



Sussex Branch Newsletter



Feb 2014

Family Day Hog Roast

For the first time, the club are having a hog roast. This will be held at Clayton Recreation Ground, located 4 miles north of Brighton, on the road to Burgess Hill.

It is hoped you will bring along your children, wives, husbands, mistresses, (All are welcome). There will be a cost (to include pork, turkey, rolls, salad, pickles, plus a sweet and tea or coffee), of £10 a ticket.

We will limit the numbers to 100, so if you have an interest, early booking of tickets advisable.

There will be a raffle (prizes donated would be gratefully accepted). We also want to add fun to the day, so Tony Woolnough kindly offered us a game of skittles, we will also have some sort of casting competition, which will be fun not serious.

We have also been offered a look over the house over the tunnel.

More information soon. (Approx 20 -24)

Bill Smith

Trophies

If you were one of the lucky ones to have won a trophy in 2013, can you please return them, so they can be prepared for the next recipient.

Changes to this year's Auctions

Our auctions are really important to the finances of our club. So each year following the two auctions, I carry out some very detailed analysis of the figures – attendance, total take, average lot price etc. I compare the figures with previous years results, before discussing them with my colleagues in the committee, with a view to making improvements, so that our auctions make an even bigger contribution. It will come as no surprise to you that there is a direct link between numbers attending the auction and the contribution to the club funds. When bidders have to compete to win a successful bid, the vendor and the club benefit, not least since many of our auction lots are sold without a reserve, so they can (as they do) often go for just £1. The changes we have come up with, outlined below are designed to attract even more members and non members, bearing in mind an average at each auction currently half the attendees are members and half are non members.

Below are listed 4 changes, plus the thinking behind each change.

- 1. We will continue to hold 2 auctions, but in future, one will be in the Autumn (16th October 2014). The other in the Spring (16th April 2015).***

(Rationale – with most of us on a budget, there is only so much money that can be spent each month, and so as such holding 2 auctions within a month of each other, as we have in the past, does not make sense).

- 2. Each auction will contain a complete range of fishing, fly tying materials and tools, and books.***

(Rationale – in this way in each auction there will be something for everyone. In previous years attendance at the material, tools, and books auction (34 in 2013) is always lower than the fishing tackle auction (57 in 2013). So no longer will there be 100 books for example, with many going unsold, but the numbers restricted, which will increase competition and the bidding.)

- 3. Each auction will start 15 minutes earlier at 7.30pm, with viewing from 6.20pm.***

(Rationale – we are very conscious that Thursday nights are part of the working week for most people, and a late finish deters people from coming along. In this way, and by restricting the number of auction lots to around 300, we can guarantee everybody paid up, goods collected and gone by 10.30pm.)

- 4. Our Autumn 2014 and Spring 2015 auctions will NOT be subject to a buyer's premium.***

(Rationale – This was a much harder decision as this year's trial introduction of a buyer's commission of 10% on the hammer price, generated £373 (before costs) towards club funds, however on the other hand, turnover on both auctions and attendance were both down by 20% compared with 2012).

In conclusion, the key to successful auctions is increasing the numbers we are able to encourage to attend. The changes we have put in place (outlined above) will help. We cannot rely on advertising – we tried it 2 years ago, we put an advert in the local paper for 3 insertions, at the cost of £150, (which meant £1500 of auction take was needed to pay for it).

This is where you come in – if you have any ideas or suggestions as to how we increase attendance, do let Roy Gurney or I know.

Tony Harrison

Annual Fly Fishing Day
in support of
The Children's Trust

The Children's Trust
For children with brain injury



Views of Lakedown Trout Fishery and Steve Sidwell, Roger Daltrey, Phil Tufnell and Charles and Alex Jardine enjoying the day in previous years.

Friday 13th June 2014
Lakedown Trout Fishery, East Sussex

- Arrival & breakfast 7.30 am
- Fishing 8.30am – 2.15 pm
- Lunch & charity auction 2.30 pm

Join celebrities as well as experienced and novice fly fishers for a wonderful day's fishing at the beautiful Lakedown Trout Fishery, situated in a secluded Wealden valley in East Sussex, with scenic views and 26 acres of four spring-fed lakes and created and owned by the actor and pop legend from The Who, Roger Daltrey.

Teams of 2 will fish on a tag team. You can also enter as an individual and we will arrange a team partner.
Cost of Team of 2: £170 or £85 per person.
Price includes: day's fishing, tackle if required, breakfast, lunch and drinks (soft, beer or wine).
Please remember to wear eye protection and hat (preferably peaked).
For sponsorship packages and further information please e: kphillips@thechildrenstrust.org.uk t: 01737 557661

Click to complete your entry online

This photograph of a pass built in the River Don in Sheffield shows how small and neat this type of pass can be. The gap on the left side of the pass is a portage facility for canoeists to ascend the weir.



Closer to home we built this pass on Andrews Weir, Andrews Stream, Barcombe. This was a tricky problem to solve since the weir is used for river flow gauging so the pass had to allow access for sea trout without upsetting the hydraulics of the weir – hence the twin passes.

Once again, you may not wish to know this!

Tight lines,
Tony W

Chairman's Chat

Alaskan Steepass

The clues are in the name. Alaskan, a type of pass which was designed by the American Dept. of Fish and Game, (DFG) to provide access over waterfalls for migratory salmonids in the remote streams and rivers of Alaska. The prototype was designed following a series of hydraulic model tests in the DFG Laboratory. The adaption for Alaska was fabricating the pass in 10 ft length so that it could be strapped to the floats of small seaplanes for transport to remote sites. Used as a temporary pass, these fabrications have been so successful that they have been recorded accommodating more fish flesh than water!!

This type of pass consists of a rectangular channel with baffles affixed to the sides and base and is usually fabricated in aluminium plate. The side vanes cause counter currents which cause jets of water to be deflected upstream, impinging on downstream flows and hence producing very low mean velocities (typically 0.9 metres per second). This low velocity allows slower swimming fish to ascend the pass i.e. coarse fish and in some cases elvers. Our modification is to enable sides to be bolted to the base, so the pass can be assembled on site. In addition we fabricate the pass in 1.0m lengths, hence our name of Modular Fish Pass. The sides have a temporary brace (top tie) so that the pass sides will take the pressure from wet concrete. Hence construction can be carried out by bolting the base to a concrete bed, fixing the sides and tie and surrounding the sides with concrete, so saving the provision of internal formwork.

A Steepass of this type can be built at a steep gradient (for a fish pass) of up to 1 vertical to 3 horizontal to provide passage over obstructions up to 3.0m high, without the need of a resting pool. Consequently this type of pass is usually the most economical to construct of any type of pass.



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The Flydressers' Guild - Sussex Branch



Programme 2014

Please note that fly-tying and speakers' evenings are held every Thursday evening starting from 7.30 pm at Patcham Community Centre, Ladies Mile Road, Brighton, BN1 8TA

ALL ARE WELCOME TO SPEAKERS' EVENINGS AND AUCTIONS

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>DATE & DAY</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>ORGANISER</u>
<u>January</u> <u>2014</u>	2 nd (Thursday)	Annual General Meeting followed by Quiz	
	9 th (Thursday)	Fly tying recommences	
<u>February</u>	6 th (Thursday)	SIMON YOUNG will demonstrate some salt water flies	
	23 rd (Sunday)	Brass Monkeys Cup – Hazel Copse	Bill Smith
<u>March</u>	6 th (Thursday)	KEITH WALLINGTON makes a welcome return and give a slide show and talk on further adventures in his fishing life and also feedback from BFFI.	
	23 rd (Sunday)	FDG Bank Fishing Competition – Elinor Fishery, Northants.	
	23 rd (Sunday)	Chairman's Invitation Day – Moorhen Fishery	Tony Woolnough
<u>April</u>	3 rd (Thursday)	Ouse Valley member KEN RAMKEESON will be giving us a talk on Steelhead Salmon in Canada.	
	17 th (Thursday)	End of tying season gathering	
	27 th (Sunday)	Frank Darrah Pairs competition – Bewl Water	Steve Mustchin
<u>May</u>	10 th (Saturday)	Match v. E.Sussex Salmon & Trout Association – Duncton Mill	Roy Gurney
	15 th (Thursday)	Casting Clinic – Patcham House Field, opp. "Black Lion"- 6.30	
	18 th (Sunday)	Match v. Eastbourne F F - Arlington Reservoir	Bill Smith
	22 nd (Thursday)	Branch evening at Arlington Reservoir	Roy Gurney
<u>June</u>	5/6/7 th (Thur/Sat)	South of England Show, Ardingly - Demonstrating	
	14/15 th (Sat/Sun)	Sussex Game and Country Fair at Parham - Demonstrating	
	21/22 nd (Sat/Sun)	"Michelham Goes Wild" – Michelham Priory	
	22 nd (Sunday)	Branch outing to Ashbourne	Roy Gurney
<u>July</u>	5 th (Saturday)	Match v. Hastings F F – Powdermill Reservoir	Paul Davis
	12 th (Saturday)	Carp on the Fly – Jenny's Lake, Newdigate	Paul Davis
	13 th (Sunday)	HOG ROAST – bring the family to Clayton!	Bill Smith
	20 th (Sunday)	Stillwater Challenge – Chalk Springs	Chris Croucher
<u>August</u>	9 th (Saturday)	Carp on the Fly – Jenny's Lake, Newdigate	Paul Davis

<u>August</u>	9 th (Saturday)	Open Day at Wylands Fishery - demonstrating	
	23 rd (Saturday)	John Watt Competition – Grafham Water	Chris Nunn
	25 th (Monday)	Shermanbury Fayre at the Royal Oak, Wineham - demonstrating	
<u>September</u>	4 th (Thursday)	MARK & WENDY from Moorhen Fishery will tell us about their life running a trout fishery	
	11 th (Thursday)	Fly Tying Commences	
<u>October</u>	2 nd (Thursday)	STUART CROFTS makes a very welcome return following his fascinating talk on Caddis flies – what will it be this time?	
	4/5 th (Sat & Sun)	South of England Autumn Show & Game fair - Demonstrating	
	4 th (Saturday) TBC	Grayling fishing	Paul Davis
	5 th (Sunday)	Branch Trophy Day – Duncton Mill	
	12 th (Sunday)	Charity Pairs – Bewl Water	Ray Love
	16 th (Thursday)	Auction of fly-tying materials & tools, tackle, books, etc	
<u>November</u>	6 th (Thursday)	STEVE SKUCE – another welcome return for a talk and tying, perhaps with the emphasis on grayling	
	20 th (Thursday)	CHRIS WATSON will entertain us prior to iFISH with a talk and demonstration of tying.	
	22 nd (Saturday)	iFISH 2014 Fly Fair – Claire Hall, Haywards Heath – THE fly and tackle fair of the South – come and support your Branch!	
<u>December</u>	7 th (Sunday)	Branch Christmas outing and lunch – Brick Farm	Peter Winder
	18 th (Thursday)	Still tying! But with mince pies too!	
<u>January 2015</u>	8 th (Thursday)	Annual General Meeting followed by Quiz	
	15 th (Thursday)	Fly tying recommences	
<u>February</u>	5 th (Thursday)	SPEAKER - TBA	
<u>March</u>	5 th (Thursday)	SPEAKER - TBA	
<u>April</u>	2 nd (Thursday)	SPEAKER - TBA	
	16 th (Thursday)	Auction of tackle, fly-tying materials & tools, books, etc	
	23 rd (Thursday)	End of tying season gathering	