



Kennick Fly Fishers Association August Newsletter 2023



Editor and Circulation - John Hern
johnhern@virginmedia.com
www.kennickflyfishers.co.uk

Summer Round Up

Kennick Fly Fishers have recently lost a long standing member, former Chairman, friend of the Club and fishing buddy. Bill Hande joined Kennick Fly Fishers 25 years ago and soon became an active member of the Club. He had been an active angler in the Midlands Angling scene so was an obvious choice for Chairman to run the Club which he did for 10 years.

Bill was a fantastic organiser, leader and was very influential in getting funding for the Lodge which was constructed and opened in 2008. Bill was in his element at any of the shows we would attend and in particular the Devon County Show was one of his favourites. He had the knack and ability to talk to anyone and welcome them into the fishing stand and sign them up for membership.

There are many wonderful stories that we have of Bill and his fishing trips. Along with the Fab 4 (Alec Hoare, Fred Pike and Mike Stone) they were the forerunners of the Rutland trips that the Club went on to fish for a few years.

Bill had many stories to tell of his younger days in Ireland and catching a Salmon or 2 on the River Moy where he grew up in Ballina. For those of you who know the river, aged 8 he was dared to walk on the top of the bridge by the Ridge Pool with the fast flowing Moy beneath him.

Bill was an active member of the Snowbee Top Rod events and had been fishing with the Club at our last Boat trip to Clatworthy. He always enjoyed the Bristol Water trips, having fished many times with the Fab 4 at Blagdon and was so pleased to win the Fred Pike Cup (pictured below) 2 years ago where he wiped the floor with most of us that day. It was on a Blagdon practice day where he caught the Pike (pictured below), a fish nearing 20lbs was pulled into the net.

There were a number of entries for the Chairman's Shield over the years for various mis haps of the day, I dread to think how many rods got broken over the years!

One story that I will never forget was when in the early 2000's Bill won a small kayak in a raffle at Wimbleball. We used to have open days and a BBQ during the day back then and Bill was desperate to try this kayak out. It was one of those sit on types and looked fairly unstable.

Bill soon tackled up and was afloat, it wasn't long before there was a splash and some shouting to say that Bill had fallen in. Mark Baxendale (Ranger) stripped off and jumped in to rescue Bill. Having swam out to Bill to check he was ok, Bill was more concerned about his rod and hat! Bill got assisted back to shore and I'm sure after a coffee or 2 soon recovered but the rod was never found!

He then bought a more suitable craft known as the spider, pictured below.

I took over the Chairman's role from Bill, he was a great support to me, mentor and will be greatly missed by his fishing friends. He was always there for a chat to discuss any issues and offer solutions or ideas.

We will miss the Irish humour, the Rugby chat, a glass of shiraz and general support on any of our events.

Bill had written a report from a recent trip to Rutland with Mike Stone, which is in this newsletter.

Tight Lines Bill wherever you are and keep fishing!



Snowbee

Kennick Fly Fishers Association are proud to have Snowbee sponsoring the Top Rod in 2023

Club members receive 10% when shopping at Snowbee in Plymouth.



Competitions and news

Siblyback Snowbee Teams was won by Roche Angling Club, Kennick C was 3rd - Rob Gale, Gerry Scutt, Alan Riddell and Alec Hoare.

Peninsula Pairs - This event was won by Alec Hoare and James Friendship, both won a SW Lakes season ticket.

Grey's Pairs - Alec Hoare and James Friendship won the Wimbleball Heat and now go through to the final at Llyn Brenig in North Wales at the end of August - good luck guys! Want to hear all about it when you get back.

Peninsula Classic was won by Alex Venn winning a season ticket for next year. Alex caught 3 fish, Darren Penfold caught 2 and Dave Perks caught 1 fish, everybody else blanked!

10 members of the Club had a River day on the Upper Teign, caught approx 60 fish with a nice Carvery lunch at the Anglers Rest.

Simon Kidd recently gave a demo on latest tackle with some tips and tricks, Tom Hendy cooked a great BBQ.

What a difference a year can make, Kennick is 75% full compared to less than 50% this time last year.

Kennick has had a recent stocking of 300 fish and there will be more to go in throughout September and October.

Reminder for date of EGM - This is to discuss proposal of Kennick Fly Fishers taking over control of the boats in 2024 - Chudleigh Town Hall 08/09 1930

TOP ROD STATS AFTER 6 ROUNDS

1st Darren Penfold - 101
2nd Alec Hoare - 96
3rd Peter Brown - 89
4th Alex Venn - 88
5th Chris Bolt - 81
6th Alan Riddell - 79
7th Tom Hendy - 69
=8th Gerry Scutt - 52
=8th John Hern - 52
10 James Friendship - 44

1 Boat and 1 Bank event left for the 2023 season.

Club events

03/09 - Clatworthy Bank - 1000-1700
08/09 - EGM Chudleigh Town Hall - 1930
01/10 - Wimbleball Boat - 1000-1700
03/12 - Christmas Meal Phoenix Chudleigh - 1730-2100

IN THIS EDITION

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Cut Price Tickets for KFFA Members

Hon Treasurer Tom Hendy supplies reduced priced tickets.

Kennick

Full Day - £31.00
Reduced / Concession - £28.00
Evening Ticket - £21.00
Catch & Release - £22.00

Wessex Water tickets now available Clatworthy / Sutton Bingham / Hawkridge

Full Day - £28.00
Concession - £24.00

Contact Tom for more information

Tom Hendy
38 Millway
Chudleigh
Newton Abbot
TQ13 0JN
Tel - 01626 852360
Email - thendy@btinternet.com

Available on line soon

WHO TO CONTACT

Chairman - John Hern - 07770 651520
Treasurer - Tom Hendy - 01626 852360
Competitions Sec - Darren Penfold - 01626 821279
Committee - James Friendship - 07811405775
Committee - Robert Gale - 07748100064
Committee - Paul Wicks - 01364 652284
Committee - Andrew Watson - 01626 833935
Committee - Gavin Argyle - 01626 362279
www.kennickflyfishers.co.uk

Kennick Club Members can get 10% discount at the following places

Snowbee UK in Plymouth - 10%
Kennick Boat on Wimbleball - 50%
Fly Fishing Tackle in Crediton - 10%
www.Fish4flies.com - 10% enter KFFA on line
Alan Riddell Tackle - 10%
www.hooksandhackles.com - 10% KEN10

Please take your in date Membership Card with you.

RUTLAND TRIP

Mike and I had discussed taking another trip to Rutland Water for some time. We both love Rutland. Our better halves eventually persuaded us by telling us that they were coming as well

Our first house after getting married had been in Empingham, that was before the reservoir was built and as Jennifer had not been back for some fifty years she was particularly interested in visiting it again. so there was now an interest for the ladies.

An internet search for accommodation came up with the Normanton Park Hotel, right on the bank of Rutland water and at a very good price, so that was quickly booked.

We decided on two days fishing, well as an octogenarian two consecutive days fishing is more than enough for me. Travel up on Sunday, fish Monday and Tuesday and home again on Wednesday.

There followed many days of planning, what tackle to take; how many rods for a start. I have been known to occasionally break one. What clothes to take, it was early June so we didn't need much did we - wrong. We decided fairly quickly that we needed two cars: well we had to take a lot of fishing tackle.

With regard to fishing the plan was to fish one arm of the reservoir each day covering as much water as possible and to restrict ourselves to nymphs and small flies. We also decided to fish catch and release as we didn't want the bother of cleaning and freezing fish and trying to get them home still frozen.

We had a leisurely drive up there, Mike and I in one car and the girls in the other. We arrived in a little over four hours with the ladies turning up half an hour or so later having made an unintended diversion to Stamford.

The hotel turned out to be better even than we had expected, an old building cleverly converted. A walk out the back took us to the Normanton bank and Normanton Church. We were about fifteen minutes walk from the Angling centre. We quickly realised that it was much colder than it was in Devon, around 15 degrees with a cold east wind. Not exactly sun bathing weather.

We decided to have dinner in the hotel which was a mistake as the chef was ill and they seemed unable to cater for a ceoliac. We avoided dinner at the hotel after that though I must say that the breakfasts were very good and the staff very helpful.

Monday morning Mike and I were out early and heading up the South Arm for Hideaway bay where we had been told there were fish. After about half an hour with no action I got a sudden take which nearly took the rod out of my hand and broke me. Not sure if it wasn't a pike. I seem to have an attraction to pike. Another half an hour with no action and we decided to move to Green Bank and then to Old Hall. A few takes and one fish and we were on our way again. We spent the morning making our way along the bank stopping at various fishy looking spots but with fairly limited success, some takes and follows and a few small fish. After lunch and a beer we decided to cross over to New Zealand point, one of Fred's favourite places. We were really catching the wind and there was a big wave. We anchored up as

drifting was difficult. We each had a fish on our first cast and this was followed by around 25 more (we lost count) over the next two hours. Most of the fish were between one and half and two pounds with two or three around three pounds. They fought like demons in the big wave. Most were caught on hares ears shrimp imitations and small flies. It was then around four and the casting arms were beginning to ache so we called it a day. On arriving back at the boat dock we found that we had done better than most.

An Indian at the Oakham Balti House and an early bed followed

Out early again on Tuesday morning, it was tempting to return to New Zealand point; however we had planned to explore the North Arm on the second day and that is what we did. We started at the top of the arm, at Dickenson's and made our way along Barnsdale to the Creek where we saw some fish moving. We each landed a fish there but they refused to play any more. As it was then near lunch time and the creek was sheltered we stayed on for a while. We still had the cold east wind so confined ourselves to the more sheltered north bank. We continued on along Whitwell to Stockie Bay getting the odd take and picking up a couple of fish. It was now three o'clock so the decision was to go back to New Zealand Point where the fish were yesterday. We anchored up in the wind, just off shore but this time there were no fish or they had learned from their experience yesterday and were not going to cooperate. We then took ourselves into Church Bay where we each picked up a fish before heading for home.

We had over 30 fish between us during the two days, which wasn't bad. We had stuck to small flies and nymphs and had explored both the North and South arms. Having just read Craig Barr's report, he was ghillieing on Tuesday we should have crossed over to Armley Wood with the wind at our back and fished close into the bank where he and his client caught. Interestingly, he fished a short leader, 12ft with 4 flies, hares ears and diawl bachs fished on a washing line. He said that long leaders left the flies too far apart to be effective when the fish were so close to the shore.

All in all a very pleasant visit to Rutland and the ladies enjoyed themselves enough to suggest that we do it again.

Bill Hande

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Website Developments

You will be aware of several improvements we are currently working on.

You are now able to book the Kennick boat at Wimbleball via our site - www.kennickflyfishers.co.uk

Follow the Tab along the top for Boat Bookings

Club members receive 50% off a standard boat and £10 off a petrol boat.

Other features to come -

Memberships - New Member, Pay subs and Junior Member

Fishing Tickets - all these will be available soon to buy on line, please remember to complete a return on SW Lakes website with the ticket number.

On Line Shop - all our 2nd hand tackle will be uploaded in the near future, you will be able to purchase on line through our secure payment system.

England Youth Team update



Kennick Fly Fishers are delighted to be a sponsor for Max Mockridge who is in the England Youth team.

Max recently took part in a match at Lyn Clywedog in Wales.

Max sent in a report to say that on Day 1 practice he was top rod for England with an amazing haul of 43 fish!

Max was using a Pink Blob, Cats Whiskers and Black boobies.

On the day of the Competition Max caught 9 fish, method was using the bung with a white egg and pink blob.

England were 3rd and got the Bronze medal, 9 fish short of Silver.

Also in the team is Max's brother James.

James caught 18 on the Competition day and picked up the trophy for the largest catch for England.

James (left) and Max (right) are both pictured above, also Team England.

Well done to you both, a great effort and no doubt a brilliant experience for you.

Look forward to the hearing results of the next events!



Devon County Show

We were once again back by the casting pool at the Devon County Show.

The show had moved back to its original date of 3rd week of May and the weather was glorious for it.

I can't ever remember a dry show before!

Thanks to all those Club members who gave up their time to come along and give a hand.

We were able to sell some 2nd hand tackle and give around 100 people a taster session.

See you next year



You may remember back at the AGM we asked for your approval to purchase some Bee equipment and start a new hobby!

We have joined the local Club at Chudleigh Knighton, Tom has completed the course.

We have 1 hive which when we started had about 8000 bees inside, this increased up to approx 50000. It has been a pretty steep learning curve for us, me especially but we have recently extracted our first honey.

The hive has to be inspected every 2 weeks so we have been busy checking through the hive and I did take some little video clips which I will put on the website soon so you can experience the buzz.

You may have seen people in white suits walking around Kennick, you weren't seeing things!

As a member of the Chudleigh Knighton Club we are able to get lots of support and advice and when it came to extraction day, proved to be quite a sticky day! Wellies were needed!

We currently have 1 active hive which we hope to expand for next year.

We have yet to bottle the honey up and get ready for sale, thanks to those who have pre ordered and supported the Club in this new venture.

A few bee facts and statistics for you

Did you know - Bees fly 55000 miles to make 1 pound of honey.

The Queen lays up to 1900 eggs per day

The average hive produces 25lb of honey per year.

Brother Adam developed the Buckfast Bee in 1917

Who knew there was a Waggle Dance!

There is so much to learn and understand but so far has been an enjoyable experience.

We have both been stung a few times but both now wear thicker gloves.

I would like to find out what our bees have been foraging on so we can see how the honey is made up. Apparently all we need is someone with a microscope - any volunteers?

Above pictures are the Extracting machine with the honey coming out at the bottom, Tom and I suited and booted and then one of the frames covered in bees.