



Sussex Branch Newsletter



May 2014

FDG Draw

As you know, we now issue tickets to everyone who attends the Speaker Evenings so that we all have the chance to take home a prize.

Given my duties as Chairman, I feel that I am not making a good job of obtaining prizes, taking money, dealing with tickets and arranging the draw. It may amuse you, but not me!

I can advise on prizes etc.

So I am asking for a **VOLUNTEER** to take over the draw.

Contact me by 'phone on 01273 483833 or email Tony@fishways.com.

Tony W.

Chairman's Chat

Unusual problems require unusual solutions

Coultershaw Beam Pump on the (Sussex) River Rother was used to pump water to Petworth for water supply. It is a scheduled ancient monument and is run at weekends for demonstration purposes. About twenty years ago we fitted the Mill weir with an Alaskan Denil fish pass, which allowed sea trout to ascend the mill structure, when the Mill is in service.

The system includes a bypass channel so that the pump could be taken out of service for repairs. The problem is that the bypass channel does not contain a fish pass and consequently when the Mill is in service the channel drains down and sea trout are stranded in the bypass channel. At the upstream end of the channel there is a steel sheet pile weir which has a scour hole downstream which was lined with hardcore to prevent further bed erosion. When the channel is drained down, sea trout became trapped in the hardcore and became easy prey to two resident mink. The weir is unstable and therefore the installation of a fish pass in the weir would result in weir collapse and drain down of the river.



So how do you provide a fish pass given the fragile weir, budgetary constraints requiring the pass to be built in the winter when floods would be expected on the picturesque site?

The solution was to build a river wide fish pass from steel sheet piles which could be driven below water with a timber capping to ensure hydraulic efficiency. Supplemented by cable stayed perforated concrete blockwork supported by ground anchors which would prevent erosion and allow for plant growth to maintain the visual amenity.



This tranquil scene hides 5.0 m long sheet piles and underwater concrete blocks. A spin-off benefit was the 3.0m deep swimming hole for the local kids which developed between the weir and fish pass.

Tony W

Commonwealth fly fishing championships, June,

Ladies and gents,

We have been offered the chance to promote the FDG at this prestigious event. Our chairman has suggested that it would be nice for each competitor to receive flies tied by FDG members.

Our chairman, Charles, will source some fly boxes and these will form part of the competitors goody bags along with FDG literature and a back issue of Fly Dresser.

While the guild does hold a stock of flies they have been earmarked for the upcoming Rutland youth day so this is a plea for any spare flies from your members. If they tie as many

flies as I do they will no doubt have boxes of unused flies and this is a chance to clear out and organise their boxes. Unused flies only please.

If anyone does have spare flies can they send them directly to Charles

Charles Jardine,
Red Brook,
Motcombe,
Shaftesbury
Dorset SP7 9NT

Paul Bond

CHAIRMAN'S DAY 2014

Sunday 23rd March dawned cold, clear and windy. Twelve Club worthies comprising Committee Members and Instructors turned up at Moorhen Trout Fishery in Hampshire to enjoy a day's fishing at this picturesque venue.

Despite the cold, lashings of coffee, tea and bacon rolls put us in good heart. As usual small white lures proved to be an immediate success. That is until my first fish escaped. Then the fish went off and my attention drifted, suddenly a most vicious take nearly made me lose my balance, and it got off; much to the enjoyment of the Fishery Staff. Not a good start. The majority managed to take their four fish, except me, of course!

Ray Love was so intent on his fishing he did not notice the 10 stone black mass of a Newfoundland dog sneaking up on his bag before it departed with his sarnies in its mouth. After a short chase the sandwiches were retrieved a peace once again reigned.

Our picnic lunch plus more lashings of bacon rolls and tea and coffee put us in good heart for the afternoon when the fish came on once again.

John Plowman made an early start on the Christmas decorations by adorning almost every tree with his flies, although he did not seem in a Christmas mood.

Andy Steer had the misfortune to break his rod which was very bad luck. Fortunately the Lodge has a comprehensive range of flies and fishing equipment and Andy was soon able to get back in business.

As ever, a good time was had by all at the fishery with the friendliest staff and largest dogs that I have ever seen.

I recommend that you try this fishery, you will not regret it.

Tony W

Bass Fishing at Shoreham Provisional Dates 2014

Thanks to Brian Hendry we now have the provisional programme for fly-fishing for bass at Shoreham. Wading is

from the beach at Shoreham Power Station "hot pipe" – **chest waders are essential.**

Meet at the following times in the car-park at Carat's Café on the Eastern side of Shoreham Harbour entrance, on the South (sea) side of the port.

Wednesday	28 th May	16.30
Thursday	29 th May	17.00
Thursday	12 th June	16.00
Friday	13 th June	16.30
Monday	14 th July	17.30
Tuesday	15 th July	18.00
Monday	11 th August	16.30
Tuesday	12 th August	17.00
Tuesday	26 th August	17.00
Wednesday	27 th August	17.30
Thursday	28 th August	18.00
Tuesday	9 th September	16.30
Wednesday	10 th September	17.00
Wednesday	24 th September	16.30
Thursday	25 th September	17.00

Back-up plan if sea is rough is to relocate to the river at Norfolk Bridge, Shoreham – free parking at Adur Recreation Ground. If travelling from Brighton direction it is necessary to cross the bridge and go the roundabout and come back to the car-park just before the bridge. **Tides are about 1 hour later at the bridge.**

Roy Gurney

Frank Darrah Pairs Competition

	No of fish	Total weight
Ray Love	6	9lb 14oz
Dave Painter	1	2lb 4oz
Chris Croucher	1	Had to leave early
Ian Dunk	1	
John Plowman	1	1lb 12oz
Steve Mustchin	1	2lb 6oz

Chris Nunn	6	9lb 9oz
Bill Black	0	
Bill Smith	0	
John Mouncey	3	4lb 13oz
Michael Brayne	0	
Colin Rann	2	3lb 9oz
P Davis	1	2lb
D Epton	2	3lb 14oz

14 members met at Bewl to fish the annual Frank Darrah Pairs Competition, conditions looked fairly good with enough wind to move the boats, everyone expecting a good days fishing, especially as a look at recent club competitions results at the reservoir show some good returns.

With 16 fish to a boat happening on quite a few occasions. However, at lunch a very subdued bunch of anglers met at the Jetty with varying tales of woe and misfortune. Missed takes or no takes seemed to be the order of the day, all borne out by the increasing amount of boat movements taking place through the morning as anglers searched the water for some very elusive trout.

The afternoon session followed the same format for most with a good number of boats fishing fairly close to the banks along Bewl Straight. Drifting the Main Bowl saw a little bit of action for John Plowman and myself with 1 fish and several good hits and swirls at the flies, the only problem being we found the fish at 16.30 and with a 17.00 weigh-in to say we left it a bit late would be an understatement.

Congratulations to this years winners Ray Love & Dave Painter who boated 7 fish, narrowly beating Chris Nunn & Bill Black with 6. Ray and Chris fished fairly similar methods, washing line on a Fast Glass or a DI3 with Cormorants or Crunchers doing the damage. Well done also to John Mouncey, a newcomer to the competition who took a creditable 3 fish on what had been a testing day, if he would like to give some of the regular participants a few tips I can assure him we are all ears.

If I could also mention that the Club also has the Charity Pairs Competition running in October at Bewl ,it would be good to see some new faces at this event, anybody interested can contact Ray Love for information

Steve Mustchin



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Chairman: Tony Woolnough 01273 483833
Secretary: Paul Bond 01273 420410
Treasurer: Roy Gurney 01273 506184

Editor: Andy Steer, Flat 6 Southdown House,
2 Silverdale Road, Eastbourne,
East Sussex BN20 7AL
Phone: 01323 439688
E-mail: a.v.steer@talk21.com

Visit our web site

Sussexflydressers.org.uk

FLY DRESSERS GUILD - SHOW PROGRAMME 2014				MASTER	Version 7/5/2014		
		Aquarists	Complete	Roy Gurney	Brian Hendry	Nil	Reserves
Saturday	3rd May	Patcham	Complete	Roy Gurney	Brian Hendry	Nil	Nil
Saturday	24th May	Heathfield	Complete	John Plowman.	Bill Smith	Nil	Nil
Wednesday	4th June	South of England	Delivery and erect	Tony Woolnough			
Thursday	5th June	South of England	Demonstrating	Phillip Ellis	Mike Guest		
Friday	6th June	South of England	Demonstrating	Tony Harrison	Tony Wolnough		
Saturday	7th June	South of England	Demonstrating	Dave Walker			
Saturday	7th June	South of England	Dismantle and removal	Dave Walker			
Saturday	14th June	Parham with STA	Complete	Phillip Ellis			
Sunday	15th June	Parham with STA	Complete				
Not this year	July	Michelham Priory	Not this year	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Thursday	17th July	S of E Schools	Delivery and erect	Bill Smith	Tony Woolnough		
Friday	18th July	S of E Schools	Demonstrating	Phillip Ellis	Dave Walker	Tony Woolnough	
Friday	18th July	S of E Schools	Dismantle and removal	Phillip Ellis	Dave Walker	Tony Woolnough	
Friday	8th August	Wylands Open Day	Deliver and erect	Dave Painter			
Saturday	9th August	Wylands Open Day	Demonstrate	Andy Steer	Steve Steer	Bill Smith	
Saturday	9th August	Wylands Open Day	Dismantle and removal	Andy Steer	Steve Steer	Bill Smith	
Friday	15th August	1066 Game & Country	Delver and erect				
Saturday	16th August	1066 Game & Country	Demonstrate				
Sunday	17th August	1066 Game & Country	Demonstrate				
Sunday	17th August	1066 Game & Country	Dismantle and removal				
Monday	25th August	Shermanbury	Complete				
Friday	3rd October	S of E Game Fair	Delivery and erect	Jim Harris	Bill Smith	Tony Woolnough	
Saturday	4th October	S of E Game Fair	Demonstrating	Phillip Ellis	Bill Black	John Mouncey	
Sunday	5th October	S of E Game Fair	Demonstrating	Jim Harris	Dave Walker		
Sunday	5th October	S of E Game Fair	Dismantle and removal	Jim Harris	Dave Walker		

1. Volunteers on the last day are expected to stay until the sites are cleared.
2. Tents etc to be picked up at Patcham at 2.30 pm.
3. Pick up teams to liase with Roy Gurney (01273 506184)
4. Tony Woolnough (01273 483833) Tony@fishways.com