

MEGAN BOYD

From a humble background in Brora, East Sutherland, Scottish Highlands, Megan Boyd became the most famous fishing fly-tyer in the world. Works of art and labours of love. Megan's exquisitely-crafted flies were highly sought after by top fly-fishers, including celebrities and royalty, such as Prince Charles, with whom she became a good friend. Her flies sold for hundreds of pounds.

Born in Surrey in 1915, Megan's family moved to Brora when she was three, when her father gained employment with the Sutherland Estate, replacing his brother, who had been badly wounded during the Great War, as Chauffeur at Uppat.

As a young girl, she became fascinated with the art of salmon fly dressing, learning the skill from her father's fellow estate worker, Bob Trussler, a Ghillie and Water Bailiff on the River Brora. She never fished herself, preferring to 'catch' the fishermen instead!

Awarded the British Empire Medal in 1971, she politely declined the invitation to receive her medal from the Queen at Buckingham Palace because, she said, she couldn't find anyone to look after her dog! Understanding her plight, Her Majesty responded to Megan telling her that next time Charles was fishing in the area, he would bring the medal and present it to her himself.

When her father retired from the estate in 1935, the family moved to a small house just outside the village, provided by the estate. With no electricity or mains water, there were no luxuries, but Megan continued to tie her flies for her expanding order book under candle light.

Never marrying, Megan enjoyed socialising in the village at whist drives and excelling at local Scottish Country Dance rallies. During the Second World War, she was an Auxiliary Coastguard; her front room overlooking the sweeping, sandy beach below and the Moray Firth beyond.

In the 1980s, with failing eyesight, she moved from her home to sheltered accommodation in the village, finally living the last few years of her life in a nursing home in neighbouring Golspie, where she died in 2001, aged 86.

Her legacy lived on after her death: a collection of 47 of her flies sold for £22,000 at auction in 2018. A film 'Kiss the water' was made of her extraordinary life and a popular book of her story sells well to this day.

Not bad for a lady from Brora!



LIGHT BITES

Sun Dried Tomato, Parmesan Arancini (V)	£8
Pickled shallot, Salmoriglio mayonnaise	
Dirty Chips (V)	£8
Jalapeños, scallions, cheese	
Butterflied Black Tiger Prawns	£13
Sautéed in sweet chilli sauce, lemon, and butter	
Tikka Masala Moray Pork Bites	£9
Braised and pressed in masala spices	
Combi Sliders	£13
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pork and apple burger, red onion chutney• Haddock goujon, tartare sauce• Beef burger, cheese, pickle	
B.L.T.	£11
Toasted sourdough, crispy bacon, baby gem lettuce, tomato, mayonnaise	

BOARDS & SHARERS

Bogrow Farm Charcuterie Board	(for one) £15	(for two) £29
Venison chorizo, pressed ox tongue, ham hough ballotine, salami, marinated olives, pickled shallots, piccalilli, artichoke hearts, goat's cheese, Tain truckle cheese, sourdough		
Plant Based Board (Ve)	(for one) £13	(for two) £24
Hummus, pickled red pepper, red onion and radish, charred cauliflower, corn and aubergine salsa, artichoke hearts, chilli jam, pesto, sourdough		
Fruits de Mer Board	(for one) £40	(for two) £80
Pickled herring, seabass escabeche, smoked trout, sautéed tiger prawns, steamed mussels, garlic mayonnaise, sourdough		

(Ve) - Vegan (V) - Vegetarian

Allergens and Alternatives: Please inform your server of any allergies or dietary requirements that you have. We can also offer alternatives on some of our menu items. Please just ask!