

# The Flydressers Guild

## Sussex Branch



## Newsletter



## November 2021

Published by the Sussex Branch of the  
Flydressers Guild

Chairman: Tony Woolnough 01273 483833  
Secretary: Simon Rickard 07799484166  
Treasurer: Bill Black 01323 763807  
Membership: Andy Wood 07445274967

Visit our web site

[sussexflydresserguild.org.uk](http://sussexflydresserguild.org.uk)

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or on Youtube

### Roy Gurney by Brian Hendry



Roy came to angling in his late fifties, a family connection gave him the chance to fish for sea trout on the Taw in Devon and a visit to a local day ticket water, when back home in Sussex, where he caught rainbow trout fired his enthusiasm to do more of the same! He was then still a very active man - having been a club cyclist, a hockey player at County level, then becoming a respected hockey referee. However, fly fishing had struck a chord and when he discovered that the Sussex branch of the FDG met at the Withdean Stadium, which was only a hundred yards from his then home, he promptly joined up.

Our paths crossed a couple of years later when, through our families becoming connected, at a family gathering I mentioned that I helped maintain a two mile stretch of the upper Ouse with Balcombe Flyfishers, which we had developed as a trout fishery, and Roy was keen to join. I was then also a member of the Ouse Valley branch of the FDG and had been for 11 years when they changed to a fishing club only and dropped out of the Guild, so I joined Roy at Withdean. The branch there was well supported and the beginners group had two instructors working from a well produced manual. The intermediate group however worked from a list giving required materials only and people were left to source images of the flies themselves with no internet in those days! Roy then proposed that he and I produced a similar manual for the intermediate which we self published the next year (they both became the basis for the main guilds accreditation scheme in later years) and ran the course for the following ten years at Withdean and then at Patcham. During that time Roy became treasurer, membership secretary then chairman - at some stages all at once! He oversaw the move to Patcham Community Centre (even joining their committee to safeguard our club interests) with ease, all while publishing the newsletter, the auction paperwork and all his other duties. Roy was supported by a small committee throughout this time, organising speakers, fishing trips, club dinners and representations at all the shows throughout the county, this format still functions today. During this time Roy and I fished frequently together, attended all the shows and covered the two or three open days a year at Patcham for the branch. He was the first to admit his casting and fishing skills lacked a little finesse but he eoyed himself immensely! Days at Arlington and Bewl and evenings at Barcombe and down at the stream were a real pleasure with him. He mixed well and enjoyed time with like minded people, a really sociable man. We spent many hours together in the car both in animated conversation and sometimes companionable silence and covered thousands of miles to enjoy our sport and I missed these times dearly as his health began to fail. Roys passing will leave a large gap in the branch, which I hope we can fill as we move into the new phase at Clayton Village Hall - for many years Roy WAS the Sussex branch!

### Chairmans chat

Another one of the "triumphs"; this time in Dorset where a weir built to retain water to supply Parsons Brewery formed an obstruction to migrating sea trout. The pass was built by our fabricator at Pevensy and comprises a bottom baffle pass designed to cater for all species. The concrete work was carried out by my son in law's company in Seaford.

The pass was swung into place by a large mobile crane stationed on the nearby brewery car park. The floor of the pass, between the baffles has fixing holes at one meter centres. The holes were designed to be suitable for drilling fixing holes through and into the concrete. Large stainless steel coach

screws with plastic plugs and nylon washers were provided to avoid corrosive action between the stainless steel and aluminium.

- The pass fish intake location is not ideal but a compromise of “safe to build and safe to maintain” as is specified in the Elf and Safety regulations. To overcome the poor fish entrance location, we ensured that there was a comparatively large flow. Yes fish do use it ascending without hesitation.

- Another one bites the dust.



*Tony W*

### How do some things float?

Buoyant flies such as boobies float high in water but what causes this? You may have some distant memories of your school teacher talking about Archimedes and his bath water. Archimedes was a Greek mathematical genius and yet he is remembered by most people for his bath water!

However, his ideas on floating tell us how to calculate flotation forces but do not explain their causes.

The explanation depends on three logical statements:

1. In a stationary body of water the pressure on a point in the water acts equally in all directions. If it didn't then the water would move by itself so boats could move without sails or propellers.

2. The deeper your point is in the water then the higher is the pressure. You feel this on your legs when wading.

3. Any object has its bottom lower than its top. (If you don't recognise this then you probably find standing difficult!)

It follows that:

- (a) In water the bottom of an object experiences more pressure than its top.

- (b) This means that the upwards pressure on the bottom is greater than the downwards pressure on the top.

- (c) This difference in pressure causes an upwards force on the object.

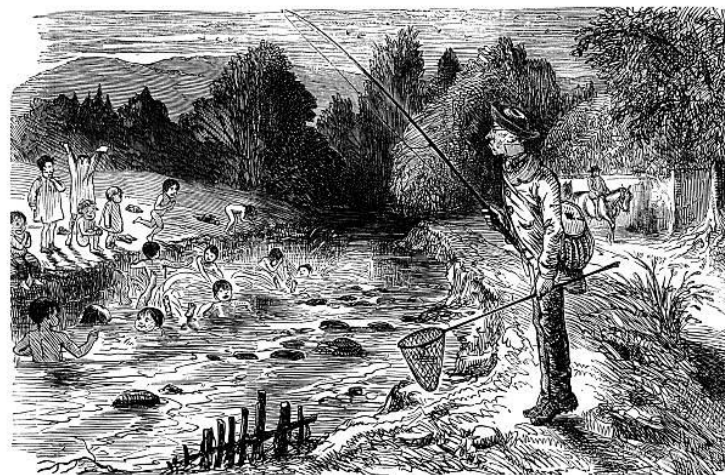
- (d) The only other force acting on the object is its weight caused by gravity.

- (e) If the upwards force is greater than the weight then the object floats. If the weight is greater than the upwards force it sinks.

- (f) This is why a light object whose bottom is far from its top floats e.g. booby eyes. If the a heavy object whose bottom is close to the top sinks e.g. tungsten beads.

**(John Plowman)**

Next month I will try to explain how hackled flies float on the surface.



FLY FISHING.—MR. HACKLE ARRIVES AT HIS FAVOURITE SPOT, WHERE HE KNOWS THERE IS A GOOD TROUT.

### **Speaker Night 4th November 2021**

Our first speaker night this session will be held on Thursday, the 4th November 2021. Our Speaker will be Peter Winder talking about Fly Fishing for Mullet. The talk will start at 1930.

Entrance fee is £3.00, and as usual there will be a free raffle.



## **FISHING TIP: leader length off a spool.**

This is an old tip but one that has come up more than once this week so we thought it would be good to give it again.

When using a spool of leader/ tippet and you want to measure out a rough rod length;

1. Hold the spool in your hand, and the end of the line in the other.
2. Stretch both hands out straight to your sides. This will roughly give you six feet of line. See below.



3. Now drop the end of the leader and take hold of it next to the spool. Then pull the spool back to your chest.
4. Keep the leader hand still and now stretch back out with the spool hand. This will give you roughly 3ft.(see image below). So in total 9ft. which is an average rod length.
5. Cut off the line from the spool attach to you line and fly .



6. Now you ready to fish.

## **LAKEDOWN TROUT FISHERY**

Swife Lane, Burwash, East Sussex TN21 8UX

email: [lakedowntroutfishery@gmail.com](mailto:lakedowntroutfishery@gmail.com)

Telephone 01435 883449 / 07502 257428 / (or Ted on 07740 798341)

## **PRICES, HOURS AND INFORMATION**

**THE LODGE AND TAPROOM ARE NOW OPEN**

To book a table please visit [lakedownbookings.com](http://lakedownbookings.com)  
PLEASE **BOOK ONLINE** OR BY EMAIL / TELEPHONE  
IN ADVANCE OF ARRIVING AT FISHERY.  
07502 257428 /01435 883449

email [lakedowntroutfishery@gmail.com](mailto:lakedowntroutfishery@gmail.com)

## **PRICES**

**Anglers will receive a 10% discount at the taproom as part of their ticket as well as a complimentary tea / coffee.**

**2 fish - £35 (half day only 8-1pm / 1-6pm)**

**3 fish - £40**

**4 fish - £45**

**5 fish - £50**

**Under 18's (9-17)- £20 for a 2 fish ticket**

We are open 7 days a week, 8am-6pm last cast (hours alter through the year according to daylight).

- A ticket must be purchased online or by telephone prior to fishing.
- Anglers must sign in at the lodge upon arrival
- Once the bag limit is reached, fishing must cease until an additional ticket is purchased.
- All anglers must inform a Lakedown staff member of their catch in order to assist with stock management. You can enter a catch return online No catch and release (with the exception of wild brown trout in lake 1 which will be far smaller than average stocked fish
- Single fly, max size 10
- Anglers must hold an Environmental Agency Rod Licence.
- Children must be 9 years old or over. (9 - 16 year olds must be accompanied by an adult)

The latest fishing report for October is that we finally have had 2 consecutive weeks of good fishing! The catch rate of the last week was a handsome 75% with lakes 2, 3 and 4 fishing particularly well. The fish have mainly been caught in the top 2 feet of water on green and black patterns and the best flies continue to be montanas, cats and tadpoles. The biggest fish landed were a 6lb rainbow from lake 4 and a 3.5lb brown from lake 2. The water temperature is now at a very comfortable 13 degrees with lakes 1 and 2 beginning to clear again after last weeks rain.

**Lakedown will be closed on friday 5th Nov for a private function.**



## **Brick Farm Lakes**

As you may be aware, Brick Farm run a monthly League competition and round two took place on Sunday Morning, 31st October 2021 despite the heavy rain and wind.

One of our Guild members, Ray Burt who is in the league competition won the event, for the second month running. Below is Ray receiving his prize.

