

# RUTLAND WATER FLY FISHERS

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

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## **June Newsletter 2001**

Dear member

**Glad tidings! The remaining restricted banks at Rutland Water will be available for fishing from Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2001 – yippee!**

However, this is subject to there being no local outbreaks of foot & mouth disease. There are some rules of access, which we are obliged to follow.

There are sheep grazing on the Hambleton peninsula, from Barnsdale to Burley and from Whitwell to Sykes. You are therefore asked to protect these by using the foot dips provided and walking directly to the shoreline via the shortest route. Then walking along the shore to your chosen fishing spot.

Dogs will remain prohibited from the Hambleton peninsula and we are asked not to leave scraps of food.

There are no restrictions at the other Anglian fisheries which are all fishing very well.

AWS would like to thank us for our co-operation with them.

From the bank anglers' point of view, this lifting of restrictions will be like fishing virgin water. We have all been told about all those lovely overwintered fish in the shallows. So this promises to be great fishing.

It might be worth mentioning however, that, as elsewhere in the country, our absence from the banks will have allowed wildlife around the reservoir to have got used to the peace and quiet. Birds may still be nesting near fishing spots, and some species of wildflowers may have sprung up where they haven't been seen for years. So do take care where you tread.

For those season ticket holders, who opted for the two-stage payment, don't forget that the second stage is due on the 31st May.

### **Fishing report**

Considering the limited bank available for fishing the rod average has been very high. There has been a smattering of overwintered fish with one angler catching a 4lb and a 6lb Rainbow from the dam on a booby on sunk line.

This catch actually reflects the deep fishing trend this season. Best method - with floating lines - has been to set two or three nymphs up on a long leader: preferably in excess of 20 ft. Cast out and leave all to rest until the bottom is felt. Then a steady figure of eight retrieve with an odd spurt for the induced takes from the "doubting Thomas" type. A great many fish are coming on the drop: i.e. as the fly sinks. So watch that line carefully while as the fly goes down.

It has proved very important to be able to keep the nymphs out as far as you can for as long as possible. So fishing directly downwind has proved the best situation. During the spell of cold North Easterly winds, places like Dickensons, Cardiac Hill, the Mound, Whitwell Car Park front, the Dam have proved very productive and are still producing well.

Again, we are lucky that the North and South winds in April and early May allowed us to fish either of the available banks. But, of course, these are deep-water spots: but in reality it is the shallows that warm up quickest. So, Green Bank, Tim Appleton's, Old Hall flats, Dalton's and Burley should also be worth a try. Some one asked for some prospects. Well that is the Secretary's view. You know Rutland. The fish do not abide by the rules here. But whatever happens, it will be great to cover new water, drive or walk on the track in Hambleton Wood through the bluebells and hopefully hear the nightingales.

For the bank fisherman, the lake went a little quiet in the recent cold Westerlies with a big influx of cold water following torrential rain. This has raised the lake to top level. The present forecast is for more dry, quiet and warmer weather. This should encourage the larger buzzers which are starting to appear. Let's hope the hatch is within range of the bank angler this year!

Ted Cornish and boat partner caught a double limit on the buzzer up near Hideaway bay in the South Arm. They reported that the larger buzzers, which hatched in the middle of the day, encouraged some fish in the 3 to 3½lb range to put in an appearance.

Ken Merridan and Herbert Palmer from Yorkshire also had a good day on the buzzers in the Manton Bay area on Sunday. The fish did not come every cast but they caught some 13 fish with some lovely overwintered specimens around the 3½lb mark.

We are at last seeing evening rises especially in a flat calm. The Secretary threw to rising fish for about 1½ hours on the Mound between 8pm and 9.30pm. Initially you could only get takes deep. Then they gradually came up in the water and finally takes were obtained by greasing up or speeding up the retrieve.

It is interesting to note that the good fish come in first followed by the stockies. This is a phenomenon common to many other larger waters. It happened on Sunday on the dam. Some 3lb fish came at about 6pm. Then a lull then the stockies appeared in quantity. Funnily enough, the good fish were well hooked: whereas the stockies often came off in the net or just before!

One angler had some fun with CDC 's for a short period. So they are on their way up to surface feeding.

The secretary took an overwintered fish on a Hawthorn fly. These insects can, like the daddies in October, attract some larger fish to the surface. Let's hope they didn't all get drowned in the floods! As with the daddies you need a good strong offshore wind and a "gink it chuck it and leave it" approach – even if they are not showing.

In the week ending 15<sup>th</sup> April our indispensable helper at the tackle auction, Alec Wood from South Kyme near Sleaford caught the best rainbow of the week weighing 5lb 8oz. Bill Kingston club member from Northampton took a fine Brown of 6lb 0oz from Ravensthorpe. Graham Pearson took a rainbow of 5lb 6oz from Rutland. All were "best fish" of their respective weeks.

### **Club Competitions**

Enclosed for your attention are the following:- 1 List of club events for the rest of the season.

2 Application forms for:-(a) Pro/AM Sun 15<sup>th</sup> July.

(b) Loch Style Sun 26<sup>th</sup> August.

Please get these and other forms back to Sean as soon as possible so that boats etc can be booked

### **John Wadham Trophy – Friday June 1<sup>st</sup> 2001**

Note that there is a change to the programme in that you need to book in at the Lodge from 5.00 pm in person prior to fishing. Fish 6.00pm to 1000pm. Jon Marshall has kindly allowed all of us, whatever our ticket, an 8 fish limit. There will be someone to weigh you in if you are skilled enough or for other reasons want to finish early. In view of the late finish, there will be no food provided after this match. However Steph and her staff at "Tickled Trout" have kindly agreed to keep the bar open till 1100pm. So, if you have done well, you can celebrate and, if you haven't, you can drown your sorrows. Either way you'll get a drink! See enclosed competitions list.

### **Roger Thom Trophy – Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> May 2001**

Congratulations to Kevin Taylor for winning the match with 8 fish for 25lb on "catch and release" including a time bonus of 9lb. Second was David Lang with 8 fish "taken" for 24lb 3oz including time bonus of 7lb and Andrew Wells a comparative newcomer to the sport was third with 8 fish "taken" for 23lb 9½oz including time bonus of 7lb 8oz. Best fish weighing 3lb 1oz was caught by David Lang. David seems to have a habit of getting best fish in various matches. How do you do it sir?

### **Association of Major Clubs**

RWFF did very well in this match coming second to Bewl FF thus rising from bottom to third place overall. Sean would like to extend his thanks for those who travelled all that way to Kent to represent RWFF. Full results in the next letter.

Application forms for the rest of the matches in the series available from the secretary. It would help our hard pressed club captain and competition secretary Sean, if you could get your forms back to him as soon as possible.

### **Other competitions**

#### **Trout Masters Fish Off - Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> April – Rutland Water**

Well done new club member Mark McCleod for winning the event with 8 fish for 17lb 4½oz. This qualifies Mark to fish the final at Grafham in September.

#### **Bob Church Frank Cutler Memorial Match**

Well done Leon Smith (8 fish for 28lb 6oz inc. TB) and Gordon Bloodworth (8 fish for 26lb 14½oz inc. TB) for achieving second and third places in this event. The first 43 anglers weighed in limit bags with David Lang taking the best fish – again! – of 4lb 13½oz

#### **2001 Trout Fisherman European Open – Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> April**

This was a great day for RWFF members who took first and second places.

1 Iain Barr 23lb 8oz

2 Steve Crowson 23lb 1oz

Well done indeed!

#### **George Geiger at the Victoria Hall, Oakham on Thursday May 10<sup>th</sup>**

This was a great evening. This well-known professional guide and boat skipper gave an enthralling and very valuable talk on fishing in Florida. He concentrated on shallow water fly fishing on the Atlantic coast of this State. This was of immense value to those planning a holiday out there. Sadly only some 17 members attended. Our thanks to Sean Cutting for arranging the evening.

#### **Juniors Evening – Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2001**

This is a great opportunity to introduce youngsters to the sport. If you know of any interested junior under the age of 18 or have a relative or friend whose offspring wish to take part please contact - Andy Flitcroft on 01780 754004 as soon as possible. *Just as important as the number of junior participants is the need for boat partners for them.* Without their help the event cannot go ahead. It is simply a matter of ensuring their safety in the boat and of course that they enjoy themselves and hopefully catch a fish. However, don't do it all for them for the sake of winning the best prize. They need a challenge and some guidance. They represent the future of our sport. Full details and application forms in the next newsletter.

#### **Odds and Sods Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> April - Rutland Water**

Congratulations to 14 year Charles Bowers for catching the best fish of the match. He caught the fish, his first of the day, on a black & gold Fritz fished on a DI7 line in the middle of the main basin near the boundary buoys off the dam. He caught 4 fish for 8lb 1oz. He did well, coming 26<sup>th</sup> out of 56.

Don't forget you boys and girls: if you have any news let me have it. Who knows it may qualify you for the Fario Trophy.

#### **Club Trophies for Specimen Fish.**

No one has yet submitted a fish for any of the trophies. The list may be found inside the back cover of your membership book. Specimen fish forms are to be found next to our notice board at the Lodge. Fish must be witnessed by an AWS warden or if weighed on private scales these should be verified against the scales at the lodge.

If no junior members submit a Brownie for the Fario Shield, it will be presented to the junior member who has achieved most success during the season.

#### **Tuesday Night Boat League**

This started on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> May – This is a great way to learn the art – especially if you are a beginner and it is a lot of fun. For further details contact the Lodge on 01780 686441

If anyone feels they have been left out or their achievements have been overlooked please write to the secretary. All contributions will be cheerfully received!

Roll on Saturday!

Yours sincerely

John Wadham