



# Sussex Branch Newsletter



Nov 2015

## Jonathan Glover

Dear members

It is that time of year again that we ask you to consider which person has left an impression on you during the last year and done the most in terms of Branch activities. Your secretary, Paul Bond is now seeking your vote by email on [paul.bond13@btinternet.com](mailto:paul.bond13@btinternet.com) or a piece of paper folded / sealed with your vote. This can be collected by anyone on the committee who will get them to me in time to get the Trophy ready for the AGM.

Our AGM will be on 7<sup>th</sup> January 2016 which you are all invited, when you can see who the nominated winner is chosen from the membership.

You can't vote for the members who have won the trophy for the past 3 years. These recipients were:

- Ray Love
- Paul Davis
- Tony Harrison

Regards

Paul



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### From Simon Cooper's Newsletter:

## Jonny's trout

If you ever wondered what a river keeper does at lunchtime, well wonder no more. Jonny Walker, with a deftly placed Daddy Long Legs, plucked this monster trout out of Wallop Brook here at Nether Wallop Mill. Got to be six pounds or more .....

It actually caused a little bit of debate when I posted it on Facebook. Nice stockie said some. Others were not so sure. The truth is Edward leads something of a gilded life in the mill pool. Life is easy. The water is slack and the food plentiful from the bread he steals from the ducks to a multiplicity of small fish that he snacks on for a pastime.

Is he a stockie? Well, he may have been a very, very long time ago, but no more than half a pound in weight way back then. Anyway he is back in the river, hopefully relishing his momentary fame.

### Chairman's Chat

An interesting problem caused by an old mill which is obstructing the passage at the headwaters of this chalk stream in the South of England. Obviously it would be easier to cut a diversion channel around the mill to enter the mill pond upstream, or utilise the existing diversion channel which is about half a kilometre long. But would fish decide to ignore the diversion and enter the mill pond (shown) and end their days jumping at the flow from the leaking side gate. Our option was to enlarge the flow from the leaking sluice gate (shown) and build an Alaskan fish pass through the mill to the mill pond upstream and protect the fish pass fish exit with a debris shield. But this would provide a pass which was steeper than what is considered acceptable for this type of pass ie a slope of 1 horizontal to 5 vertical. Fortunately we had access to laboratory experiments which found that fish could swim up a pass as steep as 1 : 3, without exhaustion



This allowed us to save the Client money, retain the visual amenity of the mill and provide an interesting feature for mill visitors.

All it needs now is finance to build the pass, so we await developments with interest.

Tight lines and don't forget to visit iFish on the 22<sup>nd</sup> November, were I can guarantee you a very interesting and enjoyable day.

**Tony W**

## Charity Pairs Competition

Unfortunately I had difficulty raising participants this year as did North Kent and could not get any response from any other Guilds so we only had 8 boats setting out where we usually manage 12. Any how to the fishing , we set out in high hopes on a very nice morning with a light breeze on the water and reports that that the fishing had been good with the fish near the surface but it turned out to be quite difficult probably because a cold north east wind got up and where fish had been showing i think the fish seemed to become less cooperative and possibly went deeper.As to the results alas North Kent retained the trophy (boo sob sob ) with their top boat Ray

French and Bob Shaw landing 14 fish, our top boat was Chris Coucher and Paul Daultry 11 fish ,so well done to them and thank you for every one for there contribution in raising £108 for Ray and Bobs chosen charity THE BRITISH HEART FOUNDATION.

Ray Love

## iFish 2015

The iFish show this year will be held at a much more suitable venue ie Ardingly Showground which has more space, plenty of parking, indoor casting and many other benefits, all it lacks is visitors. So will you **please** download the front and back pages of the Show leaflet and ensure that YOU and your friends and contacts attend the Show.

**Tony W**

# Autumn Auction 2015

## Results

This year's auction was held on Thursday evening, 15<sup>th</sup> October 2015 at our usual venue, Patcham Community Centre.

Thanks to the great work done by Bob Burbidge, Jim Harris, Tony Kaatze, Brian Raw and Andy Steer and others in communicating and publicising this event we attracted some 44 potential bidders (24 Branch members and 20 non-members/ guests). This was down on the same event in 2014 when 55 bidding cards were issued and also the Spring 2015 auction with 51 cards. This year's event coincided with a parents' evening at the School which made parking a nightmare, as also happened in Autumn 2014.

Nevertheless, the 44 attendees bid strongly for the majority of our 246 lots and thanks to the skill and good humour of our Auctioneer, Mike Humphreys, we ended up taking £1798 on the night. As the club normally takes 10% of the hammer price, this would have only grossed £179.80. Our auction costs are about £100 (room hire, stationery, postage etc) so we would have cleared only about £80. The good news is that the Branch owned 50 and half-owned 63 of the lots, so the final nett contribution to Branch funds was over £550 an amount which should make all those involved justifiably proud.

Earlier, I thanked those who had publicised the event and now I would like to thank the volunteer helpers on the night who made this run so smoothly – Bill Black, Paul Bond, Brian Hendry, Seana Hooper, Roy Gurney, Tony Woolnough, Jim Harris, Ray Love, Paul and Ray Bond, David Painter, Dave Walker, Nathan Winter and Bill Smith; take a bow – you were brilliant, and none of this would have happened without your generous support and commitment.

Talking of generosity – my thanks to Graham Gunter, who donated 2 stunning reels to the Branch for auction.

Two people deserve singling out with regards to the auction – Mike Humphreys, driving the round trip from Hertfordshire to conduct the auction and using his consummate skill, patience and humour to extract the best price for each lot, and Roy Gurney who pulls together the catalogue (an enormous job in itself), produced the labels for each lot on this occasion, and handles the finances. Mike and Roy – many, many thanks – we owe you big-time.

My final thanks are to the 24 Branch members who came along and bid and to those who, despite being unable to attend, encouraged others to do so.

**Tony Harrison**

*☞☞ Tony omits to mention his own enormous contribution – many, many hours of splitting up bulk legacies, purchases, etc, into saleable lots and the attendant packing and labelling, in addition to setting up the hall and overseeing the whole event. His input is incalculable.*

RG

# BOOK FAIR

We will be running our first-ever Book Fair on the evening of **Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> November between 7- 8 pm**. This is still a normal tying night with the exception that we have asked the instructors to delay the start of instruction to 8 pm.

## *Why are we holding a book fair?*

For some time now a number of our members have been looking to de-clutter at home and move on or sell their fishing and fly-tying books. This will give other members the opportunity to buy books at a reasonable cost.

## *So how will it work on the night?*

We have chosen 19<sup>th</sup> November because we have access to both rooms. The rooms will be set up before 7 pm, with tables around all the walls, for use by book-sellers. Tables and chairs will be in the centre of the room for tying which will commence at 8 pm.

It couldn't be more simple – if you are looking to downsize your fishing or fly-tying book collection, then bring them along on the night **before 7 pm** and you will be allocated a table from which to sell. It would be a great help if you would bring lots of change (£1 coins & £5 notes etc) and possibly some plastic or carrier bags.

There will be **no charge** on the night for either buyers or sellers – we just want to help you buy, sell or exchange your books.

For those buying, simply turn up at 7 pm and spend an enjoyable hour or so browsing and buying books on offer. It should be a good way of choosing early Christmas presents or maybe just treats for yourself!

## *Will it work?*

Well, I don't know if we will have 20 or 200 books on sale on the night as this is the first time we have tried this event. In the past we have always enjoyed incredible support from you all, so I hope as many of you as possible will come along to support this initiative and at the same time acquire some great reads for a winter's evening..

**Tony Harrison**

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