

Fly of the Month

The Trothodg



Hook :- 16 -10, Tiemco 100, Kamasan B401 or similar

Thread :- Black or dark brown

Legs :- Golden pheasant tippets

Body :- Peacock herl

Hackles :- Black and brown

The Trothodg is a Tasmanian fly first tied in the 1980s by north-west Tasmanian fly fisherman Dick Trotter and the name of the fly derives from the first four letters of his surname and that of his fishing companion Kevin Hodge. It doesn't represent anything in particular but it must look like a tasty food item to trout because Dick Trotter states that his diaries record over one thousand trout taken on it.

The Trothodg was picked in his "Six flies for a Tasmanian Season" collection by Jim Leslie back in July 2013 and he rates it his top searching dry fly. Jim is the owner of an original tied by Dick Trotter he's never tied it on, of course.

The Trothodg looks as if it might be difficult to tie but it's not really. It's mostly used in sizes 14 and 12 but a bushy size 10 is reputed to be a good size when the fish are on grasshoppers. Start by laying the foundation thread from the eye back to the bend and at that point build up a small ball of thread. The ball of thread will stop the peacock herl from slipping down round the bend and it's a good idea to put a drop of head cement on it. Next tie in a strand of good quality peacock herl and wind it forward about a third of the shank length, tie it off and trim the butts. Next step is to tie in four golden pheasant tippets approximately the length of the hook each side of the shank so that they lay back in the same plane as the shank. Then tie in a black cock hackle, wind it forward four or five turns, tie off and trim. You should now be about halfway along the hook. A small thorax is then formed with another couple of turns of peacock herl. Next tie in a black cock hackle and a brown one (in that order). Wind on the brown hackle four or five turns, tie it off, and then wind the black one through it. Tie it off and form a small head with the tying thread. A touch of head cement and the fly is finished.



A.T.

