



Dorchester Fishing Club

July Newsletter

2009

News

We are only half way through the 2009 season and there has already seen a lot of change: first we lost the fishing rights to the Upper Wrackle, but this was more than compensated for when we secured the fishing rights on the River Piddle at Southover, Tolpuddle (I hope you have all had the opportunity to fish this magical little river)



We saw the grand opening of the fish pass at Loud's Mill, this I'm sure has made a positive impact of the fishing in that area. We have also witnessed the best weed growth for at least 10 years, this really caught us out, but the River Keeper and a few working parties have kept the river fishable. Please visit the Club Diary on the internet for working party dates and please attend if possible. Our last weed cutting party only the River Keeper turned up!!

We stocked a number of larger trout this season and I know members have enjoyed hooking into these during the most amazing mayfly hatches seen for a long while. It is now the middle of June and still the mayfly are hatching and keeping the trout rising, especially during the evening spinner fall.

The AGM. is booked for Monday 30th November Casterbridge Room, Kings Arms, Dorchester at 19:00 - I'm due to stand down from the Office of Honorary Secretary and I know the Managing Committee has already lined up a more than a suitable replacement, who will take the Club forward. So please come along to the AGM. remember this is a Club and every Member has a say in how it should be run.....



A few topics from our online diary:-

09/01/2009 **The grand opening** - Today was the official opening of the Loud's Mill fish pass

16/01/2009 **Frome Grayling** - Over the years there has been more British record Grayling caught and written about from the Frome than any other UK river.....Fact.

20/02/2009 **Southover Farm Water, River Piddle** - Managing Committee has secured a lease on 2/3 mile of fishing on the River Piddle

01/04/2009 **April 1st 2009** - I can't imagine more perfect weather than we had today

01/05/2009 **Stocking** - What a beautiful morning to be out stocking

23/05/2009 **Weed Cutting** - Today we had a weed cutting working party

29/05/2009 **Lost Net** - Has anyone found a net on the Upper Water?

08/06/2009 **Mayfly has been spectacular** - With some really good fish about

17/06/2009 **Thanks for a great day** - It was great to meet you yesterday

riverfrome.blogspot.com

Frome, Piddle & West Dorset Fishery's Association

The Association focuses on the preservation, promotion & development of fishing activities within our area. The Association is recognised by many fishermen, riparian owners, by English Nature and the EA.

If you are not yet a member, please consider subscribing to this most useful local focused lobby group which, by harnessing the resources of local fisherman can speak with a far clearer single voice.

For more details please contact:

Secretary—Tony Medley. Oak Wood, Duck Street, Wool BH20 6DE Tel: 01929 462168

Keepers Corner

As I sit writing "Keepers Corner" I always find the time to reflect back on the days spent on the banks, and in the water of the River Frome, times as a child.

I remember once being in town with my Mum possibly aged 10, being stopped by a very well spoken old man "John tell me where would be a good spot on the River to fish today"?....."Uh, oh try Swimo's there's lot's of olives"

The closed season was always our traditional time for "fish spotting" we would spend all weekend out looking, quietly observing, learning.....

This season got off to a fairly slow start, the weather was fair for the Grannom but along with a continuously cold wind and very cold water we were into May before the Frome really woke up and became the Chalk Stream she is famous for and that is the fabulous fishing that she offers.

The fishing very quickly caught up, the Mayfly had to be seen to be believed and I know there were more of you out fishing than previous years, which is great.

The weed growth on the Frome has been nothing short of amazing, I think we have done more cutting than ever before, but now it has finished flowering it should start to die back, and with a good flush through, will set us up nicely for the rest of the season.

I am aiming to set up a fly monitoring group working with the "Riverfly Partnership" for the Frome in the near future and would love for a few of you to get involved with this, it should be a bit of fun.

Also this year I was very pleased to become Vice Chairman of the Frome Piddle and West Dorset Fisheries Association, a group we should be all involved with, a voice in protecting our local Rivers.

All our river projects have now had time to settle in, in fact a week or so ago on the lower water on the downstream riffle there were thousands of Minnows spawning right on the edge where the gravel was starting to dry out, it was quite a sight.

One date for your diaries, we have a river picnic in partnership with the Association of Ponds Lakes and Fisheries at Bockhampton on the 20th August at 6.00pm please come and join us.

John E Aplin
Riverkeeper
www.RiverWorks.co.uk

River Frome Fly Pattern

GP Dun – Tom's Fly

It seems to work well as an imitation of most upwinged duns. Dressed on the appropriate hook, it has proven deadly in the Mayfly hatch. It will also occasionally catch fish during the grannom.

I believe it's genuinely original, although I can't rule out the possibility that it already exists under another name ('GP' just stands for 'general purpose', by the way - rather unimaginative, I know, but it's the fly that counts, not the name!).

Tying silk: Yellow (waxed). The precise shade doesn't seem to matter very much, but it should be of the kind that darkens to an olive colour when wet.

Body: Natural seal's fur spun sparsely on the tying silk. Don't overdo it. The silk underbody should be visible, with the fur forming a 'halo' around it. Do not rib the body, which is quite unnecessary and will ruin the effect.

Hackle and whisks: Blue dun cock (preferably natural rather than dyed)

And that's it, All the best,
Tom

(for more information on this fly <http://riverfrome.blogspot.com/2008/04/gp-dun.html>)