

# St Michael Fly Fishers

## MATCH REPORT

FARMOOR

MAY 2019

DAY CAPTAIN ..... Geoff Brooks



The day got off to a start with Members turning up for breakfast at the Farmoor Sailing Club where a choice of breakfast was served. This was our Club's first visit for a while to this reservoir, often described as a large concrete bowl. The pairing of the members for boat partners had already been set. Our 11 members complemented by 5 guests turned up to fish on what proved to be a fine day.

A 6 fish ticket followed by catch and release was the order of the day, so a day of great anticipation was begun. It did not take long before the first of the eight boats were off with others following. Having an odd number for the boats due to Michael not being able to make it Tom set off on his own but only after changing boats because of an engine failure, and not forgetting Ian who decided to fish off the bank. Most boats circumnavigated the reservoir fishing mainly around the concrete rim in the hope of finding fish, however the days fishing for most proved to be very hard going. The weather on the whole was quite warm, with some bright sunshine and cloud cover though a slight breeze did help a little. This played a major part in the day's results, fishing proving difficult in the strong sunshine but for some members a little sport coming on in the periods when the cloud cover came.

For my part in the day I fished on the wheely boat with my guest Alan Carleton, I had agreed with Tom that due to Alan's restricted mobility it meant we would not come in for lunch so we counted ourselves out of the day's competition and chose to fish catch and release. We both started with floating lines, my line with a 6ft midge tip followed with a selection of Buzzers and Dawl-bach on three fly cast. We moved a few times in the first period without any sign of fish so I changed to a DI3 with a small Viva on the point and had a fish after just a few cast then it went very quiet again, so it was back to the floating line, we managed to take two each during the morning then nothing until about 2.30 when we had moved again, this time along the causeway between Farmoor 1 & 2. By the time we finished at about 6pm Alan's total catch rose to 13, while I reached 11, both of us losing a few others to the net. Apart from my first fish on the Viva ours were all taken in the top 2-4ft on Buzzers, Dawl-bach and Crunchers fished very slowly.

Sadly the rest of our members had a much more difficult time with only two fish taken between all, Geoff with a fish of 2lb 3oz and Dave Broome with a fish of 4lb 6oz taken on a buzzer. A fair number of members and guest lost fish, including Tom with two at the net, Joe one on the anchor rope, along with a few other missed opportunity stories. The prize winners on the day were; Best bag (A Fishing Fly book), to David Broome for his single fish of 4lb 6 oz. In the draw a bottle of wine went to Bob Fulton, a Lechlade ticket went to Joe and a contribution to travel expense went to Gary Dee (guest of Joe).



### Swinford Tollbridge

Depending on what way you traveled to Farmoor you may have crossed The Swinford Tollbridge half a mile from Eynsham. It was opened in 1769 and has been described as the finest of the many bridges over the Thames - it was built in the golden age of Georgian architecture, when both design, materials and craftsmanship were all very good.

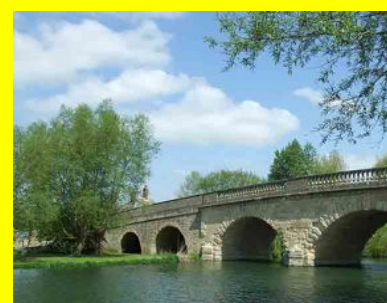
It wasn't just for crossing the river - it was part of a long-distance route from London to Gloucester, Wales and Ireland (via Fishguard).

To make the bridge worthwhile, other bits of road had to be improved.

Although beautiful and historic etc, the Bridge causes serious traffic delays and pollution, particularly at morning and evening rush hours, and even more so when there has been an accident on the A40 or A34 anywhere nearby.

The Toll-bridge was put on the market at £1.6 million with the aim of attracting a business buyer - some 4 million vehicles cross annually, giving a gross income of £200,000 year. As far as we know there have not been any bidders.

*(re printed from a previous Match Report)*





**NEXT OUTING**  
**22<sup>nd</sup> JUNE John O'gaunts**  
Full details will follow in the secretaries briefing.



**FOR SALE:**  
Airflo Comfort Zone Boat Seat Delux.  
Cost £229.00 New. It is in excellent condition. £125.00 ono considered.  
Contact: Ian Smith  
Email: wizsmithchess@gmail.com

## End of day results

**Winner Best fish ...**  
David Broome with a fish of 4lbs 6oz

**In the draw** A bottle of wine went to Bob Fulton, a Lechlade ticket went to Joe and a contribution to travel expense went to Gary Dee (guest of Joe).

**The final count ....**  
**One boat**  
( Bill Berloth & Alan Carleton ) taking 24 fish.  
**Two boats**  
( Geoff Brooks/David Holding )

**Total number of anglers 16**  
**Total Number of fish caught 26**



# GALLERY



Please use the link below to view Joe Tufo's other Great pictures.  
<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/3457aaywp65013/AADNyp58BnakIw8zIdCSZ4W6g?dl=1>