



The Grayling Society

Newsletter

Area 8

December 2015

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

Water is the most Essential Element of life,
without it we can't go fishing.

Grayling Fishers (Talks)



This month's speaker was Alan Henshaw, the team leader at the Environment Agencies Fish rearing farm at Calverton, north of Nottingham. He, first of all, described the history of the unit and the work they do, including the extensive Bio-security measures they take to ensure the health of the brood stock fish, the fry and the discharged water. The team now catch brood stock fish by rod and line, as they find it more kind to the grayling and more efficient than electro-fishing. Alan explained that brood stock was taken from gene pool areas of catchments and returned after stripping to their original waters. The fry are then released to the same waters, thus ensuring gene integrity for that area. He explained the whole process of stripping and rearing of the grayling, stage by stage. It was pleasing that all his talk, although in places was quite technical, was presented at a level that all could understand. All in all, a very interesting talk and powerpoint presentation.

On **Wednesday 3rd of December**, your next speaker will be **Jack Perks**

Jack is a professional wildlife photographer with a keen interest in conservation.

Cont;

Jack aims to photograph all the freshwater fish species in the UK (over 50 in total), and has studied the lifestyle and behaviour of each species.

He will don his wet suit and snorkel, when appropriate, to get up close to the fish.

His work includes filming for the BBC's Springwatch and Countryfile, and on angling series such as Mr Crabtree goes Fishing.

(Fly Tying Evenings)



Another good evening fly tying at the Rutland with, once again, a good turnout of tiers. This week we had Rob Lomax, Steve Newsom and Don Stazicker to give help and advice to all who asked for it.



Our next fly tying evening will be after Christmas on **4th January 2016**.

Brian

Fly Only Open day 7/11/15



On Saturday, 7th November, *Fly Only* held their Autumn open day, featuring notable fly dressers galore tying and demonstrating everything from fully dressed salmon to nymphs and traditional wets and spiders. As usual, the store was packed like an Aladdin's cave, with goodies, flies, fly tying materials, rods, reels, waders jackets etc and a whole host of fishing paraphernalia.



Stuart Crofts drew the usual interest with his innovative caddis and micro patterns. Always willing to give advice, Stuart had a constant stream of interested onlookers, eager to listen and swap fishing stories and take advantage of his wealth of knowledge.



Paul Little enthralled visitors with his fully dressed salmon flies. I sat for almost an hour watching him immaculately tie a low water fly. The dexterity and skill he showed pairing and matching different feather sections for wings was amazing. I was transfixed.



Dylan Hooley sat and tied streamer patterns for the American market: his use of materials for these patterns was truly inspiring. When I look back a few years and remember the little lad who was sent down to my stand at Newark by his Mum, Wendy, to show me some of the flies he had tied that day, I now see a young man brimming with talent and knowledge able to tie to a very high standard every thing from a fully dressed salmon to North Country Spiders.



Cont;

Last but not least, along with Rob Smith, there were two tyers from the Leeds branch of the FDG. Rob Smith, once again, making it look easy, tied a range of beautiful traditional Yorkshire Spider patterns and Dry Flies.

Brian
Fly Tiers Corner



Dark Watchet

For river trout and grayling, this fly is a must to have in your fly box. It represents several naturals, including the Iron Blue Dun, and, if fished on the top dropper as part of a team, I strongly suspect it will be taken for a hatching Midge or Buzzer on still waters.

Materials;

Hook; TMC 105 # 15, 17

Thread; Pearsall's silk 6a (Orange)

Underbody; Pearsall's silk 8 (Purple)

Dubbing, Mole (natural)

Hackle; Jackdaw throat or cape.

Method;

- 1 Tie on Orange Thread 3 or 4 turns
- 2 Tie in a short length of Purple thread (about 4")
- 3 Wind Orange thread down to the bend of the hook, binding in the purple thread on the top of the hook. (this eliminates the possibility a bulge at the end of the body)
- 4 Wax the purple thread and very lightly touch dub the mole on the thread.
- 5 Twist the two threads together and wind forward towards the hook eye forming a segmented body.
- 6 Tie off the purple thread.
- 7 Tie in the hackle and whip finish the Orange thread.

Brian

November Fishing Day

Sunday 15th November was to be the first of our winter fishing days on the River Derwent, but Mother nature decided otherwise. All was well until the Saturday before we were to fish. It rained and rained and rained: the river came up and looked like cocoa. Totally unfishable so I cancelled.



The bridge below Hathersage
(Top of Derwent Fly Fishers water)

These were some of the scenes which greeted me on the Sunday morning !!!!!



Grindleford Bridge
(Bottom of the Derwent Fly Fishers water)



Calver Bridge
(Top of the Police water)

Cont. over;



Baslow Weir
(Near the bottom of the Police water)

As you can see fishing would have been out of the question and in places dangerous. Because of the number of people who wanted to fish, I booked four of my own guest tickets on the Cressbrook and Litton Fly Fishers grayling section of the River Wye. This too was in flood and very coloured.



Bobbin Mill Weir
Cressbrook and Litton water



The gauging weir below the Bobbin mill bridge
Cressbrook and Litton water.

Disappointed, but not down hearted that I had to cancel, I managed to rearrange the day on the Sunday 29th November. Once again, the clubs were willing to allow us to use their waters and the Bridge Inn could accommodate us for the usual drinks in the morning and buffet in the evening.

Cont:

All the week running up to the 29th the weather seemed as though all would be ok, but, once again, Saturday saw rain and very strong winds forecast. The weather forecast was not wrong. Saturday afternoon the river was slightly high but coloured, Sunday the river was higher still and very coloured (Bu***r). So reluctantly I, once again, had to cancel.

December, unfortunately, is a no-no for pub bookings of our type, unless you book early, so that effectively killed off any chance of rearranging the day.

Even though we did not manage our November fishing day, I still must thank the three clubs: Derwent Fly Fishers, Bubbnaill Fly Fishers (Derbyshire Police) and Cressbrook and Litton Fly Fishers, for allowing us to "try" and fish there excellent waters.

Brian

Subscriptions

We still have two or three members who are paying the **old fee of £23.00**. Could I ask that you check your subscription payment with your bank to make sure you are paying the correct amount. If you are still paying the incorrect amount or have any queries about your subscriptions please give me a ring and we can sort it out. Remember The Grayling Society subscriptions are due on the **1st of January** unless agreed otherwise.

£28.00 Adult

£47.00 Joint

£22.00 Senior (over 70 years)

£5.00 Junior (16 or under)

If you pay by cheque please send your cheques to;

MIKE TEBBS (Membership Secretary)
RIVENDELL, NEWTOWN, HEYTESBURY,
WILTSHIRE, BA12 0HN

Tel: 01985 841192

E-mail: miketebbs@btinternet.com

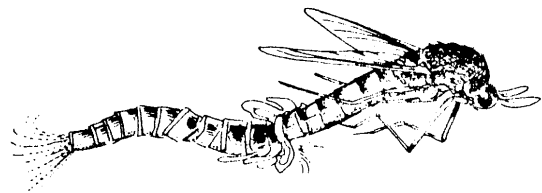
Or please phone me on:

01246 271324 or 07711 905776.

Thank you for your co-operation

Brian

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Grayling Fishers DVD library

Grayling Fishers evening with Philip White A.P.G.A.I.



© Grayling Fishers 2012

Philip White's fly tying demonstration on the 8th November 2012 for the Grayling Fishers evening.

Grayling Fishers evening with Stuart Crofts



© Grayling Fishers 2014

Stuart Crofts fly tying demonstration on the 15th October 2013 for the Grayling Fishers evening.

Price £6.50 + p&p

For details contact :

Brian 07711 905776

or

Hilary 07920 013361

STOP THE SPREAD

STOP THE SPREAD
INVASIVE AQUATIC SPECIES
CHECK-CLEAN-DRY

Are you unknowingly spreading invasive species on your water sports equipment and clothing?

Invasive species can affect fish and other wildlife, restrict navigation, clog up propellers and be costly to manage. You can help protect the water sports you love by following three simple steps when you leave the water.



CHECK Check your equipment and clothing for live organisms - particularly in areas that are damp or hard to inspect.

CLEAN Clean and wash all equipment, footwear and clothing thoroughly.

If you do come across any organisms, leave them at the water body where you found them.

DRY Dry all equipment and clothing - some species can live for many days in moist conditions. Make sure you don't transfer water elsewhere.

For more information go to www.direct.gov.uk and search for Check Clean Dry



BRITISH FLY FAIR INTERNATIONAL

Britain's Premier 2 day Fly Fishing Show

Dates 13th & 14th of February 2016
Time 09:30 - 16:30 both days

Heated, Indoor Venue at
Staffordshire County Showground, ST18 OBD

Admission £9.00 in advance £10.00 on the door 1 day
£15.00 in advance £17.00 on the door 2 days
accompanied under 16s FREE

Parking - free and lots of it, cafeteria & bar

Held in association with Fly Fishing & Fly Tying
Sponsors
Veniard, Chevron, Right Angle Fishing

Over 70 Quality Fly Fishing Exhibitors

Full 2 day casting and demonstration programme

50+ fly tying demonstrators from across the globe

www.bffi.co.uk