



Pheasant Tales

December 2009

Coming Events

The Calendar has been amended slightly over the next couple of months, this is what we are planning to put on, weather permitting!

Please let Alan J know if you want to go to Farmoor and the Grayling trip.

Farmoor, Sun. 6th Dec.

Barnes Lake - Standlake, Sun. 27th Dec.

Re-arranged Grayling trip to Sutton Veny - Sun 3rd Jan 2010

Jan Meeting - Tues 5th Jan 2010

Ubley Hatchery and Temple Fishery, Sat. 9th Jan.

Pie and Fish Trip - Manningford, Sat. 16th Jan.

AGM - Tues 2nd Feb 2010



Christmas meal

The Christmas Meal is coming up soon with promises of lashings of Christmas Pud, Wine and the odd Trophy.

The question on every bodies lips is not what Paul did with the Guinea Pigs but who will win the Silly Boy Pike Cup this year. Will it be Mervyn again? Or Richard (yes) going for a Hat Trick? Who knows? Well what we do know is that we should have a good time and could you all donate prizes, however small or big, to the raffle? You never know, you may be able to bribe yourself out of the running for the SBP cup!

British Disabled Angling Association

The BDAA is a registered national charity founded in 1996 to help develop opportunities for disabled people with disabilities to access fishing within the UK. The charity currently has around 24500 members nationally and its website currently attracts 3.5 million hits per year. Their work currently covers coarse, sea, game and specimen fishing and they are keen to increase their involvement in game fishing.

To help with their work the BDAA are currently seeking donations of any new or used fishing tackle or equipment including rods, reels, lines, leaders, flies, bags, boxes, clothing etc. etc.! If anyone has any unwanted tackle (including sea or coarse) which they are willing to donate, could they please give it to Bruce after Christmas either at the January meeting, the AGM or at either the cobweb or pie trips.

Grayling Trip, or not? – Alan Judd

What a fantastic day's fishing!!! – although it didn't turn out quite as we'd planned?

Five of us made the trip and met for breakfast before heading off for some river fishing for Grayling. Upon our arrival we were met by the river keeper, who suggested that we look at the river first before deciding to fish, as the previous day's rain had made the water levels very high and coloured. He then, very kindly, took us down to the river and after inspection, we all agreed that to get the best out of the river, it would be better left to another day. We were then faced with the dilemma of what to do now. We had all been let out for the day and had been looking forward to the day out, so we thought about going to Manningford or Mill Farm.



We then realised that both of these venues have streams flowing directly into the lakes and were likely to be coloured as well. Temple fishery was also suggested but that was quite a trek, so in a last ditch attempt I asked the river keeper if he knew of anywhere else in the area. He said he may be able to sort something out for us and asked us to wait while he made a phone call. It was while we were waiting in an open barn when a guinea pig cage was suddenly opened. The perpetrator said he wanted to stroke them but by the expression on his face, I think he may have been looking for fly tying materials!!

Anyway, when the river keeper came back with the news that we could fish a private lake, keep 2 fish then catch and release for £10 each we jumped at the chance!! The next problem was that Bruce and I only had our river gear with us. I for instance had a 5 weight rod and just one very small fly box with tiny nymphs and dries and nothing with marabou on it!! Luckily, I had also brought a 6 weight with me and Paul and Tony lent us some flies. I did have a priest and a small folding landing net whereas some of the others only had small wooden pan river nets. So by mixing and matching we managed to sort ourselves out. We weren't sure how it was going to fish as it was the end of the season and had not been stocked for a while. We needn't have worried; as apparently it had not been fished recently either and we proceeded to enjoy some of the best fishing we had experienced for some time. Black and green lures seemed to work best but I also managed to catch on the 5 weight with a hare's ear and a pink shrimp. Around midday and despite the strong cold wind, Tony caught a couple of fish on dries, Paul caught a Brown and at one stage I was getting a fish a chuck. I finished the day with 12, Paul with 11, Tony 8, Ivor 6 and Bruce 3. We all kept our first 2 fish but Ivor managed to blag most of these off us and came prepared with his gigantic bass bag!!



So there you have it, what looked like being a disaster at the beginning of the day, turned out to be a superb day's fishing in a private lake with (as Bruce said) 40 "Lesser Spotted Grayling" being caught between 5 of us in just a few hours – and all for a tenner!!!

As already mentioned in the future events section the Grayling trip has been re-arranged for Sunday 3rd Jan 2010, We hope the weather will be kinder to us.