

# RUTLAND WATER FLY FISHERS



May 2006

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



## John Wadham's Fishing Report

### DIARY DATES

**12th May**  
Cutting Trophy

**17th to 19th May**  
Water Aid Challenge

**4th June**  
Hanby Cup

**9th June**  
Wadham Trophy  
(This will be of the same format as the Cutting Trophy)

**10th September**  
Loch Style Trophy

### Fishing Report for May

The water level has been rising very slowly but remains about 1M below top level. April has been wet allowing pumping in to continue with the feeder streams providing additional flow.

After the first ten days when the westerly wind limited bank fishing to a few spots, the weather has been tolerable for April but with some very cold mornings and evenings. It is therefore very gratifying to report some of the most prolific buzzer hatches seen at the lake for many years with the surface of the water covered in a mat of insects which lay in a raft alongside your floating line.

This is an unusually early start to this hatch. This may in part be due to the steady rise in water temp throughout the month. Last year the water temp fell during April. Cold starts always seem to bode well for good fishing later. Many large buzzers have been found in the fish up to a size 8, along with

some huge bloodworms – “Chironomus Rex” perhaps! Some of the fish have been grazing on Daphnia and tiny worms falling out of the patches of rising scum.

Corixa have at last been observed in the margins. Also interesting is that, out of character, the best hatches have been in the main basin; particularly Stockie Bay, Sykes & Fantasy ends of the Dam and Blue Pipes at Normanton. Some fine overwintered fish have been caught from all these spots. One angler had a good day at the Transformer at last – and, no! not just after they had stocked!

In other parts of the lake Spud Bay, Yellowstone and Old Hall and the Finches have produced periodically but not totally reliable

The water has now become very clear. This has conspired to make the fish harder to tempt; but as with a chalk-stream, which it at present resembles, imitations and presentation have to be “spot

on”  
The boats are taking plenty of fish from Normanton, East Creek, Spud Bay, Yellowstone & The Finches; especially where the wind is blowing into the bank. Most methods are working but mainly buzzers. One boat angler had the surprise of the season by catching three fish with one fly? Actually, he fetched up a fish bass from the depths containing some hapless anglers’ fish that no doubt slipped overboard. Best bag of the day you might say!

The larger overwintered fish seem to have survived well and have possibly been able to enjoy a buzzer hatch that occurred in February and any food items displaced by the rising water level. Lets hope that this is a trend: as Grafham, Pitsford and further afield Draycote have shown good hatches.

The consequence of this is of course that the Rutland stockfish that average a lusty 2lb with some over 4lb ..cont. over ....

cont... are fattening up and silvering up rapidly. Best fishing period at present seems to be during gentleman's hours i.e. "9 to 5". This spring is also one the best for over wintered browns which are in wonderful condition with a number of fish around the 7lb mark being caught by bank anglers: mainly on buzzer patterns. The average of these fish seems to be an amazing 5lb. JW caught an average sized fish of about 51/2lb. Nothing unusual in the size but this fish was daft enough to take both nymphs – size 8 bloodworm point fly and size 16 top dropper black buzzer! Casting to rising fish has not proved effective. Quite clearly they are seesawing i.e. up to the surface to take a hatching nymph then straight down. Nice to see them though! Best to cast well ahead of the fish and await events. Slow retrieve or static have been best. Specimen fish return sheets are located in the passage at the rear of the AWS shop and in the holder to the right of our notice board in the garage.

## Water Aid Fly Fishing Challenge - Friday May 19<sup>th</sup> 2006

Anglian Water & Water Aid would like to thank all those who have already put their names forward as gillies. ***We could, however, do with one or two more*** - so that we can be certain that all the novices get a chance to go out and not only fish but learn about boat handling and the safety aspects of fishing on such a huge sheet of water.

The day will proceed much as last year and in the due course – but well before the event - volunteers will be sent a detailed itinerary. For the benefit of our volunteers I forgot to mention that there is an eight fish limit & no catch & release.

Further details and application forms are available on line at [www.awfffc.org](http://www.awfffc.org) or Chris Evans on [cevans@anglianwater.co.uk](mailto:cevans@anglianwater.co.uk) or info on water aid on. [www.wateraid.co.uk](http://www.wateraid.co.uk)

## Cutting Trophy Friday May 12<sup>th</sup> 2006

Sorry it is a foreshortened event. However as the weather is forecast to warm up this could be the best part of the day. If any sizable rainbows are caught they might be worth weighing in for the RWFF T&S Trophy for best fish of the season.

Beer & Cakes will available after the weigh in. Last year we had this match on a Sunday and with people having other commitments, was consequently poorly supported. **See enclosed poster.**



**RWFF Specimen fish - 2006** Mike Netherclift's 9lb 10 3/4oz Brown is the only fished weighed in for a club trophy so far. Come on lets get catching some monster rainbows!

# Going, Going, Gone to the Tackle Auction

This was held in the Barn at Barnsdale Lodge Hotel. This was an ideal place to hold this sort of event and the club would thank the management for their very generous terms and pleasant ambience. It



made a nice change from the Victoria Hall.

Despite a good turn out for this event there was quite a reduction in the number of items for sale. His widow Ann presented the income from the sale of the second lot of the late Bob Garratt's tackle to the Rutland Memorial Hospital Palliative Care Suite.

Our thanks again to Jeff dale for generously conducting the auction and donating his fee.

Geoff auctioning off an item displayed by Kevin Taylor

## Dogs

Anglian Water will be clamping down on dog misbehaviour. Please, if you take your dog fishing, keep it under control. If you see any evidence of dogs causing a nuisance e.g. chasing sheep, entering the water etc, you are asked to contact the fishing lodge or the duty wardens' mobile number given on page 15 in your season ticket: (i.e. the last page in the preface to the catch return forms) a.s.a.p.

## “Bluebell” pony ride – Thursday April 27th

On the evening of Thursday April 27th there will be a “bluebell ride” around the Hambleton peninsula track between 1600 hours and dusk. You are asked to be watchful and take extra care when driving on the perimeter track that evening. Lets hope the bluebells come out in time this year. Last year they were over by then!

# Pre-season Dinner & Prize Giving

Thirty-four members and their spouses attended this function in the pleasant ambience of the Whipper Inn at Oakham. The prizes were presented by John Wadham assisted by Kevin Taylor. The Rutland Horseshoe is normally presented to someone in the club who has had

serious misfortune or made a substantial contribution to the club effort. It was felt by all that John Maitland appeared to have fulfilled both these parameters and was presented with the Trophy plus a lovely replica made by club member Gary Cooper. John proposed a toast to "Rutland Water" thanked JW for his effort. He went on to thank Sean Cutting for setting up the new website, the committee and all those who had supported the club effort. JW

thanked the Whipper Inn for an excellent meal. Our thanks to Jon Marshall for organising it all.

