

Invicta FFC

www.invictaffc.org.uk

November 2015

Newsletter 176

President: Norman Shippey normanshippey@btinternet.com

Chairman: Andy Newman andy.di.newman@btinternet.com:

Minutes Secretary: Paul Stevens faith.paul@virgin.net;

Treasurer: Alan Prevost alan@prevost.net;

Bookings Officer: Mark Searle mark_hse@btopenworld.com

Affiliated to the **Angling Trust** and the **Federation of Midland Fly Fishers (Anglia)**.

Editor's Notes

As this is likely to be the last newsletter of the year I'd like to thank all those who have made a contribution in the way of providing match reports, destination fishing reports, and write-ups of the winter evening meetings.

We would welcome any contributions from members who have experienced a memorable fishing trip or holiday. It doesn't need to be an exotic destination – a day trip to a water near or far can provide valuable information for our club members.

It's the time of year where we start to remind you all of membership renewal, details of the social evening held at the Arundel Hotel, and the Annual Dinner. Details and application forms can be found towards the back of this newsletter. Please send completed forms and cheques to our treasurer Alan Prevost.

Next year will be Invicta's 40th Anniversary. The committee are planning a celebration – details to follow at a later date.



Should have gone to SpecSavers

This photo was taken by Graham Williams on a visit to the Quinsam River fish hatchery in Campbell River, BC. Canada. The bear is standing at the entrance to the tunnel, which the salmon are diverted into, and which leads into a series of 'ponds' where they are captured and have their eggs and milt stripped from them. More information on the work done at the hatchery can be found here;

<http://campbellriver.travel/attractions-activities-landmarks/hatcheries/>

Any questions or suggestions on the running of our Club or ideas for subjects or speakers for our Winter Meetings should be sent to Paul Stevens for inclusion in a future Committee meeting. It should be noted that the programme needs to be finalised several months ahead.

Winter Programme 2015/16

Meetings to be held at Harston Village Hall, 7.30 for 8.00pm start.

All meetings free to Invicta members: Visitors welcome, £5 including a beer or soft drink.

October 8. John Parker.

Temperature, air pressure and trout catch rates. John has made a detailed, year-long study of the effect of temperature and air pressure on trout (summarised in Trout Fisherman, June 2015) and will report the results to us. His findings may surprise some. Also, a look at Earith Fishery as a venue.

October 22. Phil Holding. The FlyTying Boutique.

Phil has established a mail order company supplying all kinds of materials, especially some of the more innovative types, such as flashy threads, frites, squirmy, and all manner of specialist tools, Monomaster etc. A mine of materials for tying modern flies and a look at the materials industry, sourcing and supplying.

November 5. Dave Southall.

Dave, a regular contributor to fishing magazines, is a multi-skilled angler who will cover Tenkara, French Nymphing, Italian Casting, as well as tying micro flies. Also Pocket water fishing in Austria, Willow Grubbing in New Zealand and others.

November 7. (Saturday) Fur and Feather social day, Elinor

November 19. Peter Cockwill.

If you read Trout Fisherman you will know Peter Cockwill from his thirty odd years of contributions to the magazine. Add in his many books, trophy catches and half his life spent managing a syndicate of lakes and you can be sure he has a fund of knowledge. His talk to us is the story of the quest for his Arctic Grayling record and the four trips he has made to the world's best rainbow fishery in S America. Following that is the opportunity to ask Pete his opinion on fishy matters.

December 10. Jack Perks "the Fish Twitcher".

An enthralling talk on underwater photography and the life of fish: see fish feed, fight, and mate. Jack is an acknowledged expert in the subject and has some amazing footage of how fish behave.

January 7. Social gathering, Arundel House Hotel.

For this event please be aware the cut-off point for booking your place is Friday 1st January. All members, ex-members and potential members welcome. Please send your payment to Alan Prevost. See further details at the end of this newsletter.

It is unfair on the organiser and the caterer not to pre-book so consideration please.

Jan 21. Peter Waterhouse, PWW Designs.

After taking on the Weaver Vices brand, with the iconic Scotty vice, Peter is producing and marketing a range of fly tying vices and fishing accessories and will be demonstrating these.

February 04. Jon Marshall

will tell us of the current situation at the Anglian fisheries and the prospects for the coming season.

February 18. Annual General meeting.

February 27. Invicta Annual Dinner.
Venue - St Neots Golf Club.

March 3. Paul Knight.

Chief Executive of Salmon and Trout Conservation UK (formerly the Salmon and Trout Association), with **Tim Gaunt-Baker**, East Anglia Representative of the S&TA, will tell us of the current work of the organisation, its aims and how it strives for the protection and sustainable management of the aquatic environment and fishing.

March 17. Quiz Night.

with **Chris McLeod** setting the questions

John Parker on the effect of atmospheric pressure on catching trout

John made the transition from coarse to trout fishing about 12 years ago. He likes to think that his catch rate has steadily improved because he takes the time to study the conditions before tackling up. A couple of years ago he came upon a book "The Barometric Breakthrough" by Andrew Bett which is a relatively recent publication dealing with salmon and trout in the UK. The book contains several references to the ability of fish, albeit not salmonoids, to detect changes as small as 0.5 mb in atmospheric pressure under laboratory conditions.

The theory, from the angling point of view, is that the volume of the swim bladder controls the buoyancy of the fish and that under conditions of high pressure, the bladder shrinks and the fish is forced to swim higher in the water (and vice versa). Smaller fish reacted more rapidly than larger varieties. There are millions of anglers who have faith in the effect of the phases of the moon on catch rate, so could barometric pressure be another factor. He thought that it would be a good idea to test the effect of pressure under practical fishing conditions.

He lives in Cambridge and regularly fishes at Earith. He persuaded the owners to provide a weekly catch rate against which he plotted the barometric pressure. He had a Casio watch incorporating a pressure gauge which was found to be in good agreement with the pressure recorded by local weather stations. He concluded that there was no correlation between barometric pressure and catch rate. There was a brief report on the results in the May/June issue of Trout Fisherman and John provided a comprehensive analysis of his experiments to individuals in the audience.

Atmospheric pressure is measured in millibars and the average at sea level is 1013 mbar. This is the same (I think) as 1 atmosphere in old units (14.5 psi) which is capable of supporting a column of water

34 ft in height. The variation in atmospheric pressure is unlikely to exceed 10 mbar in a day, maybe 20 mbar in a week*. 20 mbar is about the equivalent of a hydrostatic change in pressure experienced by a fish moving vertically 8 inches. It is almost the amount of change the fish might experience normally, swimming in a heavy wave. I suspect that the pressure waves, albeit pulsed, generated by the propeller on an outboard might be significantly higher.

It is also worth pointing out that the volume of the swim bladder in mature fish is controlled, not only by the fish gulping air from the surface, but through an internal mechanism where oxygen is transferred via the blood stream. I think the volume is adjusted to provide stability according to the depth and not the other way around.

The statistical significance of the total catch rate for a water must also be questioned as it has been suggested that 80% of the fish are caught by 20% of the anglers. An individual's success rate might be more appropriate. Boat anglers are generally more successful than those fishing from the bank. This is probably due to the greater mobility provided by a boat and hence increased chances of finding the fish.

Anglers in the audience reckoned that heavy rain spooked fish. On the other hand, the sudden appearance of a cloud in an otherwise clear sky can definitely turn fish on, even momentarily. Many thought that fish followed the food which is mostly daphnia in the large reservoirs, which in turn rise and fall in the water column according to the intensity of the ambient light rather than external pressure effects.

Brown trout seem to be more sensitive to light than rainbows and are most likely to be caught late in the day at last light.

So the practical experience in the audience supports the research results however tentative they may be. Possibly we have not given it enough thought in the past or confused cause with effect. Sat under a high pressure zone with little wind and high temperatures, intuitively tells us that we

would rather have the cloud and breeze associated with low pressure.

John fishes at Earith on average twice a week. As he lives in Cambridge, it can be considered local. The fishery is open all through the year. The fellow anglers and staff are friendly. The setting is beautiful with crystal clear water, 12 acres in extent, with an average depth of 12 feet. There are lots of different species of birds. Fly life is prolific. There are plenty of fish because of the high stocking policy. Now you might consider this an ideal water in which to try imitative patterns. John's favourite is an Apache which he described as an orange damsel. I had a look in the Fish4Flies web site and it turned out to have a body wrapped in mink with an extended tail of marabou feathers, available in a range of colours including black and white and all shades in between. A blob with a tail!

The charges for 2015 were £15 for 4 fish and £25 for 8 fish. Unlimited fishing on a season ticket cost £400. Further regular entries appear on their Facebook page: Earith Lakes Fishery.

*Cambridge weather records can be found on:

(<https://www.cl.cam.ac.uk/research/dtg/weather>)

Fly Fishing for Salmon by Allan Sefton

I noticed the long awaited book on fly fishing for salmon is due for release by Amazon on the 19th November. I have pre-ordered my copy on the basis that his previous publication on trout fishing was an excellent read.

- David Jones

The Amazon blurb reads:

"Taking up salmon fly fishing is surprisingly difficult if you have not got lots of help and encouragement even if you fish for other species. There are many barriers.....wilderness locations, cost, jargon and all the technical problems involving tackle and technique. The purpose of this book is to break all those barriers down. It will explain clearly what the absolute beginner needs to know. It will help solve the technical problems and common faults faced by 'improvers' and those advancing from trout fly fishing and other disciplines. Many experienced anglers are confused by some modern techniques and this guidance will get them right up to date".



INVICTA FLY FISHING CLUB CAMBRIDGE

Hello All Members
on Thursday 7th January 2016

INVICTA FFC
Is holding an Informal Evening
at

ARUNDEL HOUSE HOTEL

Chesterton Road

Cambridge

CB4 3AN

From 7.30pm

For Old and New Members

£13.00 P/H inc. Buffet

Please Pay by 2nd January 2016

By Cheque or preferably direct into the Bank

Sort code: 20-43-63

Account number: 70514004

RSVP

Alan Prevost
Hon Treasurer &
Membership Secretary
Tel 01954 230678
Mobile 07710 162080
Email alan@prevost.net
www.invictaffc.org.uk

15 Willingham Road
Over
Cambridge
CB24 5PD



INVICTA FLY FISHING CLUB CAMBRIDGE

Membership Renewal Form

Dear All

Just a reminder that the annual membership fee of £19 is now due. Please send your cheque payable to Invicta FFC to me at the address below.

If you would like to pay your subscription direct into the Club Bank the details are:

Sort Code 20-43-63 Account Number 70514004 A email receipt will be sent

Could you also supply your latest contact details below:

Name

Address

.....

.....

Post Code

Tel No

Mobile No

e-mail: (To enable us to send the club newsletter)

If you do not wish to re-new your club membership could you let me know by e-mail or post.

For those who are not re-joining the club it would be useful to us if you could tell us if there are any particular reasons for not re-joining. e.g Economics/giving up fishing/club not meeting your needs/any other reason.

We would like to have your feedback to help enhance the service that the club provides.

E-mail any comments to me at the address below



INVICTA FLY FISHING CLUB CAMBRIDGE

27th February 2016 – Saturday

7.00pm for 7.30pm SEAT DOWN

Choose any one of each:

Starters

- 1) *Prawn Cocktail /*
- 2) *Leek & Potato Soup /*
- 3) *Chicken Liver Pate, Plum & Apple Chutney & Melba Toast*

Main Course

- 4) *Braised Beef /*
 - 5) *½ Roast Chicken /*
 - 6) *Haddock with a Spring Onion & Prawn Creamy Sauce /*
 - 7) *Butternut Squash, Spinach and Goats Cheese Pie (V)*
- All Served with Roast Potatoes and Fresh Seasonal Vegetables*

Dessert

- 8) *Rhubarb Crumble with Custard /*
- 9) *Almond & Lemon Cheesecake /*
- 10) *Fresh Fruit Salad*
- 11) *Cheese & Biscuits*

Coffee/Tea & Mints

Dinner Price £28.50 pp

Please return the portion with your selections & cheque (**payable to Invicta FFC or pay into**

Bank Sort Code: 20-43-63 Account Number: 70514004

Return By Thursday 18th February 2016 to Alan Prevost By Post or Email

15 Willingham Road Over Cambridge CB24 5PD

Name	Selection			Name	Selection		

Wine

--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--

Wine order to be paid on the night by the person who orders the wine

SPARKLING/CHAMPAGNE

1. Prosecco, Brut Spumante, Revino Non Vintage, Italy
Intense fragrance of fruit. Mellow and full-bodied, yet dry thanks to its refreshing character.
2. Champagne Brut, Louis Barthélemy, Amethyste, Non Vintage
This Award winning champagne from a family controlled house is dedicated to high quality. Dry, crisp and elegant, with a wonderful richness on the finish.

125ml Bottle

£3.25 £16.50

WHITE WINES

3. Chenin Blanc, Keate's Drift Western Cape, South Africa
Flowery bouquet and hints of melon fruit. Off Dry.
4. Pinot Grigio, Villa Borghetti Italy
Dry and refreshing with a hint of almond on the finish.
5. Rioja Blanco, El Coto Rioja, Spain
Well-balanced white displays refined citrus fruits.
6. Sauvignon Blanc, Terramater Vineyard Reserve Maipo Valley, Chile
Dry, ripe, gooseberry and grapefruit flavours.

175ml 250ml Bottle

£3.45 £4.50 £12.95

£3.65 £4.85 £13.95

£3.85 £5.10 £14.65

£3.85 £5.10 £14.65

CLUBHOUSE CELLAR SPECIAL RESERVE WHITE WINE

From the oldest winery in New Zealand

7. Sauvignon Blanc, Mission Estate Marlborough, New Zealand
Aromatic, zesty dry, with pink grapefruit flavours.

£19.95

ROSE WINES

8. Rioja Rosado, El Coto Rioja, Spain
Wonderful Rioja. Refreshing apéritif. Soft strawberry fruits with a great creaminess on the finish.

£3.75 £4.95 £14.40

125ml Glasses Available on Request

BLUE CARD HOLDERS RECEIVE A 15% DISCOUNT

RED WINES

9. Merlot, delle Venezie, Le Collezioni Italy
Lightly oaked, with soft, plummy fruit.
10. Shiraz Cinsaut, Keate's Drift South Africa
A great wine with bags of character. Full bodied with plenty of ripe fruits.
11. Pinotage, Keate's Drift South Africa
Robust red, rich, dark, with smoky notes and some earthiness.
12. Reserve Cabernet Sauvignon, Le Sanglier de la Montagne Vin de Pays, France
From Caves Foncalieu, an award winning producer based just outside the ancient walled city of Carcassonne. This is a delicious wine with minty and slightly leafy rich fruit.

175ml 250ml Bottle

£3.35 £4.40 £12.50

£3.45 £4.50 £12.95

£3.50 £4.60 £13.20

£3.50 £4.60 £13.20

£4.25 £5.60 £16.35

£4.25 £5.60 £16.40

£4.55 £6.00 £17.75

CLUBHOUSE CELLAR SPECIAL RESERVE RED WINE

16. Real Reserva, Museum Cigales, Spain

£22.90

Superb wine! Made from vines up to 100 years old. Rich, concentrated with a heady mixture of chocolate, liquorice and spice.

PORTS

17. Club Ruby Port
50ml Glass: £2.50 Bottle: £21.75
18. Taylors, Late Bottled Vintage Port
50ml Glass: £2.70 Bottle: £23.95