



St. Michael



FLYFISHERS

MANNINGFORD

MATCH REPORT 22nd March 2025



DAY CAPTAIN'S MATCH REPORT

19 including 2 guests attended on what was our second visit to this fishery. Now under new management with Stuart, formerly with Dever Springs who had carried out extensive work to improve the depth around the margins.

Having tackled up we all enjoyed a breakfast of bacon and sausage baps. Following a briefing from assistant manager Fenn on tactics and methods including his advice to fish the margins off we went. We had divided the lake into 3 zones 10 on zone 1, and 9 between zones 2 and 3 for the first 45 minutes then swap for the final 45 minutes, after which we would start free roaming.

Despite Fenn's advice to try the margins most were casting well out however fish were being caught quite quickly on both zones 1 and 2. The usual flies seemed to be successful, Copper Damsels, Blue Flash Damsels, Bloodworms, and Buzzers fished under an indicator. I am sure other flies caught. By the time we broke for lunch all, but three members had at least one or two fish.

The afternoon session proved to be more difficult, we could see fish rising but along way out. Persistence for those working hard caught more fish, but for some no luck. I can only put it down to the fact having seen so many flies constantly cast during the morning session we had put the fish down, and an easterly breeze was not ideal. As the saying goes A wind from the West makes the fishing the best, but a wind from the East catches the least.

However, two cracking Rainbows were caught, the best of the day 12lb 14ozs by Joe on Montana and another of 12lb 3ozs by Chris Rasmussen Clark on a Bloodworm, and to top it off a lovely Brown of 6lb 6ozs on a Daddy to win the day with a two fish bag of 18lb 4ozs. The full results sheet is attached to this Match Report.

We could not fault the weather dry all day, a little chilly at times with that easterly breeze but a most enjoyable day among friends.

Talking to Stuart on the Monday after, he was disappointed we didn't catch some of the big Browns saying they were often in the margins and the regulars tended to stalk for them, so we know for the next time. Fenn's advice was right. 😞

Michael and Tom

Joint Day Captains

NEXT OUTING

Rockbourne

26th APRIL

AS SHOWN ON YOUR MEMBERSHIP CARDS

It is the club's Fortieth anniversary event.

It would be nice to have a FULL turnout, so do try to come along.

SECRETARYS REPORT MARCH 2025

Just 4 weeks to go till we celebrate our **40th Anniversary** outing at Rockbourne on Saturday 26th April.

As previously advised, we are sponsoring a BBQ lunch on the day, I will be emailing everyone to confirm their attendance so we can finalise numbers.

Final details will be sent the week before.

Those who came to Manningford were given a new type of membership card which features a fold up section on the back for you to record any pre existing medical conditions etc which could be important in the event of you becoming unwell whilst at a venue, and requiring immediate medical attention. Please do take advantage of this and always have your membership card with you.

For those who have yet to receive them, they will be available at Rockbourne.

Our sincere thanks to Bill for providing these for us.

We were pleased to see Colin Mann at Manningford. Following his hip replacement a couple of years ago, he had given up driving and had not attended an outing since then.

We send our best wishes to Brian Bloom for a speedy recovery following his operation.

Michael Littlestone Hon Sec.





MANNINGFORD Results and Winners

Chris R Clark:

With the best Bag of the day with just **2 Fish a great 18lb 9 oz.**
 Biggest a 12lb 3oz Rainbow and a Brown at 6lb 6oz
 Winning a box of flies & a pack of Snakes.

Joe Tufo:

With the biggest fish at 12lb 14oz.
 Winning a box of flies & a pack of Snakes.

Lucky Draw Raffle

Alan Butler:

Day Ticket to Manningford

Peter Burdett:

£40 Travel expenses

**Other members won prizes
 kindly donated for the raffle**

Total Number of anglers 19

Total number of fish caught 32

Message from Our President



FISHING FOR SCHOOLS CHARITY EVENT



St. Michaels Fly Fishers has been approached by Charles Jardine on behalf of the “**Fishing for schools**” charity and ask if five of our members may be willing to represent St. Michael Fly Fishers and be part of a five-angler team to fish on Friday the 30th of May at Lakedown.

Therefore, at our usual Saturday 24th May event at Lakedown those willing or interested in fishing for the **Celebrity Event** on Friday 30th May will take part in a fish off for the chance to be one of the lucky five to represent St Michael Fly Fishers. So far there is a significant amount of interest in being one of the five, so by including a best five at our Saturday 24th May event we will have the chance to reconnaissance the water with the aim of being best placed to win the Charles Jardines trophy the following Friday. The event will also be important as it will give our club some needed publicity and a platform to get potential new members - perhaps even Paul Whitehouse?

The cost will be £100 per angler that will include a sit-down lunch, part of this cost may be met by St. Michael Fly Fishers.

Patrons include the famous Charles Jardine.

Invited and expected guest: Roger Daltry, Fergal Sharkey, Paul Whitehouse.

Profits raised will be donated to “**Fishing for schools**” a charity that exists to help support and nurture young people into a world of angling both as a recreation and a pathway for learning.

“**Fishing for Schools**” mantra is everyone learns differently, and we at “**Fishing for Schools**” see no difference between the classroom being in a school or outside in the fresh air.

Please contact me if you need any further information. *Geoff Brooks*

GALLERY



Welcome to St. Michaels fly fishers Julio, we hope you had a good day, and we look forward to seeing you fishing with us again.

A Little Tip

How long should your leader - tippet be?

The length of line used depends a lot on the situation. In general, shorter leaders/tippets are used for less spooky fish in rough or murky water, as well as tight, brushy areas. Longer lines are used for wary fish in calm, clear water and delicate dry fly presentations.

Some recently stocked Trout aren't very line-shy and can be easily convinced to take a fly at the end of a short, thick leader, while others such as overwintered trout could be spooked by the mere thought of such a rig.

A 9' leader is considered standard for typical trout fishing, but longer leaders anything between 9ft to 16ft are also very common though more and more difficult to cast the longer they get.

That said, at times, an even shorter leader is also useful, on rivers when fishing streamers this often requires no more than 4 to 8 feet and shorter leaders make casting heavy flies easier. Besides, when you're using a sinking line on a river, it often pays to get your flies down at a similar speed. So, it's worth experimenting with your leader length from time to time.

GALLERY



*Mine is bigger than yours!
Or is it?*



GALLERY



My thanks to Joe for the photo's.
You can see these and others in more detail on the SMFF web site.

