



# St. Michael

# FLYFISHERS

**AVON SPRINGS**  
**22nd FEBRUARY 2025**  
**Match Report**



Lynn Haskins showing off one of the two fish she caught on the day. Also making good use of the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Snood that was given out to members during breakfast.

# DAY CAPTAIN'S MATCH REPORT

We were lucky, we kept telling ourselves, that we had a fine day forecast, between two rather inclement days, so all prospects looked good. A good gathering of 20 members, and our past chairman, made our separate ways to the breakfast venue where we foregathered by 8am. However, breakfast took forever to arrive and so we did not get started on the water until 0930. We tackled up and had a short briefing before splitting into the three zones and setting off for the first three rotations before starting free roaming.

It didn't take long for the first fish to be in the nets. Actually, before some of us got a fly anywhere near the water. However, that first flurry was the prelude to a long hard day for most of us. Were the fish deep? or were they feeding on the top? Certainly, some fish were seen feeding but some were just out of casting range towards the center of the large lake. The standard Damsels appeared to be working but not for all of us. Buzzers of different persuasions were tried, as were Minkies. "They are chasing fry" the cry went round the lake. A snake or two was seen dangling suspiciously on the ends of line.

However, the sun came out and jackets came off. There was no breeze to talk about; just enough to ripple the water and give the casts a bit of direction. We broke for a short lunch and a war story or two. We let the water settle down and then carried on with free roaming. For most of us with busy lives it was a peaceful, enjoyable day to remember in the company of our friends and a gaggle of geese and a few swans, and, hey, what does it matter if we slogged all day for little. That's fishing folks!

*Tom Smith* Day Captain

## An email received from SPORTSFISH

**We have been informed that our discount code has changed. Please read the following message.**

We wanted to write to you to let you know we are changing the codes that your club members use for discounts (we are keeping the % discount and where it can be used the same). We are doing this as we have come across several instances of code misuse (where an exclusive code is passed onto someone **not** entitled to use that code).

**YOUR EXISTING CODE:**

SMFF

**This will expire on 31 March 2025.**

**YOUR NEW CODE:**

10SMFF

**This is valid now and should be used going forward.**

As before these discounts are available online, in-store or over the phone. **A few things to note:**

- Pass this new code onto your members and confirm this has been communicated to them, along with all the relevant usage information in this email (if we don't hear from you in 60 days, we will cancel the code)
- We may require proof of membership / entitlement, and we reserve the right to contact any discount code user for this purpose.
- We will cancel the code provided periodically and issue a new code in its place for security reasons.
- If we find evidence that the code has been provided to non-members / third parties, then we reserve the right to cancel it for that entire organization.

We very much value the business that your members bring to us and take great pride in providing one of the best product ranges available at honest prices, excellent customer service and expert, friendly advice.

Online your members will also find a huge variety of useful buying guides, top tips for different species and types of water, plus fantastic videos from qualified instructors on how to improve casting:

[Fly Fishing Advice & Beginners Guides | Sportfish](#)

## HON SECRETARY REPORT

**Certainly not an easy day's fishing at Avon Springs this time round, but as Tom said in his report that fishing folks. Oddly enough I happened to speak two other members who were fishing elsewhere that same day both of whom found the fishing very hard. Could it be the weather during the previous week had something to do with it, air pressure maybe!**

**we will never know. 🙄**

Moving onto our next outing to Manningford on 22<sup>nd</sup> March I am grateful to Dave Martin whom fishes there regularly for the following information

Manningford is fishing very well since it has been dug out with depths close to the bank in many areas down to 8 ft. My advice on the day would be to fish low, slow and black which seems to be pulling out the better browns and rainbows at the moment. The browns can be found around the islands

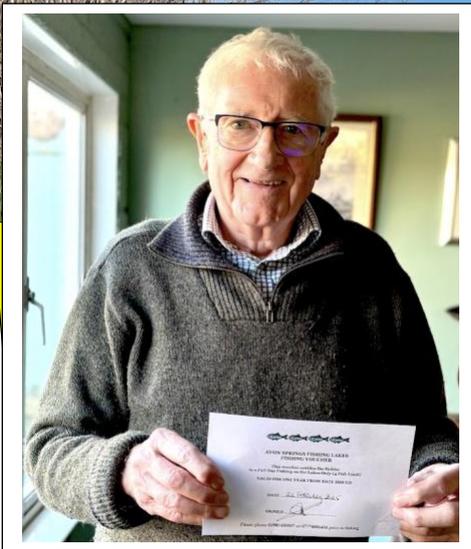
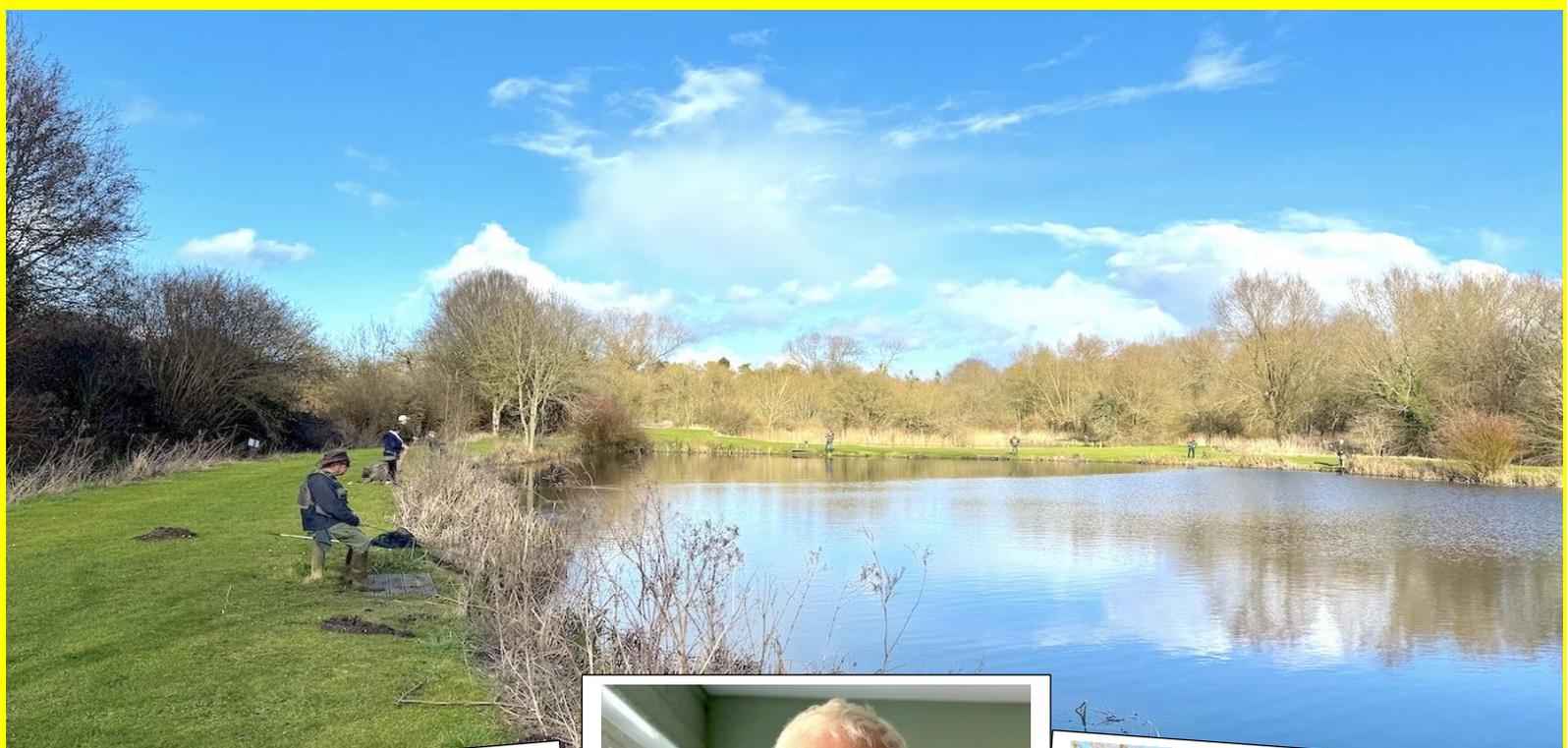
The work to scrape out the main lake and the amount of rain since then has made the banks very muddy in many places but the quality of the fish, both rainbows and browns has improved markedly. The new manager, Stuart, used to be at Dever Springs so may well be known to some of our members. All things being equal, you should have a good day. There are a few recent videos of visits to Manningford which can be found on Google and might be worth a look.

We have exclusive use of the fishery for a minimum of 20 anglers so I hope as many of you as possible will be able to attend. Final details will be emailed the week before.

We send our best wishes to Bob Fulton who will be shortly going into hospital for an operation.

*Michael Littlestone* Hon Secretary





# Avon Springs Results and Winners

**David Broome:**  
The best Bag 4 Fish at 11lb 10oz  
Wins a box of flies.

**Bill Berloth:**  
Best fish of the day: at 4lb 8oz  
Also wins a box of flies.

**Bez Sahami:**  
Was finally presented with the trophy won at Lechlade in 2022 for catching the club's biggest fish of that year.  
A Rainbow of 18lb 12oz.



**Lucky Draw Raffle**

**Carl Bolding:**  
Travel expenses £40.00

**Brian Maguire:**  
Day Ticket to Avon Springs

Several members won other prizes in the raffle that had been kindly donated.

**Total Number of anglers 21**  
**Total number of fish caught 29**

# SEASONAL HATCH CHART

FLY COLOR GUIDE: GREEN IN THE SPRING | YELLOW IN THE SUMMER | RED & BLACK IN AUTUMN & WINTER

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEPT	OCT	NOV	DEC	
HATCH TIMES		WARMEST PART OF DAY	WARMEST PART OF DAY	WARMEST PART OF DAY	WARMEST PART OF DAY	EVENING	DUSK & DAWN	EARLY MORNING	DUSK	MIDDAY	MIDDAY		
MIDGES	[Color bar: Green from Feb to May, Yellow from Jun to Aug, Red from Sept to Dec]												
MAYFLY			[Color bar: Green from Mar to May, Yellow from Jun to Aug, Red from Sept to Nov]										
CADDIS				[Color bar: Yellow from Apr to Aug, Red from Sept to Nov]									
STONEFLY		[Color bar: Green from Feb to Mar]			[Color bar: Yellow from May to Aug]								
TERRESTRIAL				[Color bar: Yellow from Apr to Aug, Red from Sept to Oct]									
EGG		[Color bar: Green from Feb to Apr]							[Color bar: Yellow from Aug to Oct, Red from Nov to Dec]				

This Chart was reprinted from last years February issue. Please let me know if you find it helpful. If it is not, I will drop it in future.

## GALLERY



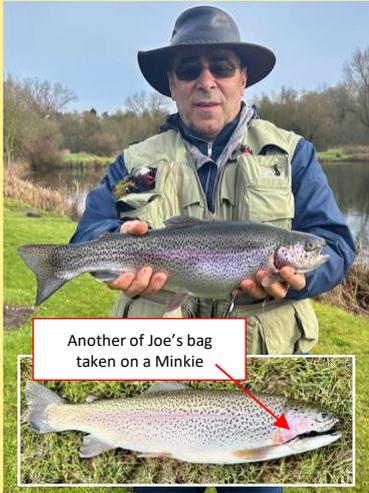
## A LITTLE TIP

As a group we don't get any younger and most of us take regular medications or have pre-existing conditions that in the event of an accident or episode should be available to a paramedic or anyone who is administering first aid. It is impracticable for the club to hold this information on each individual member, not in the least because of GDPR surrounding this very sensitive personal information.

So, the Tip of the Day is, that alongside your membership card, which should obviously be taken on every meeting and can be accessed as necessary, we should keep a record of three things:

1. Next Of Kin details,
2. Any medication alerts,
3. Any pre-existing medical conditions.

# GALLERY



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

