

Fly of the Month

The Penstock Spinner



Hook :- Dry fly 18- 12. One in picture is Tiemco 102Y size 15

Tail :- White Hackle fibres.

Body :- White silk or thread

Rib :- Black flat waxed nylon or black thread

Hackle :- White cock saddle feather

Bevan Stewart worked in the Bridges Brothers Sports Store in Hobart from 1954 until 1972 when he left to become a full time professional fly tyer. There is a display of his flies in the Australian Fly Fishing Museum at Clarendon.

One of the flies on display is the Penstock Spinner and it caught my eye because it is small, black and white, and is sparsely tied, very much like the Griffiths Gnat which has been kind to me at Penstock Lagoon just lately. The one pictured above is but a poor imitation of the one in the cabinet at the AFFM but I think it will do the job and I will give it a run next time I come across rising fish there.

The fly is started in the usual way by laying a base of thread from eye to a point above the barb where the tail fibres are attached two or three is ample. Mallard flank feather fibres are a good substitute if you can't find suitably long white ones. The black flat nylon or thread for the ribbing is then attached followed by the white body material. Good old-fashioned Pearsall's silk is used above but embroidery silk or thread would be okay. Advance your tying thread to a point just behind the eye and then build up a body by winding the white silk forward and secure it. The black ribbing thread is now wound forward in three or four turns and secured. Attach a white hackle feather with fibres slightly larger than the hook gape and give it two or three turns before securing it and whip finishing. Remember, it's a sparsely tied fly so don't overdo the tail and hackle.



Alan T.

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