



# St Michael



# FLYFISHERS

LECHLADE MATCH REPORT 12<sup>th</sup> FEB 2022



## DAY CAPTAIN'S MATCH REPORT

The level of excitement in returning to fish at Lechlade after a three-year absence due to storms and Covid-19 was very apparent and evidenced by the number of vehicles already parked at the fishery entrance on my arrival at 7.15 am. Talk of huge fish and similarly sized breakfasts was in the air!

After a bank-side photograph and short briefing, fishing started in earnest at 8.45 am with everyone disappearing to their allotted zones around the lake. The first part of the morning comprised fishing three different zones and it soon became apparent that it was not going to be an easy day. When the long-awaited breakfast horn sounded at 10.30 am, only a handful of fish had been caught however what they lacked in numbers, they made up for in their sheer quality and size.

Breakfast was something else! Piping hot and cooked to perfection, it went down well with everyone present and our grateful thanks must go to Charlotte and her team of sous chefs for such a splendid meal.

Suitably refreshed, fishing re-started at 11.30 am with everyone making their way around the lake on a free roaming basis for the rest of the day. Three boats were also available for five 45-minute sessions and a number of members took the opportunity to get afloat. The well-founded expectation that the boats would do well was soon dispelled as not one fish was taken by those afloat. Throughout the morning, there was little evidence of any surface activity and the fishing had become a significant challenge for everyone.

And so, it was for the rest of the day.

Notwithstanding that only 25 fish were caught, they were of exceptional quality and size. The weigh-in at 3.30 pm was an interesting exercise given the weight and size of the fish presented at the scales.

The total weight of fish caught was an eye watering 261lbs 11oz, with the heaviest bag recorded by Dave Broome at 39lbs. The best fish, a Rainbow of 18lbs 2oz, was taken by Bez Sahami with Vic Holloway weighing in a cracking Brown of 16lbs 12oz. The day ended with the results being announced by Michael, prizes presented, and raffle completed.

In closing this report, thanks must also be recorded to Charlotte and her team, not only for the breakfast as already mentioned, but also for the quality of fish available and the joy of fishing such a well-maintained venue.

Special thanks should also go to Andrew who spent much of the day, walking around the lake talking to everyone he met with friendly advice and fly recommendations. This level of attention is very welcome particularly on our days when one is tempted to chuck the fly box into the water and let the fish choose which fly to take!

One final reflection at the end of a day when for reasons unknown, perhaps due to wind direction, atmospheric pressure, air/water temperature, cloud cover or lack thereof (who knows – I'm not a fish psychologist), a considerable number of fish appeared to be shoaled up in one particular bay. It is on such occasions that one really appreciates the time-honoured tradition of our small group of likeminded fisherfolk who, having caught a fish in one area of the lake, move to another area leaving an opportunity open for other "sisters and brothers of the art" yet to catch a fish, have a cast, and the pleasure of a fish in that bay. Long may our Club ethos of good sportsmanship prevail.

**Dave Martin** (Day Captain)



# SECRETARYS REPORT

It was a great turn out at Lechlade for our first outing of the year, it was good to see everyone. My thanks to Dave Martin for being day captain, and his excellent report in this newsletter. At this point may I please remind all members to uphold our ethos of good sportsmanship, and give those whom had not caught a fish, the opportunity of fishing in the hot spots.

We were pleased to welcome new member Summer de Graffham, and hope she enjoys her first season with us. Following the decision taken at our AGM to offer associate membership to past members wives and partners, both Lou Fine, and Gary Dee have taken this up. Welcome to both of them. It was good also to see Ian Smith back out with us following his recent operation.

Bill Berloth has kindly printed the 2022 Membership cards, they will be available at our next outing at Avon Springs on 12<sup>th</sup> March, which by the way is now fully subscribed.

**I will be emailing the final arrangements at the end of February as I shall be away for this outing. Please contact Tom on 07792 098167 or email: [liztom@btinternet.com](mailto:liztom@btinternet.com), from 1<sup>st</sup> March if for any reason you can't come, we can then offer any places to other members**

**Michael Littlestone** Hon Secretary



## A Little Tip

Sometimes no matter what flies you try, what depth you fish or what speed of retrieve you use, you just can't persuade the trout to take a moving fly. This seems to be especially common when it's very warm or very cold.

If you struggle to get a bite, it's always worth trying to fish your flies almost static to see if this attracts any attention. Snip off your old fly, tie on something new like a blob, squirmy wormy, egg fly, buzzer. Sometimes it's just the thing to induce a take. You might try attaching a strike indicator a few feet up the line and cast it out. This means you can have a sit down and rest your arm.



Next Outing  
Avon Springs  
12<sup>th</sup> March



## Lechlade Results and Winners

### Dave Broome:

Three fish with the top weight  
of 39lb 0oz. Wins a trophy

### Tom Smith:

The best Brown of the day  
13lb 8oz, wins a fly box.

*(There was a slight mix up at the weigh in.  
Vic Holloway had the best brown  
@ 16lb 12oz)*

### Bez Sahami:

The best Rainbow of the day  
18lb 12oz, wins a fly box.

## Lucky Draw Raffle

**Bill Berloth:** Day ticket for Lechlade

**Steve Argent:** Travel expenses £30.00

**Joe Tufo:** A bottle of wine

Total No of anglers 26

Total number of fish caught 25

# GALLERY



# GALLERY



You must visit the SMFF web site to see these and more of Joe's great photo's in more detail

