



Sussex Branch Newsletter

DECEMBER 2001



LAST CHANCE SALOON!!!

This is the last chance to renew subscriptions for those who have not yet done so. All subscriptions, both to the Main Guild and the Branch, were due on 1st September, and any remaining unpaid by 31st December will result in those names being deleted from the mailing lists for both the *Flydresser* and this Newsletter. Non-members are reminded that they cannot participate in the Rod Raffle nor any events and competitions, unless specifically designated as “open” events, such as the trip to the Game Fair.

December Speaker

On Thursday 13th December we welcome Bob Barden, the ranger at Bewl Water, who will give us an insight into this popular haunt of many of us. Hopefully he will pass on some of his skills in winking out those reluctant trout which seem to elude me every time I fish it! As well as duties with the operation of the Water, he is of course a noted fisherman and member of the very successful *Fulling Mill* Weald of Kent Flyfishers' team.

BIG FISH COMPETITION

Final reminder! There is still time to enter that leviathan you caught earlier this year (or rainbow caught up to 31st December, if you are still chasing the monsters). Categories are:-

Members' Reservoir Plate: Best trout from any Sussex Reservoir (including Bewl)

Peter West Trophy: Best rainbow from any Sussex water

Brown Trout Cup: Best brown from any Sussex water.

Entries to Roy Gurney (01273 506184) with weight, date, venue and witness please.

Annual Dinner

I have only had one person pick up the deliberate mistake in the last Newsletter – the dates given were Sundays – they should have read 20th April, with fall-back to 13th April (both Saturdays).

We have not yet arranged a Speaker for the Dinner – if you have any suggestions, please let a member of the Committee know – it does not have to be a fisherman – entertainment is the key!

Gary Franklin

Old news this, but some of you may not be aware that Gary spent some time in Canada (before they found him out and sent him back here!). Just to make your mouth water, here are a couple of mementos of his time there:



No doubt he will be pleased to let you have details of contacts etc. if this has whetted your appetite.



New Tackle Shop in Burgess Hill

Graham Dadswell, known to a number of us as a fine rod-builder, has opened up a tackle shop in partnership with Peter Henton (the Bivvy Hospital) under the name of “World's End Angling Centre” at 1 Vale Bridge Road, Burgess Hill, tel: 01444 250930. A full description of their set-up is on the back page of the *Freshwater Informer* for November 2001. Brian Hendry says not to buy the flies for sale there as he knows who tied them!! Seriously, we wish them great success for the future.

Game Show at Crawley

Held at Crawley Leisure Centre on 22nd November, Alan Middleton and Brian Hendry manned the Guild stand and demonstrated their skills. It was also pleasing to see Dick Nye in attendance – hope to see more of you, Dick!

Brian was rather disturbed at the number of slightly sinister looking gentlemen in odd clothing who were closely examining the firearms on display – not, he hastens to add, those on the Police stand opposite!

Alan on the other hand was most impressed at the mobile canteen provided for Brian by Sheila, which fed them all more than adequately. He has requested to be posted with Brian at all future events!

Auction Reminder

Don't forget to let Roy Gurney have your entries as soon as possible so that we can get the catalogue printed in good time. More copies of the forms can be obtained from him, or continue on a plain sheet with the top copy fully completed. Some good stuff is already promised, so get on the band-waggon!

New High Quality British Vice

NO, NO, NO – not that sort of vice!!! Lewtham Engineering, who make the well-known Leeds centre-pin reels, are currently developing a vice to compete with the best of the USA. This is being developed with the assistance of members of the Guild, and should be available early in the New Year. Watch for the review in the *Flydresser*.

They are also producing a new presentation boxed centre-pin, so if you are contemplating a top quality reel suitable for both salt and freshwater use watch out for that too.

Game Fair 2002

Just another reminder that Paul Bond is taking bookings for the Game Fair already. The Game Fair is to be held at Broadlands, Romsey and the trip is on Saturday 27th July 2002. Cost will be in the region of £25 per head (including entry) and, being somewhat nearer, will leave Withdean at a slightly less unearthly hour than the last one! This is a great day out, so book **NOW** and avoid disappointment.

Newsletter Distribution

Don't forget that if you want to receive future copies of the Newsletter by E-mail, let me have your E-mail address at roygurney@enterprise.net. So far I have only a couple, so for the time being it will not be practicable. Rest assured, anyone without E-mail will still receive it by post (or collection on tying nights when published, as in the past).

Published by the Sussex Branch of the Flydressers' Guild

Editor: Roy Gurney, 7 Eldred Avenue, Brighton BN1 5EB

Chairman:	Roy Gurney	01273 506184
Secretary:	Paul Bond	01273 420410
Treasurer:	Philip Ellis	01903 504317

National Trust and Fishing

No doubt many of you are members of the National Trust and will therefore be aware of the little booklet "Enjoy Fishing with the National Trust". Others may not be aware of the variety of fishing venues which are administered by or just situated on National Trust properties. The booklet lists all such sites, both coarse and game fishing, and can be obtained from any NT property or no doubt through the NT website www.nationaltrust.org.uk.

January Speaker

As the Christmas holiday will almost certainly delay publication of the next newsletter, let me remind everyone that on January 17th Steve Thornton, a regular contributor to *Flyfishing and Fly-tying* will demonstrate a range of patterns and styles of tying. This is a must for those who want to improve their techniques and get some tips from one of the leading exponents of the art of fly-tying.



we are on the web!!

sussexflydressers.org.uk

Log on and let us have your comments and any ideas for improvement. It is intended to update the site more regularly than in the past, now that the editor is dragging himself into the late 20th century, if not quite into the 21st!

If you have any new flies of your own to share with us, we can include these, for instance, and ideas for the "Tips" page are always welcome.