



# St Michael Fly Fishers



Day Captain's Report

Chalk Springs September 2017

## Day Captain Joe Tufo

The bright sunny morning started with a wonderful hearty breakfast at the Swan Hotel, we then adjourned to the fishery where the conditions continued to be very bright and sunny with a temperature of 14-17C and little or no wind. As this is a very secluded venue with gin clear water it was important to spread the fish caught around all the members, to that end we decided to split the venue into 3 zones with six moves in total through to lunch at 1pm.

The morning it was extremely difficult unless you were Peter Burdett with his trusty "Snake Fly" with eight members including myself who all blanked during the morning sessions. The morning saw a number of different flies used to good effect including the trusty Blue Flash Damsel, Stalking bugs, Fritz and GRHE's. I used all of the above and found a number of follows but not a single take or tug of the line. I was particularly disappointed to find that a certain member had chosen to ignore or "misunderstand" the instructions written out and given in the briefing that it was to be catch and release after lunch at 2pm!

Overall the weather stayed fine which when bright pushed the fish down, with very little wind there was no ripple so the fish were all very visible and would look at the presented flies often showing no interest. In hindsight it may be due to the new catch and release policy that the fish in the lakes had already been caught before and were therefore shy of the flies presented. I wondered if any members that caught fish found any evidence that they had perhaps been already caught?

In summary, Four of our party including myself blanked, 3 others caught a single fish with Paul Hayes being one of them but with his fish of 4lb 6oz he took home the prize for the best fish of the day. Peter Burdett one of only three including John Huntley and Jugs caught their full bag of 4 fish. Peter's bag weighing in at 13lb took the prize for the best overall weight winning him a day ticket back to Chalk Springs. A number of members commented on the quality of the fish it was great to see a wide variety of Blue and Golden trout, these were interspersed particularly on the north lake but the

trout were suffering with stress as a result of the unseasonably warm conditions across the South East.

Chalk Springs was chosen for the first venue after the summer break as being spring fed it usually holds up better. I was advised that Lechlade and Bushylease have been closed until further notice as a result of the high water temperature. I would be grateful to the members for some feedback as to whether we should avoid September altogether and perhaps start or finish the season a little later and or earlier?



Plenty of fish, but not easy to catch.

Photo taken from under a tree in South Lake.

Joe Tufo - September 16<sup>th</sup> 2017



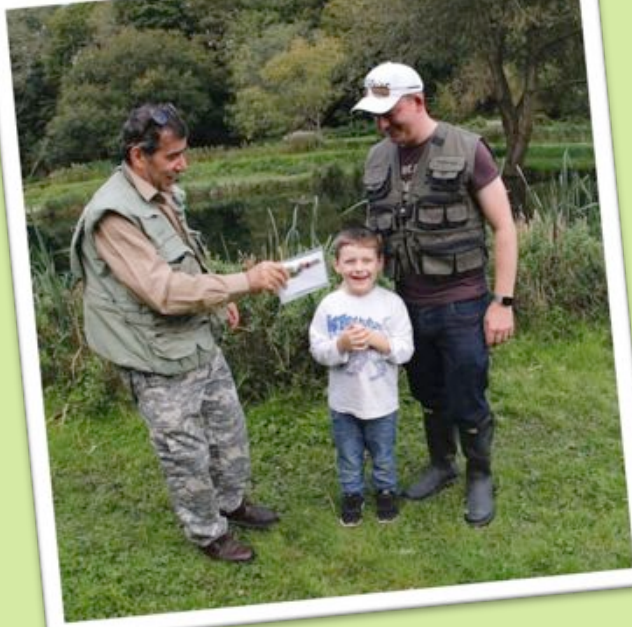


## St Michael Fly Fishers Match Report

### **NEXT OUTING**

**Meon Springs 14<sup>th</sup> October**

**Full details to follow**



### **END OF DAY RESULTS**

#### **CHALK SPRINGS**

**Winner: Best bag ....**

**Peter Burdett 4 fish @ 13lbs 0oz**

**Best fish of the day ..**

**Paul Hayes fish @ 4lbs 6oz**

**Total number of anglers 14**

**Total Number of fish caught 23**





# GALLERY

