

**Present:**

Geoff Wilcox (Chairman)  
Richard Ellis (Treasurer)  
John Watkins (Secretary)  
Peter Watson (Senior Instructor)  
John Alcock (Web Manager)  
Richard Elbro  
Roger Tribe  
Peter Huggard  
Philip Mann  
Richard Logan  
David Jennings  
Richard Bird  
Sean Doyle  
Gary Smith  
Rick Lilley

Apologies for absence received from Alex Adams, Paul Lawrence, Phil Mann and Dave Creevey.

The Chairman welcomed everyone and kicked off proceedings at 7:47.

**Minutes of previous meeting.**

The Secretary had previously referred members to the website for a copy of the 2017 minutes and they were accepted as a true record of the 2017 AGM.

Proposed: Richard Elbro

Seconded: Richard Ellis

**Matters arising.**

There had been a commitment to write a publicity article for one of the popular publications, but this was still in the consideration stage.

**Chairman's Report.**

Geoff said some heartfelt and very pleasant words about the branch, its committee and members. He offered a vote of thanks to Richard Ellis who was standing down as treasurer after 10 years' service. He also mentioned The Chairman's Upwing Trophy, details of which are on the website and wished all members best wishes for the coming year.

Full report attached.

**Treasurer's Report.**

Richard provided a balance sheet and it was decided that no subs were required at present but would definitely be required in 2020.

Accounts attached.

Accounts proposed accepted: David Jennings

Seconded: Roger Tribe

**Secretary's Report.**

John spoke in depth about his and Paul's commitment to SWFFL Berkshire group and the sponsored training they are receiving. On that subject he asked if anyone thought they could give time once a month through the season to get in touch.

For full report see attached.

**Instructors Report.**

Peter emphasised that as a club we need to be seeking new members. We have 3 new members this year, but we should be endeavouring to swell our ranks further as we are not seeing so much of some of our previous 'regulars'.

Also, he considered that the program may be getting a little stale but the general consensus was that it is well structured for the Awards Scheme as it stands at present and put no pressure on any members who just wished to come along and tie their own flies.

The regular demos were considered to be a very good thing but it was suggested that they should be brought forward to an earlier time as members may be looking to finish off their evenings production at the later time.

Peter also praised our members who have been tying at the various shows including the BFFI, the shows across the South and as far afield as Ireland.

For full report see attached.

**Web Managers Report.**

John reported that the website was still receiving plenty of hits (11,000+). He welcomed any ideas for content and possible links to other sites. Also that any input from members mainly with regards to fishing trips and publishing their own patterns would be welcomed.

**Election of Officers.**

With the exception of the Treasurer all other officers intimated that they were happy to go or stand again as required. With no objections or nominations they were re-elected on block.

Proposed. Roger Tribe

Seconded. David Jennings

Richard Elbro volunteered to take on the role of treasurer and was welcomed and thanked for coming forward.

Proposed John Watkins

Seconded John Alcock.

As Richard Ellis also took the role of events organiser, specifically the winter grayling trips to the river Test a new organiser was required and Sean Doyle stepped forward to take this role. Many thanks Sean.

John Watkins made it known that this would be his last year as Secretary and he would be standing down at the next AGM.

There was a general vote of thanks for the outgoing treasurer and Peter Huggard offered a vote of thanks to the officers of the branch for keeping it running so smoothly.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the AGM at 8:31.

Secretary's note: 15 members attending the AGM must be some sort of record. Many thanks to all.

-----  
**Post meeting note re TV Branch Fly Tying competition winners:**

- Gary Smith – Novice
- Richard Bird - Trout
- Richard Bird - Salmon

All the entrants were congratulated on the high standard this year and everyone was encouraged to submit their entries to the National FDG Fly tying Competition before mid-March when they will be judged by Peter Gathercole.



## Chairman's Report 2018:

Welcome to you all and thank you for attending the 2018 AGM.

Once again congratulations. We continue on an upward trend and increase our attendance, achieved in no small part 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, promoted by the 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 adjustments to 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 a vibrant growing group of members who have achieved awards and reached their goals this year.

Well done to the Invictas team in third place at the John Watts Trophy and Roger Tribe who achieved runner up in the national open trout awards.

Congratulations also to Roger Tribe winner of the 2018 Up Wing Trophy. Roger has postponed his prize of a days Chalk Stream Flyfishing with yours truly on my stretch of the River Avon till 2019 when weather conditions might return to normal..

I congratulate all who have received accreditation awards or are working hard towards them.



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

I wish to remind members that the Chairmans 'Up Wing Trophy' begins again in December thru to April 2019 and you are all invited to compete.

The 2019 pattern is the Potamanthus Luteus.

The 3 life stages of the 'Yellow Mayfly' The details are on the website.

The committee look forward to receiving any suggestions as to any new Social/Fishing events and please let us know of any new ideas you wish to see introduced.

I would like to thank Richard Ellis for his long service (10 yrs) as our Treasurer and record our appreciation for keeping us solvent and in the black!

I would like to end by saying it gives me pleasure, to see everyone enjoying the social side of our branch, the camaraderie and simple sharing of the pleasures of fly dressing, not to mention catching fish!!

*Geoff*

*Chairman*



**Thames Valley Fly Dressers Guild**

**Income and Expenditure for 14 December 2017 to 13 December 2018**

**Accounting year 2017/2018**

Presented by S R Ellis Treasurer

**Brought Forward**

£

Nationwide BS 260.15  
Cash 0.00

**Income**

Subscriptions 0.00  
Merchandise 0.00  
Interest (BS net) 31-Dec-17 0.10  
Interest (BS net) 30-Jun-18 0.09

**Total Income 0.19**

**Expenditure**

Website 90.70  
Trophy 26.97  
Refreshments 0.00

**Total Expenditure 117.67**

**Balance 142.67**

**Available as**

Nationwide BS 142.67  
Cash 0.00

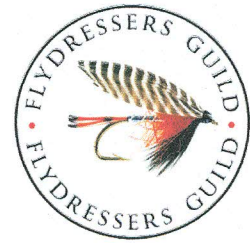
Nationwide BS account 0796/704010761

In my opinion this unaudited income and expenditure account and statement of assets for the period 14 Dec 2017 to 13 Dec 18 gives a true record for the branch.

S R Ellis  
Treasurer

G Wilcox  
Chairman

13-Dec-18



## Secretaries Report 2018

All communication from HQ and other sources is forwarded to branch members immediately. This includes auctions, fishing and tying competitions, forthcoming events, and the Sussex branch newsletter. (Chris Sandford doesn't seem to be doing his 'Stuff') any more. Since data protection all email are being sent blind.

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.

Although we have a lot of members on the books attendance at meetings is lower than last year by 2, averaging just 10 per meeting. Having said that 2 weeks ago we had 15 members turn up. A couple of the 'old' regulars have only put in a couple of appearance and there are a couple we haven't seen at all. But we do have new regulars in Charles who joined us last year and Richard Bunn, Gary Smith are pretty regular this year also Rick Lilley has put in a couple of appearances.

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.

Last year I mentioned that me and Paul achieved our Angling Trust Level 1 Coaching qualifications. Well we put these to good use when we kicked off Group 10 of the SWFFL charity – Berkshire FFL. Our AT lecturer Ian Horrocks joined us as our Level 2 Coach and although initially we just had one lady member we finished the year with 5 and have had 2 new names added to our member list who are keen to join us next year. HQ sees us as a bit of a success story and subsequently is sponsoring me and Paul to go on to our AT Level 2 which is a full teaching qualification.

If anyone thinks they could give a regular hand on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month from March to October please let me know.

## Thames Valley Fly Dressers Guild Branch

### Instructor's Report to AGM 2018 at mid-point of 2018-19 Season

#### Overview of Meetings

We have had a steady 10-15 members each evening since the last AGM, with tyers spread over beginners / Bronze, intermediate / Silver, experts / Gold, Salmon, Stillwater and some social / angling tyers. It has been great to see so many actively competent tyers and the progress and the improvement made by all.

We have continued the popular 10-minute demonstration at 9pm each meeting. Volunteers very welcome!

#### New Members

We are always delighted to welcome newcomers to our Branch –beginners, novices, and experienced tyers. Please do ask your angling colleagues if they would like to come and join us. All are welcome

#### Awards Scheme Progress

None of our Branch Members has achieved a milestone this year, although we have several working towards their Bronze, Silver & Gold Awards. Please let me know if is incorrect!

#### Asking for Instruction and solving problems

All our instructors are there to answer questions and solve tying problems. Please do ask if you need a demonstration, or explanation. The Instructors have over 100 years of fly-tying experience between them!

#### FDG Tying Competition – Branch

Many thanks to all who submitted flies for the Dec 17 TV Branch Fly Tying Competition. The winners were:

- Novice                    No entries, unfortunately
- Trout                     Roger Tribe
- Salmon                  Peter Watson (by default – no other entries!)
- Chairman's Upwing Trophy (May18) – Roger Tribe

#### FDG Tying Competition - National

Nationally, we had a frustrating lack of success in the Mar 18 FDG Fly Tying Competition, except for:

- Roger Tribe was Runner Up in the Open Trout class – congratulations!

I hope we will have more entries and more successes this year - you are all more than capable of winning!

#### Surplus Materials

We all have stacks of 'surplus' fly tying materials – if you need something, do ask before buying - it is probably available inexpensively, especially materials for fishing rather than presentation flies.

#### Shows – for Recruiting

We've had members tying flies at the BFFI Show, the SportFish Fly Fishing Show, the London Fishing Show iFISH, the Galway show in Ireland in 2018 – my many congratulations!

We will be looking for volunteers to tie flies at the SportFish Show at Theale on 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> May 2018. Please put the dates in your diary and volunteer to demonstrate and answer questions for a half or full day on either day.

#### Grayling Fishing

In addition to the excellent Grayling fishing organised by Richard E on the R Test, we had a group of 6 fishing the River Dee at Llangollen in early October. River was at a great height and the fishing was good. We would love to find a second Grayling fishing location on the River Test – could you arrange one?

We also have a couple of members knocking on the door of the England Rivers Team – Alex A & Paul L!

#### Reservoir Fishing

The TV FDG 'Invictas' team of John H, Peter H, Richard E & Peter W achieved 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the FDG annual John Watts boat fishing competition at Draycote Reservoir in August 2018. It was a tough day fishing. The TV 'Flowerpot Men' team of Richard B, Roger T, Phil M and Simon M came a respectable 12<sup>th</sup>.

#### Salmon Fishing

I fish for Salmon occasionally on the River Wye in South Wales. If you are interested in fishing or learning to Salmon fish – please let me know. Season starts on 3<sup>rd</sup> March!

#### Next Year's Programme

If you have any requests for next season's programme or a fly pattern or demonstrations of particular tying techniques or would like to volunteer to demonstrate for 10 minutes – then please let me know.

As our Members progress through the Bronze-silver-Gold Awards, I think the Programme has become somewhat 'stale', however it is predictable. I would love someone to take over the Programme!

Peter Watson  
Windsor

07<sup>th</sup> December 2018

