



Single Haul

The Newsletter of The Izaak Walton Flyfishing Club

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Editor's Eddy

The book, The Compleat Angler, by the club namesake Izaak Walton was published in 1653, however, Walton added to it for a quarter of a century largely because, during the last forty years of his life (he died at 90) he was retired, basically fishing and hanging out with his buddies. The first edition of his book had thirteen chapters which was expanded to twenty one in the 6th published edition of 1676. However the first known writing on the subject

of fly fishing in England appears to be by Dame Juliana Berners in 1496. Not much is known about Dame Juliana. She is said to have been the daughter of Sir James Berners of Roding Berners in the county of Essex.... a favourite of King Richard the second who was beheaded in 1388 as an evil counsellor to the king and an enemy of the public good.

She was celebrated for her extreme beauty and great learning and is reported to have held the office of Prioress of the Benedictine Nunnery of Sopwell, Hertfordshire, a cell to the Abbey of St Alban. (Please! no letters on this one). Although her book, "A Treatyse of Fysshynge Wyth an Angle" was written in a style of english which is not easily read, there are many elements in it which ring true today. Bearing in mind that she wrote at a time when Godliness and 'life' were coupled more so than they are now, and that she ran a Nunnery for a time, Dame Juliana upheld many of the flyfishing ideas that we think of today. For example :

(In old english the 'r' is often pronounced as 's' and the letter 'v' as 'u' and vice versa)

A Treatyse of Fysshynge wyth an Angle

BY
DAME JULIANA BERNERS.

BEING A FAITHFULL REPRODUCTION OF THE FIRST EDITION OF THE

WORK AS PRINTED IN ENGLAND BY

WYNKYN DE WORDE

AT WESTMINSTER IN 1496.

WITH AN INTRODUCTION BY

REV. M. G. WATKINS, M.A.

IWFFC

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" Whan ye haue take a grete fyfhe: vndo the mawe, & what ye fynde therin make that your bayte : for it is beffe."

I read that as "when you have taken a great fish, the stomach contents will reveal what you can use as your bait (fly)... for it is best"

She also had a concept of the perfect angler with which conservationists of today would agree :

"Simplicity of difpofition, forbearance to our neighbours' rights, and confideration for the poor, are ftrongly inculcated. All covetoufnefs in fifhing or employment of its gentle art to increafe worldly gain and fill the larder is equally condemned. Anglynge is to ferve a man for folace, and to caufe the health of his body, but efpecially of his foul. He would purfue his craft alone for the moll part, when his mind can rife to high and holy things, and he may ferve God devoutly by faying from his heart his cutfomary prayer. Nor fould a man ever carry his amufement to excefs, and catch too much at one time."

Attempted translation :

Simplicity of disposition, forbearance to our neighbours' rights, and consideration for the poor, are strongly inculcated. All covetousness in fishing or employment of its gentle art to increase worldly gain and fill the larder is equally condemned. Angling is to serve a man for solace, and to cause the health of his body, but especially of his soul. He would pursue his craft alone for the most part, when his mind can rise to high and holy things, and he may serve God devoutly by saying from his heart, his customary prayer. Nor should a man ever carry his amusement to excess, and catch too much at one time.

With that advice from Dame Juliana!...have a great fishing season. I can refer anyone whose interested to an online version of the book. Ed

GREEN DRAKE PROJECT 2007 - 2009



Conditions for the Green Drake mayfly, *Ephemera Guttulata*, the nymphs of which live in burrows in accumulations of gravel, in riffles and rapids, have improved on the West Branch of the Credit River lately because, from a low in 2008, the rates at which subadults were observed emerging downstream of Stonecutter's Dam during the "hatch" in 2009, rebounded to 2005 levels. Circumstances also have become somewhat better for the Green Drake in the Middle Branch and Main stem of the Credit because nymphs that were transplanted to the vicinity of the Credit Forks during 2008 and 2009 lived longer and grew more than before, except at the top of the Main Stem, where the size of the hatch has remained negligible and nymphs are very scarce everywhere. Unexpectedly, in view of the improving situation on the Credit River itself, the Green Drake population on the lower part of Beeney Creek collapsed in late 2007 or early 2008, and has shown no signs of recovery, even though the nymphs are still common further

upstream. Elsewhere, it was confirmed in 2007 that conditions on the main Stem of the Beaver River, downstream of Eugenia Power Station were no longer suitable for Green Drake nymphs, but the situation did improve for them in 2009 because nymphs transplanted last summer to below the power station did better than previously.

Isolated pockets of Green Drakes still exist as well on the Credit River watershed, not only on Beeney Creek, but also on Silver Creek, Wolf Creek and Shaws Creek. Presence of Green Drakes on Shaws Creek is compelling evidence that their range on the Middle Branch has contracted over the years in a downstream direction, as was observed on the West Branch in 2005/2006, and is further support for the claim made in 2006 that the nymphs were disappearing because of organic pollution originating from sources upstream. It was also claimed that because of pollution, the microbial balance in the stream bottom had been altered in favour of a micro organism that produces a toxin to which the Green Drake nymphs are especially sensitive. It was thought that the toxin acts by destroying the epithelial lining of the midgut, but it now appears that nymphs afflicted in this way eventually die of starvation, and it is now believed that when the killing agent reaches a high concentration in the stream, it acts instead as a neurotoxin or has a narcotic effect on the nymphs, which causes them to die within a few days. It was also proposed in 2006 that the decade of warm, dry weather that began in the late 1990's has made the situation worse, and it is thought that recent signs of recovery both on the Credit River and the Beaver River are due to the cooler and wetter conditions.

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The above is an extract from the 60 page report. Ed.

VICETIME

Ron Koshoshek

Bugfly

This attractor pattern is to terrestrials as the Royal Coachman attractor pattern is to Mayflies.

Mothers shape offspring's attitude to Nature in ways we hardly notice. I was lucky. My mother took a keen interest in all things natural. Even though she swatted the "persistent" houseflies and poisoned the "over-busy" ants, she still admired their "character" traits and pointed out their colorful and shapely beauty. No wonder I grew up a fly-tier fascinated with "bugs". Be assured, I have tried about everything at hand ...balsa wood, foams, deer, elk, moose and calf hair, and various colored plastic films all in an effort to create an effective imitation of terrestrials. You can have my entire collection of terrestrial imitation flies except one..... the one that really works. I give you its design and composition.

Hook: 10-16 Mustad regular

Thread: 6/0 to 8/0 olive, yellow, red, brown, black depending on accent color of the tied off head.

Tail: 6-8 fibers of strong tipped deer or elk hair" colors, olive, brown, red, yellow, tan, black.

Body: peacock herl.

Wing: fine deer hair of brown, red, olive, yellow, tan or black. Upright or divided.

Legs: Hackle tied classic (clip bottom V) or parachute style---Tie several turns (bushy). High quality, stiff Brown or Grizzly

Tying tips:

1. This fly emphasizes color triggers rather than shape triggers. Lady bugs are orange and black, for example, so put orange and black in your lady fly body. But other bugs have variously colored "sheens". The bugs of the West, especially in Yellowstone drainage in

Montana for example, are rich in olives, greens, yellows and reds. Your selection of color should be determined by the mix of colors in the bug you want to imitate. I think light reflection through the wings and tail is one trigger point. Herl is the other trigger. Herl is highly translucent and rich in green, brown, gray, black hues. Grizzly or variegated brown in the hackle gives varied light and color mixes that seem to complement any bug fly.

2. Tie on the upright wing first, leaving 25% of room at the head of fly for hackle and head wrap. Be sure not to make top-heavy. Number of fibers depends on hook size and fiber thickness. Wrap in front of wing to make upright or divide only after tie in tail. Also, Thread-wrap around base of hair wing to prevent too much "flare" while tying.

3. Tie on tail next. Tie lightly, do not splay tail. You want a thick under-body. Put butts of tail section directly up against the butt end of the tied down wing. Color is the trigger here.

4. Tie on hackle butt-end either just behind or just in front of wing. As with all dries, the hackle should be curving forward and extending out at a right angle to the hook, away from you.

5. Select 2 or 3 pieces of herl, depending on their length and size of hook to be wrapped and secure them on top of the deer hair tail section. Wrap thread to rear of hook over herl butts every so lightly and let hang. Put a good film of super-glue on top of the herl.

6. Wrap herl twice around abdomen and ahead of the hanging thread. Every two wraps bring thread under and wrap over the herl but just ahead of the wrapped herl. Repeat this process until you tie off the herl at head of fly.

7. Wrap on hackle, upright or parachute style. Make it bushy as possible. V-Clip at bottom. Use good quality hackle so the bug rides high. Because of underbody of hair, the fly is fairly buoyant so not a lot of gunk need be applied to it.

You can fish this fly in slow or fast water. Parachute style is slightly more effective in slow water. Fish tight against banks near over

IWFFC

hanging grasses whenever possible. You'll be surprised how often a good fish is in thin water tight against a bank in the shade of grass.

A SPORTSMAN SHOW THANKYOU

Bill Christmas

Thanks for all your help at the show. It enabled us to field a team of 19 dedicated fly tying instructors. They were able to teach over 80 students per day during the five day event.

The reaction from the public confirms our belief that there is a hunger to learn more about our sport, especially among the young. They will become the conservation minded adults of tomorrow. Our people also enjoyed the interaction with the families.

We received wide support from our sister organizations: Izaak Walton Fly Fishing Club; Hamilton Area Fly Fishers & Tyers and Winter Hatches Fly Fishing Club. All of these people were outstanding, contributing an average of 8.5 hours on duty. Thanks to all.

Bill Christmas

Ted Knott Chapter,
Trout Unlimited Canada

OUTREACH

Pat Kelly

Lots of smiles were created in 2009. At twenty events and fairs we had nine hundred and thirty eight people tie their first woolly worm. The two hundred and twelve dollars in "tips" we collected more-or-less covered the cost of materials. Development of conservation..... thoughts in all those minds..... priceless!!

One notable event was at a native settlement on Big Trout Lake in the far reaches of Northwest Ontario by temporary members seconded from a group called Christian Horizons. Closer to home,

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Streetsville seems to like us. We were at the Bread and Honey Festival and at their Canada Day Celebration. The latter was the first time we tied in the evening and it went well. Derek Betty and I had a good view of the fireworks display after it got too dark to tie. We borrowed space from Credit Valley Conservation for the Erin, Orangeville, and Brampton fall fairs. Not having attended the Orangeville and Brampton fall fairs before, as far as I know didn't stop bored kids, waiting to show their calves and chickens, flock to our booth.

We purchased a decent canopy this year for outdoor events. This canopy, with its four sides, held up very well during a heavy downpour at the Lake Aquitaine Family Fishing Day. Patrons who crowded into our tent were the only dry ones left in the park!



The people earning all those smiles include Derek Betty, Michael Cornett, Donna Cridland, Shawn and Elliott Deighton, Dean Gamble, the Giles family (Rachel, Renuka, and Derek), Pat Kelly, Bruce MacDonald, Bob Marley, Warwick Meadus, John Menecola, Caroline Mulder-Sutton, Paul Schram, Kim Shikaze, Ed Stanley, Mike Warrian, and Betty Woo. Apologies to those not listed. Either I forgot you or you missed a good time.

Next year, with enough member support, we should be able to do more. These activities are a long-term investment. They bring in new

members, and that has happened to some extent. More importantly, exposing the public to fly fishing and conservation ideas benefits not only our club but other clubs, and the fishery as a whole. Even better, it is fun!

NEW MIGRATORY RAINBOW TROUT BARRIER

Elliott Deighton

Environmental Assessment - Stakeholder Meeting May 3rd Held at the Credit Valley Conservation Authority Offices. Environmental Study Report has not been drafted yet.

Stake holder meeting to gain input on the preferred location of a barrier to Steelhead migration on the Credit River.

An Electric Barrier is the preferred method considered at three different locations, those being at the Paper Mill Dam, in Cheltenham and at the Caledon Golf and Country Club.

Option 1 Paper Mill Dam - Public Ownership - Township of Halton Hills Ownership

Pros:

Previously existing structure
Would totally prevent competition with Brook trout in upstream waters
Could be shut down in July and August due to a thermal barrier above stream (water too warm to support trout habitation and movement) potential 7 month running time

Cons:

perceived con - cuts Steelhead spawning habitat in half
cost \$204,000 to retrofit dam and place electric barrier
narrow spillway is easily clogged with spring flood debris causing barrier to fail
Fishway required for Atlantic Salmon movement

Option 2 Cheltenham - Private Landowner

Pros:

Perceived pro – provides greater spawning habitat for Steelhead (approx 45 hectares) between Norval and proposed barrier at Cheltenham

Cons:

Allows for some species overlap with Atlantic Salmon, Brook Trout and Brown Trout in tributaries between Paper Mill and Cheltenham (Roger's Creek)

Would require a land purchase/lease/ cooperative agreement

Would cost approx. \$224, 000 to build (next to no existing structure to build on)

Fishway required for Atlantic Salmon movement

Would require approx 9 month running time.

Option 3 Caledon Golf and Country Club - Private Land Owner

Pros:

Perceived pro – allows for greatest amount of Steelhead spawning habitat

Cons:

Allows for definite and large amount of overlap/ competition between Atlantic Salmon, Brook Trout, Brown Trout and Steelhead in Roger's Creek and other tributaries. Will cost \$194,555 to build the barrier. Fishway required for Atlantic Salmon movement.

Would require land dealings with two parties, Caledon Golf and Country Club on one side of the river and a private land owner on the other side – both supposedly supportive/indifferent according to CRAA.

Will need to be run 9 months of the year

Option 4 Do Nothing Approach:

Pros

Leave things as they are now, fish are lifted over at Norval, existing dams along credit serve as barriers to fish movement.

Cons:

Fish are allowed to move unchecked upstream, still possible competition with Atlantic Salmon, Brook Trout and Brown Trout.

MNR says it takes \$4,000 to maintain lifting program and fishway at Norval, CRAA says costs at least twice as much.

Requires lots of volunteers/volunteer hours to maintain but is that really a con?

CRAA Mentality on project is "Kill it or Cure it."

Project has been 12 years supposedly in development, they want a resolution now or not at all.. More concerned with the economic/ social impact that more Steelhead in the river will have on the area. More money for the area through more angling opportunities.

CRAA - Option 3 was main choice, very hard sell on do nothing approach

TU - Option 1 preferred, possibly option 2

CVCA - Option 1 preferred, possibly option 2, would prefer something between Options 1 and 2

DFO - Stands by stakeholder position, prefers most bang for buck approach but seemed to prefer Option 1

IWFFC - Do nothing or perhaps Option 1, need member input.

OFAH - Atlantic Salmon side preferred Option 4 so long as disruption to Atlantic Salmon was left to a minimum, OFAH side possibly Option 2

CRAA attacked the do nothing approach demanding other groups help them lift fish and run the hatchery, commented on how dedicated they are to conservation, the Atlantic Salmon restoration and went on about all the man hours and personal funds they put into the fish way and hatchery at Norval and how their

wives are mad at them for it. No one said they had to do any of it!

Bosnian Bollocks

Loop to Loop Deighton

Before anyone gets their waders in a knot, let me explain the meaning of the word in the title that is commonly assumed to be a vulgar British swear word. According to Wikipedia the word bollocks is old Anglo Saxon for testicles and has a long and distinguished history, with the *Oxford English Dictionary* (OED) giving examples of its usage dating back to the 13th century. One of the early references is *John Wycliffe's Bible* (1382), *Leviticus* xxii, 24:

"Al beeste, that ... kitt and taken a wey the ballokes is, ye shulen not offre to the Lord..."

(any beast that is cut and taken away the bollocks, you shall not offer to the Lord, i.e. castrated animals are not suitable as religious sacrifices).

Fast forward to the seventeenth to the nineteenth century where bollocks or ballocks was allegedly used as a slang term for a clergyman, although this meaning is not mentioned by the OED's 1989 edition. For example, in 1864, the Commanding Officer of the Straits Fleet regularly referred to his chaplain as "Ballocks". It has been suggested that bollocks came to have its modern meaning of "nonsense" because clergymen were notorious for talking nonsense during their sermons.

It is therefore the latter meaning of nonsense that I use the word here and not the earlier Biblical definition.

And so begins the story.
Sunday morning at the Spring Fishing Show this year and a group of us were manning Pat Kelly's IWFFC mini booth. Pat and a group had

the kids tying section going full bore while your humble editor, Derek Giles and I were trying to drum up interest in the Club and the Forum. Traffic past the booth was slow at one point and we were about to burst into one of John Wesley's hymns (as is our wont on a Sunday IWFFC event) when Derek mentioned a problem he had with connecting fluorocarbon tippet to a mono leader. He had his new 8 weight rod and line strung up at the show so I had a look at it and surmised that the tippet was too light to connect to the heavy end of the leader with the double surgeon's knot that he had used. I suggested a loop to loop attachment using a double surgeon's loop in the leader and the tippet. This way, I explained, he could change the tippet many times without having the leader get progressively shorter. I offered to demonstrate the connection and when I got through I could see that the loops were a little too long, however, when you looped the two together with a square knot they closed down and so no worries, or so I thought. Derek immediately picked up on the overly large loops and commented on the fact that it might scare the bonefish he was using the rig for.

We were getting into a nice debate about what scared fish when an older gentleman (about our age) and his son approached the booth. "Oh, flyfishink!" he said to his son. "I do that and I did it back home where I caught many trouts!" "Where was home?" asked Derek. "Oh Bosnia" he said. "Many fine trouts and good rivers there" he continued "But we live in Georgetown now and I fish the Credit. I was just about to ask him if he used the Polish or Czech nymphing method when Derek pipes up with. "Well I'm going to the Turks and Caicos Islands shortly and this is the rod I'm taking however, I don't like this end connection of the tippet to the leader. What do you think of it?" he said handing the rod over to the Bosnian gentleman and giving me a swift dig in the ribs with his elbow at the same time. The chap scrutinized first the leader to the fly line connection and announced that it was "Very

good, very good." Then he went down the leader inspecting the blood knots which Derek had so carefully tied. "Very good, very good" he said but when he got to my loop to loop knot he exploded with "NO GOOD, NO GOOD!" I was shattered and poked Derek back in the ribs. "Would you consider" Derek asked with a straight face, "that the person who tied that knot knew anything about fly fishing and knots or not?" "No, no" he said "I would think that he is a beginner and doesn't know much about the fishink." Derek turned to me with a little grin and said to the gentleman, "Why don't you come to the Forum in April, I'm sure some of us could benefit from your knowledge and expertise." It was all I could do to keep a straight face when the gentleman replied with "No, no, I don't think that I will be free that weekend." "Wife have you on a short leash does she?" I asked, somewhat miffed. He looked perplexed and said something to his son in Bosniak. "My father doesn't understand the meaning of short leash" he said. At which point Derek launched into a very detailed explanation of the term with references to a dog out for a walk with it's master being kept at heel with the "short leash".

When the son told his father the meaning he burst out laughing and said "We have same in Bosnia but we say wife will cut leg off to keep you at home." I assumed it lost a little in the translation and asked with an innocent face "Which leg did they cut off?" "Whatever, left or right" he replied..... "As long as it's not the other one." I retorted.

"Would you say" asked Derek, pausing for effect "if I told you that this gentleman here" gesturing to myself, "is our Club president and has fly fished for many years." "Oh, I'm very honoured to meet you." The gentleman said. ".....and" continued Derek dropping the hammer "is the person who tied that last knot on my leader." "NO!" exploded the gentleman. "No, I don't believe you!" "Let's go" he said to his son obviously thinking that Derek was pulling his leg. He got a few feet down the isle then looked back at us and shaking his head said something to his son in Bosniak again. Whatever it was he said, I can only surmise that it loosely translated to "What a load of Bosnian Bollocks"