

RUTLAND WATER FLY FISHERS

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

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July Newsletter 2001

Dear Member

Fishing Report

Well, as predicted the opening of the remaining banks of the lake which included the Hambleton Peninsula and Burley provided all those who came for the week end some of the best May fishing for some seasons. It was like opening day except that the banks were relatively deserted. The fish caught were in superb silver condition with very few new stock fish in evidence. A number of overwintered fish in the 5 – 6lb range were caught: notably from Hambleton Three Trees and Armley wood. These were egg free specimens. There were plenty of perfect fish in the two to 4lb range. With no early season pressure from the bank, the fish were close in and despite crystal clear water pulled freely in the glorious sunshine, which accompanied the “opening day”. Main diet was the large buzzers in black or olive.

The long awaited big buzzer hatch was short lived. And when after a few days the weather broke down and the fish and the large buzzers temporarily did the bunk. A further spell of settled weather saw the fish back in the margins but on a totally different diet – reprocessed food! This time the North Arm Shallows, Burley and Tim Appleton’s started to fish.

A very interesting phenomenon is the Rainbows’ apparent penchant for eating swift and swan excrement. After very close examination of stomach contents it was decided that the black or green “mush” in their stomachs was “reprocessed” food. The fish seemed most active when there was a dense flight of swifts overhead or a plethora of swans in front of one. So if anyone can manufacture a ---- fly then we could be in for a bonanza! It is always worth fishing downwind of swans as whatever these birds are doing they do stir food and quite often fish can be seen right up to their tail feathers. So don’t shoo them away.

Next came the inevitable hatch of roach & perch fry. This was sure to be a feature in view of the apparent explosion in the roach/perch population. This hatch, which seems to be akin to the caenis hatch, to judge by the uncatchability of the fish started mid month and will no doubt supply the fish with plenty of protein. However some good fish have been taken and a number of anglers have had some fine specimens. One or two folks reported being broken by substantial monsters – especially in the Old Hall Bay. You can flog away at these fry feeders - “needlers” – a very good word for them – and then as per usual with Rutland fish they will suddenly decide to pull for half an hour. In that time you could take quite a big bag of fish. So it is worth sticking with them. There is one silver lining to this cloud and that is the wise saw that says, “while you can’t catch them they are growing”. So roll on a change of diet! However it is great to see so many fish moving – sometimes almost too close to boat and bank.

Well, what are the best patterns? GRHE, Pearly Pheasant tail, Diawl Bach and CDC seem to have done most of the damage. They have also been taking tiny buzzers. In the evening there is a hatch of almost every insect species you are likely to encounter at the lake including the odd late May Fly!

The sedge came early this year but as per usual only a few specimens appeared in the fish stomach contents: the rainbows preferring to eat tiny khaki coloured worms. It might be worth mentioning that, when they are on these, a

surface fished palmer “on a motorbike” comes into its own. This is also a very good method for testing the water for the presence of fish which aren’t actually showing and great fun to see the chase.

Have you heard about the two fellows, one English and one foreign, who were sitting in a boat one day with fish rising all around but their landing nets were still dry? The Englishman said to his boat partner “these fish are taking the p--s”. The other, whose understanding of the English language was rather limited, enquired whether he had such a pattern in his box and would it be worth trying!

Fishing Report (Contd.)

The water level has dropped very quickly to be some 4ft down to date. No real sign of any algal problems. Best places at the moment seem to be Fantasy Island, The stones, Old Hall Bay, Yellowstone, Transformer, Three Trees (Hambleton) and Burley.

Boats have been doing pretty well with a group of Scotsmen having a bonanza in the Hideaway Bay and Cattle Trough Bay area of the South Arm. Some very large fish have been caught here including two Rainbows of 9lb 10oz and 9lb 13oz. One on hares Ear and the other on Diawl Bach fished on floating lines. Tim Appleton’s and Burley have also produced some very good catches.

If any one has the real answer to the “needlers” – then please lets us know before you empty the lake!

Junior news

Luke Shevlin has already submitted two Browns for the Fario Shield offered for the best Brown of the season by a junior member. The first weighed 2lb 10oz and was caught in the Hanby Cup Match on 10th June. Two days later he bettered that with a 3lb 1oz fish taken during the Tuesday night boat league match on 12 June. It was also the best fish on the night. Well done Luke. He has also twice taken second place in the Tuesday night boat league.

Luke also entered and qualified for the Youth national on his first attempt. If you fancy following Luke and want to enter yourself for the England Youth Championship at Grafham entry forms are available from Mike Watts at 66 Northampton Road, Kettering, Northants, NN15 7JX. (Date of birth must be between August 1st 1984 & July 22nd 1989)

The secretary would like to hear from any junior member of their successes.

Osprey success at Rutland Water

One of the chicks released at Rutland Water several years ago has returned from Africa and bred with a Scottish female to produce the first chick in England for 150 years. This is the product of five years work by Anglian Water, Leicestershire & Rutland Wildlife Trust and The Highland Foundation for Wildlife who have reared and released osprey chicks from Scotland. We wish them further success in the years to come.

Club Competition Results

John Wadham Trophy – Friday June 1st

Congratulations to the winner – again - Iain Barr and to junior member Daniel Jackman for taking the best fish and thanks to all those who took part: and to Tickled Trout for keeping the bar open late.
See attached result sheet.

RWFF Oliver Cup 17th June 2001

- | | | | |
|---|--------------|--------|----------|
| 1 | Mike Gunnell | 8 fish | 21lb 0oz |
| 2 | Andrew Wells | 8 fish | 20lb ¾oz |
| 3 | Paul Wild | 8 fish | 17lb 8oz |

Tuesday Night Boat League – June 19th 2001

1	Iain Barr	8 fish	18lb	2oz
2	Luke Shevlin	2 fish	7lb	2oz
3	Andrew wells	6 fish	6lb	6oz

The results so far show Paul Wild to be ahead with 29 points, Al Owen second with 21 points and Roger McCarthy third with 17 points.

RWFF Hanby Cup

1	Sean Cutting & Mike Netherclift	12 fish	26lb 1½oz
2	Roger McCarthy & Nigel Savage	13 fish	26lb 0oz
3	Graham Pearson & Mike Barratt	9 fish	18lb 8½oz

3

JUNIORS EVENING – THURSDAY 26TH JULY 2001

You will note that is a week later than last year. This is to take account of the later term ending at some schools.

This is arguably the most important event in the RWFF calendar. It is the best opportunity we all have of getting youngsters away from their play stations and out to a healthier lifestyle. These boys and girls represent the future of our sport and should be given every opportunity to take part.

We start at 2.30pm when a number of club members some of whom are qualified instructors will be on hand to offer casting tuition. So if any members are free that afternoon then some help with casting would be appreciated.

*We then take the youngsters out in a boat to fish from 5.00pm until 10.00pm or until they have had enough. The most important requirements is that we have **enough boatmen** to ensure that all the juniors who come along can get out on the water on a one to one basis. Parents, preferably with some fishing experience, would very welcome to act as boatmen. It is simply a matter of ensuring their safety in the boat and that they have a good time and learn something.*

A lot of work goes into co-ordinating an event of this type so “many hands will make light work”.

The important thing is that we, as senior members, pass on some of our skills.

Many of our former participants in this event have gone far in the fishing world.

There will be some food at the end. The weigh in will be carried out by the Secretary et al as quickly as possible after 10.00pm

Remember to bring some form of eye protection – e.g. Polaroids or prescription glasses and of course to wear a life jacket. There may be some safety glasses available at the lodge on the night.

OK, there are big prizes for the winners: but you all get a prize of some sort. If you don't catch a fish it does not matter at all. Many famous anglers have been water licked in the past – so there is no disgrace in a blank. One year a number of the youngsters caught a limit bag!

Let's hope for good weather, a fair wind and pulling fish!

For application forms, details of prizes, charges etc. please contact Andy Flitcroft, the organiser, at work on 01733 282612 or at home on 01780 754004.

Errata

1 Jim Watts **not** Jim Clements took the 26lb 10oz Pike reported in the May letter.

2 Charles Bowers caught the best fish in the European Open **not** in the “Odds and sods” as reported in the June letter

3 Jim Watts accompanied Ken Merridan in the boat when they had such a good day on the buzzers in Manton Bay

The Secretary apologises for these “Typographical” errors.

Late Extra – Association of Major Club Matches at Hanningfield & Rutland Water

The Secretary apologises to the participants in the Hanningfield match for not publishing the results. This was due to a Major Clubs administration problem associated with calculating them. These, which arrived to day, were apparently based on 1kg/hour rather than 2lb/hour for the time bonus. RWFF would like to thank Bill McIlroy, Stuart Young, Mick Loy & Andrew Wells for travelling all the way to Hanningfield to represent the club and giving it their best shot. Thanks also to Sean Cutting, Leon Smith, Kevin Taylor, Paul Wild, Steve Crowson, & Stuart Young who represented the club at Rutland, where we came 3rd full results in next letter

Hope to see as many as possible of you on 26th July. Should be a great evening

Yours Sincerely

John Wadham