

DUNCTON MILL MARCH 2018

# St Michael Fly Fishers Match Report



DUNCTON MILL FISHERY

The **"MINI BEAST FROM THE EAST"** was waiting for us as we opened the curtains on this cold March morning. Still it was not enough to prevent 15 brave members from making their way to Duncton Mill for what proved a challenge in more ways than one. Michael Littlestone was our day captain and following is his account of the day.



## DAY CAPTAIN'S REPORT

With the threat of snow Friday night into Saturday morning I was left wondering how many members might turn up at Duncton Mill.

I was delighted to see a full turnout of 15 members when I was last to arrive, as due to some completely unknown reason I decided to ignore my Sat Nav thinking I knew better. What I knew better was the way to Meon Springs, not Duncton. Obviously one of those SENIOR MOMENTS.

To say it was cold was an understatement, but warmed through with coffee, and buttered malt loaf provided by our hosts Caroline, and Martin off we went to start fishing. With a relatively small group, and bearing in mind the conditions I decided to let everybody choose which lake they would go to first, and catch two fish, then move to another lake.

Despite the raw easterly wind, fish were soon being caught, and prior to breakfast at 10.30, Jugs had bagged up, and almost everyone else had caught at least one, or two.

As usual a great breakfast of bacon rolls, sausage rolls, and bacon, and cheese croissants, washed down with yet more tea, and coffee, and a nice warm log fire. Bearing in mind the forecast, while witnessing a mini blizzard during breakfast and with the feeling some members would probably leave early we drew the raffle then, and thanks guys for bringing along so many prizes. Everybody won something.

Off we went again with the snow falling, and still fish were coming to the net. Surprisingly still taking buzzers, with good old damsel working as well.



DAY CAPTAIN'S REPORT CONTINUE ON P 2:

By 12.30 at least half the members had made tracks for home just in case conditions got worse. The rest of us carried on, it was definitely getting colder.

By 2pm Brian Bloom, and I were back in the clubhouse, gorging on homemade cakes, and Bill, Vic, and Rob were still plugging away. Bill came in at 2.30, and Vic, and Rob at 3, the designated weigh in time. Rob weighed in 4lb 12ozs which was the closest to the secret weight Martin had put down in a sealed envelope, so at least we were able to present one prize at the end of the day.

Congratulations to Iain Laws who won the day with a full bag weighing 11lbs 4ozs, and Lloyd Simpson with the biggest fish of 5lb 12 ozs. You will receive your prizes at Avon Springs next month.

All in all, and despite the weather it was not a bad day with 34 fish caught. Let's hope next year for better weather

Our sincere thanks to Caroline, and Martin for their warm welcome, and hospitality, and for giving us a day ticket as a prize.

Can I also thank Brian Bloom for his assistance on the day with the raffle, and acting as my Gillie when I left my net at home. Was that another Senior Moment?

*Michael Littlestone* Day Captain

## End of day results DUNCTON MILLS

Winner Best bag of the day  
**Iain Laws ...**  
4 fish 11lbs 4 oz

**Biggest Fish .....Lloyd Simpson**  
5lbs 12oz

Secret weight 4lbs 8oz  
Winner  
**Rob Wise** with a fish of 4lb 12oz

Number of anglers 15 Number of fish caught 37

I am sure we all would like to wish Eddie Edwards a very happy 95<sup>th</sup> birthday which he celebrated on the 18<sup>th</sup> of March.

I also spoke to Kevin a few days ago, and unfortunately he has to go back for more Chemotherapy in the very near future. We wish him well, and look forward to seeing him at the waterside whenever he feels able.

As you will have read in my day captains report we tried to have a more relaxed day without hooters, and enforced moves. It appeared to work well, and if you remember at Lechlade we also allowed you to catch two fish in a zone. Your committee is conscious that not all members favour the constant moving, and waiting for the hooter to go before you can move to the next peg.

So in future, and providing the fishery is suitable for a more relaxed days fishing we will try to continue this approach.

We really do need a few more members, so may I encourage all of you to see if you know anyone who might like to join the club. If you do bring them along as a guest, they will be more than welcome, and even if they haven't fly fished before there are members who would be willing to help them.

Thanks to Bill Berloth who has produced the new membership cards for this season. I gave them to those who attended Duncton, and will bring them along to Avon Springs next month.

**Finally may I remind you that your rod licence is due to be renewed by April 1<sup>st</sup>**

I look forward to seeing you all at Avon Springs, and details will follow by email the week before.

Kind Regards and Tight Lines

*Michael Littlestone.*





# GALLERY



SORRY the gallery is a bit underwhelming, but that's what you get when Joe takes a day off.