



Kennick Fly Fishers Association

September Newsletter 2022



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Drought Conditions

As we start September, Kennick is as low as I have ever seen it. I don't remember seeing Kennick in 1976 but do remember being at Fernworthy (Yes I am just old enough to remember back that far!) Photo's below dated 02/09.

Levels have been dropping consistently week on week for several months now and it sad to see the water disappearing down the valve tower, not helped by the Trenchford work this year.

There are still fish to be had and Tom Hendy and Alan Riddell took a boat out last week and managed 5 between them with numerous other takes mainly in the deeper water.

Please be careful if fishing the banks as they are now slippery with the exposed muddy areas.

It is worth a walk around to take note of the deeper spots, you can really see where those holes are that hold fish when the level is full.

There are reports on recent events in this Newsletter including Bank Pairs, Peninsula Classic, Devon County Show, Snowbee Demo evening and recent Taster day. We have also attended the Honiton Show and shared a stand with the Upper Teign Fishing Association at the Chagford Show.

Despite the conditions this year the Club has completed 6 rounds of the Snowbee Top Rod and starts again after the summer break on September 4th at Wimbleball. We have 3 boat competitions and 1 bank left for the rest of the season.

I have been asked by Graham Read to thank all those who wrote to their MP's or registered on the online petition for improving the mobile phone coverage in the Christow and Teign Valley area. There has been some progress with conditional approval has been given for a mobile mast at Blackingstone which if it proceeds will provide significantly better mobile phone coverage across Kennick, Tottiford and Trenchford.

I have been asked by Dil Singh to share the below - As the water levels continue to fall I wanted to check in and ask that if you can please keep a particular eye on site for any fish health concerns that you might see as the types of levels are unlike anything we have seen before. Undoubtedly you will appreciate SWW primary object is the drinking water, that said we are working closely with both SWW and the EA and external contractors so can prepare to react to issues we are likely to face.



Kennick Fly Fishers Association are proud to have Snowbee sponsoring the Top Rod in 2022

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



IN THIS EDITION

- Summer round up
- Christow Mobile Phone coverage
- Bank Pairs
- Peninsula Classic
- Devon County Show
- England Ladies
- Youth Troutmaster
- National Fishing Month
- Snowbee Demo night

FISHING CALENDAR - 2022

- 12/03 - Kennick Opening Day
- 20/03 - Kennick Bank - 1000-1700*
- 02/04 - Kennick Instruction Day
- 03/04 - Hawkridge Bank - 1000-1700*
- 10/04 - Snowbee Teams Siblyback
- 30/04 - Kennick Instruction Day
- 01/05 - Kennick Bank -1000-1700*
- 08/05 - SW Lakes Kennick Pairs
- 15/05 - Sierra Pairs Wimbleball Boat
- 29/05 - Wimbleball Boat -1000-1700*
- 11/06 - Kennick Instruction Day
- 12/06 - Kennick Bank -1000-1700*
- 26/06 - Peninsula Classic Kennick
- 30/06-02/07 - Devon County Show
- 09/07 - Kennick Instruction Day
- 10/07 - Clatworthy Boat -1000-1700*
- 04/08 - Honiton Show
- 06/08 - Kennick Instruction Day
- 18/08 - Chagford Show
- 20/08 - Kennick Instruction Day
- 04/09 - Wimbleball Boat -1000-1700*
- 17/09 - Kennick Instruction Day
- 22/09-25/09 UK Saltwater Fly Fishing Festival – St Mawes
- 25/09 - Blagdon Boat -1000-1700*
- 01/10 - Kennick Instruction Day
- 02/10 - Clatworthy Bank - 1000-1700*
- 30/10 - Wimbleball Boat - 1000-1700*

Top Rod events marked with *

All Kennick competitions are any line and all events have £2.50 entry for raffle draw.

No winners of fishing competitions, 1st, 2nd or 3rd, can win the raffle draw, this will get re drawn.

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 Rods - 10%
- www.hooksandhackles.com - 10% KEN10

Please take your in date Membership Card with you.

KENNICK SHIRTS NOW AVAILABLE

You are now able to order shirts and fleeces with the KFFA Logo.

I can order just a few at a time but depending on volumes aim to order each month. The orders are ready in a couple of weeks + the club hold a few in stock.

- T Shirt - £15.00
- Polo Shirt - £20.00
- Sleeved Polo Shirt - £22.50
- Sweatshirt - £25.00
- Hooded Sweatshirt - £30.00
- Fleece - £35.00

Various Colours available and all sizes.

Please email John Hern for more info

WHO TO CONTACT

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

Cut Price Tickets for KFFA Members

Hon Treasurer Tom Hendy supplies reduced priced tickets.

Kennick

- Full Day - £25.50
- Reduced / Concession - £23.00
- Evening Ticket - £17.00
- Catch & Release - £18.00

Wessex Water tickets now available

- Clatworthy / Sutton Bingham / Hawkridge
- Full Day - £24.00
- Concession - £21.00

Contact Tom for more information

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

TOP ROD STATS AFTER 6 ROUNDS

- 1st Alex Venn - 100
- 2nd John Hern - 97
- 3rd Chris Bolt - 90
- 4th Paul Wicks - 84
- 5th Darren Penfold - 79
- 6th Alec Hoare - 68
- 7th Alan Riddell - 66
- 8th Mike Steer - 60
- 9th James Friendship - 57
- 10th Gerry Scutt - 52

3 Boat and 1 Bank event left for the 2022 season.

Any Subscriptions to be sent to Tom Hendy - Hon Treasurer
 38 Millway
 Chudleigh
 Newton Abbot
 TQ13 0JN
 Tel - 01626 852360
 All Memberships - £10,
 Pay by Bank transfer - Sort code 52-10-18
 Ac No 04021304 - use surname as reference
 Cheques made payable to KFFA
 To take part in any Competition / Event or get your 10% discounts you need to be a paid up member of the Club

Round Up of Events through Summer 22

16 Anglers joined us for the annual Kennick Bank Pairs Competition on May 8th

The foggy start cleared up beautifully and the weather remained bright for the rest of the day. Some Anglers had a busy start with a lot of activity during the morning, especially at the causeway. But fishing picked up throughout the reservoir as the day went on.

In total, 75 rainbows were caught with 14 full bags and a rod average of 4.69. Flies of the day were Damsel Nymphs, Diawl Bachs, Tadpoles, Blobs and Cats Whiskers.

Winners of the event were John Hern and Alex Venn with a total bag weight of 17lbs 5oz who will both receive a Kennick Season Permit.



On Sunday 26th June, 23 anglers gathered for the Peninsula Classic bank competition on what turned out to be another enjoyable and successful day.

The weather was promising in the morning but varied as the day went on with windy conditions making things tricky at times. The odd rain shower freshened up the water and there was plenty of activity observed on both the surface and sub-surface.

Over the course of the day, 78 fish were caught with a rod average of 3.4. Coch-Y-Bonddu, Black and peacock, Diawl Bachs, Damsels, Hares Ears and Cats Whiskers used on floating and intermediate lines were popular techniques. Each of the fishing zones yielded a good number of fish: Zone A- 17, B- 17, C- 19, D- 25.

The day ended with a BBQ (thanks Mark!) and a chance to chat and relax. We would also like to say a big thank you to [Fly Fishing Tackle Creditor](#) for being sponsors of the event and their generous contribution to the prizes.



Prize winners

1st Darren Penfold 8 fish (14lbs 11oz) winning a season ticket

2nd Andy Gooding 8 fish (13lbs 10oz) winning a £100 voucher and Cortland Fo Tech Fly Line.

3rd Mike Western 8 fish (13lbs) winning a £50 voucher and a Cortland Fo Tech Fly Line.

Heaviest Fish - Chris Bolt - 2lbs 10oz winning a £25 voucher and a Cortland Fo Tech Fly Line.

Devon County Show

KFFA were on the stand in the Fly Fishing Feature at the Devon County Show, we had a good 3 days, selling some 2nd hand tackle, Instruction on the pond, talking fishing and recruiting a few new members.

Pictured below from left to right, John Dawson, Simon Kidd, Mike Kent, Alan Riddell, Gloria Riddell, Tom Hendy, Mike Stone, Dil Singh, Bill Hande and John Hern.

Pictured below right, John Hern receiving the best stand in the Countryside area prize from Andy Gray.



A Trout Fishing taster day took place on Saturday 20 August as part of National Fishing Month.

The free event, kindly supported by Snowbee and Turrall, was based at Kennick reservoir and offered the chance for those interested in taking up the sport to have a go themselves with experienced anglers on hand to offer tuition as well as fly-tying demonstrations. It was also the perfect opportunity for anglers to come along and pick up some new techniques and tips and have a cup of tea and chat.

National Fishing Month (1st-31st August) celebrates the social, well-being and environmental benefits of angling and the uptake of places for the taster day was very encouraging with the event selling out quickly. The weather was kind and there was some useful cloud coverage and breeze at times. Participants were booked into one of three sessions throughout the day and were assigned to a coach who offered tuition and guidance. It was a great atmosphere, lots of laughs and a really good opportunity to experience fly-fishing in an informal and friendly setting.

Back at the lodge, there were fly-tying demonstrations to watch, a sale of fishing equipment and plenty of tea, coffee and biscuits and the chance to enter a raffle to win various angling items and permits. Thanks to the team from Turrall for their support with the day, in particular their contribution to the raffle and generous gift bags. Well done to the winners who will be contacted shortly.

We had some great feedback on the day and it was really good to see so many people enjoying the fishing as well as hearing future plans to continue the hobby going forward. We have also been asked to run more days like this so watch this space! A particular mention should go to the junior anglers who put in a lot of effort and showed some very promising talent- keep it up!

We would like to extend our gratitude to those who came along or helped on the day, without whom events like this would not be possible so a special thank you to: Simon Kidd (Snowbee), John Hern, Brian Ratcliff, Colin Nice, Andy Watson, Heather Lamacraft, Mike Kent, Geoff Stephens, Harry Chance and Laurence Skinner who gave us their time and expertise throughout the day and of course to Mark for his help and organisation.

Dil Singh – SW Lakes



Snowbee Demo Evening / BBQ

Simon Kidd of Snowbee UK Ltd came along to our BBQ evening a few weeks ago and 20 members attended.

Despite low muddy conditions Simon gave us a demo of the latest equipment and those wanting to, could have a cast and get some tips.

We also managed to get some casting hoops in the water and the rod we used was a #1 which I have never used before.

We had a 4 way cast off as the light was going.

I love the flex in the rod pictured left.

Thanks to Tom Hendy who cooked up a great BBQ



Congratulations to Alex Venn who made the 8hr long trip to Thurston Long Crag Trout Fishery in Northumberland to fish the Youth and Junior Troutmaster Competition.

Alex was representing Hollies Trout Farm in the Competition and was up against 4 others in the Youth final.

Alex caught 2 fish in the morning session with a further 4 in the afternoon giving him 6 fish in total.

Alex was using an orange blob on the dropper and switching between a Dave Downie Damsel and a Kennick Killer on the point.

Alex was 2 fish clear of 2nd place and won the event.

Alex won a Troutmaster trophy, a framed certificate, Vision Stillmaniac #7 rod and a Vision Stillmaniac XLV Cassette Fly Reel.

Thanks also to Grandad (Mike Stone) for doing some of the driving!

Well done Alex - excellent work and also helping to promote the Kennick name around the country!

Full report in Trout & Salmon

The Ladies Fly-fishing International 2022

After two years of no Ladies International Championships due to Covid it was refreshing to get back into the swing of team practices during April and May this year, on Grafham and Eyebrook reservoirs.

As a team of twelve women we were focusing on the challenging event at The Lake of Menteith on 26th May. Menteith is some 620-acre in size, a mile wide by one and a half miles in length and up to 77 feet in depth. It sits south of the Trossachs to the north west of the city of Stirling. I'd heard a few stories of past fishing competitions at Mentieth and the main one being we had never won in Scotland so for the team this was a huge incentive to win the cup.

Arriving a few days before the 26th for team practice I was overwhelmed by the beautiful location of Mentieth, also pretty overwhelmed by the weather report! The first two days of practice I understood just how vulnerable we all were in our boats being blown around the lake. The surrounding mountains, although stunning, means you experience cross winds and repeating drifts can often be totally inconsistent. The championship day it was forecast 30mph winds with up to 40 mph gusts in the afternoon.

After two days of practice and end of day team meetings where we all reported methods used, areas in the lake and flies that were and weren't working, our manager soon collated the information to help guide us with the best potential.

Chris Bobby, the manager, goodness knows how he manages us all, but he does, he has great passion and his experience plays a massive part in keeping us focused.

Chris's management is a massive part of our team success.

The day before the competition I asked to sit in the middle of the boat and observe, I went out with Mark MacLeod who works at Rutland and ties flies for the team and Rosemary, who is one of our team. We headed off about 100 yards from the boathouse and drifted back through two buoys, the shallow water here seemed to attract more fish to this area. Within a couple of casts Mark was having fish after fish take interest in his two dry flies, much focus was needed to catch them and some were missed. This seemed to prove the best method of the day and one that I was going to use on competition day.

Competition day had arrived along with 30 mph gusts, somewhat harrowing but we all had that challenge. I was fishing with an experienced angler on her twentieth cap for Ireland, as to my fourth. I had first shout and being left handed chose to take the engine and headed for the two buoys, north of lochend bay.

Literally three or four casts in I hooked into a fish and felt a sense of relief come over me, several fish followed the dry flies and often I was either too late or too early lifting into the flies.

Our experienced Scottish boatman was kept very active with using the drogue and helping us position against the prevailing, relentless winds.

My boat partner changed her flies, as she knew what I was doing thanks to the boatman voicing what my fly was. He was obviously not thinking in competition mode and was very fortunate he wasn't swimming after that blunder. Soon my partner was having follows and then she hooked into a fish, as the wind increased we headed towards the Rookery where it

was a little less windy. Here my partner caught and lost two fish in succession and finally she caught another, then I caught one and we were two a piece.

At this point the fish just turned off, a few boats passed and when I saw a red hat I hand gestured to fellow teammates as to how many they had.

Louise by 12.30 had had seven to her boat and then said nothing since.

I then motored to shear point and decided to come off the floating line and use a midge tip, with fab, cormorant and nymph. Third cast in, in very, very blustery conditions I was into my third fish, taken on the cormorant. This was about 3pm in the afternoon, at this point the weather conditions made it almost impossible to get the line out, both my partner and I struggled with the gusts and as well as ourselves not catching we saw others not catching either.

It was time for us to head back to the boathouse and with four-foot waves rocketing over the boat I asked Ian to take the engine as he had more experience than myself in these conditions. Mentieth dose not have a pontoon so it's head for the shore, cut the engine, lift the engine and land, all a bit precarious getting in and out when it's blustery, but fun, if you can stay on your feet.

Although our boat wasn't hugely productive I managed one more fish to my Irish partner. We all waited anxiously while our record cards were being calculated and amongst us all we were working out how many fish we'd caught. We knew it was close, fourth place went to the home team, Scotland, third, Ireland, then Chris announced both Wales and England had the same amount of fish, in this case the longest fish calculations were taken into account and we had the had the won by length.

Hooray GOLD to the England ladies, we had waited 30 years for the win in Scotland, a very special moment, worth the battle against the wind.



Well done Heather - Great team effort!!



2022 UK Saltwater Fly fishing Festival

<https://saltwaterflyfishinguk.com> 22nd–25th September

Flyfishers from Britain, Europe and around the world are invited to Cornwall in September 2022 to take part in one of the biggest events to hit the game fishing scene for many years, the UK Saltwater Flyfishing Festival, already known as 'The Salt' by its many supporters and sponsors.

The Festival will be held from the 22nd to the 25th September, 2022 and will be hosted at the historic fishing harbour of St Mawes. Fishing areas will include almost the whole of the Roseland Peninsula from King Harry's Ferry around the coastline to Portscatho

Fishing will be exclusively from the shore, using the many beaches and rocky areas where sport is to be found. Test your fishing skills wet wading, rock hopping and stalking for Bass, Mullet, Pollack, Mackerel, Garfish and wrasse.

Included in the entry price is a full social programme and a 'Training day' featuring some of Cornwall's top pro guides. For more information visit the festival site <http://saltwaterflyfishinguk.com>

Superb Prizes to be Won

- Greatest length of fish caught
- Longest Bass
- Longest Other Species
- Most number of Species
- Best Other species (eg mullet)

Logos: SNOWBEE, THE FIELD, selectafly.com, BASS, WILDERMAN DISTILLERY

Below - 4 photos of Wimbleball - approx 30%



Below - 2 photos of Siblyback - approx 30%

