

Cressbrook & Litton Flyfishers

Fishing Report
16 June 2015

By the end of the first week of the month, the weather had started to improve and the Mayfly had arrived. Before this however, we had a big flood, coinciding with a visit by John Frazer. Despite the turbid conditions, John caught fish, prospecting



behind rocks and in the edges with bright patterns, using a One weight line. Fish were caught on a Hares Ear with a red tag, a Pink Shrimp and an Apps Bloodworm. The Wye is very rarely unfishable, even though it might look hopeless. The only time it gets really out of sorts is when the water is stained with ochre from the old mine workings but, touch wood, this doesn't seem to happen very often these days.

I spent the weekend of the 6th up in Ribblesdale at the WTT Annual Get Together. As always, it was a great weekend - excellent speakers, meeting up

with old friends etc and topped off with some very pleasant fishing on the Hodder. You can watch clips of the Speakers by following the link at the end of this piece.

On my way back I called in at Duffers and Locked Bridge to pick up some stuff and was pleased to see that members have been enjoying some excellent catches of late. Our husband and wife teams, the Langans, the Frys and the Calladines have been out and it was noticeable that the ladies generally seemed to have fared the best!

The Mayfly seem to be emerging at last, as are the Olive Uprights and Yellow Sallies. Our esteemed President had a great day with the Mayfly, culminating in a 3 pounder from the flats above the Bobbin Mill Weir. Having said that, the cold evenings have not been helpful to the Mayfly spinners. If the conditions aren't right, the spinners won't return to the water, spending the nights in the bankside bushes. In reasonable conditions they might return to lay their eggs the next morning but if the temperature drops below freezing (which has been happening), then they will most likely die before they can release their eggs. So the chances are that Mayfly numbers could go into decline for the next few years.

A few housekeeping matters:

- The ongoing problems with poachers have been raised at the highest levels with Derbyshire Police and we are hoping to see improvements in their response times. Since the start of the Season we have been experiencing on average one incident per week (where we have disrupted activities). And of course there could have been many more that we are unaware of. If you come across a poaching incident, do not be tempted to get involved. Call the keepers and/or the police and let them deal with it. Over the next few months Derbyshire

wakes weeks, well Dressings and Carnivals will attract those of the itinerant persuasion. These people are the worst offenders, so be careful.

- The Police have said that they will be making their presence felt by patrolling the river, both on foot and in their vehicles. Please remember to display your C&L car badge and carry your membership card with you at all times so that you can produce the latter if asked.
- The farmer has cattle & sheep in the fields at the Locked Bridge and the Bobbin Mill. Do not forget to shut the gates after you - if the animals get out onto the A6 (which has happened in the past, although no fault of ours) the consequences could be horrendous.
- A guest of Mike Marsh had the misfortune to lose a fly box recently at Rockface on Beat 3. If anyone comes across this box, please pass it to one of the keepers.
- Finally, the residents at Litton Mill have complained yet again about members driving through the Mill Yard at speed. Please do not exceed 10 mph when travelling through the yard and down the track.

Now that the Mayfly are finishing and the crowds have gone, we can look forward to some proper fly fishing. The Olive uprights and Medium Olives have probably peaked by now, and the stage is set for what is, in my opinion, the best fishing of the season. Enter the Blue Winged Olive! This is essentially an evening event with the possibility of both the dun and the spinner being on the water at the same time. The fish can be keyed on either and if you are alert to what is happening, spectacular sport can be had. We are also at peak caddis time and a skated sedge after dark can produce

some electrifying takes. Those of us prepared to get up early might experience a spinner fall if conditions weren't right the night before and also perhaps a Caenis hatch. During the day the Yellow Sallies will still be about for a while and hatches of Pale Wateries can always stimulate a rise.



Terrestrials such as the Soldier Beetle and the Crane Fly might also tempt a lethargic trout.

On Friday 26th June we will once again be holding our Bugs & Burgers Evening with Stuart Crofts and this year we will also be featuring a demonstration of Italian Style Casting by Dave Southall and Manu Gotto. This FREE event will be taking place at the Locked Bridge from around 18.00 until dark. We hope to see you there.

Tight lines,
David Marriott

https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL6jO0i3yvmjd60pZgm2_8_mpejNjs0zq6