

# **RUTLAND WATER FLY FISHERS**

Affiliated to Federation of Midland Fly Fishers (Anglia) &A.C.A.

## Chairman

Mr. J. Maitland  
St Albans Close  
Oakham  
Rutland  
LE15 6EW

## Secretary

Mr.E. J. Wadham  
6 Mendip Road  
Oakham  
Rutland  
LE15 6NN

## Treasurer

Mr. P. Wild  
35 Tennyson way  
Stamford  
Lincs  
PE9 2GZ

Tel 01572 756650   Tel 01572 771092   Tel 01780 757853

## **MARCH/APRIL NEWSLETTER 1999**

### **Dear Member**

### **Fishing Report**

The season opened with some of loveliest weather imaginable with light winds and warm intermittent sun. This had a number of benefits. It allowed one to fish anywhere in the lake from boat or bank which meant that no one place came under excessive pressure.

The buzzer hatches had to be seen to be believed. Many non anglers found these hatches more than they could take. "Hope they don't bite" was a typical observation. It was the same at Pitsford.

There seemed very little evidence of fry in the margins or around any structures: this meant that the buzzer was the main diet. The fish were therefore well spread about and most places produced from boat and bank. The stockies are feeding voraciously on bloodworms and small dark olive buzzer pupae. They seemed to feed all day in all weathers. The Thunderstorm on Friday sent many anglers and apparently many of the fish running for cover. Having in the past seen someone electrocuted, the secretary's reaction was to drop the rod and run!

Some lovely over wintered fish have been caught. The best one being a perfect silver fish of 9lb 2oz taken from the dam on a G.R.H.E by a newcomer to the sport. He was being "educated" by well known bank fisher "Norfolk Bill" who seems to have an uncanny knack of catching big fish himself. The captor I am told was more than a little excited by the experience. What way to start. Follow that! The fish was found to contain what appeared to be the foul remains of a long dead stockie. Come on Nigel Savage can you tie one that big? Floating stockie?

There are some massive gravid rainbows roaming the margins looking in vain for a mate. Where have all the cocks gone they cry! One hen fish did succumb to an angler in the form of another 9lb 2oz fish taken from East Creek.

Over wintered fish have been caught all over the lake in both arms but mainly from the bank and on a range of patterns. Most effective for the better fish seems to be a bloodworm/black buzzer dropper with a weighted point fly to act as an anchor.

One the great joys of the 1999 opening was the very light winds. Although the Easterly got up a bit towards midday on the 1st. But with a temp of 20degC it was some 16deg.C warmer than on Maunday Thursday 1998 when floods and blizzards raged!

The marginal water temp on the first day was one degree up on 1998 at 11deg.C - hence the tremendous insect hatches. But why no fry? Answers on a postcard please!

There were plenty of people on the first day but still plenty of room.

For some reason, best known to the fish, the most productive spot has been the Green Bank/Stones area where some were queuing up for a quick limit. The carnage was quite remarkable. However, it happens every year and still there seems to be plenty of fish left for later.

One of the few places not to have produced any quantity of fish was Burley & Tim Appleton's where the water was very clear.

There have been evening rises in a number of spots but the morning seems to be the best time. This may be more and more a feature as the fish wise up.

There have understandably been a number of teething problems with the new permit regime. You will be receiving a letter from AWS outlining the catch & release rulings and answers to other queries which have been mooted. Please don't take it out on the Wardens who are doing their level best to "keep the peace". It is very gratifying seeing them on the bank so regularly. Last year there were complaints that we did not see enough of them, so don't knock them. They are doing a grand job.

### **Cooking evening with Jim Meikle Monday 1st March**

About 28 attended this fascinating evening with the ladies well represented. Jim aided by his partner Bridget, took us through five recipes involving wild game. Wood pigeon, venison, rabbit and pheasant and a mix of game meat were the basis of the dishes. The point that probably surprised most of the audience was that in no case did the hot cooking take longer than five minutes. The meat was cut thin and flash fried in flavoured oil before either being cooked in the sauce for a few more minutes or arranged with sauce and vegetables on the plate. Tender and delicious. Jim's sauces were vital to the flavour and presentation of the dish and there was a good deal of note taking during the evening. Jim provided recipe sheets and gave a splendid commentary as he cooked.; all in all a most pleasant and interesting evening. Jim is looking for new premises for his restaurant and once he is established we will let you know in a future newsletter. Seeing how little was left of his dishes by the tasters, his full menu should not be missed

### **Dinner & Speaker evening with Bob James Wednesday March 24th 1999.**

This was a very congenial affair in good company. Some 38 members attended and were rewarded with excellent food and good service. Very good value in my judgement. Bob gave us a very amusing discourse on his life as an angler from his youth interspersed with some subtly humorous jokes and anecdotes which had us falling about. Thank you to all those who came after the late sending out of the invitations

### **Leicester Fly Fishing Show - Friday 12th march 1999**

R.W.F.F.'s were on parade at the show largely thanks to Jon Marshall since our display was on the end of the A.W.S. stand. Dick Stephen, John Maitland and Kevin Taylor maintained a presence on the stand throughout the show from 1230 until 9.30pm. The display boards produced by Andy flitcroft caught the attention of many passers by. It was a chance to meet many old friends and to recruit for the R.W.F.F; three new subscriptions were taken at the show and the many membership applications handed out should produce several more. The show was better attended than last year and the many stands dealing in tackle and fly tying materials gave one a good chance of topping up before the new season besides trying new rods and other kit.

### **England Youth Fly Fishing Association - National Championships - Rutland Saturday July 17th 1999**

The cost is £10 - 00 inc. membership & buffet. Female and disabled entrants will be most welcome. Lots of prizes. Entrants must be between 12 & 17 years of age. Closing date for entries is July 1st 1999 For further details and application forms please contact Derek Lucas on 0116 278 5485

Boatmen will be needed for this event. So if you can be available on the day please contact Jim Eady on the following numbers. 01733 203385 or 01480 450771 as soon as possible. As usual the boatmen will have free use of the boat from approximately 5.00pm and are welcome to receive a complimentary buffet

**Thames Water Shield - Open Bank Fishing Competition - Farmoor 2 Reservoir Near Oxford - Saturday May 1st 1999.**

Entry forms available from Graham Pearson on 0116 241 2797. The proceeds from this event will be donated to the English Fly Fishing Association. Entry Fees including fishing charges and post match buffet are. Non-concessionary £21 - 00. Concessionary ( Registered disabled, Senior Citizens, Juniors under 16) - £16 – 00

**Rutland Water Weather call service**

This very valuable addition to the information service is the brain child of Dave Hales of the Surface Water sports at Whitwell Creek. The number to call is 0640610206. It costs 60p per minute. It gives you the most important info. that we anglers need - i.e. Surface wind speed & direction. Critical in determining where we fish. It will also determine whether you go out in a boat or stay on the bank. Always check with the lodge whether the wind is too strong. No boats allowed out when the wind strength exceeds Force 6 - viz 25mph

**Boatmen for the Home International Match at Rutland Water Friday 11th June 1999**

John Maitland is organising the 29 Boatmen required for this event. Could those willing to act as boatmen please get the forms attached to this letter back to John as soon as possible and certainly no later than the end of April. In recompense for a long non fishing day, each boatman can either have a free weekday boat on any Anglian Reservoir or attend without cost the International Dinner at the Rockingham Forest Hotel.

**Club Competitions 19 99**

Enclosed for your attention are:-

- 1 Application forms for both rounds of the Oliver Cup - please return both forms to Sean Cutting if you know you will be available for both matches
- 2 Application form for the Roger Thom Trophy
- 3 Complete list of club matches

**Association of Major Club Matches** (forms enclosed)

If you have not already done so please get these forms back to Sean Cutting a.s.a.p.

**Open Day for the Disabled - Saturday June 1999 - Rutland Water**

This was great fun last year although we were rather short of volunteers. Some casting skills were evident among the participants. However some delighted in attempting to intercept the back cast to the horror of the Recreation And Development Officer - D.E.M. for short. There were of course only feathers on the end! We meet at Whitwell creek and the proceedings get under way at about 1030am

Yours Sincerely

John Wadham - Hon Secretary