



Newsletter

Area 8

February 2016

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

Cook a man a fish and he will eat for a day
Teach a man to fish and you will get rid of him
for an entire weekend

Salmon in the River Don

In my November Newsletter I reported the completion of Barn Energy's Hydro power scheme and Fish Pass at Thrybergh.



Picture by: Oscar Downing

In December of last year 18 year old Oscar Downing managed some extraordinary footage of a mature salmon attempting to leap the weir at Aldwarke, Rotherham. This is the next weir up from Thrybergh weir's new fish pass. The iconic fish made it's amazing appearance only 20 minutes after Oscar set up his camera on the bank side. Following the construction of many weirs which blocked the passage of the salmon, and the gross pollution due to the industrial revolution, salmon have not been seen so far up the Don for 150 years. Because of the improvement of the water quality over the last 20 years and the construction of fish passes it is now possible for migratory fish to swim up stream as far as Rotherham.

Jerome Masters, Environment Agency Fisheries Officer said, "2015 has been a fantastic year for South Yorkshire's rivers with salmon leaping in Rotherham and conformation of spawning salmon in the River Dearne".

Mark Simon Chief Executive of Barn Energy, said, "It's Fantastic to see salmon at Aldwarke, so soon after our
Cont;

new fish passage was opened. It's wonderful that they are doing so, and we hope that we will see a lot more fish up and down the river".

With the completion of the work on the fish pass on Thrybergh weir in October of last year and the fish pass at Sprotbrough in 2013, and Meadow Hall in 2012, migratory fish can now swim unhindered from the sea as far up-stream as Rotherham. But this is not the end of the story.

Further work on fish passage and habitat improvement projects by the Environment Agency, The Canal and Rivers Trust, Don Catchment Rivers Trust, Sheffield City Council and Yorkshire Water, will soon enable migratory fish to return to their historic spawning grounds in the River Don catchment.

Brian

Grayling Fishers Evenings

(Talks)



Mike talking to members of the audience at half time.

For a second time Mike Green entertained us with his angling exploits with a fly rod from around the world. His talk and PowerPoint presentation gave an interesting insight into fishing methods, the species of fish and where to go to catch them. Mexico, Christmas Island the Amazon, to name but a few, fishing for bonefish, roosters, dorado, tarpon and many other exotic species.

Mike also brought along his pike rod and flies to show us. He also brought his new book "Angling Escapades"



Gillian Scotford and Jane Calver

Also on the meeting night we presented a cheque for £300.00 to Gillian and Jane for "Accessible Derbyshire", a charity started by Gillian and Jane who's aim is to "improve the lives of disabled people, their families and carers in or visiting Derbyshire's Peak District". The donation from the Grayling Society Area 8 was to help the charity to raise enough money to purchase a Wheelyboat for Ladybower Res. This would enable wheelchair users to enjoy and fish the reservoir.

Fly Tying Evenings

In January we had not one but two successful fly tying evenings. The first on the 4th of January in place of the December meeting. Our second evening at the usual time of the month (25th of January, the last Monday) was also very well attended and being "Burns Night" we had a very special Star Prize in the raffle "The Haggis". Before presenting the haggis to its winner, our own Dr Stephen McLangan recited the first two verses of Rabbi Burns "Address to a Haggis", What a treat !!!!



Our next meeting will be on **Wednesday 10th of January** when our speaker will be Stuart Crofts. The next Fly Tying evening will be **Monday 29th of February**. As usual we will be holding the evenings at the Rutland in Bakewell starting 7.30. All are welcome.

Brian

Cromford Fishing Day



Eight intrepid anglers sallied forth to brave the elements and catch fish on a day which started white over with a covering of snow. After meeting up for tea, coffee and biscuits at the Boat Inn we went off to the river to drown our maggots and wet our flies in the less than warm weather.



Dr John and Alan Grice-Jackson setting up.



Keith Mallinson setting up. Yes a trotting Rod !!!!!

Four fished from Cromford Bridge downstream and four fished The bottom section at Holmesford. All of whom caught some beautiful grayling and one or two out of season trout.



Alan Grice-Jackson getting "comfortable"



Dr John landing his first grayling (10 inch)

Catch Returns
Cromford (4 rods)

Grayling; 32
Trout; 3

Holmesford (4 rods)

Grayling; 5
Trout; 17

Not a bad days catch considering the weather and the river conditions, which had been up and down for the last 6 weeks, including a week of raised levels when Ladybower had a three day draw down from the reservoir .



Tucking into the Buffet

On our return from the river as usual a hot warming meal awaited us, most welcome!!!

To our surprise a chocolate cake appeared with a little angler standing on the top (a toy angler not a person of diminutive stature !!!!)

Without our knowledge we had a birthday boy in our midst. He did not admit it and he would not let slip his age, but he is obviously over 21 AGAIN !!!!



The Birthday Boy Tim Twist

Many Happy Returns old mate !!

Brian

Fly Tiers Corner



William's Favourite

This fly was invented by Courtney Williams father for trout, sea trout and grayling and can be fished wet or dry from May to September on rivers or lakes. It is particularly effective when there is colour in the water.

Materials

Hook; TMC 103 bl #15 or #17 (#13 for sea trout)

Thread; Pearsall's No 9 (Black)

Rib; Silver tinsel

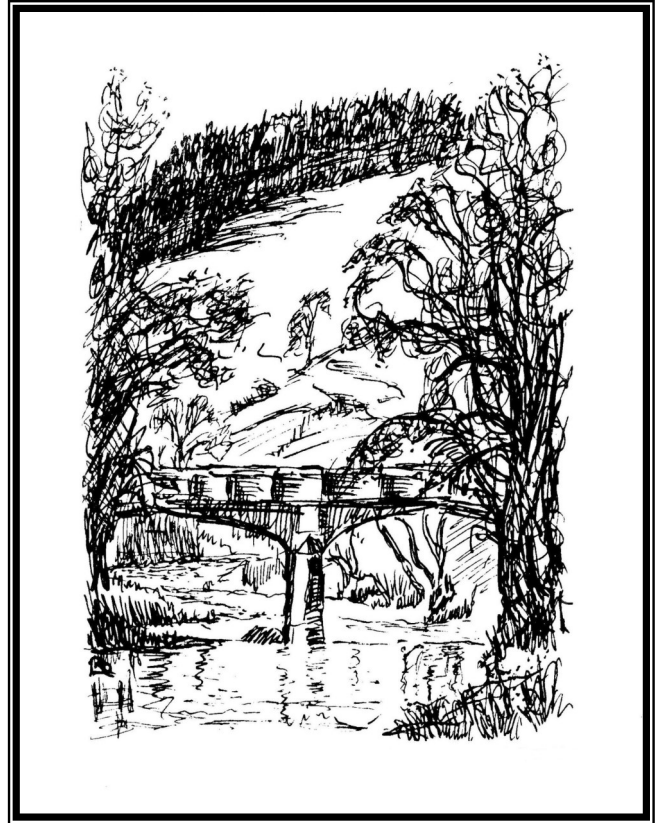
Hackle; Black hen for wet, Black Cock for dry

Method

- 1) Wind on the thread for 3 or 4 turns behind the eye.
- 2) Catch in the silver tinsel and bind down with thread to the bend of the hook.
- 3) Wind back the thread in touching turns to just behind where the hackle is to be tied in.
- 4) Wind the rib in open turns, bind in the rib with the thread and cut of the excess rib.
- 5) Catch in the hackle and wind for two turns, whip finish and cut off the thread.

I am not sure what the fly represents but a good guess particularly when fished dry would be a terrestrial black gnat or fly. When fished wet may be a needle fly. But whatever it's representation black is always a good stand -by colour.

Brian



A Bridge Too Far

(A Bridge on the River Hodder Yorkshire)

(As published in The Grayling Society Newsletter Winter 1980 / 81)

Drawn By: Dr Ron Broughton



Cromwells Bridge over the River Hodder

(As published in The Grayling Society Journal Autumn 1991)

Drawn By: Dr Ron Broughton



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 0BD

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

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 :

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or

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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



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