

RUTLAND WATER FLY FISHERS

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

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MARCH NEWSLETTER 1998

Dear Member

Bill Pennington - Tuesday 3rd March 1998

On this night Bill spoke to about 30 club members on Trout fishing in the Lake District. While the presentation could have been more lively the subject matter was very interesting.

It was made clear that besides being a holiday area, the Lakes contain much excellent still water fishing most of it free and the rest very affordable. Almost all the fishing is for wild Brown Trout and on many lakes bank or wading fishing can bring good results.

Of the central lakes he made particular reference to Windermere where the average size is good and he had taken a five and a half pounder from the shore: Ullswater with lots of smaller free rising fish; and Conniston which was also good in parts. All these are free fishing.

In the West are four lakes requiring a ticket from the National Trust. Bill referred particularly to Buttermere and Crummock Water with lots of average sized fish but spent a lot of time describing enigmatic Loweswater. Here he has never landed a trout under a pound and a quarter and there are lots up to 4lb and much bigger. However due to the rich feed they are hard to come by - four in a day is doing well.

He also touched on Esthwaite Water, well stocked with Rainbows which grow well but is therefore more expensive to fish.

As far as tactics went, he noted that most of the lakes are very deep and most of the feeding trout are found in the shoreline shallows, or around islands reefs and skerries by the boat fishermen..

While most of the relatively few and rather secretive local fly fishers use only floating lines, Bill recommended trials with intermediates. Also, since the large Browns in Windermere feed on Char and are caught on Rapalas, what about big tubes fished on the rudder!

As to flies, his choice ranged from small North country spiders - particularly at Ullswater through conventional wets to Buzzer pupae and Mayflies as appropriate.

This was a talk which highlighted little known and cheap - yet good opportunities not too far from Rutland.

R.W.F.F. Club Competitions 1998.

For the benefit of new members, the match programme summary is enclosed. Those who wish to fish should get their names into Sean Cutting as soon as possible so as to prevent a last minute administrative nightmare. The first club event is the J.W Trophy evening match to be fished on June 2nd. The first round of the Oliver Cup will be on Sunday 14th June at Rutland. Application forms in April Newsletter. If you already you know that you will be available to fish in any particular competition please contact the Club Captain, Sean Cutting on 01780 720833.

General News

As I write, stocking of the Lake is in progress at many places around the banks the high water having increased the number of available delivery points. Some 22,000 fish are due to go in for the opening on April 1st.

Prior to the stocking there have been rises indicating the presence of a good head of over wintered fish. The marginal water temperature still remains at 7 deg C - the normal water temp for late April or early May. The average temp at this time of year is 5 deg C! This bodes well for a great start. But remember! "Ne'er cast a clout till the May is out". April can be a "bitch" and a prolonged icy spell could slow things up.

There are very good insect hatches on the quieter days i.e. almost every day with some of last years fish showing to them. These are mostly small buzzers and appear to hatch mid-morning. By about 4pm there are clouds of insects to be seen in the shelter of trees and buildings. Looking Good!

The water is now at 98% capacity and due to rise a few inches more yet. So if you forget your waders on the first day it will be no real hardship as we can now fish off "cowslip banks" to quote Izaak Walton. Well, grassy banks in this case. Think of it - no messy kit when it rains, comfort assured and no cold feet - unless of course it is snowing!

The club would like to thank John and Jan Maitland for providing "five star" accommodation for our long distance speakers this Winter. Absolutely essential if we are to get the best guests! While on the subject of guest speakers, the next two committee meetings which are on 24th march and sometime in July respectively, the matter of the social life of the club will be considered in detail. So if you have any novel suggestions for the Winter or, come to that, the Summer months contact any member of your committee or telephone or write to the secretary who organises many of the functions.

Litter Pick up day - Sunday 8th March 1998

This was as last year a very enjoyable occasion with some 22 members and A.W.S staff taking part. We collected 41 bin liners of refuse. Due to lack of hands and time we were not able to cover the whole perimeter. With just half a dozen more volunteers we could have done a total clean up. Shame to spoil the ship for a ha'porth of tar" However it was gratifying to hear some very favourable comments by passers by and by word of mouth since. This type of event does much for the good name of angling and trout fisherman in particular. A sum of £162 -00 was achieved with A.W.S donating £100 - 00 and £62 -00 being collected via a raffle. This sum will be given to the Karen Ball Fund for palliative care. The presentation which will take place at 1215 pm on Wednesday 25th March at the Fishing Lodge, Normanton will be received by Jim Bolton. A Rutland Times photographer will be on hand to capture the event. Our thanks are due to Jon Marshall for organising it all and Sue & Graham Noble for the delicious bacon sandwiches which got us on our way. A very big thank you to all those who turned out on one of the only cold mornings this Winter! The volunteers were as follows:-

R.W.F.F.

Paul Wild
John Dracup
John Maitland
Dick Stephen
Dave Rix
John Harrison
Brian Lloyd
Alec Wood

John Dodds
Roger McCarthy
Mr & Mrs Ridgeway
Bob Garratt
Leon Smith
Brian Thomas
-
Ron Tutt

A.W.S.

Jon Marshall
Nathan Clayton
Nigel Savage
Paul Friend
Sue Noble
Graham

The two raffle prizes of a days boat fishing offered by Anglian Water were won by John Dracup & Nathan Clayton respectively.

Users Panel Meeting - Monday 23rd March 1998.

Details in the next newsletter

Dinner & Speaker evening - Tuesday 17th March 1998.

Although only some 30 members attended the function it could be described as a great success. The food purveyed by Alan Brown and his staff was very good and well presented. The guest of honour was Bob Feetham a former Editor of Angling Times from the early seventies until recently taking ownership of the Rutland Times. He related some amusing anecdotes from his career as editor of AT including some "adventures" with his then boss, long standing R.W.F.F. member Russell Hole. A Rutland Times photographer was on hand to capture the scene. A good article appears in this weeks edition. The club would like to thank Bob for coming and also agreeing to support the club via the columns of R.T. The Chairman proposed a toast to Rutland Water and thanked David Moore and his staff for providing fishing which it would be hard to better anywhere. Our thanks are also due to the hard work of Roger McCarthy in "inviting" members to attend and Jon Marshall for arranging for our Speaker for the evening.

Thwart Boards.

As he promised Brian Thomas has very generously provided ten new very robust new thwart boards. These should be sturdy enough to support a "Sumo" wrestler! Brian has also supplied, ready bevelled, a quantity of 2x2 spars to reinforce the existing boards. It is emphasised that thwart boards should **not** be sat on while the boat is in motion. This advisory notice can even be found on the shining aluminium ones you can buy in the shop.

The layout of the notice board and thwart board hire areas will be improved and hopefully attract more attention and increase takings in the "Honesty" box. The notice for this will read "not less than 50p".

John Maitland and Dick Stephen are in the process of branding the new boards.

New membership application forms.

Thanks to the technological skills of Andy Flitcroft and our Chairman, we now have a much improved form which gives details of the clubs activities. These will be available at the Lodge

Specimen Fish Forms

These are the return forms for the club annual specimen fish trophies. To be eligible for a trophy, a form must be filled in, the catch witnessed by A.W.S. Staff and details forwarded to the secretary without delay. These forms will also be available at the Fishing Lodge from April 1st.

The Trophies fished for (as per your membership book) are as follows :-

- 1 The Trout Fisherman Shield for the best Brown Trout by a adult member
- 2 The Trout & Salmon Shield for the best Rainbow by an adult member
- 3 The " Fario" Shield for the best Brown Trout by a Junior Member
- 4 The Mike Ellis Trophy for the best Rainbow Trout by a Junior Member

Wishing you all a happy and healthy season and the return of plenty of specimen fish forms!

Yours Sincerely

John Wadham - Hon. Secretary

Association of Major Clubs Competitions 1998

The A.M.C. was formed to :-

- 1 Organise inter club fly fishing between member clubs.
- 2 Encourage wide participation by club members.
- 3 Promote the best principles and practices in competitive fishing.

To achieve these aims it is hoped that as many R.W.F.F. members as possible will take part and that we will be able to bring together experienced matchmen and those new to the competitive field. We fish in Group 2 with the Royal Navy/Royal Marines, East Midlands "A", Bristol Reservoirs and Mid Northants T.F.A. In order to bring in as many individuals as possible, each member can only fish in three matches of which only one can be an association match. Teams consist of four rods in the Association matches and six in the group matches. All are fished to international rules. If you are in any way interested in taking part in any of these events please complete the sheet attached to this newsletter and post it off **NOW**. Some of the clubs wish to fish on weekdays - Bristol on Friday and RN/RM. on Wednesday.

Since many members find it hard to get away on these days, it is particularly important that those who can should send in their proforma **PROMPTLY**.

Tear off here

I am interested in fishing for Rutland Water Fly Fishers in Association of Major Clubs matches as indicated below by a tick:-

<u>Date & Venue</u>	<u>Definitely</u>	<u>Possibly</u>
<u>Spring Association Match</u> Friday 24th April @ Rutland	Team has been nominated.	
Friday 12th June @ Chew	()	()
Sunday 26th July @ Grafham	()	()
Wednesday 19th August @ Rutland	()	()
Sunday 27th September @ Pitsford	()	()
<u>Autumn Association Match</u> Saturday 3rd October @ Hanningfield	()	()

Due to work etc. I cannot at this stage forecast whether I will be available for any of the events but would like to be considered. Can you please ring me before selecting a team..

Name

Address
.....
.....
..... Post Code.....

Tel No.

Now post this *without delay* to: - John Maitland, 7 St Albans Close, Oakham, Rutland, LE15 6EW.