

MARCH 2017

Day Captain: Joe Tufo



St Michael Fly Fishers Match Report

DUNCTON MILL

DAY CAPTAIN'S REPORT

The day started cloudy and grey with an unseasonably warm temperature of about 11C. This rose, once the sun broke through late morning to about 16C ! I was accompanied for the first time in 6 months by our honourable Treasurer Kevin Doherty who is about to start his Chemotherapy and was looking forward to seeing you all and grabbing some fresh air. He was very warmly welcomed by everyone and we all wish him a successful recovery.

With 21 attending I wanted to ensure that everyone got a try on all of the lakes (with the exception of the smaller Alder). To that end I decided to split the fishery into 4 zones Birch Rosie 1, Rosie 2 and Coot with three zones before hearty breakfast in the club house. Fishing commenced at 8.30 with a move every 40 minutes. We had been advised by Martin Fleetwood (Fishery Manager) that most of the fish that had been spooned were full of buzzers and this was quickly established by many who caught on a variety of flies from Montana's to Hares ears and Dawl Bachs. Whilst the fish were not particularly large they were beautifully formed with large shovel tails and a beautiful bar of silver colour. Most of the fish were caught in water of at least 3 foot deep.

We adjourned for breakfast at 10.30 with almost 2 dozen fish having been caught. Most anglers fished with floating lines (having heavy flies and long leaders) although a number including myself, used intermediate/sinking tips or Full Hi'd lines. I used a full HiD fast sink line in the hope of catching an elusive Char, for which I failed. I did bag four lovely small Rainbows, all with great tails, that fought harder in some cases than some of the much larger specimens at our last outing to Lechlade. I tried various flies, but found with a floating single fly and most successfully a small green and black.

After breakfast, we all went back out for a further zone, which after 40 minutes was followed by free roaming. We were grateful to Martin and his wife Caroline for a very good breakfast and wonderful homemade cakes.

CONT on Page 2



VIC TAKES A DIP

There is always one!!

For those less active of us it was a bit of a shock to hear of Vic Holoway's method of attracting fish to his fly. It seems that Vic had an idea that if he got in among them he might see the movement of his fly in the water more clearly, so in an effort to improve his presentation he took a dip in the deepest spot, luckily he managed to scramble out with just the loss of his glasses and dignity.

This being our best value fishing on this year's calendar at just £45 for fishing with breakfast and afternoon tea and cakes was very well received by the members I spoke to. We do need your constructive comments so that we can ensure we offer not only good value, but a good days fishing. Martin has suggested that during this year he will no longer stock char, but instead novelty species of Tiger and Blue Trout, Char being a cold and deep water fish, which by the afternoon temperatures of just under 18C air and 9C water were not going to be easy.

At the briefing, apologies for not having the forms highlighted in advance, I mentioned that this being our 30th Anniversary year we will try to offer much better prizes. Thanks to everyone for their contribution to the raffle which helps us to do this more often. The biggest bag was won by "Jugs" who took away a day ticket,

Brian Bloom won the biggest fish prize that would otherwise have also gone to Jugs for a 5lb 6oz fish. To be fairer to those that do not always win the prizes we have started to introduce a secret weight prize chosen by Martin this week at 5lb 4oz this £20 prize was won by David Toogood.

We look forward to seeing you again the week before Easter at Avon Springs on April 8th.

Joe Tufo

Day Captain

End of day results DUNCTON MILLS

**Winner Best bag of the day Jugs ...
4 fish 10lbs 6 oz**

Jugs also had the biggest fish at 5lbs 6oz but rules state that he can not take both prizes.

Biggest FishBrian Bloom 2lbs 7oz

Secret weight David Toogood @ 5lbs

Number of anglers 21 Number of fish caught 61

SECRETARY's REPORT

As Joe mentioned in his day captain's report we were delighted to see Kevin at Duncton Mill, and although he did not fish we all had a chance to chat with him, and wish him well as he begins his treatment. He also won a 7wt line in the raffle. Our best wishes also to Dave Broome who is recuperating following his operation. He hopes to be at Avon Springs.

Avon Springs Saturday 8th April. 24 members have either paid deposits, or advised they will be attending. I regret at this time no further spaces are available. I will be sending out an email with the list of attendees a week before, and should anyone drop out I will let you know.

May I remind you your licences are due for renewal on April 1st. There is a price increase for the first time since 2010, and the fee is now £30, £20 for over 65, or you hold a Blue Badge. The other advantage is now the licence will be valid for 12 months from the date of purchase. Junior licences for children between the ages of 12 – 16 are now free, but they need to have one.

Bushyleaze Family Day May 13th together with Croxley Green Fly Fishers. To date 16 members have either paid a deposit, or recently let me know they will attend. I will know about the Croxley numbers in a couple of weeks.

As part of our 30th Anniversary year we invite your family members to join us, wives, girlfriends, sons, daughters, grandchildren etc. We will have use of the stock pond at Lechlade for those who have not fished before, not only for the youngsters. We will also provide a BBQ lunch with all the trimmings. It will be a great day, and a lot of fun, but we need you to fully support it by coming along. Please let me know as soon as possible you can come. I will be sending out further details from time to time.

Michael Littlestone

Club Secretary





St MICHAEL FLY FISHERS Birthday Celebrations

Congratulations are in order for our oldest member, Eddie Edwards (*pictured*) who recently celebrated his 94th Birthday. Congratulations also go to Carl Bolding, and our Hon Secretary Michael Littlestone both of whom were 70 this month.

Mere youngsters compared to Eddie.