

THE WEST WILTS FLYFISHERS GUILD



Members of the Wild Trout Trust

Website: <http://wwffg.t15.org/>

APRIL 2014 NEWSLETTER

April Meeting 2014: Fly-Fishing for Pike by David Wolsoncroft-Dodds.

David started his presentation with a casting demonstration to show how to double-haul 8" pike flies and set the hook by pulling on the line before striking. He then talked us through tying a pike fly at the vice, explaining how he builds a 3D body to fool the pike from whichever direction it attacks. He concluded with an illustrated talk about the venues he has fished & guided in Canada, Ireland and the UK (inc Bowood his local 'tuition' water) and the many magnificent pike landed.

We've had some terrific speakers at Guild meetings and David's was up with the best of them. His catches speak for themselves, add to that many years of fishing the world's great pike waters, deep thinking about every aspect of the sport, and you have the ingredients of a completely engaging presentation.

Top tip - if you weren't at David's talk and are ever tempted to eat freshly shot caribou make sure you plaster your backside with mosquito repellent first. We heard what happens if you don't !

If David has inspired you to try fly-fishing for pike, his contact details are:-
Tel 01249 890114 or email david@flyfishforpike.co.uk

His website is www.flyfishforpike.co.uk

His book - 'Fly-Fishing for Pike' published 2010 by Quiller - ISBN 9781846890543 would be a good starting point.

Thanks to Charles for suggesting we contact David to speak to us.
If members know of any other suitable speakers, please give contact details to a member of the Committee. We are still looking for a speaker for our November Meeting.

Roger

LOOKING FORWARD.....

Our next Guild Meeting is on Wednesday May 14th. 'Bugs and Grubs' The Speaker will be Richard Cripps. His Presentation will be in two parts. Part one will be at May's Meeting at The Shaw Hotel, and part two will be held on Wednesday 11th June as a 'hands on' experience - to be held on the banks of the River Frome at Williams Farm. More details in May's Newsletter.

Sunday 18th May - The Chew Boat Competition - The 'Tam Pearce' Cup .

Sunday 22nd June - Our inter-club competition at Avon Springs we will be fishing for 'The Turk Shield' Trophy. More information next month.



THIS SUNDAY 27th APRIL 2014 - GUILD FISHING COMPETITION - AT SUTTON BINGHAM LAKE for the SPINNAKER CUP.

Fishing starts at 9:30am to a 4:30pm weigh-in.

A Five Fish Day ticket is £21 - Concessionary - £18.

Wading allowed.

We haven't fished this lake for a couple of years mainly due to bad weather, so fingers crossed....

Sutton Bingham is a lowland reservoir and the water is not deep so the most popular method of fishing is with a floating line and mainly small lures and nymphs.

Floating line or intermediate will be sufficient, and just about anything black and green will work well. The water is slightly coloured because of the resident carp, and there is a fair chance of hooking one of these, they are good fun on a fly-rod. (But no good for the weighing-in!)

The venue is stocked with 12,500-15,000 trout averaging 2lb each with some fish weighing double figures. Please let Gerry T. know if you plan on attending. Look forward to seeing you there!

Rangers: Ivan and Kelvin Tinsley - Contact: 01935 872389

Location: Sutton Bingham Lake near Yeovil, Somerset. Sat Nav: BA22 9QL

BUSHYLEAZE Competition Day - Saturday 29th March 2014

Maurice was the first to catch after a hard skilful fight by both parties, when a superb 7lb 5oz Rainbow took a black buzzer.



The Chateau Lafite Rothschild winning fish was safely brought to the net. Well done Maurice.

Others to catch were Gerry Barnes - 3 fish, Keith Johnston -2 fish and Charles Freemantle - 1 fish. Well done all.

The top rod with 4 fish was Andy Greatwood, who wins the D&J Rideout Shield. Congratulations Andy.

The only drama on the day was the loss of William's hearing aid, which was eventually found and returned to the vacant lug'ole.

Sorry but it was a slow news day. After the weigh-in and group photo, some of us bid a fond farewell, perhaps till next year, to Bushyleaze.

The next thrilling contest will be at Sutton Bingham on this coming Sunday
the 27th April. Be there ! Maurice



Members taking a well-earned break



Colin's Rainbow Trout smashed the Chew Lake record!



Colin Burbedge with his **14lb 9oz Record Rainbow**, caught in April 2011. It is the largest Rainbow ever caught from Chew Reservoir. Colin donated the fish to Bristol Water, and it is now stuffed, mounted and placed 'pride of honour' at the entrance to the Tackle Shop at Woodford Lodge. It was heroically caught with 8lbs b.s. on the bottom dropper tippet. The fly was a gold-ribbed Diawl Bach #14.

Good Stuff, Colin!

The Guilds Chew Boat Cup Competition Sunday May 18th 2014



This competition is being held on **Sunday 18th May**. We shall be fishing for the **Chew Boat 'Tam Pearce' Trophy** and also for a bottle of wine awarded for the heaviest single trout (pike don't count!) There are still some seats to be had so **please book in with Gerry Tinson as soon as possible**.

Any queries please e-mail Gerry:- geraldbtinson@hotmail.co.uk

The price for a day's fishing in a motor boat is £37:50 or £35:00 concessionary so please send a cheque to our Acting Treasurer,

Mr Mike Harris, 3 Rhymes Place, Bath, BA1 7AG. Thank You.

It is almost tradition now that we meet for breakfast (£6:50) at around 8:30am at Woodford Lodge before the great days fishing.

Gerry T. will give us a quick briefing at 9:45am on the lawn. As we did last year we shall decide our partners for the day, and boat numbers will be distributed. Please remember to wear a **safety harness** supplied free by Bristol Water, this is mandatory. Check your boat has a **net**, an **anchor** and **bailing bucket** - just in case!



Fishing starts at **10:00am** to 'weighing in' at **6:30pm**.

Some Members may decide to have a break and meet at the lodge for lunch or a picnic at 1:30pm? Buzzers, Diawl Bachs and PT Nymphs should find the fish.

If the trout are feeding on the surface, try a team of dries, perhaps the Bobs Bits, Hoppers or Raiders picked out, should do the trick.

Whether we catch loads of fish (limited to **8 trout**) or not, it's good to have a day out on the reservoir, discussing tactics and putting the world to rights!

Let's keep our fingers crossed that we will have a cloudy humid day with a gentle breeze. There will be another competition at Chew on the day, so I reckon Bristol Water will be stocking plenty of fish!

Our organisers, Gerry and Maurice look forward to seeing you there.

Finally, please abide by the rules of the Bristol Water Fishery.

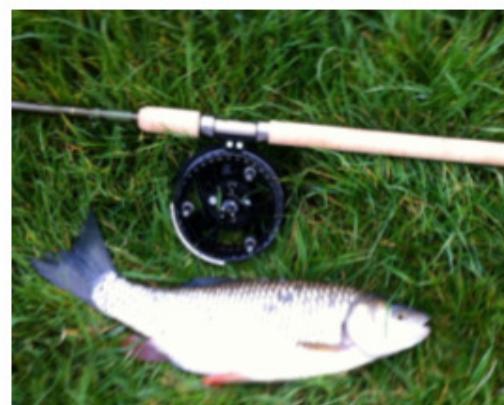
Coarse Fishing on The Frome.

For the first time the Guild has compiled a map of the coarse angling clubs on the Frome, and made contact with them to see how their 2013/14 coarse season has been. It is a mixed picture and on the down side unfortunately, there is general consensus that they are not finding the big chub or double figure barbel that used to be caught, and large catches are rarer. However some good fish are being landed as these photos below show.

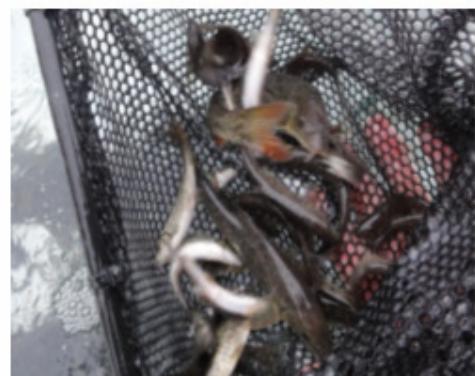
Andy Moore landed 17 fish (his chub in the photo) with several more lost, in a three hour session on the last day of the season - Fri 14th March.

The 1lb+ perch and 1lb+ roach also pictured, with a lot of good dace, were among the good bags landed by members of the Police Angling Club (PAC) which fishes the left bank down past Snarlton Farm to Farleigh weir (a new stretch for them this season). Every year the PAC holds a series of six matches over the winter period. On the plus side they had 20lb & 25lb of roach among their bags during Nov/Dec. No coincidence perhaps that they were landed on our Beat 20 - Roach Bend! Unfortunately there was no sign of roach in quantity during the later matches fishing the same swims.

The Flume pool and beat 13 Bog Stretch, have both produced good chub this year, but the most productive stretches for perch, roach, chub, dace, the occasional 14" brown trout and the large bags of roach, have all been at the end of our water in the last field before Snarlton Weir - beats 20, 21 & 22 on our map. The PAC has several envitably accessible swims on their bank at that point, and whilst we have a few good swims, we plan to make them more accessible for our **Guild Coarse Fishing event on Sunday 29th June**. Our consolation is that we have un-hindered access to some stretches which the PAC consider excellent chub swims, but are not able to cover from their side - such as beat 16 - 'Sandbar',



Thinking of the future - the Environment Agency stocked our water with approx 700 barbel last December. The EA knows our water well and selected Beat 18 - Sandy Shallows - in the pillbox field as the perfect spot to get them off to a good start.



The Guild is working with the other River Frome Angling Clubs through BART (Bristol Avon Rivers Trust) to produce an Angling plan for The Frome. The first meeting of the Clubs was held on 22nd February at BART's office in Malmesbury. The aim is to restore the whole river habitat, and through that hopefully provide the very best Coarse and Game fishing. The Angling Plan will go to The River Frome Steering Group which will have representatives of all those with interests in The Frome including wildlife trusts, farming and local councils.

Mathew Pang - Chairman of Frome AC - will represent the Frome Fishing Clubs. The Steering Group will eventually produce an overall plan for The Frome. It is hoped all this will influence planning by The Environment Agency. In the meantime, we intend to be pro-active in river-monitoring and carrying out improvement work.

Jim and Roger

NB. For Coarse and Carp Fishing Devotees.

Bait Tip

Try this unusual bait for attracting carp. Buy some strawberry spray and spray it on some chopped up cheese the night before you go fishing. The carp go mad for it. The cheese will not harden and will become perfect for hooking.

TIM'S SALMON/TROUT PATE

220grms Salmon (smoked/tinned, or use Trout)

125gms Cream Cheese

125g Melted Butter (unsalted is best)



$\frac{1}{2}$ cup Mayonnaise

Salt & Pepper

2 Tbsp Lemon or Lime juice

Mix all together in food processor

Chill in fridge

Serve on Brown Buttered Toast - Delicious!

Hope you had a good Easter Break.....HAPPY FISHING.....BOB

PS.

BOB HOPE..... He lived till he was one hundred years old

On his death bed! they asked him where he wanted to be buried and he said. "Surprise me."

ONTURNING 70

'I still chase women, but only downhill.'

ON TURNING 80

'That's the time of your life when even your birthday suit needs pressing.'

ON TURNING 90

'You know you're getting old when the candles cost more than the cake.'

ON TURNING 100

'I don't feel old. In fact, I don't feel anything until noon.'

Then it's time for my nap.'

ON GIVING UP HIS EARLY CAREER, BOXING

'I ruined my hands in the ring. The referee kept stepping on them.'

ON NEVER WINNING AN OSCAR

'Welcome to the Academy Awards, or, as it's called at my home, 'Passover.'

ON GOLF

'Golf is my profession. Show business is just to pay the green fees.'

ON PRESIDENTS

'I have performed for 12 presidents but entertained only six.'

ON WHY HE CHOSE SHOWBIZ FOR HIS CAREER

'When I was born, the doctor said to my mother,

Congratulations, you have an eight pound ham.'

ON RECEIVING THE CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL

'I feel very humble, but I think I have the strength of character to fight it.'

ON HIS FAMILY'S EARLY POVERTY

'Four of us slept in the one bed. When it got cold, mother threw on another brother.'

ON LIVING WITH HIS SIX BROTHERS

'That's how I learned to dance. Waiting for the bathroom.'

ON HIS EARLY FAILURES

'I would not have had anything to eat if it wasn't for the stuff the audience threw at me.'

ON GOING TO HEAVEN

I've done benefits for ALL religions. I'd hate to blow the hereafter on a technicality.'

