



Sussex Branch Newsletter



SEPTEMBER 2010

SEPTEMBER SPEAKER

Simon Cooper
16th September 2010

Simon is the managing director of Fishing Breaks and we look forward to hearing details of his organisation and the services it offers. As you may know, our own Alan Middleton is one of his team.

COMMITTEE NEWS

We have had a pretty stable Committee now for some years, but this year we will be electing a new Chairman – a volunteer has been found, and like the Speaker of the House of Commons he will no doubt be dragged reluctantly by his colleagues to his new post.

It is always advantageous to have new blood and new ideas in order to progress so please consider giving up some time to help run this Branch.

For instance, your Editor (who is also Treasurer and Membership Secretary) is getting a bit long in the tooth, so if anyone would like to relieve him of one of the tasks, or knows of a willing volunteer, please talk to John Plowman or Paul Bond.

***Fly tying recommences
on Thursday 23rd September
at Patcham Community Centre at 8 pm.***
***We look forward to seeing you again and
welcoming new members!***

WARNING! Due to a school event this evening, parking will be very limited on site. Be prepared to park in the roads.

ANNUAL AUCTION

Get your entry details in as soon as possible to Roy Gurney – it takes a lot of preparation to produce the catalogue and the earlier he gets details in, the better.

BRANCH TROPHY DAY

Don't forget – let Peter Winder have your entry form **now** for:

Brick Farm

on

Sunday 26th September

Trophies for best bag, best fish, best brown etc. The cost is £40 for a 4 fish ticket and includes a buffet lunch. Remember, this is THE branch day when all the trophies are up for grabs!

GET YOUR ENTRIES IN FOR THE “BIG FISH TROPHIES”

Where are they? Have none of you caught any fish this year? We have a few entries, but it would be tragic if you missed out by default.



South of England Autumn Show and Game Fair 2nd and 3rd October 2010

We will be manning a stand at this event at Ardingly – any volunteers to help please contact John Plowman on 01825 762965 ASAP.

Charity Pairs Competition – Bowl - Sunday 10th October

Ray Love is still taking entries for this event – please contact him urgently if you want to join in. If you haven't got a partner, he will arrange one for you. Contact him on 01323 639122 or e-mail raylove500@sky.com Cost is £40.00 – cheques payable to “FDG Sussex Branch”.

The categories are:

- Best fish from Sussex water
- Best fish from Sussex reservoir (including Bowl)
- Best brown from Sussex water
- Best brown from Sussex reservoir or river.

The closing date of catching is 31st October 2009 for browns and 31st December for other categories. Trophies will be presented at the Dinner.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

Just a reminder that these are now due and if you haven't yet paid, Roy Gurney would be grateful for your early renewal. Many thanks to all of you who have done so – it makes things a lot easier if he doesn't have to chase you.

Balanced Seas

A report from Tony Woolnough

As requested by the Committee, on the 17th August I represented the Branch at a consultation interview with Amy Pryor of the Durrell Institute of Conservation based at Kent University, Canterbury. The Marine and Coastal Access Act which received Royal Assent in November 2009, allows for the creation of a new type of Marine Protection Area called a Marine Conservation Zone (MCZ). MCZs are designed to protect nationally important marine wildlife, habitats, geology and geomorphology. They will contribute to the Government's aim of 'an ecologically coherent network of Marine Protected Areas'.

Balanced Seas is one of the four regional projects in England that will work with the sea users and interest groups to identify and recommend MCZs to Government, for designation at the end of 2012. Balanced Seas covers inshore and offshore UK waters of the Eastern English Channel and adjacent areas. It extends from north of the Suffolk / Essex border to Hampshire / Dorset border in the south-west and includes the Thames Estuary and the Solent.

Balanced Seas is setting up a process to ensure sea users and interested groups in all relevant sectors are represented on a Regional Stakeholder Group. This group will be responsible, with the help of the Balanced Seas project team, for developing recommendations for the MCZs in this area. The plan is that given the consultation and support of all stakeholders, the protection areas will be unofficially policed by sports anglers as well as government bodies.

Following this interesting information, I was asked to identify onshore and offshore areas where our members would be likely to fish and suggest protective measures which could be applied. I suggested that no commercial fishing should be allowed in the areas I had identified. My only concern with the proposals is that particular species within an area would be protected rather than a blanket ban on commercial fishing an area, which I considered would be easier to police. We are all aware of the fact that fishing nets do not discriminate.

The Branch will be kept informed of developments and may be asked to provide a representative for the Regional Stakeholder Group. Given our minor impact on sea fish in the area, it seems to me that a place on this group would be inappropriate, however I will seek the Branch's opinion on the matter. However I do consider that it is important that we are kept informed of developments.

I will keep the Branch informed of developments.

Tony Woolnough

CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

Now that autumn is approaching if you are like me then you think of this time as start of a new season. We can expect the lower water temperatures to increase dissolved oxygen levels and bring more activity from the fish.

It is also a time when fly tying evenings start and we have the opportunity of renewing the acquaintance of old friends and meeting new ones. Your secretary has arranged a good programme of visiting speakers along with a comprehensive syllabus of tying instruction. Whether you are an expert or a novice there is something of interest for all.

Please don't forget to pay your annual subscriptions in plenty of time since the main guild fees increase soon and you will have to pay more if you delay too much.

Finally, on behalf of all Guild members can I extend a warm welcome to all new members. I look forward meeting you and I hope that you will soon experience the thrill of catching your first fish on a fly you have tied yourself.

Tight lines

John Plowman.

Shermanbury Fete

We were invited by the owner of Shermanbury Place, Mr William Greenwell to demonstrate at the above event, in aid of Shermanbury Church funds. This was particularly apt, as the renowned Canon Greenwell of Greenwell's Glory fame, was a many times great uncle of Mr Greenwell.

Bill Smith and Wayne Duerden gave up their Bank Holiday Monday to man our stand and had a great time, as well as getting a number of potential recruits for the Branch.

In addition we have been invited to do likewise at the Fulking Village Fair next year, as well as returning to Shermanbury in two year's time when this event will be held again.

These fetes and fairs are great fun for all the family, as well as being an opportunity to "fly the flag".

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