

## **RUTLAND WATER FLY FISHERS**

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

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### November 2001

After the warmest October on record it was quite clear that the fish in the reservoir were under the impression that autumn was yet along way off. Consequently the fish were very picky and most rods reported a continuation of the short taking behaviour of the fish. It is quite obvious that there is a big head of fish left in the lake. The number of offers anglers are getting in many places around the lake indicates this.

While the fish are quite widespread as usual some places have been more productive than others. Favoured spots are Barnhill Creek - where reports of some giants hooked and lost – Armley Wood, West of Armley Wood, THE finches where odd limit bags have been recorded. On the North Side of the arm Whitwell Front/ Car Park Frontage & the Mound have also produced.

A lot of the early season browns are now showing up – out of season - and are in mint condition. This later appearance of the browns seems now to be a regular feature, as they also seem to be “victims” of the late Autumn. Roger McCarthy heads the list with an 8lb specimen from Armley Wood the fish. The fish, which took Roger’s size 8 minkie on 6lb leader, was safely returned to the water

Mike Netherclift took a fine 6lb 13oz Brown which he submitted for the Trout masters. Mike took the fish on his first of the season in October on a black & green fritz Lure from the blue Pipes Area on the Normanton bank and our Chairman took a perfect 5lb Rainbow from Barnhill Creek. Eric England recently took a 6lb plus Rainbow from the West End of Armley Wood

Many fish are at present being taken on lure patterns fished near or just sub surface. E.g. Minkies/ black & green tadpoles and suspender lure patterns. However until recently Roy Taylor has been doing pretty well on small nymphs e.g. Buzzers, Pheasant Tails & Diawl Bachs “swung in the wind”. These nymphs have also been fished with great success by our Chairman fished in conjunction with a floating fry or “New Zealand” dropper i.e. attached to the hook of the fry

Most fish appear to have few food items in their stomachs. Those around the harbour and around any other structures or weed beds seem still to be on perch fry.

A regular end of season diet is often corixa. I think it is safe to say that the recently increased coarse fish population has no doubt hoovered them up.

There is a plus side to this, however. This explosion of coarse fish has acted as a buffer against the cormorants. The head of large Pike, however, is quite content to rely on their own kind to satisfy their dietary needs. How often do you hear of small Pike being caught or anglers having flies bitten off? No they get eaten in infancy!

Iain Barr & partner recently did well on hoppers from a boat when fish were found running a slick some 200 yards off the Normanton bank. They were apparently taking tiny buzzers and were quite easily caught. Curly was also on this slick with “blobs” and both boats caught a lot of fish. So you can still fish on the surface.

Iain also took a 4½ Rainbow from East Creek on Saturday. He also caught two more and two Browns from the boat harbour while doing his casting demonstrations! He tells me that dawn bank fishing has recently been quite productive.

The Fur & Feather match on Sunday will no doubt be a fair indicator of how it is fishing. Lets hope for a soft overcast day with lightish winds. Booking in is from 0730 hours so get to the lodge early so as to save the last minute rush. There is a 6 fish limit on the day for all competitors. This is a great fun day and a marvellous opportunity to meet old friends with hot casserole nosh afterwards. It has always fished pretty well on the day.

**Salmon in the River Welland?**

"Never" is understandably the average reply. The River Welland is now a confirmed salmon river following the capture of a grilse weighing approximately 6lb by your former secretary. This fish was taken from the Sandy Lane, Deeping St James stretch on a size 12 barbless Black & Green tadpole intended for the local coarse fish population. The fish, which gave quite a fight on the 5-weight rod & line, was identified as a grilse by the Environment agency. After photographing it was quickly returned to the water apparently none the worse for its experience. It is amazing how fish cannot resist this lure. Your former secretary has taken fifteen species of fish on it, including a record 5lb 6½oz Chub from the Oxford canal.

**Hardy Grey open day – Rutland Water Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2001.**

This was a very enjoyable day with a fair attendance. It was a good fishing day, which may have reduced numbers. RWFF stand was manned by Roger McCarthy & John Wadham. We were able to recruit one or two members and to encourage the juniors –some of whom will hopefully be here for the July event in 2002.

Dick Stephen gave a very interesting demonstration of relative knot strengths. This was a very popular set up. Visitors were able to test their own knots with the results being displayed on a monitor. He was ably assisted by Roy Kedge. Other helpers from RWFF were Jim Watts & Luke Shevlin.

The House of Hardy Draw was won by Andy Wells from Spalding. T. McIlroy won the rod and Nigel Savage the book on fishing at Blagdon. All RWFF members!

**Appointment of new Honorary Secretary**

At the AGM on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> Roy Kedge was "sworn in" as our new honorary secretary. We wish him all success in this quite demanding office and must all give him as much support as possible. John Wadham will be his assistant. You can be sure that the club is now in very capable hands and that our newsletters will now read as "real" newsletters rather than "government white papers"!

**Winter programme questionnaire draw**

This will take place at the first winter meeting on Tuesday December 11<sup>th</sup> 2001 at the Fishing Lodge at 7.30pm.

**Winter programme 2001/2002**

Tuesday , December 11 <sup>th</sup>	Nick Hart Fly fishing in the Med.
Tuesday, January 8 <sup>th</sup>	David Arnold Forster – English Nature
Tuesday, January 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Fly Tying Evening & Prize Giving
Tuesday, February 5 <sup>th</sup>	Still Water Entomology
Tuesday, February 19 <sup>th</sup>	Boat Fishing Forum
Sunday, March 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Litter pick up day – in aid of RACS
Tuesday, March 5 <sup>th</sup>	Tackle Auction
Friday, March 8 <sup>th</sup>	Leicester Fly Fishing Show
Tuesday, March 19 <sup>th</sup>	Pre-season Dinner & Speaker

Please be sure to return all trophies to the Fishing Lodge, Rods & Reels Angling Centre, Mill Street, Oakham or John Wadham as soon as possible.

**Prize winners for 2001**

- 1 Trout Fisherman Trophy - best Brown - Brian Bonner - Oakham - 7lb 8oz
- 2 Trout & salmon Trophy -best Rainbow- Mike Loy - Peterborough - 9lb 13oz
- 3 Mike Ellis Trophy - Best Rainbow by Junior Luke Shevlin - 3lb 13oz
- 4 "Fario" Trophy - Best Brown by Junior -Luke Shevlin - 2lb 10oz
- 5 J.W Bank Trophy - Iain Barr
- 6 Match results - see attached list ex S.Cutting

Contact me if there are any problems

Yours

John W. 26/11/01

# RWFF WINTER ACTIVITIES PROGRAMME

## QUESTIONNAIRE 2001

While it is hard to please all members all of the time, it was thought appropriate that club members input would be helpful in drawing up a suitable and varied winter activities programme.

All returns submitted will be entered for a **free draw for a £20 tackle voucher**, redeemable at the fishing lodge shop

Here are some suggestions. Please tick any activities (as many as you wish) that you would like to see on our winter programme, and return the form **WITHOUT DELAY** to the secretary. All entries received before the end of August will be entered in the draw.

At the bottom of the page there is space for any other suggestions. Please make full use of this as we would really like to see some new ideas and if you would like to watch or take part in a particular activity, then no doubt others would too.

- |    |   |       |
|----|---|-------|
| 1  | Fly fishing overseas – fresh or salt water            | ..... |
| 2  | Tackle trade presentation                             | ..... |
| 3  | Evening for beginners and improvers                   | ..... |
| 4  | Forum of local experts                                | ..... |
| 5  | Reservoir fly fishing entomology                      | ..... |
| 6  | Tackle auction  | ..... |
| 7  | Cooking evenings                                      | ..... |
| 8  | Social chat evenings                                  | ..... |
| 9  | Speaker on a particular subject (enter subject below) | ..... |
| 10 | Predator fly fishing – Pike & Zander                  | ..... |
| 11 | Talk on wildlife environment at Rutland               | ..... |
| 12 | Fly tying evening                                     | ..... |
| 13 | Outings to other sites                                | ..... |
| 14 | Boat fishing tactics                                  | ..... |
| 15 | Match fishing   | ..... |
| 16 | Dinner & speaker evening                              | ..... |

Any other suggestions:- .....

.....

.....

NAME:- .....

TELEPHONE:- .....

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5	Reservoir fly fishing entomology	.....	14
6	Tackle auction	.....	12
7	Cooking evenings	.....	9
8	Social chat evenings	.....	6
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13	Outings to other sites	.....	6
14	Boat fishing tactics	.....	12
15	Match fishing	.....	8
16	Dinner & speaker evening	.....	10

Any other suggestions: e.g. particular speaker or subject

- 1 Rutland Water Bank Fishing (2)
- 2 Re. 9: Taff Price,
- 3 Alter day of meetings
- 4 Annual Meeting with Rutland Management.
- 5 Winter river fishing trips for grayling
- 6 Re. 4: New methods – “blobs”, “bunges” etc
- 7 Trip to National Dragonfly museum, Ashton Mill, Oundle
- 8 Joint Event with GWFFA – Social & Quiz
- 9 Re.9: Speakers on (a) Grayling Fishing (b) Sea Trout Fishing