now we all know that Dean has fished extensively for trout in this country, but Mark Yelland who has also extensive experience put the reasons for poor fishing around the full moon down to low pressure systems which often occur around this time, putting fish down, rather than the fish feeding during the night, and thus not responding to our flies. They are not saying that you won't catch fish around the full moon period, but your chances will be reduced. What impact the full moon will have on saltwater species, I am not sure, other than any accompanying low pressure systems of course.

There is a very good site for tides, moon rises and moon sets for South Africa called Ocean Rhythms at www.satides.co.za . This site shows not only the times for high and low tide, but also the expected height of the water, as well as sunrise and sunsets.

Click [here](#) for the Mike Anderson article Laurence was referring to.

Cool flies

A selection of cool flies off the web.



Terry Andrew's minnow imitation



The salmo taddy and the papa roach have kids.
Wayne Stegen's salmo dragon



Wayne Stegen's take on The Hover Dragon and a Mac Muller variation.

Proportion

Proportion is a big part of tying a fly right. The Facebook page [Fly tying for beginners and improvers](#) published a post from [David Luke](#) that contained some interesting diagrams on how to get this right on a range of flies. Click [here](#) for those diagrams.

From the web

- [Tying a Small Bait Fish Pattern with Davie McPhail](#)
- [Quick links to fly tying tips](#)
- [Step by step fly tying instructions](#)
- [Another cricket pattern](#)
- [The South African team at world champs at Vail](#)
- [Baha does the Underberg Himeville fly fishing festival](#)



ARTICLES

Saturday with a Supermodel

By Andrew Savs



Andrew Savs and the Tacky fly patch I gave him

We have all fished with a supermodel at one time or another. Indeed I think I have made mention of this from time in the Bobbin (You know who you are) It was fin therefore top read of another angler's take on the sub species.

Mindful that Andrew may have aspirations in that direction, I could not help but donate Andrew a supermodel starter kit to take with him on his upcoming trip to New Zealand. For Andrew's great article and why the starter kit is appropriate click [here](#).

The dry flies of Oliver Kite

by Tom Sutcliffe



This is an excellent article about Oliver Kite recently published by Tom on his iconic [The Spirit of Fly Fishing](#). What makes it quirky is that Oliver Kite was in fact famous as nymph fisherman from the Frank Sawyer school. Sawyer, who is one of my heroes, emphasised simplicity. It should come as no surprise that Kite was the same. As Tom points out in his article Kite saw movement as key to the success of a dry fly pattern. Simplicity as Tom's bountiful examples show is certainly central to Kite's dry flies which resemble nymphs with a dry hackle collar more than anything else. I wonder how they would do dolled up by a few hairy bits tied RAB style. My guess is very well. Let's hope a bunch of Kite RAB hybrids start popping up on South African fly tying sites.

Click [here](#) for the article.

If you want to see more on Oliver Kite click [here](#).

The next two casts brought me a small silver leaping sea-trout, a sprod as they call it only in Lancashire and a modest brown. – Oliver Kite from a fisherman's diary

[Standing up for your rights](#)

by Ian Cox

I have always been fascinated by why people do stuff. History tells us what they do in terms of cause and effect written from the perspective of the victor. But behind all of that you get real live individual people with, all their stuff. We tend to ignore the human element when looking at events but I think it is a mistake. The truth is that people often in very small numbers can and do influence events. This article is a first look at how trout anglers by defending their passions have and still are influencing events. Click [here](#) for more.

REPORTS

Trout SA Fly Casting Clinic



Trout Talk recently brought fly fishing guide and casting instructor Mark Yelland down from Gauteng to run a fly casting clinic. The event was well attended with three separate clinics (one beginner and 2 advanced clinics) being run through the day.

Though Mark is not himself IFFF certified instructor he was brought in to provide early stage training those aspirant instructors who took part in the course last year. Only 3 of the many who signed up eventually made it.

Mark is an excellent instructor and those who attended came away either better casters or if that did not happen with a better idea of what they have to do to improve. Thank you Terry. May Trout Talk arrange many more such courses.

2016 Fly Tying Expo

Click [here](#) for a video report on the Fly Fishing Expo (Reported in the [September Bobbin](#)).

The 2017 Expo is taking place at Toadbury Hall in Gauteng on 24 and 25 June 2017. Click [here](#) for more.

A promotional poster for the 'FLY FISHING + FLY TYING EXPO'. The main title is in large, bold, black letters. Below it, in smaller text, is 'TWO DAYS DEDICATED TO ALL THINGS ... FLY FISHING'. Contact information includes 'email: info@ffftexpo.co.za' and 'web: www.ffftexpo.co.za'. The dates 'JUNE 24th + 25th 2017' are prominently displayed in yellow and green. Ticket prices are listed as 'R150 pp Adults', 'R 50 pp 18-12', and 'under 12 FREE'. The poster features a silhouette of a city skyline with a red fly in the center. Logos for 'AFRICA'S ORIGINAL FLYFISHING MAGAZINE' and 'TOADBURY HALL COUNTRY HOTEL Lanseria' are at the bottom. A circular logo on the left says 'TOURETTE FISHING light it in Africa'.

Graeme' Neary's Vidal report



I am very fortunate to have been invited to a weekend at Cape Vidal with the South Coast Fly Anglers on their annual outing.

We drove up in rain on Friday which cleared up a bit at around St Lucia. A strong north easter was blowing which made it a bit unpleasant but that didn't deter us. The area north of the bay was very sanded up so we fished in the bay area and down south. South was very good as a deep channel ran all along the beach in what would be shore/mid break area at high tide. This produced some fish although not huge numbers.

Saturday we hit the beach at first light and got a few fish but again the north east was pumping. We spent most of the time south and were rewarded with some small catches. While south late on Saturday afternoon the wind completely died down for a while and then a very cold wind came in from south west with some huge dark clouds. We decided to head for the chalet post haste and just as well. A huge storm followed us and put paid to anymore fishing.

On the beach again at first light on Sunday morning to be greeted by the south west. Once again we fished down south in the area some of us have come to know as Shad Hole/Curry's Post. Fishing here was very good, producing some good size Threadfin mullet and Stonebream among others. The species caught were Shad, Threadfins, Stonebream, Cape Moonies and Wave Garrick. All in all, a very pleasant time was had.

We were very surprised to see that the authorities are spending some finance on refurbishing the chalets at present. The one we had has been done very nicely with a good coat of varnish in and out, new tiles in bathroom and kitchen and a very nice awning over the veranda area.

IN THE MARKET

Fishing shirts



My fishing shirts, you know those of the quick dry variety, increasingly look like they were stolen from a hobo. It also has to be said that as the years go by they seem increasingly unequal to the task of accommodating me. So it was with considerable delight that I can report that Kingfisher is running a special on its range of Daiwa branded quick dry shirts. These are high quality articles easily as good as the boutique stuff. The price is fantastic at R299.00 per shirt. I bought 4. Hurry while stocks last.

Saving dough with dough



I have Andrew Mather to thank for this idea. I like Ed's Hopper a lot as well as a lot of those termite imitations that use tube foam for the body. The trouble is that judging by the price, manufacturers of fly tying materials will have you believe that making the material is rocket science. So I had all but laughed off the tubular foam, using instead small square cut strips off sheet foam I buy from my local craft shop.



You can get this at a fraction of the price of the same stuff sold as fly tying foam. Well Andrew alerted me to another idea. He uses [Crazy Clay](#) which once rolled to shape can be fixed by minute or two in a low heat oven or left to naturally for 6 hours. I have tried it and must say it is a great idea. The Crazy Clay is not cheap –

R100.00 for a small tubs of different colours. However it is dirt cheap when compared to the tubular foam on sale at fly material shops.

The Daiwa Wilderness



I wrote a piece on the Daiwa Wilderness in the December 2015 Bobbin Click [here](#) for that review. Graeme Neary who now works for Kingfisher got to try out the 9wt on his trip to Vidal. Here is his report.

I had the opportunity to test one of our additions to the DAIWA WILDERNESS fly rod range recently at a casting clinic held in Hillcrest. Management asked me to take the nine weight with to Cape Vidal and give it a test in the field. This is a four piece and comes in a nylon bag and cordura tube. A mid/tip flex rod that is very light weight compared to some of its competitors. It stood up comfortably to the winds and surf at Vidal, delivered a full intermediate line, and landed a good number of fish. My fellow Vidal fishers tried it out and the reaction was very favourable. The surprise to them all was that this rod retails at R1 180-00 which is extremely good value right now. The range extends from 3 weight to 9 weight and are all very well priced.

Stream X



StreamX is well known to most fly tyers as a provider of high quality and sometimes quirky (read hard to get locally) fly tying materials to the local tying community. Owned and run by Cape ton fly angler Craig Thom it offers a highly efficient and personalised service.

Stream X has recently updated its web site. This is what Craig says about it.

What's in it for you?

CHEAPER ONLINE - Because online orders save me time, prices online are cheaper than those in the shop.

FAST - This website has been configured to load fast so pictures sizes have been optimised.

EASY - Easy navigation and adding to your cart, no long lists of products, everything you need on a particular item is visible

SAVE Fuel & Time - Even if you are in cape Town

MOBILE FRIENDLY

What can I expect?

EASY - Simple fast navigation to product you want, and when you get there, there are no long lines of product for each colour

LIVE - Stock levels are live, so show actual stock

NO GIMMICS or fancy graphics that slow you down. All pictures have been optimised for fast downloading.

SEARCH - The site includes a good search engine, just click on the magnifying glass

SHIPPING - Easy Shipping Choices Door to Door is a straight R85 for local and major cities, and R150 for anywhere else. Postage is a flat R50

PAYMENT - You have a choice of a secure card payment, or to EFT.

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



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Jay Smit

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Email: jay@ismit.co.za

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



Honey sales: Anja Smith 0832951669

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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.
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 ilkorrubel@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	