

RUTLAND WATER FLY FISHERS

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

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MAY NEWSLETTER 1997

Dear Member,

Fishing report- May 1997

The first few days of May saw temperatures up to 25 deg C and under clear sunny skies day fishing slowed up. This warmth seemed to galvanise the over wintered fish into action around the banks and some fine Rainbows with specimens up to 7lb 8oz were taken. However the "White out" and subsequent cold snap in the second week put a freezer on things and this was reflected in the Benson & Hedges heats - more of that anon. Quite a lot of cold water entered the reservoir in that period. The Guash being in flood on one occasion. A.W.S have had the pumps on and have managed to raise the water level by about 9 inches. Even this rise has to some extent temporarily isolated the sludgy margins. Much more rain is needed if the level is to be maintained. Local farmers must have been glad to see the grass growing again. The over wintered fish appear to be quite widespread. and some have fattened up well on the abundance of bloodworms, large black buzzers, daphnia and hog louse. They appear to contain few Corixa. This is a food item which is taken the absence of more palatable fare and tends to feature in their diet from August onwards. The large Browns stocked this season appear to be ubiquitous and I suspect many of them have been caught more than once. One member landed one fish in the Old Hall corner with two other flies in its mouth! The stock Browns are fat and mostly golden in colour but the over wintered ones are bars of silver and have been assumed to be Rainbows until seen in the net. They are however rather lean and some potential six pounders have been landed. Most wise anglers appear to return them to the water, although one angler fancied helping himself to a large bag of them in April. I thought it was two per limit! Most useful fly patterns have been bloodworms, small stick fly, buzzers in black, claret, olive and green and g.r.h.e. Try a buzzer or pheasant tail with a lime green thorax last thing at night. The Copper Buzzer, which has been useful for the deep feeders, has attracted some big fish for its perpetrator! Nightingales can now be heard in Barnsdale Wood at the head of Barnsdale Bay and near Rob Waddington's house at Dickenson's road end. Ospreys have been seen - mainly at the top of the arms. Even if you cannot see them, the other birds mobbing them will direct you to them. Has any one seen any cormorants mobbing them yet? Another Brown, this time, weighing 3lb 2oz has been submitted for the Junior "Fario Shield" - for the best Brown of the season by - Craig Finch from Old Dalby, near Melton Mowbray. He was fishing at the Normanton Car Park Frontage when the fish seized his Diawl Bach fly offered on a floating line in flat calm conditions. The fish put up a tremendous struggle for about 10 minutes before coming to net. Well done Craig! No one has yet submitted a fish for the Mike Ellis Junior trophy for the best Rainbow. There are as yet no offers for either of the adult trophies for the best Brown and Rainbow respectively. I know that some good fish have been caught by adults and juniors alike - so let's hear from you! If you have a catch which you think might merit inclusion in the newsletter please contact the secretary. If you wish to submit a fish for the specimen fish awards as shown in the membership book, please fill in a form the purpose. These forms are located in the "suggestion box" to the right of our notice board located in the right hand corner of the former garage, now the hospitality area at the Fishing Lodge. So as to be fair to all contestants, specimen fish must be witnessed by a member of A.W.S.staff and weighed on their scales at the lodge. All details will appear in the relevant newsletters.

Fishing Report May 1997 (Contd.)

The over wintered fish have suddenly turned up in quantity as reported by Graham Pearson who had two tremendous catches on black buzzer at anchor in the South Arm in the Lax hill area. The first catch comprised 14 Rainbows and two Browns to the boat with partner George Moore for 49lb 9oz and two days later the same number of fish with partner Clive Loveland - of Pike fishing fame- for 46lb 13oz. The fish ranged from 2 1/2 to 4 1/2 lb. The Browns and 22 of the rainbows were over wintered. Graham said the fish appeared to feeding in 8 - 12 ft of water and about 80 - 100m metres offshore. Trevor Ashby from the Lodge has also got among the over wintered fish and has caught some fine specimens up to 4lb 8oz. Graham Bailiss, a former club member, took a five and a half pounder from Dickenson's on a black buzzer. We all knew they were there somewhere after such good winter results. These fish seem temporarily to have left the margins when the brown algal sloughing from the bed of the lake was at its height. This is now gradually tailing off. Junior member Jonathan Tomlinson is there again this time with another Brown weighing 2lb 14 1/4oz. During a match he kept two Browns but, to comply with reservoir rules, had put one back which he estimated at well over three pounds. Best spots from the bank and most likely from boats as well are The Finch's, Dickenson's, The Mound, The Normanton Car Park Frontage, Yellowstone and Barnsdale. Browns appear to most concentrated in the Old Hall Corner, Dalton's Point, West of Hinman's Spinney and The Mound. One rather irritating incident involved an angler kicking what he described as "not another Brown" up the bank and then throwing it back. Luckily, two of our members were on hand to offer a few well chosen words after which he had no choice but to leave the bank! Well really! What do people want from fishing? Thank heaven he is in a minority. Roll on 1998 to the Millennium by which time - Cormorants allowing - these Browns will give us sport to remember. The cold N.E. winds have reduced insect hatches to an hour or so a day and consequently slowed bank and boat fishing. The catch rate again falling during the Benson & Hedges heats. However a warm night on May 26th soon saw them back on the surface in the evening for a bit longer.

English Youth National Eliminator Rutland Water Sunday 20th July 1997

In view of the number of entries received so far, up to 50 boatmen may be required for the event. So if you are a reasonably competent boat handler and can help out on the day, then Mike Watts would like to hear from you on 01536-514381 as soon as possible or write to him at 66 Northampton Road, Kettering, Northants, NN15 7JX.

Rutland Water 20th Anniversary

This was a very well organised event and some 800 anglers took part. Luckily it was a calm day which allowed a good spread of anglers. Quite a few fish were caught in the flat calm conditions until lunchtime the when the wind got up and put the fish off! A.W.S. & TROUT FISHERMAN extended their thanks to the R.W.F.F. members who helped direct strangers to their zones and helped out on the boat jetty at the end of the day. The day started at 6.00am and some very weary but quite merry souls slumped into bed after midnight. The secretary, other instructors and other anglers received some corrective training in their casting skills from Mike Marshall - champion caster. We learned an enormous amount from him about teaching others. So impressed were we that we decided to invite him to give us the benefit of his knowledge one evening this winter. He readily agreed. At the dinner afterwards the Secretary thanked T.F & A.W.S. for the invitation to the function and expressed R.W.F.F.'S satisfaction at the quality of the fishing and suggested that Rutland Water had now returned to its former glory thanks largely to the hard work of Jon Marshall and the staff at the Fishing Lodge.

Oliver Cup Competition - First Leg - Rutland Water - Sunday June 8th 1997

The organisers for this competition are Dick Stephen & John Wadham - don't all laugh at once! Please fill in and return the enclosed form to the Secretary as soon as possible. 10 boats have already been booked for the first leg of this event. Sorry about the short notice. There will be an 8 fish limit which shall only comprise two Browns per angler with a time allowance of 4oz per 1/4 hour. As, with the present very good fishing, some may finish early it was thought there would be little demand for a buffet after the event. However the normal fare will still be available. Replicas and tackle vouchers for the first second and third places will be presented on the day. For each heat, the winner will be awarded points equal to the number of anglers and the last will get one point. The Cup will go to the individual with the most points from the two heats together. Ties will be resolved by weight and the Cup presented at the A.G.M.

J.W. Trophy Friday June 6th 1997

Just a reminder that contestants can go straight to the fishing and fish where they wish according to Reservoir rules from 6.00pm to 10.00pm and weigh in at the lodge no later than 10.30pm. By arrangement with Jon Marshall, an overall eight fish limit will be available to everyone so as to overcome the differences in limits according to whether you have a Day or Season Ticket. This dispensation will also be available for the Roger Thom Trophy. There will be Trophy Replicas and tackle vouchers as prizes to the value of £15 - 00, £10 - 00 & £5 - 00. for first, second and third places respectively. There is also a rosewood shield which will be presented to the winner at a winter function. Grafham Water had a big turn out for their event so please come along and have a bit of fun!

Benson & Hedges Heats Rutland Water May 7/8/9/10/ 1997

Congratulations to the R.W.F.F. team for winning their heat with 18 fish for 31lb 9 1/2 oz. Rob Landless clinched a win for us with a last gasp fish with 20 minutes to go! The weather was appalling with just about every element thrown at them including snow. They won when many well known names blanked and the average for the day was just one fish per rod after 3.7 fish a rod on the first day! Congratulations to you all. The victorious team was as follows:-

Andrew Flitcroft	4 fish	Steve Crowson	3 fish
Paul Wild	4 fish	Stan Webster	2 fish
Rob Landless	4 fish	Keith (Spud) Edwards	1 fish

May 20th Heat

This was won by "The Cormorants" with 44 fish for 79lb 14 1/2 Oz. The team is made up almost entirely from R.W.F.F. members as follows:

Tony Curtis	13 fish	Stuart Billam	4 fish
Dave Shipman	10 fish	Gordon Bloodworth	5 fish
Leon Smith	7 fish	John Ielden	5 fish

Hanby Cup Competition Sunday June 22nd 1997

Firstly please note the alteration to the date of this event to **June 22nd**. 15 Boats have already been booked for this event. We may be able to obtain more should there be a demand. This is a pair's match and it is the responsibility of all competitors to arrange their own boat pairings. If you have difficulty obtaining a partner, then the organisers, who are John Dodds (01778 440213) & Dick Stephen (01572 770416), will try and get one for you. Fish 9.00am to 8.00pm. Boats must be back at the harbour by 8.00pm or you will be disqualified. Winners will be the boat with the heaviest bag (Max 16 fish). In the event of a tie, the boat with the most trout will be deemed winners. If that fails to produce a result, then the boat catching the largest fish, will be deemed to have won. Following the weigh in there will be a buffet provided at the lodge. The results will be announced and the prizes will be awarded to the top two boats and to the captor of the largest fish. Members wishing to fish must book their boats through Dick Stephen. Entry will be on a first come first served basis and the contestants must register at the Fishing Lodge on the day.

R.W.F.F. Juniors evening Thursday July 17th 1997

Please see the enclosed memorandum from Roger McCarthy. The more people that come the better. Our thanks to Roger for doing the research work and organising the prizes and sponsorship for this event. Boats go out at 5.00pm and have to back at the harbour for 10.00pm. Lets hope we don't get a heat wave and a flat calm or a Westerly Gale!

Association of Major Clubs Competition 1997.

John Maitland is still looking for contestants for this event so do please contact him if you are available to fish in what is a fun event and an opportunity to enter the competition scene. Please help out if you can. Details are on our notice board at the Fishing Lodge. The last event which was held at Grafham (no! not at Graham - Tommy's house?- as quoted in April newsletter) was won by East Midlands T.F.A with 37lb 12oz. The next event is at Bewl Water on Saturday 28th June.

Angling Times Bob Church Classic - Rutland Water -April 30th 1997

Congratulations to Martin Introna, one of our members, for winning the event with **16** fish for 39lb **14oz**

Rutland Water Open Day for the Disabled

Just a reminder that this event will be held at the Whitwell Creek Area on Saturday 7th June 1997. A.W.S. has agreed to provide us with some boats and tackle for the day which starts at 10.00am and goes on until 4.00pm. There is free admission and free parking for all. Please come and help out if you can. We may generally be found around the former Whitwell Creek Jetty. One's duties might include helping people in and out of boats, taking them around the various functions or taking them or their offspring out in boats for trips around the lake or fishing, say, for an hour or so. If you can only spare an hour, it will be much appreciated. Let's do it and show how much we care about Rutland Water.

Litter Pick Up Day March 16th 1997

The Secretary received a letter of grateful thanks for our litter pick up day which with sponsorship from A.W.S. raised £150-00 for the Rutland Accident Rare Scheme (R.A.C.S).The money they receive is used to purchase and maintain resuscitation equipment for on site emergencies. The letter can be seen on our notice board at the lodge. The sum was presented at the Fishing Lodge on Saturday 3rd May 1997 to Dr Tim Gray, who is the founder of the scheme and practises at the Oakham Health Centre on Cold Overton Road. We wish him and R.A.C.S. every continued success with the scheme. Who knows? We may need their services one day. This presentation ceremony was reported in the Rutland Times of May 8th 1997.

R.W.F.F. Notice board

There is a saying which goes "If you notice this notice you will notice that this notice is not worth noticing" However there are some useful things on our notice board, e.g. changes of event dates, letters from well wishers and other announcements affecting the club. It is located in the far right corner of what used to be the garage at the Fishing Lodge. If in doubt ask any of the A.W.S. staff.

Thwart Boards

The takings now stand at £100 -00. Brilliant idea by Jon Marshall the boards well made by Brian Thomas in double quick time for the off have been a real winner. Congratulations to both parties! We thought of advertising them in French as the foreign visitors have found them Oo! la! la! i.e. very useful. Try getting one of them in a flying bag or a Citroen Diane!

Your's sincerely

John Wadham - Hon. Secretary