

SWEET WILLIAM

Produced by Michael Pattinson - August 2020.



This fly was designed in 1979 by Norman Greenwood for use on the Nidd. It is a development of the John Storey. Norman caught over 500 trout in one season with it and over a hundred on one day in June when Mayflies were hatching in thousands.

Materials

- Barbless Hook. Dry fly size 14 to 24
- Thread - Red, Red Floss
- Body of peacock herl
- Mallard plume
- Hackle of choice
- Golden Pheasant topping

Method

- Mount the hook in the vice. Squeeze the barb down. Use size 12 for Mayfly.
- Wax the thread and tie on at the eye. Wind 4 turns only
- Catch in floss and wind the thread, trapping in the floss for the whole length of the hook shank
- Cut the floss to leave a short tag.

- Tie three peacock herls on the top of the Golden Pheasant and bind down both, working toward the eye with open turns.
- Stop three mm from the eye and tie the mallard plume in, upright and on top of the shank. It should be 2mm back from the eye.
- Take the thread 4 turns down the shank and tie in the prepared hackle with the good side down and the bulk of the hackle projecting over the eye.
- Take the thread down the shank in open turns tying in the hackle butts and when the peacock herl is reached take the thread back up the shank in open turns.
- Wind peacock herl up the body and tie off behind the wing. Remove the waste.
- Wind several turns of the hackle in front of the peacock herl and then take two turns in front of the mallard wing.
- Tie off the hackle and remove the waste.
- Whip finish.
- Trim hackles underneath if required so the fly sits in the surface film.