

The Flydressers Guild Sussex Branch



Newsletter

August 2026

**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**

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Sussexflydressers.org.uk**

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Awards

As far as the first session is concerned ,those moving on to **Gold Award** should come along and discuss with Bill Black which fly you wish to start with and bring any materials with you that you would like him to check on

Where John Plowman's Bronze group are concerned you should be at a stage where you have **3 copies** of each of the evaluation flies tied, ready for assessment.

To quote from the Bronze syllabus:

" A Bronze level tier must be able to use straightforward materials and techniques to tie a small number of simple flies of a sufficient quality and consistency that they could be shared with friends, i.e. "Flies that Catch", as the title of the syllabus indicates".

The evaluation flies are: Cats Whisker, Dry PTN, Soldier Palmer, Grey Goose Buzzer and Black Pennel.

If you don't feel you are ready for assessment ,bring along the materials for the flies you would like to focus on and we will go from there.

Fly Tying Dates 2026/27

All sessions held at Hurstpierpoint Village Centre, Trinity Road Hurstpierpoint, BN6 9UY

3rd & 17th September 2026

1st & 15th October 2026

5th & 19th November 2026

3rd & 17th December 2026

7th & 21st January 2027

4th & 18th February 2027

4th & 18th March 2027

1st April 2027

2026/7 Subscriptions

Renewal is due from the 1st September 2026. This year please be aware that the membership for our branch is £20, and it should be paid as detailed below.

BACS payments details:

Account name: Fly Dressers Guild Sussex Branch

Sort number: 30-99-50

Account number: 84990168

Reference: <insert name or initials>SUBS26

For those paying by BACS, please drop me a line to alert Andy Wood so he can check monies have been received. Although BACS is the preferred option, members can continue to pay by whatever method they find most convenient

Members will by now be aware that Main Guild subs can no longer be processed by the branch. Main Guild membership is now a completely stand-alone process that utilities the Clubmate system. Full instructions on how to create your Clubmate account were emailed by the Guild on around 13th July.

If you need support in setting up your account, please refer to the same email, which lists the points of contact who can assist.

Disco Biscuits.



At my rather frustrating last outing at Falkenvil, I met a chap called James Gardiner, a colleague of Andy Lush, who fishes for carp and indeed Spanish barbel and salt water species in the height of summer, rather than flogging away for little reward on trout waters. He was being far more successful than me and revealed the pattern which he believes makes a great difference, Fulling Mill's "Disco Biscuit". James kindly gave me one of these as he was leaving, which I promptly lost on what must have been a very hefty fish. James believes that the weight of this fly means it sits more realistically *in* the surface layer consistently, like the dog biscuits it tries to emulate.

I tried to get hold of the outer "furry foam" type material to no effect, so had to use simple felt which is not ideal. To make this more waterproof I bees waxed it and replaced the rather complex method of Antron indicator tying with a simple square of yellow foam glued on (a method I now use on the majority of my carp flies). As you can see from the photos my imitation is not very pretty. However, I've used this fly several times at Spring Barn recently and it has been very successful, getting me well into double figures number wise in a 2 hour session & fooling some of the larger more crafty specimens, the best being a 13 lb Ghostie. One interesting effect of the weight of the fly is that it makes a similar plop on the water as a biscuit, so fish can on occasion be fooled by this and take without as much suspicion, particularly if the fish is cruising. If anyone is interested I can demonstrate it's tying one night but you will need to bring your own superglue.

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Moorhen Trout Fishery

With Moorhen Trout Fishery being closed in July and August due to the high temperatures, it is due to open on the 1st September 2026.