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MAY
Weather goes from Winter to
Summer in first week
with 27C and Sun

Editorial

One of the coolest and dullest Springs I can recall changed almost overnight into weather more reminiscent of the Mediterranean. We were faced with all day long bright sunshine, daily temperatures over 25C., but an easterly wind.

This inevitable had an effect on the fishing, with reports of good and bad days. As I write this the weather has changed and the expected variation, with sun and cloud seems to be making the fishing more settled.

At least it has done for me! I fished Eyebrook on Friday 16th. May on the first day of rain for over a fortnight in light winds and it was *magnificent*. There was buzzer coming off

all day and from mid day a steady trickle of olives. The fish were close in to the bank ALL the way along the Western Shore. I caught on claret coloured dries, GRHE's black and green buzzer and crunchers. Eyebrooks new stocking policy with more brown's and better rainbows gave spectacular fishing. My partner and I wanted fish to take and we killed six for 13lbs 7.5oz.

Sadly a miscalculation of the 'time bonus' for the Gray's Cup winner at the Spring Match meant that the Cup was presented to the wrong angler. Clive Morgan (Hanningfield F.A.) was given 4lbs less time bonus than he should have been awarded. When recalculated his total bag weighed 20lbs 13.5oz and this gave him the best overall bag and winner of the Gray's Cup Spring 2008.

The Queen Mother Kew Team Trophy

The Trophy for the Team Winners at each of the Association Matches is now available. It has been commissioned for Queen Mother F.F. at Kew Gardens by Tony Kirkham, and made from an ancient tree trunk from British Columbia which was, so I believe, the old flag pole. Hopefully it will be presented to Bewl Bridge F.C. 'A' Team, who had the best total bag this spring, by a member of Queen Mother at the next Group One Match at Hanningfield in June
Photo in next Newsletter!



The Good and the Bad Pitsford fishes variably For Group Two –Round 2 On Wednesday 14th. May

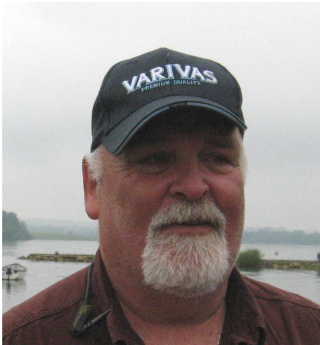
Individual Scores Not Available At Publication

Team Scores

- Queen Mother F.F. 81lbs 10oz
- Grafham Water F.A. 69lbs 8oz
- Fish Hawks 'B' 47lbs 6oz
- Iver F.C. 43lbs 6oz
- Bewl Bridge F.C. 'B' 30lbs 5oz

Best Bag 23lbs 9oz
Micky Bewick (Queen Mother)

Best Fish 3lbs 15oz
Adrian Bennett



Micky Bewick (Queen Mother F.F.) Best Bag

Report from David Eames of Fish Hawks 'B'

Weather: Stiff North-Easterly winds the day before eased off somewhat overnight. Added to the light overcast and mild temperatures, this produced good conditions for loch-style fishing.

Match Day: Knowing the Small Half had been producing fish, the usual scramble to the road tunnel and subsequent traffic queue was avoided, with less than half the fleet of 15 boats venturing into the larger part of the reservoir. Several boats found fish quickly drifting into the Northern end of the road causeway. Despite the warm, bright weather of the previous few days, fish could be found surprisingly tight in to the bank in relatively shallow water. Floating lines and buzzers worked early on, although lures on sinking lines started to produce more fish as the morning progressed (and into the afternoon). By late morning, boat pressure and brightening conditions saw the fishing become much more

'patchy', although boats could still be seen with two bent rods as they hit the roving pods of fish.

As the day progressed, lures became more successful, with the ubiquitous Orange Blob proving successful on full sinking lines.

Mick Bewick and Keith Jones (Queen Mother and Fish Hawks B, respectively) were in one of the boats to venture through the tunnel from *the off*. Working along the South bank, they found a large head of fish in Pitsford Creek, and proceeded to catch quickly on floating lines and Buzzers (pearly thorax and holographic red cheeks) on a long leader. Mick took his 8th fish at 12:50 to return an overall winning weight of 23lb 9oz (including time bonus), whilst Keith went on to take 7 fish. Other anglers towards the SW end of the Water also took fish, with the pattern reflecting that of the Small Half.

Points Scored after Two Rounds

Team	Rd1	Rd2	Rd3	Rd4	Rd5	Rd6	TOTAL	POSITION
Bewl Bridge 'B'	5	1					6	2=
Fish Hawks 'B'	1	3					4	5
Grafham Water F.A.	2	4					6	2=
Iver F.C.	3	2					5	4
Queen Mother	4	5					9	1



Almost Perfect Conditions on Rutland For the Group Two Round Three Match

Fish Close to the Bank

Name No Weight

Bewl Bridge F.C. 'B'

Ray French	2	2lbs 1oz
Vernon Chapman	6	15lbs 14.5oz
Rod Toptalo	7	14lbs 7oz
Mike Dale	5	14lbs 0.5oz
John Benford	6	16lbs 0.5oz
Nick Cox	5	12lbs 12oz

TOTAL 75lbs 3.5oz

Fish Hawks 'B'

Dave Eames	4	10lbs 0.5oz
Keith Jones	8	18lbs 3oz
Keith Gilchrest	4	9lbs 2.5oz
Willie Edmund	6	14lbs 4.5oz
Garry Holdsworth	1	3lbs 1.5oz
Ian Howland	4	8lbs 5oz

TOTAL 62lbs 1oz

Grafham Water F.A.

Richard Kesek	6	14lbs 13.5oz
Steven Ellerbeck	6	16lbs 14.5oz
Chris Lane	4	10lbs 11.5oz
Roger Hurren	7	17lbs 7oz
Gorden Alleyene	3	7lbs 2oz
Peter Hartley	6	14lbs 2oz

TOTAL 81lbs 2.5oz

Iver F.C.

Clive Collier	6	16lbs 4oz
Simon Newman	4	11lbs 12oz
Eddie Gray	2	4lbs 0oz
Ray Simpson	6	14lbs 4oz
Danny Peet	8	20lbs 5.5oz
Jim Watt	8	20lbs 3.5oz

TOTAL 87lbs 7oz

Queen Mother F.F.

Micky Bewick	5	11lbs 9oz
Dave Kidby	7	17lbs 2oz
Jim Longmore	8	18lbs 3.5oz
Tony Kirkham	6	17lbs 11.5oz
Phil Hall	5	12lbs 1oz
Martin Conroy	5	10lbs 4.5oz

TOTAL 86lbs 15.5oz

Best Fish 5lbs 0.5oz

Mick Dale (Bewl Bridge 'B')

Best Bag 20lbs 5.5oz

Danny Peet (Iver F.C.)

Only two points separate top four teams

Helped by two limits Iver F.C. beat Queen Mother by less than half a pound to take first place on an almost perfect fishing day on Rutland. It was overcast all day with light winds from a northerly direction. The fish were high in the water and some surface feeding could be seen.

However one similarity was the use of floating or slow sink lines. Nobody reported catching very deep.

Another characteristic was that the fish were close into the bank. One angler was reported as saying that the only time he had a take was when he could see the bottom.

In order to get the Newsletter out on time the results have not been ratified but it looks as though the average was 5.3 and the average weight in excess of 2lbs. This represents an excellent day on Rutland

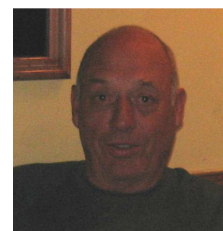


Iver F.C. Winners - Danny Peet Best Bag (Centre Low)

Most boats headed for the Main Bowl drifting into the Normanton Shore. Others departed for the South Arm and in particular Yellowstone.

Typical of Rutland a range of methods and flies worked from buzzers – daiwl bachs – crunchers – boobies and blobs.

Mick Dale (Bewl) Best Fish



Team	Rd1	Rd2	Rd3	Rd4	Rd5	Rd6	TOTAL	POSITION
Bewl Bridge 'B'	5	1	2				8	4
Fish Hawks 'B'	1	3	1				5	5
Grafham Water F.A.	2	4	3				9	3
Iver F.C.	3	2	5				10	2
Queen Mother	4	5	4				13	1

Queen Mother F.F. **LOOKING GOOD** at half way point



Royal Navy/Marines in Back to Back Wins Lead Group Three

Hanningfield Fishes Well with 4.1 Average

Name No Weight

Crawley F.C.

Bob Sanger	2	2lbs 14oz
BazReece	8	20lbs 3oz
Alan Purnell	4	7lbs
Del Fell	2	3lbs 13oz
Bob Birchall	1	2lbs 15oz
Bill King		

TOTAL 36lbs 13oz

Invicta F.C. 'A'

Graham Williams	8	17lbs 12oz
John Mees	8	19lbs 12oz
Lawson Wight	2	4lbs 1oz
Mike Smith	4	6lbs 14oz
Alan Taylor	5	9lbs 2oz
Chris McLeod	4	7lbs 12oz

TOTAL 65lbs 5oz

Invicta F.C. 'B'

Alan Prevost	0	
Ian Wilson	1	1lb 8oz
Steve Middleton	2	3lbs 12oz
Stanislav Mankov	3	5lbs 4oz
John Brown	4	7lbs 12oz
Oscar Boatfield	5	9lbs 8oz

TOTAL 27lbs 12oz

Royal Navy/Marines

Chris Anderson	8	18lbs 6oz
Mark Glass	4	7lbs 11oz
Dave Minnal	6	13lbs 8oz
Dave Morton	7	14lbs 1oz
Al Mundy	6	10lbs 7oz
Ron Tutt	8	19lbs 13oz

TOTAL 83lbs 13oz

Soldier Palmers 'B'

Lol Baker	0	
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TOTAL Nil

Best Fish 4lbs 0oz

Dave Minall (Navy/Marines)

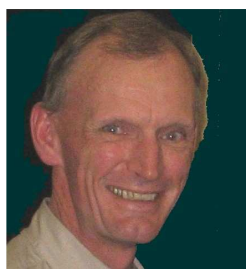
Best Bag 20lbs 30z

Baz Reece (Crawley F.C.)

With a rod average of 4.1. and a weight average of just under 2lbs a fish, Hanningfield fished well for Group Three in **Round 2 on 4th May.**

With forty nine fish the Royal Navy/Marines (pictured below) had an easy win for the second time in this group. This was a team performance with nobody catching less than 4 fish (half a limit)

I don't know whether it is a change of organisation or the Army is so stretched, but Soldier Palmers 'B' Team could only manage one angler. This after failing to enter a team in the previous round. Hopefully things will improve.



Baz Reece - Best Bag

A huge body of fish were concentrated off the Peninsular and with bank anglers, anchored boats and the drifting competition boats everything was very crowded.

So much so that it seemed as though some boats were trying



Winners – Navy/Marines

to fish behind the bank anglers.

Even so the fishing was sporadic and at times all methods from fast sinkers and boobies and blobs, to floating lines with buzzers, diawl bachs and crunchers worked.

The first to finish was Baz Reece at 13.00hrs and this helped him to top rod. Special mention must be made of 13 year old Oscar Boatfield of Invicta F.C.'B'. Fishing with Ron Tutt (Navy) who finished shortly after 13.00 hrs, Oscar caught 5 fish to take top rod for his team.

Team	Rd1	Rd2	Rd3	Rd4	Rd5	Rd6	TOTAL	POSITION
Crawley F.C.	2	3					5	4
Invicta F.C. 'A'	3	4					7	2
Invicta F.C. 'B'	4	2					6	3
Royal Navy Marines	5	5					10	1
Soldier Palmers'B'	0	1					1	5