



## Andy Trafankowski

A couple of years ago I moved up to Fordham, Cambs from Wroughton where I was a member of the North Wilts Fly Fishing Club. The club had a lake close by, Darlow, where I fished regularly. It was a small club which met every week to tie flies (and have a beer - or two!). So I tie all my own flies which is part of the enjoyment for Fly Fishing for me.

Since moving up here I have fished the last 2 seasons at Hauxton and this year the river Lark as well.

Currently I am doing Freelance work - providing RFID Consultancy and writing Software (I am not quite ready to retire yet!). This gives me the flexibility to enjoy my two passions - fly fishing and Skiing

*Andy*

## Noel Garner



As a small boy with my dad I caught a small trout with a hazel stick and a worm. I was hooked in my dreams but it took another 60 years to take up fly fishing (a Christmas present lesson at Rutland Water). Three years on I'm very keen to learn, and fish mostly streams (I'm a member of LAPS (Lark at Mildenhall) and before that Audley (Cam). Tie all my own.

My other passion is painting – watercolour has one thing in common with fly fishing – you don't need to carry much kit.

I work (I know, should be retired) for a Christian Charity based in Peterborough that provides homes and support for vulnerable adults. With a background in Town Planning and building, I buy and renovate all our houses. Two weeks ago I took some of our tenants fishing on Rutland and met Peter Hartley who recommended Invicta. (The tenants had a great time BTW). I have little experience of stillwater fishing and want to make better use of the times when I am not on the river. And it would be good to meet other anglers as I mostly fish alone.”

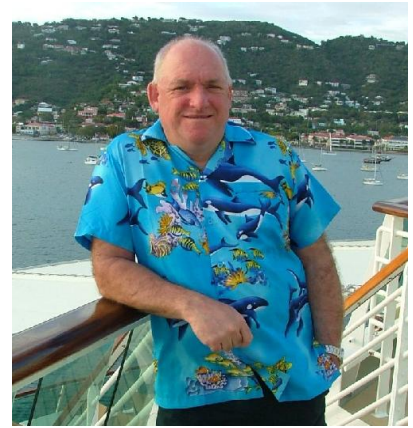
*Noel*

## Andy Miles

I am Andy and have recently moved up to Cambridgeshire from Hampshire. I am working in Cambridge as a product support engineer.

I have been looking to join a friendly fly fishing club to hopefully get a chance of doing a lot more reservoir fishing so here I am. Hampshire has no reservoirs so previously I had to travel long distances just to get some decent fishing, luckily now I have some of the best reservoirs in the UK right on my doorstep.

I have been fly fishing since I was a young lad, but took a break for a number of years due to the pressures of life. The kids are all grown up now so I have more time to get out fishing.....Don't worry I don't wear that shirt when I'm fishing!!



*Andy*

## Nick Lant

I'm Nick Lant and I'm an addict...

I'm also a serving Detective with Leicestershire Police, working Serious Crime Investigation (I have a shift pattern which gets in the way of weekend fishing)

I was a coarse angler as a boy. I dabbled in fly fishing but lapsed for years. I was brought back by the Leicestershire Police Fly Fishing Section, I joined and started fishing their section days.

I was persuaded enter Police Sport UK competitions, initially finding myself out of my depth but having to learn quickly. I fished alongside very experienced anglers' kind enough to impart their knowledge, 5 years on I'm performing quite well and have started to show a bit of consistency.

By definition, the world of Police fly fishing is a closed group. I'd been lucky enough to fish with Dave Summers, who has taught me a lot and, also an Invicta member, he recommended the club, singing your praises, telling me I'd broaden my horizons, learn more, and that you're much more fun than a bunch of cops!

I'm married to Ellissa, no children, 1 Jack Russell. I tie my own, garden, cook, cycle, ski, don't smoke and do drink.



*Nick*

## Chris Hulbert



Late in 2017 I moved from a Cheshire village to the town of Stamford and started looking for a fly-fishing club both to help me learn to fish the big reservoirs and also to meet and enjoy the company of fisherfolk; by absolute chance my very near neighbour in Stamford is Chris McLeod, a long standing member of Invicta, a true expert and a thoroughly welcoming fellow, as indeed are you all!

A couple of years ago I was encouraged to start fishing by friends without ever having fished as a boy and my limited experience has been trying to catch salmon (no success) and grayling (some success) on the beautiful Welsh Dee around Corwen. How I wish that I had taken up flyfishing many many years ago and not worried, as a younger man, about looking foolish as an adult beginner.....age brings some limited benefits..... So I am looking forward to many years ahead of fishing, catching and lots of learning and looking foolish; let alone giving my two young grandchildren the chance to wet a line and become hooked themselves.

My working life has been as a country GP but now I'm retired it would be far from safe to ask advice about your bad back or other ailments - anyway you might not like my reply! My other interests include growing plants and gardening, following a beagle pack and I also hold a full amateur radio licence.

*Chris*

## Dayood Sheik



I came to live in St Neots in 1969 from Hong Kong when I was 16 years old. I went to a local school and then did a civil engineering degree at Hertfordshire University.

I then started a catering business with my brothers which we ran for over 40 years. I retired 5 years ago and picked up fly fishing as a hobby and have been hooked ever since. I joined Grafham Water club 3 years ago and now Invicta as well; both nice clubs and lovely people and I really enjoy both the social and fishing side of it.

If any members are interest with Chinese Cuisine on trout, I am more then willing to share my knowledge with them. One of my favourites is "steamed trout with ginger and black bean sauce" and I will pass on my own recipe how to make "homemade black bean sauce".....tight lines and enjoy fishing.

*Dayood*



## Paul Speed



I live just across the border in Suffolk and have been fly fishing since I was 8 years old. My dad taught me and belonged to a small syndicate which I fished with him using cane rods.

As an older person I was lucky enough to manage Blackdyke trout fishery near Feltwell in Norfolk, I was there for 7 years and in that time I was able to become a Game Angling Instructor being a qualified member with a single handed rod with GAIA and still teach from time to time now.

*Paul*

## Paul Witchell



I am a Quantity Surveyor working these days on dispute issues. I live very close to Grafham in Buckden so living so close it very easy for me to sneak in a couple of hours fishing. I am an all round angler having match fished some years ago and in recent years concentrating on carp.

The simplicity of trout fishing appealed to me in comparison to the vast amounts of equipment you need to carry around for carp fishing, so a year or so ago I started fly fishing. I have been on Peter Hartley's beginner's course and have now got a season ticket.

*Paul*

## Ethan Darden



My name is Ethan Darden. I'm currently a graduate student at the University of Cambridge. I'm originally from Houston, Texas and am an avid lover of the outdoors. I enjoy reading and writing, swimming, shooting sporting clays, and of course, fishing, on the reel, but especially by the fly.

In Texas I fish mostly small streams and creeks with my Tenkara rods and I also have a traditional saltwater fly rod for fishing on the coast. With the warm weather quickly approaching, I'm eager to see what fish await in the great rivers, lakes, and streams of England. Needless to say, I very much look forward to fishing with you all at Invicta FFC!

Ethan

## Allan Grant



I'm Allan Grant, a newly retired civil engineer. I started fly fishing in 1976 with a rod I made from a fibatube blank. Moving to London in 1977 I developed my poor technique and bad habits at the Barn Elms brick lined reservoirs near Hammersmith bridge. The purchase of an old mini brought Bewl Bridge reservoir and better fishing within range and a trip to Alan Brown's shop in Hitchin resulted in the purchase of my first carbon rod.

Work sent me to Africa, India and the far and middle east so over the past four decades my flyfishing has largely been limited to days stolen on family holidays to Scotland. I've fished most countries I lived in and have accumulated an embarrassingly large collection of rods, reels and stories. Now I'm back for good I'm really looking forward to tying my own flies and re-learning the subtleties of flyfishing.

I'll be glad of all advice and being put straight on what to do.

**Allan**