

# **RUTLAND WATER FLY FISHERS**

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

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## **March Newsletter 2001**

Dear Member

### **Foot & Mouth 2001**

I am sure most of us must be on the edge of our seats wondering when the fishing will start at the Anglian's "Big Four" waters.

Anglian Water has just sent the following letter via Jon Marshall dated 2<sup>nd</sup> March to season ticket holders. Many of our members are day ticket holders. So, for you and prospective new season ticket holders it is given below:-

"We have had to impose restrictions on all recreational activities including fishing at our reservoirs as part of our effort to restrict the spread of foot & mouth disease.

Currently the MAFF infected area in Northamptonshire includes Ravensthorpe and Pitsford. As more cases develop, Rutland & Grafham could find themselves within such areas.

The Environment Agency has asked for all fish stocking to be suspended and we have decided to stop fishing at Ravensthorpe and to defer the opening day at Pitsford. Given the likely duration of the of the restrictions it is unlikely that we will be able start fishing again until after April 1<sup>st</sup> at any of our Reservoirs.

In view of this, we have suspended the sale of season permits until at least 15<sup>th</sup> March and will review the dates for stage payments. We will consider the issue of compensating season permit holders who have already renewed, once the situation is resolved.

We appreciate that this must be a big disappointment to you and we will contact you again when the situation changes and certainly before the end of March.

With the situation changing by the minute, our Lodges may have to close and we therefore advise you to telephone before making a visit."

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Anglian staff are very busy answering calls at the moment so please be patient.

It is quite clearly incumbent upon all of us to keep well clear of any farm livestock areas. This effort by us will certainly help towards curtailing this epidemic. Apparently the virus shuns warm sunny weather. We human beings love it: so let us pray for some of this and for those whose lively hoods are in danger at this time.

### **Steve Parton - Tuesday February 20<sup>th</sup> 2001**

As one might have expected this was a highly entertaining meeting amid much laughter with masses of questions and witty answers from our speaker. The topics discussed were Float Tubing at various still waters, saltwater fishing in the Caribbean and Zander fishing at Grafham from a boat with 100m of leadline! Steve gave us a history of float tubes from their use in wildfowling to present day fly fishing. He gave much useful advice on fishing from them including shortening the distance between dropper and point fly, the fact that you launch into the water in reverse and out against the wind. Also that the pointed models were more aquadynamic. We had a very interesting visit to the Florida Cays and other Caribbean spots fishing for tarpon. We also had some very useful dos and don'ts and an emphasis on the necessity to have the best Polaroids money can buy. Apparently, the Tackle shops in Florida are more akin to an emporium and much time and money could be spent there.

**Cooking evening – Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2001**

This very enjoyable evening was attended by forty two people comprising 28 club members and some 14 ladies who were most welcome. Jim Meikle and his protégé Mark gave us a mouth watering demonstration of the preparation and cooking of the following dishes. Pheasant breast au Café Paris, salmon steak on a bed of stir fry vegetables with Thai sauce, wild duck in a balsamic and honey jus sauce on wholegrain mustard mash, sauteed pigeon breasts on black pudding with cranberry jus and finally, tian of cod and vegetables with tomato petals.

The tasters of these dishes which we consumed in the interval would have pleased the most discerning palate. If any one wants copies of the recipes prepared: these are available from the secretary upon request. Jim is the owner of the Golden Pheasant Hotel at Etton near Peterborough (see enclosed plan). Jim has virtually rebuilt the establishment. An indication of his culinary skills at very reasonable prices with quick service is indicated by the fact that he is booked up well ahead.

**Pre Season Dinner at the Victoria Hall 20<sup>th</sup> March 2001 – with Keith Arthur**

So far Jon Marshall has received some 15 application forms for this function. If you wish to attend please get these back to Jon Marshall **as soon as possible**. The secretary apologises for the incorrect postcode which should have read LE15 6HE. In case you have lost your original, a replacement form is attached to this letter.

**Special Club Evening at the Victoria Hall, Oakham – Thursday May 10<sup>th</sup> May 2001 - 7.30pm**

The evening will be a presentation by one of Americas foremost expert guides – George Geiger - on light tackle fishing in the Caribbean – This is a must for the experienced and those going there for the first time. See enclosed poster produced by Sean Cutting who has set up the event.

Yours sincerely

John Wadham

Please find enclosed:-

- 1 Poster for the special May meeting with George Geiger
- 2 RWFF 2001 competition programme
- 3 Oliver Cup application forms
- 4 Pre - season dinner poster

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I would like to attend the Pre - Season Dinner to be held at the Victoria Hall, Oakham on Tuesday March 20<sup>th</sup> 2001. I enclose my remittance of £11 – 00 which includes the cost of a raffle.

Name

Telephone Number

Please get this tear off slip back to Jon Marshall **as soon as possible** at 17 Trent Road, Oakham, Rutland LE15 6HE