

RUTLAND WATER FLY FISHERS



July 2006

Website: www.rwff.org.uk



John Wadham's Fishing Report

Fishing Report for July

Contrary to expectations, the recent hot weather did nothing to slow sport. Numerous limits have been caught by both bank and boat fishermen. Best patterns have been buzzers, Diawlbachs and various lures. The main diet in the middle of the lake is quite clearly and almost exclusively daphnia. The marginal fish are more interested in bashing the newly hatched pin fry. However there are probably five million pin-fry for each trout! This makes them difficult to interest. Dry flies and suspender nymphs, while hardly resembling what they are eating, are often more effective. A muddler whipped across their noses is often worth a try. The fish have made better weight this season than

for some time. Early stockfish are now averaging about 3lb and silvery enough to be indistinguishable from overwintered specimens.

This is due mainly due the prolonged buzzer hatch in April & May that was arguably the best for many years and good blooms of daphnia.

While the buzzer hatch may have tailed off, the fish are also still taking green & red bloodworms freely

The water still remains quite clear with, so far, no sign of the dreaded brown algae. Inevitably, the blue greens put in appearance during the calmer periods but this does not seem to upset the fish.

It is gratifying to report that the North Arm is producing fish. Paul Shaw caught one of the best rainbows of the season off Armley Wood.

Fish have also been seen chasing fry and some good fish have been caught around the weed beds out from the Transformer.

Corixa have been reported from various areas round the banks. This creature forms

an important part of their autumn diet and tends to hold the fish in the margins. To judge by this increase in the available food, it does appear that the lake ecology is at last on an upward trend. Good news for them and us! Since the wind moved out of the Easterly quarter the fish have had to adjust. It may certainly good sense and seem obviously more comfortable to fish with the wind at your back: but it is likely to be the most productive area in hot weather as any warm water and algae will be pushed offshore by the wind. Best fishing spots have been, Whitwell car park frontage, The Dam, Fantasy, Normanton, Harbour Wall, Sailing Club bay. The top of the South Arm has produced some great catches for the boats. **Specimen fish** — Club members have caught some good fish. Mick Lacey caught a 6lb 12oz Rainbow on a sparkler and sunk line from a boat off the Old Hall. Dave Doherty also got in on the act by taking a 5lb 8oz rainbow & an 8lb brown. Paul Shaw took a 6lb rainbow from a boat off Armley Wood and recently a 5lb 8oz specimen. Richard Cooper caught a 5lb Rainbow in the JW Trophy Bank match and is the best fish submitted for the annual Mike Ellis

Trophy.

The John Dodds Memorial Trophy—This was won by Rob Holloway with 8 fish for 19lb 11oz.

Anglian Water/Fulling Mill Competition – Midlands heat— Orvis Team Rutland consisting entirely of club members Sean Cutting, Kevin Taylor Steve Crowson, Mike Gunnell, David Lang & Mike Barrett were the winners. Top rod for OTW and second overall individual was David Lang. Captain Sean Cutting was very pleased with the result as the team had two events out of two.

Tuesday Boat League— Tom Cooper (junior member) won the recent event with 6 fish for 14lb 6oz. This means that he shares the overall top spot with Leon Smith.

Winter programme— This is slowly taking shape. Among events proposed are a Fly dressing demo by "Clevor" Trevor, a Forum of experts, Cooking demo, Tackle Auction, Pre season Dinner, Talk and general discussion with the sailing Club as a social evening. n.

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES - John Maitland, Chairman RWFF



It is great to hear of good catches from the banks so far this season, as well as from the boats. I am steadily recovering from hopefully my final operation back in April and hope before long to manage at least shortish boat trips; perhaps the banks in Autumn.

We have received from the County Council the latest change to the AW Planning Application for draw-down mitigation works in the interest of gadwall and shoveler ducks. This increases the planned South Arm impoundment by 5 hectares with the area extending along the south shore and cutting off more prime boat fishing water. Also, since it extends the proposed South Arm bunds by 50% the work will take longer and involve much more HGV/road and barge/reservoir traffic to the detriment of wildlife, water users and local populace. I have responded protesting at the change.

At a recent committee meeting the question of replacing at the AGM Roy Kedge as Minutes Secretary came up. We will require someone with some computer/typing capability to arrange agendas and take outline minutes for 5 committee meetings and the AGM each year. Also to edit the News Letters in cooperation with John Wadham (Events Secretary). Anyone with time and inclination to help the Club with this vital job is asked to contact Roy, John or myself. Finally, our membership is lower than it has been for some time, perhaps because poor bank fishing has attracted fewer bank anglers. A healthy membership is vital to Club activity. Now that the fishing is improving could anyone who meets a potential member on bank or boat please encourage them to join. At the recent committee meeting we discussed what should be a good winter's programme.

John Wadham Trophy Results

<u>NAME</u>	<u>NUMBER OF FISH</u>	<u>BEST FISH</u>	<u>WEIGHT</u>	<u>PLACE</u>
Phil Brown	3	4lb 5oz	9lb 8oz	1
Richard Cooper	2	5lb 0oz	8lb 12oz	2
Lewis Carlin	4	4lb 0oz	8lb 10oz	3

This evening bank match was fished in blazing hot weather under a clear sky. Despite these conditions some very good fish were caught: notably the 5lb Rainbow taken by junior member Richard Cooper on a diawl-bach from Fantasy Island where his younger brother also caught a 3lb 4oz specimen. This is the largest fish submitted for the "Mike Ellis" Trophy for the best Rainbow caught by a junior member in the 2006 season.

Phil Brown took the winning weight from the dam on a washing line set up. He also took the best brown at 3lb 13oz.

As one would expect in these conditions most of the action was after 9pm.

The fish were quite local with most of the fish caught between Normanton Blue pipes and the Dam where some good fish were seen apparently grazing on the newly hatched pin fry. These fish were here taking advantage of a "thermocline tilt". Lew Carlin caught his fish from the Normanton Pontoon Bay. With the lake having become quite stratified in the recent calm hot weather the strong offshore SE wind had pushed all the algae and warm water away from this shore. The most gratifying part

The Hanby Cup

The competition was fished on a bright sunny day with light changeable winds that kept dying and this made fishing rather difficult. Nevertheless, we had 6 boats i.e. 12 anglers with a total of 39 fish being caught and these weighed in at 75lbs. 01/2 oz. (6.5 fish per boat - 3.25 fish p/p with 1.92lbs. per fish average).

Jamie Weston and Phil Brown won the comp. with 11 fish for 25lbs. including a r/b of 3lb.21/2oz. Garry Cooper and Nigel Milner came second with 10 fish for 17lb.9oz. and including the best fish of the day to Garry, a r/b at 3lb.53/4oz. Jamie/Phil won £30 (and the cup) and Garry/Nigel £15. Most of fish were caught on a mixture of black, green buzzers and diawl bachs with top areas at the bottom of the south arm including hideaway bay; yellowstone; stocky bay and the mound/willow bay.

Roy Taylor.