



Mid Northants Trout Fishers'
Association

SPRING NEWSLETTER 2020

Annual General Meeting

At The Yeoman of England,
31 High Street, Wootton, Northampton NN4 6LP
March 12th 2020 8:00pm

All members are invited to attend the Annual General Meeting of MNTFA. The evening programme is given below:

1. Presentation by:

i) Dave Rowe, Senior Ranger, Anglian Water.

2. Annual General Meeting.

Agenda

1. Apologies
2. Minutes of the 2019 Annual General Meeting.
3. Treasurer's Report.
4. Chairman's Report.
5. Kelmarsh Show
6. **Competitions Report** (including presentation of prizes/trophies)
7. **Election of Officers: (see below)**
 - a. Chairman
 - b. Committee
8. **Any Other Business:**

Your Committee Members are

Grant Gibson	President
Don Moore	Chairman
John Sumner	Vice Chairman and newsletter
Seumas Halliday	Coaching and external links
John Clarke	Secretary secretary@mntfa.co.uk
John Mills	Treasurer
Mike Jeyes	Marketing/Advertising
David Anderson	Competitions Secretary
Hank Needham	Membership
Derek Walker	Website/Winter Programme

All current committee members are willing to stand for re-election. Any member wishing to nominate another member for one of the positions should

ensure that their nomination reaches the secretary at least 14 days before the date of the AGM. The nomination should be seconded by another member.

Items for AOB at the AGM should also be sent to the Secretary at least 14 days before the meeting

MNTFA New Website

Many of you will have noticed by now that there is now a new, and very much improved, MNTFA website at www.mntfa.co.uk . Hank Needham, Derek Walker and Seumas Halliday all had varying inputs to the new site.

Hank Needham, responsible for the design and functionality of the site gives this guidance:

"We are continuously working to help improve the fishing experience for all our members and guests and thus our new website is a never ending project intended to help anglers gain a greater fishing experience. Therefore, we ask that you provide any feedback, ideas or requests that you feel would help to improve it.

The 'Home Page' starts off with a brief description and history of the MNTFA and includes images of our favourite waters together with the latest news and weather for each. 'About' describes our clubs various activities such as: Monday Social, Open Afternoons, Winter Programme and Coaching.

MNTFA Fishing Competitions provide an entertaining day out for those who want to enjoy a bit of banter on the water followed by an evening meal. You will find a 2020 Entry Form under the 'Competition Tab' together with 'Rules' and past 'Results'.

We then move over to the 'Hot Links Tab' which is a great place to source discounted flies and equipment, "How To" Videos and external competitions. The 'Gallery Tab' is our newest section where you are invited to help others by sharing pictures, techniques, flies and locations that are proven to be most recently successful. Finally we come to the 'Calendar Tab' which gives you a full overview of the monthly activities and also syncs with your mobile device should you desire"

2020 MNTFA Members' Competitions

We cannot start a new season of competitions without first thanking Terry Bayes for his excellent programme over the last few years. Terry was at all matches, ensuring that all of the boats were available, everyone had a partner and that we all got away on time.

He carried out the arduous task of collating catch numbers, the weights of the total catch and biggest (smallest) fish; he became quite an expert in using *Excel*. Added to all of this he then had to organise the food for lots of hungry fishermen.

One of his most notable achievements was to organise an outing to Rutland Water, a venue that for some reason seemed to have dropped off our list some years ago. All who attended the, very blustery, day thoroughly enjoyed it; especially the very nice lunch Terry had arranged in the clubhouse.

From all of those who fished the competitions many thanks Terry, you did an excellent job.

The new competitions secretary is Dave Anderson competitions@mntfa.co.uk and we wish him well. The competitions calendar for 2020 has been circulated to all members via email and is also available on the website.

The committee has been forced to introduce a new rule for payment of the competition costs.

The preferred method of payment on the day would be by cheque rather than cash where possible.

MNTFA Business Card

Mike Jeyes has produced a "business card" containing brief information about the club. The intention is that members keep these cards with them when they fish and give them to any anglers that they meet on the bank who express an interest in the club. Please ask Mike for a supply of these cards.



Inter Club Competitions

Anglian Water Airflo International

The Anglian Water Airflo International (AWAI), is a prestigious event which sees teams of anglers from across the UK and Europe compete to be named AWAI champions.

Competing in teams of six; anglers will need to prove themselves by coming through the qualifying heats for the chance to compete in the international final.

The new format for 2020 means that teams now only need to fish one heat for a chance to qualify for the International Final at Rutland or the Grafham Water Championship. All heats are open to all anglers with no regional restrictions.

Heats take place at five top fisheries, including at Lake of Menteith in Scotland, Lough Melvin in Ireland and Llyn Brenig in Wales, plus three English qualifying heats. The two-day competition will see finalists fish Rutland Water.

And don't worry if you don't qualify for the final; runners-up can try their luck in the Grafham Water Championship.

Richard Webb is organising the MNTFA team please contact him if you wish to be considered.

More details can be found at

<https://anglianwaterparks.co.uk/fishing/anglian-water-airflo-international>

Snowbee 'Floating Line' Competition - Saturday 2nd May *Grafham Water*

This is a National event fished in club teams of 4. Details of club involvement will be available on the MNTFA website

2020 Bob Church Classic

This special event in memory of Sir Bob will be on Rutland on Sunday 7th June with all boats reserved for the 6th. Presentation meal at Greetham Valley.

MNTFA have been invited to enter, please watch the website for updates.

Club Coaching Activities

Thanks must go to Seumas Halliday for his hard work and perseverance over the last year. His efforts have ensured a very well attended programme of Saturday "taster sessions" at Pitsford Water and several new members have joined the club through this path. He also spends untold hours attending meetings on behalf of MNTFA and these have resulted in some considerable funding being accessed by the club for coaching activities. Seumas relies on members giving help and support at all these activities and he will always welcome your help.

Kelmarsh Show is being held again this year on April 12th and 13th. Volunteers are required for both days. Contact Don Moore for information

MNTFA 2020 Coaching Dates and Other Events So Far:

2020 Dates	Event	Notes
Sat Feb 22, 10am - 3pm	Anglian Water Pitsford Lodge Open Day	For season permits and casting tuition from Peter Hartley. Simon Kidd (Snowbee) and Craig Barr (morning) will also be there.
Sat March 7	Angling Trust Coaching Conference, Redditch	Seumas, Don, Dennis & John Mills attending
Sat 21 March 10.30am - 2.30pm	Spring into Fishing, Abington Park Northampton	MNTFA and coarse clubs coaching for Angling Trust.
Sat 28 March 2-5pm	Pitsford Lodge	MNTFA Coaching
Easter Sun - Mon April 12-13 (TBC)	Kelmarsh Show	MNTFA and other clubs coaching for Angling Trust
Sat 25 April 2-5pm	Pitsford Lodge	MNTFA Coaching
Sat 30 May 2-5pm	Pitsford Lodge	MNTFA Coaching
Sat 27 June 2-5pm	Pitsford Lodge	MNTFA Coaching
Sat 25 July 2-5pm	Pitsford Lodge	MNTFA Coaching
Sat 22 Aug 2-5pm	Pitsford Lodge	MNTFA Coaching
Sat 26 Sep 2-5pm	Pitsford Lodge	MNTFA Coaching
Sat 24 Oct 2-5pm	Pitsford Lodge	MNTFA Coaching

A few other dates likely to follow.

Please contact our coaches on coaching@mntfa.co.uk if you would like one to one tuition (casting, bank or boat fishing, fly tying) or if you are interested in volunteering.

Angling Trust Nene Welland Witham Consultative - Meeting 11.1.20

<http://aterforum.co.uk/index.php/nwwac-home>

Topics included progress on various initiatives - fishery improvements, routine monitoring by the Environment Agency in the catchment, fish surveys, pollution, predation, enforcement, weed management, club news and a stillwater trout update which John Wadham (Rutland Water FF) and I usually provide. More relevant points (to us) from this meeting:

Cormorant count - only Peterborough AC and Mid Northants have sent returns in, which is disappointing. The numbers recorded were similar to the official BTO figures. *Thanks to Don Moore and Martin Ireson for helping count the birds.*

Rod Licence sales were down 10% on the previous year. As a result there will be less money this year to fund angling improvement projects and they are limited to predation protection only.

Nenescape - Similar to last year 20 Let's Fish events are planned in the region, involving 8 clubs (we helped at 2-3 last year), and events at 4 Polish Schools (1 in Northampton).

Next meetings: 28 March, 27 June, 17 Oct.

Winter Programme 2019/20

At The Yeoman of England, 31 High Street, Wootton
Northampton NN4 6LP
8:00pm to 10:00pm

4th November DIY evening,

Members were free to organise the evening as they wished, some demonstrated tying their favourite fly patterns and some just chatted. All who attended seems to enjoy the opportunity of a diy evening

12th December 2019 Peter Hartley

Peter gave a very interesting and interactive talk focused on the importance of choosing the right fly line. He placed particular emphasis on matching the head length of the line to the rod and the anglers casting ability. He brought a selection of lines along and recommended the Snowbee Classic which has a head length of 30ft. With this he suggested one false cast should be enough before a haul. This minimises the time your flies are not in the water and fishing. He also talked at some length about managing a boat on the drift and taking advantage of all the water and not just that immediately in front

9th January 2020 Grant Gibson

The speaker that had been arranged for the evening was unable to attend and Grant Gibson stepped in at very short notice. He gave an excellent presentation recounting his several trips to Cuba fishing for Giant Trevally, Tarpon and Bonefish. He kept the members entertained for a couple of hours and everyone thoroughly enjoyed the evening.

13th February 2020 Jeff Wilkinson

Jeff runs Razor Sharp Flies. He ties quality flies commercially to order and also supplies a limited range of fly tying materials prepared by himself. He is perhaps one of the most innovative and creative fly tyers and is also a successful angler on the competition scene and is a regular fisherman at Grafham and Farnmoor.

A very pleasing audience of 30 members heard Jeff give a detailed explanation of how he ties and fishes some of his favourite flies. He tied an interesting foam headed nymph which initially sank in a glass of water but then rose back to the top. He also gave quite a long demonstration of how he ties blobs with one or two interesting differences.

March 12th AGM