

**Fly of the Month**

**The Bibio**



- Hook :- Wet fly 14-8
- Body :- Seals fur, black rear, red middle, black front
- Rib :- Silver wire or tinsel
- Hackles :- Black hen or cock

The Bibio was developed by a Major Charles Roberts of County Mayo, Ireland, in the late 1950s or early '60s and rapidly became one of the most popular and effective loch style flies in the UK. It is generally fished as a top dropper wake-making fly but its bushy outline also makes it a good surface film attractor when pulled through the wave tops.

To tie the Bibio lay your foundation thread from eye to bend and attach the ribbing wire or tinsel, holo tinsel or Gliss'n Glow gives a bit of extra flash over plain tinsel. Next, dub the rear one third of the shank with black seals fur followed by a band of red a bit less than a third of the shank long. The original used to be hot orange but red is now generally accepted as the standard dressing. Go back to the black seals fur and dub the front third of the shank, leaving room for the hackles. Now tie in a black hackle feather, hen or rooster doesn't seem to matter, with barbs about the size of the hook gape and wind it back to the start of the body dubbing. Trap the hackle with the silver ribbing and counter-wind that forward through the hackle, trapping as few barbs as possible, and tie it off in front of the black seals fur. Now attach another black hackle with fibres slightly longer than the body hackle. Three or four turns of that and the fly is finished.



A common variation is to add a tail of black squirrel tail fibres or similar. Another variant is to add some knotted pheasant tail fibres or Sililegs, when it becomes a Bibio Hopper.



*Alan T.*

