

ST MICHAEL FLY FISHERS

NEWSLETTER

*LECHLADE & OUR AGM
Sat 12th December 2015*



HON SEC GIVING THE BRIEFING

**WE WISH YOU ALL A VERY HAPPY
CHRISTMAS**

AND A HEALTHY NEW YEAR

ISSUE 7 DECEMBER 2015

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REPORT

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HIGHLIGHTS OF THE DAY



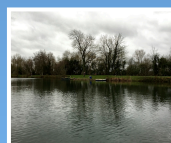
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SEE LAST PAGE FOR OUR NEXT
OUTING

SECRETARYS REPORT OF THE DAY

I can remember last year's outing, freezing cold. What a change this year, Spring like temperatures, pouring rain on the way to Lechlade, giving way to a mainly dry day, even some weak sunshine, then later on a strong wind. However 21 members, and 2 guests came along to enjoy a relaxed non-competition **NO PRESSURE** days fishing. All looking forward to the chance of catching their limit, and hopefully some good doubles. It proved to be a frustrating day for most, some good Rainbows were caught, including 5 doubles, the best a 10lb 9oz by Brain Maguire, who was awarded for his efforts with a nice bottle of Port for a Christmas tippie. In total 32 fish were caught. There were 2 limit bags by David Broome, and Martin Eastment. 3 fish each for Bill Berloth, and Richard Harrison, five 2 fish bags, eight catching just one fish, and five blanks, including myself, and our Chairman. As Tim Small said we really need a good cold snap, which will really get the fish on the move, and the Browns coming to the fly. Lets hope when we go back for our fun day on 2nd January it will happen. I will be e- mailing those whom have said they will be attending in the next few days.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE DAY

1. A GOOD TURNOUT 23 OF US
2. MIKE STEPHENS LOVELY 8LB BROWN
3. GREAT BREAKFAST AT 10.30
4. A NEW BRIDGE TO THE ISLAND, THE OLD FERRY WITH THE ROPE THAT HURT YOUR HANDS GONE.
5. BEST FISH OF THE DAY 10LB 9OZ BRIAN MAGUIRE
6. A NICE QUICK AGM WHIST SCOFFING DOWN A TEA OF HOME MADE SCONES WITH CLOTTED CREAM AND JAM, AND DELICIOUS CAKES.
7. A MORE ACCEPTABLE SECRET SANTA RAFFLE THOUGH ONE OR TWO GIFTS WERE A BIT MEAN CONSIDERING WE ASKED YOU TO SPEND BETWEEN £10 and £15.
8. WELL LOOKED AFTER BY THE LECHLADE CREW



IAN SMITH

WITH A NICE
RAINBOW OF 8LB 9OZ

MR CHAIRMAN



*Looking happy despite blanking. Lost
your touch George!!*

NICE ONE JOE



10lb 2ozs



SECRETARY'S REPORT 2015 SEASON

As another season draws to a close I would say we have had a pretty good one. We started the year with our fun day at Lechlade in January with members from Croxley, and the John Lewis club and had a great day.

Then followed seven competition events, culminating today with a more relaxed no pressure, **well maybe for some of us**, day. I wrote this report yesterday so I am presuming it has been a good one?

We introduced a handicap system to give more members the chance of winning an award, more about that later, and I will explain how it was done. Now a few facts and figures. We have 31 members, 27 of whom have attended venues. Average attendance by members was 20, and in some cases a few guests joined us to help make up numbers to ensure we had exclusive use of the fishery. We caught a total of 392 fish weighing 1,448 lbs. Only 2 members Kevin and myself attended every venue.

It was regrettable we had for, the second year, to cancel the Pairs Competition due to lack of support. So next season the pair's competition will be held at John O Gaunt where we will pair the top 10 or twelve anglers with the less skilled 10 or twelve anglers. As everybody normally bags up it will make for a very interesting day, and it will mean the John Fuller Trophy will be awarded. We will also award a prize for the best individual bag, and the biggest fish.

I hope you have all enjoyed the newsletters posted on the web site, maybe not quite up to the standard of Bill Berloth's, but I am still learning, and they will get better **PROMISE**. I would however ask you to make more use of the forum section by adding your comments after each venue. Positive comments, and criticism are welcome. It will help your committee to do a better job for everyone. We do need to make more use of it.

My thanks to my fellow committee members whom I speak to on a very regular basis, to everyone who assisted me at the weigh ins, to Joe and others who took some great photos, and to all of you who have helped me to do my job as your Secretary which I have thoroughly enjoyed.

May I take this opportunity of wishing you all a great Christmas, a Healthy and Prosperous New Year, and very tight lines in 2016.

Michael Littlestone



Ian Smith presented with a bottle of malt. Now standing down from the committee after many years.



Above. David Broome most fish during the season caught 26.

Martin's award for biggest bag at any venue 33lbs 11oz Lechlade February 2105



Your Hon Sec two awards, one for best fish 11lbs 13ozs at Meon and the Handicap Trophy. It was not a fix HONEST



Brain Maguire best fish of the day 10lb 9oz Rainbow



Left Mike Stephens with a nice pair (Fish of course)

Sincere thanks to Tim Small for presenting the prizes at our AGM. We also say thanks to him, and his crew for always supporting us, and making us feel so welcome at Lechlade.

SMFF CHAIRMANS REPORT 2015

I will make this brief, and deal with key elements that helped the club progress over the year.

But before I start I would like to thank Ian Smith for his help and dedication as a member of the committee , Ian is stepping down after this event .

Lets not forget Mike, Kevin, Joe, and Mike. For all the work they have put over the past year.

Geoff Brooks, Mike Littlestone, Ian Smith and myself put a proposal together to bring the club into the twenty first century.

The development of our web site has opened our eyes to new opportunities, our site has been given a lot of praise, and most people rate it as one of the best club sites they have seen.

We have just produced a small advertisement to try to attract more members, it will appear in Trout Fisherman and Trout & Salmon during Feb & Mar issues.

The Presidents day at Bushylease will continue with the help of Angus Campbell.

Fourteen youngsters fished the venue with different amounts of skill; most rewarding was to see the amount of enjoyment that some of the disadvantaged children received taking them out of their protected home environment. The help we received from Tim Small was very generous

One of the lost opportunities we were offered was to fish the Windrush during he dry fly season. This would have been at a cost of a lunch, I would encourage those willing to spend a few days away to make other members aware of their plans.

Other plans are being progressed to possibly visit Scotland, Wales and Midland Reservoirs

The two new venues that we introduced tis year were extremely successful, Meon Springs & Duncton Mills both were well received and we will be revisiting them again next year.

Talks continue with retailers to agree discounts, we will let you know in the next newsletter

Our trophies have been reduced, but Michael has decided on a very interesting set of rules, this has allowed a long established member to be the first winner!!!

I wish you all a very happy Christmas and a healthy New Year

George Wilding

Chairman

SMFF TREASURER'S REPORT 2015

Third year in the job & I can report that we have nothing left in the kitty. I spent it all on wine women & song & wasted the rest

We have attended 9 venues this year including Farnmoor, which no one attended (so lost no money there then!).

We have lost a few old members from last year but thanks to sterling work from the committee we have added a few new members, so our membership has increased from 29 to 31.

Our average attendance was 20 members (up from 18 last year so good news there).

The members not attending at least 3 venues dropped to 4 from 9 last year. This included 2 members who never attended any events (thanks for the sub's) & Carl Bolding who unfortunately became incapacitated during the year & we wish him well.

Notwithstanding this the accounts are looking in a very healthy condition thanks in no small measure to the raffle which has been nobly run by Mike L. Members regularly assist by donating raffle prizes & I thank them for that

We have once again contributed to Kids Fishing day at Busheyleaze, which again turned out to be a successful adventure with the kids catching 14 fish.

At the end of the year, we will be looking at just circa £2,300 in the account, which is not bad as we started with under £2,000.

This includes subsidising events at Busheyleaze, & Dever together with today's AGM.

Sub's therefore will remain at an inflation busting £45 for another year.

Kevin Doherty

Hon Treasurer

SMFF FINAL VENUE LIST FOR 2016

SAT Jan 2nd Lechlade Fun Day

SAT Feb 27th Lechlade

SAT Mar 12th Duncton Mill

SAT Apr 9th Avon Springs

SAT May 7th Bushyleaze with the kids

SAT June 11th Meon Springs

FRID July 8th Sea Fishing Lymington

SAT July 9th John O Gaunt Pairs Competition

FRID SEPT 16th Sea Fishing Brighton

SAT Sept 17th Chalk Springs

SAT Oct 15th Avon Springs

SAT Nov 12th Dever Springs

SAT 10th Dec Lechlade and AGM

YOUR OFFICERS and COMMITTEE FOR 2016

Chairman George Wilding

Vice Chairman Mike Stephens

Hon Secretary Michael Littlestone

Hon Treasurer Kevin Doherty

Committee Joe Tufo and Andy Nash

Next Event Lechlade Sat 2nd January 2016



Fancy catching one like this

No need to tell you about this fishery.

At this time of the year there are plenty of big doubles for you to catch both Rainbows and Browns

BREAKFAST AT 10.30

In the Lodge

Meet at the fishery by 8am. **Please all pay individually at the office.** Tackle up and make your way to the lodge, and grab a tea, coffee and biscuit. We will aim to start around 9am. Go where you like, but after you catch a fish please move at least 100yds so everyone has a chance to get his or her limit. Breakfast will be at 10.30. After breakfast it will be free roaming, and the boats will be available, so don't forget your life jackets. This is a non-competition day, however we might find a prize for the biggest fish. If it turns cold Michael's Soup Kitchen will operate.

Cost for the day will £61.50 for a 4 fish ticket, breakfast, and soup.