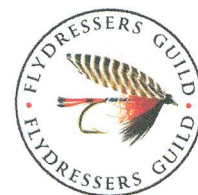


TVFDG AGM 10th December 2015
Flowerpot PH
Aston, Nr Henley-on-Thames, Berkshire.



Present:

Geoff Wilcox (Chairman)
John Watkins (Secretary)
Richard Ellis (Treasurer)
Peter Watson (Senior Instructor)
John Alcock (Web Manager)
Richard Elbro
Richard Bird
Paul Lawrence
Roger Tribe
John Kendrick-Hurst
David Jennings
Peter Devery
Peter Huggard
Alan Hancox

Apologies for absence received from Alex Adams, Mike Robinson and Leo James

The Chairman welcomed everyone and kicked off proceedings at 7:30.

Minutes of previous meeting.

The Secretary had previously circulated a copy of the 2014 minutes and apart from the Chairman having a moan that the Secretary had spelt Chairman incorrectly they were accepted as a true record of the 2014 AGM.

Proposed : Richard Bird

Seconded : Richard Ellis

Matters arising.

No matters arising from previous minutes.

Chairman's Report.

Geoff said some heartfelt and very pleasant words about the branch and its members.

Full report attached.

Treasurer's Report.

Richard provided a balance sheet (attached), and the bankbook to confirm we are quite solvent and therefore he decided there would be no subs collected this year.

Accounts attached.

Accounts proposed accepted: John Watkins.

Seconded: John Alcock.

Secretary's Report.

See attached.

Instructors Report.

Peter emphasised that as a club we need to be seeking new members. It was mentioned that a few contacts had been made that had not materialised into attendees but surprisingly attendance at meetings was up by 1 person on last year.

For full report see attached.

Web Managers Report.

John reported that the website was receiving plenty of hits, in particular the hook chart and the sample flies of the Silver award. The website was agreed to be a very useful tool for recording a lot of the information that was

being circulated to members. But also that it needs more input from members mainly with regards to fishing trips publishing their own patterns.

Election of Officers.

All officers intimated that they were happy to go or stand again as required. With no objections they were re-elected on block.

Proposed Richard Bird.

Seconded Roger Tribe.

AOB.

- Suggestions. - Peter said to let him know of any program suggestions, patterns, outings or demonstrations, between now and the summer recess.
- Peter also mentioned that the in house demonstrations were proving successful and that he would like to investigate hooking up to the TV as a way of making them easier to view.
- The secretary reminded those present that any surplus flies would be welcomed by the bailiffs at Barn Elms Fishery where they would be sold on for charity.
- Geoff announced that this year's Chairman's Challenge was to produce 3 versions of the Blue Winged Olive as per Davie Mcphail. Details have since been published on the website.
- John K-H stated that he is a regular reservoir angler and that trips could be organised or anyone was welcome to join him.
- The secretary added that likewise his annual trip to Exmoor. This is now 2 trips and has a small group of devotees attending.
- Peter Huggard volunteered to investigate information on fishing in Ireland.
- It was announced that Paul is now the main FDG Merchandising Manager and is busy getting to grips with his new role.
- The Chairman presented 2 awards. Peter Devery achieved his Silver and David Jennings his Bronze. David re-iterated the Chairman's remarks on the members of TVFDG being very friendly and welcoming and joining us as a novice how valuable he found the meetings.
 - Well done Peter and David!

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the AGM at 8:07.

Chairman's Report 2015:

Welcome to you all and thanks for attending the 2015 AGM.

My first comment to you all is congratulations. We have increased our numbers again and that is achieved by the warm welcome which is extended to all who make the effort to come along.

I have put on record the sense of pride and friendship that prevails in the branch. Which is down to you, the members, and in no small part to key members who continue to work hard to create such a vibrant and successful branch.

It takes time and effort to make things work, arranging trips, creating a diary of events, and the syllabus for the Gold, Silver and Bronze awards, making arrangements and collecting information for the website and gathering fly tying materials, so we can all enjoy our hobby.

The result of all this effort is the increasing number of members who have achieved their goals this year and I congratulate all who have received accreditation awards.

I know you need little encouragement to maintain your competitive edge, keep up the good work and have fun while you do it.

I would like to end by saying it gives me great pride and pleasure, to be your Chairman, and I thank you all for that.

Geoff



Thames Valley Fly Dressers Guild

Income and Expenditure for 11 December 2014 to 10 December 2015

Accounting year 20014/2015

Presented by S R Ellis Treasurer

<u>Brought Forward</u>		£
Nationwide BS		462.91
Cash		0.00
<u>Income</u>		
Subscriptions		0.00
Interest (BS net)	31-Dec-14	0.52
Interest (BS net)	30-Jun-15	0.42
Total Income		0.94
<u>Expenditure</u>		
Website		80.38
Trophy		29.85
Refreshments		22.14
Total Expenditure		132.37
Balance		331.48

<u>Available as</u>		
Nationwide BS		331.48
Cash		0.00

Nationwide BS account 0796/704010761

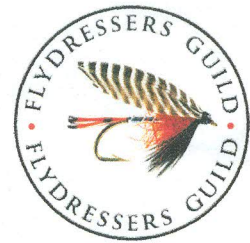
In my opinion this unaudited income and expenditure account and statement of assets for the period 11 Dec 2014 to 10 Dec 2015 gives a true record for the branch.

S R Ellis
Treasurer

G Wilcox
Chairman

10-Dec-15





Secretaries Report 2014/2015

The Thames Valley annual tying competition took place immediately after the 2014 AGM and the close competition was won by Richard Bird in the Silver category and Tim Bennet in the Bronze/Novice category. This competition is becoming increasingly keenly fought and both guys did exceedingly well to emerge top dog. I'm sure the usual culprits will be coming back at them with a vengeance in 2016.

All communication from HQ and other sources is forwarded to branch members immediately. This includes auctions, fishing and tying competitions, forthcoming events, Chris Sandford's 'Stuff', the Sussex branch newsletter and notifications from SW Lakes. Speaker/demonstrator Roger Smith has also been in touch to see if he can be of assistance. Note: If any members receive information they think would be interesting to other members they are welcome to forward it to me for circulation or to John for the website, or just circulate it yourself.

Membership and attendance at meetings fluctuates slightly but we are maintaining a good core of regulars and although we didn't pick up any new attendees for the new tying season we can now boast more than 12 attendees at each meeting a slight improvement on last year.

Most of our members are following the Awards Scheme, and working their way through the various stages. The members who are not following the Scheme still attend and use the evenings for topping up their boxes and/or indulging in fishy chat.

The Website continues to be ably run by John A and is proving to be a useful way of circulating information to members and visitors alike. So don't forget, if you've anything to say, a fishing trip to report on, tips or patterns you'd like to share, just send your words/photographs along to John.

I've not reported on details of awards and trips as they will be covered by Peter in his report.

Thames Valley Fly Dressers Guild Branch

Instructor's Report to AGM 2015 at mid-point of 2015-16 Season

Overview of Meetings

We have had a steady 10-12 members per evening so far this season, with four 'streams' of: beginners / Bronze, intermediate / Silver, experts / Gold, and some social / angling tyers. It has been great to see so many actively competent tyers and in particular the progress and improvement made by all.

We have introduced a 10-minute demonstration at 9pm each meeting, which appear popular.

New Members

We are always delighted to welcome newcomers to our Branch – absolute beginners, novices, and experienced tyers. Please do ask your angling colleagues if they would like to come and join us. There is no obligation for them to do the FDG Awards Scheme or enter Fly Tying Competitions – just come and tie flies for fishing and enjoy a pint at the Flowerpot.

Awards Scheme Progress

This year we are running three courses in parallel (Bronze, Silver & Gold), with myself, Richard Ellis, John Watkins, Roger Tribe and Paul Lawrence as instructors. During the past year, the FDG has issued a Guild Awards Scheme for Grayling Flies, written by Richard Ellis.

Below is my record of our Branch Members as regards who is tying at which level. Please let me know if I have omitted any name or any detail is incorrect!

Instructor

Peter Watson (FDG 12489)
Richard Ellis (FDG 15158)
John Watkins (FDG 15845)
Roger Tribe (FDG 17114)
Paul Lawrence (FDG 17116)

Gold Level

Achieved: Richard Ellis (FDG 15158) (March 2014)

In progress: John Watkins (FDG 15845)
Geoff Ray (FDG 15838)
Paul Lawrence (FDG 17116)
Roger Tribe (FDG 17114)
Richard Bird (FDG 17117)
Alex Adams (FDG 17379)

Silver Level

Achieved: Richard Ellis (FDG 15158) (March 2011)
John Watkins (FDG 15845) (March 2011)
Paul Lawrence (FDG 17116) (Apr 2013)
Roger Tribe (FDG 17114) (Apr 2013)
Richard Bird (FDG 17117) (March 2014)
Alex Adams (FDG 17379) (May 2015)

In progress: Mike Robinson (FDG 17517)
David Jennings (FDG 17597)

At Silver level but tying mostly for fishing:

Geoff Wilcox (FDG 16263)
John Kendrick-Hurst (FDG 16493)
Richard Elbro (FDG 16905)
John Alcock (FDG 16954)

Bronze Level

Achieved: Paul Brooks (FDG 16787) (March 2011)

John Watkins (FDG 15845) (March 2011)
Paul Lawrence (FDG 17116) (Jan 2012)
Roger Tribe (FDG 17114) (Jan 2012)
Richard Bird (FDG 17117) (Apr 2013)
Mick Small (FDG 17398) (Feb 2014)
Alex Adams (FDG 17379) (March 2014)
Mike Robinson (FDG 17517) (March 2014)
David Jennings (FDG 17597) (May 2015)
Peter Devery (FDG 17689) (May 2015)

In progress: Tim Bennett (FDG 17689)
Leo James (FDG 17531)
Peter Huggard (FDG 17789)

Just starting: Alan Hancox & Judy Hancox
Philip Wellesley-Davies (FDG 17678)

Our tyers have shown themselves more than capable of completing a Bronze, Silver or Gold level course within our tying season of September to March, during which we meet around 16 times.

Asking for instruction and solving problems

All of the instructors are there to help, answer questions and solve tying problems. Please do ask if in doubt, need something demonstrated, or a pattern assessed. It sounds horrendous, but the Instructors have over 100 years of fly tying experience between them!

FDG Tying Competition

Thanks to all who submitted flies for the Thames Valley Branch Fly Tying Competition.

We will adopt the same process as last year and select two teams of four tiers to enter patterns in the Group Award section of the national FDG Fly Tying Competition.

Surplus Materials

I have stacks of 'surplus' fly tying materials – if you need something, please ask before going out and buying something, it is probably available for free, especially materials for fishing rather than presentation flies.

Shows – for Recruiting

We had members tying flies at the SportFish Fly Fishing Show at Theale in May 2015. We will be looking for volunteers to tie flies on the FDG and / or the Salmon & Trout Conservation stand at the SportFish Show at Theale on 8th / 9th May 2016. Please put the dates in your diary and let Richard, John, Geoff or me know if you can volunteer to demonstrate and answer questions for a half or full day on either days.

Grayling Fishing

In addition to the excellent Grayling fishing organised by Richard E on the R Test, we had a group of 8 fishing the River Dee at Llangollen in early October. This trip has aroused interest to try the Dee at Bala. An educational bonus was experiencing a Welsh bar whilst England was losing to the Wallabies.

Reservoir Fishing

The TV FDG 'Invictas' team of John H, Richard E, Roger T & Peter W achieved 3rd place in the FDG annual John Watts boat fishing competition at Grafham Reservoir in August 2015, beaten by 'England Youth Blue' and the New Haylie FDG Scottish team. We improved from our 5th place in 2014!

Anyone who is interested in starting Reservoir boat fishing, please speak to any of the above four and we will arrange a Branch visit to Draycote Reservoir after the season starts in March 2016.

Next Year's Programme

If you have a request for next season's programme or particular fly patterns or demonstrations of particular tying techniques – then please let me know.

Peter Watson
Windsor

2nd December 2015

