

The Hertfordshire Hackle



Volume 5

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February 2007

Future Fly-tying

David Kato will lead the February session in tying a Matuka and Ace of Spades.

In March, Ken Davis will tie Bloodworms and Pheasant Tail nymphs.

Ed Catton-Orr bats in April with river nymphs for trout and grayling.

Dave Provan finishes the year with Daddies, Bibios and Hawthorns.

There'll be no fish left after being assaulted with those!

Flies that changed my life



He said he didn't get enough opportunities to tie flies, so we gave him one! It is with great pleasure and affection that we welcome Charles back to the Branch. He is a towering and tireless figure in angling, whether in casting, tying, tactics, painting or campaigning. His energy is bottomless, his enthusiasm boundless and his knowledge cosmic. What's more, he's the most engaging speaker you could ever imagine or want.

In the dark depths of the year, with the opening season still far enough way not to be thought about, this evening will lift your spirits and fire your imagination. It might even change your life...

Don't miss Charles Jardine on 12th February. Better still, bring a friend or two as well!

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Auction



Lots for the March auction must be received by the auctioneer/editor by the February meeting at the latest. Lots may be donated completely to Branch funds or sold on a 10% commission basis. We already have a wonderful selection of fly-tying materials, but at the time of writing, we have no books or fishing tackle. As we produce a catalogue for the occasion, this run-in time is essential, as all lots must be examined and checked before being catalogued.

Game—set and match to Knowles/Gotlieb!

A general lack of pigeons and magpies this year made the going tougher than normal, but, courtesy of David Mason and his tame game keeper, we were treated to a table of pheasant, mallard, French partridge, jay, hare and rabbit. Enough to fill several stockpots, but would it fire the imagination of the tiers and satisfy the eagle-eyes of the judges? All members brought their customary virtues, but only eight turned up with vices, making four teams of two. Chris Knowles and Derek Gotlieb came out overall best, with individual winners as below.



“You could have knocked us down with a feather!”



The game's out of the bag!



Dry fly: Dave Provan



Wet fly: Darrell Howard



Nymph: Chris Knowles



Lure: Bob Allan



Innovative: Derek Gotlieb