

The Flydressers Guild Sussex Branch



Newsletter

July 2025

Published by the Sussex Branch of the
Flydressers Guild

Chair: Peter Winder 07732024857
Acting Secretary: Alan Wells 07795523608
Treasurer: Andy Wood 07445274967
Membership: Andy Wood 07445274967
Newsletter: Simon Rickard 07799484166

Visit our web site
Sussexflydressers.org.uk

or on Facebook @
Sussex Flydressers Guild

or on Youtube
Sussex Flydressers Guild

Carpy Capers.

Springbarn continued to deliver great sport with carp on the fly on 14th June. About a dozen anglers managed to get an early Fathers Day gift with some time out on a Saturday morning. Wayne had kindly arrived early to open up and tempted fish to come to the top with some bread kindly provided by Steve Mustchin. As usual the morning saw hectic sport with fish avidly taking free dog biscuits and cork and deer hair patterns doing the business. Several doubles were taken

during the day but pick of the bunch was the double figure Ghostie eventually pulled in by Steve Matthews on his inaugural carp on the fly outing and on a self-tied pattern. Steve seems to be making a habit of winking out specimen fish at our events. Thanks to Tony W for organising a splendid event. Keep your eyes on the Whatsapp for more ad hoc carp outings probably at Falkenvil during the hotter summer days. AW 16 6 25



John Lindley with the leisurely approach!

Brian Hill found a quieter spot



Obituary

Phillip Ellis 1946-2025



Many of you will already be aware that sadly Phillip died in St Barnabas Hospice on 23rd June. He is survived by his wife Janet.

Phillip was born in Worthing West Sussex in 1946. He started fishing at the age of seven and never stopped!

After formal training in horticulture at Cannington College from 1966–1967, he gained a Certificate in Amenity Horticulture. Phil joined Gavin Jones Nurseries Ltd as Plants Manager until May 1980. Joining the Civil Service in 1980, Phillip spent 25 years managing the green estate on MOD

establishments in Hampshire and beyond on occasions. He was also responsible for supervising Health and Safety with contractors. During that period, he became qualified in Arboriculture that involved risk management of trees and then ran a tree consultancy practice providing tree care advice for home owners and developers.

As a member of SFDG for over 30 years, Phillip led many members through Intermediate into Gold level and was highly respected for his attention to detail and concise instruction skills. He was a qualified Game Angling Coach (GAIA) and also trained in river fly monitoring, identifying down to species level with a microscope. He acted as coordinator on the West Sussex River Rother for Arun & Rother Rivers Trust and also served on various EA fisheries committees including RFERAC, now sadly all defunct. He became a trustee of the STCUK and was its Resources Officer for Hampshire and Sussex for many years. Phil was an Honorary Lifetime Member of Sussex Piscatorial Society, as for 10 years he managed Cheriton Mill and also managed a short stretch of the Upper Itchen for them. All this paints a picture of a life committed to the care of the environment, both arboreal and water based, from a practical up to a managerial level and of course fly fishing. His knowledge, skills and commitment to the sport he loved will be sorely missed.

Mayfly

Having been inspired by Noake's picture of a Mayfly. I thought I would share these pictures with you.

1. Mayfly which arrived on our patio table the other week.
2. Dragon fly (I think), which landed of my 4wt rod the other year, whilst I was fishing at Leconfield in May 2024
3. Damsel Fly, captured along the Rother at Fittleworth.

I share these with you, with a suggestion that in a future newsletter we do a piece on fly life,

as I am sure other members may have similar or better pictures than these. Just a thought....

