

RUTLAND WATER FLY FISHERS

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

Chairman

Mr. J. Maitland
St Albans Close
Oakham
Rutland
LE15 6EW

Secretary

Mr.E. J. Wadham
6 Mendip Road
Oakham
Rutland
LE15 6NN

Treasurer

Mr. P. Wild
35 Tennyson way
Stamford
Lincs
PE9 2GZ

Tel 01572 756650 Tel 01572 771092 Tel 01780 757853

NOVEMBER 1997 NEWSLETTER

Dear Member,

Come on folks!- get your butts down to Rutland Water and enjoy some of the best bank fishing of the season! The £9 - 00 “evening” ticket for four fish is available all day. Some - no, many good well seasoned rainbows are being caught all around the lake. This is in marked contrast to November 1996 when the fish were very localised. There does appear to be many more fish left over than last year. There have been many theories put forward for this. The most plausible is the control on the 1997 in season catch i.e. the 24 fish limit.

The best conditions for fishing seem to be near flat calm. The sun seems to be no disadvantage. Saturday November 22nd saw a marvellous morning rise in the fog, frost and calm conditions but it was instantly cut short by a light wind. The best fishing time coincides with the hatch of micro buzzers which is generally between 8.00am and 11.30 am. Then there is a limited movement at about 3.00pm with odd good fish at dusk. This is extended if the temperature does not drop. “Crack of sparrow fart” seems to be unproductive at present. So, no need to be up too early. Some of the rises have lasted all day giving some very interesting if rather testing fishing in the gin clear water. So, what’s the answer?

Fish have been caught on a variety of fly patterns. However, if you consider the habits of Rainbows you will be aware they are essentially surface and preferably insect feeders. The buzzers hatching at the moment are about the size of the exclamation mark at the end of this sentence!. So tiny nymphs or suspenders of size 16 or 18 have been very successful with fish to 4lb caught quite regularly. These smaller patterns have been most useful in flat calm or light ripple conditions which is when the fish have been most surface active. However, in more coloured water the normal end of season patterns e.g. Tadpoles, Minkies, Floating Fry have been successful. Sticklebacks have featured largely in their diet plus Corixa, small land beetles and of course feathers. One fish taken this morning contained a whole bunch of goose feathers - enough to tie two dozen flies!

Some magnificent out of season Browns have been taken even on size 18 nymphs. These fish have been in superb “silver “ condition and if handled - or preferably not handled at all- i.e. carefully unhooked in the landing net out in the water and not brought to the bank should, to judge by their condition, survive the rigours of Winter and live to fight another day.

The fish have been quite mobile but the following places are all worth a try. The Mound, Barnsdale Woods, either end of the Dam, either side of the Fishing Lodge Harbour, Old Hall, Hambleton Wood, Armley Wood, and Carrot Creek where Rainbows, albeit fewer than some other spots, have been caught up to 6lb 10oz.

It is very gratifying to see more people on the banks this November than in previous Winters and enjoying some excellent sport. The Secretary was very lonesome in 1996! Two of my acquaintances accounted for two four pounders and a six pounder on Thursday this week. So it is still happening.

Fishing Report - November 1997 (Contd.)

Following the recent heavy rain, the Reservoir level is rising by an inch or two every day. If and when the water rises up into the now virtually virgin exposed area the fish should have good cover to graze in. They took advantage of it in 1992 and made good weight during the winter. Hopefully the Cormorants will find them relatively inaccessible. Some damaged fish are being caught but many fewer than last year at the same time. Pike damage seems slightly more evident with bite marks on some fish more consistent with alligator attacks!

Out of bounds areas for Winter Fishing

The South Arm. - On the South side - from the Sailing Club to Gibbet Gorse inclusive, and on the North side - from the head of the bay near the cattle grid and barrier at the bottom of Hambleton Hill immediately to the west of the Old Hall to the nature reserve boundary at the top of the Green Bank - this includes Dalton's point, the Stones and the Green Bank. The Old Hall Point is available for fishing

In the North Arm - On the South side - from The Transformer Fence up to and including Tim Appleton's Dam Wall and on the North side - from the fence in the water at the bottom of Barnsdale Hill (by Rob Waddington's Cottage) to the Burley Reach nature reserve boundary. This includes the whole of Dickenson's Bay and Burley Reach

The enclosed map should clarify this.

Tackle Auction 1997

This will be held in the large room at the Victoria hall on Tuesday December 2nd 1997. Doors open at 6.30pm or earlier and we need to get off to a prompt start at 7.30pm. Non club members will be welcome on payment of a £2 - 00 per head admission fee. Please get your items for sale into the hall as early as possible so that they can be logged in, given a lot number and laid out for sale. Jeff Dale has very kindly agreed to be our Auctioneer for the evening. So we can be sure all will run smoothly and efficiently.

Fur & Feather - December 14th 1997

This was an unqualified success last year. The weather was ideal. As already mentioned, this year there seems to be even more fish left than in 1996. So all in all given decent weather it should fish well and be great fun. Remember that the fishing zones as shown on the enclosed map will apply. See enclosed poster for details.

Dinner & Speaker Evening.

The idea of a "Dinner & Speaker" evening has been suggested for this Winter. This would include a 3 course meal and speaker. Your committee is at present searching for a suitable speaker for the function. The Large Room in the Victoria Hall has been provisionally booked for Tuesday 17th March. The main course will be roast pork with all the trimmings. If you are interested, please fill in the enclosed form on page four and return it to the Secretary a.s.a.p. or fill it in and bring it with you to the Tackle Auction on Dec 2nd. If any of you can recommend any one then contact the Secretary. Some names have already been mooted. You will be informed as soon as a decision has been made. The cost will be £8 - 50 per head and there will be a raffle at the door.

Dress - reasonable i.e. Jacket & trousers / lounge suit. This would be an ideal way for members to mix and chat rather than to have to sit quietly listening to someone waffling for a whole evening!

Winter Programme.

The following events are being planned.

Tackle Auction - Dec 2nd

Paul Canning - comparing notes on the big reservoirs he has fished with some reference to the "Big R"

Jon Beer - Trout & Salmon contributor on small streams all accessible to the average angler

Fly Tying evening as per 1997 - for this event, committee will be providing food out of their own pockets

Renewal of subscriptions

As you can see - as agreed at the A.G.M., the subs are the same as last year, despite some increase in club expenditure on certain items in 1997. Please return the enclosed renewal form to the Treasurer **as soon as possible**. This saves having to send out reminders which involves the Secretary & Treasurer in a lot of extra admin.

Membership Numbers.

At the A.G.M. the ceiling on the membership number of 200 as referred to in Rule 2(b) of the constitution was rescinded.

Election of Officers at the A.G.M.

The following were elected.

The Chairman

John Maitland

Committee members

Dave Doherty

Brian LLoyd

John Harrison

Brian Thomas

John Dodds

Prize Giving at the A.G.M.

This went off without a hitch although some winners could not be present to receive their trophies. The presentation was carried out by the Chairman assisted by the Secretary and Richard hearth who did very well to get the engraving done at almost a moment's notice. The full details of the event and a "plug" for the club appeared on page thirty six of the Rutland Times dated Friday 21st November under "Angling"

Users panel meeting with A.W.S October 20th 1997

The following points may be of interest to readers

- a) Reservoir now 72o/o full
- b) Application has been submitted to E.A., to increase intake volume from source rivers to Grafham and Pitsford
- c) Peninsula perimeter track repairs now completed. Rest of perimeter track e.g. Sailing Club Bay area to be completed by March 1998

**DINNER AND SPEAKER EVENING TO BE HELD AT THE VICTORIA HALL,
OAKHAM ON WEDNESDAY 24TH MARCH 1999 AT 7.30pm**

I SHOULD LIKE TO ATTEND THE ABOVE FUNCTION AND ENCLOSE MY CHEQUE FOR :- £

THE COST IS £8 -50 PER PERSON.

NAME

ADDRESS

TEL NO

NUMBER ATTENDING:-

*Please return this form with your enclosed cheque to Jon Marshall by **4th March 1999***

Jon Marshall
17 Trent Road,
Oakham,
Rutland
LE15 6HE