

# Rutland Water Fly Fishers

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

March 2008 Newsletter



**Charles Jardine – Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> February 2008**

Charles started by comparing the differences in approach between reservoir angler and stream fishers and indicated how we might learn from each other.

His main emphasis was on river fishing for Grayling, Wild Browns & Rainbows. We thought long fly rods were an innovation and confined to what is now termed Czech nymphing but apparently the Italians have been using such poles up to 17 foot since the middle ages!

We then had a visual guess who? Halford of course – the great dry fly man- we all recognised him didn't we?

Then GEM Skues – rather severe in appearance: but he really started the nymph fishing we practice to-day.

Then finally Frank Sawyer who furthered the art of u/s nymphing with his weighted Pheasant Tail Nymph: incidentally, as per modern practice, tied very sparsely.

Charles advice as per all the previous masters of the art was "leave your rods in the car and go and case the joint first see where the best lies are and any rising fish".

## Fishing Report

### Czech Nymphing

This was best done with 8ft – 11 ft rod depending on the size of the stream. The leader is made up with the heaviest fly on the middle dropper - 4 or 5 ins long - to keep flies on a level plane. Very fine tippets are used: so, as much a 2ft of power gum was essential to prevent breaks.

Tapered leaders were essential to achieve the best presentation. The Czech nymphs are tied mainly to represent "Rhyacophyla" a net spinning rather than a case building cadis. Hence the rather maggoty appearance of the patterns used.

### Bomb Nymphs

One set up has a top dropper resembling a bomb: a lump of metal with a coating of modelling sand: dangerous to cast and more akin to "fly ledgering" than fly fishing!

Most nymphs were smooth in appearance. Pink seems to be a favourite colour. Woven nymphs and those with a touch of soft orange to the rear of the body seemed to be most effective for Grayling.

Many of these are tied flat vertically so as to sink quickly in fast water. Black rather than gold heads were more effective

in the gin clear waters. A good barbless hook is the Tiemco 103 BL down to size 24!

### Polish Nymphing.

Quite revealing to hear how good the Polish nation is at fly fishing.

### French Nymphing

This nation is evidently very adept at nymph fishing for very shy fish in their hard fished rivers thus making for a very subtle approach. This has no doubt given them the edge in skill over the rest of us.

The youngsters did very well in these hard rivers. One worked his way upstream on hands and knees a very shallow run just d/s some already hard fished water and out fished everyone!

### Wet flies

Spider patterns or those with a "good entry" appeared to be most effective wet flies and tied very sparse. They are either fished upstream in the flat water or up & across and allowed to swing downstream in the faster water.

The rod should be kept well up so as to allow the fish to turn before striking: but not so high as to be out of touch with the fly. These methods were amply demonstrated on the River Wharfe at Bolton Abbey in Yorkshire.

### C.D.C.

It was very interesting to note that Charles Cotton who was Isaac Walton's companion wrote about the use of the preen gland feathers for dry flies in the 17<sup>th</sup> Century! So nothing new in that!

### Curly "stren"

Take some "stren" nylon (used to be yellow) wind it round a small screwdriver immerse in boiling water then into the freezer. Then remove from screwdriver leaving you something resembling a bed spring!

Attach this to your leader. It acts as a great bite indicator and is ideal for very picky touch & go fish. We were shown a good caenis pattern: the "sparkle gnat" tied on a Size 22. Sparkle Body over peacock herl and crystal hair tail: deadly apparently.

Better try it out at Rutland in June!





We were transported some wonderful places all over the world. It was interesting to see how dark the natural Rainbows are in the U.S. Rivers: but with a very vivid red stripe and spots all over.

#### Catch & Release

This seems to be the norm at most of the rivers visited. This of course made the fishing quite testing as they were already well educated. Most of the fish were caught in fast water but those in quieter waters needed a more softly-softly approach.

We were shown graphic shots of an apparently angry looking brown sizing up a dry fly: then the rise with the head of the trout emerging from the surface to engulf the morsel. Magic!



#### Waste Nylon

We were graphically reminded not to leave waste nylon on the banks or as in one case which comprised 100m or so of brown nylon (not recommended for fishing anyway) stuffed into the bole of a tree on a well known salmon beat!

The main point Charles emphasised was the importance of being able to read your river and decide on what is "holding water" and their likely diet and of

course how you must enjoy the scenery around you.

The Chairman thanked Charles for an amusing and informative talk. This was followed by much applause. Our thanks to Nigel Millner for providing the interval food

#### Quiz Night - Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> February – 2008 - Cricket Club

This sadly turned out to be a "non-event". It was attended by 10 committee members and one season ticket holder. Our commiserations go to Nigel Millner and Ron Oldroyd for setting it up and providing the prizes respectively. Despite all, those present enjoyed a drink and a chat. Luckily no food was wasted.

The prizes, including a fully stocked mini fridge, generously provided by Ron Oldroyd, will now be 'Raffled' at the Pre Season dinner on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> of March.

#### Tackle Auction. Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March - Barnsdale Lodge Hotel 1800 hours

Come on folks! Search your attics and garages for all those items you threatened to give away but like me kept them. There is always someone who can make use of them. Let's also have some generous bidding.

The auction will be held in the "Barn" at the above hotel site. This is the Hotel located on the North Side. This is an ideal venue and as always we will be well looked after by the management.

Jeff Dale has kindly agreed to be our auctioneer on the night.

**Rutland Water Fly Fishers**  
**'Litter Collection Day'**  
 Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2008

Those wishing to take part should meet up at the fishing Lodge at 0900 hours.

We plan to start with a bacon 'butty' & coffee/tea and kick off the litter pick at 0930. We finish at around midday with Gloves & Bags being provided.

We are sponsored by Anglian Water who kindly donates a sum of money to a charity of our choice.

This year it will be in aid of the Rutland Memorial Hospital. Many of our members have received wonderful care from this institution over the years. Therefore, any thing we can do to help keep this hospital going, will benefit members and the community as a whole.

**www.rwff.org.uk**

### Litter Pick – Sunday March 9<sup>th</sup> 2008 - Fishing Lodge 0900 - 1200

We had a very disappointing turn out for this last year. So, let's put on a good show this year. The value of our sponsorship monies will be governed by our attendance numbers.

This is our opportunity to show the public at large that we care as much about the environment as the fishing itself. We always get nice comments and congratulations from walkers and cyclists.

You get a nice Sunday morning walk around the lake and gain an appetite for lunch. All family members are welcome. We will aim for a group photo before the off at about 0920 hours – see poster

### Annual Dinner & Prize Giving – Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> March Fox & Hounds Inn, Exton

This will be held at the Fox & Hounds at Exton with a four course meal & £18-00 including coffee, plus a fantastic 'Raffle' – Please visit [www.rwff.org.uk](http://www.rwff.org.uk) to see a full menu and details.

To save disappointment as over half the number of places available have been booked already, please be certain to get your remittance - £18-00 - to Sean Cutting as soon as possible. The closing date is Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March. If you have lost your menu or return form please view on-line via the club website – [www.rwff.org.uk](http://www.rwff.org.uk) or let JW or Roy Taylor know a.s.a.p.

John Wadham and Sean Cutting have already tried a meal or two and can highly recommend the cuisine and the ambience! Don't forget if you want to receive your trophy you must attend the dinner!

### Trophy Winners 2007

The following members have submitted fish for the annual club trophies. However, sadly none have apparently been submitted by junior members.

However, if as a junior you have sent one in and it has been overlooked please let John Wadham know and an apology will be forthcoming.

If you want to receive your trophies you must attend the dinner on 27<sup>th</sup> March!

**Trout Fisherman Shield** Best Brown Adult  
Jamie Weston 6lb 5oz

**Trout & Salmon Shield** Best Rainbow Adult  
Jayne Alecock 5lb 6oz

**Loch Style**  
Jamie Weston & Phil Brown 6 Fish 19lb 11oz

**Cutting Trophy**  
Roy Taylor 5 Fish 10lb 1oz

**Wadham Trophy**  
Phil Brown 8 Fish 17lb 5oz

**Hanby Cup**—Cancelled in 2007—No Trophy won.

### Subscription Renewals

We regret that no further newsletters will be forwarded to those who have not paid their subs. If however you have recently paid please ignore this

reminder and contact Roy Taylor or JW if you know any one who has paid up and is not receiving newsletters.

### Notice Board Header

This is now in place at the left hand (East) end of the



Fishing Lodge building (See arrow above for location of board) and this will be updated regularly. Our thanks must go to Sean Cutting & Nigel Millner for setting this up.

Also may we offer many thanks from the club to Martin Neale a passionate fly fisherman and MD of Cityprint (Peterborough) Ltd, for supplying the new laminated Header for the Club notice Board as shown below.



# FEDERATION of MIDLAND FLYFISHERS (ANGLIA)

## CEFF ENGLAND TEAM SELECTION

(PRELIMINARY ELIMINATING COMPETITION 2008)

These eliminators are open to all anglers (18+) to enter and may lead to a place in the 2009 CEFF England Loch Style Team.

- **Grafham Water 11<sup>th</sup> May**
- **Rutland Water 22<sup>nd</sup> June**

ELIGIBILITY TO GO THROUGH TO THE CEFF NATIONAL IS BASED ON THE CUMULATIVE POINTS GAINED OVER THESE TWO ROUNDS.

THE ENTRY COST IS JUST £50, WHICH COVERS ALL OF THE FOLLOWING: THE CEFF FEE, INCLUDING INSURANCE, FMFF(A) ENTRY FEE, ADMINISTRATION AND BOAT FEE FOR BOTH OF THESE PRELIMINARY MATCHES.

THE CLOSING DATE FOR ALL ENTRIES WILL BE THE 28<sup>th</sup> of APRIL 2008 - WITH THE DRAW FOR BOTH ROUNDS TAKING PLACE ON WEDNESDAY THE 30<sup>th</sup> of APRIL 2008.

All details, including downloadable entry forms are available at

**WWW.FMFFA.ORG.UK**



# Association of Major Clubs 2008

Interested in fishing with and against some of the best competition anglers around, in a relaxed friendly atmosphere on some of the country's top reservoirs? Then the 2008 series of Association of Major Clubs matches is just the thing for you!

RWFF is in Group One of the Major Clubs and last year we finished runners-up to overall winners, Bewl Bridge Flyfishers. This year we'd like to go one better, but we are up against some stiff competition from the likes of current Anglian/Fulling Mill champions, Soldier Palmers, and the top anglers from the Fish Hawks, Bewl, Chew and Hanningfield. The Major Clubs matches are always keenly contested but great fun with a meal after the match, so there's a great chance to socialise with some of the best competition anglers around.

You can fish in either the Spring or Autumn Association competition, plus three of the Group One matches. After-match meal costs are typically around £8 per person, plus your boat and day tickets fees. If you're interested in taking part, then please fill in the form below and return it to the address provided. More details on the website [www.rwff.org.uk](http://www.rwff.org.uk)

- |                                  |                                 |
|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>Fish Hawks 'A'</b>            | <b>Bristol Reservoirs F. C.</b> |
| <b>Soldier Palmers 'A'</b>       | <b>Bewl Bridge F. C. 'A'</b>    |
| <b>Rutland Water Fly Fishers</b> | <b>Hanningfield Water F. A.</b> |

<u>Date &amp; Venue</u>	Would like to fish	Possibly can fish
<b>Spring Association Match</b> Friday, 25 <sup>th</sup> April at Bewl Water	(    )	(    )
<b>Group 1 Match</b> Sunday, 29 <sup>th</sup> June at Hanningfield Reservoir	(    )	(    )
<b>Group 1 Match</b> Sunday, 17 <sup>th</sup> August at Pitsford	(    )	(    )
<b>Group 1 Match</b> Sunday, 7 <sup>th</sup> September at Chew Valley Lake	(    )	(    )
<b>Group 1 Match</b> Sunday, 21 <sup>st</sup> September at Rutland Water	(    )	(    )
<b>Autumn Association Match</b> Saturday, 4 <sup>th</sup> October at Rutland Water	(    )	(    )

Name: .....

Address: .....

.....

.....

..... Post Code: .....

Tel Number: ..... E-Mail Address: .....

Please can you post this back as soon as possible to: - Mike Gunnell, 4 Hall Gardens, Polebrook, Nr Oundle, Peterborough, Cambridgeshire, PE8 5LJ.

# Rutland Water Fly Fishers

## 'Litter Collection Day'

Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2008

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# Rutland Water Fly Fishers



proudly presents a



# Tackle Auction

**At the Barn at Barnsdale Lodge on Thursday the 6<sup>th</sup> of March 2008. 'Booking In' of auction items from 6.00pm, with the auction proceedings starting at 7.30pm.**

**Jeff Dale has very kindly agreed again to be our Auctioneer on the evening.**

## 'Bring a Friend & Spend'

The evening will be free for RWFF members, with Guest and Non Members @ just £3 per person on the door.

As at all RWFF functions the purchase of a £1 raffle ticket will be expected!!!

# [WWW.RWFF.ORG.UK](http://WWW.RWFF.ORG.UK)

# Rutland Water Fly Fishers



proudly presents their annual



## Pre Season Dinner

**At the Fox & Hounds, Exton, Rutland.  
A fabulous 4 course dinner for £18. Menu  
and location details can be found on the  
RWFF website.**

**Members and Guest welcome, but numbers  
are limited to 45, so book early to avoid  
disappointment! The closing date for  
bookings will be the 24<sup>th</sup> March**

As at all RWFF functions the purchase of a £1 raffle  
ticket will be expected!!!

**[WWW.RWFF.ORG.UK](http://WWW.RWFF.ORG.UK)**

# RWFF Pre Season Dinner - March 27<sup>th</sup>

Fox and Hounds at Exton - 7.30pm - \*£18.00 per person



- A) Homemade Tomato soup with herb croutons
- B) Pate served with toasted ciabatta and chutney
- C) Avocado and prawn salad

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D) Traditional Roast Loin of Grasmere Farm Pork with apple sauce and crackling

E) Steak and Ale pie

F) Fillet of Seabass with lemon butter

G) Porcini mushroom risotto with shavings of parmesan

Main courses served with a selection of vegetables and potatoes

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H) Lemon Meringue Pie

J) Crème Brulee

K) Sticky Ginger Sponge with ginger wine sauce

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Coffee

Name: .....

Address: .....

Post Code: .....

Telephone: .....

Email: .....

Dietary needs? If you have a dietary need, please say below, i.e. Gluten or Dairy Free

Menu Choice: Please tick your choice

Starter A)  B)  C)

Main D)  E)  F)  G)

Pudding H)  J)  K)

**Please return this form for each individual booking to:** S. Cutting, Mevell House, 7 North Luffenham Road, South Luffenham, Oakham, Rutland, LE15 8NP. \*All cheques to be made payable to RWFF. The closing date for all bookings received will be Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March, with no exceptions.