



# Sussex Branch Newsletter



SEPTEMBER 2011

## September Speaker

**David Wolstoncroft-Dodds**

**15<sup>th</sup> September 2011**

Our speaker is going to give a talk on the art of fly fishing for Pike.

David also writes a blog for the "Fly Fishing & Fly Tying" magazine website

## **DAVID WOLSTONCROFT DODDS** **HOSTED TRIPS TO IRELAND** **2011**

Attached are details of the Irish trips. The 2 start dates I have for this autumn are the 22nd and the 29th of October (with the latter booking first)

If someone visits the blog I do for Fly Fishing & Fly Tying magazine's website, they can view some pictures of heavyweights we had last autumn.

If someone wanted to do a shorter trip - say Monday to Friday - that would be fine and the cost would be reduced proportionately.

These trips are great. The boats are first-class, the lodge is excellent, the food is good and I seem to be blessed with pleasant, sociable clients.

The fishing prospects are very good indeed. I know the haunts of some truly impressive pike.

These fish are altogether more exciting than English trout reservoir pike. They fight like fury and really test your tackle. The best option is for someone to drop me an email- [david@flyfishforpike.co.uk](mailto:david@flyfishforpike.co.uk) - with a landline number and I'll give them a call to discuss.

For further details about the trips visit the FDG website: [www.flydressersguild.org](http://www.flydressersguild.org)

## Fly tying recommences

**Thursday 22nd September**

At Patcham Community Centre at 8 pm.

We look forward to seeing you again and welcoming new members!

## ANNUAL AUCTION

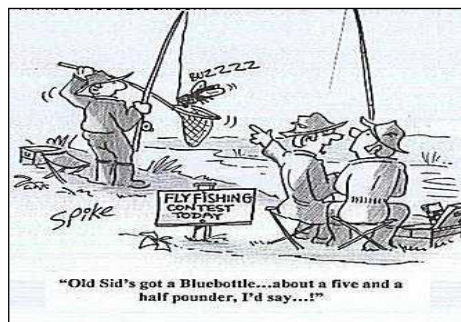
Get your entry details in as soon as possible to Roy Gurney - it takes a lot of preparation to produce the catalogue and the earlier he gets details in, the better.

## Stuart Crofts

Surrey branch of the Guild have booked Stuart Crofts as their speaker for their Oct 12th meeting.

The Surrey branch has said any member of the Sussex branch is welcome to go to the meeting and listen to Stuart at Effingham on the evening. The Surrey branch meets at.

Effingham Golf Club, Guildford Road  
Effingham  
Surrey KT24 5PZ



## Charity Pairs Competition - Bowl - Sunday 9th 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](mailto:raylove500@sky.com)

## BRANCH TROPHY DAY

### Brick Farm Lakes

**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> September**

Peter Winder is waiting for **your** entry – NOW!

The cost of £40 covers:

Breakfast from 8 am

4 fish ticket

Buffet lunch

Remember, this is THE branch day and Brick Farm now stocks brown trout as well as rainbows so all the trophies are up for grabs – best bag, best fish, best brown.....

Send your cheque, payable to “FDG Sussex Branch”, no later than 10<sup>th</sup> September 2011 to

Peter Winder

17 St Helens Crescent

Hangleton

Hove

BN3 8EP

Phone: 01273 245201

e-mail: [peter.winder@btinternet.com](mailto:peter.winder@btinternet.com)

## A reminder

### Fishing in Norway

Norway trip for next year from Stockholm to Femund River for the **2nd to 8<sup>th</sup> July 2012**.

- Accommodation for 6 nights,
- breakfast, lunch, dinner, driving,
- fishing license, guiding, fly tying, (waders, fly rods etc for loan if needed) will be included for **£550**.

This sounds like a memorable trip, so please register your interest with me at [roygurney@ntlworld.com](mailto:roygurney@ntlworld.com) or phone 01273 506184 or write to Roy Gurney, 7 Eldred Avenue, Brighton, BN1 5EB.

*Roy Gurney*

## Match v Crawley Fly Fishers

Both teams fielded full teams, and the anticipation was high in both teams. Crawley took an early lead with Bob Sanger taking 3 fish in his first section. Unfortunately for him his last fish eluded him.



Sussex Captain Bill Smith receiving the match winner's trophy

Sussex clawed back some ground with 'large fish'. On the stroke of Lunch Tony Harrison landed a superb 8lb 3oz Brownie.

Crawley still appeared to be in the lead, with all the team except a couple had 2 or 3 fish in their bag.

After lunch Sussex came back strongly with five taking full bags. All but one caught.



Tony Harrison getting his prize for biggest fish

It was very close, but after close scrutiny it showed Sussex had won by 2lb.



Largest bag went to Chris Croucher

A warm thank you goes to Crawley for a very fair and well fought match under difficult fishing conditions, with weed and clarity not its usual standard.



Largest bag runner up went to Jim Fulbroke

Thanks also go to Chalk Springs for their generosity and superb fishery. Also for allowing the match to go ahead.

## John Watts Trophy

### Grafham Water

Sat 27th August 2011

4 members of Sussex competed on behalf of the branch at this competition. The team was Chris Nunn, Chris Croucher, Ian Dunk and Brian Raw. The results are as follows:

Position	Team	No of Fish	Total weight	
			lbs	ozs
1	London A	17	40	1
2	Ayr Travellers	16	35	0
3	North Kent	12	26	7
4	Congleton	11	24	7
5	South Cumbria A	10	20	11
6	South Cumbria B	8	19	5
7	Sussex	8	18	13
8	Swale A	8	15	12
9	Wilts Chalk Stream	5	12	3
10	Chilterns	5	9	10
11	Swale B	3	7	13

Total Number of Fish Retained	91
Total Number of Fish Released	12
Total Number of Fish Caught	103
Rod Average	1.72

Best Fish 4lb 9oz

Dave Preece of South Cumbria A

Top Rod 7 fish for a weight of 15lb 5oz

Neil Thomas of Congleton

If you would like to register an interest to fish for Sussex next year (the competition is always the Saturday of the Bank Holiday weekend in August) and normally we put two teams in please let either Paul Davis or Chris Nunn know. Please note the branch pays for the fishing, you only have to pay for your travel.

## Mackerel on the fly

Myself and my brother went sea fishing for mackerel at the end of July, along Seaford beach, and we decided to try using the fly rod and a single mackerel feather.

It took a while, but eventually a small one took my hook. It put up quite a good fight though, and put a good bend in the rod. Unfortunately the fish then decided to move out deeper, beyond my casting range. So I decided to switch to my beachcaster and caught another one, by which time my brother caught one. I cast out and felt something large on my line. It was really putting a bend in my rod. I looked at my brother and said what the hell I have got on the end of my line. He said "a seagull". I slowly brought the gull in, so as not to hurt it. When it was close enough Steve throw a rag over the gulls head and took it up on to the beach, where he cut the gull free and released the bird unharmed.

Andy Steer

## FLYTYING SHOP

**FLYTYINGSHOP.CO.UK**  
for all your fly tying needs

*10% off all web orders*

Over 2000 items in stock  
Enter the code  
FDG10%2011  
at check out.

Don't have a computer?  
Then call us on 01273 252504  
to receive the same offer.

www.flytyingshop.co.uk

If you buy online from Fly Tying Shop and don't want to pay postage you can collect your order on Thursday evenings at Patcham. What you need to do is enter the code FDGFreeShip at checkout.

## SUBSCRIPTIONS

Just a reminder that these are due on the 1<sup>st</sup> October. 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.

## Chairman's Chat

I am afraid this is a moan. Why do we take so much advice from "expert" anglers who write in the various fishing magazines?

I recently read an article in a fly fishing magazine regarding using small flies for wary fish. The writer visited a large lake in order to try and make contact with some large brown trout that had been in the lake a long time and become very wary. Some of these fish were known to be in the 9 – 10 lb range, truly magnificent specimens.

He recommended a leader. 9.0 ft tapered leader to aid turnover to a 3.0 pound breaking strain tippet. To ensure that thick anglers understood, the author provided a photograph of himself holding a tapered leader in a packet of tippet material.

That's a relief, even I could understand that.

Great, with an optimistic efficiency of 75% this tippet will fail at 2.25 lbs. due to knot loss. Just the ideal set up for a 9.0 lb brown trout.

It worked, no less than two large brown trout in the "9 lb class" took his flies but alas, they broke his tippet, I wonder why that was? What was the problem? The owner of the lake was very impressed that the set up managed to hook into two large fish.

I was not impressed. Now we have a lake with two large brown trout with hooks set in their jaws and trailing lengths of leader, for the rest of their lives. This is such an obvious outcome that I was tempted to write to the magazine and point this out. How did the article get past the Editor? Anyway I am sure that my letter would not have been published on the basis that it is criticism.

*Tony Woolnough*

## Kent Angling Show 2011

8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> October, at the Kent Showground

Detling, nr Maidstone

Kent

Admission: £5, accompanied under 15's free

## 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.



The categories are:

Best fish from Sussex water

Best fish from Sussex reservoir (including Bawl)

Best brown from Sussex water

Best brown from Sussex reservoir or river.

The closing date of catching is 31st October 2011 for browns and 31st December for other categories.

Trophies will be presented at the annual Dinner.

## Fishing on the Test

Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> October. Fishing for Grayling on the hallowed Test at Wherwell.

Paul Davis still has 6 places available. The cost is £36pp Contact him on:

**01306 621157, 07905607162**

or email him: [flytyer@inbox.com](mailto:flytyer@inbox.com)

*Published by the Sussex Branch of the Flydressers' Guild*

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