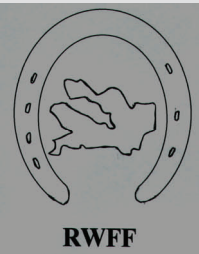


RUTLAND WATER FLY FISHERS



January 2006

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John Wadham's Fishing Report

Fishing Report for December

The water level is still well down – but is now slowly filling up. We are very fortunate in having so much water in Rutland: whereas Bewl Water and Weirwood now resemble village ponds – very serious for next year's water supplies in that area.

The recent cold snap seems to have done little to slow up sport. The North Arm particularly the Cardiac Hill area has been very productive with some lovely rainbows up to and over 4lb being caught.

On the opposite bank fish were to be seen rising close in to the Finches bank. These may well have been grazing on a tiny winter buzzer which hatched in millions in 1992 when the water level rose quickly over the exposed

land. Rainbows do tend to look upwards for their food. So anything on the surface can attract attention from fish swimming at some depth. In 1996 during a December freeze up there seemed little fish movement but a dry – e.g. Palmer or Hopper cast out and retrieved at some speed across the surface almost invariably got some attention. This is a great way of finding fish that ain't apparently there!

The larger fish appear to be feeding on quite big fry – up to 3". The smaller fish have contained fry but are rather thin albeit quite silvery in appearance.

Fry are no doubt very nourishing to the trout but in the case of roach fry feeding, they consume a lot of energy getting a meal.

In 1999 when the perch fry showed signs of distress in October, the

trout got big and fat having used the minimum of effort to gorge up. Then you needed an 8lb+ fish to turn heads Interesting also, is the increase in the stickleback population. These are easy pickings for the trout as they don't normally gather in vast shoals and are much slower swimmers. With that sharp pelvic girdle – sharper than any anglers hook – they will often have more than one go at the lure.

Dinner & Speaker evening.

This will now hopefully be on Thursday 16th March at the Whipper Inn. Full details and flyer in next newsletter.

“Clevor” Trevor's Diawlbach Solution

How often have you had your favourite fly pattern fall apart after just one fish and always when the fish are pulling their heads off?

Well, here is Trevor's answer to the self-destruct diawl-bach problem. Run thread along the hook shank as usual. Then tie in the tail then two strands of peacock herl. Take the thread back to just short of the eye. Tie in tinsel. Then run clear varnish along the hook shank. While still wet, wind tinsel down to the tail and back. Run varnish over the tinsel and while still wet rib with the peacock herl leaving gaps between so that tinsel shows through. Tie in hackle and build up head with fine fluorescent orange thread.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Paul Proctor February 9th 2006

Paul is an acknowledged expert and author on river fishing – especially for grayling and wild trout

Tackle Auction February 23rd 2006

These events or dates may be subject to alteration, watch this space.

Karl Humphries Thursday January 12th 7.30pm Empingham Cricket Club

Karl will be coming to give us the benefit of his experience, which is considerable, on the subject of Sea Trout fishing at which he is an acknowledged expert.

Karl has this season proved his skills in attacking this most worthy quarry by taking fish up to 16lb from the River Dovey in West Wales. He has also done well on the River Dee for Salmon. He will be trying some of his most effective patterns of fly with a visual aid that will project his efforts onto a large screen – as we did with Mick Huffer.

Karl is one of the assessors for the AAPGAI qualification. John W was lucky enough to be assessed by Paul at the Builth Wells seminar in November 2004. JW learned more in that session on the River Irfon than in many years of casting badly!

Karl also runs Dearnford Hall Trout fishery at Whitchurch in Shropshire. So, there is not much he doesn't know about fish.

So, with Karl's wry sense of humour this will no doubt be an interesting, amusing and very informative evening.

Please be punctual for this event as Karl has to return to Stoke-on-Trent the same evening.

David Moore & Tim Appleton Thursday 26th January

On Thursday 26th January we will be welcoming David Moore, Recreation & Access manager for AWS and Tim Appleton OBE.

Both have been to us before and had us in rapt attention.

The evening will be in three parts.

In the first half Tim will be giving us the latest on the Wildlife situation at Rutland including of course an update on the Osprey project.

David will then give us an update on the current state of the fishery and his plans for the 2006 season.

After a short break for sausage & mash at about 2100 hours you will have your opportunity to put your questions to David & Tim.

No doubt there will be many topics you want to raise whether re. the proposed mitigation works, wildlife at Rutland, the stocking policy, the ecology of the North Arm etc.

Every one is welcome including guests to what should prove to be very rewarding but informal evening.

So if you want to know more about what is going on at our beloved fishery be sure to be there on the night.

www.rwff.org.uk

After some time in the doldrums we now have our web site back up and running.

Thanks to Sean Cutting you can now click on and find club details and information that is current as well as the finding back issues of the Newsletter. We think that the new layout it is a little less complicated than our earlier one, so go on, click on and have a look. Sean would welcome any suggestions or ideas for the site.

The Normanton Fishing Lodge tackle shop re-opens on January 12th 2006