

# RUTLAND WATER FLY FISHERS



March 2006

Website: [www.rwff.org.uk](http://www.rwff.org.uk)



## John Wadham's Fishing Report

### Fishing Report for February

The lake is filling up albeit very gradually after - what all the water undertakings dreaded – a dry winter. “Browns Island” is still just visible. With a little extra water available in the source rivers let's hope we can get back up to a reasonable level for the off on April 1<sup>st</sup>.

### AWS Tackle Shop - Normanton

AWS are carrying out a substantial re-fit of the Rutland Water Fishing Lodge tackle shop. As a result they will be serving permits and bookings from the warden's office but will be closed for tackle sales until 30<sup>th</sup> March. The water's edge restaurant will be open from the weekend 4<sup>th</sup> March.

AWS apologise for the

inconvenience while they complete these improvements to the service they will be offering at the lodge for the new season.

### Site Security

Following a meeting with Anglian Water & crime prevention officers we have been asked to be vigilant about leaving valuables in our cars wherever we may be fishing; This is a nationwide problem – not just at Rutland Water! Especially vulnerable are GPS systems. Don't even leave the stand or holder in view, as this invites break-ins. Plain-clothes police in unmarked vehicles are keeping an eye on things here but if you see anyone, apparently “loitering with intent” anywhere, you are asked to contact the police a.s.a.p.

### Mitigation Works – Rutland Water

John Wadham & John Maitland have written to the powers that be, regarding the likely impact of these works on our fishing activities and what we like to see for the future.

### RWFF New Mem- bers Package

Your committee is preparing a 'RWFF New Members Pack' It contains lots of information about the Club and the Water and details the benefits of Club membership. It will be available from committee members for anglers earnestly showing interest in the club. They will also be handed to all the clients on the AWS beginners' courses. The aim is to increase our membership which has been static or falling in recent years.

### Litter Collection Day - Sunday March 5<sup>th</sup> 2006

In case the restaurant is, due to the recent refurbishment, not available, we will be setting up a barbecue to make sure that bacon butties and coffee are on hand to set you up for the off at 0930. Sadly, there was a very disappointing turnout for this session last year. This is a shame as the event is superb one for the image of angling in general and our Club in particular. Its not hard, its a nice pre-season get together and walk around. All gloves & bags are provided. To show its appreciation, AWS makes a donation to a charity of our choice. Again this year we have chosen the Rutland Memorial Hospital. We hope to see as many of you there as possible.

# Karl Humphries Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February

After a few technical hitches Karl was soon able to get under way. It was well worth waiting for. Karl tied some very useful sea trout flies under the scrutiny of a video system set up by Nigel Millner & Roy Kedge. His attention to detail and his discussion on how to fish them was invaluable to learner and expert alike. Karl's laid-back approach was inspiring. He tied a snake fly - by hand, Haslam, Stoats Tail & Klinkhammer –in this latter the “post” should be tied in first. Interestingly Karl ties them all on up-eyed hooks that cause them to present better. He used a cauterising tool for “burning in”. He fishes with a ten foot 7 weight rod for Sea Trout. Apparently they do feed in fresh water and have been known to contain voles.

He emphasised the safety aspects of fishing at night: suggesting that you need to have a thoroughgoing knowledge of the stretch of river you are going to fish. Many fisheries don't allow you on the water to fish before 10.00pm. So Karl's advice was “get well acquainted” with the river. If sea fishing for them get well acquainted with tidal predictions.

There were some amusing anecdotes “While travelling in Anglesey and having arrived at the town they were looking for spelt lllllwwwwlllllzzzzzz etc and unpronounceable, they decided to stop at the local roadside café. Having plucked up courage the lady behind the counter was approached and asked rather timidly “Where are we”. “In the Little Chef Café” came the reply in a broad welsh accent! We all fell about laughing – wouldn't you!

## Trophy Winners 2005

|   |                                |
|---|--------------------------------|
| Trout & Salmon Shield (Best rainbow) Senior | No claim                       |
| Trout Fisherman Shield (Best brown) Senior  | Sean Cutting 7lb               |
| Mike Ellis Trophy (Best rainbow) Junior     | Tom Cooper 6lb 4oz             |
| “Fario” Shield (EYFA Gold)                  | Luke Shevlin & Richard Cooper  |
| Loch Style Trophy Winner                    | Al Owen & Gordon Bloodworth    |
| Loch Style Runners up                       | David Lang & John Tattersfield |
| Loch Style Best Fish                        | David Lang                     |
| Hanby Cup Winners                           | Andy Wells & Roy Taylor        |
| Cutting Trophy Winner                       | Graham Cooper                  |
| Wadham Trophy Winner                        | Mick Loy                       |
| Rutland Horseshoe -                         | TBA                            |

You will notice there is no submission for the Trout & Salmon Trophy–best Rainbow Trout (Senior). This may be an oversight on my part. If anyone has weighed in a fish for this or other trophies please contact JW a.s.a.p.



Sean with his winning Best Brown

The trophies will be presented at the dinner on March 16<sup>th</sup>. So if you want to receive them then, we look forward to seeing you on the night.

After presentation, the trophies will be retained in a newly purchased cabinet to be placed in a prominent place in the fishing lodge. So as to identify the winners, at the discretion of the angler or pairs of anglers concerned, a passport size or larger photo of the winner with a brief write up will be placed adjacent to or in front of the trophy.

Replicas, for permanent retention by the angler, will be given out where appropriate.

## Tackle Auction – “The Barn” Barnsdale Lodge Hotel Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2006

This is a further reminder that this event will be held at the “Barn” at Barnsdale Lodge Hotel located on the north side of the main A606 between Oakham and Whitwell. (Where we held the cooking evening in 2005). There is masses of parking space here. The doors will open at 1800. So please get your items for sale into the “Barn” as early as possible. They can then be logged in and given a lot number in good time for a prompt start at 1930. Our thanks to Jeff Dale who will be again be our auctioneer on the night. The first 60 or so lots will consist of the late Bob Garratt's gear. His widow, Ann, has asked that the proceeds from the sale of these items be donated to the Rutland Memorial Hospital – so please bid generously.

*We would like some help in booking in, cashing up and laying out of items. If you can help please contact JW on 01572 771092 (Evenings) or Mobile 07762 607630*

## Paul Procter Thursday January 12<sup>th</sup> 2006

Our thanks to Paul who was due to come on February 9<sup>th</sup> 2006. He stepped into the breach at three days notice, to replace Karl Humphries who was indisposed. We wish Karl a speedy recovery.

Paul who travelled here and back in a day from Ulverston in Cumbria gave us a very interesting and absorbing two-part talk to slides. Firstly, we were transported to Slovenia. The scenery with its wonderful bank-side wildflowers would have been enough in itself. But what joy to fish in such crystal limestone streams and rivers for wild trout & Grayling and the predatory Marble Trout (*Salmo Marmorata*) which can reach a weight of 47lb. They prey on smaller trout are very shy but caused problems by interbreeding with indigenous stock to produce some very unusual hybrids. The average grayling and seemed to be about one and a half pounds. Paul used 9" AFTM 4 gear and CDC less than size 16

Details of fishing in Slovenia are available by visiting the website – [www.sloveniaflyfishing.com](http://www.sloveniaflyfishing.com)

The fishing was not too expensive at E40-60 per day – but the scenery was worth at least half of the cost. Best access to Slovenian destinations was via Italian airports and drive from there.

In the second half Paul returned to home waters under the heading Grayling through the year.

As you may imagine Paul has fished for Grayling all over the UK but, mainly in the North West and Yorkshire streams. Again Paul fished very light AFTM 3 and mainly with dries. He uses a pink "Klinkhammer" version easily seen in surface foam and a fluorescent yellow pattern in low light conditions. It was interesting to note that Grayling, instead of hanging in mid-water to feed, tended to rise from the stream-bed. So, the rise form often occurs well downstream of their lie. For sub surface fishing he uses wire bodied spider patterns. The depth at which you fish these is critical. They are best presented across the flow and slightly downstream with a good mend to control fishing speed. In autumn the Grayling often feast on aphids attached to leaves falling on the water. Aphids are tiny creatures and anything more than a size 22 in green and black would be oversize! To present these, a slack line upstream cast is essential; ideally, in conjunction with a bung to overcome the problem of phantom takes. At the other end of the scale, caddis patterns could be tied on hooks up to a size 6! All fishing should be done with neutral coloured lines and in winter take care not to cast your shadow across the river in the low sun level.

Paul thanked us for being such an attentive audience.

I am sure Paul would be pleased to give you details of fly patterns, fishing rights, travel & accommodation costs etc. Contact him at: [paulprocter@btinternet.com](mailto:paulprocter@btinternet.com) or on 01229 580190 home or 05600 432694

## Karl Humphries Thursday February 9<sup>th</sup> 7.30pm Empingham Cricket Club

Delayed from last month, Karl will be coming to give us the benefit of his experience, which is considerable, on the subject of Sea Trout fishing at which he is an acknowledged expert.

Karl has this season proved his skills in attacking this most worthy quarry by taking fish up to 16lb from the River Dovey in West Wales. He has also done well on the River Dee for Salmon. He will be tying some of his most effective patterns of fly with a visual aid that will project his efforts onto a large screen – as we did with Mick Huffer

Karl is one of the assessors for the AAPGAI qualification. John W was lucky enough to be assessed by Paul at the Builth Wells seminar in November 2004. JW learned more in that session on the River Irfon than in many years of casting badly!

Karl also runs Dearnford Hall Trout fishery at Whitchurch in Shropshire. So, there is not much he doesn't know about fish

So, with Karl's wry sense of humour this will no doubt be an interesting, amusing and very informative evening.