



St Michael Fly Fishers

# MATCH REPORT

LECHLADE

December 10<sup>th</sup> 2016

Day Captain Joe Tufo

## Day Captains Report

In eager anticipation of our last outing of 2016 most anglers arrived at Lechlade in the dark, some before 7.30am, the car park can get a bit busy but it was still dry when we arrived! The water temperature, we were advised was just under 7°C with the air temperature at 11°C, so conditions were set well for what should have been a plentiful days fishing.

We set off at 8.30 after a short briefing, fishing three zones with 35minutes per zone prior to stopping for a hearty breakfast at 10.30. The light rain started just after 10 so we were pleased for a brief respite over a great breakfast. In the first session, a number of good fish were caught mostly by the boat jetty and in front of the house in the small lake. Once again there did not seem to be a common denominator for the most popular catching flies, through the day these ranged from Cats Whiskers, Blue Flash Damsels, Silver & Black lures a variety of Black Damsels and Minkies plus Black & Green. I had a frustrating time after catching my fish, a 9lb 9oz rainbow on a silver and black lure, having drawn a blank through the remainder of the session and before going out on the boat I chose a Black Minkie style lure with a bright yellow luminous bead, by this time the rain had set in and was dark and overcast. On the first cast with the fly and just after starting a retrieve I had my biggest hit of the day it had my adrenaline flowing for 2 seconds, but the fly and the leader tip was smashed off, a rookie mistake not spotting a wind knot, in spite of there being no wind! It was a tough day as the rain became progressively heavier, but still no wind,

On the boats after breakfast there were mixed fortunes, Bez and our honourable Chairman did well with three fish including two doubles, others fared better from the bank including Vic Holloway with a wonderful 9lb 8oz brownie for a bag of 33lb 12oz for his four fish. Only four members bagged up including Mike Stephens with a 11lb 9oz double (bag total 34lbs) just beaten to the biggest fish by Dave Newman who caught just the one fish, but a cracking 12lb 13oz. The winner on the day was once again our most consistent angler David Broome for a bag of 36lb 12oz. It was a day of mixed fortunes as many members caught fish. a total of 44 fish recorded weighting 367lbs for an average weight of 8lb 6oz!

As we are trying to share the prizes at each event, we have now introduced a secret weight prize in addition to the biggest bag and largest fish and this was won by our newest member Matt Vice for a two fish bag of 19lb 15oz.

Well done to everyone on what was a tough day with the cold and damp, it was I feel the case that the falling pressure was enough to turn a lot of the fish off, as the fish were very much in abundance on the day.

Have a wonderful Christmas and tightlines for the New Year see you at Lechlade on February 25<sup>th</sup>.

*Joe Tufo*



**A Famous Big Fish water**



# TRIBUTE TO GEORGE WILDING

This tribute was written by Michael Stephens and read out at the AGM. It demonstrates the affection and respect that the club members both past and present held for George.

This season was overshadowed by the death in May of our Chairman George Wilding. George was very much a champion for the club and was always looking for ways to increase our membership and get the best for the club in any way he could. He has been and will continue to be sorely missed.

Certainly without George the average size of fly used in our competitions fell by at least two hook sizes.

Although he felt compelled to use flies that were marginally smaller than the fish he caught, something he was ribbed mercilessly for, he was remarkably consistent over the years in rarely blanking at an outing. Proving to George at least that is was the size of your fly that mattered not the way you used it.

There was some who felt that the club might not survive without George as its linchpin. They were wrong because his legacy has been a strong foundation that we have been able to build upon to ensure the club continues to thrive. This to me is the sign of a true Chairman and leader.

So please join me in raising a cup to George to thank him for his work and enthusiasm that has allowed the club to continue after him.



## End of day results LECHLADE

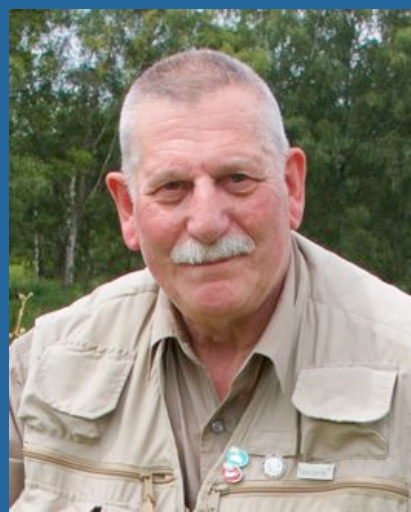
**Winner: Best bag ....**

**Dave Broome 4 fish @ 36lbs 12oz**



**Winner: Biggest Fish...**

**Dave Newman fish @ 12bs 13oz**



**Total number of anglers 24    Total Number of fish caught 44**

# THIS SEASONS WINNERS AND THANKS GO TO.....



All Smiles ..... Dave Broome with Barbara Wilding



**Martin Eastment.**  
**THE LITTLESTONE ROSE BOWL. BEST BAG AT ANY VENUE.**  
For the second year running with 29.56 lbs on our first outing to Lechlade last February.



**DAVE BROOME.**  
**THE MEMBERS TROPHY TOP WEIGHT FOR THE SEASON.**  
Total 123.64 lbs netted down to 108.64 lbs.  
**HILTON CHALLENGE TROPHY**  
For the most fish during the season, total of 38 fish.



**DAVE BROOME**  
Best Bag on the day receives 4 fish Lechlade day ticket



**DAVE NEWMAN & VIC HOLLOWAY**  
**THE JOHN FULLER PAIRS TROPHY.**  
A combined weight of 22.81 lbs at John O'Gaunt.

# THIS SEASONS WINNERS AND THANKS GO TO.... Cont.



**Peter Burdett.**  
SPECIAL AWARD TROPHY. BIGGEST FISH OF THE SEASON.  
A lovely fish weighing 11lbs 2 oz at Lechlade.



Tim Small.... Services to St Michael Fly Fishers



Matt Vice takes the Secret Weight prize



Michael with a misplaced photo during his presentation of photo's of George to George's Family

**RICHARD HARRISON**  
THE MOST CONSISTANT ANGLER not previously in the top 10. He came fourth overall, He was in America so not able to receive his trophy today.



**MICHAEL** receives the THE MOST CONSISTANT ANGLER TROPHY on behalf of ....Richard Harrison.

**DAVID TOOGOOD**  
THE GEORGE WILDING MEMORIAL AWARD .  
For the biggest fish at Meon Springs 3.81lbs on a large George Wilding Budgerigar fly.  
(Sorry but no photo)





# AGM CHAIRMANS REPORT



## SMFF Chair's Report 2016

Keeping with tradition I will keep this brief and touch on the highlights and lowlights of our year. First of all I must thank the committee for their support over the season. I had the unenviable task of stepping into the Chairman's waders when George became ill. I initially believed that it would be a temporary position. It was a blow to us all when George finally handed in his portfolio as Chair to the Club, fellow fisherman and friend to us all.

I did not step into this breach alone and must thank the Committee especially Mike, our Secretary and Kevin, our Treasurer. Unfortunately Kevin cannot be with us due to illness so I'll take the opportunity of wishing him a speedy recovery.

The web site has been a great success and this is largely down to Joe who spent a lot of effort persuading the more conservative members of the club the benefits of such a technological marvel. We have not totally embraced the likes of Face Tube and Twit Book yet but we will get there.

Our venues this year have all been successful outings, at least for Dave Broome anyway. We brought Meon Springs and Duncton Mill onto the rota last year and they were so successful we decided to go for them again and they did not disappoint. Our trips to Lechlade have produced huge hauls of fish and there is no doubt in my mind that Tim and his team give us the best value in terms of quality of fish and hospitality we could possibly wish for. Thank you Tim.

We continue to receive discounts from fishing tackle retailers and even in the depth of Wales this summer Bez and I received our 10% discount from the Sportfish warehouse. We introduced a handicap system this year, mainly to ensure that some of us may have stood a chance against Dave Broome. It did of course fail miserably and Dave remains unassailable at the top of the ladder. This just provides another challenge for the Committee to come up with more inventive ways of levelling the playing field. So far we have considered tying one hand behind his back or just locking him in the toilets at the start of the day. Harsh but fair I think you'll agree.

Let me finish by wishing you all a very happy Christmas and a healthy 2017.

**NEXT OUTING**

**LECHLADE**

**25<sup>th</sup> February 2017**

Full details will follow in the  
pre match briefing

*Michael Stephens*





## SECRETARY'S REPORT DECEMBER 2016

In what has been a somewhat sad year with the passing of our dear chairman George, it has also been a good one in many other respects.

An influx of new members who want to come out and fish on a regular basis has ensured we are able to have all our venues for exclusive use. It certainly shows today with 25 of us attending, I think the best ever. In fact I have had 5 apologies as well. We could have been fishing shoulder to shoulder.

As of today we have 34 members all of whom have attended events this season, and at least another two new members hopefully joining us next season. All being well we could reach our target of 40 in the coming year.

During 2016 have had 9 competition events, plus today's non competition one, making the average attendance 19 and a bit, well that is what my computer say's, on a few occasions some guests have joined us to increase that number. We weighed in a total of 1,628 lbs not including today, with 458 fish brought to the scales.



It was decided to use the John Fuller Pairs trophy at John O'Gaunt, which was originally designated for a reservoir outing, but not awarded for the past two years as so few members wanted to fish reservoirs. It is good we can award it today. It is also good to see the trophies spread around with eight members sharing the spoils, and the handicap system appears to work well.

The web site has been a success, however we should all try to make more use of it. If you have tackle to sell, or want to let others know about your other experiences, fishing ones of course, send in an article, and we will publish it. How about 50 different ways to cook a trout? In all fairness, anything which will make the site more interesting.

I must thank Bill Berloth for his professional touch in publishing the monthly newsletter. What took me hours to do, he does in a fraction of the time. Thanks also to Joe also for the great photos, and to Emy now in Australia who uploads it all.

I have enjoyed being your secretary this past year, and thank you the members for your support in responding to my countless emails so promptly, helping at the weigh ins, and clearing up at the end of the day.

I look forward to yet another year as secretary, and wish you all a very Merry Christmas, a Happy, but more importantly a healthy New Year, and may your catches exceed your expectations.

*Michael Littlestone.*

Dave Broome mentioned this competition at the AGM. He thought it might appeal to some club members. So if you fancy your chances.... Read on.

**Iain Barr World Bank  
Masters  
2017 Farmoor Fishery  
Fancy your chances of  
winning a massive cash  
prize?  
Then enter the 2017 Iain  
Barr Bank Masters at  
Farmoor Fishery!**

For 2017, a singles and pairs event will be hosted on [Farmoor Reservoir Fishery](#) with a prize fund of up to £15,000 available for the winners! We feel this is going to be THE event of the 2017 competitive flyfishing season – not only for the UK, but also Europe wide.

**What's the deal?** There are no heats – the first 200 entries fish the finals, simple as that. Everyone has a great chance of taking a huge prize pot, and of catching tagged fish for additional cash and tackle prizes. 100% of entry fees make up the cash pot!

**When is it?** The singles event will take place on Saturday 11th March 2017, and the pairs Sunday 12th March 2017.

**How much** Singles – Entry Fee £50, Fishing Fee £25. Limited to 200 anglers. Pairs – Entry Fee £50 per pair, Fishing Fee £50 (covers two anglers). Limited to 100 pairs.

For more information, this is the web site to visit.

<http://blog.fishtec.co.uk/iain-barr-world-bank-masters-2017-farmoor-fishery>

## Financial Report

In Kevin's absence the Financial Report was presented by Joe Tufo. It was decided not to give the full details of the financial report in this match report as the information is for members eye's only and should not be available for just anyone who may visit our web site to see. If you wish to see details of the financial report or minutes from the meeting please visit our members page.

December 10<sup>th</sup> 2016

Hon Treasurer Kevin Doherty – presented by Joe Tufo

The key points for this years report are that we once again have a healthy balance at the bank in line with last years figure and in spite of a number of expenses this year.

The balance takes into account :-

**The cost of the calendars** – these were sponsored in part by Dever Springs, Lechlade and Chalk Springs with each member given one at the AGM

**Web site costs**

**Marketing**, including Advertising in Trout and Salmon magazine to attract new members, plus we printed and distributed a number of flyers at fisheries we attend.

**Subsidising a number of events** during the year including the AGM

**The cost of all this years prizes**

The raffle once again has been a great aid in retaining our healthy balances as it contributes to a lot of the prizes and the members are thanked for their support of this with purchasing of the tickets and also donating prizes for the raffle. As we are entering our 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year we hope you will be able to continue supporting it in the New Year as we are hoping to improve the winners prizes plus adding the secret weight prize at each event. This coming year we are also subsidising the Family day at Bushyleaze with a breakfast and a lunchtime Barbecue. There will also be other events that we will offer a lunch these will be notified prior to the events.

It is essential we regularly bring in new members hence the recent marketing activity we would remind members that if a member outside the committee introduces a new member the following year (after a full years membership) the member will have receive a 50% subsidy to his membership fee. We currently have approximately 35 active members and we need to get this up to at least 40. This is essential in maintaining numbers at each venue otherwise we lose exclusivity at an event and also the donated Day Ticket. The Day ticket will in future, feature as the biggest bag Prize at each event.

We are planning two possible sea fishing excursions (separately from the clubs normal activities), these will coincide with the events at John O'Gaunts to Lymington on June 9<sup>th</sup> and Chalk Springs with either Brighton or Littlehampton on September 15<sup>th</sup> being the Fridays before the fly fishing event. To avoid members dropping out, the full amount will now need to be paid in advance. With more than a dozen showing interest in this next year I will make the necessary arrangements and send out an email circular in the early New Year, there will only be one boat of 8 for each venue on a first come first served basis.

*Joe Tufo*

Standing in for Kevin Doherty