

# Northwest Atlantic Salmon Fly Guild

## *Newsletter*

*Winter 2025-2026*



### ***The Smith by Garry Anderson***

*This fly was tied during the December 2024 guild meeting  
and contributed to the guild fly archive.*

*This publication along with our members' excellent fly tying is instrumental in  
preserving the craftsmanship required to tie classic Atlantic salmon flies.*

*More information about recent additions to the guild fly archive  
is included later in this issue.*

## Club Officers:

**President:** Glenn Wilson  
**Treasurers:** Steve Brocco and Megan Brocco  
**Librarian:** Dareld Thompson  
**Fly Archive:** Hunter Bachand

## Note from the President:

*I am constantly blown away by the effort and attitude of our group to move the Guild forward. I often think about the responsibility given to me to lead this group, which I don't take lightly, and I am trying to involve as many of our members as I can in our monthly meetings who can give you solid instruction and techniques for your tying. We are lucky to possess as much talent as we have, and who are willing to step up for the good of the Guild when asked. As you see each month the amount of work people do to prepare and set up to bring you a decent program, your input has helped to get us where we are. The plan is to continue moving in a positive direction, with your help along with conversations we have had together has helped push us to where we are now. Thank you all.*



*As I sit here delivering this message, I am keenly aware of the amount of work Hunter puts into this Newsletter, not a small task. I see information from historical books, fly recipes, pictures all put into a beautiful format, and none of this was ever asked for, Hunter just did it. I have no words.*

*In order for us to continue being, what I consider the foremost Classic Salmon Tying group anywhere, we must keep the information moving, providing feedback, lending a hand or helping someone with their tying, that is our mission. We are accomplishing that and more.*

*So with that, enjoy the Newsletter, think about your journey with Classic Salmon Flies, how can you help us move forward, what can we do to provide the help you need? It's who we are...*

*- Glenn Wilson*

## Treasurer's Report (as of February 15, 2026):

**Bank Savings Account:** \$4,589.44  
**PayPal Receipts Account:** \$1,144.38  
**Cash On Hand:** \$ 710.00  
**Total Balance:** \$6,443.82

**Note:** When paying dues via PayPal, be sure to check the box labeled "friends and family" rather than "for goods and services." Otherwise, PayPal charges \$1.20 per transaction.

### Upcoming Expenses:

*Spey Flies – Their History and Construction*, John Shewey, 2022 \$50

## Upcoming Events:

**Next Meeting:** 9:00 am Saturday, February 21<sup>st</sup>, Issaquah King County Library System administration headquarters  
Fly for February – **TBD**

### British Fly Fair International 2026

February 7-8, Staffordshire County Showground  
Stafford, England



### Oregon FFI Northwest Fly Tyer and Fly Fishing Expo 2026

March 13-14, Linn County Expo Center, Albany, Oregon



### Western Idaho Fly Fishing Expo 2026

January 30-31, Expo Idaho, Garden City, Idaho



### East Idaho Fly Fishing and Fly Tying Expo 2026

March 20-21, Mountain America Center,  
Idaho Falls, Idaho



### SIM Fly Festival 2026

June 3 – 5, Scoula Italiana di Pesca a Mosca  
Castel de Sangro, Italy



**Experience the World of Fly Fishing (EWF) 2026**

April 18-19, Event Forum Furstenfeld  
Furstenfeldbruck near Munich,  
Germany



**Irish Fly Fair and International Angling Show 2026**

TBD (usually late October),  
Killyhevlin Hotel, Enniskillen, Northern Ireland



**Bent Mathiesen and Stuart Hardy**



**Steve Cooper and Neil**

## Membership:

**Lifetime/Honorary Members:** Steve Brocco, Steve Gobin, Steve Morton, and John Olschewsky

### Active Members:

|                      |                   |                               |
|----------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| Garry Anderson       | Frank Fortino     | Ringo Nishioka (welcome back) |
| Tom Anderson         | Judy Gattinella   | Kevin Perkins                 |
| Will Arrant (new)    | Ben Gehrke        | Nicholas Riggs                |
| Hunter Bachand       | Peter Giffin      | Dave Roberts                  |
| Linda Bachand        | Jack Gillis       | Levi Rorem                    |
| Chuck Ballard        | Rockwell Hammond  | Pete Rorem                    |
| Dutch Baughman       | Carolyn Hellmuth  | Jesse Scott                   |
| Gary Bergquist (new) | Danferd Henke     | Stack Scoville                |
| Ted Berkeley         | Tim Howland       | Jesse Scott                   |
| Byron Bjerke         | Birt Kinghorn     | Mark Spaur                    |
| Hope Blackburn       | Joe Kristof       | Jeffrey Stander (new)         |
| Brad Boyden          | Gary Litman       | Chic Sundahl                  |
| Peggy Brenner (new)  | William Lovelace  | Byron Suomi                   |
| Brett Breuel         | Matt Ludden       | Dareld Thompson               |
| George Breuel        | Kristen Macy      | Jeff Thomsen                  |
| Megan Brocco         | Donovan Maddox    | Barry Webster                 |
| Tom Corbiere         | Bethany Maloney   | Brandi Hunt Wiliford          |
| Aaron Culley         | Mike Marlatt      | Evan Winnett (new)            |
| Sean Dahlquist       | Paul Martin (new) | Dennis Worley                 |
| Brittany Davenport   | Brian Mayer       | Garren Wood                   |
| Lisa DeBruyckere     | Jim McKinnon      | Todd Yorke                    |
| Terry Dix            | John McLain       |                               |
| Joy Fenton           | Ray Miles         |                               |
| James Ferguson       | Bob Miller        |                               |
| Eric Foch            | Bob Newman        |                               |

# Flies for the River Tweed – Part 1

## *Days and Nights of Salmon Fishing in the Tweed (1843)* by William Scrope

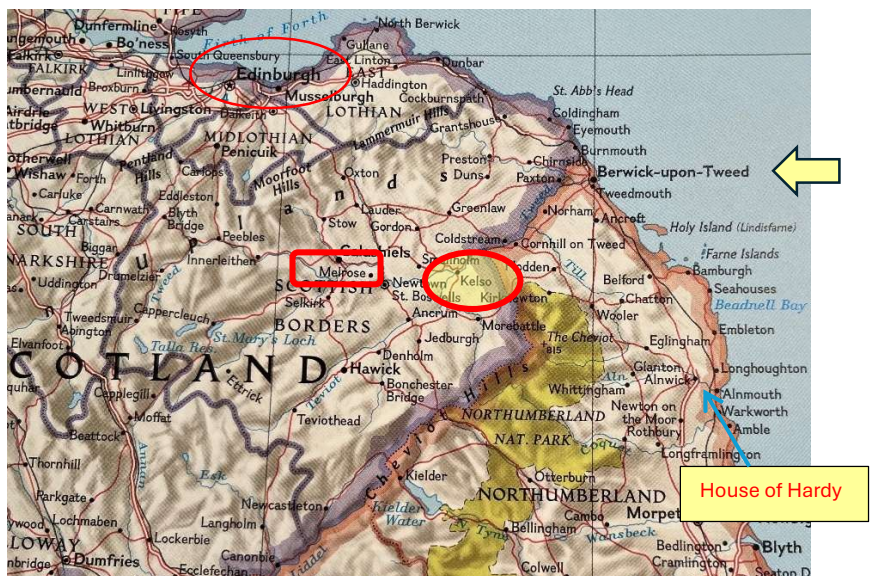
*This is the first in a series of feature articles for the newsletter highlighting fishing flies for Atlantic salmon, including the dressings, style, method of construction, and the rivers for which these flies were intended.*

William Blacker's 1855 edition of *The Art of Fly Making* introduced all of us to the "mixed" wing style Atlantic salmon flies. Many of us obtained this book via the 1994 reproduction from the Flyfishers Classic Library. In the book, Blacker provides paintings and dressings for 15 salmon flies and the dressings for 6 larger flies for springtime that are all well suited for angling on the River Tweed.

For most of us, this was more or a less an all inclusive list of flies for the River Tweed. However, in 2017, Alberto Calzolari, Hermann Dietrich-Troeltsch, and Andrew Herd published an exhaustive three volume set titled ***Blacker – Phantom of the Past*** which reveals earlier editions of Blacker's book from 1842 and 1843 to uncover even more mixed wing salmon fly patterns. We will discuss Blacker's flies in more detail in the coming meetings and in future newsletters.

Last year, Stuart Hardy posted on Facebook that he would be attending the inaugural 2-day River Tweed Fly Tyer Fair to be held on February 2-3, 2025 at the Kelso Town Hall. He had assembled a frame which included period fly tying tools and materials and six flies from William Scopes 1843 book. I had an interest in this river and region of northern England for some time and I wanted to bring some of the information in Scrope's book to the attention of fellow guild members.

The River Tweed originates in southern Scotland, just 20 miles south of Edinburgh. It flows from West to East. In the river's final stretch, it passes through Kelso and for its last 19 miles forms the border between Scotland and England. The river is famous for, particularly in autumn, producing large salmon as well as trout and grayling.



Located in the region of **Scottish Borders**, the Tweed is the most northern river in England. The river flows into the North Sea at Berwick upon Tweed, just 30 miles from Alnwick, the home of the House of Hardy.



Frame presented to the the River Tweed Foundation from Stuart Hardy in 2025



DAYS AND NIGHTS  
OF  
SALMON FISHING  
IN  
THE TWEED;  
WITH A SHORT ACCOUNT OF THE  
NATURAL HISTORY AND HABITS OF THE SALMON,  
INSTRUCTIONS TO SPORTSMEN, ANECDOTES, ETC.  
BY  
WILLIAM SCROPE, ESQ. F.L.S.  
AUTHOR OF "THE ART OF DEER STALKING."  
"Rura mihi, et rigui placeant in vallibus amnes."  
Virgil, *Georg.* lib. ii.  
ILLUSTRATED BY  
**Lithographs and Wood Engravings**  
BY L. HAGHE, T. LANDSEER, AND S. WILLIAMS,  
FROM PAINTINGS  
BY SIR DAVID WILKIE, EDWIN LANDSEER, R.A., CHARLES LANDSEER,  
WILLIAM SIMSON, AND EDWARD COOKE.  
LONDON: .  
JOHN MURRAY, ALBEMARLE STREET.  
1843.



River Tweed Museum Fly Tyer Fair

**William Scrope (1772 – 1852)** was an accomplished outdoorsman, outdoor sportswriter and amateur artist. His landscape artwork was occasionally exhibited at the Royal Academy of the Arts. He previously authored *The Art of Deer Stalking*. This second book (published at his age 71) is a collection of short stories that could easily fit on the last page of any modern outdoor sports magazine. His stories are witty, informative, nail-biting, and humorous.

Imagine attending a conclave with Dave McNeese, Harry Lemire, Bob Clay, and Alec Jackson but instead of eating Steve Morton's Paella and drinking Black Butte Porter, you would enjoy rabbit stew and a dram of Glenfiddich or Aberlour.

He and his family rented a place on the River Tweed, where he lived on good terms with the Scottish novelist, poet and historian, Sir Walter Scott (of Scot clan notoriety).



Self portrait of William Scrope

### **On angling for salmon with a fly rod, Scrope writes...**

The first thing to be considered in rod fishing is the state of the water proper for the sport; and I beg that it may all along be borne in mind that my observations relate to the river Tweed only: for it must be obvious that as rivers vary in their depth and volume of water, no general rule for their being in proper order for the fly can be laid down. When the Tweed is not clear, but, as it is termed *drumly*, salmon *that have been some time in the river* never take well; in such case, when there were no clean fish in the water, I have sometimes had fourteen or fifteen offers without taking above one or two fish. They do not see the fly distinctly and therefore come at it slowly and with hesitation.

When the river is swoln and discoloured, salmon travel in the daytime, particularly when there is a fresh wind to ruffle the surface of the water; and as they are intent on their journey they are not apt to pay much attention to such food as we worthies offer them.

Salmon never take well when the weather is about to change; it is therefore useless to go out when the mercury remains at this point. When it first sets in for a continuance of dry weather, the fish will rise about your hook and only break the surface of the water; but before a flood they will spring clean out of it, for the purpose perhaps of filing their air bladder before travelling.

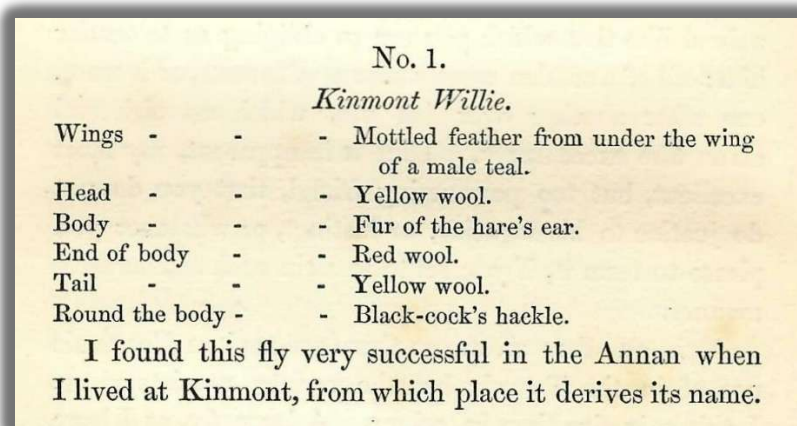
On the river Tweed, more so than other rivers, the size of your fly is more important than the color. A large fly for the heavy and deep waters and a smaller one for the upper part of the river.

## Six Flies for the Tweed:

Here are six flies, which I have always found the most successful: I do not mean to say that they are the best that can be used, but only that they are such as I have the most confidence in from experience. They were tied by my fisherman, Charles Purdie, and in such a manner as to make them cut their way steadily through the water.

Two of the flies are of the masculine gender, three of the feminine, and one of the neuter. The masculine are **Michael Scott** and **Kinmont Willie**; the feminine, the **Lady of Mertown** (or also called the **Flower of Yarrow**), **Meg with the Muckle Mouth** in her usual dress, and **Meg in her bravery** – or, in Scottish “**Braws.**” The fly of the neuter gender has been called **Topsy** from time immemorial.

1. **Kinmont Willie** – The author mentions that this fly is named after the village of Kinmont on the River Annan where he once lived. I believe the name is given to this fly to bid homage to the outlaw (perhaps killer) known to pillage villages of the Scottish Borders.



Note: The author mentions that much like today, flies often have more than one name. He also mentions that often flies are named after famous men and women and perhaps notorious celebrities. This is exactly what I believe the author has done here, in part to provide a little recognition to the Scottish Borders region and its famous (or infamous) clans.



Notorious Border Reivers

**Kinmont Willie**, (formally William Armstrong of Kinmont) perhaps the best known border reiver and outlaw active in the Scottish Borders region (see the Wikipedia definition of a **border reiver** below). Kinmont was arrested and imprisoned by the deputies of the English warden **Lord Scrope, 10<sup>th</sup> Baron of Scrope of Bolton** in 1596 (William Scrope is a direct descendant of Lord Scrope).



Lord Scrope with his mother, Margaret Howard

Wikipedia  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Border\\_reivers](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Border_reivers)

## Border reivers - Wikipedia

The term "border reiver" is an exonym and anachronistic term used to describe the raiders, outlaws, and bandits who operated along and across the Anglo-Scottish border during the later Middle Ages and Early modern period.

### Overview >

Border reivers were raiders along the Anglo-Scottish border. They included both English and Scottish people, and they raided the entire border country without regard to their victims' nationality. They operated in a culture of legalised raiding...



### Etymology >

Reive, a noun meaning raid, comes from the Middle English (Scots) reifen. The verb reave meaning "plunder, rob", a closely related word, comes from the Middle English reven. There also exists a Northumbrian and Scots verb reifen. All ...

2. **Lady of Mertoun** – The author prominently mentions one thing about this fly and that is, “If you rise a fish with the *Lady of Mertoun*, and he does not touch her, give him a rest, and come over him with the *Toppo*, and you will have him to a certainty, and vise-versa.”

| No. 2.                      |   |   |  |
|-----------------------------|---|---|--|
| <i>The Lady of Mertoun.</i> |   |   |  |
| Wings                       | - | - | Mottled feather from under the wings of the male teal. |
| Head                        | - | - | Crimson wool.  |
| Body                        | - | - | Water-rat's fur.                                       |
| End of body                 | - | - | Crimson wool.  |
| Tail                        | - | - | Yellow wool.   |
| Round the body              | - | - | Black-cock's hackle.                                   |
| End of body                 | - | - | A little red hackle.                                   |

3. **Toppo** – As mentioned above, this fly is a long-standing favorite among salmon anglers.



| No. 3.        |   |   |   |
|---------------|---|---|---|
| <i>Toppo.</i> |   |   |   |
| Wings         | - | - | Black feather from a turkey's tail tipped with white. |
| Head          | - | - | Crimson wool.   |
| Body          | - | - | Black bullock's hair.                                 |
| End of body   | - | - | Crimson wool.   |
| Tail          | - | - | Yellow wool   |
| Body          | - | - | Black-cock's hackle.                                  |
| End of body   | - | - | Small piece of red-cock's hackle.                     |

**Toppo:** This is one of the early strip wing flies originated by John Younger, a shoemaker on the Tweed, and is included in his 1840 book, *River Angling*. The Toppo was also highlighted by John Kirkbridge in his 1837 book *The Northern Angler*. Looking back, we can see this fly referenced by almost everyone who wrote about salmon flies including Francis Francis, Sir Herbert Maxwell, George Kelson, J. J. Hardy, J. H. Hale, and Dr T. E. Pryce-Tannatt among others. The photo below is a little clearer image than the one in my copy of Scrope's book and shows two significant details. **First**, the orange hackle around the head appears to be only tied in as a sort of “beard.” If you look at any of the references above, you will hear this feature of the fly described as a “head of well picked-out scarlet mohair,” “mohair at the shoulders,” and “a head of crimson mohair.” The **second** significant detail is pointed out by William Blacker's friend Edward Fitzgibbon who wrote under the pseudonym Ephemera. He mentions this “fine old Tweed fly” in his book, *The Book of the Salmon* (1850). He writes that when the wings are tied in, the sections should be tied in separately so that “**they divide out over the hook like the shanks of a slightly open pair of scissors.**” In other words, he is distinguishing this fly from other “mixed” and “married” wings and indicating it should have tented or flat “Dee” style wings.

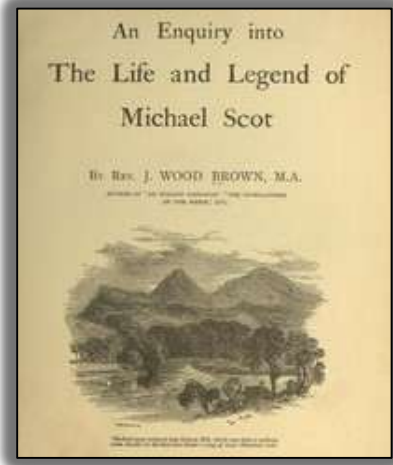
4. **Michael Scott** – The author makes mention of how unbelievable this fly is in killing salmon. He has given it the name of the famous medieval scholar and alchemist (wizard/magician) from the “Scot” clan of the Scottish Borders region. The Italian words below give homage to Scot as one **who really knew the game of magic, fraud, and deception**. What a fitting tribute to a fishing fly of fur and feathers used to fool salmon.

No. 4.

I will now describe *Michael Scott*, a most killing wizard.

———“ Chi veramente  
Delle magiche frodi seppe il gioco.”

|                 |   |   |  |
|-----------------|---|---|--|
| Wings           | - | - | Mottled feather from the back of a drake.                      |
| Head            | - | - | Yellow wool, with a little hare's fur next to it.              |
| Body            | - | - | Black wool.  |
| End of the body | - | - | Fur from the hare's ear ; next to the hare's ear crimson wool. |
| Tail            | - | - | Yellow wool.   |
| Round the body  | - | - | Black-cock's hackle.   |
| End of the body | - | - | Red-cock's hackle.   |
| Round the body  | - | - | Gold twist, spirally.  |



**Brown, Life and Legend of Michael Scot**

10. Wood Brown's "The Life and Legend of Michael Scot" is a comprehensive exploration of the life and legacy of Michael Scot, a 13th-century scholar, **magician**, and philosopher. Brown meticulously investigates the intertwining of fact and folklore in Scot's life, revealing how he became a legendary figure in medieval Europe. The book offers a comprehensive analysis of Scot's contributions to science and literature, as well as his impact on the esoteric traditions of the time. Brown's scholarly approach combines rigorous research with **engaging storytelling**, making the text accessible to both academics and casual readers. Through this enquiry, Brown not only presents a portrait of Scot as an intellectual giant but also reflects on the broader themes of knowledge, superstition, and the quest for understanding in an age rife with mystery. This work is a valuable resource for anyone intrigued by historical legends and the evolution of knowledge. [↪ 1](#)

Scrope likely had a fond affection for a renowned storyteller like Scot.

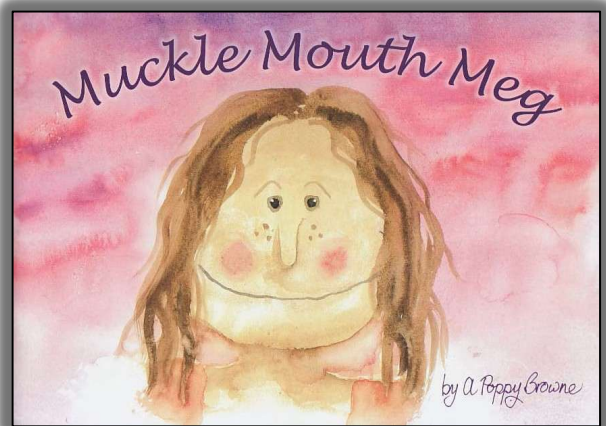
Michael Scot is buried at the Melrose Abbey Cemetery near the River Tweed. The heart of King Robert the Bruce is also buried in the Abbey.

**Robert the Bruce's heart has a legendary history, having been removed after his death and sent on a journey to the Holy Land, ultimately resting in Melrose Abbey in Scotland.**

**Background**  
Robert the Bruce, a key figure in Scotland's fight for independence, died in 1329. Following his death, his body was buried at Dunfermline Abbey, but he had requested that his heart be taken on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land, specifically to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem. [↪ Atlas Obscura +1](#)

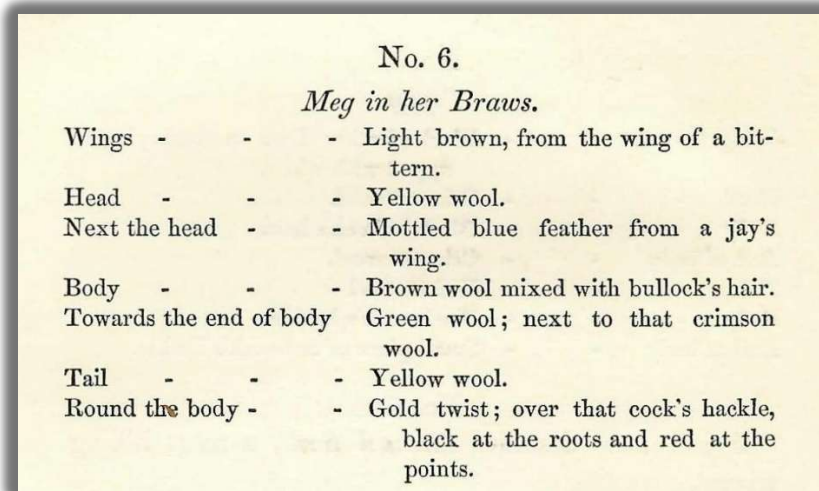
5. **Meg with the Muckle Mouth** – The Flies number 5 and 6 are named after Agnes Murray. She is the subject of an early 1600's Scottish folktale of Muckle Mou'ed Meg, a young woman with a famously wide mouth whose father (a member of the Murray clan) captures a neighboring enemy (from the Scot clan) and threatens to send him to the gallows. Mrs. Murray reminded her husband that they had three young girls and perhaps the young man would trade a trip to the gallows for marriage to one of their daughters. The prisoner refused and was put in the dungeon for a week, after which time and since he saw no other chance of escape, he retracted his ungallant resolution and preferred the typical noose of matrimony to the literal cord of hemp.

|                                   |   |   |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|---|---|
| No. 5.                            |   |   |   |
| <i>Meg with the Muckle Mouth.</i> |   |   |   |
| Wings                             | - | - | From the tail of a brown turkey.                        |
| Head                              | - | - | Crimson wool.   |
| Body                              | - | - | Yellow silk.  |
| End of body                       | - | - | Crimson wool.   |
| Tail                              | - | - | Yellow or orange wool.                                  |
| Round the tail                    | - | - | Red-cock's hackle.                                      |
| Round the body                    | - | - | Gold twist; over it hackle mixed with colour, as above. |



**Muckle-Mouth Meg has been the subject of a poem by Robert Browning, and also a children's book by A Poppy Browne. Not to mention two of the best flies for the River Tweed.**

6. **Meg in her Braws** – The author explains that one of the Muckle-Mouth Meg flies is a little more dressed up than the other. The words “in Braws” has numerous meanings including dressing up in one’s finest clothes, and also wearing clothing which could be identified with bravery. In other words, a formal military uniform with all of the medals on display. Perhaps similar to the ceremonial clothing worn by men of royalty (i.e. King Charles).



**Summary:** William Scrope is a witty storyteller, and I think he would fit right in with the Northwest Atlantic Salmon Fly Guild. Learning the history of the people who he has chosen to name his flies after helps all of us engage with long-standing traditions of salmon fishing and long for the opportunity to walk with them in their shoes on the banks of the rivers of our dreams. He has named his flies after iconic and sometimes “behaving badly” people (Kinmont Willie) whose namesakes live on in angling literature. When I think of his mischievously selected names along with others (Michael Scot) that conjure up wizardry, alchemy, and storytelling, I can only think that if I had the opportunity name only one fly after someone with all of those characteristics, the best name that comes to mind is Dave McNeese and his artistically designed and equally killer steelhead patterns and of course, his unmatched adventures with acid dyes. The stories of which almost always bring a tear to my eye. Thanks for riding along with me in this fun and entertaining history about the fly making craft.

# Meeting Facility Update

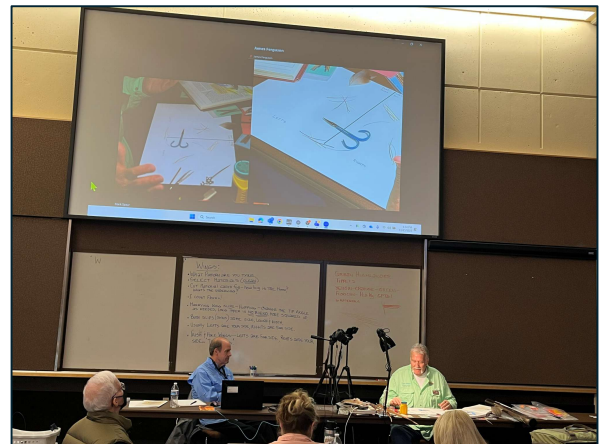
## It's great to be home!!!!!!



In life, it occasionally happens.... those magical three words –

### YOU'VE BEEN UPGRADED!

We love the new meeting room and extend a big "THANK YOU!" to Mark Spaur for all of his work to make this our new reality.

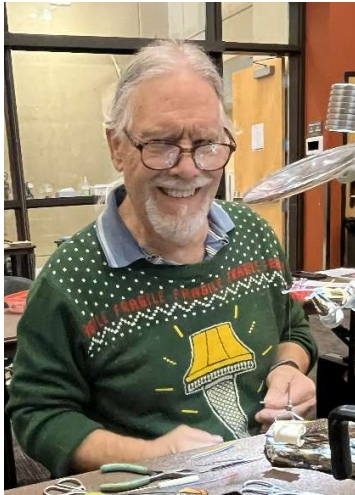


Our guild's new Zoom meeting equipment along with the advanced cameras, projectors, and displays at the King County Library Administration center significantly enhance the in-person and online experience of our guild meetings.

We have received excellent feedback regarding the extra camera that Mark Spaur has added over the shoulder of the presentation tyer.

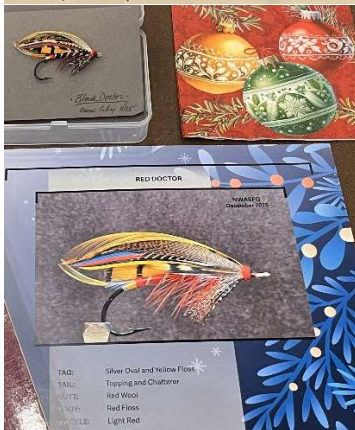
# December Meeting Highlights

**Shortbread and Banana Bread by Byron Bjerke**  
**Peppermint Nanaimo Bars by Linda Bachand**



GORDON (VARIANTS)

- ANTIQUE-ISH TIP & TAG - (YELLOW)
- LOW TAIL - w/GOOD FIBER COUNT, LOW
- FULL HERL BUTT - HOISTEN & PUSH back
- WELL TAPERED UNDERBODY
- SILK BODY USES YELLOW OR ORANGE (1/5<sup>th</sup>, 1/4, or 1/3<sup>rd</sup>)
- WELL TAPERED CLARET HACKLE
- BLUE THROAT - YOUR CHOICE OF BLUE
- UN - MANY CHOICES (SEE EMAIL)
- WING - AGAIN MANY CHOICES
- BLACK WOOL HEAD - TIE a THIN BUT LOW VISH FLOX HEAD.



# Tips Tags & Tales

*Entertaining News, Rumors, Stories, and Folklore*

*(Francis Francis calls this Notabilia)*

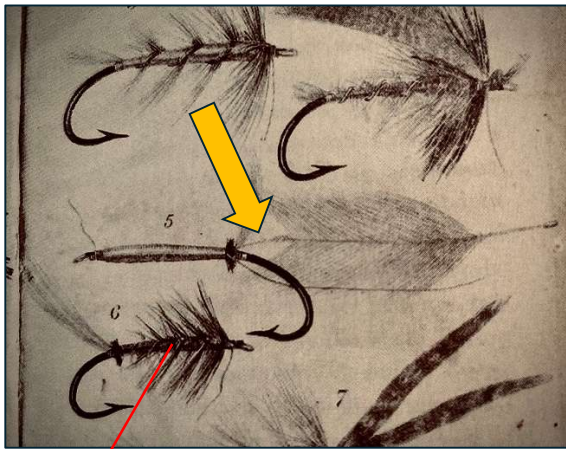
**William Blacker used two methods of trimming body hackles to prepare them before tying them on to the hook.**

**Method One:** As the tipped-in hackles in the 1842 and 1843 editions illustrate, Blacker prepared his cock hackles by cutting the fibres near the tip so as to clear a space for tying in the hackle point. This cut was often made at a RIGHT ANGLE to the rachis, or shaft of the feather, leaving a few fibres cut off short at an angle near the tip. The hackle tipped-in copy he sent to Prince Albert in 1844 shows this method.



*Two pages from Prince Albert's copy, one showing torn seals and the other some spectacular feathers.  
Reproduced by permission of the Royal Collection Trust / © Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 2016.*

**Method Two:** Both of the 1843 and 1855 editions also show body hackles which have been trimmed PARALLEL to the rachis, leaving a bare stem. When wound in, a hackle trimmed and tied in this way and wound all the way down the shank, will *appear* to start about one-third, or even half-way up the body, and this technique gives Blacker's salmon flies a characteristic appearance.



1843 Edition

Nice result!



1855 Edition

**Guarding the Gut:** Just prior to whip finishing the head of a trout fly, Blacker advises the tyer to make two or three turns of silk round the gut, to prevent it from being cut by the end of the blind eye hook. This step is called 'guarding' the gut.



# Tool Time

During our November meeting, Steve Brocco demonstrated the methods he uses to frame flies including the necessary tools.



## Scotch ATG 700 Adhesive Applicator

Applies adhesive while removing and rewinding liner back into the applicator to eliminate cleanup.

This strong adhesive film is dispensed from tape cartridges and is used to connect foam core board and mat board around the framed flies.  
(available on Amazon for \$46)

Applicator uses both 1/2 inch and 3/4 inch  
**3M Scotch ATG 924 Adhesive Transfer** tape.



Apply adhesive to the foam core board to connect the framed flies to the top and bottom mat board.



Apply adhesive between layers of foam core board to create the depth of the display.

To secure the mounted flies into the frame, Steve uses a frame driver to install framing points behind the framed flies. The point removal tool is necessary to make any final adjustments or to repair previously framed projects.



**Fletcher Framemaster Point Driver**  
(available from Amazon for \$98)



**Fletcher Pullmate Point Removal Tool**

# Library Report

Guild Librarian, **Dareld Thompson**, has prepared an updated inventory of all items in the library as of December 2024. Contact him by email ([skagitangler@gmail.com](mailto:skagitangler@gmail.com)) if there is something you would like him to bring to an upcoming meeting for you. A few items to mention are:

## **2025 Additions to the Guild Library available for checkout:**

*Ernest Crosfield: His Salmon Flies and Fishing*, Colin Innes, 2017

*Steelhead Fly Fishing and Flies*, Trey Combs, 1986

*Blacker's Art of Fly Making*, William Blacker (first published in 1842)

*Century End – A Fly Tying Journey*, Paul Ptalis, 2000

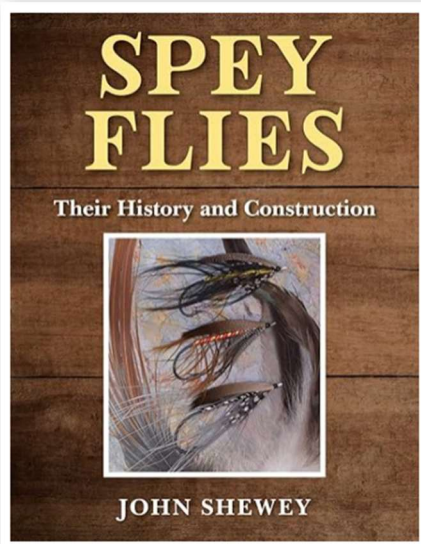
*Creative Salmon Fly Art Volume 1*, Paul Rossman, 2011

*Creative Salmon Fly Art Volume 2*, Paul Rossman, 2011

*Atlantic Salmon Flies of Major Traherne*, Satoshi Yamamoto, 2024

## **Coming Soon:**

***Spey Flies – Their History and Construction*, John Shewey, 2022** – As mentioned in the last newsletter, we are looking into getting a copy of this “new” book on Spey flies for the library.



# Book Reviews

*As noted above by Dareld, the guild has a tremendous library and there are new additions annually. Before the last meeting, I asked Dareld to bring me the new (2017) book regarding Ernest Crosfield. This is a short book (107 pages), on a somewhat obscure but well respected Atlantic salmon fly tyer. After reading the book, I decided to share what I learned in this newsletter. I encourage anyone in the guild to do the same with any topic, book, chapter of a book, or magazine article.*

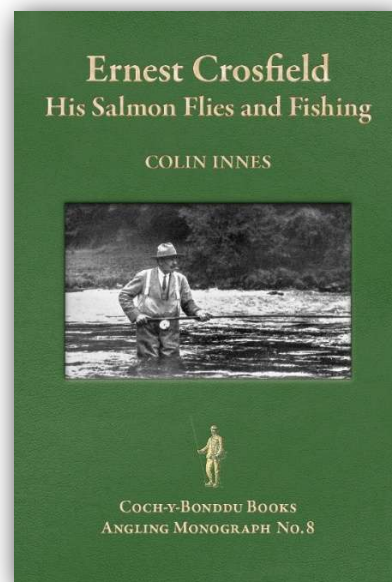
*- Hunter Bachand*

## **Ernest Crosfield – His Salmon Flies and Fishing (2017)**

**-by Colin Innes**

*This book was published by Paul Morgan, owner of Coch-y-Bonddu Books and a well-respected source for old and new books on angling and hunting. His double-wide booth at the British Fly Fair and Irish Fly Fair is always worth visiting where he displays thousands of books for fly tyers and outdoor sportsmen.*

*This book is the 8<sup>th</sup> in a series of monographs on the history and literature of angling. The author has brought together Crosfield's published writing, writing about him by others, and illustrations of the flies he tied into one convenient package.*



*Ernest Crossfield died 100 years ago (in 1925). I thought this centennial anniversary would be an excellent time to recognize his contributions to Atlantic salmon fly tying and bring to light many of his contributions. I agree with Colin and Paul that this book fills a gap in the great library of fishing books and deserves a spot on your shelves too. Unfortunately, Ernest Crosfield never gave us a book on dressing an Atlantic salmon fly. Paul Morgan asked Colin to pull together all the known Crosfield articles, both those that he had written and those written about him. During his research, he scoured through the archives of the Flyfishers' Club in London where he found a frame of flies tied by the great man himself, which had been presented to the club by Dr. T E Pryce Tannatt. Photos of the flies are included in the book.*

Due to the length of the feature article on the River Tweed, there is not enough room in this newsletter for my book report. It will be included in the summer newsletter.

In the book, Crosfield gives detailed instructions on how to tie the **Black Silk** summer salmon fly.



**Black Silk tied by Hunter Bachand**

# Fly Archive Report

## Recent Additions to the Fly Archive



The Smith by Garry Anderson



Black Doctor by Aaron Culley

# Last Cast

## Sources of Atlantic Salmon Fly Tying Essentials



Contact Alberto Calzolari

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