

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

WALTHAMSTOW FLY FISHERS CLUB

OCT-DEC 2022

OPENING STATEMENT

Happy New Year to you all.

Well I am slowly getting into the role of chairman and I really appreciate the support I have received from members, thank you all.

This year we plan some club days, the Farmoor trip was popular last year so we will be organising that again and hopefully venture out to some other venues too. Also we will hold some non competition club days at the Stow as well, the beginners/fun day was also popular last year.

Encouraging new members is still high on my list and I think things are moving in the right direction. We are making a collective effort to promote the club various social media.

January 2023 will see an article about the club in Fly Fishing & Fly Tying magazine. Andrew Green wrote the article for us.

Andy Hathaway's beginners courses seem to be well attended and going well, hopefully some new members will join us from Andy's course's.

We will once again be organising fly tying evenings over the next few winter months. They were not very well attended last year, so come along and support the evenings, they will be held in the Ferry Boats, dates to be announced. You do not any equipment, come along and see if fly tying appeals to you.

Don't forget the AGM on February 25th 2023, your chance to have your say. Tackle auction after AGM.

THE FISHING

NUMBERS 4&5

The fishing certainly improved as autumn appeared, lots great days fishing reported. I personally managed to fish more at the "stow" than I usually do and had some really good sport finding some real specimens amongst the fish I caught.

I am building a rapport with Myland

and the rangers regarding stocking etc. One thing we are trying to improve on is accurate returns filled out in the book, this helps everyone gauge more accurately how the reservoirs are fishing. The rangers are doing their bit by providing regular catch returns.

Some decent brown trout have been caught recently, we think these were accidentally stocked a few months ago.

Dave Jarvis catching a beautiful 9lb fish the beginning of December which was safely returned.

EAST WARWICK

The EW has also fished well as usual. Rae Duncan has caught many fish recently from the EW.



**Rae Duncan with a large EW rainbow*



**Dave's 9lb brownie*

September see TW start stocking again. We were told the fish are on the small side this is due to the supplier having issues in the summer heat. I understand the supplier as purchased equipment which will hopefully prevent this happening in the future. However the fish that have been caught are in good condition and a decent size, It seems the fish were a better stamp on the second stocking.

With the stocking and cooler water the fishing as seen catch returns improve and some much more successful fishing in general. The club and myself are trying to build a relationship with TW water to improve information on stocking etc. We can all help by filling in accurate return cards etc.

There have been concerns over next seasons fishing prices. Unfortunately

like everything else at the moment fishing costs at Walthamstow are likely to increase next year. Thames Water will not know by how much until later this year when they will know fish prices for next season etc.

There is currently the position of club secretary that needs filling. The club is financially sound and membership is slightly on the up.

COMPETITION NEWS

RENEGADES 6X4

November saw the last two heats of the Renegades 6x4 league that the club entered a team in.

We finished in the bottom half of the table which was not what we had aimed for but we are still learning and most definitely having some fun on the way. The practice sessions and overnight

stays in hotels is really bonding us and I am sure there is better to come from us in the future.



*Ian Watts & Peter Costin practicing at Draycote



*Billy Bridgeworth & Andrew Smith on competition day

6x4 Series 2022

Aggregate Team Results

	2022 6x4 Table after Round 5				
	Round 1 Rutland 03-Apr	Round 2 Draycote 19-Jun	Round 3 Eyebrook 17-Jul	Round 4 Eyebrook 14-Aug	Round 5 Draycote 13-Nov
1 Reservoir Dogs	1	3	2	2	1
2 Renegades	5	1	5	1	3
3 Team Last Casters	4	9	3	3	4
4 Fly Boys	3	5	6	5	6
5 Swifts	10	2	1	11	7
5 The Ospreys	2	10	4	13	2
7 Soldier Palmers	6	7	10	7	5
8 Walthamstow Cormorants	12	4	9	4	11
9 Kingfishers	8	8	13	9	8
10 Fish Hawks	13	6	11	8	9
11 England Ladies	9	12	8	10	10
11 High Peak Drifters	11	13	7	6	12
13 The Merlins	7	11	12	12	13
Fish Caught	456	202	240	198	275
Rod Average	8.8	3.9	4.6	4.0	5.3
Team Winners	Reservoir Dogs	Renegades	Swifts	Renegades	Reservoir Dogs
Top Rod	Leigh Pond Reservoir Dogs	Leigh Pond Reservoir Dogs	Neil Cohen Swifts	Warren Langridge Renegades	Tim Joyce Reservoir Dogs
Best Novice	Jake Wenman Kingfishers	Rosemary Gunn England Ladies	Ryan Bull Soldier Palmers	Brian Blackett Renegades	Ryan Bull Soldier Palmers

*2022 6x4 Results

BEWL GRAND MAX

In October we entered a team in the Grand Max team of six competition fished at Bewl.

Bewl fished better than it as in recent years and we held our own and finished a creditable fifth with a very small margin from finishing in the top three.

This is a great competition and one of the social events of the year with excellent lunch and evening meal provided in the yacht club. Great opportunity to meet old friends.



*Our team Andrew Smith, Tony Fox, Myself, Frank Daley, Mike Heritage and John Ferguson.

THE AUTUMN SERIES

The new format, best two results from three matches, was a big success. With a much better turn out than in recent years. The addition of a £5 sweep for the biggest fish over the three matches meant there was interest for all of us right up until the end even if we didn't have a chance in the league. It went right to the wire with six possible winners on the last day.

Once again choosing which two fish to kill helped make it a very tight finish. John Ferguson was one of the guys who had a chance of winning but was blanking with 30 minutes to go. John caught

two fish in the end to come second on the the day and win the overall series. Matt McColl won the day and ending up second in the series. There were other guys who put fish back hoping for bigger fish that never turned up. Harry Fox won the sweep for biggest fish with a fish of 4lb 1oz caught in the first match.

SERIES POSITIONS

First John Ferguson winning the trophy and a 40th anniversary engraved fly box.

Second Matt McColl



**John receiving the Autumn Series trophy*



**Weigh in outside the Ferry Boat*



**Jim caught the biggest fish in the first five minutes*

THE FUR AND FEATHER

The f&f was once again a great day with a really good turn out. Some old members turning up on the day including our club President Andrew Green who made the long journey from Cumbria. The reservoirs both fished well especially number five. A lot of guys chose to fish number four in search of the bigger fish but they never appeared and most of the top ten guys caught their fish on number five.

First George Pavli winning a trophy, hamper and a 40th anniversary engraved fly box

Second Gary Inwards

Third Jim Dillon

Biggest fish Jim Taylor

Guess the total fish weight sweep winner Andrew Green

Festivities continued in the Ferry Boat til gone midnight. I think a great day was had by all and the fishing was good too.

*George unfortunately had to leave before the prize giving and photos.

Thank you Jackie Ferguson for providing excellent prizes yet again.



**Jim receiving his hamper*



**Gary receiving his prize*



**Hampers thanks to Jackie Ferguson*



**Frank showing the locals how to fish Rutland*

A couple of members who have done well recently in competitions away from the club.

Jim Dillon winning the SEFFF national qualifier on the river Itchen and qualifying for next years national championship.

Frank Daley winning the Rutland Fur and Feather.

On reflection it's been a pretty good year with the various competitions.

The team competitions are open to any club member.

Regarding our club competitions at the stow. Please don't be put off by the word "competition" if you are a newcomer, these are very friendly days and a lot can be learned fishing these events and it's a good way to get know other members. Also all club competitions are free to enter.

FLY OF THE SEASON



BLACK MAGIC BUZZER
Difficulty - Medium

Originally given to me by Ben Dobson for fishing at grafham. This pattern works well for the late buzzer hatch, all the way through spring. The amount of red in the fly means it picks up deep bloodworm feeding trout.

TYING

Step 1: Lay down a base of red thread and catch in the black flexi floss.

Step 2: Wind the flexi floss up the body leaving small gaps so the red shows though. Tie off short of the thorax and switch to black thread.

Step 3: Tie in the red holographic and use two turns for the collar.

Step 4: Tie in the gold tinsel facing down the hook and build the thorax.

Step 5: Hold the gold tinsel cheeks over the eye and tie in. Whip finish and varnish.

MATERIALS

Fasna 310 size 10 hook, red thread, black flexi floss, black thread, medium red holographic, medium gold tinsel and varnish.

Billy

We have added a new feature to this newsletter with Billy Bridgeworth sharing his favourite flies for the Stow.

CLOSING STATEMENT

Once again I must thank the committee, without them the club wouldn't run as well as it does. Ben Ridout, Tony Fox, Matt McColl, John Ferguson. Welcome Vince King who as returned as club secretary.

I must also thank Billy Bridgeworth who prepares this news letter.

There will be some club merchandise coming soon, fly boxes, clothing etc. With the new club badge deigned by Billy.

There is one more competition coming up on January 28th, the Final Fling, which is the final competition of the 2022/23 season and the final opportunity to win one of the 40th anniversary engraved fly boxes.

Hope to see you at the final fling and the AGM.

Looking forward to the year ahead at the Stow and look forward to seeing you all on the banks.

Tight lines Peter



**New club badge*