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Clive Branson's
ANGLING NEWS

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Dear fellow Anglers and Matchmen
I am thrilled to announce the highly anticipated re-launch of Angling News and Match Fishing News by myself: Clive Branson!

What's New?

Fresh Design and User-Friendly Interface:

Our website and publication have undergone a facelift, featuring a modern design for easy navigation and a seamless user experience. www.angling-news.com

Exclusive Content by Clive Branson:

Clive Branson, former World Champion angler and a name synonymous with the angling community, is back to share his expertise, insights, and passion for fishing. Look forward to exclusive articles, tips, and stories penned by the man himself, and other top anglers in their field

Comprehensive Match Fishing Coverage:

Stay in the loop with comprehensive coverage of match fishing events, results, and strategies. Whether you're a seasoned competitor or a casual observer, our coverage aims to keep you engaged and informed.

Community Engagement:

We believe in fostering a strong angling community. Our platform will feature forums, discussions, and opportunities for anglers to connect, share experiences, and learn from one another.

Join Us in the Celebration:

To mark this momentous occasion, we invite you to explore the revamped Angling News and Match Fishing News. Join us in celebrating the passion for angling, the thrill of the competition, and the camaraderie that defines our community.

Stay Connected:

Follow us on social media to stay updated on the latest articles, announcements, and community events. Your feedback is crucial to us, so feel free to share your thoughts and suggestions as we continue to evolve and grow.

Thank you for being a part of the Angling News and Match Fishing News community. We can't wait to embark on this exciting journey with you!

Tight lines and happy fishing!

Clive Branson Angling News and Match Fishing News

My Monthly Blog *By Clive Branson*

Greetings and Welcome to my monthly blog.

As you may know I produce a regular fishing Vlog on youtube. The name Vlog was derived from members of the youjtube platform whenever they filmed an event or a short video. Instead of it a blog they renamed it a Vlog. With nearly 4,000 members and even more viewers this platform is another vehicle to bring anglers the latest news and updates including my own match fishing results.



On this months vlog s I released two videos that I had fished on the River Wye during the Winter league. Both on the Belmont section at Hereford.

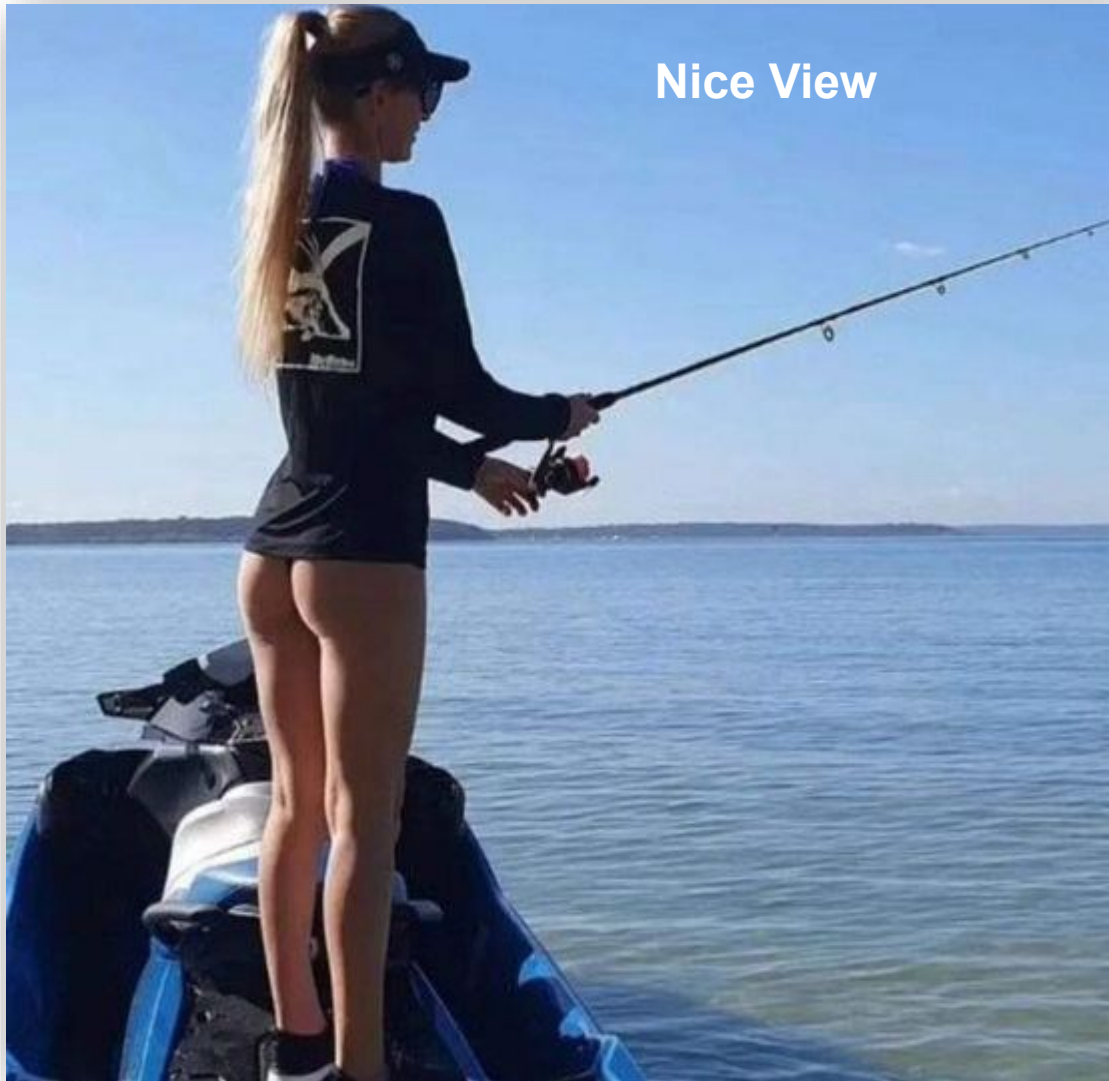
Its strange when we get different circumstances and these two matches certainly show the anglers the change in fortunes. From a zero to hero.

On the first vlog I drew peg 60 which is on the boatside of the river, about 40 yards above the boathouse. I was please about the draw as it is in an area that the fish are accumulating during the winter. In fact I was just 2 pegs below where I was in the last match, and if you follow me you will know that I had a great match catching 77lb of chub for a section win. However, peg 60 is one of the pegs without a platform to fish from. This peg was very awkward to fish and the only way I could, was to get into the water on my riggers platform. Unfortunately the platform was not secure and there was a chance of it slipping into the ice cold water. Mindful of this I also had another problem as the bank behind me was steep. Making fishing and casting very difficult indeed.

Nevertheless, I started on the Bread down the middle, as usual and soon I was getting bites, the problem however, was I started to bump a few and the hook was not connecting as it normally does. I thought perhaps the fish were too small for the size6 hook I had on my line. After a change down to a size 12 I stated to connect to a few chub around the 10 oz mark. I was catching very steady with a ball of my special chub mix every swim down. But suddenly half way through the match it slowed up for me. The angler above Mark Docherty, I found out later blasted the bait in and possibly drew the fish from me. I ended up with 39lb and well down in the section, in fact beating only 3 in the 12 peg section. You can see my vlog on ; https://youtu.be/fvqWO_46iJw

The next Vlog was the penultimate league match on the same venue. I seem to be getting a good run of draws lately and this match was no exception. Drawing peg 95 on Belmont which is the not-ed peg under the town bridge, just bellow and opposite the boathouse on Belmont. The favourite peg 96 below was the nemesis to mine. Being an end peg and a peg that has won more matches on the river than any other I knew I had my work cut out especially when local angler Richard Downey had this end peg. Nevertheless I started the match on a 5gram boley float just a couple of rod lengths out, soon I was into some quality Roach. Although it was slow catching them it was steady, and for the next few hours I estimated about 25lb in my net. I was trying to pull up the fish from Richard, by blasting in loose feed, but with no success as he kept catching.

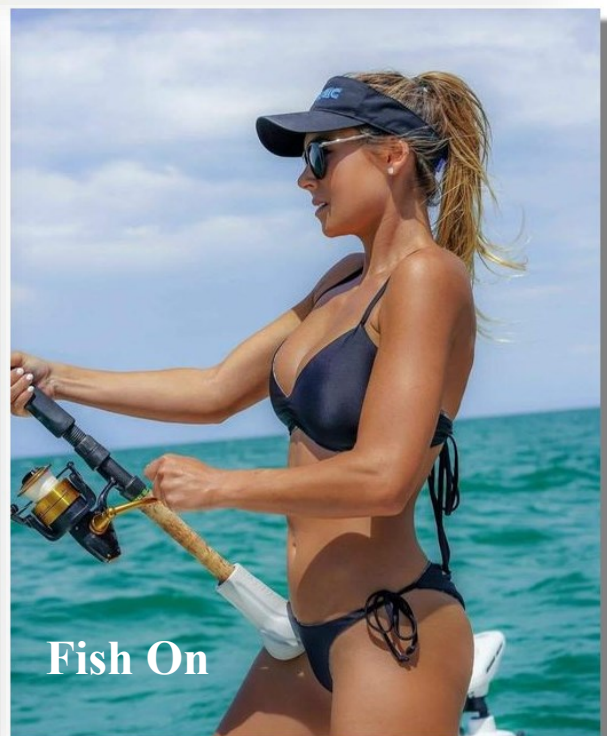
Thinking that I was going to catch a load of fish I had set up two keepnets at the beginning. The second keepnet was empty until the last hour when I chased the fish further out and down the middle. Low and behold with an hour to go the chub turned up, and I started to bag up, with a chub every run down that went into the second net. When the match had finished I was curing my luck for not doing this earlier as I am sure I would have had a huge weight, as the second net weighed in with 35lb. My first net had 25lb and a total of 60lb 4oz was enough for 2nd place in the section a place in the overall result picking up £130 prize money. The end peg just beat me with 67lb. The other good news was our team the Nomads although coming 5th on the day, we managed to hold on to 3rd position, now all to play for in the final match with 6 teams in contention for a place. See view my vlog go to: https://youtu.be/v5bk3z_VFdc



Nice View



Will she
Catch



Fish On

£3.34m fine for Thames Water



the fine of £3.34 million imposed on Thames Water after the guilty verdict at Lewes Crown Court. Thames Water were at fault after a “reckless” incident in 2017 which saw the death of more than 1,700 fish.

The trial heard how Thames Water had allowed sewage to spill for a “significant and lengthy” period, polluting the Gatwick Stream and River Mole between Crawley in West Sussex and Horley in Surrey on 11 October 2017.

In sentencing the water company, Judge Laing KC condemned Thames Water for actions that had deliberately misled the Environment Agency during its investigation.

The court was told that a storm pump unexpectedly activated and filled up the storm tank, despite no substantial rainfall, for 21 hours, which went unnoticed. The pump then spilled sewage into the river for an estimated six hours, but no alarm was in place to alert staff to the overspill and when an alarm was finally heard, the lead technician was uncontactable because they were awaiting a new mobile phone.

“This pollution incident had a devastating impact on the River Mole, killing thousands of fish and destroying the fishery for our member clubs. It’s good to see the courts taking this seriously and imposing substantial fines but sadly this money is still going into Treasury coffers rather than back into the promised environmental improvements for which the Angling Trust has been campaigning.

“The levels of negligence and incompetence demonstrated by this incident are bad enough, but it is simply unacceptable for a water company to try and cover up the magnitude of their errors by misleading the Environment Agency’s investigation. It is further evidence of the changes Thames Water need to make to their culture and operating procedures if they are to continue running our water supply and wastewater management. Currently we have a broken water sector and it’s fish and wildlife that are paying the price for these failures.”

The verdict comes on the same day as evidence was revealed in the High Court that water companies discharged raw sewage into rivers and seas via storm overflows more than 300,000 times last year, for a total of 1.75m hours. While this is a slight drop from the 2021 figures of 372,553 for over 2.7m hours it remains a major source of pollution and the Storm Overflow Reduction plan announced by the government won’t see this tackled until 2050

Revealed: these are the 20 most polluted rivers in the UK

Sewage was pumped into our waterways for more than 2.4 million hours in just one year

The country's rivers are facing a bit of a shitshow right now. All over the UK, waterways have become dumping grounds for eye-watering amounts of sewage. According to recent data, water companies pumped waste into rivers across England and Wales for a total of 2.4 million hours (or 388 years) in just 12 months.



The campaign group 'Top of the Poops' says that this figure has decreased since 2020 but not by any amount worthy of celebration. Now the group has collated data from the Environment Agency to reveal the 20 most polluted rivers in the UK.

The worst affected river was the Severn, the longest in the country. In just one year it had sewage pumped into it on 2,656 separate occasions by Severn Trent Water for a total of 28,741 hours. The River Calder shortly follows, with Yorkshire Water having discharged 27,901 hours' worth of waste at 4,055 different instances. Despite its murky brown hue, the Thames doesn't make an appearance on the list. In fact, many might be shocked to know it is actually one of the cleanest city rivers in the world.

'Top of the Poops' explains that the findings are likely to be an underestimate because companies don't monitor sites reliably or consistently. Prime minister Rishi Sunak has said that he would 'welcome tougher fines for water companies' despite rumours that the government would scrap the overall £250 million penalty it was going to charge the major culprits.

Here are the 20 most polluted rivers in the UK

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. River Severn – Severn Trent Water | 1. River Erewash – Severn Trent Water |
| 2. River Calder – Yorkshire Water | 2. River Usk – Dwr Cymru |
| 3. River Aire – Yorkshire Water | 3. River Irwell – United Utilities |
| 4. Unknown – South West Water | 4. River Wye – Dwr Cymru |
| 5. River Derwent – Severn Trent Water | 5. River Don – Yorkshire Water |
| 6. River Ouse – Yorkshire Water | 6. River Wharfe – Yorkshire Water |
| 7. River Tamar – South West Water | 7. River Tawe – Dwr Cymru |
| 8. River Trent – Severn Trent Water | 8. Menai Strait – Dwr Cymru |
| 9. River Teifi – Dwr Cymru | 9. River Rother – Southern Water |
| River Eden – United Utilities | 10. River Taf – Dwr Cymru |

Power of the people prevents pumping into Test



The people of Longparish and Chilbolton were alarmed to see Southern Water setting up overland pipes and pumps, preparing to dump wastewater from overflowing sewers directly into the River Test.

Groundwater levels are currently high following a sustained period of unusually high rainfall.

Tankers had been used to ease the pressure on the system but last week the creaking sewage infrastructure finally looked as if it was going to require emergency pumping.

After being contacted by several concerned residents, I headed to Longparish and Chilbolton to investigate. As I moved between the villages, I was heartened to see the united community spirit of those that live near and work on the River Test.

Groups were gathering at spots where dumping was rumoured to be starting and, dotted along the river, riverkeepers kept watch over their patch in case the water company should turn up to start their environmental vandalism.

Our River Test is one of only 200 chalk streams in the world and a Site of Special Scientific Interest. It is a rare and precious natural gift at the heart of our community which we rightly cherish and want to protect.

Faced with overwhelming opposition from residents, riverkeepers and politicians and with journalists from both local and national outlets gathering, Southern Water backed down and decided not to proceed with the pumping.

Alex Saunders, Head of Wastewater Networks at Southern Water, is reported saying: “We’ve listened to local councillors and other stakeholders and will not be installing over pumping.”

The quote implies that Southern Water intended to pump wastewater into the Test, until the pressure from the people forced them to reconsider. Compare this to a letter from Lawrence Gosden, the CEO of Southern Water, to Longparish Parish Council, which is published on the council's website, that states: “The team set up the equipment as part of testing our contingent readiness for an extreme emergency; however, it was a mistake to do so.”

This reads as if the setting up of equipment was little more than a training exercise and there was never any intention to pump into the Test. Perhaps he should talk to his Head of Wastewater Networks.

In his letter, Lawrence Gosden also states: “You have my personal assurance that we will not be pumping into the River Test.” Well, Mr Gosden, we will hold you to your word, now and in the future.



Cormorant destruction

Anglers Comments from our Facebook Group

Geoff Cooper

They devastate anywhere they take up residence. Set aside the fish they plunder their droppings kill off the trees in which they roost. My first experience of them was when I was a fisheries officer for Anglian Water. They colonised a gravel pit at St Neots, emptied it and moved on. I will be writing a piece on them in the future.

Darren Evans

With the cormorants and otters and poachers and pollution there will be no fish to catch soon. Time we all got together and withhold the rod licence fee until something is done with these problems

Duncan Wood

More should be done to deter/prevent Cormorants coming inland and predating on fresh water fish

Pat Conway

Duncan Wood the only trouble is they are now an inland bird at Walthamstow reservoir they nest one of the island and everything on it is dead the tree The cormorants fly off every morning and return at night they have eaten all the fish all around London what needs to be done is cull them

Mark Brindley

OMG that's unbelievable. They definitely need to change the law to stop these sea birds wiping out the rivers n pools

Dean Stewart

Fisheries under constant attack from these and otters something needs to be done peoples livelihood are getting ruined

NEWS

Four Otters spotted on peg 15 at Evesham Town Water
One of the most popular Match venues in the Country Not looking good said local angler Trevor Chalk., who came across them when walking his dog



**What the Otter trust say:
We strongly oppose calls for an otter cull.**

We're concerned by the current 'cull everything' attitude adopted by the government—this is something that we constantly monitor by working alongside other well-respected otter groups and, should a cull ever be announced, we're ready to fight it. Having an otter group able to focus on lobbying against such things will prove to be invaluable in future public debates concerning otter conservation in both the UK and around the world. There are growing calls for a cull from a minority of the angling fraternity, and we shall remain focused on any future developments and work hard to change the minority's perception of the otter by educating, raising awareness, networking, and working with those affected to find a suitable solution that will benefit both otter conservation AND angling.

We support river cleans and campaign for plastic reduction.

This is especially important to UKWOT, as all plastics and litter is very harmful to otters and other wildlife. We actively support river cleans where possible and always strive to produce plastic-free merchandise. We also offer reusable mugs and tote bags in our shop.

We use ethically sourced materials whenever possible.

We strive to create good, clean and safe habitat for all wildlife wherever possible, and try our very best to only use ethically sourced materials when putting together all of our enclosure buildings. We also engage with many angling organisations and impress upon them the importance of maintaining good riparian habitats that will benefit the environment, and will always supply letters of support where required.

We want to see tunnels to help reduce otter traffic fatalities.

We want to see tunnels and bridge platforms installed under river bridges that cross main roads to enable otters to continue their journeys unhindered and in the safest way possible. This will help reduce the number of otters killed on our roads each year.

More information: ukwildottertrust.org

Bob Nudd Match Reports

The Old Nene at March was brilliant fishing to-day ,except if you drew one of the 10 pegs on the bypass section , yes I drew peg 97 didn't catch for the first hour and then started to catch the odd roach against the boat at 16 mts, cupped in groundbait with pinkies, too far to loose feed so kept topping up , .6 gram DT Nevis 20 hook to .09 really difficult to cup in as I had a really steep bank behind me and had to double unship fed again at 14.5 mts and managed to catch there finishing with 106 roach and perch for 6 lbs 8 ozs enough to win the section, never worked so hard for £50. March Open River Old Nene. 100 pegs
#prestoninnovations #matrex #sonubaits
#vandeneynde



Partly frozen lake made it tough to catch big fish , luckily for me I drew a peg that was full of small roach , so that was my attack fished 10 mts .2 gram DT Nevis steady float 20 hook to .09 light elastic. Loose fed pinkies and a few big maggots with pinkie on the hook ,Caught 331 small roach for 12 lb 9 ozs and more important a lake win , you have to have a special mentality for this style of fishing I wouldn't want to do it every week but that's match fishing you just have to concentrate on whatever you think you need to do to win. Saturday Winter League Peg 6 Willow lake Meadow Farm Fishery Norwich

Lovely match today finished 2 nd on the lake with 27 ide and 14 carp/ F1's for 43lbs 13 ozs just over a 1lb short of winning , cupped in pinkies and 2mm hard feed carp pellets at 14 mts just in the deepest water before it started to shallow up , loose fed big flouro maggots from there to the far bank caught at all depths on the drop .2 gram DT steady float strung out 18 hook to .10 maggot hooked through middle (only just nicked) was best , just kept varying distance and depth , caught tight over on deck in the last 1.5 hours a mixture of carp and Ide , really enjoyable match only2 lost fish had to shot the float well down with hardly any bristle showing and strike at everything. Saturday Winter Leauge. Meadow Farm Cottages Fishery. Norwich, Norfolk.



Julian P Cundiff



Throwback Thursday and the carp that changed it all for me .

Although my first twenty , thirty and forty pound carp were memorable nothing comes close to the impact this one had forty years ago in 1983 / 84 . I was an Eric Hodson inspired dyed in the wool specialist angler at the time targeting pike , eels , .. perch , bream and tench of course.

That evening after work I'd already had a few nice tench on the legendary sweetcorn but when I hooked and landed the mother of all tench ... which was a carp life would never be the same again . By design .. of course not. Game changer for my fishing ... without doubt.

Thank you Eric , sweetcorn and Drax

Bite time .. rewarded 🕒 .. ! It may be a tough time of year for a bite but carp can be pretty predicable if conditions are spot on .. Wrong conditions , right time and they just don't wanna know . Single Hi-Viz pop up 🟡 over a small scoopful (Bushwhacker) of crumbed and halved Nashbait (new) Citruz , liquidised sweetcorn 🍌 and pellet.

Henry Lennon - Carp Angler
Nash Tackle



<https://www.facebook.com/juliancundiff>

Geoff Copper Irish Fishing Correspondent

As most of you know Ireland is the land of lakes, rivers and streams. Water water everywhere and most of it fishable. This winter has seen incessant rain however, so much so that many venues have been over the fields and so far away they have become unapproachable. Not so the lattice work of canals that meander their way across the country. Once neglected by both the EPA and Inland Fisheries Ireland many had become almost dry ditches or so weeded were unusable to both boaters and anglers alike. These days however there has been a degree of restoration work done and it hasn't taken very long before we had a rich addition to Irelands bountiful angling resource.



In many respects they are still ignored by the angling fraternity. They don't know what they are missing. There has been an explosion of all species and many are now of specimen size. I absolutely love them. Being brought up on the Yorkshire and Nottinghamshire rivers and cuts in the 60,s made us hone our skills to be as sharp as our local barbers cut throat razor. In those 'good' old days if you had 4lbs in a 40 pegger on the canal at Keadby you would be in the money.

Our canals are light years away from that but still need to be fished with a degree of delicacy to get the best out of them especially when they are brimming the banks and the air temperature is down to zero. I have my way of doing it and I would like to share it with you.



I am so fortunate. Within 20 minutes from my house I can be settled on 3 different canals. In winter I tend to fish short sessions sometimes no more than 3 hours and always in the afternoons. I am not a one method man and although if I had to pick a method on canals to save my life it would probably be the pole, I often fish a waggler and the whip up to 8 metres can be deadly on it's day.

So lets talk about the whip this time. I almost always fish alongside at least one angler, often several. What surprises them is why the quality of my fish is always much better than theirs and it makes for a good craic and free Guinness in my local in Strokestown as I keep shtum until we've done.

I almost always use groundbait. Yes I know most lads think it's the kiss of death when the weather is enough to freeze your bits off but not so. It's down to how much you use and more to the point what you put in it, I fine sieve brown crumb. I do a 50 50 mix with a dark additive, usually Sensas but to be honest most of the leading additives do the job equally as well. I then give this a liberal dose of PV1 binder. Yep, mainly forgotten these days but still does a job under the right circumstances. When I wet it and the consistency is as I want it I shove it through a fine riddle so it looks 'fluffy' and has no lumps. I then split it in half. To one mix I load and I mean load red pinkies and the other half load with flouro pinkies. Quite often one colour works marginally better than the other so it's best to cover all options. If there is a bit of colour in the water I bait three lines and that means making sure you are accurate and the nugget you put in is bound enough to take the lot down to the deck. This eliminates line bites and tiny fish picking up your bait on the way down. I also put the alternative colour pinkies on a fourth line and tend to leave it for a while.



Terminal tackle needs to be very fine and above all sensitive. Whatever float I use on the whip I seldom go under a gramme. Accuracy and positivity is the rule of thumb and if you have gear on that's blowing about in the wind, believe me you are on to a loser. I either use one of my own slim style rugby shape with a carbon stem or a Colmic of a similar style. Main line for winter conditions is never more than 0.014 MAP, with a 0.10 or less MAP hook length. If I have around 6ft of water I start off with bulk about 2ft 6 inches up from the hook. My first stot style weight up from my hook is a number 10. This as a starter is around 12 inches up from the hook and then between that and the bulk spaced out are two number 8s. I often move these around several times during a session as per how the fish are feeding. Once my gear is finally balanced, unlike some who fish just a blip of float showing I tend to leave a little more. Not much more but enough to pull down. The fine bristle has little buoyancy and I tend to miss less bites by leaving a little more float showing.

Hooks need to be as fine wire as you can get and stay needle sharp. I've recently started using Owner Japanese hooks of the Sodje pattern. I've now caught some pretty big fish on them including Tench and had no problems and boy, do they stay sharp. The size 18s are more like a 19 and I load it up with at least 3 pinkies. I see lads put one pinky on a 20 and smile as they bag up on fish weighing 20 to a pound. The better fish go for a bit of a mouthful believe me.

Start off steady. I seldom fish less than 5metres for a good reason. Fishing close in can produce well for a while but better fish tend to 'cop' on and move out. They tend to stay there and once you establish a rhythm with the bigger handfull's, well into double figures is easily attainable in match time.

Get the baiting right. You get to feel how it's going and to add a little more or less is down to experience. It's not rocket science as they say. It works. Try it on your local cut. I don't think you will be disappointed.

Tributes

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of ATA board member Ifor Jones after a short but brave battle with cancer. Ifor passed away peacefully on the morning of January the 16th at home surrounded by his family and he will be sorely missed by the countless people he knew and worked with. As some of you know, Ifor was recruited onto the ATA board only last year to help spearhead the work being done to boost angling and especially in the game sector. Our industry has been all the richer because of his experience, inspiration and character and I hope that we can continue to build an association that he would have been proud to be part of



It is with great sadness that on the 22nd January 2024, Richard (Rick), passed away peacefully at home after a long battle with cancer. Funeral arrangements to be announced at a later date. Rick will be deeply missed by everyone who was honoured enough to meet him.

Reported By Des Taylor
Geoff Dace Passing

Sad day Geoff Dace was a excellent barbel angler and a lovely man has died. I wish his family the best in these awful times.



BREAKING NEWS

Angler Killed Report

Ian Coates murderer accepts Manslaughter

The son of Ian Coates, one of three people stabbed to death in Nottingham, said his father's killer was the "most evil person on this planet".



The school caretaker was killed along with students Barnaby Webber and Grace O'Malley-Kumar, both 19, on 13 June. 2023

James Coates described Valdo Calocane as cold, calculated and brutal.

Calocane is being sentenced after pleading guilty to three counts of manslaughter on the basis of diminished responsibility.

Mr Coates, 65, was driving his van in Magdala Road when he was repeatedly stabbed, suffering wounds to his abdomen and chest. He was pronounced dead at the scene.

Calocane has also admitted three counts of attempted murder after driving Mr Coates's van, which he had stolen, at three people following the killings.

Mr Coates worked at the Huntingdon Academy in Nottingham and was four months from retirement at the time of his death.

Facebook Members comments

Leigh Harrison

Disgraceful! From what I can read between the lines, the families involved are not happy, and rightly so. Ian's murder was committed less than a mile from my house, on a road I walked my kids to and from school for over 15 years!

We last saw him competing in the Super Cup for Lake Snakes AC against my Barnstone AC team on the London Road Nottingham canal a few weeks before his murder.

We had a few pints in the Trent Navigation afterwards with both teams enjoying each other's company. RIP Ian and the other two youngsters taken far too early. You all deserved so much better!

Billy Harrison

Utterly disgraceful actions by the British justice system. Three lives lost meaning three families that have been given a life sentence.

This murderer should be on death row. Why should our taxpayers fund his lifestyle in prison.

Our judicial system is corrupt beyond belief. How many of these Illegals are claiming legal aid. This is a gravy train for the solicitors. But who has the balls to confront the government who don't even have any consideration for the working classes. The Great will never return to Britain.

Paul Kitts

Isn't manslaughter accidentally killing someone surely when you go out with a large knife and savagely attack someone that's murder?

Stephen Haines

I can understand everyone's anger. Should he have even been on the streets in the 1st place. Sectioned 4 times for paranoid Schizophrenia

A Day In History

TENCH

In Spring 2016

Neil Bradley and Jamie Potts found this Tench wallowing in shallow water most probably spawn bound and full of liquid.

This enormous Tench would have beaten the record by a massive 2lb weighing in at 17lb 8oz

After recovering the fish and helping it out This magnificent species swam away



An iconic picture with an icon



Hadrian Whittle Match Reports

Round 4 of the Wye league today!
After what seems like an eternity we finally got back on the Wye today, River levels were relatively low but at least it wasn't too cold so hope we're high that most areas would produce an odd bite... With Cotswold top of the league we were desperate to get a decent set of pegs and get ourselves into pole position... with the river so liable to flooding it's always best to be at the front as you just don't know if you'll get on the river again before the season ends!
So all pumped up I pulled out an envelope hopefully full of screamers.. what actually came out was one of the draws I dread!



Poor Rob Robert Brennan knew his run in the 90's would be short lived was on doomsday peg 20, Robbo in 41 not too bad not too good! Scott was at least in amongst them on 75 on the railings while big D stepping in for playboy Rory Jones on a good one in the shape of 56 Lee Edwards got his wish to be in the town... 88 was not where he wanted though a tricky peg at best on a low River... that left me with peg 100 on the courts to put it simply.. ☐

Job to be done though it looked to me like a damage limitation job peg 100's in with 91-96 all flyers and 101 and 102 both pegs capable of nicking a few points with the resident chub and Barbel.

I made the decision to cast well down towards 102 where the barbel live 50 mins on the maggot feeder with no bites was concerning but a switch to bomb and meat turned it round! In the end I've had another dream day ..10 barbel on meat 4 chub 3 on maggot feeder and 1 on meat for 58-6-0 this was best in the courts with 47lbs of chub off the end then a 5 lb and 3 blanks as expected 4 of the 6 in the 90's beat me but to have a day like this off what on papers a poor draws is as good as it gets!

Elsewhere the lads have smashed it Rob unfortunately went biteless along with 9 others in A section Robbo smashed B section while Scott and Dan recorded 2nds and Lee 3rd to win the day with 52pts and take a 6 point lead over Cotswold!

Tom Boulton and Anthony Taylor tied on the day with 97-6-9 well done lads!

ABC Wye winter league round 5!



With a 6 point lead going into this the penultimate round I was praying we could get one hand in the title as the last round in late February has got banana skin potential written all over it!

I pulled out what looked like a Steadyish set of pegs Poor Rob Brennan found himself back in A section on 16 poor but a chance of an odd fish! Robbo another iffy one oeg 39 then on to the good ones Scott on 53 Lee on 58 and me on 86... then our worst peg on paper Rory stuck down on 98!

Tbh I've had a strange day caught a few chubblits and Dace on bolo but never really fired up peg felt 2 ft too deep and a bit too quick with 4ft still on? ☐♂☐

Whip at 7 and 4 m was good in spells but never really got it quite right today bumping too many fish on all lines I did manage a lucky chub of over 5lbs on the short line a handy bonus when things aren't clicking into place!

By the end I'd put together 66lbs enough for 2nd in section behind Anthony Taylor's impressive match winning 111lbs and 5th in the match.

Elsewhere as expected results were up and down Rob's and Rory both struggling for 3 and 2 pts Robbo 8 pts with 7lbs Lee 9 with 59 lbs and Scott our star man with 51lbs for a comfortable section win!

While we only managed 4th on the day we managed to extend our lead to 11pts so just need 2 points from a possible 12 on the last one!

Moorlands silver fish league

Tough weekend!! Short report!

Saturday was Moorlands silver fish league... the less I say about this the better very average draw ... 10-14-0 ran out of pinkies needed 11-9-0 for a section 2nd leagues over for me now! 🙄

Sunday peg 6 Hempstead up ... average... caught all day but only slowly and poor stamp 3rd in section, nice to get back on the lid bloodworm and joker got to be the best bait out there!



HEMPSTEAD UP						
Gloucester Canal Individual CIPs League						
Pos No	Angler Name	Weight 2011	Weight 2012	Weight 2013	Points	Rank
1	S. GARDINER	3	3	0		
2	B. PENNINGTON	-	13	0		
3	Chris Jones	-	12	0		
4	Mark Robinson	2	4	0		
5	Diana Robinson	3	4	0		
6	H. WINTER	4	4	0		
7	Ben Stratford	5	12	0		
8	A. Ashurst	3	10	0		
9	Steve Johnson	4	1	0		
10	ALEX CLEMENS	2	2	0		



Tony Kersley

1 February 2020 · 🧑

Hmmm, word of advice if you're daft enough to stick your thumb in a pikes mouth, make sure you get all the teeth out. 2 weeks after being eaten, thumb swelled to double it's size, until I squeezed out this pike tooth 🤔🤔🤔🤔🤔



Embryo Family Fishing

12 h · 🌐

👑🎣 New Venues from the 1st of March 🎣👑

We are excited to be taking over the management of Kiveton Waters and Harthill Reservoir working with the [Canal & River Trust Angling](#).

Kiveton will continue to be run as a coarse fishery for pleasure and match fishing with a big focus on junior angling.

Harthill will be a day ticket fishery with night fishing available on the 3rd lake.

More information will follow soon 🐟🐟🐟🐟



Juniors



Canal & River Trust Angling

4 days ago · 🌐

Here's a throwback of Rammy Junior star Travis Couch securing an impressive 5th place individually at last year's National Fishing Celebration 🎣 The South Wales based youngster skilfully landed a net of bonus bream, tipping the scales at 5.4kg 🐟

APPLICATIONS OPEN FOR GURU TEAM ENGLAND U15 TALENT PATHWAY

Spaces are limited to just 40 anglers on the Talent Pathway this time and the successful applicants will go through three intense, full-day sessions under the watchful eye of some of the best anglers and coaches in the world.

All three sessions will take place at the prolific Makins Fishery, with the final session being the all-important assessment day where the squad for Serbia will be selected.

"Once again we're running one pathway centrally located in the Midlands so everyone can be coached and assessed by the whole of the coaching staff," revealed Guru England U15 coach and triple World Youth Champion Matt Godfrey.

Matt will join with England U15 Manager Joe Roberts, Angling Trust coach Danny Williamson, plus England internationals Frankie Gianoncelli and James Dent on the bank for each session, with support from other top anglers.

The coaching staff are looking for just six anglers who have that next-level attitude and ability.

“Success at World level isn’t just about being talented on the bank, it’s also about listening and learning, incredible attention to detail, practicing tactics which may be unfamiliar, and the commitment to the highest-level prep of your gear.

“English anglers can sometime be accused of a softer approach to matches when compared to our continental counterparts and we want to be able to select those anglers who have the right attitude and mentality and are prepared to be bold and go for it,” added Matt.

Are you good enough to fish for Team England? The Angling Trust and Tackle Guru are on the lookout for the nation’s best young anglers to take part in the 2024 Talent Pathway – with places in the England U15 World Champs squad up for grabs.

Applications are now open for talented boys and girls between 10 and 15 years of age keen to take their fishing to the next level and earn the right to wear the Three Lions at the World Youth Championships in Serbia next August.

TALENT PATHWAY 2023 DATES

The 2024 England U15 Talent Pathway has been brought forward in the calendar to give the coaching staff more time with those anglers selected to fish for England at the World Championships in Serbia from August 4 to 12, 2024. The sessions will take place on:

Saturday March 16, 2024 – Coaching session 1 – Makins Fishery

Saturday March 30, 2024 – Coaching session 2 – Makins Fishery

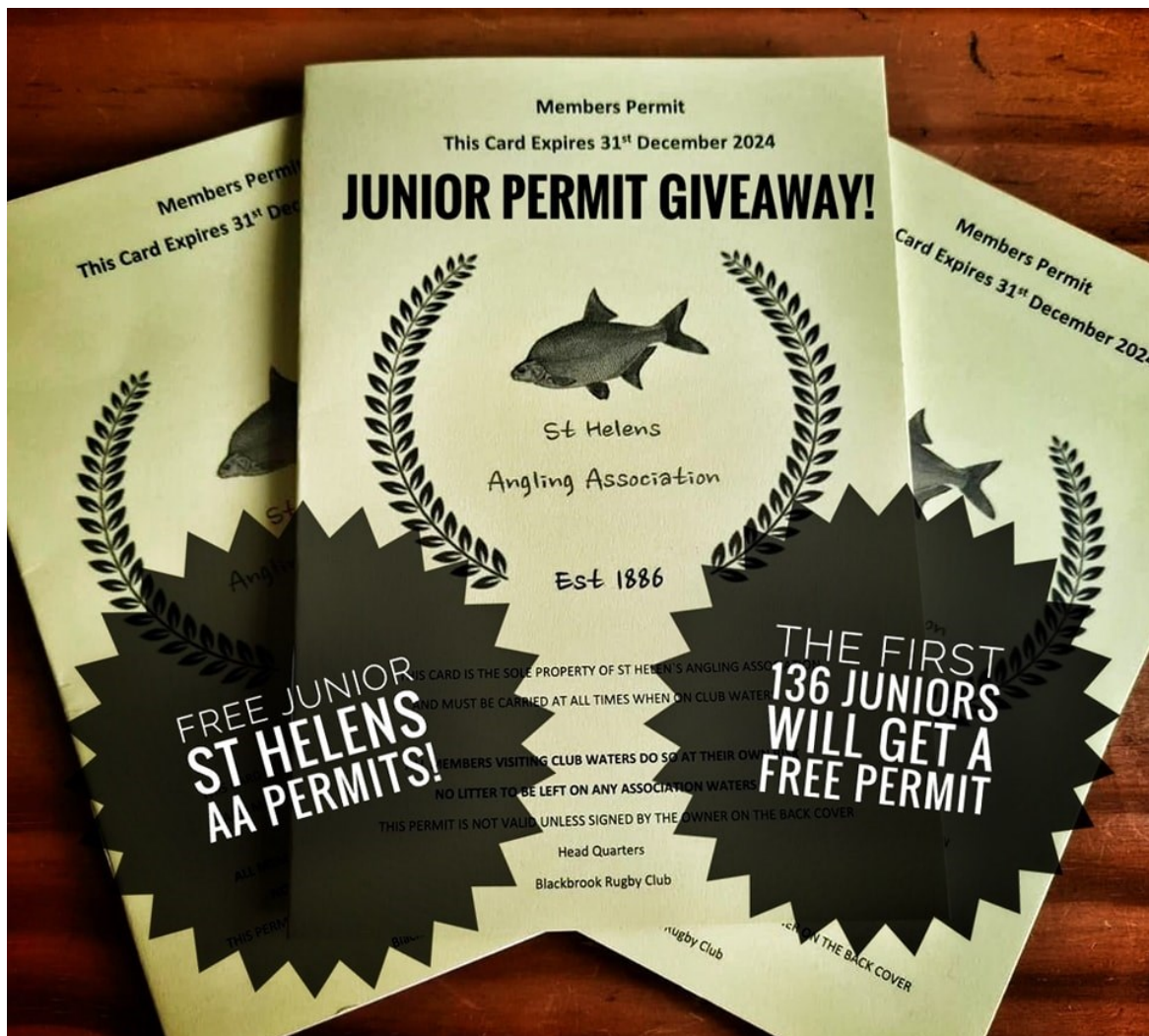
Saturday April 6, 2024 – Final assessment – Makins Fishery

HOW TO APPLY

The Talent Pathway is open to all anglers over 10 years old and under the age of 15 on December 31, 2023. More details on the requirements needed and an online application form can be found here:

<https://anglingtrust.net/our-competitions/team-england/england-talent-pathway/coarse-talent-pathway/>

Deadline for entries is Friday January 26, 2024.



🐟🐟🐟 **FREE JUNIOR PERMITS!** 🐟🐟🐟

On the back of our Christmas Match, the Christmas Raffle and Chris Weeder's coaching day raffle, we have just purchased 136 Junior St Helen's Angling Association Permits, which are available for free to collect from St Helens Tackle and Bait.

The first 136 Juniors will get a free permit, that will allow them to fish all St Helen's AA waters for free until the 31st December 2024!

Simply pop down the shop, leave your details, and collect your
FREE JUNIOR PERMIT! 👍

A massive thank you to all the anglers who took part in the match, and not forgetting everyone who bought a raffle ticket, and people who donated a prize towards the raffle, we couldn't have done this without you. 🥰

Also a massive thank you to Tackle Guru, Fish Matrix, Peg No1, Preston Innovations and Sunnyside Bait on gifting prizes to the raffle. 👍

Tactical Briefing

NORTH BURLINGHAM FISHERIES, NORTH BURLINGHAM, NORFOLK

DESCRIPTION. This tidy fishery, attractive to families, is set on farmland in the Norfolk countryside. It's a privately owned venue with two 0.5-acre pools to fish. Circular shaped St Andrew's Pond has carp to 12 lb, bream to 2 lb, roach to 1 lb and the occasional elusive tench. The key shaped St Peter's Pond is a little heavier stocked and has carp to 12 lb, tench to 5 lb, bream to 2 lb, crucians to 1 lb 8 oz and roach to 1 lb.

TACTICS. Float fishing is the preferred option. The carp have a liking for strawberry flavoured corn fished in singles or doubles, either to the easily reachable islands or in the margins. Float fish maggot, caster, chopped worm, bits of paste or bread, over a few free offerings, for various species. It may be worth trying a floating bait late in the day for a better carp or two.

GOOD SWIMS. Anywhere really, the swims are spacious.

TICKETS. £5, across the board. Tickets on the bank or from the on-site farm shop. Fishing dawn until dusk only. Disabled access. No keepnets. Barbless hooks only. Toilets. Food available. Enquiries: 07747 758914. Anglian byelaws. Open all year.

LOCAL TACKLE SHOP. Tackle Cabin, Caister-on-Sea, NR30 5DH. Tel: 0845 0942067.

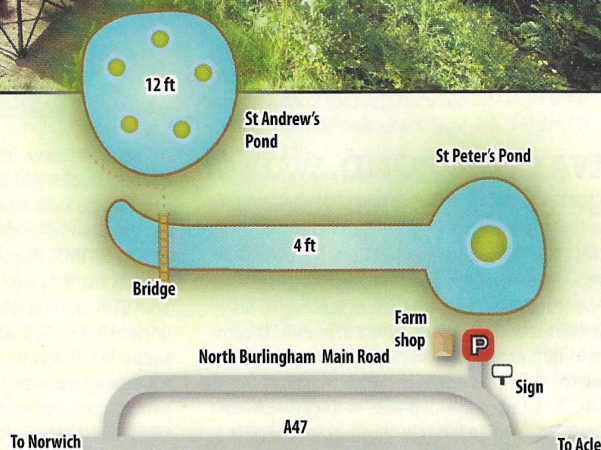
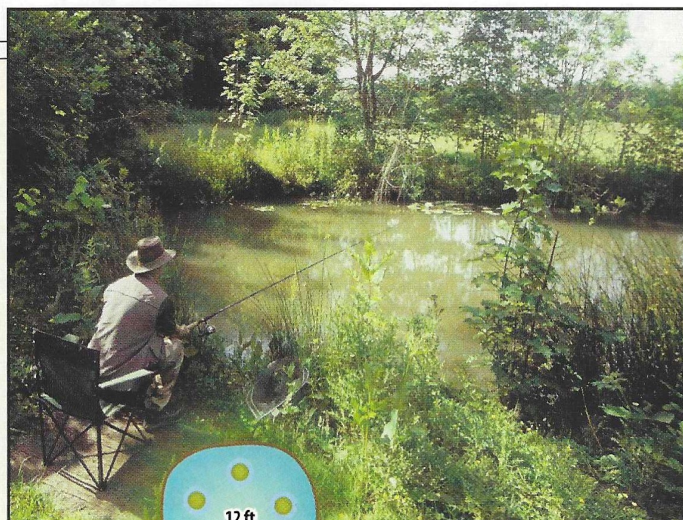
LOCATION. From Norwich head east towards Acle on the A47. Just before Acle there is a left turn taking you into North Burlingham. The fishery is well signed, on the left behind the Farm Shop, at the end of the village.

SAT NAV. NR13 4TA.



TOP TIP

■ If it gets a bit on the warm side the area by the bridge on St Peters Pond comes into its own.



Tactical Briefing

HOLMER LAKE, BROOKSIDE, TELFORD, SHROPSHIRE

DESCRIPTION. This Telford AA controlled 36-peg lake is visible from the adjacent Queensway Bypass. With depths to 11 ft there's something for everyone as the lake is stocked with a terrific head of bream to 7 lb. Also carp to 15 lb, tench to 6 lb, perch and roach/bream hybrids to 3 lb, perch to 2 lb and pike.

TACTICS. This is a typical feeder fishing for bream water. Fill the feeder with a good brown cereal with chopped worm, caster and hemp. On the hook try worm, maggot and caster. Pole or waggler fish maggot, caster or pellet for mixed catches. Tench to float fished corn. While there is a decent head of carp

they rarely visit the main bowl of the lake.

GOOD SWIMS. To the right of the car park in decent temperatures or to the left in cold conditions.

TICKETS. £4 per day, on the bank, OAPs, under-16s and registered disabled £2. Fishing dawn until dusk only. Telford AA season £21, OAPs, under-16s or registered disabled £11. Disabled access. Barbless hooks only. No floating baits. For permit details call Stan Harris on 01952 590605 or Mal Kelly on 01952 244272. Midlands byelaws. Open all year.

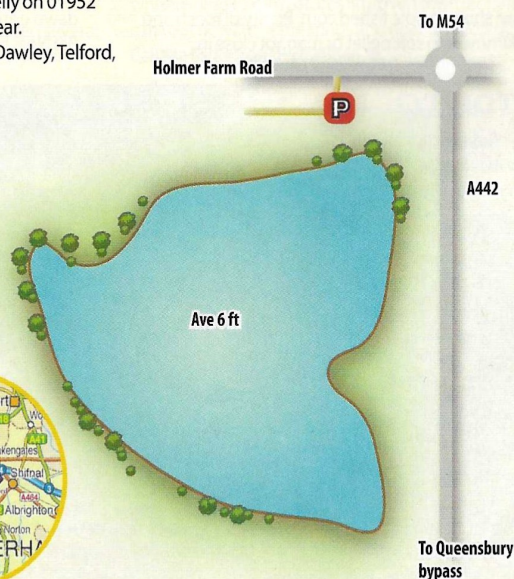
LOCAL TACKLE SHOP. Rod and Gun, Dawley, Telford, TF4 2ET. Tel: 01952 503550.

LOCATION. From J4, M54 take the second exit at the roundabout and the same at the next roundabout. At the third roundabout take the first exit onto the A442. Come off at the next exit and at the Stirchley roundabout take the third exit into Holmer Farm Road. Then the first left into Wroxeter Way, then the first right into Holmer Lane. Take the first right again leading you directly to Holmer Lake.

SAT NAV. TF3 1QJ (nearby properties).

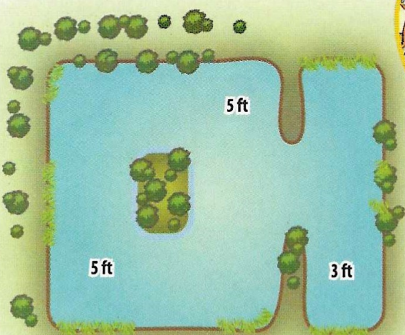
TOP TIP

■ Cast several feeder fulls of bait into your swim before you tie a hook length on to put some feed down.



Tactical Briefing

To Glastonbury



To Walton
and Ashcroft

WALTON POND, WALTON, STREET, SOMERSET

DESCRIPTION. Controlled by Taunton AA this venue was dug from peat workings. It's three acres and set on the edge of the Somerset Levels. This venue fishes well for carp from 7 lb to 29 lb, bream to 11 lb, perch to 3 lb and roach to 1 lb 8 oz. There are some tench but they're difficult to catch.

TACTICS. Leger halibut pellets or boilies for the bigger carp. For tench and bream try a crumb feeder at distance with corn, bread, redworms or maggots. Tench are generally caught at distance but they can show to pole fished corn. Plenty of roach and skimmers to soft pellet or maggot close in.

biscuit. Use a conventional feeder for bream with chopped worm and caster or maggot. Float fish maggot, caster, soft pellet, punched bread or chopped worm for mixed catches.

GOOD SWIMS. The island is a good holding place for the carp, they also show in the margins.

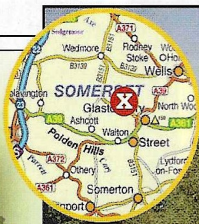
TICKETS. Taunton AA day tickets are: adults £6, under-16s £4, in advance from the local tackle shops. Members only can night fish this venue with the appropriate permit. Taunton AA season permits cover lots of venues and cost: adults £39, OAPs, registered disabled £22, under-16s £17.50, under-12s £5. Weekly permits: £20, under-16s £10.

Fishing dawn until dusk. All nets must be dipped. Disabled access. Micro barbed hooks are allowed. Food outlets nearby. Tel: 01823 664388. Wessex byelaws. Open all year.

LOCAL TACKLE SHOP. Street Angling Centre, Street, BA16 0ER. Tel: 01458 447830.

LOCATION. From Taunton take the A361 towards Walton. Turn right at the Pipers Inn and as you enter Walton turn sharp left at the Pike and Musket Inn. Keep bearing right to the bridge over the South Drain. The pond is on the right. Note there is no parking allowed on the sides of the road.

SAT NAV. BA16 9QU (Pike and Musket Inn nearby).



TOP TIP

Fish the deeper 'half' of this lake in the colder weather.

Tactical Briefing

SAWMILLS LAKE, KINGSTEIGNTON, NEWTON ABBOT, DEVON

DESCRIPTION. Newton Abbot FA control this three-acre lake. Fishing is from the bank, as indicated, for carp to 20 lb, bream to 7 lb, tench to 6 lb, perch to 3 lb and lots of roach to 12 oz. There's also a real good head of skimmers.

TACTICS. Leger halibut pellets or boilies for the bigger carp. For tench and bream try a crumb feeder at distance with corn, bread, redworms or maggots. Tench are generally caught at distance but they can show to pole fished corn. Plenty of roach and skimmers to soft pellet or maggot close in.

GOOD SWIMS. The two ends tend to give you more of the lake to go at.

TICKETS. Day tickets, in advance only from local tackle shops including the listed ones are; adults £6, under-16s £2, 24 hours £10. Full NAFA permits, (residing within 20 miles of Newton Abbot) are £75, OAPs and registered disabled £30, under-16s £15. Associate membership (residing elsewhere) is £50/£25. Membership from January 1. Fishing dawn until dusk only on day ticket. Venue keys £2. Barbless hooks. Food outlets nearby. Enquiries: Ian

Donaldson on 07764 340268. South West byelaws. Open all year. Check out: www.newtonfishing.com

LOCAL TACKLE SHOPS. Tackle Trader, Newton Abbot, TQ12 2DA. Tel: 01626 331613. Newton Tackle and Gun Centre, Kingsteignton, TQ12 3PS. Tel: 01626 367097.

LOCATION. Sawmills Lake can be found by driving through Kingsteignton towards Chudleigh on the B3193. Pass the toll house roundabout and the fishery is some 300 yards further down on the right, park in the lay-by.

TOP TIP

Owing to the colour of the water the carp rely a lot on scent, try using well flavoured baits.



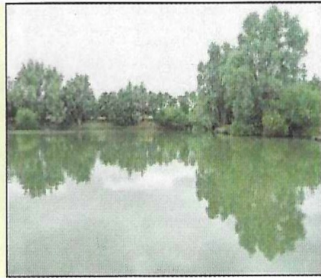
To Chudleigh

B3193

Lay-by

To Kingsteignton

MEADOWLANDS
Oxford Road,
Ryton-upon-Dunsmore,
Coventry,
CV8 3EG
07834191 460
www.fisheries.co.uk/meadowlands/



A12 CUTON LAKES
Brook End Rd South,
Chelmer Village,
Chelmsford CM2 6NX
07946 847703
www.a12lakes.co.uk



Finch Farm Fishery
Drift Road, Hawthorne Hill,
Maidenhead SL6 3ST
07990 525642
finchfarmfishery.com



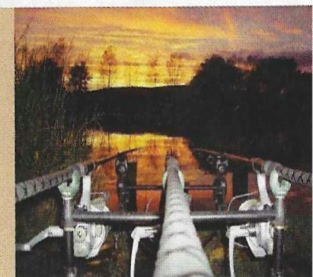
CHORLEY SPRINGS FISHERY
Tithe Barn Lane,
Chorley, Lichfield,
Staffordshire, WS15 4LR
07564 999582
www.fisheries.co.uk/chorleysprings



KINGSBURY WATER PARK
Bodmoor Heath Lane,
Kingsbury,
Sutton Coldfield B76 0DY
01827 872660
www.country-parks.warwickshire.gov.uk/country-parks/kingsbury-water-park



WHITE SPRINGS COARSE FISHERY
Garnswllt Road,
Swansea
SA4 8QG
01792 885699
www.whitespringsfishery.co.uk



OAKHAM FARM POOLS
Loxley,
Warwickshire,
CV35 9HY
01789740627
www.fisheries.co.uk/oakham



EMERALD POOL FISHERY
Puriton Rd,
Highbridge
TA9 3NL
01278 794707
www.emeraldpool.co.uk



SEVEN MEADOWS FISHERY
The River Avon,
Stratford-upon-Avon,
Warwickshire
01564 793260
CV37 6DE
<http://www.stratfordangling.co.uk>



LUCCOMBER FISHERY
Towsington Lane,
Exminster,
EX6 8AY
07510545283



ROOKLEY COUNTRY PARK
Rookley,
Isle of Wight,
PO38 3LU
01983 721675
www.rookleyfishery.co.uk



REEPHAM FISHERY
Norwich Rd,
Norwich,
Reepham
NR10 4NR
01603 870829
www.reephamfishery.co.uk



Clive Roberts Memoirs

Part 2 *The 70s*

The early 1970s arrived and with only Roath Park left in South Wales our winter league was transferred to the Bristol Avon at Newbridge near Bath. This was then a roach and dace venue as the Bream had yet to populate, and chub was were scares.



In the 70s the pole had yet to make an appearance on the venue, and the best method was the Avon float, made popular by Mervyn Haskins, nicknamed "Topper" hence the Topper float was named. However we also used a sliding float with great affect, a method we had learnt from the East Dock in Cardiff, before the Taff pollution.

Newbridge had then became a major venue along with the Fry's section of the Avon. These were used for our winter leagues, they also attracted many anglers from the mid-lands and London. New methods were also being learnt such as bread flake fishing by the local anglers, and also greased line for the many dace present, all caught on the rod and line, no whips in them days. The Bristol Avon was a tough venue in winter, and weights were low.

At that time we noticed that many Cardiff clubs were going up the Wye and the river Lynfi, a wye tributary. Also the river Usk, traveling by coach, catching large bags of fish. These venues were very similar in pace to the river Taff, and I found them easy to fish. The Wye in those days were a chub and dace river, no Barbel or bleak about in those days.

Most of my successful results in those days were mainly sections wins on the Bristol Avon and Roath Park lake Cardiff, where I practiced every week. The river Wye became more productive for me where I won a couple of matches in my first season there.

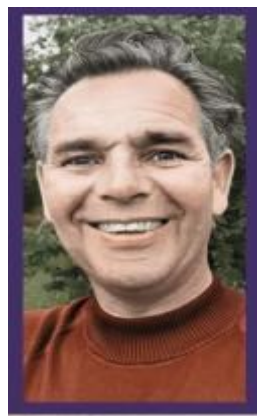
Over to the river Usk, and even today is one of my favourite venues where I won four matches in my first four attempts, with 40lb of dace being my best weight. The river Usk is a predominantly a game river and anglers were only allowed to fish for the coarse fish certain times of the year, and only if the coarse fish were removed afterwards. Finding where to put the fish we caught was always a dilemma and some times when possible the fish were taken to the river Taff. Although when possible when nobody was looking the fish were put back into the Usk. Maybe because of this rule many South Wales clubs stopped fishing the river and in my view it was a shame.

As a footnote one of my methods I perfected was a mixture of Molehill and boiled rice as boiled rice looked like maggots, in those days money was a bit tight, and with just a handful of maggots it worked a treat.

During our practice sessions myself and traveling partner Clive Branson found that the dace responded better in coloured water and by introducing molehill in the correct consistency it would colour the water and the dace responded well. Perhaps this was the first time anyone ever introduced molehill into the water, with great affect.

By 1972 I was fishing a wide range of venues and was learning my skills, another venue that we fished was the Huntspill drain in Somerset. Using a method called the swingtip the matches attracted over 200 anglers at a time. I managed a few placing on the Spill including a 2nd on an Open match with 40lb

A historic trip during this period was a team match in the midlands after being selected by my team Cardiff Nomads for the NFA All England on the river Severn. It was the last of the team only weight matches, and I done ok weighing in 7lb including two 4oz barbel, the first time I had ever seen this species and was still new to the venue.



On that day a certain 1969 World Champion Robin Harris won the match with 40lb and that was considered a great weight on the day.

Tackle in the 70s

The tackle we used in the 1970s was much different than what we use today. My Fishing rod was an Enterprise Milbro fibreglass and an open fixed spool reel called an intrepid and sometimes an Ariel centrepin reel was used. My basket was a wicker and the rod holdall was an Effgeco.

As always manufactures strive to improve their products to capture the market and carbon rods were on the way, ABU a Swedish company brought out the closed faced reels including the 501, 503, and the 505

Michell Match open face reels were the most popular open faced reel, and both had their fan clubs. Personally I became an Abu fan for many years. I don't use them now but plenty of my friends still do, including Clive Branson and Richy Candy. I have tried to convince them to change as I have, to open face reels. Both good anglers and would probably still do well on whatever they use as I find them hard to beat anyway



So on to the mid-70s and by now I was obsessed with match fishing, the problem was however fishing so many different venues I could not concentrate on just one. Trying to beat local anglers on their own venues was very difficult because of their knowledge of the waters. This still applies even today. This resulted in many years of getting a battering, but fishing a wide range of venues eventually paid off, gathering and building a wide range of skills which would help in my future successes.

More Next Issue



My Younger Successful Days

JOHN C ESSEX Memoirs



An angler since the age of twelve John's first love was match fishing. After an invitation by Ivan Marks, he joined the Leicester 'Likely Lads' team which won National Angling Championship medals in 1971, 1973, 1974, 1975 and 1977.

John's wins include the Great Ouse Championship, the Trent East Midland Regional Woodbine Final and the Fenland Championship, as well as finishing third individual in the 1975 Nene Division 1 National. His best fish in that event was a carp of 6.41kg - a record fish at the time.

A back problem forced him to retire from the match circuit, and in 1977 he concentrated on coaching the Leicester Junior side. With Roy Jeffery as team manager and ably supported by coaches Trevor Tomlin and the legendary Ivan Marks, these young lads and lasses won the NFA National Junior Team Championship in 1974, 1977, 1980, 1983 and 1985.

After ten years of chiropractic treatment John drifted back into fishing for carp and after two years caught his first twenty from Birstall lake, no more than two miles from his home. He later progressed to margin floater fishing, taking many twenties from his local club lake.

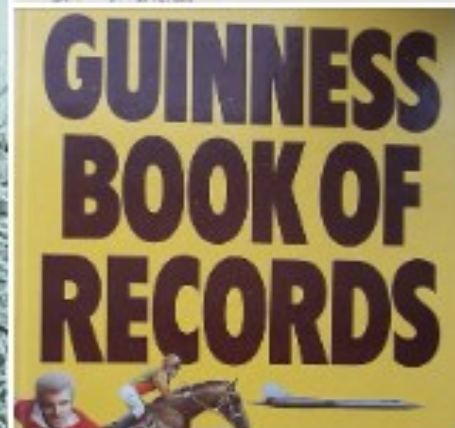
John is an avid collector of angling books and old tackle, with an extensive library of nearly 1000 books. He has written many articles on angling history for Angler's Mail, the Angling Star, Classic Angling and Waterlog.

John has been actively involved in angling administration since the 1970s (serving on several club committees) and he chaired the Leicestershire Angling Federation for thirty years, working on behalf of anglers and angling clubs in Leicestershire.

John has kindly agreed to share his match history memoirs to our Monthly publication and website



John C Essex
Memoires



Ship records *British*
International Angling Championship (Instituted in seven times by Leeds (1909-10, 1914, 1927)). Only James H. R. Bazley (Leeds) has ever held title twice (1909, 1927). The record catch of *kg 720* by David Burr (Rugby) in the net in 1965. The largest single fish caught in championships is a carp of *14 lb, 2 oz, 6 kg 40g* on a Sept. 1975. The team record is *136 lb 10* by Sheffield Amalgamated also in the H.

Records
Largest freshwater cast ratified under I.C.F. (Casting Federation) rules is *175.01 m 574*

The John C Essex Match Memories

This might evoke a few memories for some of the anglers who fished the match circuits and competed in the nationals during the 70's. Today, the 8th of September 2023, marks the 50th anniversary of the 58th National Angling Championship which took place on the River Witham in 1973 from Southrey to Langrick.

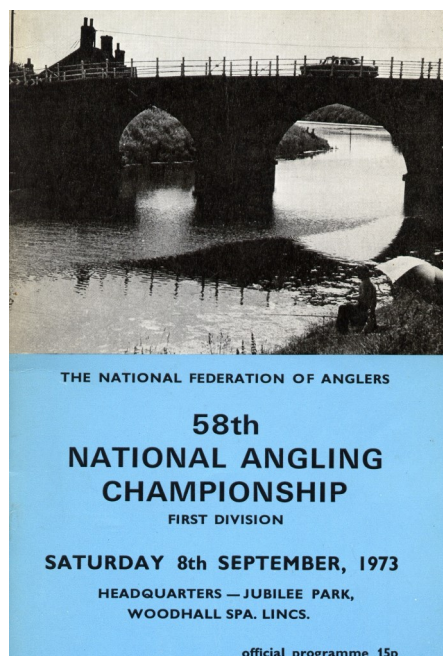
Team favourites with bookie Jim Wooding on the day were Leicester AS at 3-1, Birmingham 4-1 then Leeds, Coleshill and Lincoln at 10-1. As it turned out Leicester finished second on 709 points with Leeds third also on 709 points but Leicester had nearly 96 lbs to Leeds 57 lbs. So who won? Jim Wooding initially had Grimsby and District at 20-1 but they outshone the star teams of the day finishing on 717 points amassing a magnificent 92-10 to take the honours on the day.

Had it not been decided on points then Leicester AS, captained by Ivan Marks, would have had the best total team weight (and won) in three successive Nationals. But the decision by the membership of the NFA to decide the National on total team points from 1972 heralded a new approach to team fishing. Kevin Ashurst said 'In terms of weight, it would have been an even greater match if more anglers had used the leger. And we all know why so many didn't.' I know that to my cost as the team plan for a minimum of 2lb proved to be a struggle on my peg.

Some teams in my section fished the bomb all day and caught odd bream, not many but enough. When I had a go for them on the tip I never had a bite and all the time the 'catch 2lb' team orders nagged away at my thoughts. Very negative fishing and my less than impressive performance probably cost our team a winner's medal. I should have fished the bomb all day but daren't risk it. But at Langrick on peg M4 Alan Wright shocked the angling world by winning the first of his two National titles by putting together 41-10-8 of bream on a stick float rather than a swingtip. He pipped Leicester's Dave Downes to the title by just 4 ½ ounces.

Dave fished also fished team orders to catch 2 lbs of small fish before going for bream which he eventually did on C64 at Stixwould. He wasted the first hour of the match before switching to a quiver tip (yes even then) rather than a swingtip. Docker Nev Fisher, who took fifth place with 27-7-3 for 14-1 Grimsby, led the way for Grimsby but their captain George Hallam, a 42 year old dock supervisor, won B section contributing 17-9-8 and a brilliant 79 points to the team total. Well done Grimsby who duly celebrated their victory. As the winning team Grimsby won Gold Sovereigns in presentation cases.

For my book on the National I was very grateful to Nev Fisher and members of the Grimsby team for supplying photographs. Wonderful history!



I was very surprised that in my last blog on-one asked about two times National Champion James Henry Royston Bazley. I can only guess that most of you already know and have read about him in my book on the National. I read Jims book 'The Art of Coarse Fishing' when I was a young lad. Brilliant match man, specimen hunter, writer and angling administrator J H R Bazley (Baz) was a piscatorial enigma whose angling exploits and worthy deeds did much to raise the profile of our rapidly evolving sport in the early part of the twentieth century.



To my mind Jim Bazley's success at match fishing puts him on a par with the likes of Coventry's Billy Lane and the legendary Ivan Marks. One contemporary report, from a Yorkshire newspaper dating from 1910, makes interesting reading. 'Mr Bazley must be a bit of a terror to North Country anglers who fish in competitions! Armed with the "Illingworth" reel, which permits of a very light bait and float being cast almost any reasonable distance, he again beat 399 other anglers in the recent big competition on the Bank Holiday. The match took place on the Swale near Skipton Bridge, and the winner was Mr. Bazley with 5lb. 1 ½ oz., the next Mr. Vernon, of Leeds, with 2lb. 11 ¾ oz. During the past few years Mr. Bazley has secured the English Championship (the only one in which he took part), two "All-England" contests, three Leeds and District Amalgamation matches, and second in another (he got these three firsts and one second prize against over 2500 competitors). He has won eleven silver cups and twenty-two gold medals, and he has one of the finest collections of specimen fish to be seen anywhere.' During his angling career Jim caught many fine fish, mainly in Yorkshire, and as such they should be judged as pretty special. He caught fifty 2lb plus roach in one month from Hornsey Mere and according to the record books his best roach weighed 2lb 15-½ oz, biggest dace 14 ¾ oz, barbel 7lb 12 oz and chub 5lb 8oz.

Jim was a very competent "game fisherman" and on trip to the Teviot landed 161 grayling in three days (just 12 ½ hours) fishing. Trout of 8 ¼, 6 ¼ and 5 lbs in one day at Blagdon to set a venue record. He took the largest Yorkshire pike of 30 lbs from Hornsea Mere in 1927. So delighted was he with the catch he took a taxi all the way back to the Leeds Anglers Club and marched in with the fish cradled in his arms - still alive! A regular columnist for The Fishing Gazette, Anglers News and Yorkshire Evening Post, he also wrote 8 angling books including a "Guide to Angling Resorts" (1909) on behalf of the Great Northern Railway, and the very humorous "Fishing Stunts" in 1919. President of the National Federation of Anglers he also held the position of Leeds President for two 7-year periods. Eventually the Government Standing Joint Committee on River Pollution called upon him and he became Conservator, Deputy Chair and finally Chairman of the Yorkshire Fishery Board. Passed away in 1933.

360

THE FISHING

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In the "LEEDS AMALGAMATION" MATCH at Kirkstead, Mr. Bazley secured **FIRST PRIZE** on August 29th (800 Competitors) with a total weight of over 12 lb. (Second prize-winner's weight, 6 lb.). Also

The WEST LEEDS ANGLING CLUB at ACASTER, and 'DAILY MIRROR' CUP at NEWARK on Sept. 27, 1909.

LEEDS AMALGAMATION DELEGATE MATCH at SURFLEET, October 3rd, 1909.

Winner of the Leeds and District Amalgamated Society of Anglers' Annual Match, 1903, 1907, 1909; Second in 1906. Winner of All England Match, 1900. Leeds Angling Club, 3 times. West Leeds Angling Club, 4 times. Robin Hood Angling Club. Winner of the Leeds Amalgamated Cup, Robin Hood Cup, West Leeds Cup, Waugh Cup, Roberts Trophy, 14 Gold Medals, Greenwood Cup, September 12th, 1908, Roberts Trophy, September 20th, 1908, and other First Prizes too numerous to mention.

GRAYLING FLIES AND TACKLE.

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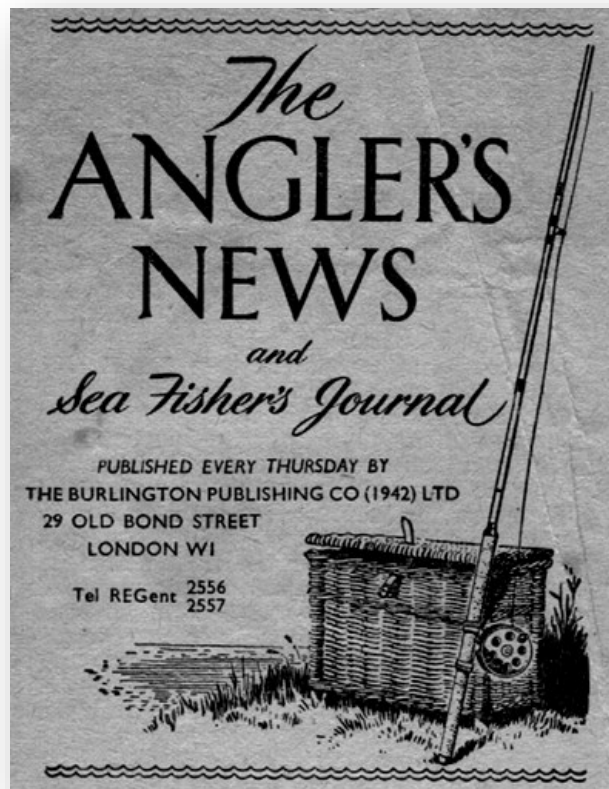
A Journey Back in Time: Angling Adventures of 1952

Welcome to a treasured archive of Angling News magazine from the year 1952, a time when the art of angling was not just a pastime but a way of life for many enthusiasts. As we leaf through the pages of this vintage publication, we find ourselves immersed in an era where the pursuit of the perfect catch was more than just a weekend activity—it was a cultural phenomenon.

In 1952, the world was undergoing significant changes, and amidst the post-war recovery, anglers sought solace and joy in the serene waters, casting their lines into rivers, lakes, and coastal shores. Angling News, with its distinctive sepia-toned pages and eloquent prose, served as the beacon guiding fishing aficionados through the latest techniques, gear innovations, and tales of noteworthy catches.
(Soon to be Released full Book)

Join us on this captivating journey each month as we explore the angling stories that graced the pages of Angling News in 1952. From the timeless charm of fishing narratives to the quaint advertisements showcasing state-of-the-art fishing gear of the time, each article and image encapsulates the spirit of an era where the thrill of the catch was intertwined with the spirit of adventure.

So, buckle up your waders, grab your vintage tackle box, and let us cast our lines into the nostalgic waters of Angling News 1952—a time when every angler's dream was a tug on the line and the anticipation of a remarkable fish tale to share.



A Typical 1951 Advert

<p>"MAKE YOUR OWN MATCH RODS" In Spanish-reed or Light Jap Cane. Ferruled or Ferruleless Kits. Complete kits. Spanish-reed, G.-Heart Spliced Tops, 12 ft., £1.15.0. 14 ft., £2.0.0. Jap Cane, 12 ft., £1.7.6. 13 ft., £1.10.6. G.-Heart or Lance-Wood Tops. Built Cane Tops, 15/- extra. Carriage 2/-. Deposit on Packing Case 10/- (Returnable) DELL, 19, Oliver Road, New Malden, Surrey</p>	<p>MUCILIN The finest preparation in the World for making Lines and Flies to Float SOLID for LINES, LIQUID for FLIES, CLEAN & EASY to USE Each of these preparations may be had from most Tackle Dealers THOMAS ASPINALL LIMITED, CARLTON CHEMICAL WORKS Reg. Office: Bank Street, BOLTON</p>
<p>CARTERS For Pike Spinning Balts, and Angling Requisites of every description. Agents for "Platil" Nylon 11 SOUTH MOLTON STREET, BOND STREET, W.1. Mayfair 0550. Est. 200 Years.</p>	<p>A FORM OF AGREEMENT For Renting and/or Letting of all Sporting and Fishing rights 2/6 Post Free from the Publishers "THE ANGLER'S NEWS," 29, Old Bond Street, London, W.1</p>
<p>FOR FINE FISHING USE - MILBRO TACKLE The "Mitchell" fixed-spool threadline reel, distributed by the makers of the famous "Milbro" tackle is suitable for roach and trout or pike and salmon. Expertly made. Smooth precision. Two interchangeable spools. Automatic level wind. Price £7.7.0, inc. P. Tax. See it at your local tackle shop. Wholesale only - MILLARD BROTHERS LTD., 467, Caledonian Rd., London, N.7. Telephone: NORTH 2437 Factory: Diana Works, Carfin, Lanarkshire. Also at Glasgow, Manchester and Belfast.</p>	<p>UNIQUE OUT-OF-SEASON Special Bargain Offer SPANISH REED MATCH RODS £3.19.6 PLUS POST AND PACKING (2/6) REDDITCH MADE, EACH ROD CARRIES HILLWARD'S 12 MONTHS' GUARANTEE. SPECIFICATION 12 ft. (3 piece) Lightweight Spanish Reed, Spliced built Cane top, Full Stand-off Rings, Bung Cork Handle, (24 ins.) Rubber Button, Dural Fittings, Tip Action. ★THIS SPECIAL OFFER WILL REMAIN IN FORCE UNTIL JUNE 15th, 1952 ONLY HILLWARDS of BIRMINGHAM 343 COVENTRY ROAD, SMALL HEATH BIRMINGHAM, 10.</p>



The angler who catches a fish worthy to be converted into a trophy usually manages to celebrate the occasion. That this was true two centuries ago is, to judge from the picture, abundantly clear.

THE SQUIRE'S PIKE

by . . . R. DOWNING

ON a certain evening in the year 1775, a select little gathering of elegantly costumed gentlemen was assembled in the snug wainscoted parlour of a Northamptonshire manor, the home of Sir Jeremy Allgood, affectionately known to his friends as the Squire. Of those so honoured who took their seats around the mahogany, in the centre of which was a magnificent punch-bowl, magnificently filled for this occasion, my Lord Carping, the Squire's oldest crony, sat on his left. Facing him across the table was Mr. Peter de Coverley, a grandson of the famous Sir Roger, a handsome and robust young man no less fashionably attired than his companions, except that he wore his own abundant unpowdered hair. On de Coverley's right sat the Hon. John Pettigrew of Salisbury town. The fifth member of the party, a young dependant of the Squire's, distinguished by his modest and respectful demeanour (for the Squire was a wealthy and a childless man), was Ensign Trim, of His Majesty's Regiment of Foot Guards.

The trophy, a fine pike of 20 lb., caught in the Squire's own river, had earlier been inspected and admired, for the taxidermy, a comparatively new art in that age, had been carried out with unusual care.

The toast, "To the luck of the day," was drunk, and it was to prove the first toast of many; pipes were lit, the Squire providing some excellent tobacco that he had lately received from the Castlewood estate in Virginia. Satisfied, then, that his guests were well found, the Squire proceeded at once to satisfy their curiosity concerning his tackle, his methods and his exploit.

THE SQUIRE'S STORY

"I was using my new rod," he began, "a sweet tool made of seasoned ash, thirteen feet over all, spliced and ringed to my own design."

"Ash is heavy stuff," grunted Lord Carping. "I vastly prefer hazel. 'Tis more pliable and it responds to the plunges of the fish."

"Hazel might be good enough for your ponds, Ned," said the Squire, good-humouredly. "I doubt if you have any-

thing larger than jacks in your water."

"You were using a winch of course, Squire," said young Mr. de Coverley, forestalling the indignant remarks which his Lordship was about to make.

"I have always used a winch for my fishing," said the Squire. "My latest has a handle which I fixed to the ring of the wind. 'Tis a better device than turning the ring with one's finger."

"I always let my line trail behind me on the grass," put in Mr. Pettigrew, "and I have taken good pikes in that way from the Avon below Downton."

"Possibly your banks are clear of bushes, sir," said Ensign Trim, politely.

"True enough," said Mr. Pettigrew. "It would be difficult otherwise."

"I fasten my line to the top of my rod," remarked Lord Carping, "and, damme, it does well enough."

A REVEREND OPINION

"Wait until you hook a fish like the Squire's," said Mr. de Coverley, mischievously. "Shall I give your Lordship some more punch?"

"Luckily I had a new line on my winch," continued the Squire. "Thirty yards of twisted blue silk. I have always followed the advice Master Nobbes gave in his work 'The Complete Troller.' My grandfather knew the reverend gentleman well. He had a living at Applethorpe in this county, and I'll wager he spent more time with his tackle than over his sermons."

"Nobbes was a trifle chicken-hearted for my taste," remarked his Lordship. "He shunned the winter, when pikes are fierce."

"I am all for Nobbes," said Mr. de Coverley, laddling himself another glass. "He knew more about the pike than Master Walton ever did."

"I agree," said the Squire, "though I count Master Walton's treatise the most entertaining I ever read. But I always troll for the pike. I use a dead gudgeon mounted on a foot of smooth wire, with

twin hooks lying snugly across the head of the bait."

"Give me a live yellow frog," said Lord Carping. "I hold with Walton that this is a deadly bait."

"Did Master Izaak ever use a frog," asked Mr. Pettigrew, mildly, "or did he hear of someone else using it? For my part, I fear Master Walton had little experience of pike-fishing. He was more at his ease with roach and chub."

"I have used a frog before now," said the Squire, "but squeamishly, I admit. I got my man Judson to harness the beast to the hooks. But I am all for the walking bait, the dead fish that I can sink and draw."

"Do you anoint your troll, Jerry?" enquired Lord Carping.

"Anoint? How do you mean, Ned?"

"Walton gives the recipe," said his Lordship. "I forget it for the moment."

"'Tis gum of ivy and oil of spike," said Mr. Pettigrew. "He would have his bait scented like a woman of the town."

"I care not for your fancy scents," said Mr. de Coverley. "Once I went bream fishing with a bottle of anise. In the end, the boat stank so vilely that I had to leave it."

"I tried a new device with my trolling bait," said the Squire. "I put a small weight of lead inside the fish, which caused it to dive more briskly."

"What did Walton say about that?" Mr. de Coverley inquired of his Lordship.

"I fear you are not a literary man, Peter," interposed the Squire. "You are not fair to Master Izaak."

"Too much gossip and fal-la-la," said the young man. "What were his rods made of?"

"He painted 'em at any rate," said Mr. Pettigrew, "with glue, and with white-lead and red-lead and coal-black and linseed oil, all sweetly mixed together."

"You have not told us where you got the fish, sir," put in Ensign Trim, tactfully.

LIKE A TIGER

"'Twas at the bottom of Plashetts, the last meadow of the home-farm," said the Squire. "My man was with me. I dropped my gudgeon into the big eddy and worked it round, and right under the bank the pike came at it like a tiger."

"Bravo!" cried Mr. de Coverley.

"He must have swallowed the bait at a gulp, for he took off twenty yards of my line; but I erected my rod and gave him the full power of it."

In his excitement at the recollection the Squire had risen to his feet, grasping his pipe to illustrate the words.

"I used my winch," went on the Squire. "He tore off line again, but I continued to play him strongly."

"And if proof were needed," said Mr. Pettigrew, "there is the fish before us."

"How did you raise him from the water, sir?" inquired Ensign Trim.

"I played him dead," said the Squire, emphatically, "then Judson lay on his belly on the grass and slipped his fingers into the gills. We emptied the flask after that, I assure you. And by the same token, gentlemen, fill up your glasses!"

And as the gentlemen recharged Mr. de Coverley said:

"You would make a pretty picture, Squire, standing there before the fish as you did just now, pipe in hand."

"Like Paris handsome and like Hector brave,"

quoted Ensign Trim, who had been to a good school.

"Paris and Hector, fiddlesticks," said Mr. de Coverley. "That's no title for a picture."

"Leave it to me," said Mr. Pettigrew. "You shall have your picture, Squire, and we shall all be in it. What is more, it shall be entitled, 'How the old Squire caught the Big Pike'."

MARGIN FISHING FOR CARP

by . . . RICHARD WALKER

At Mr. Ingham's request ("Letters to the Editor," April 5th issue) here is what I know about the development and practice of margin fishing.

Specialist carp-fishers will know that the effectiveness of any method of fishing for this species in any given water decreases the more it is used. It is the fashion nowadays to rate the intelligence of fish at a very low level, and to talk wisely about conditioned reflexes and response to stimuli. In fact, fish are quite intelligent—none more so than the carp—and they are quite capable of learning that a line attached to something edible spells danger.

From about 1932 onwards I regularly fished a pond which contained carp, and caught a number of them by the usual methods, the most effective of which was floating crust, cast well out on the usual greased line. This method was also used by many other anglers, since an angling club had the fishing rights of the pond, which was quite small. The quantity of bread cast upon its waters during the summer became considerable, and a great many carp were hooked, a few being landed. By 1935 the fish had become very crafty about floating bread. They would never touch the ordinary crust on a greased line; the nearest they came to doing so was to swirl violently close to it, repeating this until the sodden crust broke up and the hook sank. At a discreet interval afterwards, they would return and devour the pieces. One or two were circumvented by the old dodge of casting out a big crust attached to the line and having the hook concealed in a much smaller piece; but the whole business was obviously becoming less and less effective, even at night, which had by then become about the only time when one could hope for a fish, mainly due to the increasing number of people who fished the water, and who, like anglers all over the country, never really believed that fish could see, or detect vibrations on the bank; an attitude which, I may say, has not altered appreciably between then and now.

During the summer of 1935 I spent several nights carp-fishing, and I could not fail to observe that as soon as dusk had come and other anglers had packed up, the carp would come right in to the bank after crusts, etc. They would even compete with the numerous rats for them, which was sometimes quite comical. Late that summer it dawned on me that to throw a crust twenty yards out into the pool was rather stupid, when I had seen numerous carp take crusts within a couple of yards of where I sat.

GIVEN THE CLUE

If, at that time, I had read H. T. Sheringham's "Coarse Fishing" I might have worked it out earlier. Here is what he says, writing in 1912. "At dusk the fish begin to roam in search of food, and in a lake they will cruise about among the weeds and reeds close inshore. Often, just at dusk, you can see the tips of the fish, per-

haps of great size, makes its way through them. And when the light is gone you can hear rustlings, and sucking noises, and an occasional great splash, which are somewhat alarming." Later in the same chapter he says: "In warm weather carp swim near the surface, and it does not take long to call their attention to floating bread—the crowd of lesser fishes will soon do that."

Those two extracts contain the two basic principles of margin fishing, and why they remained unconnected so long has always



Ideal conditions for margin fishing if, later in the evening, the ripple dies down.

amazed me—unless it is that very few anglers can be persuaded to fish without float or lead!

The first attempt I made resulted in a fish being hooked and breaking me in short order. In those days my ideas about tackle were decidedly unsound! I thought that a size 8 hook was large and a 6 lb. line was strong; the water was heavily weeded and well-sprinkled with snags and lily-pads. However, before the season finished, I did get a fish of 9 lb. by margin fishing, which encouraged me to persist in it during the season 1936, which followed.

LEARNING THE GAME

During that season I learned that there was more in the method than just hanging a crust over the edge of the bank. I found that anything more than a ripple on the water was fatal to success; that it pays to observe the direction of drift of floating objects and fish into it; that small rudd, and sometimes rats, would demolish a soaked crust in no time, but that carp would reject a fresh crust insufficiently soaked and still hard. I also found that, while it was very important to keep the line off the water, if it was taut, a carp would suck the crust clean off the hook, and it was essential to have a foot or more of slack line between butt-ring and reel, to give the fish a chance to turn with the bait before feeling any pull. 1936 saw quite a number of carp landed by margin fishing, including some fair fish up to 12½ lb.; and I began the 1937 season with

considerable confidence that I had a technique which was going to be effective—so much so that I explained it to one or two friends. This confidence was not misplaced. In 1937 I caught my first fifteen-pounder by the method, and quite a number of other big fish were taken by it in the following two seasons. Then came the war, and with it little opportunity to fish; but in 1946 I was back after them again, and had a fifteen-pounder and a sixteen-pounder in that year.

THE EXPERTS INTERESTED

At that time I was given a copy of "BB's" "Fisherman's Bedside Book"; and I was so interested in what the author had to say about carp that I wrote to him; the letter appears in "Confessions of a Carp-fisher." "BB" came to stay with me in 1947 and in a week landed five specimen carp by margin fishing. Michael Traherne also found it successful, and said so in his "Be Quiet and go a-Angling." Later, I explained the idea to Bernard Venables, who featured it in his "Mr. Crabtree" strip; and I understand that fish over 20 lb. in weight have succumbed to it during the season which has passed.

It is important to see the method in its right perspective. It is not an infallible method of catching carp, nor is it the deadliest. It is a good method under the right conditions and a valuable addition to the carp-fisher's repertoire. In some waters it is almost useless, and it should never be tried in anything but warm and practically windless weather. It requires practically no skill until a fish is hooked, but it does require intelligent observation and iron self-control. After using the method for a long time, I still miss many fish through wrong timing of the strike—which should be gentle. It is necessary to remain concealed and to sit still; and the last is not always easy, especially when one can hear great suckings and "sloshings" fifty yards away.

Since the method was first invented, it has been found that it is effective in the daytime, provided one can fish without interference from other anglers, which is seldom. In fact, my bigger fish caught by margin fishing were taken during mid-morning. Ducks, waterfowl and rats are a nuisance and often render it impossible to use a floating crust, however fished.

Besides carp, roach, rudd and tench can be taken by this means. I have never actually set out to catch anything but carp in this way, but occasionally a big rudd, and once a tench of 5 lb. 10 oz. insisted on being caught, and only the large size of the crust I use has prevented this from happening more often.

The tackle to use is chosen mainly on its suitability for the water concerned; in open waters a No. 6 forged hook and a line of 6 to 8 lb. b.s.—and plenty of it—ought to serve. If weeds and snags exist, you must fish stouter; a No. 2 hook and a 12 or 15-lb. line may be necessary to give you a fair chance of landing a fish. Ordinary roach rods are unsuitable and so are spinning rods; but the latter, not too powerful, will have to serve most anglers until the tackle-makers decide to make a rod which really is right for carp-fishing. Fortunately for me, I make my own. As for reels, that with which you feel you can best play a fish which may weigh 20 or even 30 lb. is the one to use; reliability and line-capacity are the main features to look for.



Drennan International

about an hour ago · 🌐



Reigning Drennan Cup champion Lee McManus is never far away from the big fish and his form continued this winter after landing this stunning roach of 3lb 5oz.

The Leicestershire angler was fishing a southern gravel pit and had the fish on a groundbait feeder, fished with a short hooklink - heli-style - and a size 16 hook baited with double red maggot. Arriving at his swim, Lee had a few casts with a Deeper Fish Finder, which revealed the lakebed in front of him to be very fl... [See more](#)



Shortly after landing a PB barbel of 17lb 6oz, James Benfield smashed the fish out the water with this 18lb 15oz specimen. It was caught from the Warwickshire Avon on a pellet hookbait and was part of a memorable six-fish haul that included specimens of 13lb 5oz and 11lb 11oz. Gloucestershire angler James was of course 'absolutely made up' to catch the 'big one' – a known fish on the stretch which he's spent hundreds of hours trying to catch. He admits that, after catching it, he's not sure what to fish for next, as he reckons it's a fish he'll never better.

Canal & River Trust NEWS

The National Canal Pairs is back! 🎣 We have a range of venues along the canal network, promising lots of bites and sparking friendly competition once again, along with an estimated £8000 final prize pot 🏆

Following advice from our advisory group volunteers, we've amended the numbers qualifying for the final from each heat. What do you reckon to these changes? As in 2023, you no longer need to be a paid-up Friend of Canal & River Trust or a member of Angling Trust to participate in October's grand final 🎣

👉 Get your tickets below:

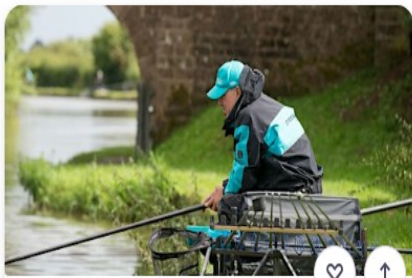


National Canal Pairs 05/10/24 - Foxton

Sat, Oct 5 • 8:00 AM

Grand Union Canal

From £30.00



National Canal Pairs - Soudley - 13/04/24

Sat, Apr 13 • 9:30 AM

Shropshire Union Canal

From £30.00



National Canal Pairs - Preston - 20/04/24

Sat, Apr 20 • 9:00 AM

Lancaster Canal

From £30.00



National Canal Pairs -27/04/24 - Swadlincote

Sat, Apr 27 • 9:00 AM

Moirs Canal

From £30.00



National Canal Pairs - 19/05/24 - Taunton

Sun, May 19 • 8:30 AM

Bridgwater & Taunton Canal

From £30.00

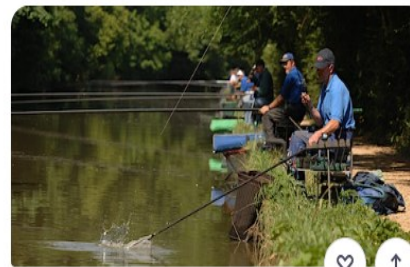


National Canal Pairs - 19/05/24 - Dudley

Sun, May 19 • 9:00 AM

Dudley Canal

From £30.00



National Canal Pairs -25/05/24 - Nottingham

Sat, May 25 • 8:30 AM

Erewash Canal - Dockholme Lock

From £30.00



National Canal Pairs -29/06/24 - Pewsey

Sat, Jun 29 • 8:30 AM

Kennett & Avon Canal

From £30.00



National Canal Pairs -30/06/24 - S.U.C- Ellesmere Port

Sun, Jun 30 • 8:30 AM

Shropshire Union Canal

From £30.00



National Canal Pairs -06/07/24 - Wigan (Div 1 Practice)

Sat, Jul 6 • 8:30 AM

Leeds & Liverpool Canal

From £30.00



National Canal Pairs -20/07/24 - Liverpool & District AA

Sat, Jul 20 • 8:30 AM

Leeds & Liverpool Canal

From £30.00



National Canal Pairs -01/09/24 - Northampton

Sun, Sep 1 • 8:30 AM

Grand Union Canal

From £30.00



National Canal Pairs -28/09/24 - Whitchurch

Sat, Sep 28 • 8:30 AM

Llangollen Canal

From £30.00

Legends in my Lifetime

New Series (Part2)

Starting from an early age as a young budding match angler at the tender age of 14 I befriended an Angler called Larry Powell. Who was a local match angler from my hometown of Cardiff in South Wales?

Larry was an exceptional angler by those days' standard winning on a constant basis. Not just local but on open matches as far away as the River Seven, Bristol Avon and Gloucester Canal.

In fact, Larry became good friends with a few midland Anglers such as Ken Giles, Clive Smith and Les Prust just to mention a few. My guess is that quality anglers got to know the standard of the opposition and soon became friends mainly to learn off each other which of course gave them an edge.

Larry who in my opinion as a brilliant angler could have gone on and done particularly well on the World Championship stage. Alas we will never know because unfortunately Larry passed away at an early age due to health issues becoming an alcoholic. Verging on the edge of brilliance or madness Larry was a one-off, thinking nothing about diving in underwater just to see how fish responded in the flow of the river or the depth of the lake and in any weather.

His preparation to detail was perhaps the best I had ever witnessed when it came to mixing his groundbait or preparing his bait. Something I learnt from an early age the more preparation the better you become as efficiency is the name of the game when it came to matchfishing. Not making mistakes and having something in its place if it did, saving time and motion allowing to catch more fish. Something, that all the top anglers would do as I found later in my career.

During the 60s Larry won more matches in the South Wales circuit than any other angler including Welsh National Championships, Wye Championships, Taff Championships, Roath Park Lake, Bristol Avon and River Seven championships.

As a young budding Match angler, I teamed up with Larry in my teenager years and learnt the basics of winning matches, he taught me many things and had some great days fishing I will always be eternally grateful to him. It was a shame he never knew his prodigy would one day become a World Champion.

For those who remember Larry and his cabinet full of trophies they would agree he was possibly the best angler of his time in South Wales. So, Larry's memory will stay with me forever A true Legend.

Next in my list of Legends is the famous Benny Ashurst



Benny Ashurst

The Legend that was Benny Ashurst A little before my time sadly to say. His rise to fame came, when he started fishing on his local 'Fir Tree Flash' pit,

Benny put his talents to use by winning seven big open matches in 1955. Then came nine open wins in 1956 against 500 competitors on venues like the Leeds & Liverpool Canal, Staf-

ford Canal, St Helens Canal, and the Lancaster Canal. At that time Benny felt his best performance was a win in the 1949 Northern AA match against 1,000 anglers on the 'Lanky' at Garstang.



Benny who was a maggot breeder was also an innovator of angling methods and techniques. One innovation he developed was the stick float. Using a small porcupine float and then fitted it with balsa wood tops attached to the line by a rubber ring at each end Fished with a double rubber based around a porcupine quill stem rather than heavy cane. .” The prototype “stick” was born.

Casters and Benny Ashurst go hand in hand. Benny worked out how to commercially produce the sinking chrysalis - the vital key that transformed this bait into the powerful feed and hook bait medium it is today. Benny was a great match angler who, through his winning performances on the northern canals and the River Trent, shot the caste bait to dizzy heights during the 1960's.

Benny's greatest ambition was to win the National Angling Championship individual title. He did not get the luck he deserved, but his Stoke team took the 1969 Trent National Angling Championship Team title. It was not much of a surprise as they had some great anglers drawn from Warrington, Manchester, and Stockport. They had dominated matches on the Trent, with the fixed spool reel, stick float and caster since the early sixties, winning a three-match series against the Nottingham centrepin anglers as early as 1963.

With the increased publicity surrounding these challenge matches, news of the stick float and casters as bait quickly spread to the rest of the country.

Benny will go down in the annals of angling history as a real pioneer and legend and father to who in my opinion became the World Best Match Angler Kevin Ashurst



More on Kevin Next issue...

Fish of the Month Competition

Some great catches from the Hampshire Avon, well done to Darrel Hughes with his cracking Pike and your new PB and Richard Lisney rightly smiling with his Barbel. Some great contenders for "Fish of the Month" competition.



May Potter (Fishing Coach)

Jumped on the Mirfield midweeker on the A&C at Knottingley today. The winds been a nightmare all day so only really managed to fish short. Caught in spells throughout the day to weigh 4lb15oz which was enough for 2nd



Midfield midweeker 😊 not much to report 😞
weighed 4lb dead for last. I've definitely left some
fish behind. Learnt a lot so that's all that matters 🧐

Jon Arthur Match Reports

Clocked up some miles at the weekend, half of them by choice and the other half most definitely not.

Saturday I entered my first ever Fish South silvers qualifier which was down at Monk Lakes. Sadly it was not to be and I packed up before the end as I could hardly get a sniff off anything silvery but my last four bites were all carp. Had a good view of Robbie Taylor winning on the opposite bank, though, so good luck in the Final. Hope the phone's fully charged! 😂

Yesterday I was at Decoy Lakes for the second round of the individual winter league. I drew peg 5 on Horseshoe, which is normally an ok draw, but I think the wind's scuppered my chances a bit. 🌀 Thankfully the edge has got me out of jail and I've ended up with 72lb for 4th on the lake and a default section envelope. Well done Andy Rayment who's caught from the off and fished a great match on peg 3 to win with 172lb. A big old gap between me and that peg but I still had a good view and was only 100lb adrift, ha ha! 🤔

I had to scoot straight off as I had to make a 'little detour' to Mablethorpe to rescue my stranded wife. 🚚 Don't ever ever ever rely on Green Flag and Admiral car insurance, that's all I can say! 😱 Five and a half hours later we finally got home, minus her car. Must also thank my brilliant mum and dad for holding the fort. Love them to bits and we'd be lost without them! 🥰

Hope you've all had a good weekend. Over n out! 🍷



BREAKING NEWS

Sensas UK are proud to welcome the match team Hotrods to the Sensas family for 2024. This is an exciting move for both Sensas and the well renowned Fenland Match Team.

Hotrods have been one of the most consistent teams in the country for decades and Sensas are excited to be working with them moving forward. The guys frequent the Nationals, Winter leagues, Feeder Masters and River Fest finals as well as travelling abroad too. Wherever they compete, they are hard to beat, but they're also a really approachable and dedicated squad too. You can read about the teams exploits every month in their Match Fishing Magazine article.

Kye Jerrom explained "Sensas Hotrods are looking forward to working closely with the brand moving forward, they are exactly the kind of family company we like to associate with, offering fantastic products across a huge range, that suit all the types of fishing we do. Whether it's groundbait, terminal tackle, floats, poles or rods, Sensas offer the best in all compartments. We look forward to being even more competitive over the coming years with the new support from a worldwide brand"

The team has recently been over to the Sensas HQ to sign the contract with Sean Ashby (Sensas UK) and Alex Caudin (Sensas France). This gave them a chance to view the groundbait production facilities, the distribution centre as well as reviewing the huge array of products available for them to use in the coming years.

If you want to know more about the team head to their Facebook page Sensas Hotrods and give them a follow.





FACEBOOK NEWS

Habrough Country Park Trevs ponds

A complete sell out ice everywhere and extra strong winds. nightmare for most but the crack continues with the crazy gang at their best. in first place fishing from peg 12lb Rob Cooney 17lb 8oz second place from peg 14 Mark Tuppen 16lb 14oz. third place fishing from peg 11 Dave Blanchard 12lb and fourth place went to Nicky Tulloch fishing from peg 4 with 11lb.



Two very hard and slow days at Chew for John Chester and myself although the water fished its head off with a number of twenties, thirties and one forty coming out whilst we were there. We were at the Wedding but on this occasion we ended up the bridesmaids as it were. But i met some lovely lads down there on the water and in the pub on the evening, saw some wonderful bird life, had a great laugh with John and even went in the shop at Chew this morning and got myself a few more buzzers for the trout fishing to come. Im back in October for a couple of days when i hope my luck will change but inbetween times ive got loads of fishing to do.

Des Taylor Angling



Will Raison Match Report

Two matches to report on „ firstly the Thursday league on middle lake at gold valley,, really needed to draw one of the corners,as a lot of the fish have been in them ,drew peg 93 right in the middle of the lake,as far away from the corner's as you can get,,had 4 fish for 7 lb ,, definitely the hardest bit of the lake as the two angler's to my left had less than me ,,must draw better!!!. Rushmore league today ,drew peg 104 on syndicate lake,,the whole place has fished well with the rise in temperature,,ended up with 66 lb , mainly on the pole ,nice day's fishing but way off the good pegs!!!!



Will Raison

Matchfishing Reports



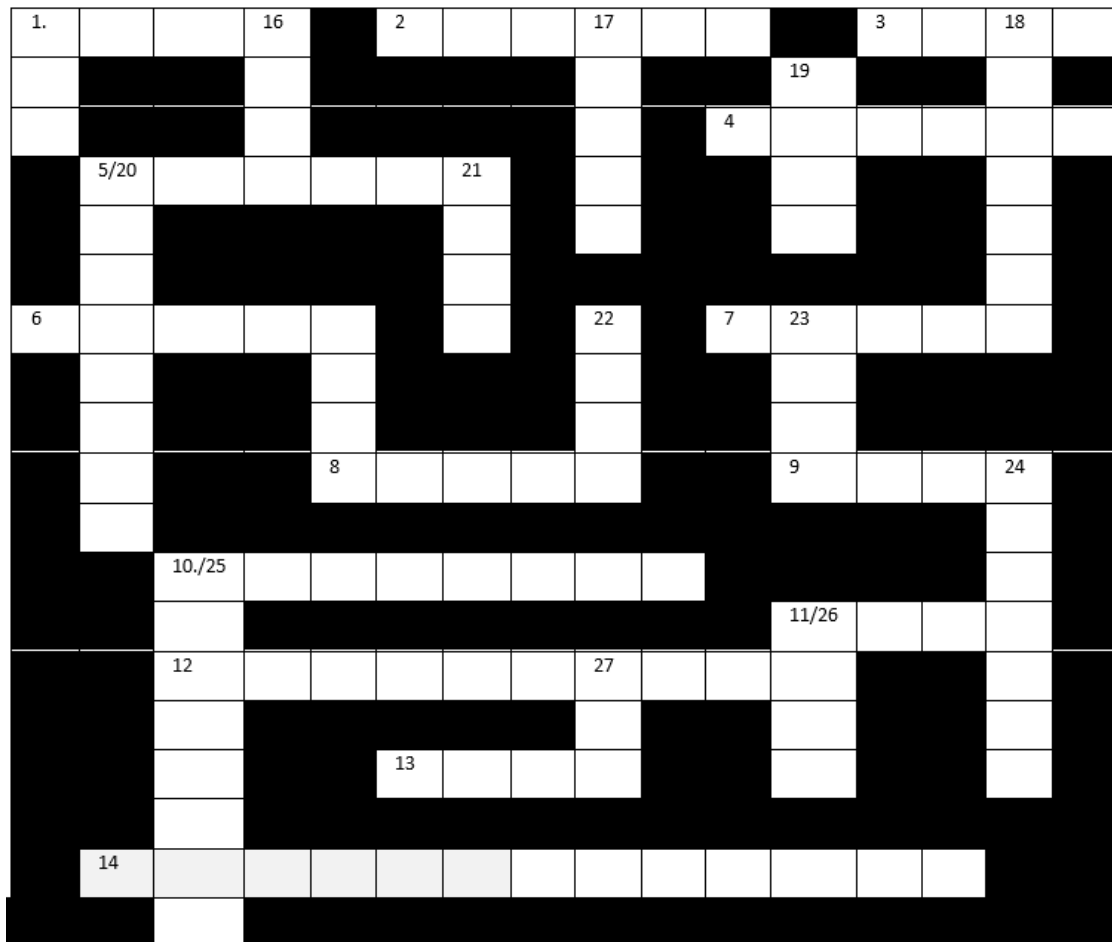
Two matches to report on this weekend, small open on syndicate on Sunday ,I drew peg 121 which is a good peg ,,caught a few fish for 36 lb ,but couldn't put ant bites together.

Sunday was the 3 rd round of the Rushmore league and I really needed a good draw ,peg 43 on gold was not it !!!!!.

I finished 2 Nd in the section with 28 lb ,,only beat by the end peg ,,not many fish in my area,which is a shame as there has been some brilliant area's,lots of weights,I think 7 over 100 lb !!!!!.

In my fishing,I'm always looking for an edge, or to change something, get a reaction,,,,,,but in the winter with carp unfortunately the draw is the main thing ,,I'm going to say it again ,,,,,,, maybe next week will be my turn!!!!!!!!!!

Fishing Quiz Crossword Puzzle



Across

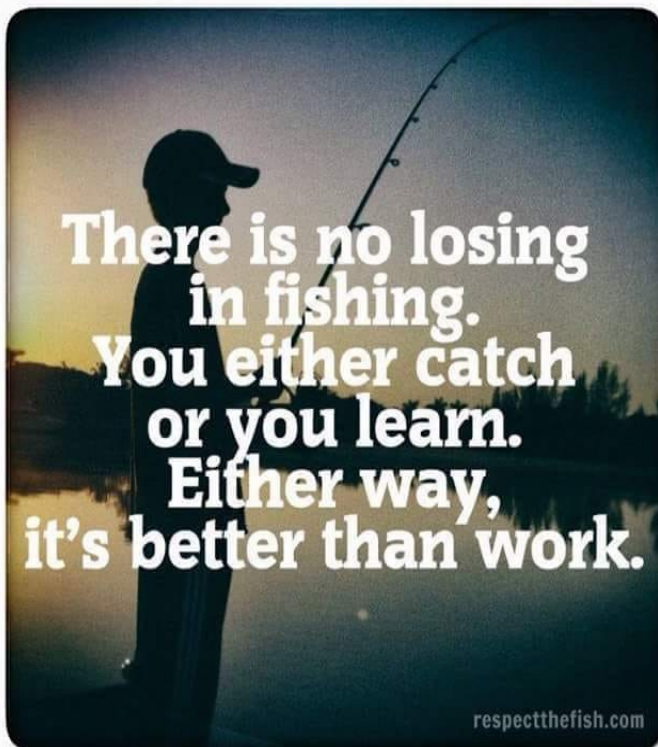
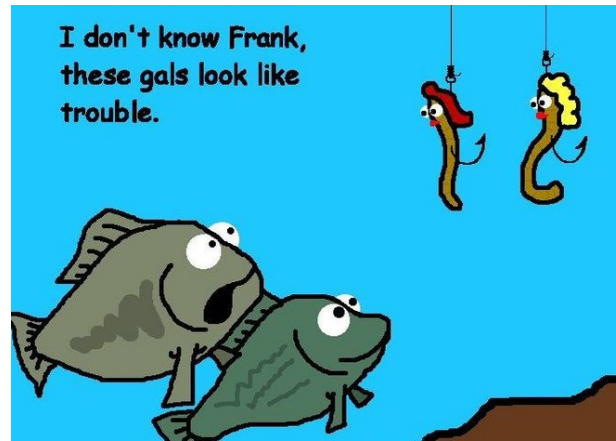
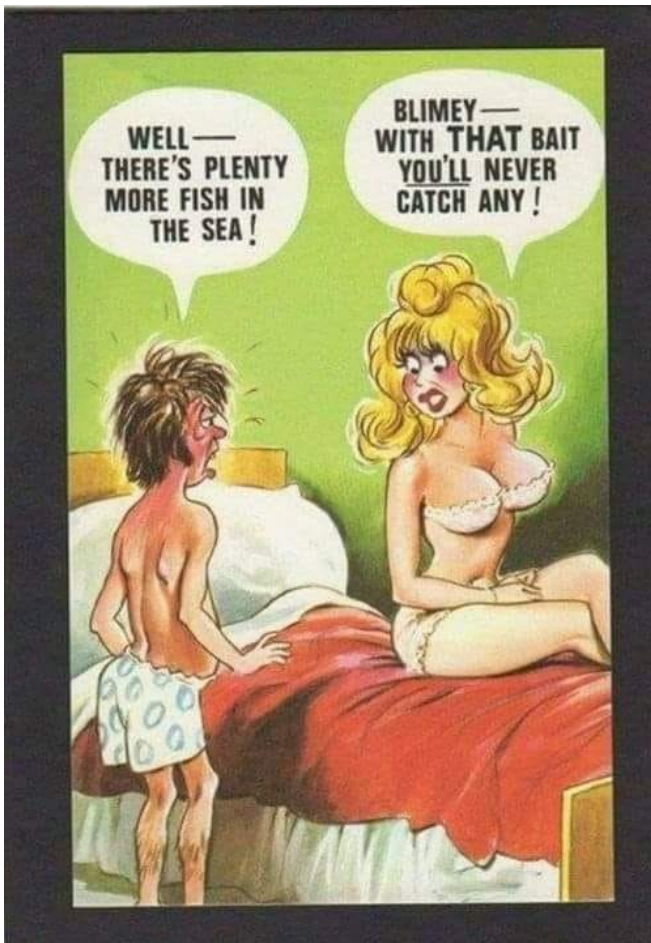
Several species such as the various goldfish
 Sabrina
 Vast amount of water
 Prevents fishing line from twisting.
 A device used to introduce bait into the water.
 artificial waterways
 A device used to suspend bait
 Type of a sweet corn
 Also used in a bath
 Alternative to groundbait
 Famous Chub bait
 Protects fish during the unhooking process.
 Attracts fish to your hook.
 Simple way of bottom fishing

Down

1. Used as a visor.
 rod without a reel.
 a small immature catadromous
 A place to fish
 temporarily store caught fish
 having little or no attachment

 A groundbait additive
 Used on a fishing reel
 A type of Knot
 Sweet additive
 Izacc Walton line
 Used on a running line
 Bottom feeding species

Funny side of Fishing



Mystery Anglers



HALL OF FAME

Another of our top ten greatest anglers who learned from his famous father, Kevin Ashurst honed his angling skills travelling with dad Benny around the flashes and canals of Lancashire. On the Trent, in the 1960s and 1970s, Kevin was almost invincible. He never kept a record of his match wins or top placings.



Let's just scratch the surface and mention a few of his great successes.

In 1965, he set the Trent six-hour match record with 41-11-0 in the Nottingham AA annual open at Shelford. Not a big weight by today's commercial standards, but a phenomenal weight at that time. Just for the record, Leicester's Ivan Marks filled second spot with 39-14-8. Kevin also held the four-hour Trent match record with 28lbs.

Thrashed the opposition

In the 1968 NFA Knockout Competition Final at Coombe Abbey, Kevin thrashed the opposition and netted £2,000 in prize money to boot. He won the Gladding Masters on the Warwickshire Avon against the top anglers in the country, and was quoted as saying, "It was nowt but a little sweep."

How about the Benson and Hedges Classic in Ireland, where he now lives for six months of the year, with a stunning 331lbs of roach taken over three days? Kevin fished for Leicester AS in the Angling Times Winter Leagues, winning the 1964 final on the River Suck with 56lbs. In the National Championships he has fished for Warrington, Stoke City, the mighty Birmingham AA, where he accumulated a vast array of team and individual medals, and finally Stockport.

Like his father, Kevin dearly wanted to win the National Championship. He had two section wins with an individual fourth place on the Trent in 1969, where he was also a member of the winning Stoke team. In the same match his father Benny was eighth. Kevin went on to secure a further individual fourth and a ninth place in the National.

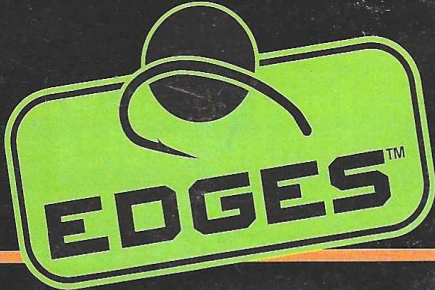
Fishing for England

Nominated by Stoke, 'Big Kev' fished for England in the 1970 Holland World Championships under the guidance of Bernard Donovan. It's no wonder that from 1972, when Stan Smith handpicked his team to compete in the World Championships, Kevin became an automatic choice. He made 23 appearances for England and can be credited with bringing world match tactics back to the UK, educating the English anglers to abandon their rods and reels in favour of the pole. He showed the way by winning the four hundred pegger Liverpool Echo competition on the Leeds & Liverpool Canal, which was thought to be the first match on that canal to be won with the pole.

The highlight for Kevin was his 1982 World Angling Championship triumph on the Newry Canal, becoming the first British angler to win the world title on the pole. He went on to win individual silver medals in 1987, 1990 and 1991, plus numerous gold and silver team medals, including England's first ever 1985 team gold in Florence.

***NEW FEATURE CARP RIG GUIDE**

CARP RIG GUIDE




**EASY TO FOLLOW
RIG MAKING
INSTRUCTIONS**

**NEW EDGES
RIG CONCEALMENT
TECHNOLOGY**

**TOP TACKLE
& TACTICS**

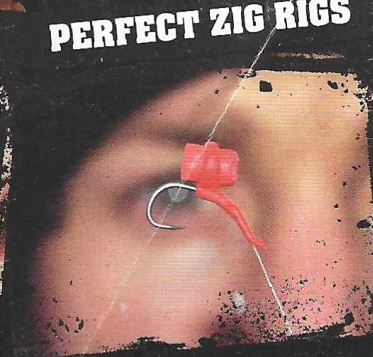
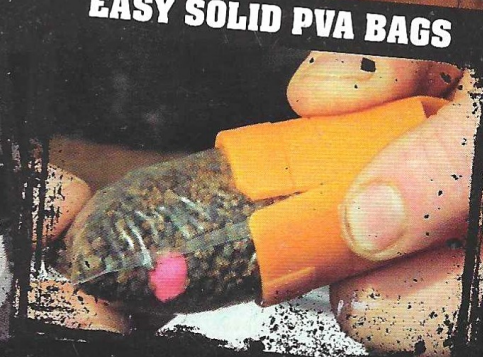
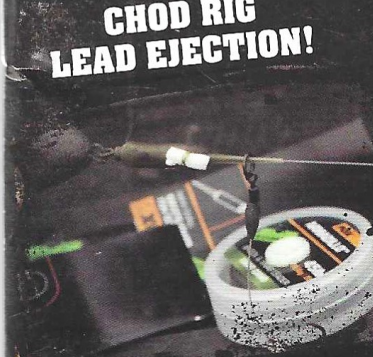
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**CHOD RIG
LEAD EJECTION!**

EASY SOLID PVA BAGS

PERFECT ZIG RIGS



STEP BY STEP RIG INSTRUCTIONS · PVA METHODS · BAIT APPLICATION · FEATURE FINDING

INTRODUCTION

HELLO AND WELCOME TO THE EDGES CARP RIG GUIDE...

Over the coming pages we have drawn on the expertise of Fox's consultants from across Europe to help you master some of the most effective carp rigs on the planet. In addition we have also covered the basics of feature finding and bait application and also included illustrated diagrams of all of the key knots that are required by the modern carp angler. Whatever your carp fishing experience and wherever you live in the world there is one thing that all carp anglers share in common – we are all looking for an edge, something that can give us the upper hand not only over the carp but also our fellow anglers. We have therefore packed this guide with countless edges to help ensure that this year is your most successful ever!

We hope you enjoy it and find it useful.

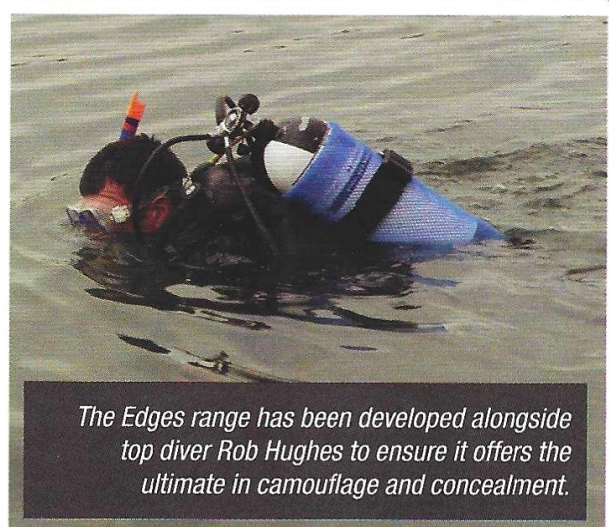
Lewis Porter
Fox Media Manager



CONTENTS

- Keeping Concealed
- Naked Chod Rigs
- Hinged Stiff Rig
- Zig Rig
- Adjustable Zig Rig
- Blow Back Rig
- Withy Pool Rig
- 360 Rig
- Lead Ejection
- Solid PVA Bag
- PVA Sticks and Bags
- Surface Fishing
- Feature Finding
- Bait Application
- Knot Clinic
- Edges Range

In order not to arouse the suspicions of wary carp it is important that you choose rig components that blend in well with the lakebed you are fishing over. During the development of the Edges range we spent countless hours working closely with top underwater diver Rob Hughes to ensure the camouflage and colour patterns used were the best match possible. What became very clear from Rob's findings was that no lakebed is made up of just one solid colour and that most lakebeds have many different shades. It is therefore impossible to design a product that completely matches every single lakebed, however, after hours of painstaking research and development our team of product developers managed to come up with designs that could adapt to a whole host of different lakebeds and ensure that you have a massive 'edge' when targeting rig-shy carp. These designs are Light and Dark Camo, the Light Camo being perfect for fresh weed, clay, sand and clean gravel and the Dark Camo being suited to silt, darker gravel, dying weed and debris.



The Edges range has been developed alongside top diver Rob Hughes to ensure it offers the ultimate in camouflage and concealment.

LEADERS

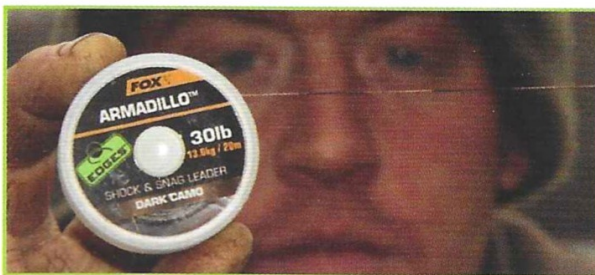
When selecting a leader it is important that the product you select has good sinking properties, is limp enough to follow the contours of the lakebed, can offer resistance to abrasion and most importantly will blend in with the lakebed you are fishing over. Leadcore is perhaps the most popular style of leader due to its incredible density and great abrasion resistance. However, in recent years fisheries have started to ban the product due to misuse by some inexperienced anglers, and this has led to an increased popularity in lead-free alternatives. The beauty with lead-free leaders such as Submerge is that they are unbelievably supple yet still very dense. This means they sink like a brick and hug the contours perfectly therefore reducing the chances of a carp coming into contact with them and spooking. The Submerge leader is very easy to splice and is also very strong once spliced. The final type of leader material that you can use is a braided leader, such as the Armadillo. These braided leaders are dual purpose and can be used both as a shockleader when distance casting with heavy leads and also as a snag leader when fishing snaggy venues. Usually most snag/shock leaders are not designed with camouflage in mind, however, the Armadillo bucks that trend and features the same Dark and Light Camo technology as the Edges Camo Leadcore, Reflex Camo and Camotex hooklink materials. So now when you need to use a snag or shockleader you can do so in complete confidence that they will not hinder your chances of success.



Leadcore is a popular leader material as it is incredibly dense.



The suppleness of lead-free leaders makes them a great alternative to leadcore.



The ability to use a camouflaged shock/snag leader is a massive edge.



Colour Break Technology is used on many Edges products to greatly aid concealment.



FIND'EM | FEED'EM | **FOX'EM**



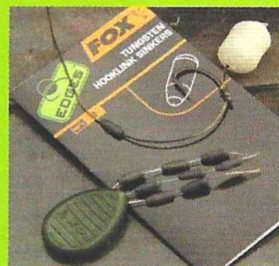
Carry a selection of hooklink colours and patterns to cover all bases.

HOOKLINKS

When it comes to choosing a hooklink material whether it is mono, braid or coated braid it is important that you select one that will match the lakebed on which you are presenting your hookbait. In addition it is also key to have your hooklink pinned to the lakebed, which can be achieved by using Tungsten Hooklink Sinkers or Power Grip Putty.

TOPEDGE

Adding Tungsten Hooklink Sinkers to your rigs can help to pin them to the lakebed and prevent carp spooking.

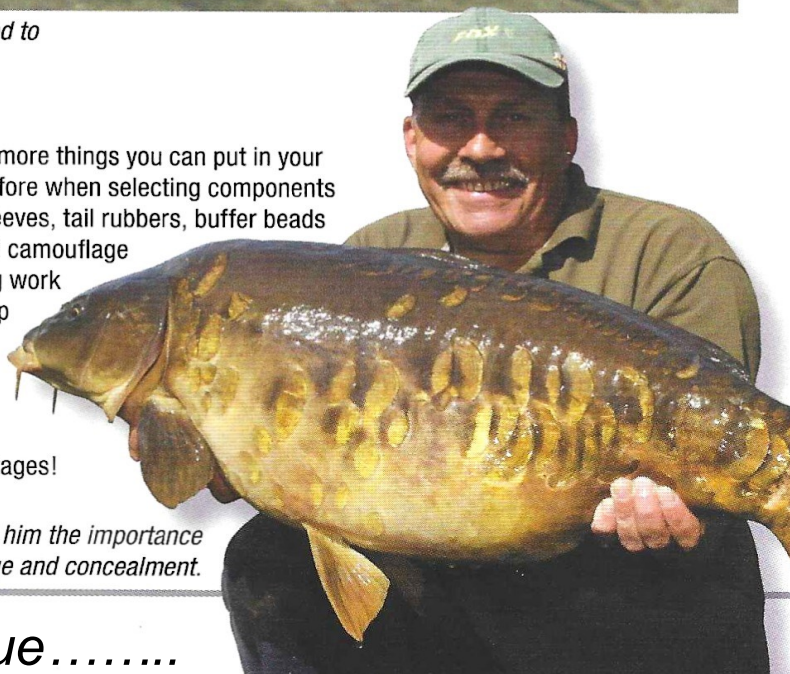


The new Trans Khaki components are designed to blend in with a host of different lakebeds...

COMPONENTS

Carp fishing is all about percentages and the more things you can put in your favour the more successful you will be. Therefore when selecting components such as shrink tube, lead clips, anti-tangle sleeves, tail rubbers, buffer beads etc make sure you select ones that have good camouflage properties. Again through the extensive diving work with Rob Hughes we have managed to develop the Trans Khaki colour for our components that we have found blends in very well with all manner of different lakebeds. Finally make sure you use a lead that matches the lakebed as well, remember – play the percentages!

Chilly's army background taught him the importance of camouflage and concealment.



More in the next Issue.....



Gold Medal Groundbait

Clive Branson

With Over 50 years of fishing experience, from local clubs to Open Matches, Nationals, and World Championships. World champion "1987" and runner-up Silver Medal "1986" Gold Medal Team Wales "1989" Bronze Medal "1982" Winner of the 2nd Day event four times and holding a top 1 and 2 place ranking in the World for many years....

Being accredited for bringing Continental types of groundbait secrets and mixes back to the UK in the late eighties I am now proud to re-introduce the popular "Gold Medal Groundbait" range back into the marketplace.

Using secret mixes and additives gleamed from my years of fishing the International circuit including Belgium, France, Dutch and Italian formula's combined with British ingredients I have formulated the range of Gold Medal Groundbaits. Using the mixes on international and at home with great success over the years

All my Groundbait formulations are made specifically and targeted to each individual species of fish and situations. With over 25 Years in fish Keeping and over 50 years of Match Angling I have formulated ingredients to attract specific species of fish into the anglers swim and conditions whether Still or Running water, allowing the best opportunity of catching the maximum out of your swim

I am therefore proud to introduce my complete range of products to the British Angler including a few new mixes that have come very popular and successful...

Each month I will introduce you to my full range come back soon....

See Website for more details.
www.goldmedalgroundbaits.co.uk



Clive Branson's Goldmedal Groundbaits



CHUB MIX

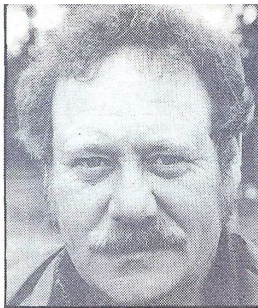
www.goldmedalgroundbaits.co.uk

This Groundbait mix has two special main ingredients that make this irresistible to Chub. It has been a known fact that wasp grub has always been a special bait for chub and this mixture contains the Honey from the nest and combined with special flakes that when introduced into the swim breakaway and float down the swim attracting the fish from downstream up to your baited hook. Used either with Bread on the hook or Maggots or Casters this groundbait is recommended highly by myself and have accounted for huge bags of chub including The Lower Wye Championships, Wye Championship and Wye Charity successes....

Mixing:

Add small amounts of water to the Special chub mix using the palm of your hand until the mix is stiff enough to make into balls and then catapult or throw into the swim. The active ingredients within the mix will quickly breakup and release particles that will attract fish into your swim





Frank Barlow's Blast from the Past

BEST MEN DIDN'T EVEN FISH

AT last, the day had arrived! The Winter League Semi-Final on the Grand Union at Bugbrooke with 16 teams trying for a place in the grand final at Mallory Park.

All the gruellers and practise sessions were over. This was the biggest hurdle.

Everyone knew it was going to be very hard, in fact harder than we anticipated, when we were informed that at least half the anglers would have to break the ice to fish.

Despite this, the atmosphere at the Five Bells, the match headquarters, was surprisingly good. Not loads of long faces like you would expect but lads all raring to go.

The atmosphere was further enhanced when, just before the draw, we were all accosted by a policewoman who marched into the pub complete with clipboard and biro asking for a certain angler.

When he was found she wanted to take down his particulars literally, for it turned out she was a stripogram girl. I won't bore you with the intimate details but I can assure you it was a good laugh and a very nice start to the day.

Apparently, it was this chap's 40th birthday and his team mates had sprung the surprise. He looked completely bewildered.

Pegs had been pre-drawn and captain Ken handed me number 77. My peg was the first one upstream of Banbury crossing bridge and my first job was to break ice.

I had brought the right tool for the job and in no time I had a nice hole to fish in. It was so impressive that Pete Lee, the Oundle captain, who was two pegs away, used it as well.

I tackled up and plumbed the depth which amazed me, I had over five foot of water at the bottom of the shelf and this really put me off. I know from past canal experience that the deepest

SATURDAY

water under icy conditions never seems to produce.

I sat there and had a chat with Dick Rogers, the local expert and steward for the day. Dick knows every peg on this part of canal and it didn't surprise me when he said that he knew these pegs well and didn't think I and the two lads upstream of me would get a bite.

I started on the bread punch and went right through the card to finish up on the chopped worm. For the first three hours Dick's statement seemed to be right as neither me, A4's Mick Woodley or Pete Lee could get a bite.

A boat had gone through and ruined our ice holes so we had to move all the ice again. Our bank runner Dave Harrell told me we were doing quite well with 'Giv us a fag' and 'Our man Stan' leading the charge.

This spurred me on and eventually I willed my float to go under. A tiny perch came to hand. For the last hour I persevered on this method and finished up with nine perch, two roach and the biggest 'back I have ever seen for a grand total of 5 oz 5 dr.

Mick and Pete had 3 oz apiece so at least I had beaten somebody. The Liverpool lad to me left on peg 76 - what about him you may ask? Well, he came

third with 2 lb 11 oz, a brilliant weight on the day. So what was I messing about at?

The fact is, although he was the next peg, he was five minutes walk away in some clear water with the wind favourable and a few obliging fish. That's about right for me at the moment - so near and yet so far.

I picked Don up and was elated to hear he had come second with 2 lb 14 oz.

Liverpool won with 14 lb 7 oz with Shakespeare second on 13 lb 2 oz. On paper, my fault entirely with my Liverpool man gaining 2 lb plus. What could I do? I can't cast half a mile can I?

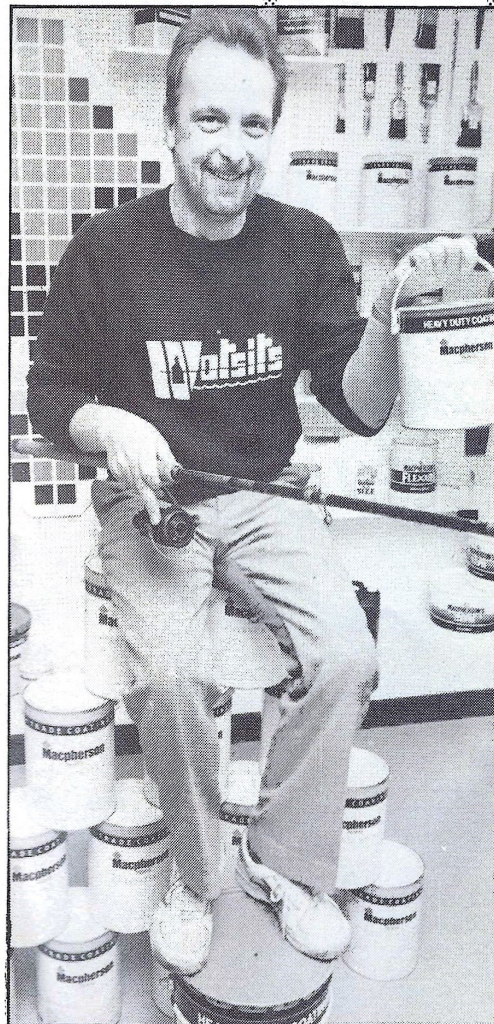
After the results we celebrated in the usual way and I want to end by giving a big thank you to all the Northampton lads who made it a trouble-free contest, especially to Chris Campling, he was marvellous. At least he will now have a bit of piece for his 'phone has not stopped ringing for three months.

I would like to see Chris at the final as a guest or something for all the good work he has done. The same goes for the organiser of the other semi-final where I am told an excellent job was also done.

The lads who give up their time to look after us on these occasions are the tops in my book.

● What's this? My old mate Wotsits angler Steve Toone is well and truly laquered after scooping 125 litres of paint as his prize for leading the Macpherson Paints UK Angling League for the fifth consecutive month.

The Nottingham star currently leads the table and is looking forward to having his house decorated by the sponsors, should he finish top.



GOOD DRAW TURNED BAD

SUNDAY

SUNDAY morning and I was off up the road for the Soar Championship. I wasn't really interested after the previous night's proceedings and you can guess how I felt.

After drawing peg two

and being informed I was on a shedful I perked up a bit.

After yesterday's hard luck draw this was all I needed. I arrived at my section and met Central's Roddy Poole who knows it pretty well.

He had drawn peg one and really fancied it. We

walked together to our pegs. Thoughts of a decent net of fish soon diminished when we approached. You'll never believe this - there was a match on the opposite bank and it's only 20 metres wide!

The last two anglers in the match were opposite Roddy and me. Out of 250

anglers, trust me to draw one of those two pegs!

Needless to say, until the club match finished we never had a bite. In the last hour, when they had gone, I had two lovely roach of 1¼ lb and 1 lb and that was it.

I couldn't wait to get home. The famous Windy Corner, as usual, produced the winner, Olympic's Alan Chatfield taking 11 lb of quality roach. One of our up-and-coming local lads Dave Clayton had 9½ lb for second, an excellent performance which cheered me up.

Blast from the Past Match Clips

MATCHMAIL

All starred matches are
Shakespeare 3,000 qualifiers

TWO PINTS OF THE BEST

McATEE STORMS HOME

★THERE was a strong turn-out of 112 for the Hodnet Open on the Shropshire Union Canal at Goldstone. England international Alan McAtee (Ben's Den) fished a blinder from peg 74 at Palethorpes to take a superb net of bream weighing 11-10-0.

He caught fish to 2-8-0 using multiple bloodworm baits on the long pole.

Even with such a big weight, he did not have too much to spare over runner-up Rex Latham (Crew Pioneer). Rex was drawn on the hospital water and caught skimmers on bloodworm and caster for 9-2-8.

There was a drop then to more realistic weights, with Harry Holt (Leigh) recording 5-15-0 of quality roach on caster.

Others: B. Smith (Leigh) 5-9-0, H. Hilton (Leigh) 5-8-0.

DERBY

★THERE was less than 12 oz separating the top four in Saturday's high-scoring 153-peg Derby AA Open on the Trent and Mersey Canal at Shardlow.

Leon Green (Silstar Izaak Walton) landed two bonus perch which proved decisive in an exciting battle with the runner-up.

Leon fished a short pole and bloodworm to attract gudgeon, ruffe and the perch totalling 8-15-6.

Meanwhile, Barry Bates (Olympic Izaak Walton) rushed out 180 gudgeon on bloodworm and some caster roach for 8-12-12.

Others: D. Blears (Scotts Tackle) 8-9-4, J. Brennan (Starlets) 8-3-7, D. Walkerdine (Derby AA) 7-10-10, G. Inger (Derby Clarion) 7-5-2.

GORING

★LOCAL knowledge was the key to success for Dick Edmonds (Goring MG) who led the Goring Teams of Four Open on the Thames at Goring with 16-14-0 of chub taken with the swimfeeder and white maggot from peg 19.

A perch of over 2 lb was included in the 13-5-0 chub and perch net recorded by Dave Hurry (Hounslow Angling Centre) and T. Stone (Harefield Blue) was third at 11-8-0.

Others: Dave Agass (A4) 10-10-8, P. Evans (Goring MG) 7-6-0. Teams: Mocatra "B" 67 points, A4 Red 64, Goring MG

That's all Kenny needed to smash tidal record

KENNY COLLINGS (Team Normark) shattered the Open match record for the tidal Thames at Richmond with 39-2-0 of dace that easily won the final round of the Silstar Southern Top 40.

Fishing from the steps of the

Three Pigeons pub, Ken set the pace with a 3BB stick float and caught fish averaging five to the pound by feeding no more than two pints of maggots when others were flinging out a gallon.

Steve O'Rourke (Basildon Angling Centre) did well to catch 22-7-0 of dace on stick-floated maggot from Petersham Meadows, and Wally Eisinger (Acton Angling Centre) was third with 14-14-0 of dace from Hempstead Corner.

Others: Pete Garner (KC Angling) 14-6-0, Terry Shaile (Cove) 12-12-0, Simon Duke (Molesey Thamesiders) 12-9-8.

Dave Hurry (Hounslow Angling Centre) and Richard Banbury (Basildon Angling Centre) went into the match level on league points and drew next to each other. The showdown went to Hurry by 9-10-0 to 8-14-8.

Final league table: Dave Hurry 79 points, Richard Banbury 78, Ken Collings 77, Steve O'Rourke 76 and Graham Blake (ABC) 72.

LUCKY FEEDER

★FARNHAM'S Richard Cane tangled with overhanging branches at Badshot Lea Lake and while retackling he cast out a groundbait feeder to avoid disturbing his float swim.

Almost immediately his tip went round and he caught a good bream! Seven more bream followed on red maggot and worm baits to seal the Nobby Clarke Memorial Open with 29-0-9.

Eddie Rippon (Cove) was second with 26-1-8 of bream on the feeder and worm and pinkies from the pipes, and Clive Westwood (Farnham) followed at 13-7-0.

Others: Dave Farrow (Farnham) 11-11-0, Vaughan Doe (Guildford Angling) 10-1-0, Dave Allen (Skol Terrapins) 9-11-0.

NEWPORT

SPORT was patchy on the River Wye at Symonds Yat but Birmingham tackle dealer Austin Clisset turned in a good score of 29-8-0 to win. He was pegged in the first garden below the Ferry Inn and floatfished maggots to take a mixture of chub and quality roach to 1¾ lb.

Jim Palmer (Bute A) had drawn his peg behind the church twice before this winter and had blanked both times but it was third time lucky as double maggot fished with a 3 SSG balsa brought 25-7-0 of chub. Dave Pike (Bute) drew in front of the Saracen's Head and fished mid-river feeder for third with 17-9-0 of chub.

Others: Royston Bodman (Blackwood) 15-14-0. Norman Soper (Kidderminster) was overall winner of the series with a 43 points total.

DOUR DRAIN

★THE King's Sedge-moor Drain was unproductive for the Bridgewater Open and there were more than 40 blanks out of a field of 62.

Jamie Stevens (Thatcher's Tackle) was top with a bream of 6-4-0, four skimmers and two roach totalling 9-10-0.

Barry Fithiu (Glaston Manor) followed with the help of a 5-10-0 tench and a few skimmer bream for 9-0-0. A single bream of 2-8-0 secured third spot for Butch Butler (Glaston Manor).

Others: R. Francis (Glaston Manor) 1-8-0; S. Kedge (Bridgwater) 1-6-0.

KIDLINGTON

★BREAD-flake legered at the peg above the boathouse on the River Cherwell at Kidlington scooped a 19-7-8 chub winner for John Bonney (North Oxford), in the Kidlington Open.

Tony Williams (Kidlington) worked with the feeder and red maggot below the tunnel for 14-12-8 that included chub to 3 lb and bream to 5-4-8, and Ron Hillier (Kidlington) was third with 12-15-0 of chub, with caster and balsa from the Lasher Pool.

Others: Richard Brain (Kidlington) 12-6-0, Charlie Brant (Isis Dells) 10-12-4, Derek Peedell (Banbury) 9-7-0.

POND HEAVYWEIGHTS

BONUS fish decided the outcome at Morgans Pond, Newport, and a 3 lb carp and 1½ lb tench earned victory for Neil Scott (Cardiff Nomads) in the Sylvia Cousins Mermaid Open.

Neil quivertipped single magot on a 22 hook in the island bay to add a few small roach for a 5-1-0 total. Two tench taken on waggler and maggot from a peg at the

end of the point put Phil Weaver (Newport) into second spot with 3-5-0.

Tony James (Cardiff) cast to the same area from his peg on the club hut bank to take 2-15-0 and third.

Others: Ron Cousins (Gwent Aven-gers) 2-11-0; Tony Savage (Gwent Aven-gers) 2-0-0; Shaun Ballet (Newport) 1-13-0.

RICHARD HOWARD'S JUNIOR MAIL

TACKLE TIP

SOUTHERN match ace Dickie Carr reckons buoyant maggots are worth trying when sport is tough. Soak your maggots in water to make them more buoyant, and it will help counteract the weight of the hook.

Then the hook maggot will be presented almost as naturally as the loose feed. It can make the difference between catching and not catching.

Sprinkle water on a handful of hookbaits and let them stand. But be careful not to completely submerge them as they will drown.

Fishing holidays

PGL ADVENTURE, the holiday specialists, have joined forces with DAM Tackle and former World Champion Ian Heaps to offer a first rate fishing holiday this summer.

Aimed at youngsters aged between 12 to 16, the course will be based on a lake near Ross-on-Wye covering most techniques starting with an introduction to bait, tackle and methods.

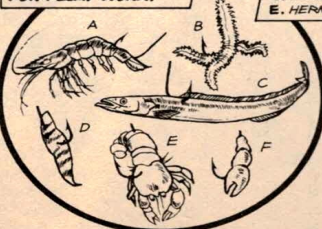
The total course with tackle and bait supplied costs £195. Further details from PGL by ringing 0989 63511.

ESSEX schoolboy Mark Barness ended the season with this super 23 lb 3 oz pike from Leisure Sport Angling's Stanford-le-Hope fishery. Mark, 14, from Eastwood tempted the specimen on floatfished herring and 10 lb line.

Coaching corner

● Now's the time to start thinking about doing some shore fishing. In calmer spots you will find that a carp or pike rod will serve equally well for spinning, floatwork or light bottom fishing.

SOME FAVOURITE BAITS FOR FLOAT WORK.



● FLOAT FISHING CAN BE PARTICULARLY USEFUL IN AREAS WHERE THE SEA-BED IS VERY SNAGGY.



FISH BETWEEN SURFACE AND MID WATER FOR MACKEREL AND GAURFISH, BUT GO DEEPER FOR WRASSE, POLLACK, BASS AND POULTING.

A. LIVE OR DEAD PRAWN. B. RAGWORM. C. SANDEEL. D. STRIP OF MACKEREL. E. HERMIT CRAB. F. PEELER CRAB CLAW.



BOTTOM FISHING CAN BE REWARDING WHERE PATCHES OF SAND LIE WITHIN CASTING DISTANCE OF YOUR ROCK.

AVON CHUB TOPS CHART

A MASSIVE 6 lb chub taken from the Bristol Avon by Wiltshire teenager Stuart Atkins tops the latest Snapshot Junior Performance Awards.

Stuart, 13, from Chippenham hooked it on his local Town Bridge stretch on trotted double maggot. He thought he'd hooked a pike until the fish neared the net!

The super fish has won Stuart a top quality carbon rod while the following runners-up earn Snapshot presentation packs of



assorted catapults, non-toxic leads, and shot:

Mark Barness, Eastwood, Essex (23 lb 3 oz pike), Adam Ellis, Ringwood, Hampshire (21 lb pike), Philip Woodman, Bengoe, Hertfordshire (4½ lb chub), Bryan D'Arcy, Ware, Hertfordshire (3¼ lb perch), Tony Reynolds, Dartford, Kent (19 lb carp).



Non-toxic Anglers Snapshot go to: Keith Supple, New Milton, Hampshire (2 lb 13 oz perch), Rory Hewitson, Penkridge, Staffordshire (17 lb pike), James Gittins, Norwich, Norfolk (2 lb perch), Jean Pierre Neale, East Sheen, London (2 lb perch).

Darren Parker, Bexleyheath, Kent (12¼ lb pike), Carl Wyatt, Cheriton, Kent (bream brace), Mark Nixon, Kirkby-in-Ashfield, Nottinghamshire (2 lb 10 oz tench), Justin Price, Basildon, Essex (16¼ lb carp), Ryan Wilson, West Drayton, West London (18 lb pike), Matthew Branch, Peterborough, Cambridgeshire (15 lb 10 oz pike), Scott Day, Doncaster, South Yorkshire (11¾ lb carp), Alexander Kay, Bury, Lancashire (14¾ lb carp), Derek Northrop, Wakefield, Yorkshire (6 lb 13 oz carp), Carl Townend, Pontefract, West Yorkshire (Mixed bag).

NEW ROD PASSES FIRST TEST

A NEW leger rod was well tested by West Yorkshire youngster Carl Townend when he landed a chub and roach catch from the River Ouse.

Carl, 12, from Pontefract, used a wand type quivertip rod to present his feeder fished maggot and took chub to 2 lb 10 oz and a selection of roach to 1½ lb all within three hours.

They were landed on a size 22 hook to 1 lb line from a stretch below York. □ Derek Northrop christened a new nine metre pole with a lovely 6 lb 13 oz mirror carp which took him 1½ hours to land on a size 22 hook.

Derek, 11, from Wakefield, Yorkshire fished his local canal with a bristle float, and 1 lb line using single maggot. The fish forced him to walk 60 yards down the bank before it was finally landed.

CATAPULTS FACE GOVERNMENT BAN

By Tom Legge

CATAPULTS could be on the banned list for anglers if new legislation is passed through Parliament.

Home Secretary Douglas Hurd plans an amendment to the Criminal Justice Bill, outlawing lethal weapons such as martial arts stars, flails and catapults.

Mrs Llin Golding, MP for Newcastle-Under-Lyme, who husband John is an angler, said: 'At first I assumed that just the slingshot type catapult was meant, but when I asked Minister of State John Patten, he told me he would not differentiate'.

Llin has asked anglers to write to their local MPs and to her at the House of Commons demanding that the Minister excludes fishing catapults from the ban.

Manufacturers were shocked to hear the proposals, and said they would oppose the plan.

Trev Tomlin, manufacturer of the Whopper Dropper, said: 'The difference between the construction and advertisement of fishing catapults and the type used for shooting vermin is quite fundamental'.

'They can get anything through Parliament nowadays, but they should bear in mind the votes of three million disappointed anglers', added Trev, from Leicester.

Middy Tackle's Dave Middleton, from Derbyshire, said: 'They've already got a catapult ban in Holland, but I feel bait catapults ought not to be included'.

'Although loose feed pouches could be used to fire stones with lethal effect, it's difficult to use a groundbait cup for anything else, and I've never seen a stated case of injury caused by a fishing catapult', added Dave.

But Oxford-based Peter Drennan admitted: 'The power of catapults these days is amazing. We joke we should sell them to the Ministry of Defence as grenade throwers'.

National Federation of Anglers' vice-president Gerald Rollinson said: 'I don't think bait 'pults will be included, as their width of straddle is much wider, and therefore they have less power than slings'.

Gerald added: 'We'll certainly make representations to the Home Secretary, and try to find a way forward'.

Wonderful weekend on the Windrush

Oxford big fish hunter John Cadd had his best weekend of the season when he bagged this super 2lb 11oz roach and followed it up with a specimen 1lb 2oz dace.

The 39-year-old carpenter from Cowley hit the jackpot on the tiny River Windrush, near his home. He also latched into roach of 2lb 7oz and 1lb 10oz.

John fished the river near Witney and had just one bite on the Saturday - but it produced the 2lb 7oz roach.

Next day he waited just five minutes before his tip pulled round and he put the net under the 2lb 11oz fish and placed it in his keepnet.

'Usually, I never keep fish but I had the feeling I was going to catch more', explained John.

His hunch was right. He had to walk 50 yards downstream before he saw more action. First cast into the new swim produced the 1lb 10oz roach and the next the outsize dace!

John's memorable catch came to link legered bread flake on a size 10 hook to 3lb line.

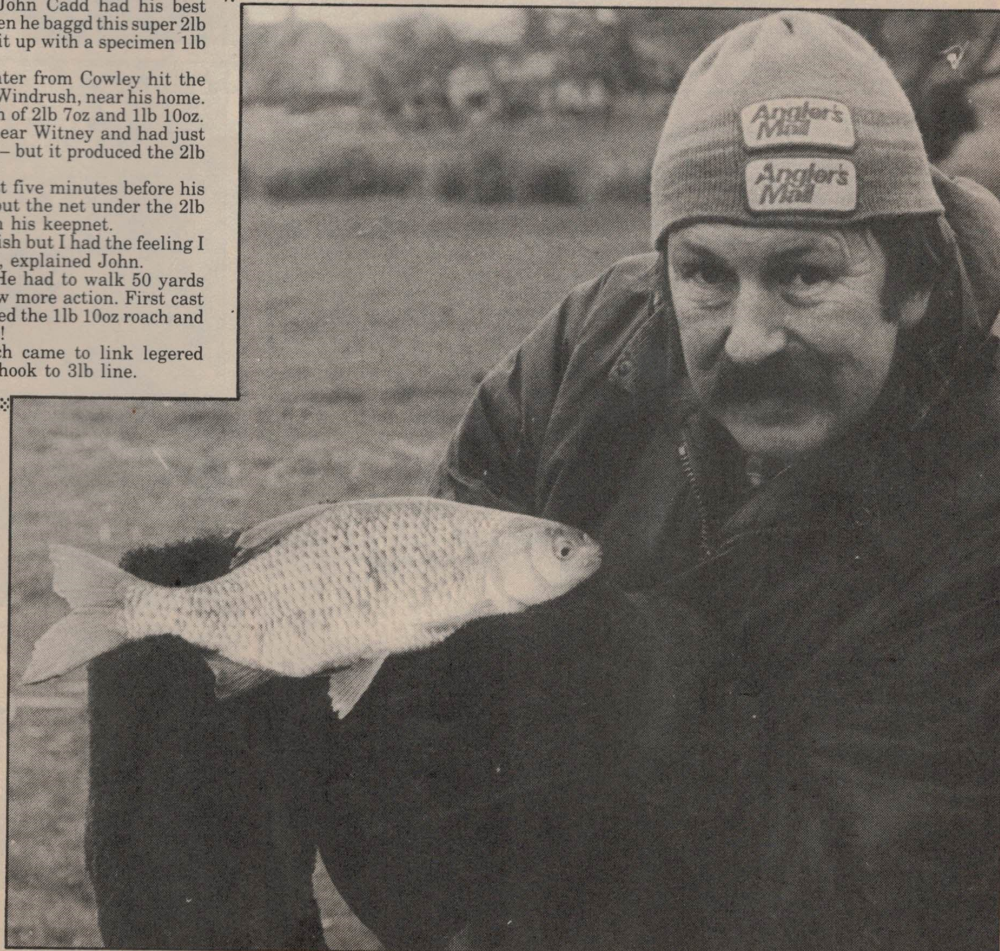
Stour on song

IT WAS third time lucky for Dorset angler David Payne when after two blanks he switched waters to bag a super 2 lb 11½ oz roach.

David, 34, from Charminster, landed the fish from the Bounds Farm length of the Dorset Stour after exchanging his Christchurch ticket for a Ringwood DAA book.

The taxi driver fooled his prize with a single bronze maggot on a 22 hook.

Bill Cooper, 44, a milkman from Bournemouth, netted a 2 lb 3 oz roach from a stretch of the Stour.



CLOSE SHAVE

ANGLERS fishing London's Regents Canal are running the gauntlet of injury each time they fish the water.

One angler narrowly escaped injury when a paving slab hurled from a bridge crashed into the water in front of him during a match.

Tottenham tackle dealer Dave Coster, who was fishing nearby, said: 'At the start of the match, a young angler had two bricks splash into his swim at the end of his pole'.

'Later on, there was a terrific splash and I turned round to see a tidal wave coming down the canal. The angler next to the bridge told me it was a paving slab'.

Raven AC star Dave Hemmings said: 'Earlier this season, I was forced to shelter behind my broly after a hail of stones thrown by gypsies'.

'You get these yob-bos out in the country as well as on urban waterways', added Dave.

Steve Ringer Match Reports



		BAIT-TECH		FEEDER Masters WINTER PAIRS		Hallcroft FISHERY & CARAVAN PARK	
Pos	Pairs	lb	oz	lb	oz	Round 3 Total	Total Weight
1st	Luke Armitage and Brian Searle	11	2	21	5	32	7
2nd	Chris Greensides and Ben Holmes	10	1	9	7	19	8
3rd	Steve Ringer and Frankie Gianoncelli	21	2	15	4	36	6
4th	Lee Kerry and Will Freeman	6	11	10	12	17	7
5th	Eddie Bridon and Mark Renshaw	9	15	4	14	14	13
6th	Matt Pillay and Matt Benwell	14	0	12	12	26	12
7th	Rich Wilson and George Robinson	7	6	12	0	19	6
8th	Tom Noton and Mac Stephens	10	8	8	12	19	4
9th	Dave Hiley and Daz Taylor	19	0	13	12	32	12
10th	Mick Vials and Sam Collett	9	0	4	6	13	6
11th	David Wood and Alan Norrish	8	15	4	14	13	13
12th	Richard Drage and Dan Taylor	3	12	7	10	11	6
13th	Rob Wootton and Adam Wakelin	6	0	20	12	26	12
14th	Tom Clark and Steve Clark	14	2	11	0	25	2
15th	Matt Godfrey and James Dent	9	6	11	11	21	1
16th	Trev Parkin and Mick Axon	8	14	5	8	14	6
17th	Paul Lancaster and Dean Cardwell	16	7	13	8	29	15
18th	Barrie Armonson and Gaz Whitfield	15	3	9	0	24	3
19th	Wayne Bartholomew and Steve Whitfield	7	12	4	4	12	0
20th	Sam Wildsmith and Andy Gregg	7	8	6	3	13	11

Feedermasters Bait-Tech pairs at Hallcroft fishery. Going into round 3 myself and Frankie Gianoncelli Fishing found ourselves in 5th place 20lb off the lead. So we needed a big round 🍊. Well my drawing arm was on fire 🔥 as i pulled out moat 20 for me and bridge 17 for Tank 🔥 🔥. Two great areas ✅.

I decided on a 3 line attack, 32m, 13m and 6m. 10ft aventus steve ringer rods for 13m and 6m and an 11ft for 32m.

Kicked off at 32m and had a pound skimmer first cast on 4 bloodworm on a size 18 guru f1 maggot hook. 30 minutes later i had a roach and then got bitted out 🐟 by tiny roach. Came into 13m and a big skimmer 1lb 🍊. Then nothing before on the hour the roach started to appear here too. They were small but eventually decided to fish for them and gradually the stamp improved. I even had a great run late on at 6m to finish with 144/perch, tiny skimmers and 3 decent skimmers. These went 21lb 2oz so happy with that although feel i should have committed to roach earlier. Frankie chipped in with 15lb plus ✅ 🍊. And we won the pairs on the day 🏆 🏆. Better still we are up to 3rd in the league and now 10lb behind the leaders with 2 rounds to go 🍊 🍊. Mix wise i used Ringers f1 black flour sieved to reduce the food content. Mixed slightly over wet to give it a bit of weight.

New Series Feeder Fishing



WELCOME TO MY ULTIMATE GUIDE TO FEEDER FISHING

IT WASN'T that long ago that fishing the feeder was viewed as an inferior way of catching, almost a last resort that required less skill and more luck than fishing the pole or waggler. Times have changed a bit since then!

In fact, fishing the feeder has become a bit of an 'in vogue' thing in the UK and indeed across the continent with new feeder-only match competitions springing up every few months and more and more tackle companies producing feeder kit to keep pace with the demand.

And I suppose I've been at the vanguard of this trend, having been lucky enough to be selected for the England Feeder Team in 2011 and then be crowned World Champion in 2014.

The feeder is a method I love, whether that's casting a long way for bream at Ferry Meadows or plopping a tiny Method to the far side of a snake lake. What I love the most is that, like any way of fishing, there are lots of little things that you can do to get a bite.

The following series are taken from Steve Ringer's "The Ultimate Guide to Feeder Fishing" in collaboration with the Angling Times. Steve has collated this easy to follow Feeder fishing series from all his articles and has condensed this fascinating insight to what is believed the Ultimate Guide to Feeder Fishing. Steve Ringer is renowned as the finest feeder angler in the World today. Each month we shall be bringing you a new article along with the latest trends

PICK THE RIGHT ROD FOR THE JOB

Does a 12ft rod make any difference to your fishing? Steve reckons so...

HOW times have changed! When I was a kid I had one feeder rod that could be used for everything from catching bream on rivers to throwing out a bomb with a bit of corn on the end for carp.

Not today, though. That's because every good tackle manufacturer now makes a range of feeder rods to achieve very specific jobs – such as has been the changing face of fishing in the UK over the past 30 years.

Commercial carp have played a big role in that, but on rivers and lakes we've found the need for longer and more powerful rods for bream and skimmers. The days of giving yourself a hernia trying to cast 60 yards with an 11ft rod are thankfully no more!

For casting up to 90 yards, a 13ft feeder rod will make the job so much easier, whereas a gentle lob with a small feeder would suit a 9ft or 10ft bomb-style rod.

Action needs to be considered when picking a rod. What I look for is backbone in the lower part to provide casting power, changing to a softer through action in the middle and tip of the rod to avoid lost fish on the strike.

Too soft a rod and you won't be able to cast accurately... too stiff and you'll lose more fish than you land. Finding the balance is key.

QUIVERTIP EYES

Just as you would when considering rings on the main rod, so the guides on a quivertip should be correct. Braid fishing requires bigger rings to let shockleader knots pass through, while straight mono fishing suits standard guides.



Picking the correct rod will make hitting your mark an absolute doddle.

WHY REEL CHOICE MATTERS

From mini 'big pits' to beefed-up match models, they all play their part

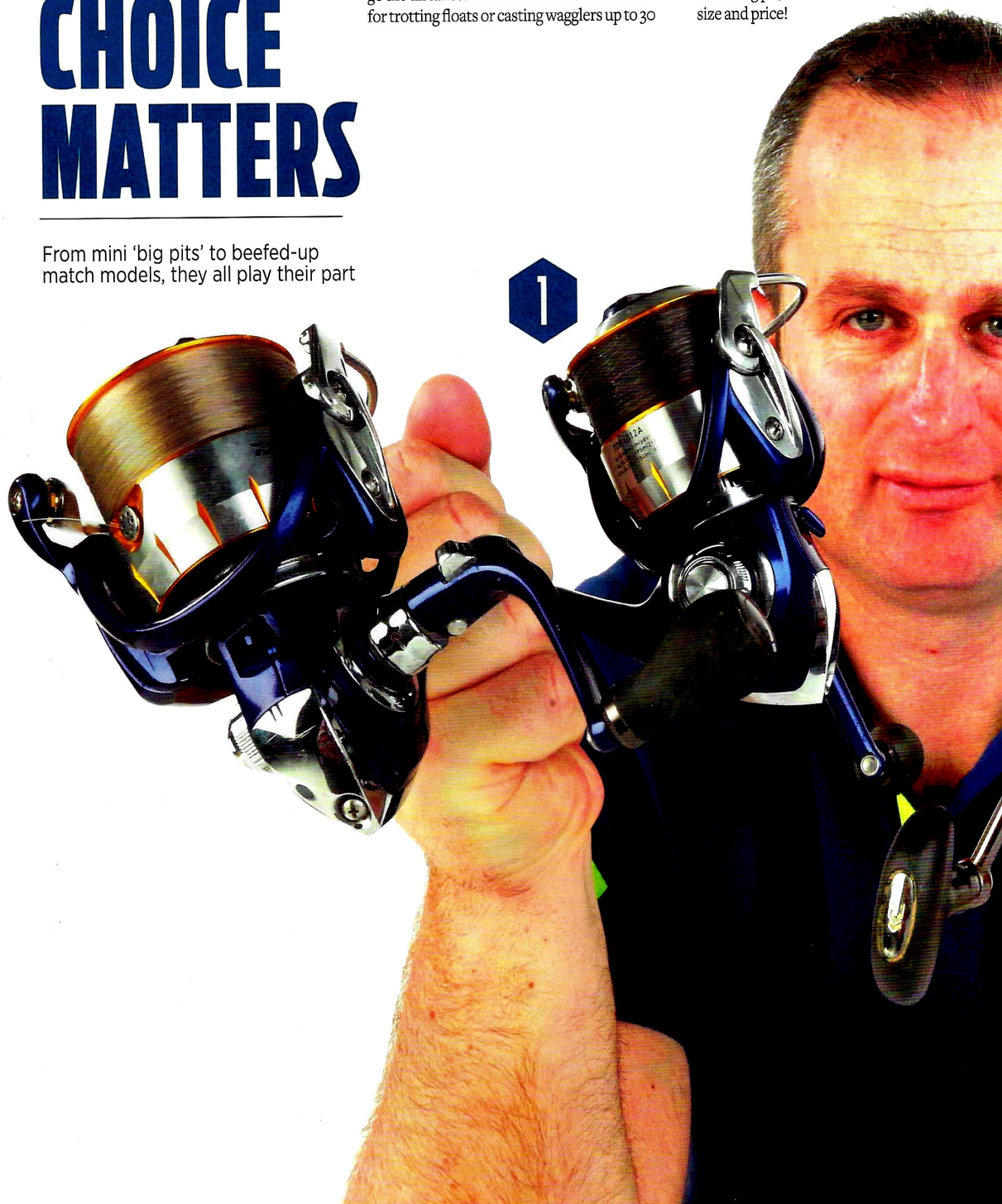
JUST as it is vital to pick a rod that's suited to the type of feeder fishing that you plan on doing, so too should the reel that's going to be strapped on to the handle be fully capable of getting the job done.

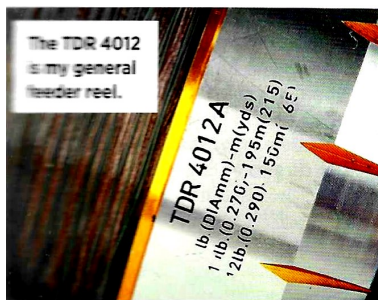
This is something I've learned in the last decade or so, when I've found more and more of my feeder work requiring longer casts. A normal match-type reel hasn't got the guts to go the distance. These smaller reels are built for trotting floats or casting wagglers up to 30

yards. Beyond this they struggle.

Fortunately, the big-carp world has stepped in. Carp anglers regularly cast over 100 yards and use massive reels to suit – so by slimming these 'big pit' models down to suit match fishing, we now have big reels for big casts. The difference they make is astounding.

But if you don't need one of these beasts for your feeder fishing, you can invest in a feeder-type reel. This will share many of the traits of a mini big pit, but at half the size and price!





THE REELS STEVE USES...

RATHER than getting bogged down with several reels on my rods, I've cut my choice down to just two Daiwa models for all my feeder work both at home and when fishing abroad. Although both come in different sizes, I find that one size really does fit all!

DAIWA TDR 4012A

1 TDRs are legendary among float anglers in the smaller sizes and the bigger 4012A is just perfect in terms of size, power and casting for much of my general feeder work on commercial fisheries and lakes. It packs a lot of winding power and I do get asked a lot why I use such a heavy reel. My answer is that I'm not actually holding the rod unless I'm playing a fish, so it doesn't matter!

DAIWA CAST'IZM 25QDA

2 Daiwa's mini big pit reel is a bit of a beast, and that's fine by me! The cranking power is awesome and that makes it capable of battling big carp and bream at range, while the big spool produces less friction on the cast to let me throw a bomb or feeder a long way. This is the reel I use when I am chucking up to 90 yards at Boddington Reservoir or Ferry Meadows.



World Feeder Ranking

This is based on the last 6 years

FEEDER FISHING NATIONS WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP									
RANK	ANGLER	NATION	2016	2017	2018	2019	2021	2022	2023
1	Scheuermann Felix	Germany	3	13	1	36	83	57	3
2	Van der Schaft Frank	Netherlands	22	10	8	1	7	114	19
3	Erdei Attila Csaba	Hungary	18	39	9	10	8	19	8
4	Mertens Benny	Belgium	19	29	23	6	1	113	13
5	Sivák Mátyás	Hungary	35	61	4	20	23	24	9
6	Ansing Ramon	Netherlands	88	37	10	18	20	35	6
7	Ringer Steven	England	2	63	5	13	31	47	45
8	Buchwalder Michael	Ireland	26	9	49	109	83	2	29
9	Šabata Jakub	Czech Republic	12	74	7	11	83	42	44
10	Wakelin Adam	England	4	28	34	47	17	11	46
11	Dirksen Jens	Germany	1	14	18	72	39	51	58
12	Houssais Yoann	France	25	62	20	26	2	17	69
13	Küsters Thorsten	Germany	21	11	142	103	26	25	10
14	Vials Michael	England	34	2	30	96	34	21	15
15	Van Waelderren Frank	Belgium	28	8	17	60	11	72	15
16	Hemmert Stefan	Austria	11	98	28	12	19	87	56
17	Canaccini Andrea	Italy	41	36	43	51	52	125	26
18	Konopásek Josef	Czech Republic	8	123	37	27	83	3	15
19	Lisovskis Krišjānis	Latvia	71	123	6	109	83	27	2
20	Ringer Philip	England	29	4	25	44	83	125	15
21	O'Doherty James	Ireland	156	123	22	7	83	5	71
22	Rodriguez M. Angel Vicente	Spain	38	22	48	65	12	59	15
23	Cathelin Christophe	France	33	111	39	3	77	50	15
24	Frerichs Ingo	Germany	27	34	19	40	44	118	12
25	Koschnick Jens	Germany	10	114	38	69	3	82	46
26	Govi Mirko	Italy	17	23	95	2	42	125	15
27	Willemse Casper Johannes	South Africa	108	49	29	21	83	65	15
28	Rodriguez M. Roberto	Spain	47	66	82	56	6	125	21
29	Kerry Lee	England	156	123	13	95	47	29	27
30	Wooton Robert William	England	156	110	162	4	13	12	7
31	Letschter Michaël	France	156	123	42	50	5	16	66
32	Hagn Manuel	Austria	13	56	11	109	83	125	15
33	Mc Kinley Johnny	Ireland	156	53	50	57	83	108	51
34	Walter Tamás	Hungary	156	123	27	9	10	125	38
35	De Mulder Bert	Belgium	48	96	53	68	14	125	67
36	Veliković Dušan	Serbia	67	5	33	109	83	125	15
37	Van der Stadt Arnoud	Netherlands	54	68	162	22	83	45	15
38	Hofman Marco	Netherlands	130	25	36	24	84	125	15

venue file: DAVE'S POOL
Temple Farm, Temple Hill, Hinckley LE10 3HY
01455 220422

AGAINST

angler

ANDY FINDLAY
Age: 51
Lives: Leicester
Sponsors: Preston,
Sonubaits
MF says: One of
a kind

The Grain

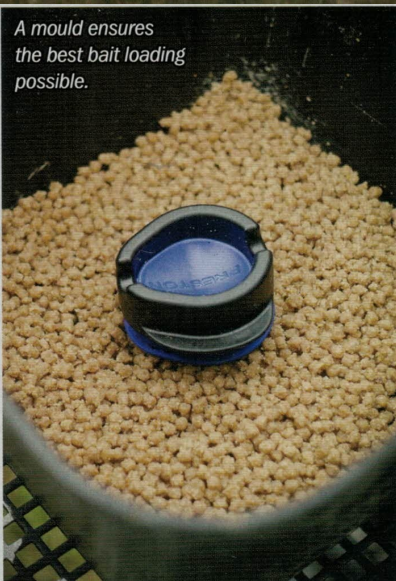
If you can reach a feature with a pole, should you attack it with a conventional pole approach? Not if you're **Andy Findlay**, who believes an underarmed Method feeder can unlock a peg's true potential.

It's all too easy to look at a peg and instantly assume it should be attacked with a pole because the fish are within pole reach. However, Andy Findlay believes there's a tactic that'll outscore the pole nine times out of 10. A straightforward, precise feeder tactic that'll win you more matches than any other approach this year. Over to Andy...

This is one of my favourite tactics – I win loads of matches doing it throughout the year. In fact I won the match yesterday doing this very thing and it works at every venue (where allowed), especially for big fish. The bigger the fish, the better it works.

With any feeder fishing it's all about accuracy and this is no different. Technique

A mould ensures the best bait loading possible.



is the key and I'll use this at ranges up to 25 metres. With this tactic I'm achieving a very positive solid setup that isn't affected by wind and tow.

The idea is to get your loaded feeder into the swim, catch one fish and repeat the process just like when you're using pole-mounted pots. The beauty with this tactic however, is that you're not feeding bait via a pole pot, which can spread out as it sinks. Instead this sinks to the bottom in one compact, neat little pile so everything is one easy mouthful for the carp.

It works when fished up against islands or in open water and my results and experience show that it outfishes the pole more often than not.

I've opted for a 10ft Supera rod, which has



feeder

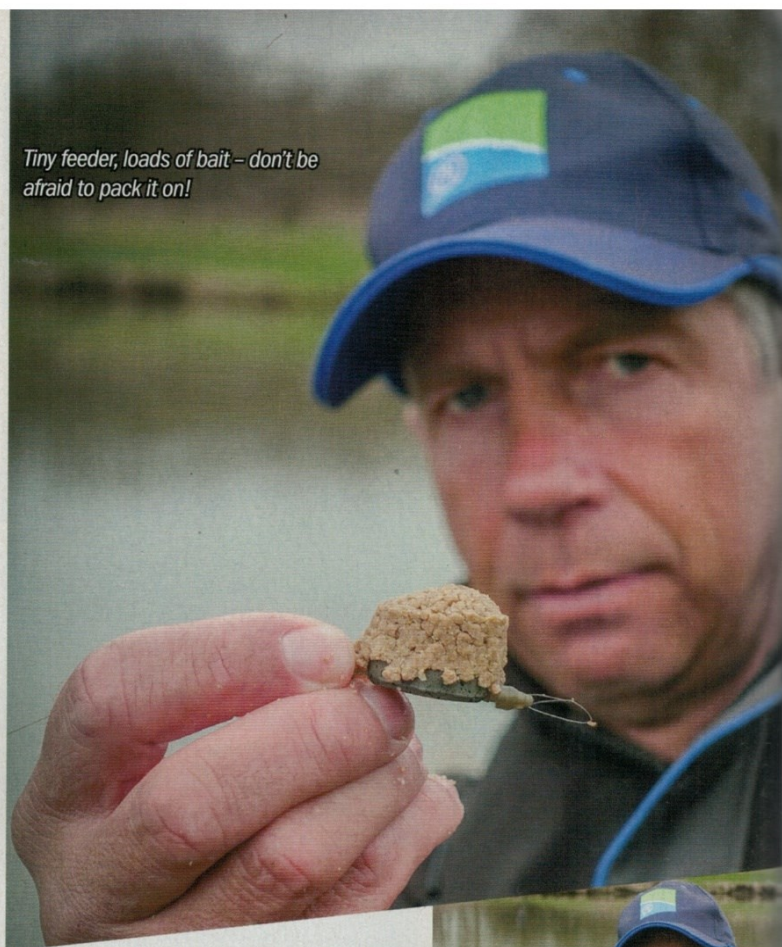
a soft action. It's the same rod I use for all of my small Method feeder fishing up to 45 yards. It's the only rod you need, has a soft action and will cope with both small carp and huge brutes. Main line is 6lb Sinking Feeder Mono, which I use for pretty much all of my carp feeder fishing as it's tougher than old boots.

We've just had a barrage of rain and this affects the pH level (acidity or alkalinity) of the water, which along with the temperature change can unsettle the fish hugely. Rain typically has a pH of 6 to 6.5, and carp and cyprinid species like pH levels at 7.8 to 8.5, so any influx of rain can have a negative effect. Even a change of 0.1 degree will affect a carp's mood until it reacclimatises, adapts and settles again.

The feeder is a 16g ICM Method feeder with a 3in hooklength of 0.17mm Reflo Power and a knotless knot to a size 18 KKM-B hook and a Quick Stop. I only use one hook bait, which is a softened 4mm expander pellet. It's the best hook bait by far and carp love them. The feeder is loaded with softened 2mm Fin Perfect pellets, so the expander hook bait is the closest and best match.

To make the cast I hold the loaded feeder in my left hand then swing it out underarm using some of the 'spring' in the rod blank. You need to hold the feeder level with the second ring up from the reel on a tight line with some tension and use the spring in the rod; it's no good holding the feeder level

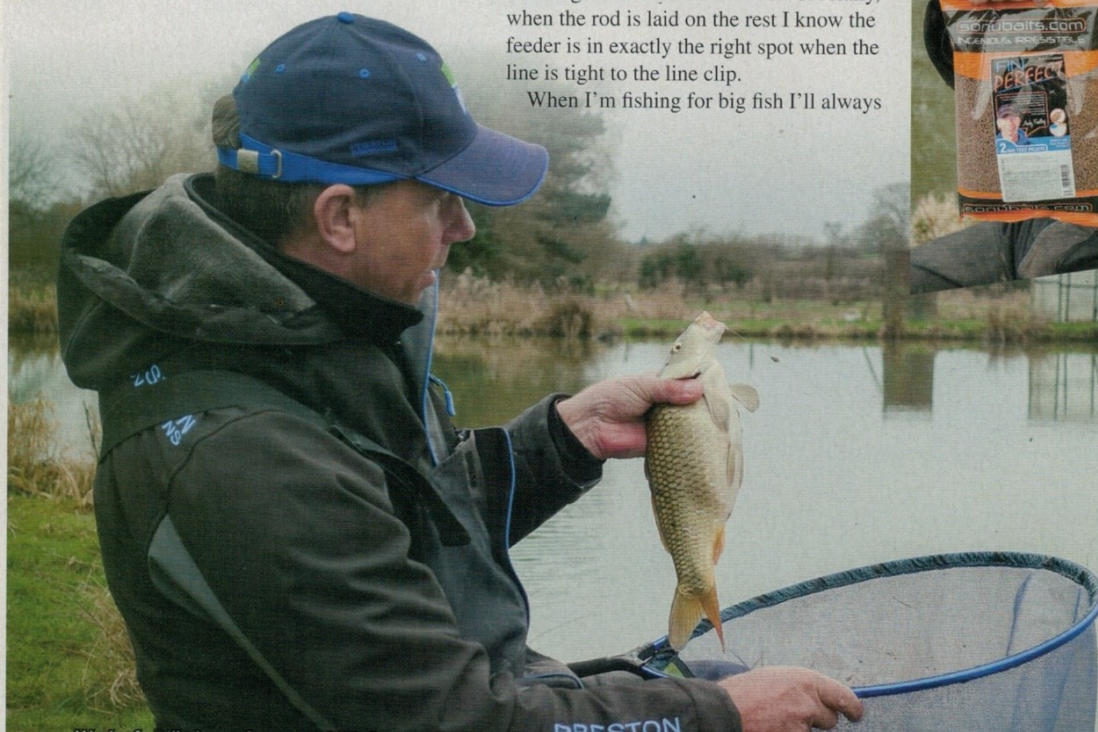
Tiny feeder, loads of bait – don't be afraid to pack it on!

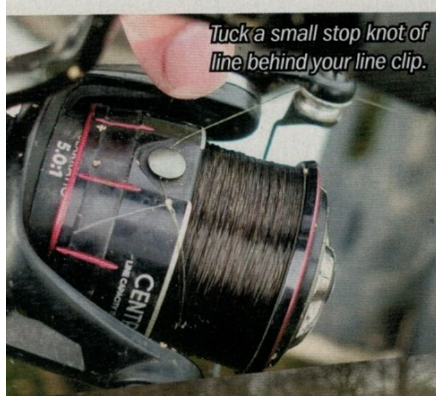


with the reel for an underarm cast as your accuracy will suffer.

It's important everything lands in a straight line. I sink the line carefully, ensuring not to move the feeder. Crucially, when the rod is laid on the rest I know the feeder is in exactly the right spot when the line is tight to the line clip.

When I'm fishing for big fish I'll always





Tuck a small stop knot of line behind your line clip.

Carp are very sensitive to pH changes in the water.



unclip the line from the line clip, otherwise when you get a bite and a big fish rips off it'll simply break your line or you'll pull the hook out. Either way you're going to lose that fish, which completely defeats the object.

I set the clutch so the reel will give line relatively freely and I also tie a small stop knot of line on to my main line, which ensures that I can clip up in the same spot again every time. As with all of my fishing, accuracy is what makes ALL the difference.

LIKE A HAWK

Just because you're feeder fishing don't think you can just relax and have a good look around while your feeder is in the water. Watch that tip like a hawk – it's a relatively light feeder and if you get a liner that moves it then you need to recast.

In the summer months I'll use a heavier 28g version for this same job, but because temperatures are still cool a smaller feeder is a better option – it makes far less disturbance, which is crucial. I always say that if you can get your feeder into a swim with minimal disturbance

you'll get quicker bites.

I actually fish with my rod pointing at where I've cast the feeder, with very little or no angle. This is so I can be 100 per cent accurate with where my feeder is landing. It must sink on a tight line so you can ensure it lands pin-perfect every time. When you get a bite the rod tip simply lifts

up. You'll have no trouble spotting bites and providing you're paying attention you'll afford yourself plenty of time to deal with fast bites or big fish.

OVERLOAD!

The simple rule is: small feeder and loads of bait! I pack as much bait as possible on to my feeder and very often 'double skin' the loading process to ensure there's as much bait as possible packed on to it.

I always bury the hook bait in between the two layers. Do not leave your hook bait hanging outside the feeder – it defeats the object of the game. Think of it as a cherry right in the middle of the cake.

BITE TIMES

Be prepared to wait! Today I've had bites as quickly as the feeder has landed, but often in colder water temperatures you need to wait for bites. You must do all of the groundwork beforehand to ensure the bait is right and the feeder is in the perfect spot; then you have the confidence to sit and wait for bites.

Bites are coming thick and fast as the session progresses, which proves my point that even in cold water this is THE tactic to beat. There are so many ways you can approach any given peg, but if you keep things straightforward and concentrate on doing everything with precision the rewards are there for the taking. I have only fished



feeder

in one spot for the entire session and the bites have continued to come.

In the warmer months I'll loose feed hard 6mm pellets over the top of where I'm fishing too. In flat-calm conditions you will be able to see the pinpricks hitting the surface – just aim your loose feed pellets at these and the loose-fed pellets will help to draw and hold more fish in your swim.

Preparing 2mms

Put dry pellets into a tub on a level surface. Pour just enough water into the pellets to cover them and leave for an hour – I prepare mine with cold tap water before I leave home. After an hour break them up into individual pellets by rubbing them between your hands.

For every pint of prepared pellets I add one teaspoon of Sonubaits Pellet Binder to make them stickier. Be sure to work the binder into the pellets by shaking them around in the tub and you're good to go.

That small quantity of pellet binder ensures the loaded feeder reaches the lake bed intact. If you don't add the binder then you run the risk of the pellets exploding from the feeder on impact with the water. The worst thing about this is that you think your loaded feeder has reached the bottom in perfect order, when in fact that may not be the case.

Remember, presentation and precision are everything. Successful fishing isn't about giving yourself a million options and overcomplicating things, it's about

being confident and executing what you're doing correctly. While you watch others on the lake trying to fight the wind while hanging on to 16 metres of pole you can fish in comfort in the knowledge that what you're doing is offering superior presentation.

I can confidently

state that (done correctly) this tactic will transform your fishing this year! Nine times out of 10 it will outfish a pole presentation – every time the rod goes around it's a guaranteed fish on. No foul-hooked fish and you're introducing a perfect amount of bait to your peg each time to catch a fish.



Fish with little or no angle in your rod.



You need to get on this tactic right now.



Sink your line, but DO NOT move that feeder.

Dick Richard Clegg Obe Memoir's

40 years ago In 1984

I was elected by the NFA to take over the reigns as Manager of TEAM ENGLAND.

Since then England have become one of the best performing teams in many of FIPSe's Championships. For 35 of those years it was my responsibility to oversee all aspects of International competitions. My first year in charge was to take the team to Switzerland where we finished joint winners but lost out to Luxembourg on weight. It looked as though England's Gold medal luck hadn't changed but 12 months later we had a double celebration with the team winning Gold for the very first time and Dave Roper taking the individual title on the River Arno in Florence Italy.



By the turn of the century in 2000 England had amassed 6 Gold 4 Silver and 2 Bronze team medals but the icing on the cake was even more impressive with individuals winning 9 Gold 5 Silver and 2 Bronze. Dave Roper in 1985, Tom Pickering 1989, Bob Nudd 1990/1991/1994/1999 and of course Alan Scotthorne 1996/1997/1998.

In 2000 I decided to step down as team manager of the Nations side and I appointed Mark Downes and Mark Addy as joint managers of Team England. Did the winning streak stop well absolutely not with another shed full of medals being won by both team and individuals.

England are in a great position now and long may it continue with all aspects of FIPSe's championships being contested.

Angling
Times is
top for
news

CLEGG ELECTED ENGLAND CHIEF



● **TOMORROW**, the World ... Angling Times 1980 Champion of Champions Dick Clegg has already shown his mettle as one of England's top anglers. Here he sweeps his rod into a fish ... but now he's hoping for a clean sweep in the World Championship as England's Manager.

THE England squad's new manager, Dick Clegg, is setting his sights on the World Championship's No 1 slot. And he won't settle for another second place.

The Yorkshire tackle dealer, elected team manager last week by the National Federation of Anglers, says he'll gamble everything for the title.

"England has the best all-round anglers in the World ... but I'll not be looking for all-rounders," said the former Daiwa Barnsley Blacks skipper.

"I think that's where previous manager Stan Smith slipped up for several years. I'm looking for the right person to fish the venue ... and I've got to be prepared to take a gamble."

Dick says he'll be looking for anglers who have a superstar quality and won't flinch under pressure.

"Chances are, I will have fished alongside everyone I select at some time. Many will be personal friends. The relationship will have to change slightly but I hope I can maintain that friendship."

Dick extended the hand of friendship to the Press and to his rivals for the England manager's post.

"Dennis Salmon has already phoned and offered his help. I'm not sure that Stan Smith accepted all the offers of help but I feel that's something I've got to do," he said.

Dick says he's not going to commit himself to tactics or team choice until he has the full picture from the NFA.

"But there's one thing I'll guarantee — my absolute commitment to England," he declared.

● **DICK** Clegg's election to the England manager's post was announced early last week in a Press release, after a meeting of the NFA's selection committee.

The first public announcement was made at Daiwa's Sheffield Roadshow on Wednesday.

JOB RIVALS SAY DICK'S A FIRST CLASS CANDIDATE

DICK Clegg's a first-class choice for England squad manager ... say the men he beat for the job.

Essex County manager Dennis Salmon, one of the three rejected candidates, said: "I'm not in the least surprised that Dick got the job, since the chairman of the three-man committee is from the same area as Dick."

"Perhaps if the chairman had been from the South the pendulum would have swung in my favour."

"Nevertheless, if I couldn't get the job, then I'm pleased that Dick has it. I respect him both as an angler and a captain, and he knows he can call on me for any help he may need — either on the translation or administration side, or as a look-out for Southern anglers who he may not otherwise know very well."

And Dennis — who led his Essex County team to victory in the 1982 club championships in Italy — concluded: "I'm still proud of the fact that I'm the only man to have led an English team to victory in a World match."

Alan Baynes, secretary of Sheffield Amalgamated, said



● **DENNIS** Salmon — "If Dick wants my help, he only needs to ask."

that though he was disappointed with not getting the job he was not altogether surprised that it had gone to Dick. "He's a great angler, and he'll do a good job," he said.

The start of a new era for England — that's what Starlets manager Ken Aske predicts if new manager Dick Clegg lives up to expectations.

"I hope he can sort things out," said Ken who was one of the shortlisted candidates.



● **STEVE** Gardener: "Dick could put Southern matchmen in the World Championship scene."

"Personally I think a man on the sidelines who is not quite so involved would have been ideal."

"But I think Dick is capable of getting together a squad of 20 or so top-class men who will put us on top ... and keep us there."

Stan Smith achieved an awful lot. But when we look back we may realise that his results were not as good as we thought.

"It's now up to Dick to har-

ness all the talent and help that is there, just waiting to be used. If he manages to do that we'll beat the world — and keep on doing it. For we have the greatest anglers in the world."

And Steve Gardener, top money-winner in the South last year agreed. "It seems a good appointment so far as Southerners are concerned," he said. "We know Dick is an active practising angler, and we're confident he'll recognise our capabilities."

"We never saw Stan Smith when he was manager, and it seemed that anglers who fished in Ireland had a better chance of impressing him. We'll get a better deal with Dick, and I think it will revive the interest in the English team which has been lost over the past years."

● **STAN** Smith, former England manager, has resigned from the top European angling federation, FIPS. He was a senior vice-president.

In a letter to the president, Jos Kleinbauer, he thanked the federation for the kindness shown to him over the years, and wished them "continued success."

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Check out those match dates — see Page 21

Angling Times

THE WORLD'S NUMBER ONE No 1083 Wednesday, September 18, 1985 38p

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Centre-page colour feature on sweetcorn

CHAMPIONS

**England win
world crown**

... and then Dave Roper
triumphs in individual event



Exclusive colour picture of England team by Clive Nicholls. Story on Pages 2 and 3

Blast from the Past March 1988

MATCHMAIL

All starred matches are
Shakespeare 3,000 qualifiers

TWO PINTS OF THE BEST

McATEE STORMS HOME

★ THERE was a strong turn-out of 112 for the Hodnet Open on the Shropshire Union Canal at Goldstone, England international Alan McAtee (Ben's Den) fished a blinder from peg 74 at Palethorpes to take a superb net of bream weighing 11-10-0.

He caught fish to 2-8-0 using multiple bloodworm baits on the long pole.

Even with such a big weight, he did not have too much to spare over runner-up Rex Latham (Crew Pioneer). Rex was drawn on the hospital water and caught skimmers on bloodworm and caster for 9-2-8.

There was a drop then to more realistic weights, with Harry Holt (Leigh) recording 5-15-0 of quality roach on caster.

Others: B. Smith (Leigh) 5-9-0, H. Hilton (Leigh) 5-8-0.

That's all Kenny needed to smash tidal record

KENNY COLLINGS (Team Normark) shattered the Open match record for the tidal Thames at Richmond with 39-2-0 of dace that easily won the final round of the Silstar Southern Top 40.

Fishing from the steps of the

Three Pigeons pub, Ken set the pace with a 3BB stick float and caught fish averaging five to the pound by feeding no more than two pints of maggots when others were flinging out a gallon.

Steve O'Rourke (Basildon Angling Centre) did well to catch 22-7-0 of dace on stick-floated maggot from Petersham Meadows, and Wally Eisinger (Acton Angling Centre) was third with 14-14-0 of dace from Hempseed Corner.

Others: Pete Garner (KC Angling) 14-6-0, Terry Shaile (Cove) 12-12-0, Simon Duke (Molesey Thamesiders) 12-9-8.

Dave Hurry (Hounslow Angling Centre) and Richard Banbury (Basildon Angling Centre) went into the match level on league points and drew next to each other. The showdown went to Hurry by 9-10-0 to 8-14-8.

Final league table: Dave Hurry 79 points, Richard Banbury 78, Ken Collings 77, Steve O'Rourke 76 and Graham Blake (ABC) 72.

LUCKY FEEDER

★ FARNHAM'S Richard Cane tangled with overhanging branches at Badshot Lea Lake and while retackling he cast out a groundbait feeder to avoid disturbing his float swim.

Almost immediately his tip went round and he caught a good bream! Seven more bream followed on red maggot and worm baits to seal the Nobby Clarke Memorial Open with 29-0-9.

Eddie Rippon (Cove) was second with 26-1-8 of bream on the feeder and worm and pinkies from the pipes, and Clive Westwood (Farnham) followed at 13-7-0.

Others: Dave Farrow (Farnham) 11-11-0, Vaughan Doe (Guildford Angling) 10-1-0, Dave Allen (Skol Terrapins) 9-11-0.

NEWPORT

SPORT was patchy on the River Wye at Symonds Yat but Birmingham tackle dealer Austin Clisset turned in a good score of 29-8-0 to win. He was pegged in the first garden below the Ferry Inn and floatfished maggots to take a mixture of chub and quality roach to 1¾ lb.

Jim Palmer (Bute A) had drawn his peg behind the church twice before this winter and had blanked both times but it was third time lucky as double maggot fished with a 3 SSG balsa brought 25-7-0 of chub. Dave Pike (Bute) drew in front of the Saracen's Head and fished mid-river feeder for third with 17-9-0 of chub.

Others: Royston Bodman (Blackwood) 15-14-0. Norman Soper (Kidderminster) was overall winner of the series with a 43 points total.

DOUR DRAIN

★ THE King's Sedge-moor Drain was unproductive for the Bridgwater Open and there were more than 40 blanks out of a field of 62.

Jamie Stevens (Thatcher's Tackle) was top with a bream of 6-4-0, four skimmers and two roach totalling 9-10-0.

Barry Fithiu (Glaston Manor) followed with the help of a 5-10-0 tench and a few skimmer bream for 9-0-0. A single bream of 2-8-0 secured third spot for Butch Butler (Glaston Manor).

Others: R. Francis (Glaston Manor) 1-8-0; S. Kedge (Bridgwater) 1-6-0.

KIDLINGTON

★ BREAD - flake legered at the peg above the boathouse on the River Cherwell at Kidlington scooped a 19-7-8 chub winner for John Bonney (North Oxford), in the Kidlington Open.

Tony Williams (Kidlington) worked with the feeder and red maggot below the tunnel for 14-12-8 that included chub to 3 lb and bream to 5-4-8, and Ron Hillier (Kidlington) was third with 12-15-0 of chub, with caster and balsa from the Lasher Pool.

Others: Richard Brain (Kidlington) 12-6-0, Charlie Brant (Isis Dells) 10-12-4, Derek Peedell (Banbury) 9-7-0.

DERBY

★ THERE was less than 12 oz separating the top four in Saturday's high-scoring 153-peg Derby AA Open on the Trent and Mersey Canal at Shardlow.

Leon Green (Silstar Izaak Walton) landed two bonus perch which proved decisive in an exciting battle with the runner-up.

Leon fished a short pole and bloodworm to attract gudgeon, ruffe and the perch totalling 8-15-6.

Meanwhile, Barry Bates (Olympic Izaak Walton) rushed out 180 gudgeon on bloodworm and some caster roach for 8-12-12.

Others: D. Beairs (Scotts Tackle) 8-9-4, J. Brennan (Starlets) 8-3-7, D. Walkerdine (Derby AA) 7-10-10, G. Inger (Derby Clarion) 7-5-2.

GORING

★ LOCAL knowledge was the key to success for Dick Edmonds (Goring MG) who led the Goring Teams of Four Open on the Thames at Goring with 16-14-0 of chub taken with the swimfeeder and white maggot from peg 19.

A perch of over 2 lb was included in the 13-5-0 chub and perch net recorded by Dave Hurry (Hounslow Angling Centre) and T. Stone (Harefield Blue) was third at 11-8-0.

Others: Dave Agass (A4) 10-10-8, P. Evans (Goring MG) 7-6-0. Teams: Mocatra "B" 67 points, A4 Red 64, Goring MG 62.

POND HEAVYWEIGHTS

BONUS fish decided the outcome at Morgans Pond, Newport, and a 3 lb carp and 1½ lb tench earned victory for Neil Scott (Cardiff Nomads) in the Sylvia Cousins Mermaid Open.

Neil quivertipped single maggot on a 22 hook in the island bay to add a few small roach for a 5-1-0 total. Two tench taken on waggler and maggot from a peg at the

end of the point put Phil Weaver (Newport) into second spot with 3-5-0.

Tony James (Cardiff) cast to the same area from his peg on the club hut bank to take 2-15-0 and third.

Others: Ron Cousins (Gwent Avengers) 2-11-0; Tony Savage (Gwent Avengers) 2-0-0; Shaun Ballet (Newport) 1-13-0.

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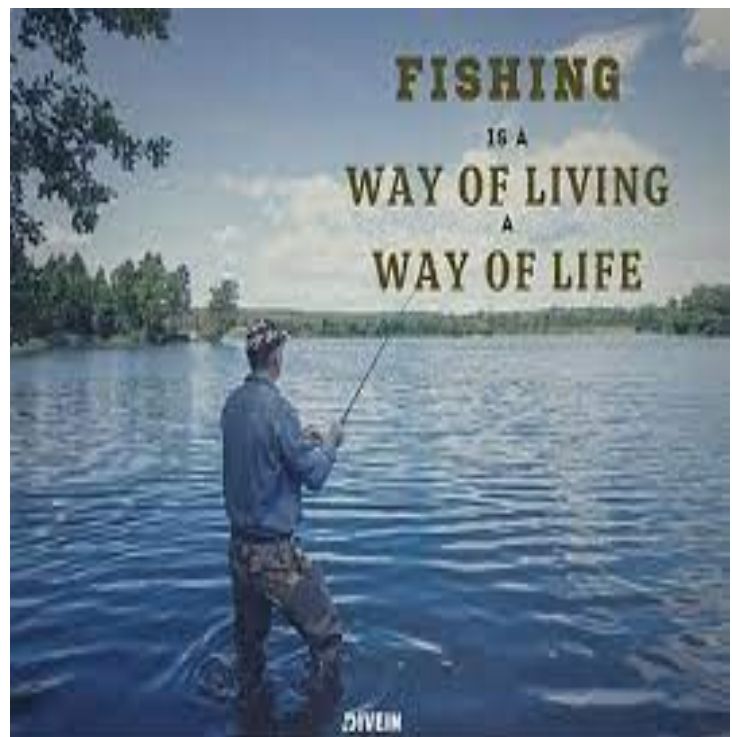
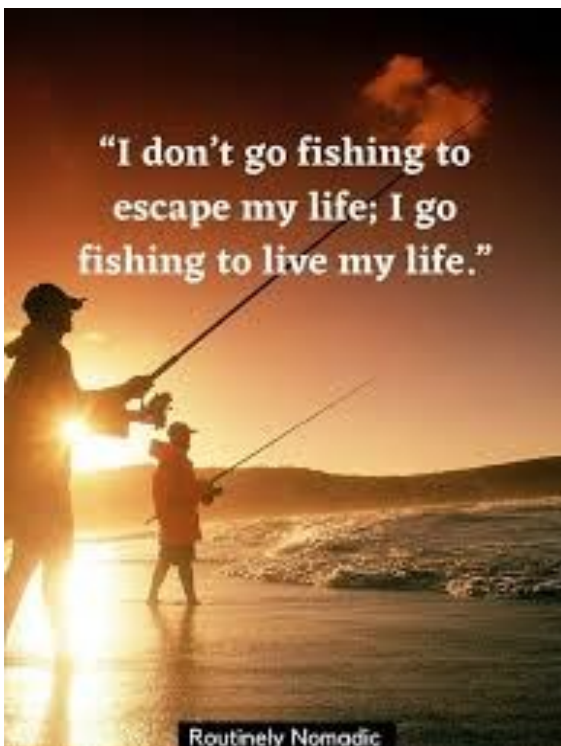


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SECRET LIVES of Fish



Dr Ian Welch
BSc (hons) Freshwater Biology, MSc Applied Hydrobiology, PhD Aquatic biology

Fish Series

Shoal mates

TRAVEL ROD WINNER

Q Do all fish swim in shoals?
David Washington, Tyne and Wear.

A Dr Ian Welch says...
From an angler's perspective, shoaling might appear to be a relatively straightforward subject: all anglers know that bream are shoal fish, pike are not, roach shoal, barbel don't, cats are loners, rudd are gregarious, and so on. Sadly, when it comes to the science behind shoaling, it is not quite as simple as that!

Firstly, there is a need to distinguish between shoaling and schooling – terms that tend to be used interchangeably by anglers, but which are, in fact, very different behaviours.

Shoaling

Shoaling is a relatively loose term for any group of fish that associate and interact with one another on a social level. Fish shoals may have individuals of different sizes, sometimes different species.

Schooling

Schooling is a more complex behaviour. A school comprises individual fish of the same species, usually of the same size, moving together in a controlled and coordinated fashion – 'synchronised swimming', as it were, with the school acting as if it were one individual. This behaviour is more common in the marine environment, with herrings a typical schooling species.

For our freshwater species,

shoaling behaviour is most common and, although less structured than schooling, it is still a complex social behaviour that has evolved to fulfil a number of different functions, most notably predator avoidance, foraging success and reproductive success.

Predator avoidance

'Safety in numbers' is a bit of a clichéd expression, but by creating a number of different moving targets, shoal fish seek to confuse a predator by sensory overload, making it difficult for the attacker to pick out an individual target.

There is an evolutionary organisation at play in many shoals, too, as older fish will often be tightly shoaled in the middle of the group.

with the younger, smaller fish at the periphery. This ensures that the larger, breeding fish are better protected, as any predator will usually pick off a target at the edge of the shoal.

Foraging

Scientific experiments have shown that cyprinids find food more efficiently when shoaled, and that behavioural changes allow for transfer of information between the shoal mates. To use another old saying, 'many hands make light work', so it is that many fish searching tend to find food more effectively.

Feeding success is increased by shoaling in some predator species, too. Most will have seen film footage of dolphins 'herding' prey species into a 'food ball', but in freshwater, both perch and zander maximise their prey capture by operating in 'packs', too.

Reproductive success

It is evident that being in a tight group with other members of your species makes



finding a spawning partner very energy efficient. There is no need to hunt or display to find a mate, as they are all around you.

As far as shoal structure is concerned, some species, and salmon are a key example, demonstrate a pronounced sibling recognition and tend to only shoal with the fish that they were hatched with. Many other species exhibit a similar trait and form their shoaling associations with their brothers and sisters, but over time, due to disease and predation etc., the number in a given year class shoal decreases. So it is that you find fewer, large shoals of big fish.

Mixed year class shoaling is not uncommon, though, and there are also many examples of mixed species shoaling, too. Chub, for example, will often shoal with roach. In mixed-size shoals, as previously mentioned, the larger fish will usually congregate in the centre, but many have a social 'pecking order', with the larger fish usually having priority over food.

Interestingly, angling pressure may change this behaviour, and I have seen many examples in heavily-pressured barbel swims of the bigger fish sitting well back

from a baited patch, allowing the smaller, younger fish to get their heads down first... Sound familiar?

Seasonal shoaling

Some shoaling behaviour is distinctly seasonal, and many cyprinid species exhibit distinct winter shoaling behaviour, usually in response to temperature, current, shelter or light requirements. These winter shoals may be very different from summer ones, and will vary between waters, depending upon the nature of the habitat.

When electrofishing for example, I have discovered almost the entire barbel population of a river section gathered together under a single feature. Similarly, big numbers of tench may often be found under a few distinct areas of decaying weed in the colder months.

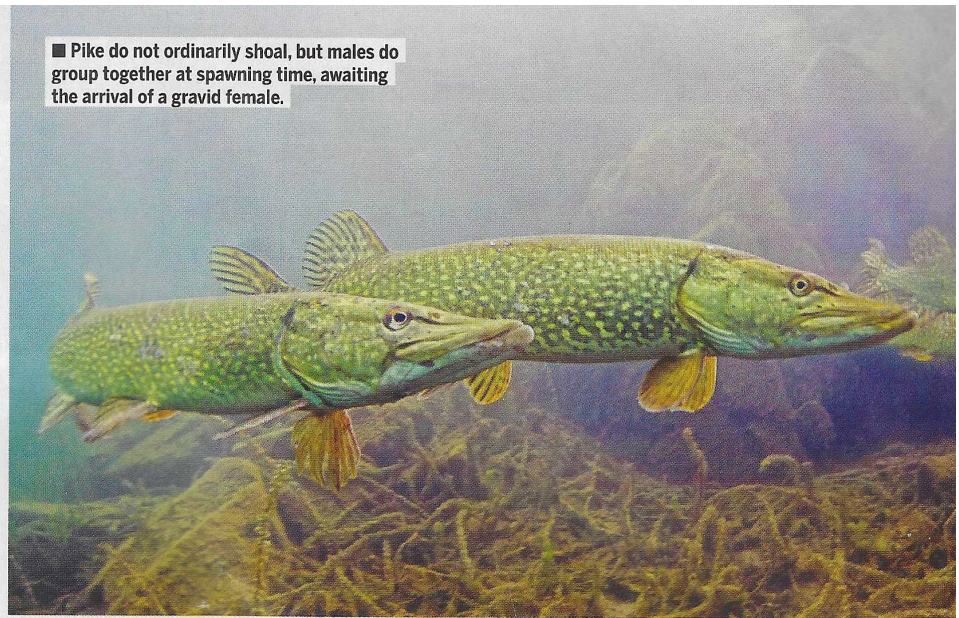
Seasonality will also cause shoaling of species that do not ordinarily shoal. The spring congregations of male pike is an obvious example, as they group together awaiting the arrival of a gravid female. Conversely, some species that usually form dense

shoals will become territorial at spawning time. Three and ten-spined sticklebacks usually form dense shoals, but the males become territorial nest builders at spawning time.

Summary

Most of our freshwater fish fauna will form a 'shoal' at some time in their life cycle, in response to varying seasons or environmental conditions. Other species will tend to shoal no matter what and, as always, angling success depends upon exploiting the science!

■ Pike do not ordinarily shoal, but males do group together at spawning time, awaiting the arrival of a gravid female.





Angling Trust England Ladies Coarse Fishing Team

a day ago · 🌐

🎣+🔥ASSESSMENT DAY🎣+🔥

Calling all ladies, we are having another ladies assessment day at Makins Fishery Sunday 17th March 2024 on Lake 4.

Pole only 13mtr limit.

Natural baits allowed ie maggots, caster, pinkies and worms.

No bloodworm or joker to keep costs down.

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D-brooks2011@hotmail.com

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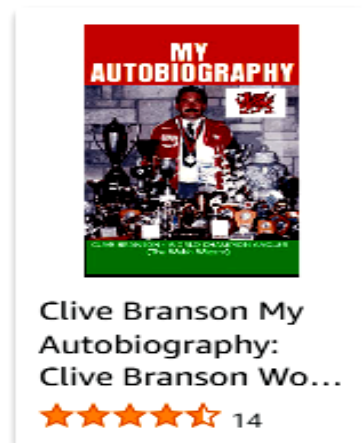
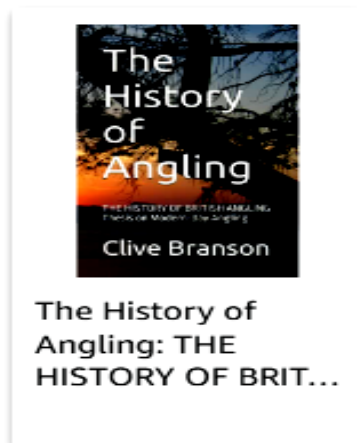
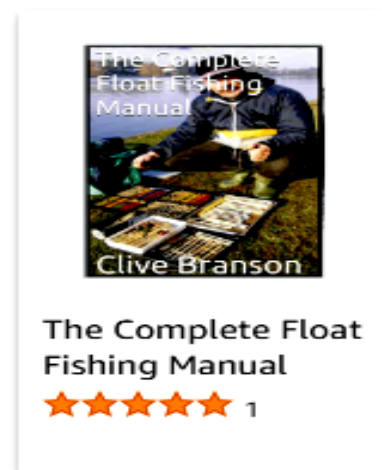
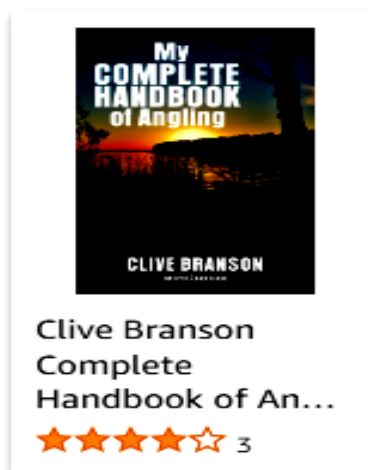
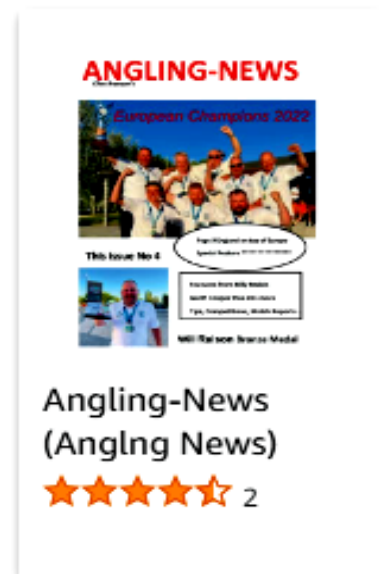
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📅 Saturday 24th, Sunday 25th & Monday 26th August 2024

!! FREE ENTRY !!

🇬🇧 UK's Largest Outdoor Fishing Event 🇬🇧

To book a table at our craft fayre please contact us via our Facebook page

📍 FISHING STALLS

📍 CRAFT STALLS

📍 BEER TENT

📍 FUNFAIR

📍 FOOD

📍 LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

📍 Day Parking on Crown Meadow - £5

📍 Plenty to do for all the family... 📍

Kidderminster AA Match Calendar

All method Saturday league

24th February

March 2nd

July 6th & 13th

This will be limited to 40 pegs, it will be £120 for the series. The match will be decided on points which will be from four sections. The prize list will be posted after the closing date which is Saturday 17th February. The prize list last year was a £1000,800,600,500,400,250 from a entry of 34 anglers.



The Bewdley 3 day festival dates have been changed this year to the 16/18/20th September, this will be invitation only.

The 2 day spring festival is on the 27/28th February and the autumn festival is the 15/16th October.

The dates for the Float League are as follows

19th June, 10th July, 14th & 28th August, 11th & 25th September, priority will be given to last year's anglers but there will be a reserve list. Closing date for payment is May 31st

The Clive Smith Memorial is on the 2nd October this will be float only, draw details nearer the time.

The PSF final will be on the 9th March a reserve date as being made, this will be June 29th details will be posted for draw etc.

And hopefully we can now have a few matches at Bewdley now levels have become a bit more fishable.

There will be a match at Bewdley on Wednesday with the draw at the Wribbenhall social club at 8.30

to book on please call or txt 07376100196.



□ IT COULD BE YOU! □

Will you be the angler to become the next Bait-Tech FEEDER MASTER? The big ticket sale is TOMORROW so be sure to get your devices ready to make sure you get those precious tickets □

TICKETS ON SALE TOMORROW at 10.00am!

Tickets for the Bait-Tech Feeder Masters 2024 will be on sale right here on our Facebook page.

Just be ready to log on, where a link will appear and you can click through to decide which of our 20 qualifiers suit you!

Have a look below to see what you fancy!

- 1: Sat 6th April - Decoy Lakes
 - 2: Sat 13th April - Barston Lake
 - 3: Sun 21st April - St Albans Lakes
 - 4: Sun 28th April - Ferry Meadows
 - 5: Sat 4th May - Decoy Lakes
 - 6: Sun 12th May - Southfield Reservoir
 - 7: Sat 18th May - Barston Lake
 - 8: Sun 19th May - JCB Lakes
 - 9: Sun 26th May - Ferry Meadows
 - 10: Sun 2nd June - Carr Mill Dam
 - 11: Sun 9th June - Upper Tamar
 - 12: Sun 16th June - Gloucester Canal
 - 13: Sun 30th June - River Yare
 - 14: Sun 7th July - Patshull Park
 - 15: Sun 14th July - River Trent
 - 16: Sun 21st July - Rudyard Lake
 - 17: Sun 28th July - Staunton Harold
 - 18: Sun 4th Aug - Upper Tamar
 - 19: Sun 11th Aug - Carr Mill Dam
 - 20: Sun 18th Aug - Southfield Reservoir
- The FINAL - Upper Tamar Lake on 28th/29th Sept**

Secretaries / Match Organizers

If you want your club or open matches to be included within our pages .
Please contact clive@angling-news.co.uk

HEREFORD AND DISTRICT ANGLING ASSOCIATION

Draft Calendar of Events 2024

DATE	EVENT	VENUE	DATE	EVENT	VENUE
JANUARY			SEPTEMBER		
Sun 7 th	Rearranged Winter League Match **	R.Wye,Belmont, both banks. T' Courts	Sun 1 st	Club Match*	Pencoyd Pool (Limited Entry)
Sun 14 th	Winter League Match (Teams of 6)**	R.Wye,Belmont, both banks. T' Courts	Mon 2 nd	Rules General Meeting	Kindle Centre (Asda) 7.30pm
Sun 28 th	Winter League Match (Teams of 6)**	R.Wye,Belmont, both banks. T' Courts	Sun 8 th	Club Match *** (M. Pritchard Mem.)	R.Wye, Bartonsham, Eign & Field Farm.
FEBRUARY			Sun 22 nd	Joe Burrows Charity Match**	River Wye - All Waters
Sun 4 th	Club Match*	River Wye, Belmont, both banks	OCTOBER		
Sun 11 th	R. Wye Feeder Championship**	River Wye - all waters	Sun 6 th	35 th Wye Team Championship**	River Wye - all waters
Wed 14 th	2 Day Festival**	R.Wye,Belmont, both banks. T' Courts	Sun 13 th	1 st Winter League (Teams of 6)**	River Wye,Belmont, both banks, Tennis Courts
Thur 15 th	2 Day Festival**	R.Wye,Belmont, both banks. T' Courts	Sun 20 th	Match Booking (Alan's Tackle)	River Wye, B'mont both banks, Pumphouse d'steam..
Sun 25 th	Winter League (Reserve date)	R.Wye,Belmont, both banks. T' Courts	Mon 21 st	General Meeting	Kindle Centre (Asda) 7.30pm
MARCH			Sat 26 th	River Wye - ALL CLUB WATERS CLOSED EXCEPT FOR PIKE MATCH.	
Sun 3 rd	Club Match*	River Wye, T' Courts, Bartonsham.		Pike Fishing Match*****	River Wye
Thur 14 th	LAST DAY OF COARSE SEASON ON RIVER WYE & LUGG		Sun 27 th	62 nd Wye Championship****	River Wye - ALL CLUB WATERS CLOSED
APRIL				Working Party ***** (Stewarding)	Draw from 7.00am. Venue: Hereford Rugby Club
Sun 7 th	Club Match*	Pencoyd Pool (Limited Entry)	NOVEMBER		
Mon 15 th	General Meeting	Kindle Centre (Asda) 7.30pm	Sun 3 rd	2 nd Winter League (Teams of 6)**	R.Wye,Belmont, both banks, Tennis Courts.
Sat 20 th	Club Match*	Pencoyd Pool (Limited Entry)	Tue 5 th	River Wye - BELMONT(both banks), TENNIS COURTS CLOSED	
MAY			Wed 6 th	18 th River Wye 3 day Festival**	River Wye,Belmont, both banks, Tennis Courts
Sat 4 th	Club Match*	Pencoyd Pool (Limited Entry)	Thur 7 th	18 th River Wye 3 day Festival**	River Wye,Belmont, both banks, Tennis Courts
Sun 19 th	Club Match*	Pencoyd Pool (Limited Entry)	Fri 8 th	18 th River Wye 3 day Festival**	River Wye,Belmont, both banks, Tennis Courts
JUNE			Wed 13 th	2 nd Running Line Championship	River Wye,Belmont, both banks, Tennis Courts
Sat 1 st	Club Match*	Pencoyd Pool (Limited Entry)	Sat 16 th	Pairs Match**	River Wye,Belmont, both banks, Tennis Courts
Sun 9 th	Club Match*	Pencoyd Pool (Limited Entry)	Sun 17 th	Pairs Match**	River Wye,Belmont, both banks, Tennis Courts
Sun 16 th	START OF COARSE SEASON ON RIVER WYE & LUGG		DECEMBER		
Mon 17 th	Annual General Meeting	Kindle Centre (Asda) 7.30pm	Sun 1 st	3 rd Winter League (Teams of 6)**	River Wye,Belmont, both banks, Tennis Courts
JULY			Sun 8 th	Club "Fur & Feather" *	River Wye, Belmont, both banks.
Sat 6 th	Club Match*	Pencoyd Pool (Limited Entry)	Sun 15 th	4 th Winter League (Teams of 6)**	River Wye,Belmont, both banks, Tennis Courts
Sun 21 st	Club Match*	Pencoyd Pool (Limited Entry)	Sat 21 st	Club Christmas Match*****	Pencoyd Pool (Limited Entry)
AUGUST			* Phone Pete Pembridge on 01432 270706 to book. ** Phone Dave Roberts on 07812 081479 to book. *** Phone Lee Pritchard on 07311 155336 for details **** Phone John Pembridge on 07413 472763 for details. *****Phone Lee Harper-Smith on 07943 015836 for details. *****Phone Chris James on 07737 684963 for details.		
Sat 3 rd	Club Match*	Pencoyd Pool (Limited Entry)			
Mon 5 th	Last day for rule amendments				
Sun 18 th	Club Match*	Pencoyd Pool (Limited Entry)			
Sat 24 th	Working Party***	River Wye			
Sun 25 th	Working Party***	River Wye			
Mon 26 th	Working Party***	River Wye			

Members are reminded that fishing is not allowed on any sections booked for a match from 12.00 midnight prior to the match until after the anglers have weighed in and their peg vacated.

Any changes to Matches or Work Party dates will appear in Woody's Tackle Shop. A list of all matches, Work Party dates & tasks, and Waters booked will appear at www.hdaa.org.uk
Further Working Parties will be organised as necessary. Anyone wishing to participate should contact Lee Pritchard.

Division One National Championship

Leeds Liverpool Canal, Wigan

Saturday 17th August 2024

The Division One National is a team event, consisting of teams of 10 anglers taking part with up to 10 reserves. Teams for the Division One National Championship are already selected each year via invitation due to promotion status.

To take part in the Division One National Championships clubs/organisations must have affiliated membership of the Angling Trust and all individuals within the teams named on the entry forms must be individual members of the Angling Trust.

HQ: TBC

Closure of waters for practice: TBC

Draw: 8am

Fishing: 11:00am – 4:00pm

Licences: All competitors must be in possession of a current Environment Agency Rod Licence. Any competitor reported by the Environment Agency to the resulting team on the day of the match will be disqualified.

Keepnet: Minimum length of 2 metres

Bait bans: No bloodworm & joker. Other local rules tbc at a later date.

Refreshments: TBC

Eligible fish: All fish caught are eligible for weighing with the exception of Game fish, Pike, Zander & Crustaceans.

Procedures: All weighing in, and recording will be carried out by Section Stewards and Senior Stewards.



Cadet, Junior & Youth National Championships

Partridge Lakes

Saturday 29th June 2024 – Cadet & Junior categories

Sunday 30th June 2024 – Youth category

The Championship is open to any club/association affiliated to the Angling Trust and all registered anglers must be individual members of the Angling Trust.

This National Championship consists of teams of 6 anglers in three different categories: Cadet, Junior and Youth.

Cadets: Open to anglers minimum age of 10 to 12 on the day of the championship.

Juniors: Open to anglers minimum age of 13 to 15 on the day of the championship.

Youth: Open to anglers minimum age of 16 to 20 years on the day of the championship.

Fishing Times: TBC

Draws: TBC

Closure of waters for practice: tbc. Please check with the Fishery for their open matches as this could be subject to change.

EA Rod Licence: Competitors aged 12 years and under do not need a rod licence. Competitors aged 13 and above must be in possession of a valid Environment Agency Rod Licence. Anglers aged 12 and do not require a licence and a licence for children aged 13-16 is free. Failure to possess a rod licence will result in disqualification from the event.

Lakes to be used: TBC

Rules/bait bans: See Fishery & Angling Trust rules.

Refreshments: Available onsite

Procedures: Before going to the Draw all team captains/managers must report to the Team Registration Desk where they will record their team's attendance and any changes to the previously nominated team.

If you would like to be added to the list of interested parties wishing to compete next year please email kelly.lalimer@anglingtrust.net

This form is not yet available.

Women's National Championship

Monk Hall Fishery

Saturday 6th July 2024

Tickets for will go on sale in early 2024 on the Angling Trust Competitions website.

The Ladies National Championship is open to individual members of the Angling Trust over the age of 16 on the day of the event. You can join here www.anglingtrust.net/membership

The competition has both an individual and a team category. The event will be scored by overall weight and the winner of the individual event will become the Ladies Individual National Champion 2023. To compete in the team event participants must also be competing as an individual.

HQ: Boddings Pools

Lakes reserved: TBC

Draw: TBC

Fishing: 11:00am – 4:00pm (duration 5 hours).

Closure of waters for practice: TBC – please check with the Fishery directly as this could be subject to change depending on their open matches.

EA Rod Licence: Competitors must be in possession of a valid Environment Agency Rod Licence. Failure to possess a Rod Licence will result in disqualification from the event.

Keepnet: Minimum length of 2 metres (also see fishery rules regarding the number of nets and weight in each net).

Rules / Bait bans: Check Fishery & Angling Trust rules.

Refreshments: Available onsite

CHECK OUT OUR HIGHLIGHTS VIDEO FROM THE 2023 EVENT...

Individual National Championship

Leeds Liverpool Canal

Saturday 3rd August 2024

The Individual National Championship is for all individual members of the Angling Trust over the age of 16 on the day of event.

This is an individual event scored by overall weight, the winner will become the Individual National Champion.

Headquarters and Results:

HQ Address for draw: TBC

Draw: 8:00am on the morning

Fishing: 11:00am – 4:00pm (duration of 5 hours)

Sections: TBC

Closure of waters for practice: TBC

Keepnets: A minimum of 2 keepnets must be taken by every angler.

Licences: All competitors must be in possession of a current Environment Agency Rod Licence. Any competitor reported by the Environment Agency to the resulting team on the day of the match will be disqualified.

Rules / Bait bans: TBC

Eligible fish: All fish caught are eligible for weighing with the exception of Game fish, Pike, Zander & Crustaceans.



Division Two National Championship

Aire & Calder and New Junction Canal

Saturday 7th September 2024

The Division Two National is a team event, consisting of teams of 10 anglers taking part with up to 10 reserves.

To take part in the Division Two National Championships clubs/organisations must have affiliated membership of the Angling Trust and all individuals within the teams named on the entry forms must be individual members of the Angling Trust.

HQ: TBC

Closure of waters for practice: TBC

Draw: 8:00am

Fishing: 11:00am – 4:00pm

Licences: All competitors must be in possession of a current Environment Agency Rod Licence. Any competitor reported by the Environment Agency to the resulting team on the day of the match will be disqualified.

Keepnet: Minimum length of 2 metres

Bait bans: No bloodworm & joker. No sticklebacks to be weighed in.

Refreshments: TBC

Eligible fish: All fish caught are eligible for weighing with the exception of Game fish, Pike, Zander, Crustaceans or sticklebacks.

Procedures: All weighing in, and recording will be carried out by Section Stewards and Senior Stewards.



CHECK OUT OUR HIGHLIGHTS VIDEO FROM THE 2023 EVENT

Team Commercial Stillwater National

Drennan Lindholme Lakes

Saturday 20th April 2024

Sponsored by [Drennan Lindholme Lakes](#) in £2,500 prize money to winning team.

The Team Commercial Stillwater National Championship is a team event, consisting of teams of 10 anglers with up to 10 reserves.

To compete in the Team Commercial Stillwater National Championship clubs/organisations must have affiliated membership of the Angling Trust and all individuals listed on the entry form must be individual members of the Angling Trust.

Venue: [Drennan Lindholme Lakes Fishery](#), Don Farm, West Carr, Epworth, Doncaster, DN9 1LF.

Draw: 8:00am

Fishing: 11:00am – 4:00pm (Duration 5 hours)

Closure of waters for practice: to be confirmed (anglers must check with Fishery directly as it depends on the matches they are hosting).

Licences: All competitors must be in possession of a current Environment Agency Rod Licence. Any competitor reported by the Environment Agency to the resulting team on the day of the match will be disqualified.

Keepnet: Minimum length of 2 metres

Refreshments: Available on site



Angling Trust Feeder National Championship

Aire & Calder and New Junction Canal

Saturday 24th August 2024

The Feeder National is the official qualifier for the FIPSeD World Club Feeder Championships in 2025*. It is a team event of five anglers with up to five reserves. Each angler is required to be an individual member of the Angling Trust over the age of 16 on the day of the event, unless a Junior Angler Exemption certificate has been applied for and awarded. Teams are required to have club/association membership of the Angling Trust.

Headquarters: TBC

Sections: TBC

Closure of waters for practice: TBC

Draw: 8:00am

Fishing: 11:00am – 4:00pm (duration 5 hours)

Bait bans: No bloodworm & joker.

Eligible fish: All fish caught are eligible for weighing with the exception of Game fish, Pike, Zander & Crustaceans.

EA Rod Licence: Competitors must be in possession of a valid Environment Agency Rod Licence. Failure to possess a rod licence will result in disqualification from the event.

Keepnet: Minimum length of 2 metres

Rules: The Feeder National is fished to FIPSeD Feeder International rules (please see match booklet)



Veterans & Masters National Championship

Tunnel Barn Farm

Wednesday 31st July 2024

The Veterans & Masters National Championship is open to anglers who have individual membership of the Angling Trust. To compete in the Veterans category anglers must be 66 years old or above on the day of the Championship and those wishing to enter the Masters category must be aged 55-65 years on the day of the Championship.

Headquarters: TBC

Lakes reserved are: Veterans – TBC

Draw: 08:00am

Fishing: 11:00am – 4:00pm (duration of 5 hours)

Closure of waters for practice: TBC. Important notice: Anglers must check with Fishery directly as depends on the matches they are hosting.

Rod Licence: Competitors must be in possession of a valid Environment Agency Rod Licence. Failure to possess a rod licence will result in disqualification from the event.

Rules / Bait bans: Fishery & Angling Trust rules apply.

Refreshments: TBC



Anglers with Disabilities National Championship

Boldings Pools Fishery

Saturday 6th July 2024

The National Championship for Anglers with Disabilities is open to all individual members of the Angling Trust 16 and over on the day of the Championship.

The competition is fished individually and the event will be scored by overall weight and the winner of the event will become the Anglers of Disabilities National Champion 2023.

Headquarters: TBC

Lakes reserved: TBC

Draw: 8:30am

Fishing: 11:00am – 4:00pm (duration 5 hours)

Closure of waters for practice: TBC -please check with the Fishery directly as this could be subject to change depending on their open matches.

EA Rod Licence: Competitors must be in possession of a valid Environment Agency Rod Licence. Failure to possess a rod licence will result in disqualification from the event.

Keepnet: Minimum length of 2 metres (also see fishery rules regarding the number of nets and weight in each net).

Rules / Bait bans: Check Fishery & Angling Trust rules.

Refreshments: Available onsite



Riverfest 2024

The UK's biggest and best river fishing competition gets underway for the 12th time on Sunday, 16th June on the Warwickshire Avon at Evesham.

There are 27 qualifying matches and, subject to ticket sales, this year's final will see the winner walk away with a whopping £14,000 from a prize pot in excess of £50,000!

RiverFest creator Dave Harrell has worked closely with the country's best match organisers and has booked the most popular summer venues for the qualifiers.

"Since I started this competition in 2013, I have always tried to develop and improve it every season," said Dave.

"This year we have two brand new venues on the list with the Bristol Avon and the Dorset Stour as well as all the regular favourites. It's going to be a great competition again, I'm sure!"

The 84-peg final will take place on the River Trent at Stoke Bardolph and Burton Joyce over the weekend of 21st and 22nd September.

Qualifying match tickets will go on sale on March 19th and April 2nd and the cost has been held at £35. Match day pools will be payable on the day of the qualifiers.

SUN 16/6 - WARWICKSHIRE AVON, EVESHAM (60)
WED 19/6 - RIVER TRENT, NEWARK (80)
SAT 22/6 - RIVER CALDER, MIRFIELD (60)
SUN 23/6 - RIVER NENE, OUNDLE (60)
WED 26/6 - RIVER SEVERN, BEWDLEY (60)
SAT 29/6 - RIVER TRENT, CAYTHORPE (60)
SUN 30/6 - RIVER MEDWAY, BARMING (40)
WED 3/7 - RIVER TRENT, CUTTLE BROOK, INGLEBY (60)
SUN 7/7 - WARWICKSHIRE AVON, STRATFORD (60)
SAT 13/7 - RIVER SEVERN, BRIDGNORTH (60)
SUN 14/7 - RIVER SOAR, SUTTON (60)
WED 17/7 - RIVER TRENT, COLLINGHAM (60)
SAT 20/7 - RIVER TRENT, BURTON JOYCE (80)
SUN 21/7 - DORSET STOUR, STURMINSTER NEWTON (60)
WED 24/7 - RIVER TRENT, NEWARK (80)
SAT 27/7 - RIVER DON, SPOTBOROUGH (60)
SUN 28/7 - WARWICKSHIRE AVON, STRATFORD (60)
SAT 3/8 - RIVER THAMES, CLANFIELD (60)
SUN 11/8 - RIVER TRENT, COLLINGHAM (60)
SAT 17/8 - RIVER TRENT, BURTON JOYCE (80)
SUN 18/8 - RIVER TRENT, TRENT LOCK (60)
WED 21/8 - TIDAL TRENT (80)
FRI 23/8 - TIDAL TRENT (60)
WED 28/8 - RIVER TRENT, BURTON-ON-TRENT (60)
SAT 31/8 - RIVER THAMES, READING (60)
SAT 7/9 - BRISTOL AVON, SWINFORD, CRANE (40)
SUN 8/9 - RIVER THAMES, ABINGDON AREA (60)



All the dates for Fish Midlands 2024 - Tickets available at www.fishmidlands.co.uk



Qualifier 1 - Marston Fields - 3rd April

Qualifier 2 - Tunnel Barn - SOLD OUT

Qualifier 3 - Marston Fields - 14th April

Qualifier 4 - Larford Lakes - 27th April

Qualifier 5 - Weston Pools - 2nd May

Qualifier 6 - Monkhall Fishery - 16th May

Qualifier 7 - Cob House Fishery - SOLD OUT

Qualifier 8 - Boldings Pools - 23rd June

Qualifier 9 - Marston Fields - 14th July

Qualifier 10 - Larford Lakes - 27th July

Qualifier 11 - Boldings Pools - 8th August

Qualifier 12 - Makins Fishery - 18th August

Qualifier 13 - Old Hough - 22nd August

Qualifier 14 - Marston Fields - 25th August

SPONSORED BY



Angling match results for week ending 21 January 2024

Canals

Dave's of Middlewich Individual League, Round 2, Trent & Mersey Canal, Rode Heath, Ches. Sun (56 fished). Mike Dench (Newton Tackle & Bait) 16-0-0 (caster-roach); Damian Parry (Sensas Lifestyle MG) 10-14-0 (caster-roach); John Brockway (Maver Central MVDE) 10-0-0 (roach on pole-fished maggot, caster and bread); Brian Meadows (Hindley) 9-0-0 (roach on poled bread); Neil Latham (Dave's of Middlewich) 6-12-8 (mainly gudgeon plus 1lb of small perch on 2.5 metre whip with pinkies); Steve Brookes (Northwich AA) 5-6-0 (roach on poled caster and bread). (league placings after round three).



HanKat Superteam AS Open, Dudley No. 1 Canal, Waterfront Section, Brierley Hill, W. Mids. & Dudley No. 2 Canal, Back of the Houses Section, Netherton, W. Mids. Sat (16 fished). Tony Bowen (HanKat Superteam AS) 6-13-0; Lee Woodhouse (HanKat Superteam AS) 4-3-13; Mal Galliers (Sportsman AA) 3-6-0; Andy Swift (Team Central) 2-12-5; Jenny Walters (Maver Central MVDE) 2-11-4; Dick Tranter (WMP Maver/Spotted Fin) 2-5-13.

HanKat Superteam AS Winter Pairs League, Round 2, Stourbridge Canal, Brettell Lane to the Tackle Shop Section, Brierley Hill, W. Mids. Sun (26 fished). John Cartwright (HanKat Superteam AS) 6-4-8; Paul Norledge (Likely Lads) 6-1-5; Mark Hardman (Sensas Black Country) 5-10-15; Dave Anderson (Sportsman AA) 4-13-15; Dean Webb (Sensas Black Country) 4-12-9; Stuart Cutler (HanKat Superteam AS) 4-6-9. Pairs: Tim Poole (HanKat Superteam AS) & Mark Hardman (Sensas Black Country) 5; Shane Bassett (Sensas Black Country) & John Cartwright (HanKat Superteam AS) 7. (only top two pairs supplied). League: Dean Webb (Sensas Black Country) & Owen Westwood (Wolverhampton AA) 13; Tim Poole (HanKat Superteam AS) & Mark Hardman (Sensas Black Country) 19; Pete Hatton (ZLT) & Dave Anderson (Sportsman AA) 20.

Hodnet AC, Shropshire Union Canal, Short Length, Market Drayton, Shrops. Sun 14th Jan. Bob Parrish 3-7-8; Terry Nutt 3-5-8; Nick Cooper 2-15-14; Tony Morris 2-14-10.

Tring Anglers Sweepstake, Grand Union Canal (Aylesbury Arm), Red House Section, Aston Clinton, Aylesbury, Bucks. Sun 14th Jan. Andy Allday 2-13-8 (120 fish); Dave Harris 1-13-8; Martin Rodwell 1-9-8.

Tring Old Codgers, Grand Union Canal, Ford End, Bucks. Tues. Andy Allday 6-5-0; Pete Leech 3-12-0; Dave Harris 2-8-0; Paul Hedges 2-6-0.

Wigan DAA Flyers, Leeds & Liverpool Canal, Trencherfield Mill Section, Wigan Town Centre, Gtr. Manchester. Wed (12 fished). Roger Gardom (Colmic Dynamite Trentmen) 13-7-12; Paul White (Bury) 7-3-12; John Edwards (Leigh) 6-4-0; S. Gale 5-5-8; S. Wilson 5-5-4; D. Coulburn 3-13-4.

Wigan DAA Open, Leeds & Liverpool Canal, Cowling, Chorley, Lancs. Sun. Fred Lakin (Hindley) 0-14-4; Richard Yates (Matrix LTB) 0-10-4; Tony Semark (Prince Albert AS) 0-9-4.

Rivers

Bridgnorth AS Teams of Three Winter League, Round

1, River Severn, Linley Bank Stretch, Bridgnorth, Shrops.

Sun (33 fished). Justin Checketts (Middle Severn Angling) 18-3-0 (one good barbel plus a few chub; one of which weighed 5lb 15oz on caster hook baits); Wayne Rolston (Milo Red) 13-0-0 (four chub, mostly to the bread feeder); John Gill (Foster's Arms) 12-11-0 (two barbel on the maggot feeder); Mark Traves (Milo Black) 10-3-0 (one chub and a decent bream). Teams: Middle Severn

Angling 30; Milo Red 29; Foster's Arms 28; Bridgnorth AS 25; Kidderminster DAA 21; A.B.C. 18.



Kidderminster & District AA Open, River Severn, Bewdley, Worcs. Sat. Joe Holloway

13-1-0; Kevin Jones 12-0-0; Andy Price 11-4-0; Brian Jones

Northwich AA Mini League, Round 2, River Weaver, Newbridge, Boats & Willowbeds Stretches, Northwich, Ches. Sat (36 fished). Mark Cooper (The Good, The Bad & The Ugly) 40-12-0 (ten bream); Kaythan Shillito (Vale Royal Juniors) 13-10-0 (skimmers); Kev Simpson (Vale Royal Reds) 10-4-0 (skimmers). Teams: Vale Royal Reds 12; The Good, The Bad & The Ugly 15; A.S.K. 19. League: A.S.K. 24; B.M.R. 32; Vale Royal Juniors 33.

Rotherham UAF Winter League, Round 4, River Don, Sprotbrough & Cadeby, Doncaster, S. Yorks. Sun. Andy Starkey (Mill Tackle) 15-9-0; Mick Peverley (Tippers) 8-13-0; Paul Goulding (Daiwa Dons) 5-10-0; John Deakin (Daiwa Dons) 3-4-0. Teams: Ossett 15; Mill Tackle 19. (only two teams supplied).

Spilsby AA, River Steeping, Wainfleet, Lincs. Sun 14th Jan. Dave Ashmore 7-8-0; Jason Smith 6-6-0; Neil Williams 5-10-0. Wed. Dave Dean 4-1-8; Neil Williams 3-12-8; Dave Ashmore 3-10-0.

Taunton AA, River Tone, Fast Stretch, Firepool to the main road at Bathpool, Taunton Deane, Somerset. Wed (23 fished). A. Gappy 25-7-0 (chub to 3lb); James Hall 15-7-0 (chub); Mark Hollister 14-12-0 (chub). Section winners: Jon Martin 7-13-0; Simon Garbutt 13-8-0.

Stillwaters

Long Eaton Fed., Brewery Ponds, Shardlow, Derbys. Wed. Pete Allwood (Long Eaton Fed.) 2-2-8 (roach on poled pinkie); Rob Pembridge (Soldiers & Sailors) 1-8-8; Jim Marcer (Belper) 1-5-8; Steve Till (Long Eaton Fed.) 0-15-0; Alan Wright (Long Eaton Fed.) 0-5-0; Derek Hicklin (Maver Central MVDE) 0-4-8.

Commercials

Alders Farm Fishery Tuesday Affordable, Great Brickhill, Bucks. Tues., Pines Lake. Richard Brain 20-0-0; (Joint 2nd) Glenn Coburn 15-0-0; Peter Goode 15-0-0.



Bitterwell Lake Silvers Open/Qualifier, Coalpit Heath, Bristol. Tues. Des Shipp 11-5-0; Paul Elmes 10-1-0; Ricky Mills 8-12-0; Paul Isaacs 7-3-0; Les Harper 6-12-0; (Joint 6th) Mat Taynton 6-3-0; Gary Etheridge 6-3-0. Qualifier for the Silvers Final: Des Shipp.

Blundell Fishery, Rixton, Ches. Sat., Open, Pine & Trio Lakes. Mick Read 84-1-0 (carp to 8lb on poled corn at 16 metres); Andy Dawson (Stalybridge Angling Supplies) 14-3-0 (skimmers to 10oz on poled maggot over groundbait); Matt Ollson 11-10-0.

Dennetts Fishery, Daventry, Northants. Sat., Open, Dennetts Farm Lake. (Joint 1st) Olly Bartlett (junior angler) 0-4-0 (two carp); David Pontin 0-4-0 (two carp); Ian Davies 0-4-0 (two carp); Ian Wills 0-2-0 (one carp).

Lingmere Fishery Open, Moreton, The Wirral, Merseyside. Sat. J. Traynor 60-12-0; J. Hughes 57-12-0; F. Moore 48-8-0.

Monkhall Fishery, Monkhopton, nr. Bridgnorth, Shrops. Sat 13th Jan., Open, Buzzard Pool. Andy Russ (Monkhall) 19-6-0; Andy Bishop (Monkhall) 15-4-0; Jason Astle (Monkhall) 9-8-0. Sun 14th Jan., Open, Lark Pool. Paul Gregory (Monkhall) 56-8-0; Shay Wolohan (Fish It Bait) 53-2-0; Rob Jeaps (Monkhall) 49-0-0.

Packington Somers Fisheries, Meriden, W. Mids. Wed., Solihull Angling Centre Open, Rover. Shaun Little 45-0-0 (carp and F1s on poled pellet); Stephen Bellion 29-1-0 (F1s on poled pellet); Nick Jukes 27-12-0 (carp and F1s on poled maggot); Keith Deaner 5-9-0 (silvers on poled maggots). Sat., Silvers Open, Big Geary's Pool (8 fished). Kevin Folwell 5-6-0 (two bream and two skimmers); L.J. Stroud 4-2-0; Gary Kirkham 3-6-0; Ian Shirley 2-1-0. Sun., Open, Willow & Big Geary's Pools (18 fished). Lee Davis 33-0-0 (F1s on poled pellet); Steven Pearce 18-6-0 (F1s on poled pellet); James Geddes 13-14-0 (F1s on poled maggot); Steve Brindley 8-11-0 (F1s on maggot feeder).

Partridge Lakes Fishery, Warrington, Ches. Sat., Open, Covey Lakes 1 & 2 (21 fished). Mike Senior 45-15-0; Ian Hall 41-0-0; Ian Latham 33-0-0; Liam Killinger 32-12-0; Colin Mulholland 31-15-0; Roger Priestly 26-13-0.

Stoppo's Fishery Silvers Open, Coton-in-the-Elms, Derbys. Wed (8 fished). Dave Gough 7-11-0 (skimmers on the feeder with chopped worm at 35 metres into the deeper water); Andy Wilton 7-6-0 (small roach on the long pole with pinkie over groundbait into 15ft. of water); Tony Taylor 6-3-0 (chunky roach on poled pinkie and maggot over groundbait at 13 metres); John Harper 5-10-0 (roach on poled pinkie).

The Cunneries Fishery, Ecclestone, Chorley, Lancs. Sat., Open, Kestrel Lake. Jordan Bate 15-7-0; Lee Murphy 14-4-0; Lee Marsh 13-8-0.

The Oaks Lakes Open, Sessay, N. Yorks. Sat., Maple Lake. Tom Maxwell 12-12-0; Neil Marley 9-13-0; Barry Patan 8-9-0.

The Oaks Lakes Silver Fish Open, Sessay, N. Yorks. Sat., Firs, Willows & Alders Lakes. Chris Hall 8-4-0 (quality roach); Steve Spears 6-15-0; Rich Moore 5-8-0.

The Oaks Lakes Open, Sessay, N. Yorks. Sat., Maple Lake. Tom Maxwell 12-12-0; Neil Marley 9-13-0; Barry Patan 8-9-0.

The Oaks Lakes Silver Fish Open, Sessay, N. Yorks. Sat., Firs, Willows & Alders Lakes. Chris Hall 8-4-0 (quality roach); Steve Spears 6-15-0; Rich Moore 5-8-0.

The Old Hough Coarse Fishery, Middlewich, Ches. Sat., Open, Lower & Upper Benbo Pools. Martyn Steele 40-1-0; Dave Pimlott 38-11-0; Simon Symcox 38-5-0; Nigel Boulton 27-15-0; Andy Brooke 21-1-0.

Viaduct Fishery Winter Classic Qualifier, Somerton, Somerset. Sat. Sam Williams 33-12-0; Vince Brown 24-7-0; Alvin Jones 22-2-0; (Joint 4th) Adam Palmer 20-5-0; Scott Puddy 20-5-0. Qualifiers: Sam Williams & Vince Brown.

Wayne Sharman's Feeder/Bomb/PVA League, Round 1, Meadowlands Fishery, Ryton-on-Dunsmore, Warks. Sun 14th Jan., Lambsdown Lake & Warren Pool (50 fished). Stu Palser 188-8-0; Zak Williams 168-10-0; Geoff McCauley 63-0-0; A. Jacko 58-0-0.

Weston Pools, Oswestry, Shrops. Sat., Open, Claypit Pool. Allan Hughes 43-2-0; Giles Cochrane 35-5-0; Dave Evans 29-8-0. Sat., Open, Stretton Pool. Steve Parry 32-7-0; Richie O'Connor 19-14-0; Martin Wedley 10-13-0. Sat., Open, Belvedere Pool. Kristian Jones 27-5-0; Stewart Purcell (only top two supplied). Sat., Open, Canal Pool. Kelvin Hughes 1-13-0; Tony Woollaston 0-10-0; Barry Baxter 0-6-0.



Week ending 4 February 2024 Canals

Dave's of Middlewich Individual League, Round 3, Trent & Mersey Canal, Wheelock, Sandbach, Ches. Sun (61 fished). Paul Beeston (Dave's of Middlewich) 10-12-2 (caster-roach to 6oz); Ant Lloyd (Liverpool AS) 10-6-12 (caster-roach to 8oz); Simon Walton (Sensas NW) 9-13-10 (roach to 6oz on poled maggot over hempseed); George Cooke (Team Les 'O') 9-0-0 (caster-roach to 8oz); Tony 'Big Dog' Swindells (Wybunbury Anglers) 8-4-5 ((roach to 10oz on poled bronze maggot); Steve Fogel (Drennan NW) 5-14-0 (300 small roach and gudgeon on the whip with bread). League; Brian Meadows (Hindley MG) 3 (on weight); Steve Fogel (Drennan NW) 3; Chris Harvey (Drennan NW) 4; Stephen Butler (Dave's of Middlewich) 5.



Goodyear AC, Staffordshire & Worcestershire Canal, Shawhall Lane Boats Section, Coven, Staffs. Sun (13 fished). Steve Thomson (Goodyear AC) 4-2-8 (mainly roach on poled bread punch); Kevin Perry (Goodyear AC) 3-0-2 (mainly roach on poled bread punch); Steve Cope (Goodyear AC) 2-11-8 (mainly roach on poled bread punch); Johnny Benness (Goodyear AC) 2-9-10 (a 1lb 8oz skimmer plus roach on poled bread punch); Tommy Cross (Goodyear AC) 2-0-14 (mainly one 2lb bream); Martin Spruce (Goodyear AC) 2-0-6 (mainly roach on poled bread punch).

GT Bathroom Series, Match 3, Cannock Extension Canal, Boatyard Section, Pelsall, Walsall, W. Mids. Sat., 4 hour Match (16 fished). Dave Hadley 8-6-0 (small skimmers and roach on poled bread punch); Carl Wall 5-6-0 (skimmers on poled bread punch and pinkie); Barry Broadhurst 4-10-0 (roach on poled bread punch); Neil Lawrence 4-5-7 (roach on poled bread punch); Ray Stewart 4-4-2 (skimmers and roach on poled bread punch and pinkie).

HanKat Superteam AS Open, Dudley No. 1 Canal, Waterfront Section, Brierley Hill, W. Mids. & Dudley No. 2 Canal, Link 51 Section, Brierley Hill, W. Mids. Sat (19 fished). Dean Webb (Sensas Black Country) 18-2-0; Gary Owen (Canal Kings/Storey's) 10-9-6; Sir David Sheaf (Canal Kings) 7-13-8; Dave McCall (Cadence Superteam/Bait-Tech) 7-7-2; Dave Hughes (Bag'em/Maver Midlands) 7-0-0; Phil Simnett (Droitwich Spa) 5-14-6.

HanKat Superteam AS Pairs League, Stourbridge Canal, Brettell Lane to the Tank Section, Brierley Hill, W. Mids. Sun (26 fished). Dean Webb (Sensas Black Country) 12-7-3; Lee Woodhouse (HanKat Superteam AS) 9-8-3; Ian Giles (Red Lantern AC) 6-10-12; Sir David Sheaf (Canal Kings) 6-5-0; Owen Westwood (Wolverhampton AA) 5-8-0; Dave Anderson (Sportsman AA) 5-5-15. Pairs: Dean Webb (Sensas Black Country) & Owen Westwood (Wolverhampton AA) 4; (Joint 2nd) Stu Cutler (HanKat Superteam AS) & Lee Woodhouse (HanKat Superteam AS) 7; Ian Giles (Red Lantern AC) & Steve Randall (HanKat Superteam AS) 7. League leaders: Dean Webb (Sensas Black Country) & Owen Westwood (Wolverhampton AA) 22.

Izaak Walton (Stafford) AA Mini Series, Match 1, Trent & Mersey Canal, The Fruit Farm Section, Gt. Haywood, Staffs. Sat (19 fished). Les Olszewski (Team Les 'O') 8-15-0 (skimmers and roach on poled caster); Dave Berrow 4-12-6 (perch on poled lobworm); Keith Holbrook (Rough Hay AC) 4-11-8 (roach plus the odd perch on poled caster and worm); (Joint 4th) Dennis Sumner (Fatty's Bait & Tackle) 3-0-4 (one big perch plus smaller samples on poled worm); Kevin 'Speedy' Perry (Cadence Superteam/Bait-Tech) 3-0-4 (small mixed silvers); Dave Richards (Sensas Lifestyle MG) 4-6-0 (caster and punch-roach).

Liverpool DAA Open, Leeds & Liverpool Canal, British Legion Section, Maghull, Merseyside. Sun (13 fished). Jim 'the tinca' Elms 5-2-0 (roach plus a 1lb+ tench); Lewis Whitman 4-0-0 (roach). Sections: John Carroll 3-5-0 (roach and perch); John Easton 3-12-0 (roach).

Luton AC, Grand Union Canal, Town South, Leighton Buzzard, Beds. Wed (18 fished). Andy Frankum 13-9-0 (four bream, midway through the match on pole-fished bread punch and red maggots to the far bank plus a few bits); Paul Carr 2-3-8 (gudgeon, small roach and perch plus a bonus bigger perch on pole-fished red maggot over groundbait and pinkie); Dennis Hunt 2-2-0 (mixed bag); Chris Howard 1-11-0; Barry Roper 1-5-0; Ray Burton 0-13-8.

Nene/Towcester AC, Grand Union Canal, Banbury Lane Section, Northampton, Northants. Sun 28th Jan. Andy Kimp-ton 1-4-0 (perch); Paul Minney 0-7-0; Brian Beard 0-6-0.

Sportsman AA Open, Walsall Canal (BCN), Grassy Bank Section, Leabrook Road, Wednesbury, W. Mids. Sat. Martin Owen (Bag'em/Maver Midlands) 0-6-0; Derek Owen (Rough Hay AC) 0-1-0; Dave Arnold (Sportsman AA) 0-0-8.

Stoke City DAA Open, Shropshire Union Canal, Gnosall, Staffs. Sun (11 fished). Bob Yeomans (Sensas Lifestyle MG) 9-11-0 (roach, skimmers and perch on various pole baits); John Hanna (Milo/Bait-Tech West Midlands) 7-12-0 (mixed bag, mostly caught on poled caster); Dave Holbrook (Team Eclipse) 7-4-8 (mixed bag); Dave Richards (Sensas Lifestyle MG) 6-14-0 (perch and roach); Bernie Leatherbarrow (Sensas Lifestyle MG) 6-10-0 (skimmers and bits).

Wellingborough's Barker Winter League, Grand Union Canal, Foxton, Leics. Sun 28th Jan (31 fished). Norman Bradshaw (Colmic Black) 9-0-0; Dave Mawby (Wellingborough A) 8-0-0; Pat Cuddy (Colmic Blue) 6-6-4. League: Nitro Starks 21; Nitro Aryzon 17 (only top two supplied).

Rivers

Bridgnorth British Legion AC/Bridgnorth Comrades AS Memorial Cup Match, River Severn (Bridgnorth AS Waters), Little Severn Hall & the Golf Course Stretches, Bridgnorth, Shrops. Sun. Overall: Phil Hancox 16-2-0 (two barbel); Graham Ilic 10-14-0 (two barbel); Phil Coles 8-4-0 (one barbel); Mark Blackburn 7-11-0. (Fourth place in the Legion Match went to John Gill 6-11-0).

Gillingham AA 5th Winter Championship, River Stour, Highbridge to Catholics, Dorset. Sun (16 fished). James Kiernan 17-0-0 (nine chub to 3lb on the pole with lobworm tail early on, then corn over droppered worm late on); Ken Murchie 15-14-0 (three chub on the stick float with maggot, then four more chub on the straight lead with worm and corn); Clive Petti-fer 7-11-0; Pete Edwards 7-8-0; Richard Cake 4-14-0; John Gatehouse 4-12-0.



Kidderminster & District AA Open, River Severn, Bewdley, Worcs. Sat. Joe Holloway 19-4-0; Jim Wilson 19-0-0; Ian Hingley 18-4-0; Norman Wilson 14-10-0; Kevin Jones 13-12-0.

Northwich AA Open, River Weaver, Oak Tree Length, Northwich, Ches. Sat. Dave Hodson 7-12-8; Andy Insley 6-11-12; Rod Fraser 5-8-8; Martin Lenihan 4-12-8. (all skimmers and roach nets).

Rotherham UAF Winter League, Round 5, River Don, Sprotbrough, Doncaster, S. Yorks. Sun. John Goodwin (Ossett) 17-12-0; Paul Holmes (Bait-Tech) 16-15-0; Nick Atkins (Mill Tackle) 15-10-0; Terry Moroz (Mill Tackle) 15-5-0. Teams: (Joint 1st) Ossett 11; Bait-Tech 11. (no other team placings supplied).

Spilsby AA, River Steeping, Wainfleet, Lincs. Tues. Tony Vamplew 7-12-0; Dave Ashmore 7-6-0; Paul Dent 5-14-0. Sun. Dave Ashmore 10-3-0; Don Green 8-12-0; Dennis Houghton 6-1-0.

Canal & River Trust Stillwaters

Blackfords Progressive Winter League, Round 5, Calf Heath Reservoir, nr. Gailey, Staffs. Sat. Dennis Kneller (Penkrige) 30-3-0 (cage feeder with maggot and pinkie for nine skimmers and four bream); Mick Tonks (Coven) 19-8-0 (six bream on Method feeder with wafers) 19-8-0; Paul Bucknell (Little Dawley AC) 17-5-0 (bream and skimmers on Method feeder with wafers); Steve Davies (Blackfords) 14-6-0 (skimmers on Method feeder with wafers).

Peter Caton's Tuesday Open, Boddington Reservoir, nr. Byfield, Northants. Tues. Peg 2-14: T. Winstone 25-14-0; K. Mullen 16-12-0; J. Eades 13-3-0. Peg 66-80: D. Sanders 41-4-0; N. Russell 36-0-0; P. Davies 17-0-0. Peg 82-92: S. Gent 61-6-0; M. Williams 49-11-0; N. Franklin 44-5-0.

Commercials

Anglers Choice Middlesbrough Winter League, Final Round (8), The Oaks Lakes, Sessay, N. Yorks. Sat., Sycamore Lake (16 fished). Rob Wood 112-12-0; Rob Thurwell 67-6-0; Mick Leech 66-11-0. Final league: 1st Rob Wood; 2nd Phil Cooper; 3rd Harry Wintersgill; 4th Chris Clark.

Bitterwell Lake Silvers Match/Silvers Final Qualifier, Coalpit Heath, Bristol. Tues. Paul Isaacs 13-12-0; Gary Etheridge 13-8-0; Mat Taynton 12-7-0; Ricky Mills 10-7-0; Martin McMahon 9-7-0; Ali Gibbs 6-12-0. Qualifier: Martin McMahon (the top four in the match have already qualified).

Blake Hall Fishery Silvers Open, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs. Sat., Peninsula Lake. Mark Kearns 25-10-0; L. Cody 17-0-0; Melvyn Kearns 13-12-0; (Joint 4th) Dean Lockett 12-5-0; Anthony Burt 12-5-0; Nelly Edwards 11-0-0.

Blundell Fishery, Rixton, Ches. Sat., Open, Trio, East & Pine Lakes. Chris Weeder Jnr. (Chris Weeder Jnr. Angling) 61-12-0 (carp to 7lb on pellet at 17 metres); Dave Oates (Stalybridge Angling Supplies) 58-4-0 (carp to 20lb dobbling maggot on the bar); Paul Jones (Adlington Angling) 48-13-0.

Bradshaw Hall Fisheries, Bolton, Gtr. Manchester. Sat., Open, Lake 9 & the Loop. Chris Pickering 74-1-0; Tom Cunliffe 67-0-0; Jordan Davies 54-13-0.

Brookside Fisheries, Warrington, Ches. Sat., Open, Snake Lakes 1 & 2. Mark Nicholl 87-2-0; Steve Balson 50-4-0; Nick Butterworth 48-12-0.

Castle Ashby, Grendon, Northants. Wed 24th Jan., Grendon Lake. Terry Soper 43-6-0; Ian Pretty 19-12-0; John Pearce 18-5-0. Sat 27th Jan., Brickyard Pool. Paul Chapman 12-6-0; Alan West 12-1-0; Russ Husbands 7-12-0.

Castle Ashby Teams of Three Spring League, Round 1, Grendon, Northants. Sun 28th Jan. Pete Lovell 32-13-0; Paul Chapman 18-7-0; Wayne Robinson 16-0-0. Top team on the day: Wayne Robinson, Pete Lovell & Kevin Nightingale.

Chris Hill's Feeder and Silvers Only Winter League, Round 5, Barston Lakes, Solihull, W. Mids. Sun. Mac Stephens (Drennan England) 33-10-0; Michael 'Bud' Buchwalder (MAP) 31-4-0; Michael 'Hightower' Reeves (Drennan) 28-8-0; Stephen Wroe 26-2-0; Rich Lawson (Vespe) 25-4-0; Dave Boyle (B'ham) 22-0-0. (all bream and skimmer weights).

Firwood Fisheries Open, Skelmersdale, Lancs. Sat. Lee Lamb 100-2-0; Alan Falzon 81-6-0; Jamie Cook 76-14-0.

Flore & Brockhall AC Spring League, Round 2, Barby Banks, Barby, Warks. Sun 28th Jan. Steve Barratt (Newbold) 6-1-0; Tony Smith (Regulars) 5-2-0; Dave Ayres (The George) 3-3-0. League leaders: Newbold.

Hawkesbury Hall Farm, Bedworth, Warks. Sun., Open, Match Pool (12 fished). Ricky Welborne (Hawkesbury) 140-7-0 (carp to 14lb on poled maggot); Ian Shirley (Hawkesbury) 49-0-0 (carp to 10lb plus bream to 3lb on poled corn, maggot and pellet); Craig Kidd (Hawkesbury) 29-8-0 (mainly bream to 3lb plus a couple of carp to 4lb on pole-fished dead maggot).

Heronbrook Fisheries, Slindon, nr. Eccleshall, Staffs. Sat., Open, Rover (18 fished). Ash Davies 130-15-0; James Woodfine 129-2-0; Andy Dyson 123-6-0; Trevor Robinson 114-9-0; Steve Daniels 99-4-0; Michael Williams 89-15-0.



High Heyes Farm Fishery (The Catteries) Open, Eccleston, Chorley, Lancs. Sat (12 fished). Andy Davies 71-0-0; Martin Liptrot 68-0-0; Howard Kelly 44-8-0.

Hilton Park Fishery Open, Shareshill, Wolverhampton, W. Mids. Sat. Kevin Ball (Wednesfield) 26-4-0; Icky Kull (Fatty's Bait & Tackle) 20-14-0; Jase Jones (Fatty's Bait & Tackle) 19-5-0 (carp and F1 weights).

Langold Lake Open, Worksop, Notts. Sat (17 fished). Mick Donnelly 11-10-0; David Lawrence 6-5-0; Ray Marsh 4-7-0.

Long Eaton Victoria Angling Society, Final Match of the 2023-2024 Season, Championship Match No. 22, Last Bash Trophy, Rycroft Fishery, Hemington, Notts. Sun 28th Jan., Moat Pool (18 fished). Les Smedley 55-15-0; Jonathan Leivers 50-15-0; Dean Guess 43-0-0; Alan Welch 31-8-0; Dave Cotterill 19-13-0; Dave Kent 19-2-0; John Adamson 10-8-0; Sue Reid 9-5-0.

MAP Marston Fields Fishery, Sutton Coldfield, W. Mids. Sat (11 fished). Simon Richardson 130-4-0; Dale Jackson 126-9-0; Dan Lee 97-3-0.

Maver UK Winter League, Match 8, Packington Somers Fisheries, Meriden, W. Mids. Sun., Molands Mere, Big Geary's, Little Geary's & Siblings A & B Pools. James Geddes 73-0-0 (carp); Dave West 65-12-0 (carp and F1s); Peter Murray 59-15-0 (carp and F1s); Stephen Bellion 58-12-0 (carp and F1s); Pete Ball 58-2-0 (carp and F1s); Steve Brindley 56-8-0 (carp and F1s). (no league placings supplied).

Meadowlands Teams of Three League, Round 2, Ryton-on-Dunsmore, Warks. Sun., Lambsdown Lake & Warren Pool. Steve Ringer (Guru/Daiwa) 152-12-0 (skimmers and carp); John Nicholls (Oddballs) 141-0-0; Barry Byrd (Casemore Baits) 131-4-0; Lee Taylor (Ginger Ninjas) 105-2-0. Teams: Casemore Baits 8; Guru/Daiwa 10; Carpetbaggers 17 (on weight); Meadowlands 17; Oddballs 20; Captain Crooks 21 (on weight). League: Casemore Baits 26; Guru/Daiwa 32; Captain Crooks 36; Ginger Ninjas 39; Oddballs 41; Foxes 44.

Monkhal Fishery, Monkhopton, nr. Bridgnorth, Shrops. Wed 24th Jan., Open, Hawk Pool. Stu Tibbetts (Maver Midlands) 60-0-0; James Woodfine (Maver) 52-8-0; Clive Wynn (Weston Pools) 47-10-0. Sat 27th Jan., Open, Hawk Pool. Dean Elsmore (Matrix Phil's Tackle) 79-2-0; Andy Welding (Matrix Phil's Tackle) 73-2-0; Paul Gregory (Monkhal) 53-12-0. Sun 28th Jan., Open, Lark Pool. Andy Kyte (Middle Severn Angling) 73-2-0; Chris Lane (Monkhal) 63-2-0; Lewis Bowen (Monkhal) 60-4-0.

Nisa Feeders Open, Makins Fishery, Bramcote, Nuneaton, Warks. Wed. Stuart Gould (Rugby) 36-12-0 (six carp on the Method feeder to the island in the last hour); Steve Foster (Mallory) 35-4-0 (five carp on bomb and bread); John Lack (Northampton) 27-1-0 (two carp and three bream); Lee Clark (Botcheston Fishing Club) 24-5-0 (two carp and three bream); John Adamson (Nisa Feeders) 10-7-0.

Packington Somers Fisheries, Meriden, W. Mids. Wed., Solihull Angling Centre Open, Rover (12 fished). Stephen Bellion 76-2-0 (carp and F1s, £100 bonus peg); Roy Beasley 69-5-0 (carp and F1s); John Burchell 61-10-0 (carp and F1s); Martin Wood 38-12-0 (F1s). Thurs., Silvers Open, Big Geary's Pool. Dave Elliott 25-7-0; Ian Keywood 14-7-0; Phil Altimas 11-4-0. Sat., Silvers Open, Big Geary's Pool. Martin Wood 35-4-0; Dave Elliott 24-9-0; Ian Keywood 18-11-0. Sat., Silvers Open, Gratuities & Crescent Pools. Alan Hancox 22-5-0 (inc. two 2lb perch); David Smith 20-12-0; Keith Winn 15-12-0.

Partridge Lakes Fishery, Warrington, Ches. Sat., Covey Lakes 3, 4 & 5 (36 fished). Mike Senior 90-0-0; Roger Priestley 51-13-0; Harry Campbell 50-14-0; Stewart Milne 47-5-0; Dez Davis 42-12-0; Mike Gabbitas 42-5-0.



Preston Innovations Boldings Pools, Bridgnorth, Shrops. Mon., Over 60's Open, Sycamore Pool. Steve Owen (Monkham) 52-0-0; Dave Cole (Preston Innovations Boldings) 48-6-0; Bill Hill (Preston Innovations Boldings) 47-11-0; Terry Edwards (Pool Hayes) 36-12-0; Dave Mortlock (Preston Innovations Boldings) 34-12-0. Wed., Chestnut Pool. Gareth Unwin (Big C) 72-10-0; Gaz Willey (Walsall) 72-9-0; Steve Lovell (Maver Midlands) 67-13-0; Rich Pedlar (Bibby's/Stone & District AC) 56-2-0. Thurs., Over 60's Open, Sycamore Pool. Clive Wynn (Weston Pools) 78-15-0; Bill Hill (Preston Innovations Boldings) 56-11-0; Steve Owen (Monkham) 56-2-0; Dave Mortlock (Preston Innovations Boldings) 53-12-0; Bob Clarke (Preston Innovations Boldings) 53-10-0. Sat., Oswestrians AC, Sycamore Pool. Clive Wynn 53-13-0; John Benjamin 45-10-0; Paul Hemming 34-2-0; Steve Owen 33-13-0. Sun., Open, Willows & Chestnut Pools. Gaz Willey (Walsall) 86-10-0; Ian Stangroom (Bibby's/Stone & District AC) 86-2-0; Steve Lovell (Maver Midlands) 70-12-0; Gary Morris (Preston Innovations Boldings) 63-14-0.

Sherwood Forest Fishery, Edwinstowe, Notts. Sat., Open, Holmedale Lake. Chris Graves 73-4-0; Nigel Shipman 46-12-0; Lee Parker 40-6-0.

Splinters AC, Peatling Pools, Peatling Parva, Lutterworth, Leics. Sun 28th Jan., Peatling C Pool. Drew Adams 75-1-0; Kev Elliott 67-7-0; Eddie Kelly 53-6-0.

Stoppo's Fishery Silvers Opens, Coton-in-the-Elms, Derbys. Sun 28th Jan. Ian Saiger 13-11-0 (skimmers and roach); John Harper 13-2-0 (skimmers and roach); Jim Shooter 9-5-0. Wed. John Harper 13-5-0 (quality caster-roach); Steve Tivey 10-11-0 (roach); Tony Taylor 9-14-0 (quality caster-roach). Sun (15 fished). Pete Madeley 8-0-0 (caster-roach); John Harper 7-15-0; Simon Holden 7-3-0.

The Oaks Lakes, Sessay, N. Yorks. Sat., Open, Cedar Lake. Eddie Pearson 64-3-0 (F1s); Steve Luck 43-8-0; Ian Shuttleworth 38-15-0.

The Old Hough Coarse Fishery Golden Pot Qualifier, Middlewich, Ches. Sat., Big Max & Upper Benbo Pools. Connor Edwards 113-5-0; Jay Declouet 54-15-0; Dave Pimlott 39-5-0; Karl Rogers 39-0-0; Chris Sanderson 36-5-0. Qualifier: Connor Edwards.

Todber Manor, Sturminster Newton, Dorset. Sat., Open, Hill View Lake (11 fished). Dave Britain 483-14-0; Lee Woodhouse 394-2-0; Alfie Rhodes (14 years old) 368-8-0. Master of the Manor Qualifier: Dave Britain.

Viaduct Fishery, Somerton, Somerset. Sat., Open, Campbell Lake (15 fished). Mark Wynne 72-0-0; Nick Veale 37-2-0; Mark Vigar 29-4-0. Silvers: Mark Vigar 29-4-0; Nick Veale 28-0-0; Will Romain 24-2-0.



Wayne Sharman's Feeder/Bomb/PVA League, Round 2, Barston Lakes, Solihull, W. Mids. Sun 28th Jan. Andrew Fulleylove 88-9-0; George Parker 44-14-0; John Nicholls 44-4-0; Peter Jupp 43-6-0. League leader: Stu Palser 2.

Weston Pools, Oswestry, Shrops. Fri., Open, Claypit Pool. Steve Parry 41-14-0; Damon Massey 39-1-0 (bonus peg 3); Kristian Jones 37-10-0. Sat., Open, Belvedere Pool. Kristian Jones 80-10-0; Alan Groom 59-15-0; Carl Ratcliffe 44-1-0. Sat., Open, Stretton Pool. Andy Amos 57-15-0; Fred Moore 54-10-0; Alan Rutherford 48-0-0. Sat., Open, Canal Pool. Allan Hughes 58-9-0; Martin Wedley 53-6-0; Richie O'Connor 45-15-0.

Whitmore Fisheries, Greenhalgh, Preston, Lancs. Sat., Open, Rover (18 fished). Nik Jenkins 77-10-0; Sam Sharrock 50-10-0; Chris Gorrell 40-0-0.

Willow Lakes Winter League, Round 5, Foston, Grantham, Lincs. Sat., Ash, Hawthorn & Alder Lakes. Dean Sinkew 72-2-0; Andy Birkin 48-14-0; Pete Reilly 39-5-0; (Joint 4th) Tim Booker 38-4-0; Dan Lacey 38-4-0; Mark Wyatt 35-7-0. Lake winners: Ash Lake – Dean Sinkew. Hawthorn Lake – Pete Reilly. Alder Lake – Andy Birkin.

