

West Wilts Fly Fishers Guild
Meeting Wednesday 13th November 2019 - 7.30pm Shaw Hotel

Part 1

Present:

Jon Jonik, Roger Henderson, Ged West, Alan Kerr, Tim Pullen, Colin Burbidge, Robert Eadie, Clive Little, Gerry Barnes, Al Logan, David Little, Paul R-Hunt, Charles Freemantle, Paul Runygar-H,

1. Apologies:

Malcolm Bond, George Cantello, John Sheppard, Neil Soni, John DeC

2) Minutes of October Guild meeting and Matters Arising

Accepted without amendment. No matters arising.

1) River Frome annual review

i) Minutes of 2018 Rivers Meeting (attached) and matters arising

Accepted without amendment. Item 5 - Car Parking - the Committee is actively seeking a solution.

ii) River Frome Report

Roger presented the report to the meeting - a copy is attached with these Minutes. The report is also available on our website. Roger thanked those members who have helped during the year with bank work and/or stocking.

iii) Stocking in 2020

The meeting agreed that stocking in 2020 should follow the same pattern as this season i.e. two stockings of approx. 100 12" to 14" rainbow trout - one in June at mayfly time and one in late August to boost fishing later in the season.

iv) Bank management planning & equipment

Our spring bank clearance session will be on Sunday 16th February.

Roger will email members in 2020 to ask whether weekend, weekday or evening bank sessions would be preferred.

The meeting approved the purchase of a petrol hedge trimmer at a cost of £70 so that we are not reliant on hiring which costs £50 per session

2) Guild Dinner and Big Raffle Friday 15th November.

Jon said that thirty will be attending - three tables of ten.

3) Christmas Hamper competition - Manningford Fishery Sun 8th December.

Thanks to Alan for organising. The winner will be presented with a £60 food hamper and a bottle of wine for the heaviest fish (the winner of the hamper is not eligible for the bottle of wine prize)

4) Angling Trust Raffle

The meeting approved the purchase of £20 of raffle tickets in support of both the Angling Trust and Salmon & Trout Association raffles. Any prizes will go into a draw for members.

5) 2020 Programme.

Jon went through the Committee's initial proposals for 2020. Copy attached and on the Guild website. Suggestions from members:

- A Guild meeting at Manningford Fishery for a river fishing instruction session
- A guest speaker to talk about sea fly-fishing
- A Guild meeting devoted to cooking trout inc. filleting, smoking, sharing recipes e.g, pates' etc

AOB

- i) Members reflected on the passing of Bob Church who died in September age 83. A great deal has been written in the angling press and Jon reminded us how Bob brought fly-fishing within the reach of everyone with Bob Church fly fishing tackle being sold at Woolworths. Alan was asked to relate his memories of fishing with Bob Church and Richard Walker.

Part 2

A talk on 'wildfowling' by member Al Logan.

Al is a member of Gloc. Wildfowling Association which has 30 miles of tidal foreshore on both banks of The Severn.

Alistair explained the historical shooting regulations which depend entirely on where you shoot from i.e. within the low water or high water tide marks. Nearly all shooting takes place at dawn or dusk and a good retriever is essential. He brought along his gun and non-lead cartridges, a selection of deco ducks of which there are many different species and as all the quarry are wild ducks you really need to be a good shot especially in poor light conditions. Being able to put up with the mud and cold is essential.

The Gloc. Wildfowling Association have in conjunction with the Slimbridge Wildfowl Trust successfully ditched and flooded sections of farmland back to tidal flooding expanding the wetlands habitat.

It was a superb presentation and generated a great deal of interest. Members thanked Al for a fascinating talk. Al invited any member interested in finding out more to get in-touch.

Date of next meeting - Wednesday 8th January 2020

To see Minutes of past meetings visit our website: www.westwiltsflyfishersguild.com

