

West Wilts Fly Fishers Guild

Wednesday 10th October 2018 at Shaw Hotel, Melksham

Part 1

Guest Speaker - Peter Cockwill - renowned angler, world record holder, author, fishing magazine feature writer, tackle shop proprietor and now fishery manager.

We were delighted to welcome a speaker of Peter's stature and his talk on 'grayling fishing' was entertaining and informative. Peter talked about his lifelong pursuit of grayling - his "favourite fish"; which led to him fishing some of the most remote corners of the planet in pursuit of the World Record which he eventually achieved in Canada. His talk was peppered with fascinating facts such as grayling living 30+years and their wide range of colouration which he evidenced with some glorious photos of grayling in their element, prior to release.

During the general Q & A session Peter demonstrated his breadth and depth of knowledge answering members questions on a diverse range of fishing topics. He was thanked by members for his excellent presentation.

Part 2

Present:

Jon Jonik, Malcolm Bond, Roger Henderson, John De Cesare, Richard Cripps, Ged West, Gerry Barnes, Richard Arney, William Arney, David Little, Alastair Logan, Peter Marshall-Bailey, Roger Tranter, Stephen Keys, Tim Pullen, Robert Eadie, Colin Burbedge,

Apologies: Mike Harris, Alan Kerr, Keith Johnston, David Griffiths, George Cantello, Russell Bond.

1) Minutes of September Guild meeting and matters arising.

Accepted without amendment

2) Forthcoming Guild activities :

i) Rivers Mtg Thurs 1st November

Roger asked members to send in 'angler returns' for The Frome and The Mole. Roger will email all members with the agenda for the meeting together with a copy of the Minutes of the 2017 'Rivers Meeting'.

ii) Guild Dinner Fri 16th November

Jon has distributed copies of the Menu choices and asked members to return their preferences asap, ideally by the end of October.

iii) Christmas hamper competition Manningford Fishery Sunday 2nd December

Members were asked to put a note in diaries. Details will be circulated.

iv) Guild social fishing trip - Hawkridge Fishery, Nr Spaxton, Somerset Thursday 25th October

NB: The trip outlined at the meeting has now been cancelled due to an unforeseen clash of dates.

3) AOB

- i) Chew Boat Day Wed 6th June - Richard Arney was congratulated for winning the Chew Boat Cup with a weight of 10lbs for four fish and John Sheppard was presented with a bottle of wine for the heaviest rainbow of the day at 4lb 4oz.

- ii) Jon drew member's attention to the 'Yellow Fish' project which aims to reduce surface water pollution that ends up in rivers. It is an Environment Agency initiative. 'Yellow Fish' provides information and practical advice sessions, materials and events to raise awareness of how residents can change their behaviour to reduce the pollution that ends up in their local river.

- iii) Jon informed members of the *Bristol Avon Catchment Partnership (BACP) Annual Forum* on Wednesday 7th November 2018 9:30am - 1:30pm at The Guildhall, High St, Bath, BA1 5AW. Two Guild members confirmed they would be attending.

Date of Next Meeting - Wednesday 14th November