

NOVEMBER 2011



*PHEASANT TALES*

## *N*OVEMBER MEETING

As has mentioned in previous communications, November's meeting will be held at The Lysely Arms, Pewsham SN15 3RU where Alan J will give an account of the weekend away. This will be a trial of the suitability of the venue as a permanent home for us and we will be seeking the opinions of the members. Please would all members please try to attend the meeting.

## *N*OVEMBER TRIP

November's trip will be the bank competition at Bushyleaze on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup>. This is the last chance of the year for members to beat Alan J in a club competition!

## *C*HRISTMAS MEAL

All members should have already received menus for this year's Christmas meal which is at The Bell Inn, Yatton Keynell on Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December. If anyone hasn't received a menu please contact Bruce. Please could all members who wish to attend the evening please give Alan J their payment and menu choices by 11<sup>th</sup> November.

# Haywards Farm

This year saw us return to Haywards Farm for the challenge match and what we hoped would be a match with good bags of fish for all competitors. After marvelling at the car which had been parked on top of the barrier above Junction 13 Tony, Ivor, Paul, Dave L, Alan J and myself met up for what is becoming the traditional McDonalds breakfast. We then travelled the short distance to Haywards farm where we met up with Larry and Chris.

After some heated discussions as to which of the former occupants of an aviary now residing in a fly box constituted a small nymph, everyone tackled up and waited for the issuing of their final fly! On a day when the wind was steadily gaining strength there was a mixed reaction when I opened a tin of orange bodied dry daddies, but everyone dispersed around the lake in a relatively positive mood. I headed towards the top end of the lake in search of a quick fish to open my account with. After several changes of fly and peg it became apparent that the fishing was not going to be easy and that a change of plan was required. As the wind was picking up and by now blowing strongly from the top end of the lake towards the club house I decided to follow the wisdom that fish will move downwind and so moved to fish into the wind. En route to my new position I met Alan J who was also struggling and decided to follow me. I began to see fish moving in front of me but most were out of my casting range due to the wind. I did have one fish follow and snatch at the fly under my rod tip but unfortunately I didn't manage to connect with it. After another hour of continuous casting into the wind with no further follows my arm was getting tired and I decided to move to the opposite bank where I had seen fish caught earlier. Having been guided to the fish Alan was however faring somewhat better and had already landed two fish.



Ivor....



....and Tony in action from the same peg.

As I moved around the lake I found Ivor in the corner between the railway line and the car park with fish in front of him and, although struggling, had managed one fish. Larry was next to him and was unfortunately struggling and fishless. I set up half way down the bank near Tony where we both watched Alan playing yet another fish while both of us continued to struggle.

As we all traipsed back to the club house for lunch and the weigh in it was clear that we had all struggled to catch fish in the conditions. The final results of the unexpectedly difficult competition were:

1	Alan J	3 Fish	8lb 12oz
2	Richard	3 Fish	8lb 6oz
3	Paul	2 Fish	5lb 12 oz

Congratulations therefore go to Alan who despite losing a fourth fish is a worthy winner and is at present is on for a clean sweep of club competitions, the final competition of the year is the bank competition at Bushyleaze.



Alan's Winning Flies