

# RUTLAND WATER FLY FISHERS



May 2005

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## DIARY DATES

Sunday 29th May –  
**Hanby Cup**  
Boat match;  
10.00 – 6.00;

Friday 3rd June –  
**John Wadham  
Trophy**  
Evening Bank  
match;  
6.00 – 10.00

Friday 24th June  
**Water Aid Day**

Sunday 3rd July –  
**BBQ match**  
Afternoon / evening  
boat match;  
1.00 – 9.00  
BBQ - 5.00—6.00



## May 2005 Report

April retained her title as the ficklest of months with temperatures soaring & diving and winds from all directions. This made location of fish quite difficult as they like us did not know which way to go. With the fish feeding almost exclusively on Daphnia you had to find these blooms and preferably some coloured water. So fishing into wind has proved productive. This was highlighted in the Old Hall Bay in a South-east wind when boats & bank anglers wreaked havoc. At 3pm the wind changed 180 degrees and that was that. It can also pay to fish at dawn, as the daphnia can be higher in the water especially if it is dull.

JW proved this by taking fish from the Old Hall point. It did not last long as they soon wised up in the clear water. It is so clear that even in quite deep-water bank areas you can see the bed of the lake beyond the distance you can cast. This does not inspire confidence! The water is also still 5deg colder than at the same time last year but rising steadily.

You will infer from these

## John Wadham's Fishing Report

factors that overcast days have been the most productive. The Daphnia shuns sunlight so recedes into deeper water out of reach of the bank angler. The buzzer is still a tiny specimen although one or two larger examples are now appearing.

Still little sign of last year's stock of brownies: although odd specimens have been caught averaging about 4lb. The best I have seen from the bank was the 6lb 8oz specimen caught from just west of Armley Wood by Eric England on a B&G tadpole fished into a wind lane one rods length from the bank in dirty water. The fish like so many over-wintered Browns resembled a sea trout. In the golden season of the Brownie at Rutland, JW caught his first over-wintered Brown of that season - 7lb 8oz on May 15<sup>th</sup>: so plenty of time yet for them to get that much bigger!

This week some lovely Browns averaging about 2lb have been stocked in various parts of the lake mainly in the North Arm. If you intend to return these fish to the water please treat them with the greatest respect. Browns are much more delicate than Rainbows but live about three times as long on average. Please do not sit on them all day – move on. Don't forget - two browns only per limit

While on the subject of the North Arm, it is gratifying to report that fish are being caught from both sides of the Arm. Ziggy taking a

4lb 11oz rainbow from Cardiac Hill and JW watched Tom Cooper and his dad catching at Barnsdale Road End including an over-wintered fish.

Rises so far have been spasmodic. One evening on the Old Hall Point we were all striving unsuccessfully to match the hatch with tiny buzzer emerger imitations being taken by the trout. Along come Charlie Heron and wipes our eye by catching them steadily on size 6 B&G Tadpole! Well-done mate! Charlie almost invariably uses these to great effect. So, if you want to know what he is using just ask him: what colour? The best set up to fish from the bank seems to be a lure or some sort of anchor on the point: bottom dropper bloodworm or Blakeston type buzzer and top dropper GRHE

The gents don't have it all their own way. Hilary Tomlinson fishing from the bank in Old hall Bay took four of us to the cleaners. She fished green buzzer dropper and black & green taddy point to catch two Rainbows and a brown. The fish were taken on the buzzer. You know what they say about pheromones!

Some tremendous fish have been caught by the boat anglers mostly but not exclusively on the Rudder. The best of the bunch was the 10lb 14oz mint conditioned Rainbow caught by Dave Doherty "Curly" from Manton Bay. The fish was taken on a gold & silver tube fished on a wet-cel 2 line in conjunction with the rudder about 2 metres down in bright sunshine and a Northeast wind. ...cont

# CHAIRMAN'S NOTES - John Maitland, Chairman RWFF



It is good to hear from those able to fish for the good trout being taken from bank and boat at Rutland. If the daphnia continue to feature, the rainbows should pack on condition for the time I can get at them again!

Having spent pretty well all of March in hospitals and undergoing two (more) operations I have been at home for four weeks and am slowly feeling better and undergoing physio to hopefully get the knee working properly. Thanks to all of you who signed the Get Well cards: they were thoroughly appreciated at a time when things looked rather gloomy.

...cont Best Brown of the season is the 11lb fish caught Barry Thompson also on the rudder.

The two boat pairings of John Seaton & Jimmy Watts and Ken Merridan & Paul Friend have had some tremendous 40lb plus bags of fish from the Manton and Brown's Island area including a number of over-wintered specimens. These latter look to have wintered very well and were in good shape. The diet up in the Manton area is as elsewhere daphnia with odd tiny buzzers. With the recent warm nights the water temperature has rocketed to 11deg C and will no doubt rise further over the Mayday holiday. So look out for the big buzzers.

Most productive bank spots at the moment seem to be between Normanton Church and Fantasy, The Finches & Three Trees to Armley Wood, Old Hall Bay & Point, and Yellowstone.

The foregoing is almost entirely based on the J.W.'s experiences on the bank and reports from boat anglers. Please let me have some of your experiences!

My apologies to Paul Wild for not mentioning that he supplied the 6lb pound Brown for the cooking with game evening on February 7th

## Cutting Trophy – Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2005

After a few phone calls we managed to get ten anglers to turn out for this event. We fished in "glorious" sunshine. Not ideal conditions. However there is always someone who can catch whatever the elements provide. Congratulations to the winner Graham Cooper from Braunston. Also to Jane Alecock for the biggest fish. Thanks to Sean for providing the lovely trophy. He modestly refused to be placed in the match. Congratulations to thirteen-year old Sam Arbutt from Wisbech for catching five fish and being only one ounce behind Jane for the best fish. (Results opposite)

## Specimen fish submitted for Club trophies

Club members for the seasonal trophies have already submitted some good fish. See inside the back page of your membership card for details. Catch return forms for these can be obtained from the fishing lodge or by post from JW and must be returned promptly for inclusion in newsletters.

Best Rainbow – Senior - for the T&S Shield

Ziggy Lesiakowski 4lb 11oz

Best Rainbow – Junior - for the Mike Ellis Trophy

Sam Arbutt (J) 2lb 12oz

## Water Aid event June 24<sup>th</sup> 2005:

Please note the changes to our involvement. In view of the number of participants we could be struggling to manage one to one in the boats. So far, there have been no takers for the casting clinic on the evening of 23<sup>rd</sup> June. I will however keep you posted on this. Tackle will be available from AWS for the novices.

I have included the revised poster and tear off slip again in case anybody has lost his or hers. Any problems please contact JW.

# CUTTING TROPHY 2005 RESULTS



# Association of Major Flyfishing Clubs 2005

## Spring Association match, Bewl Water, April 22 - Division One

RWFF got the 2005 Major Clubs campaign off to a good start with second place at big-fish Bewl Water in April, with the four man team of Mike Gunnell, Kevin Taylor, David Lang and Charles Bowers weighing in 16 fish for 48lb 6oz.

Best fish in the Group One event was David Lang's 6lb rainbow in a four fish catch weighing 14lbs 2oz, while Mike Gunnell had one of 4lb. However, both were dwarfed by the best fish of the match, a monster of 11lb 12oz taken by Alan Taylor, warden at Grafham Water and fishing for Invicta in Division Two.

All three divisions of the association take part in the Spring and Autumn rounds of this popular competition, and RWFF claimed 5pts for finishing second behind last year's First Division champions Fish Hawks, who had 22 fish for 65lb 2oz.

In third place with 14 fish for 45 lbs 11oz were Soldier Palmers, with Bewl Bridge FCA fourth with 15 fish for 43lb 4oz, Grafham Water FA fifth with eight fish for 21lb 12oz and Hanningfield FA sixth with eight fish for 18lb 15oz. Average size of fish in this match was 3lb and it looked like many of the fish had over-wintered on steroids, with a smattering of four, five and six pounders being recorded.

Best areas were, as is often the case at Bewl, around the cages and the best method was floating lines and buzzers and Daiwl Bachs fished slow and deep, although Charles Bowers caught his five fish for 13lb 6oz on a Di-5 and Cat's Whisker.

Kevin Taylor had quite an interesting competition. After fishing out, his aged boat partner when he fell into Bewl backwards over his boat seat, Kevin took the unlucky angler back to the lodge to dry out, and carried on fishing alone when the Old Boy declined to take any part in the match. Kevin then went on to catch three fish for 7lb 12 oz, plus a grebe which took a Daiwl Bach on a slime line! Kevin unhooked and returned the hapless bird none the worse for wear with only several pecks on the hands for thanks!

## New Editor for Trout & Salmon Magazine

Congratulations to Andy Flitcroft, club committee member and junior events organiser, for being appointed to the post. Just the chap for the job! We wish him well in his post and look forward to reading his first issue.

## RWFF MONTHLY £10 PRIZES

Don't forget to claim your prize! From April to October this year, every month we will pay £10 for the best rainbow and £10 for the best brown trout caught by a member. To enter, the fish must be over 4lb and be weighed in and photographed by the wardens.