



The Grayling Society

Newsletter

Area 8 March 2016

THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH

**A MAN'S "ONE LAST CAST" IS LIKE
A WOMAN'S "I'LL BE FIVE MINUTES"**

**Grayling Fishers
(Talks)**



Stuart Crofts in full flow !!

Our annual visit by Stuart on the 10th of February was as usual a great success with almost 50 people in the audience. This year Stuart gave a talk and tying demonstration about the **"The Famous Four, insect groups that drive our dry fly fishing"** with his four flies

- * Abstract caddis
- Stuart's posh CDC olive
- Flat loop-wing midge emerger
- SMC "F" Terrestrial

Al the way through his talk / demonstrations he gave detailed information on how and when to use the four flies as well as answering questions from the audience which came thick and fast. Many of the audience came armed with pencils and notebooks to take down as much information as possible, but as usual that was not entirely necessary as Stuart provided Hilary with an email to distribute to members of the audience at a later date of all the patterns demonstrated.

The whole evening was recorded and eventually we will produce a DVD of the evening's proceedings to add to our small library of DVD's for sale.

Cont;

Our next speaker will be David Southall visiting us on **Wednesday March 9th** and his topic will be ;

A Fly for All Seasons

Dave is a regular contributor to angling magazines, and well known for his imitative flies. Dave will be showing us the invertebrates that one might expect to encounter at any season of the year and the imitations that might be used for both trout and grayling.

Fly Tying Evening

To end the month , we held our regular fly tying evening. Unfortunately numbers were a little down on the previous month but as it is a "leap year" and it was the 29th of February. Steven, Hilary, Janet and myself are hoping for several invitations to weddings this year !!!!! It was to be fair a filthy night with snow expected.

Our next fly tying evening will be on **Monday 28th of March** and as usual ALL are welcome from all abilities or just to nosy and ask questions.

As usual both evenings will be held at The Rutland in Bakewell and commence at 7.30 PM

All are welcome.

Brian

BFFI 2016 A Great Show Yet Again



Signing up a new member

The British Fly Fair International was held, as usual, at the Staffordshire County Showground over the weekend of 13th & 14th February.

Cont;

It was as spectacular as always with a host of highly skilled international fly tyers, some well known others less so, demonstrating their prowess with everything from a massive saltwater creation to the most microscopic – to me at least – nymphs and dry flies.

There seemed to be a bigger than normal number of exhibitors this year and it has become, without a doubt, **the** place to go if you want to buy any fly tying materials or tools as well as rods, reels etc. There was even a stand selling sweets and fudge this year!

Is it difficult to go to the BFFI without a few pounds in your pocket and even more difficult to leave with them still there! I know I reached a desperate state by the end with just a couple of bob left in my own pocket. I even had to raid the car where I always keep a few pounds emergency money.

On the Society stand we had a consistent stream of visitors and signed up 5 new members on the day plus 2 subsequently as well as taking a couple of subscriptions. Veniard joined at the show as trade members and this is a most welcome addition to our membership. Sales of Society items went well and we ended up with another £250 to add to our funds.



John Greens or guest Tier

The visitor numbers were pretty good I guess and Saturday was really buzzing. It was a bit quieter on Sunday, probably because, being Valentine's Day, some guys were under a three line whip to be at home or the local restaurant or pub. However it never seemed empty until the last hour on Sunday.

Brian was a trojan as normal, setting up on the Friday and being present on the stand virtually all the time, except for the occasional little spending trip to other stands – just like the rest of us. We didn't have our usual 'crew' this year but Brian, John and myself were supported by our wives, Janet and Honor, and Geoff Bevan and Steven Kavanagh helped look after the stand on the Sunday.

Steve Skuce

Fly Tiers Corner



Copper Bodied Spider

Materials

Hook; TMC 103BL #15 or #17

Body; Fine copper wire

Thorax; Three Muscovy duck fibres twisted together.

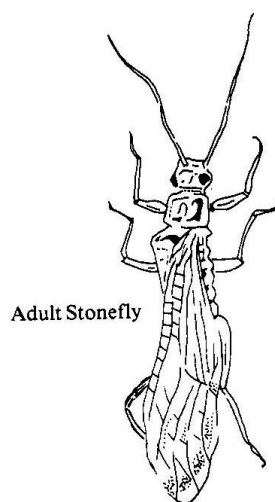
Hackle; Bared neck feathers from a Hen Pheasant

Thread; Pearsall's silk 6a

Method

- 1) Wind on the copper wire in touching turns down the hook from about 2 mm behind the eye and the back up again to the starting point and break the wire off.
- 2) Wind on the thread from behind the eye and take it just over the copper wire to secure it.
- 3) Catch in the Muscovy fibres, twist into a rope and build up a small thorax. Leaving enough space for the hackle and whip finish.
- 4) Catch in the hackle (method of your choice) and wind on 2 turns and tie off.
- 5) Whip finish to form a neat head.

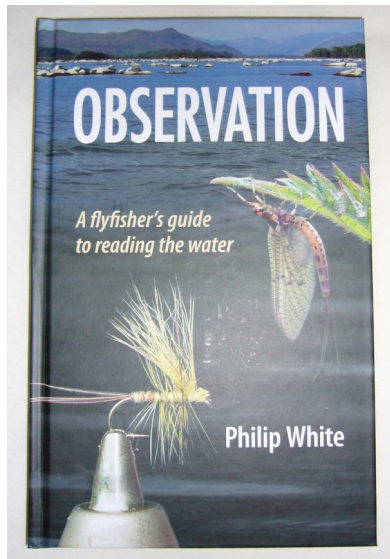
Brian



Adult Stonefly

Illustration from; Robson's Guide

Book review



‘Observation’ by Phil White”

Published by Coch y Bonddu 2016, Hardback, £14.95

I guess we all know who Phil White is!

I first met him one sultry and spooky night on the Derbyshire Wye many years ago. I was fishing a pool with my back to the A6 at about 9.30 pm. Suddenly I ‘felt’ a presence behind me and there was Phil. He was the keeper on the Haddon Hall Estate in those days and, once he checked that I wasn’t poaching, bang went the fishing – because you know how he can talk!

Phil has a great approach to his observations – bridge leaning. It is something he and I talked about when I moved to Wiltshire 11 years ago and he encouraged me to do lots of it. Watching the water and the air and the weather whilst gently leaning on a bridge parapet is probably as good a reason as any to call this angling malarkey the ‘Contemplative Man’s Recreation’ as Walton so neatly put it.

In this great book Phil shows us how the simple process of observation can make us understand more and become better fly tyers and anglers. He takes us through aspects of the trout’s behaviour and their senses; through judgements of depth and rise forms to watercraft before listing over 40 fly patterns, each with a step by step photographic sequence. All of his patterns are good and some are great.

I was talking to Phil and Mary at the recent BFFI and it seems they are now pretty determined to remain in Ireland permanently – and, with great countryside, great food, great fishing, great people and ‘proper’ Guinness who can blame them!

Cont:

This is a, great, beautifully designed and nicely printed hardback book and at a mere £14.95 is a must for every thinking angler.

Steve Skuce



Fly Only Spring Open Day

Come along to our Fly Only Spring Open Day on Sat 19th March. This year we have lined up a day of fantastic new product trials and fly-tying demonstrations to welcome the dawning of the new trout season. There will be NEW ranges to view and test from Guideline, Rio, Hardy/Greys, Redington, and many more.

You can also take advantage of some exclusive Fly Only special offers and bargains, available only to visitors on the day. So if you are looking for rods, reels, clothing, luggage and lots more at fantastic prices, don’t miss the Spring Fly Only Open Day!

Our mailing address is:

Fly Only
The Willows Business Park,
Near Bank, Shelley.
Huddersfield.
HD8 8LU.

Help Needed

Dear Angler

I’m writing to you in my capacity as Treasurer to the Masonic Fishing Charity. This is a charity which aims to provide disabled children and young adults with a countryside experience based around fishing. This usually entails the youngsters fishing with an angler, and usually provides a fulfilling experience for all concerned. We offer the anglers free fishing with an opportunity to fish on after the event, along with free catering for the day.

We are always short of anglers, which limits the number of children we can assist.

We usually run three events a year, 2 at Furnace Farm in Barlow and 1 at Delves Fishery at Thorne near Doncaster.

If you feel able to help, then I’d be grateful if you could contact me on doclangan@hotmail.com

You don’t have to be a Freemason to participate!!!

Best Wishes Steve Langan

2016

UTTOXETER GAME FISHING & FLY TYING FAIR

Formerly Burton-on-Trent Game Fishing and Fly Tying Festival

Admission
Adults £5.00
Seniors £4.00
Juniors (Under 16)
Free

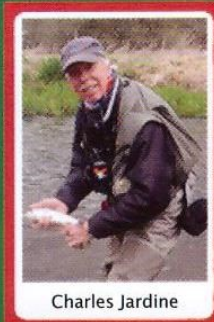


SUNDAY OCTOBER 16th 2016 10am - 4.30 pm

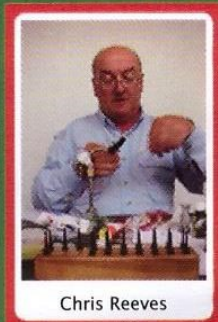
- Fly Dressers Guild
- Fly Tying Demonstrations
- Casting Demonstrations
- Top Professionals in Game Fishing
- Rod Building & Framed Flies
- Fishing Clubs & Associations
- Latest Fly Tying Materials

Uttoxeter Race Course Wood Lane, Uttoxeter Staffs ST14 8BD

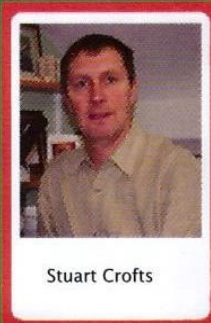
GAME FISHING TACKLE ~ TYING MATERIALS ~ FISHING FLIES & BOOKS



Charles Jardine



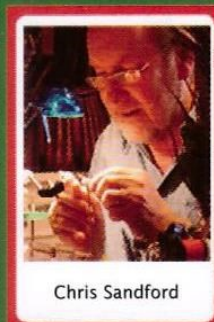
Chris Reeves



Stuart Crofts



Wendy Gibson

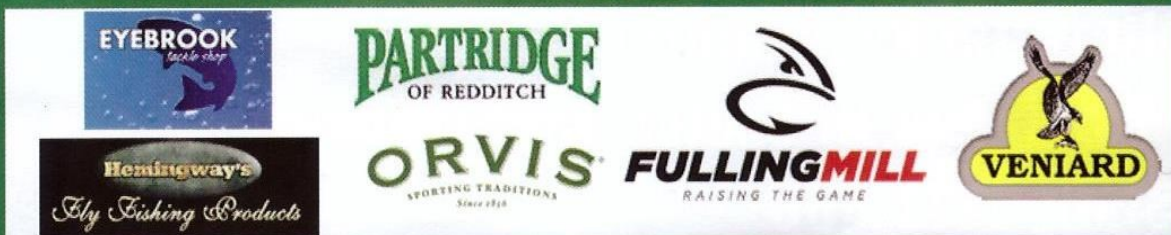


Chris Sandford

Full details on our website

www.uttoxeterflyfair.co.uk

email fliesbywendyg@homecall.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 :

Brian 07711 905776
or
Hilary 07920 013361

STOP THE SPREAD

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