

The Flydressers Guild Sussex Branch



Newsletter

December 2024

Published by the Sussex Branch of the
Flydressers Guild

Chair: Peter Winder 07732024857
Acting Secretary: Alan Wells 07795523608
Treasurer: Bill Black 01323 763807
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

A Merry Christmas

and

Happy New Year

to all my readers

Carp Flies

Regarding carp flies or cork ball/ biscuit flies. As most have discovered, after some time the clever carp susses out that your fly has a hook in it by simply nibbling or feeling with those lovely lips or actually seeing the hook first. Most tyers know how to simply make up one of these offerings so why not try this option? After making up the ball and gluing the hook' flip it over and drill a hole on the opposite side. Then glue in a fishing shot, which if weighted properly will flip the ball upside down to keep the hook out of the fish's sight and touch. I have had a great deal more hookups since testing this version. One just needs to experiment with the weight and the positioning by dropping into a glass of water. The drawing may help to make better sense? Not worked out how to do it with the deer hair version. Yet?

Regards, Howard Dodsley (Howie)



Trophy Day @ Brick Farm

This years Trophy Day was held at Brick Farm in awful weather conditions. The wind was blowing and it rained all day.

It was possibly the worst weather that we have ever fished in. Although plenty of fish had been stocked , they even decided in showing their faces.

The heaviest bag went to Martin Gray with 9lb 9oz. The Runner up was John Plowman with 8lbs. The heaviest fish was caught by John Plowman weighing in at 2lb 14oz. The Runner up was Martin Gray

Albury Estates Fishery update

As the crisp autumn air settles over Albury Estate Fishery, we're excited to bring you the latest updates on our stockings.



Spartic Trout

We have received our first winter stocking of Spartic Trout into the lakes and we will have a further three large stockings throughout the winter.

The Spartics provide a lovely bit of diversity to supplement the quality Rainbow and Brown trout from our fish farm.

The Spartic trout is a cross between brook trout and arctic char and provide great sport during the colder months as well as being really great to eat. The best way to pick them out in the clear water is to look for a vivid white outline to their pectoral fins.

Brass Monkeys' report – Hazel Copse, 17th Nov24

This year's 'Brass Monkeys' outing to Hazel Copse, previously a very popular yearly event, was the first since before the Pandemic. When I first joined the Branch, some eight

years ago, it was so popular that numbers were limited and it was a couple of years before I managed to secure a place. It was, therefore, a little sad to see only five members turn up to fish on Sunday 17th November. We were a little unsure what to expect because it had been so long since we last visited and the fishery doesn't do a particularly good job in advertising its presence. However, the welcome from Monica and her family was very warm indeed and we had been advised that the lakes had been restocked recently. Although it wasn't quite 'Brass Monkey' weather, it felt a good deal cooler than it had been in recent days, bright with a cool northerly breeze.



A lovely day for it

As we walked down to the lakes, we all agreed that the fishery looked a lot tidier than we remembered it previously. I settled into a peg on the top lake, while everyone else opted for the bottom one. Not much happened for me during the first hour, so I decided to join the others on the bottom lake. This proved to be a good call, when after a couple of casts I had a savage take on my weighted orange blob. The fish fought harder than I expected for its apparent modest size. However, once in the net it became apparent that what the fish lacked in length, it made up for in girth. Soon after this, Kieth Verrall on the bank opposite me, took two good fish in quick succession, completing his two fish bag. There was no further action before we stopped for lunch and the weigh in. Keith took the honours for both

largest fish (I don't recall its weight) and heaviest bag at 5lb 10oz, a fine brace of good-looking Rainbows, that had also taken a fancy to orange flies.



I fine looking bunch of men, ready for lunch

We fished on for a while after lunch and the weigh-in on what proved to be a really nice late Autumn Day – cool but bright with some attractive Autumn colour thrown in. I fished the top lake again and was soon into my second fish, another hard fighting Rainbow over the two pound mark. Cliff Brown, who was fishing opposite me, provided a little supplementary entertainment as he voiced his frustration in loosing several fish – at one point I thought he was going to throw his rod into the lake as a fish slipped the hook on the way to the net! However, his perseverance was eventually rewarded and he made his two fish quota.



Keith with his winning brace

We started to drift away mid-afternoon having banked six fish between the five of us. I certainly wouldn't have described it as easy fishing – is it me, or is this increasingly the case recently?

LAKEDOWN CHRISTMAS COMPETITION



CHRISTMAS COMPETITION! Friday 27th December 9am-2pm. £50 entry for 3 fish and a beer. Three chances to win with Prizes for Biggest Fish, Heaviest Bag and quickest to bag up!! Just buy a 3 fish ticket here on catch or leave your name in the book at the lodge or email lakedowntroutfishery@gmail.com or call 07502257428 / 01435883449 to enter!