



Sussex Branch Newsletter



September 2013

September Speaker

5th September Speaker – Gavin Hodgson who will be presenting 'The Flies and Flats of Cuba' an introduction, insight and similarities between Saltwater and Freshwater Fly Fishing.

Paul Bond

2013 Game Fair, Ragley Hall, Warwickshire

As we did not have our branch trip to the Game fair I thought I would give a summary of my observations. I spent three days up there mainly on the S&TA stand with our usual stand and members' hospitality area. I was kept busy talking to members visiting the stand and the public. Wayne Duerden and his wife came on our stand and he told me had seen Bill Black. As usual our volunteers ran the casting competitions that work like clockwork. The Game Anglers Instructors Association were working on the grass opposite us and Alan Purnell and Brian Raw from Sussex were seen working hard instructing youngsters. The casting demonstrations continued each day run by Michael Evans with people like Charles Jardine, Hywell Morgan and Paul Proctor to name a few.

The weather was very hot and it was thought may have put some people off attending, said to be 20,000 down on attendances. After the show each day some of the exhibitors took a dip in the lake to cool off and on the Sunday morning while having breakfast a lady in a bikini dived in for a swim!

I personally was very disappointed in the Fisherman's Row, far fewer stands than I have seen in previous years with very few firms selling fly tying materials of any note. Sportfish had a huge stand as did Hardy & Greys. Of the angling organisations attending, Angling Trust, Wild Trout Trust and the Wheely Boat Trust. Sonik had a stand showing their range of rods and I have to say they look very good quality but cannot vouch for performance but I must try sometime. I only saw two firms selling coarse tackle and lastly Coch-y-Bonddu books were kept busy selling a huge range of books.

The remainder of the show was huge and busy not that I had much time to walk around. Gun Makers Row were busy. Each day visitors were walking around by 8am but was much quieter in the afternoons I expect due to the heat. Spending two nights in the show ground was interesting as it was full of exhibitors relaxing in the evenings.

Entry and exit into the show was well organised as was parking with tractor trailers transporting people to the showground entrances. Toilets and bathroom facilities were excellent and well supervised.

Going next year Blenheim Palace next year - July 18th - 20th well if it's just for the fishing then think again but for the whole show yes, worth it.

Report by Phillip Ellis

Carp on the Fly 2013 Passies Pond 2 and Newdigate 1&2

All arrived at Passies Pond early for the fish and wondering whether to put on full wet weather gear after the storm the previous night so with this in mind we all headed off to our swims to have a play, which seemed to be very eventful with majority of people catching with some nice doubles being landed along with some upper singles. Only had one incident where I was unhooking my fly from the bush behind one of the planks gave out and yes my leg did get a bit damp luckily no injuries. On a lighter note turned out to be a good day for most with plenty of fish being landed and the sun coming out. Meanwhile at Newdigate (Jennies lake) the weather was rather warm yet again still some nice fish being landed with the best weighing in at 17lb caught on the point. With most people catching ranging from 6-10lb the day overall very pleasant. Whilst on the centre lake (Newdigate Farm Est.) the day could not be any different with it being overcast and blowing a hooly. Most people struggled to get a fly out without getting snagged on bushes/trees, yet a carp were landed but with the wind picking up in the afternoon a lot of us decided to call it a day.

Steve Steer



FLYTYINGSHOP.CO.UK
for all your fly tying needs

10% off all web orders

Enter the code
FDG10%2012
at check out.

Don't have a computer?
Can't find the product you want online?
Then call us on 01273 252504
to receive the same offer.

OVER 5000 ITEMS IN STOCK

www.flytyingshop.co.uk

Chairman's Chat

Well it's that time of the year again. The start of tying classes, the auctions and time to plan you're winter programme. My plan (which I have already started) is:

1. Divest myself of unwanted fishing tackle, materials and flies, to the auctions.
2. Not start the bidding to help the Auctioneer out as this resulted in bags of unwanted materials.
3. I have also decided that I will not tie flies which I do not need for fishing, eg salmon and concentrate on my "successful" flies for trout, carp and bass.
4. In addition I will rationalise my seven fly boxes down to a reasonable two. This surprised me; I could not fill two boxes with suitable flies and replacements.
5. Reduce the amount of gear I carry about when fishing, the objective is to concentrate on a vest only with a net on my back. The bag and remainder of the gear in the car.
6. Make a big effort to concentrate on bass, my favourite quarry.
7. If the Club visits Iceland, then give it a go as they say. Incidentally if you have not visited Iceland, it is a very interesting country with the population of Brighton. Earthquakes every day and food you would not wish to eat again, like rotted shark, salted fish and horse. The hotels are made of corrugated iron and in the summer, the sun never sets.

If I can achieve my plan, I shall be happy (and surprised) man.
Tony Woolnough



Striker's disappointed with the direction Donald's fly tying has taken.

For the dog owners amongst us

Published by the Sussex Branch of the Flydressers' Guild

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