



Sussex Branch Newsletter



APRIL 2012

An Auction with a Difference 12th April 2012 End of tying season get together

Now that our fly tying season is drawing to a close, thoughts turn to fishing and using the flies that we have lovingly created during the winter months, and where better than on the unique fishing days up for auction on 12th April 2012. Thanks to the generosity and support of Dr Paul Davis, Phillip Ellis, there will now be a total of 15 very special hosted fishing outings. Attached to this newsletter is the up to date list and full description of the auction lots, which will be held on the evening 12th April, after Bill Smith's rod raffle and prize giving (when everybody is happy and ready to spend lots of money!). As mentioned in last month's newsletter, for those unable to be present on 12th April, you can submit bids or a range of bids either by sealed bid using the attached form, or by email, in both cases to Roy Gurney, but we ask that your bids arrive **before 12th April 2012**.

Jim White Memorial' trophy

Chris Croucher and Ian Dunk are generously donating a trophy for a new completion in the memory of Jim White. The competition is to be run at the Chalk Spring's Challenge. The competition is to be a pair's competition.

Main Guild's Website

The main guild has launched a new website for The Fly Dressers' Guild - same address as the old one (www.flydressersguild.org) but somewhat revamped. (NB - if you don't put in the "www." before "flydressersguild.org" you'll get taken to the old website at present - we're trying to get to the bottom of this).

The new site has a Members' Area, which can only be accessed with an individual user name and password. There is a link on the website to apply for these.

Boat Sharing

Eric Hunter asks "would anyone be interested in sharing a mid week boat (after 3pm) at Arlington during the months of April and May this year? Outboard provided". Anyone interested Please ring Eric on **01273 582559**.

Change of Speaker

Due to an unfortunate accident to his tying finger(s) Chris Watson has had to cry off. Fortunately, we have been able to persuade **PHIL WALLER** to stand in at short notice to talk about his specialist subject of vintage tackle.

He will give a short talk on the development of tackle over the years and then open up for discussion on your queries and questions.

Bring along any items you have for identification, discussion or valuation, etc.

That tatty old bit of equipment might well be the find of the century!!!!

Fly-tying Competition 2012

Alan Middleton has completed judging this year's branch competition and reports:

"The standard was very high for the Novice and Open entries. Being picky, more attention could have been taken with the heads of the flies but on the whole they were very neat and tidy.

The individual entries for the Salmon and Pike/Saltwater categories were very good with a little more care to be taken with the size of hackle to be used from one fly to another.

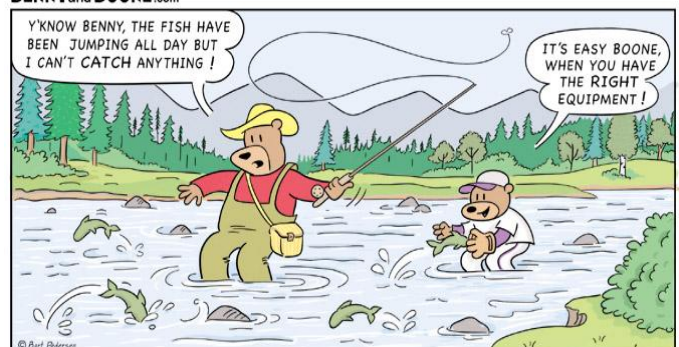
Well done to all participants."

The winners were:

Open	Peter Neave
Novice	Ken Pearce
Salmon	Mark Carr Brown
Saltwater / pike	Richard Carter

Whatever happened to the Intermediate entries? To say the least it is disappointing that no-one could be bothered to back up the excellent work of their instructor – we know that the ability is there from observation on tying nights.

BENNYandBOONE.com



Chairman's Chat

Do you think that there are fly fishing methods now being practiced which should be banned / discouraged ?

My prejudices include:

- My favourite for a ban is "**laying on**" ie a static booby on a sinking line. Yes it catches lots of fish but is it fly fishing ? I understand that fish suck down the fly (booby) and are a deep hooked, so catch and release is not an option. To my mind this seems like ledgering. My friend fishing at Farmoor was informed by a sinking line booby fisherman, watching his fly rod in a rod rest, that "you cannot tell me anything about fly fishing, I have been fly fishing for over five years" which said it all – obviously no one could tell him anything !!
- My next candidate is the **indicator** which to my mind are just float fishing under another name. Yes I know about the New Zealand method, I myself have hung a buzzer under a dry fly, which in a wave can be very successful.
- What about **stripping blobs** on a fast sinking line. Or would this start an argument about what constitutes a fly and how fast is "stripping". This does not seem like fly fishing to me. Some would say a blob is an imitation fish egg but there are no salmonid eggs in still water.

We could have Club rules discourage members from using these methods.

What do you think ?

Letters to the Editor, let's hear your views.

Tony W

these comments are well covered, there maybe a few pointers that can be taken on board.

When we commence fly tying it can be quite demanding. More so when tying on small hooks with various materials which have to be contained in a limited space.

The more dextrous we become and the ability to achieve a better fly means we can fine down the time spent on tying by having the materials to hand. The following tips can be helpful as they are not always found in the manuals, put it down to experience – as they say.

Before starting lay a piece of kitchen roll on the bench to contain tools and collect any bits of waste material which can then be disposed of, makes clearing up easier.

The tying procedures are well taught by instructors but early preparation keeps the sequence flowing without too much stopping and starting.

Good habits are remembered so take out a single hook, place in the vice and avoid leaving spare hooks lying around to fall on the floor. Some prefer to conceal the hook point for safety reasons.

Threading the bobbin holder is easier if a thin nosed tweezers are used to draw the thread through the eye of

the bobbin and when starting run the thread half way down the hook shank to prevent slippage.

Coloured glass beads can be tied by the simple method of threading the nylon through both eyes keeping the beads together then tying down the ends just behind the eye.

Good quality materials can be expensive and here is a useful tip if you wish to use Jungle Cock. Choose a black cock cape and select half a dozen medium size feathers, mount them on a piece of card best side up. Purchase two small pots of Homebase craft acrylic paint one white and one orange to give the flash effect. Use a dubbing needle to create small eyes and space each pair approximately 18mm apart. With care you can cut to suit each fly.

When applying paint keep the arched feather of the card as the paint tends to through and stick to the card.



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Tricks of the Trade By Ivan Everest

A few thoughts on what we do and why, which may be helpful to both seasoned and newcomers to fly tying. We never stop learning in this interest and although some of

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