

RUTLAND WATER FLY FISHERS

Affiliated to Federation of Midland Fly Fishers (Anglia) & A.C.A

Chairman

Mr. J. Maitland
7 St Albans Close
Oakham
Rutland
LE15 6EW

Secretary

Mr. J. Wadham
6 Mendip Road
Oakham
Rutland
LE15 6NN

Treasurer

Mr. P. Wild
35 Tennyson way
Stamford
Lincs
PE9 2GZ

Tel 01572 756650

Tel 01572 771092

Tel 01780 757853

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER 1997

Dear Member,

Fly Tying Evening Tuesday January 6th 1998

Just a line to inform you that the first function in the 1997/98 Winter season is the Fly Tying Evening on Tuesday January 6th 1998. This will be in the Large room at the Victoria Hall, Oakham commencing at 7.30pm. There will be four fly tiers deployed as follows:-

Trevor Ashby - "Clever Trevor" of Sky Sports T.V. fame and of course one of our members.

Dave Doherty - Buzzers including "varnished" ones

John Maitland - "Tinies"

Nigel Savage - Floating Fry and other related patterns

These chaps have agreed to start things going. We have many very skilled fly tiers in the club so any one else is welcome to bring along their kit and demonstrate their skills and give some insight into how to fish their special patterns. The Secretary will therefore put his equipment out for any one to use.

Food will be provided in the interval at about 9.00pm. This will have been supplied by the Committee out of their own pockets.

The function will be in the form of a social evening. So you can just wander around as you please. It is a good excuse for a natter as a change from having to listen to a speaker in silence.

Fly Tying Course Normanton Fishing Lodge - Beginning Sunday 11th January 1000- 1200 noon for nine weeks -

The instructor will be Trevor Ashby (STANIC) who will help you enjoy experience the joy of catching fish on flies tied by yourself. The total cost of the course is £30 --00. Further details from Trevor on 01780 686441

Jon Beer Tuesday 20th January 7.30 pm - Victoria Hall

On Tuesday January 20th we will be welcoming Jon who is a well known contributor to Trout & Salmon and he will be giving us the benefit of his knowledge on fly fishing in tiny streams and other watercourses for a variety of species. He emphasised, as did all the rest of this Winter's speakers, that the rivers and still waters he will be "visiting" during his talk are all available to "Joe Public" at a reasonable fee. Jon has fished very widely and in some very wild places so there should be quite a variety in his approach and should appeal to all of us in some measure.

Competition Meeting Tuesday January 27th 1998

This will be held at 7.30pm in the small room downstairs when, in addition to other business, we hope to be able to appoint a club Captain. Sean Cutting has very kindly offered his services for what, to those who don't know, is a very demanding and time consuming task. There is no one in the club more capable of doing the job being possessed of the know how and having the technology. In order for Sean to be able to co-ordinate the events we need to back him up and help out where ever possible. We all wish him well in the job. He can count on the whole hearted support of the committee and hopefully the club membership.

The secretary will be taking the minutes of the meeting and these will be circulated to members.

Winter Fishing

This got off to a flying start with some rises more akin to June. The main diet then was a tiny buzzer and sticklebacks. They now appear mainly to be feeding on sticklebacks and corixa. The fishing seems to have slowed up considerably since the publication of the last newsletter! This could be attributed to the rapid rise in water level.

The source rivers are still carrying a lot of "extra" water despite the absence of consequential rain for some days. The land is now sufficiently saturated such that even moderate falls of rain soon get into the river and raise levels sufficiently for pumping to continue. The water has now risen about four to five feet. In some places, e.g. Burley, this has meant a lateral rise of some 40 or 50 metres. So it is possible that, until the water rises into the vegetation, the fish may continue to feed that distance from the shore. So best fish somewhere with steep banks where you can still reach the feeding zones .E.g. Sykes Monument/Stockie Bay/Whitwell Creek/Dam Wall/Carrot Creek. Or, hope that they will come in to feed over the newly flooded land before December 31st!

Rutland Fur & Feather Sunday December 14th 1997.

As per last year, we were blessed with perfect winter fishing weather for this event. For much of the day the water was like glass and if you were out of the occasional light zephyrs seemed quite warm. 101 anglers caught some 70 fish. This was a tremendous surprise as the lake seemed to have gone to sleep. One was trying to find a reason for this. Had the water come up too far and put the fish out of range? Where fish were dependent on feeding around weed beds then, yes they could be hard to cover. However, as we expressed the hope in the last newsletter, in quite a number of places, fish had evidently come in to graze on the sticklebacks which had sought food and shelter in the newly submerged thistles and other vegetation. There was a good hatch of tiny buzzers on the day which must have attracted the sticklebacks up to the surface which were then plundered by the Trout.

Numerous perfect silver Browns were caught and returned - especially in Barnhill Creek and Sykes Lane. Some tremendous Rainbows were caught and lost. The best specimen landed being one of 6lb 12 ¾ oz caught by Mr.C.Wilkins. This single fish gave him fifth place. The winner again was Bill McCargh from Leicester F.F.A. with 4 mint conditioned fish up to 3lb 10oz. He fished in Hambleton Wood with the Secretary and we were at "deuce" then he caught his best fish - "advantage McCargh"! Well done him! R.W.F.F.'s Terry Oliver of "Oliver Cup" fame was a close second with only 3 fish for a magnificent 10lb 3oz including a 4lb 10oz specimen. He reported losing other good fish. He fished between Armley Wood and Carrot Creek and in common with many others saw many large fish chasing fry, albeit mainly out of range.. In sixth place was fourteen year old Simon Stevens from Bury St Edmunds and "boy" could he cast! He was just ahead of Brian Thomas and the Secretary. As you can see from the results our members featured well among the leaders. Well done chaps. Many other members took part and caught their share of fish.

The "hot pot" which was most welcome was prepared for the event in the Normanton Park Hotel kitchens and brought to the lodge in "cauldrons"! Our Chairman paid tribute to Jon Marshall, his wife Jane and her sister Sandra and all those who helped make the event such a success. In conclusion it was a wonderful day out in perfect weather and good company. Roll on 1998!

Here are the magnificent seven!

Bill McCargh	4 Fish	11lb	3 1/4 oz
Terry Oliver	3 Fish	10lb	3oz
Pat Faulkner	3 Fish	7lb	8oz
N.Osborne	3 Fish	7lb	0 3/4 oz
C.Wilkins	1 Fish	6lb	12 3/4oz
S.Stevens	3 Fish	6lb	8oz
B Thomas	3 Fish	6lb	1 1/4oz

Membership Subscriptions

I know its Christmas and its all spend, but the Treasurer has only so far received 45 renewals for 1997/98. Please get these in as soon as possible so as to save the Secretary & Treasurer a lot of extra work. An individual reminder will be sent with the January 28th Newsletter. Those unpaid by the 24th February - deadline for the February Newsletter will be deemed to have resigned and will receive no further publications. The membership cards are now at the printers and will be available for the January 6th Meeting. The secretary apologises to any one who for what ever reason has not received Newsletters. If at any time you have not received one please contact me.

Speakers for the rest of the Winter season:

Tuesday February 3rd - Pat O'Reilley who will be talking to us about Sea Trout & Wild Brown trout fishing in Wales and other places accessible to the common man.

Tuesday 17th February- Paul Canning who, having fished all the major still water fisheries, will be making some very interesting comparisons in the way they fish.

Tuesday 3rd March - Bill Pennington from Lancashire will be discussing with slides the fishing available in the Lake District. Quite an eye opener this.

Wishing you all a happy and healthy Christmas

Yours Sincerely

John Wadham - Hon Secretary