

RUTLAND WATER FLY FISHERS



July 2005

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John Wadham's Fishing Report

Fishing Report for June/July

June was a warm month and July looks like being warmer still. This hasn't totally put a damper on the fishing and some great catches have been taken mainly by the boats.

The water level is just over a metre down and is lovely and clear. It would appear that the nutrients present in the lake are, this season, being used up by the marginal silk weed instead of feeding a dreaded brown algae: although has put in an odd brief appearance.

There is a tremendous bloom of Daphnia at present. This can clearly be observed around the boat dock in a North West wind. Don't forget to put a life jacket on if you want to view it!

So far just over 60,000 fish have been stocked:

21,000 have been recorded from catch returns – which AWS is sorry to see are, in some cases, still coming in from April! The seasonal rod average is 3.3.

In an article written many years ago Dick Walker wrote that the average catch per angler was less than half a fish per rod. So at 3.3 at Rutland, which for many is so challenging, this is quite an achievement. A lot of this is due to sharing of knowledge, improved tackle, and greater casting skills.

For the bank fisherman there have been some evening rises – especially off the Old Hall point. They have not given themselves up: but some good fish have been observed. Local farmer John Griffin has been catching some really good fish up to just under 5lb from various places around the Hambleton Peninsula – mainly on PTN & GRHE

Overcast days seem to be most productive with the fish descending to the depth at the least sign of

the sun.

Fish have also been around early morning grazing on the fry right in the margins. Malcolm March said that he had to stand well back from the water so as not to spook the fish. These were apparently mainly well seasoned Browns along the Normanton Bank. This bodes well for later in the season. The hope is that with many large fish turning up this year they may appear near the banks either for the fry or the Daddies in October

All in all, resulting from the great blooms of daphnia, the early season fish have made better condition than for a few years. They fight well but for some reason, having been hooked, seek shelter just out of range of the bank angler's landing net!

It has to be said, however, that, with few exceptions, the fish would have starved if they had had to depend on the buzzer for their snap. The hatch lasted only about 10 days and was quite localised. It seemed that the larger buzzers hatched in about

The larger well-seasoned fish know this and consequently are caught mainly in this part of the lake.

The main pupa in other parts of the lake was olive and about size 12. An olive pattern with orange cheeks proved very desirable. During this hatch the JW had much more success from the bank with small olive coloured wets than pupal imitations. The old proverbial stick fly on a size 12 proved also very effective. It also seemed that on some occasions these latter patterns were best fished on a slow pull and stop basis: rather than the "figure of 8" retrieve

Interestingly there were far fewer coarse fish in the margins than in 2004. These were mostly Bream and some fine specimens were caught and double figure fish seen spawning. Not much sign of the large Roach and tiny Zander, which frequented the Old Hall point in June 2004 cont

...cont Trout have shown only scant local interest in the newly hatched coarse fish fry this year. With so much Daphnia to go at who needs to waste energy chasing fry!
There has been some interesting dry fly fishing this season. Phil Brown had some good sport on the Dam taking four good fish over three pounds with a nymph/dry combo

Best Rainbow of the season

Another large rainbow has been caught: this time by John Wotherspoon from Stamford. It is the best of the season and weighed 11lb 6oz. It was taken from the Manton End of the South Arm on a tube and gave him quite a battle. It was the sixteenth fish of their boat limit!

Boat anglers are having the lion's share of the sport with eight limit bags being taken up to 19lb

Tuesday night boat league

Al Owen is doing a Tiger Woods and maintaining his lead at the top of the table without even having to catch a fish during the last event!

Latest results

1	Gordon Bramwell	6 fish	13lb 1oz
2	Keith Jones	6 fish	11lb 13oz
3	Tom Cooper	6 fish	11lb 9oz

John Dodds Memorial Trophy

This match is held annually in memory the late John Dodds one of the founder members of the club.

Twelve members took part. The going wasn't easy but some fish were caught

Result:-

1	Rob Holloway	6 fish	11lb 0oz
2	Robin Chapman	3 fish	9lb 3oz
3	Richard Pakey	2 fish	5lb 3oz

Hunts Servants Match

This match in June gave a tremendous result with many good fish being caught topped by a 6lb 4oz Brown caught by senior warden John Seaton

Best bag was caught by Di Farrin with 8 fish for 20lb 12oz

Thirty nine anglers caught 162 fish mainly from the main basin with the fish being full of daphnia

Results

1	Paul Friend & Di Farin	16 fish	41lb 2oz
2	Charles Bowers & Tony Thomas	16 fish	38lb 10oz
3	John Seaton & Michael Farrin	16 fish	38lb 10oz

Anglian Water Floating Line Competition

Strong West winds made the going hard. Al Owen from Cranwell did very well in the conditions taking his fish from the main basin. First three places went to RWFF members.

Results

1	Al Owen	8 Fish	19lb 2oz
2	Martin Rowson	3 fish	9lb 4oz
3	John Tattersfield	3 fish	7lb 7oz

Water Aid 2005

The annual Water Aid event took place on 24 June at Rutland Water, with sponsored teams from across Britain competing to raise money for reducing water supply problems in the Third World. Over £18,000 was raised from the competition, a raffle and an auction of donated items that was held at the end of the day.



Brian Bonner helping John W. to set up the kit

were able to throw a tolerable line. Most importantly the volunteers, all of whom were accomplished anglers and good boat handlers, acted as gillies for two novices in a boat. They made sure everyone got out onto the water safely and had a reasonable chance of catching a fish.

The weather had the last word but, undaunted and enthusiastic, the 150 competitors set out in heavy rain, putting in a sterling performance. Inevitably following such hot and thundery weather only a limited number fish were caught. Everyone got a thorough soaking but arrived back at the dock smiling, having enjoyed the day and helped a good cause.

After the weigh-in everyone sat down to an excellent meal in the Waters Edge Restaurant. Later the organisers Chris Evans and Paul Dimbleby from Anglian Water thanked John Wadham for organising the work of the RWFF volunteers.

Rutland Water Fly Fishers, led by John Wadham, supplied 16 volunteers to help make the day a

success. Over 3 days before the event they made up 145 fly boxes, 41 fly fishing kits for novices and 145 "goodie bags" for all competitors. They ran a casting clinic for beginners after which most of the participants



Beginners being helped with their casting practice



The volunteers all managing to smile at the same time!

Tom follows in brothers footsteps

Blazing hot sunshine didn't stop the best of England's young fly-fishers catching fish in the EYFFA National championship at Grafham Water on Sunday.

Fishing in pairs with volunteer boatmen 35 anglers from all over the country fished for places in the team to represent their country in next years Home International and it was 14 year old Tom Cooper from Rutland who left everyone behind with seven trout weighing 14lb, more than twice the weight of runner-up Joel Beeney from Kent and Tom Davis (Leicestershire).

Most fish were taken on nymphs and buzzers fished slow and deep although some fish were taken near the surface early in the day. One of the first to congratulate Champion Tom was his brother Richard who is already in the England Team making this a rare double. If Richard makes the top four in the next International match in Wales fished this summer then they will both be in the team to fish the Home International on their local venue, Rutland Water next year.

The event is organised by the England Youth Fly-fishing Association and sponsored by Masterline and Anglian Water.

David Moore, Anglian Water's Recreation Manager, presented the prizes and congratulated the EYFFA on a very successful event, with special thanks going to the boatmen who volunteered to help the youngsters on the day.



Litter Pick Presentation

On Sunday March 6th 2005, Rutland Water Fly Fishers carried out their annual litter pick up around the banks of Rutland Water. The club was sponsored by Anglian Water in the sum of £100.00 to carry out the work. The proceeds have been donated to the Rutland Ward Palliative Care Suite at the Rutland Memorial Hospital in Oakham and will be allocated to providing equipment for activities there. Many bags of rubbish were collected and thanks offered to all those who took part. The presentation took place at the Rutland Water Fishing Lodge, Normanton on Monday July 4th 2005. Those present were - from left to right John Seaton - Senior Warden at Rutland Water, Maria Ward, ward manager of the Rutland Ward and John Wadham, Rutland Water Fly Fishers.

