



South East Fly-Fishers Federation 2011 Rivers Qualifier



13th November, Lower Itchen fishery

The later date for this event could have left us at the mercy of November's weather, and indeed, heavy rain the previous weekend had seen the venue on the murky side. Thankfully, we had clear water on both days, apart from one spell at the start of the afternoon session when the river did colour up again, but this was short-lived, and we were soon back to targeting the gravel patches, and the grayling poised above them.

Nearly all competitors attended the Saturday practice day, and the very civilised lunch-break, at which Clive Collier claimed a 'Grand Slam' of a salmon, a sea trout, and a brown trout, as well as grayling, not bad for a morning's work. While plenty of grayling came out of the downstream sections, sizeable fish were also found in the areas upstream of the car park. Successful methods included Bugging, Trio, Duo and upstream nymph.

After a good evening at the local Premier Inn, we made a misty start the following morning. Controllers were soon



just two points ahead of Sean Brooks. Best fish was a 40cm grayling landed by Gavin Walsh. We were pleased to welcome a few newcomers this year, and hope to see them all again, along with the old faces, next year.



OVERALL RESULTS	Fish	Pts	% Am/Pm
1. Michael Heritage	(34)	1632	100% PM
2. Harry Fox	(15)	706	100% AM
3. Tony Fox	(12)	522	73.94% AM
4. Ray Burt	(5)	227	13.91% PM
5. Terry Mann	(8)	382	54.11% AM
6. Hector Rodriguez	(4)	182	11.15% PM
7. Bill Rankin	(5)	244	34.56% AM
8. Sean Brooks	(4)	180	11.03% PM
9. Clive Collier	(3)	138	19.55% AM
10. Andrew Green	(2)	100	6.13% PM
11. Vince Brooks	(1)	44	6.23% AM
12. Gavin Walsh	(1)	60	3.68% PM
13. Paul Canning	(1)	43	6.09% AM
14. Wesley Boyd	(1)	48	2.94% PM

NB: The top points scorer is placed 1st, with the top scorer in the other session 2nd. The 3rd and 4th overall places are calculated between the two second-placed competitors in both sessions on a % basis of the top points score in their session. 5th and 6th overall places are worked out from the two third-placed competitors in both sessions in the same way, and so on.

busy on the score cards, with Harry Fox taking the morning session just a couple of fish in front of Dad Tony. Terry Mann, concentrating on one of the side-carriers, and Bill Rankin weren't far behind.

Those drawn in the afternoon session were a little dismayed by the initial lack of clarity, but after this cloudy water passed through, we were soon back to normal. Although some of us might have thought the fish had seen too much pressure to co-operate, a brilliant performance by Mike Heritage showed what could be done. Following his win in the recent Commonwealth fund-raiser, Mike scored 34 fish, leaving his controller Paul Canning barely time to roll a cigarette. The ever-consistent Ray Burt took second in the session, followed by Hector Rodriguez

