



Members of the Wild Trout Trust

Website: <http://wwffg.tripod.com/>

February 2012 NEWSLETTER

THE AGM AND MORE

Our Meeting on the 8th February, the AGM, was a successful evening.

All Guild and Committee Officers duly stood down, and were subsequently voted in again to their existing posts by the assembled Guild Members.

Our Auditors John and Colin, have decided to stand down and were thanked for their past work Auditing the Annual Accounts.

Jon Jonik Chaired the meeting, in his inimitable style, in John De C's absence,.

Jon will also be standing in for our Secretary Ricky, until he has returned to good health. Many thanks Jon.

The Guild accounts prepared by our Treasurer, Mike Harris, were presented to the meeting, along with an excellent report. It has been decided not to increase membership fees this year. His report was accepted by members' vote.

After the AGM was closed, Fishing Shields and Trophies, were presented to the lucky Winners, along with an accompanying commemorative medal recording their success.

Any remaining relevant points arising from the AGM will be covered in the next newsletter.

Malcolm's wife Annette, has volunteered to become Guild Auditor. Annette is not a member and is therefore independent.

We are very grateful to her for taking on this post.

Guild Meeting - Wednesday March 14th

- A GRAND AUCTION -

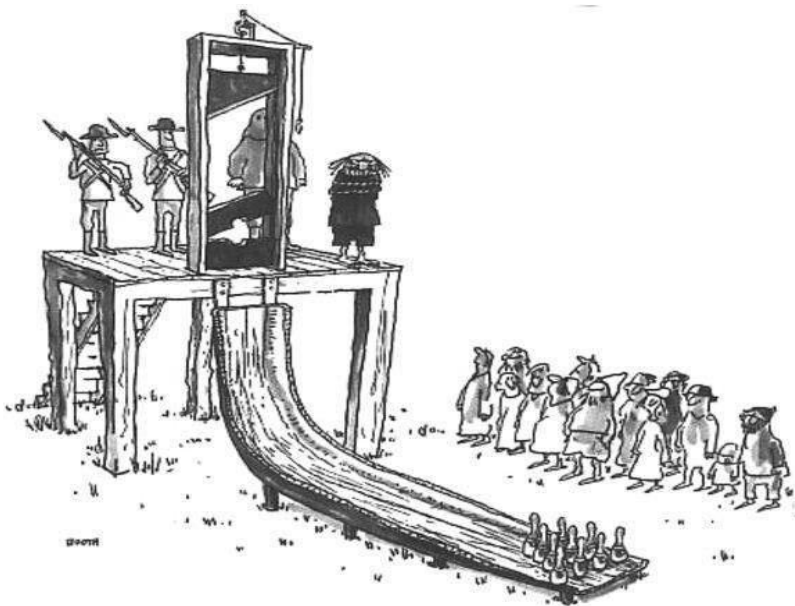
Please see the Catalogue of Items to be auctioned on pages 6 & 7.

The Guild's List of Activities for the year will be sent out in March's Newsletter but in the meantime here are a few of the fishing and social outings we have planned for your pleasure. Please mark them in your diaries.....

- **March 25th**Fishing at Bushyleaze Lake. See details on page 4.
- **The April Guild Meeting - Our Speaker will be Malcolm B on ' Air rifles and the Law.'**

(Police approval has been given for this talk and they will inform the Community PC who covers Shaw. If any member brings an air weapon along on the evening, it must be carried securely in a gun slip, and they **MUST** ensure that it's not loaded or cocked.)

Skittles & Buffet



The Guild's 2012 Skittles Evening is now confirmed for **Friday 13th March, at The White Hart, Atworth; gather at 7.30 pm for 8.00 start.**

A mixed hot and cold buffet will be provided at a cost of £5:50 per head.

There will be Prizes for each of the top skittle scorers in the ladies and the gentemens sections. Numbers are limited to around 30, so it is advisable to book early.

Guests are welcome, although priority will be given to Members and Partners. **Please let Malcolm Bond know ASAP** how many tickets you'd like to book, including any guests you'd like to bring.

Those of you who came along last year had a thoroughly enjoyable evening, and we're expecting the same fun again this year.

To book, you can email Malcolm: Malbond1@btinternet.com or phone 01380 871427

- **Sunday May 13th - Chew Boat Cup Competition - the boats are booked!**

Let me know if you require a seat.

- Brian Thornton has very kindly offered the club an **Archery afternoon and BBQ on Sunday 9th September**

He has invited all Guild members and close family, but would like to **know numbers as early as possible** please, so that he can prepare the barbecues to be used.

Members are asked to bring their own 'BBQ Food' & Drink along with them.

This promises to be a very enjoyable event. More details nearer the time.

- There is a lot more going on this year but do please mark **'Ladies Night'** in your diaries. **This is on Friday 26th October.**

It really is a great night with good food and company and lots of prizes to be won! What more could one ask?



Rivers Mole & Yeo

Malcolm Bond has taken on the role of river keeper and has arranged bank clearance sessions on Sundays' 12th & 26th February.

A 'Pearl mussel walk over' survey organized by the West Country Rivers Trust will take place this Spring - starting at Grilstone Bridge and ending with the confluence of the River Bray.

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FIRST GUILD COMPETITION OF 2012.

As a Guild we have not fished **Bushyleaze** for many years so we are going to put that right!

Our Guild outing is set for Sunday 25th March and will meet at the Bushyleaze Lodge and start fishing for the Henderson Trophy from 9:30am to 4:30pm weigh-in. A full day ticket will cost £32:50 for 4 fish. This is a great lake to fish so let's hope we get a good turnout!

The Fishery Information - next page.....



Bushyleaze Trout Fishery

- 22 - acre lake
- minimum stocking size of two pounds
- good amount of four-to-six-pounders
- regular stocking of double figure fish
- stocked with Rainbow and Brown Trout

Rules:

FLY AND FLY FISHING TACKLE ONLY.

1. ALL FISH MUST BE KILLED, **NO CATCH AND RELEASE**. Any fish landed under 2 pounds need not be counted towards bag limit, so long as the fish is handed in at the lodge on your departure.
2. Only ticket holders are allowed to fish and only one non-fishing guest per angler.
3. All cars to be left in the car parks.
4. All fish are to be weighed and recorded at the lodge on leaving.
5. Fishery staff hold the right to return foul hooked fish.
6. Fishing on the river is strictly between the marked posts.
7. No damage whatsoever to trees and wildlife.
8. **CLOSING TIMES** may vary and will be displayed on the notice board.

Postal Address: Lechlade and Bushyleaze Trout Fisheries,
Lechlade, Gloucestershire, **GL7 3QQ** Tel: 01367 25326.



NB The FISHING 'PLONK' this year is actually a very, very good vino!
It's an Australian Wine called 'Stamford Brook', a Shiraz 2010 and a Chardonnay 2011.
It retails for just under £10 a bottle. So this wine is well worth winning.
It will be awarded for the heaviest trout caught in our Competitions!

NOW IT IS CULTURE TIME AGAIN.....

Milestones: - taken from a book by Dr. E.A. Barton (1943)

THERE are milestones in all men's lives as we pass along the road, and such stones are either brightly lit in sunshine, or are shrouded in the deepest shadow. Those early ones stand out very clearly - the first fight, the first serious love affair, or that moment when the nurse comes in and says, "It's a boy". There are dark ones too, which are never mentioned, and alas (!) never forgotten. But all such emotions pale into insignificance before the intoxication of that golden moment when the first big trout is captured. Many have written of that peep of Heaven, but in their writings one seems to have a suspicion that the pleasure of the relation is greater to the writer than to the reader: for so often it is but the childish prattle of anecdotage.

Be that as it may, but when aged thirteen I rose at dawn one peerless June morning and sneaked out of the house in stockinged feet, with my boots tied round my neck, a tin of worms in my pocket, and my rod disjointed, I felt like a convict escaping from prison with the dewy world literally at my feet. My bicycle, a pennyfarthing machine, lay against the wall. Slipping on my boots I climbed up the backbone into the seat and

A Thames Trout Pool.



was off to a small mill, which clacked but for a few hours' daily, not many miles away. Even now I can plainly see the miller, always an early riser, as he stands in the door of his mill against the flour-powdered ivy in the low sunlight of a summer morning, with the mill cat leaning against his leg. The Mill dam was too small to hold the water needful for a whole day's work, and a four-hour stretch would empty the dam: after which a halt was called till the brook that trickled into it filled it up again. At this early hour the dam was full and the overflow running bravely into a small mill-pool where a swirl of thickish water showed that road washings were running in after a wet night.

Mapledurham Mill, the oldest Mill on the Thames.

A bit of lobworm seemed to be an appropriate appetizer thus early in the day, so I pinched off a tail, ran the hook through it, and putting my float at three feet, cast it into the eddy where the bubbles were making a circular one-way traffic. Just as the float started on its second circuit something happened. It was slowly pulled out of the merry-go-round and drawn towards the hollow under the roots of an over-hanging willow across the way. I struck, and at that moment for the first time in my then short life I felt that thrill all down my spine which, however often repeated in after-life, never approaches that soul-awakening entry into a new world.

There was nothing really in it. The trout must have been about a pound, and after a few rushes I dragged it out into a shallow and fell on it, hugging it to my chest up the bank. Then I sat down and mentally re-enacted the whole drama; and a lump came up in my throat, and I felt as a philosopher has expressed it - "a great disposition to cry". It was the most lovely thing I had ever seen. I could fish no more. No anti-climax for me. I bicycled home with my head knocking the clouds, and my heart thumping against my ribs. And ever after, life had a new meaning.

"Milestones" non numero nisi serenas.

After our March Guild Meeting we shall conduct an Auction of Angling Items.

Our Auctioneer Extraordinaire for the evening will be Mr John Williams.....

Catalogue for Auction 14th March 2012.

Lots 1-19 have been donated by Simon Pearce and belonged to his late father, Tam Pearce, who was a long standing member of the Guild and of the Committee. The proceeds of the sale are to be donated to the Military Charity 'Help for Heroes' with a small donation to Guild Funds.

Lot 1. Hardy Richard Walker Superlite Reservoir Fly Rod. Glass Fibre, 9'3", AFTM 7-8.

Lot 2. Intrepid Rimfly Reel in Case, Hardy Wetfly Fly Line WF7 and a boxed spare spool with fly line.

Lot 3. Diawa Altmor Boat Bag.

Lot 4. Daiwa Whisker Fly Rod, Glass Fibre, 10', AFTM 6-8.

Lot 5. Intrepid Rimfly Reel in case with fly line WF7S.

Lot 6. Two compartment boxes containing an assortment of flies, some new, and assorted leaders, monofilament and line.

- Lot 7.** Fly Box with assorted flies, cigar tin with assorted flies, a tin containing scissors, Muscelin and snips, and an Orvis container with assorted dry flies.
- Lot 8.** Phil Fry Tricast Gold stream Fly Rod, hand built, 9' 6", glass fibre, AFTM 6-8.
- Lot 9.** Intrepid Rimfly Reel in case with Cortland Fly Line WF7F (sink tip), spare spool with fly line and a trout bass.
- Lot 10.** Fly box with assorted flies and four knotless casts. **Lot 11.** Redfly Reddington Fly Rod, 9' 6", Glass Fibre, AFTM 7-8.
- Lot 12.** BFR Rimfly with a Cortland Fly Line, WF7F in a case, floatant and pliers.
- Lot 13.** Fly box with assorted flies.
- Lot 14.** Wychwood Fishing Bag.
- Lot 15.** Intrepid Rimfly Reel in case with Wetcel fast sink line WF7S.
- Lot 16.** Fly box with assorted flies.
- Lot 17.** Shakespeare Reel with fly line, WF7F in a case, braided leader and Ketchem Release Tool.
- Lot 18.** Fly Box with assorted flies.
- Lot 19.** Solvkroken Collapsible Telescopic Landing Net.L
- Lot 20.** Trout and Salmon Video, *Magic of the Mayfly*. Donated by Tim Pullen and proceeds to Guild funds.
- Lot 21.** *The Fly Tying Bible*, Peter Gathercole, donated by Mrs Lewis, the widow of the late John Lewis, a member of the Guild, proceeds to Guild Funds.
- Lot 22.** L.L. Bean *Fly Fishing for Bass Handbook*, Dave Whitlock, donated by Mike Harris, proceeds to Guild funds.
- Lots 22 – 25 have been donated by David Little and they belonged to a keen fisherman who has died. His son would prefer that they go to fishermen who will enjoy them either for fishing or as a collector of fishing equipment. 10% of the proceeds will go to Guild Funds.**
- Lot 23.** Hardy LRH Lightweight Reel. This is certainly the most popular reel, first manufactured by Hardy in 1936 but still in production today. Reserve of £35.
- Lot 24.** JJS Walker Brampton 8' 6" split cane fly rod. The principles of JJS Walker were making rods before joining Hardy's around the start of the twentieth century. They fell out with Hardy over a patent dispute and started making rods in Alnwick, mostly with former Hardy employees, and incorporating many Hardy features. Reserve of £35.
- Lot 25.** Hardy Wainless spinning Rod, about 7'. The rod, which is in good condition, has a new tip ring and one leg of the butt ring may have been rewhipped. Wainless was a well-known exponent of spinning, and this light rod was named after him. It has pretty fittings and Hardy inscriptions on the handle. Reserve of £40.

HAPPY FISHING.....BOB

PS. EUROTUNNEL

Coming back from another recent EC summit in Rome, various European leaders were forced to take the train due to a strike by Swiss ATC controllers; sitting together in the same compartment, travelling through the Swiss Alps, were Sarkozy, Cameron, Merkel and the young and very attractive female Irish Foreign Minister.

The train goes into a dark tunnel and a few seconds later there is the sound of a kiss followed by a loud slap.

When the train emerges from the tunnel, Sarkozy has a bright red hand print on his cheek. No one speaks, everyone is extremely shocked and embarrassed.

Angela Merkel thinks: Sarkozy, not able to help himself, must have kissed the Irish girl in the dark, and she slapped his cheek.

The Irish girl thinks: Sarkozy, not able to help himself, must have tried to kiss me in the dark, but missed and kissed Merkel and she slapped his cheek.

Sarkozy thinks: Why me ? That perfidious Cameron must have groped the Irish girl in the dark knowing that I'd get the blame for it and she slapped me...the English swine.

Cameron thinks: I can't wait for another tunnel, just so I can kiss the back of my hand again and smack that little French sod another time.

PPS. A Refined Edinburgh lady enters a baker's shop and asks

"Is that a sponge cake or a meringue?"

Shop assistant: "No, hen, you're absolutely right, it's a sponge cake."

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In Memoriam:- We hear that Bill Coleman of Mill Farm Trout Lakes passed away recently

Our Sympathy is extended to his Widow Barbara.

Barbara is now helped by her Son in Law Andre in management of the Lakes.