

## The Monday 21<sup>st</sup> Social Evening at the Brookfield, Barrow on Trent

### This was an excellent evening ....but disappointingly attended.

It was excellent because the firing questions at the panel element of the evening was lively, with members joining in by providing their own views on any and every thing, as well as being both informed and entertained by the panel. The blend of people working elsewhere in the country and would-be panellists not willing to chance contact with –WHAT ELSE – **Covid** (aren't you *thoroughly sick* of how it has affected our winter programme, *again*?! ) meant only the outstanding Bill Cottle of the intended panel was present. He persuaded most of those who came that salmon fishing was rather less of a challenge than many of us think, while one of our own flyfishers who fishes the big opens these days with increasing success (Ric Saccone) made some very valuable contributions on methods he uses – increasingly effectively - in matches. The third panellist, Neil Hassall; who set up the club 43 years ago admitted to not having learned a lot since 1979 and so asked more questions than he answered! For the most part he passed on his questions to the excellent Alan Topping who showed why he won so many of our matches in years gone by. Bill Cottle summed things up nicely with his observation that it had been a success, low attendance excepted, mainly because there will always be ' *people glad to get out of the house for a couple of hours and talk fishing, which is why the evening was such a pleasure*'.

The Brookfield Hotel at Barrow on Trent showed itself once more to be excellent on the half time chips, sandwiches and liquid refreshment, while the impromptu Fishing, Wild Life and Rarely Encountered Facts Quiz - designed to *avoid* general knowledge in favour of common sense, logic and good guessing went down extremely well. After all every fly-fisher ought to know such valuable facts as which country has 12 villages called Billy, 6 called Silly, and a couple called Prat !!!!!.

### **CLUB MATCHES** – New members welcome!!!

*One only hopes our highly successful competitive fishers out in the Covidless open air, with our newly acquired partners from Colwick, will enjoy a good club match season. This kicks off on **Sunday April 3<sup>rd</sup> at Rutland**. We shall be delighted to accept new members, or simply 'give it a try' one off anglers, who need only email Jodi Younger at [jodifish0309@gmail.com](mailto:jodifish0309@gmail.com) or ring on Tel: 07887674181 if interested. Though we have won the Midlands Championship trophy for the last 2 years – and also in the non-too distant past – we are always happy to pick up a few recruits every year, and are a very friendly group. We draw for boat partners (always helpful to newcomers) so you will soon know the whole gang.*

Anyway, good luck to all competitors and tight lines for Season 2022!!!

### ***And finally***

***We shan't be running any indoor activities until this Autumn – government restrictions permitting even then.*** After 2020-2021 and 2021-2022's disastrously Covid ruined years we hope to resume where we left off, back in 2019!!! OK, we managed a couple of autumn/winter events but we've been obliged to cancel a raft of excellent club evenings, but better times surely can't be far away.

Our finances remain sound, and boosted by a £500 gift via treasurer Belinda, wife of the sorely missed super member Alan Dawes, who asked before his death last year that the club which had given him so much pleasure, over so many years, be thus rewarded,

*There will be much to sort out by this autumn, not least at our first AGM since 2019, so you've got time to do some thinking – use it! Dozens- probably more – small clubs have bitten the dust since Covid reared its ugly head. We have no intention of joining them – but it's all down to ourselves and some new blood for the future.*

And in the Meanwhile

Go catch some trout – if Ric can do it anyone can

