

West Wilts Fly Fishers Guild

Meeting Wednesday 13th Sept 2017 - 7.30pm Shaw Hotel

Present:

John De-Cesare, Roger Henderson, Alan Kerr, Margaret Fraser-Louen, William Arney, Richard Cripps, Andy Moore, Kevin Barber, Gerry Barnes. Guest - Paul Hunt.

Apologies

Malcolm Bond, Jon Jonik, David Little, Keith Johnston, Chris Holt, Chris Winsor, Ged West, Robert Eadie, Colin Burbedge, John Sheppard, Charles Freemantle.

1) Minutes of June Guild meeting.

No matters arising

2) Feedback on Guild events :

i) River Frome - *All Methods Week* - last week of June:

Could members who took part please let Jon Jonik know how you got on ready for the Rivers Meeting on Thurs 2nd November.

ii) River Frome - *Fly-fishing day* Wed 12th June:

Roger and Colin are known to have fished, other members who fished please let Roger know how you got on ready for the Rivers Meeting Thurs 2nd Nov .

3) Rivers Frome and Mole updates

River Frome:

- i) 150 10"/12" Rainbows stocked on 14th August. Roger thanked Jon Jonik, Stan Jonik and Malcolm Bond for their help.
- ii) The EA conducted an electro-fishing survey on The Frome in 2016. Tellisford is one of the 4 stretches they monitor every 3 years. The Tellisford section of the report is in the Sept newsletter. The full report is on The Guild website. Next survey 2019.
- iii) River Frome water quality monitoring - high nitrate levels have been found and reported to The Environment Agency. There is an on-going dialogue to find the source because it is contributing to algae growth, to the detriment of invertebrates and fish spawning. John Sheppard thanked for leading on this.
- iv) Gravel-jetting - we are currently making enquiries about gravel-jetting some areas of The Frome to help fish spawning. The Guild has done this before on The Frome. There was some discussion about Gravel-jetting methodology. It is labour intensive so we will be asking for help. October/November look like the most fish-friendly months.

River Mole/Yeo:

From anecdotal evidence so far gleaned it appears the Mole & Yeo have been very lightly fished again this year, so the Guild must look to see whether the rental paid is good use of Guild resources. Jon and Malcolm have been looking into the options available, should they be required. This will be discussed at The Rivers Meeting on 2nd November. If you have views about the Mole & Yeo please put Nov 2nd in your diary. If you've fished the Mole & Yeo this year please make sure you send in your returns to Malcolm.

4) Forthcoming Guild activities :

- i) Rivers Meeting Thursday 2nd Nov

Reminder for members to send-in angler returns - for The Mole to Malcolm Bond and for The Frome to Roger Henderson

- ii) Christmas hamper competition Manningford Fishery, Sun 3rd Dec

Alan Kerr is coordinating and will circulate details to members. To give all members an even chance and a more enjoyable day it was agreed we need a similar arrangement as at Holbury Fishery so members move spots periodically or when they have caught.

- iii) Annual Raffle

Thanks to Gerry Barnes for having the raffle boards for tonight's meeting. There are two raffles to be drawn at our Annual Dinner on Fri 17th November.

- iv) Guild Dinner Fri 17th November

Menu details etc will be circulated to members in the next few weeks

5) AOB

- i) Robert Eadie was thanked for another superb newsletter.
- ii) Paul Hunt was welcomed as guest and potential new member

Date of Next Meeting - Wednesday 11th October 2016

Part 2

Kevin Barber - Coarse fishing

Kevin took us up a notch from his talk at our June meeting going into greater depth on tackle, techniques, baits, river craft and the idiosyncrasies and preferences of the various coarse species. It was master-class and very generous of Kevin to pass on the benefit of years of hard-won experience.

For members who didn't make a note - the 'all-round' coarse rod which Kevin recommended for anyone starting-out in coarse fishing was a Twin Top Avon 12' 1.5lb test curve. It comes with a quiver-tip top section and an Avon-tip top section.

There will be write-up in the next newsletter.

PS - if you are keen to learn more about coarse fishing have word with Kevin.

