St Michael Fly Fishers Match Report AVON SPRINGS APRIL 2019





Avon Springs Delivers Again

The rather soggy drive to the fishery was soon forgotten after a good breakfast in very comfortable surroundings, it was then down to the serious business of catching fish.

Terry Burgess was our Day Captain the following is his account of the day.

Day Captains Report AVON SPRINGS

Day Captain...... Terry Burgess

**** THE WIND DOTH BLOW MIGHTILY ****

For everyone it was raining cats, and dogs on the journey down, and to say the least rather windy. As we tackled up the rain eased off, and by the time we had finished the usual excellent breakfast it had stopped. Believe it, or not we did not have any rain for the rest of the day, and even a little sunshine. Prior to setting off fishing we spent a quiet moment of reflection in memory of Kevin who passed away on the 21st April. Avon Springs was one of his favourite places. He will be sadly missed.

The plan for the day was we would fish each of the three zones twice before breaking for lunch at 1pm. WELL THAT WAS THE PLAN! The wind had other ideas. Zone 1 on Club Lake was ok, the gale force wind behind us, and we all looked like professional casters, 20 yards easy. Zone 3 on the opposite bank was nigh impossible. A gale force wind in your face made casting horrendous, and dangerous, some members getting into tangle after tangle, and almost being blown over. Then when half a tree came crashing down, those with any common sense decided to give this zone a miss altogether. Willow Lake was not too bad.

Despite the conditions the 19 of us whom attended caught 64 fish all of which were in tiptop condition, and included two over 7lbs, and five over 6lbs. A few of us were broken by a very large fish, which Barry the owner said could have been the 14 pounder he had stocked, together with a few more around the 10lb mark. There is no doubt both lakes had been well stocked the previous day. We took 31 fish from Club lake, nearly all from just the one bank, and 33 from Willow Lake, mainly at the top end. Most flies caught fish, the BF Hot Head Damsel, Pheasant Tail, Cats Whisker, Hares Ear, and Buzzers. I am sure many others also.

I was lucky enough to catch the best fish of the day at 7lbs 11ozs. Michael, despite breaking a rod had one of 7lb 1oz. With 12 limit bags, four of 3, two of 2, and one blank I consider we had an excellent day, despite the conditions, and once again Avon Springs did us proud. We look forward to our next visit in December.

My thanks to Martin for helping at the weigh in.



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SECRETARY'S REPORT

Another good day's fishing at Avon Springs see the Day Captains Report.

With the sad passing of our dear friend Kevin we will dedicate one of our trophies in his memory, which we will fish for at Avon Springs, his favourite venue. As we normally fish there every April, the month he passed away, it will be fished for then, and then awarded annually.

Several members attended Kevin's funeral on 8th May. Rather than flowers, his family requested anyone who wished to make a donation to the local Hospice would be very much appreciated. May I suggest at each of the next two outings any member wishing to donate give it to our Treasurer so he can pass it on. Should anyone like to donate directly please contact me, and I will let you have the details.

The club social day planned for 13th July will not take place as we could not get enough support.

Feedback Survey. Thanks to all those who returned them. Your committee has taken note of all comments made, and these will be addressed for the future. I will be e-mailing the relevant results to everyone shortly.

Michael Littlestone Hon Sec.

NEXT OUTING

FARMOOR 25th May

Full details will follow

End of day results AVON SPRINGS

Terry Burgess: The best fish of the day 7lb 1lozs He will be presented with a trophy at the AGM

Alan Butler: A wooden box of flies for the secret weight closest to a 4 fish limit bag weighing 12lb 6ozs, His weight was 11lbs 11ozs.

Prize Draws.

Brian Bloom: Day Ticket

Iain Laws: £30 towards travel costs

Colin Mann: Bottle of wine

Total number of anglers 19
Total Number of fish caught 64





A Tribute to Kevin Doherty

It was with much sadness that we heard the news of Kevin's passing. It was my great pleasure to have known Kevin through St Michael Fly Fishers where along with other members we had the privilege of sharing time with this lovely, warm, generous and often very funny man. I have fond memories of Kevin he was a man I was grateful to have known.

I met Kevin on my first day fishing with the club I had come along at the invitation of George Wilding who was unable to attend on this day so I knew no one but was met by a smiling Kevin, his first words to me were "Hello have you heard the one about" and followed with, A man saw a lady with huge breasts. "Excuse me, he said can I bite your breasts for £100.00?" After a while she agrees, she opens her blouse and the man starts kissing her breasts, after 10 minutes the lady asks, "Aren't you going to bite them then?" He replies, "No, it's too expensive." Kevin had a funny story for every day and a joke for every occasion. We will miss him. Below are a few of the many photo's of Kevin that have appeared in past Match Reports, I hope you will enjoy them.

Bill Berloth Editor

