

RUTLAND WATER FLY FISHERS

Tennyson way

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

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OCTOBER NEWSLETTER 1997

Dear Member,

Fishing Report October 1997

Bank fishing and general

Yes! - at last it has happened. The fish have finally come in to the margins in more than just the odd spot. I suspect the dramatic drop in air temperature is a major factor. Only 8 deg.C on Sunday 12th October. It was much more comfortable to be wading and fishing where the wind was coming across the water! Given the right wind most places are providing sport.

What ever happened to Burley, Tim Appleton's & The Transformer this year? Has someone put a net across the North Arm between Carrot Creek and the Mound?. So, the South Arm is the best bet at the moment from bank and boats. Even the very shallow Green Bank has produced from time to time.

The diet is mainly sticklebacks and some perch fry both of these species being easier for the fish to capture as they are slower moving than other fry. You often get "double takes" when they are on these. Perhaps the point of the hook feels like a spine - pure conjecture I know. The larger specimens contain some big snails. However, feathers/balloons/ plastic bags and of course dog ends have all featured in their diet! Terrestrials - excluding daddy longlegs!- but including flying beetles about the size of ladybirds have also been eaten. So what does all this tell us about their feeding habits? Yes, they are all looking for surface food. So don't fish too deep.

There have been intermittent buzzer hatches and these have always generated a rise especially in calm conditions. The surface dry and palmer type fishing has very limited this year. Best bank patterns seem to be black buzzers with orange thorax, minkies, damsels (a fair stickleback imitation) including Dawson's "Olive" - described by one local as a damsel with its arse on fire.

The secretary was fishing next to one of the regulars on the Stones last year. Although the fellow was only casting a short distance he was catching regularly. I asked what his killing pattern was. "Olive", he replied. I duly attached a size 12 Olive nymph and fished it with all due skill but still no result! Let's have a look at this nymph I said. Yes it was olive but on a size 6 xls hook and of course you've guessed it! Who is Dawson anyway?

Jon Marshall tells me that there have been more fish caught by anglers than last year. This may well be true of the boat catches but has certainly not been reflected by the bank catches. Some well known bank anglers are well down on last year numbers.

An other puzzling factor, is why the fish appeared to cease feeding for about two months. It may be the heat, an alga or some other undetermined biological factor. Many thin - even emaciated fish - have been taken in the last few weeks. They need to stoke up very quickly if they are going to survive the rigours of winter. As the season draws to a close, cormorant damage is becoming more evident. The November/December fishing however promises to be very good this year. The water temp being much higher than at this time last year.

Fishing Report October 1997 (Contd.)

Best Rainbow of the season is a 9lb 12oz 2dr specimen caught by Dave Doherty (“curly” to some of us) from a boat in Hideaway Bay on a floating line with a Minkie fished among the weed beds. Congratulations to him. One of the best Browns this season - a fish of 7lb 12oz was caught by Mike Netherclift from the bank at Three Trees, Normanton on a tandem Brown Minkie. Mike’s fish has not been submitted for a club trophy.

Boat Fishing

The boat fishing has been mixed but much more surface activity has been observed with fish regularly being caught in less than 5ft of water mainly in the South Arm. Nigel Savage and Stan Webster had a day to remember taking 10 fish for some 30lb in the shallows at the top of the South Arm mainly on Floating fry. Stan had the best fish. A 5lb Rainbow which seized his fry at the point of lift off. So he was able to see it all happen. This is the essence of any fishing - a sighted take! The rudder men are doing reasonably well but not getting among the best fish as they did earlier in the season. Many boats have been catching on Corixa or Hare’s Ear type patterns. Many of the larger Rainbows caught are now very ripe. More details on the environmental quirks of the 1997 season will be discussed in a future newsletter e.g. why did they go off feed from mid-July to early September and come into spawn so early?

There will be a full post mortem on the season in the November letter.

Annual General Meeting Tuesday November 11th 1997 at the Victoria Hall, Oakham at 7.30pm

The prize giving will take place at this function. There will be some food afterwards provided by the individual members of your Committee - at about 9.00pm. So please be punctual so that we can eat on time! It is very important that the Trophies are returned as soon as possible after 29th October. Ideally they should be delivered directly to Richard Hearth at Rods & Reels Angling Centre located in Mill Street, Oakham at the junction with South Street (Tel No. 01572 755950) where they will be engraved. If you cannot get to Rods & Reels, then leave them at the Fishing Lodge and notify the Chairman that they are there for collection a.s.a.p. If there are any new winners before 29th notify Richard Hearth. There will be a new look Loch Style Trophy. We would all like to thank the respective organisers for their work this summer in ensuring the smooth running of events.

The contenders for the various trophies as at 20th October are as follows:-

Best Brown	7lb 1oz	Trout Fisherman Shield	Adult	A. Ball
Best Rainbow	9lb 12oz 2dr	Trout & Salmon Shield	Adult	D.Doherty
Best Brown	4lb 3oz	Fario Shield	Junior	Matthew Hanford
Best Rainbow	4lb 4oz	Mike Ellis Trophy	Junior	Jonathan Tomlinson

J.W Trophy -	Winner	Lynn Walters
Oliver Cup	Overall Winner	Dave Allen with 18 points
Hanby Cup	Winners	R.McCarthy & N Savage
“ “ “	Runners Up	G.Chewter & W. Ormiston
Rutland Pro/Am	Winners	P.Miller & J.Tomlinson
	Runners up	G.Pearson & G.Alleyne.
Roger Thom Trophy	Winner	R.McCarthy

Trophy Contenders (Contd)

Loch Style Trophy	Winners	Leon Smith & B Vaughan
	Runners up	M.Ellis & M. Netherclift
	Third	J.Maitland & R.Stephen
	Best Fish	A.Ovenden

Any late claims for trophies will be noted and included in next newsletter. Any queries-please contact the secretary.
Don't forget to turn up for your presentation. If you cannot get on the night please let the Secretary or the Chairman know.

Oliver Cup Second Round - Grafham.

This was a tough affair in what appeared to be reasonable conditions. The fish were caught mainly on sinking lines close to the shore line where we were able to watch in anguish competitors in the G.W.F.F.A. match catching double limits from the bank! The secretary was dying to join them in their carnage which included a 9lb plus Brown on a size 14 Pheasant Tail!

The results of our efforts were as follows:-

1	M.Netherclift	8 Fish	9lb14oz + bonus =	11lb	2oz
2	Dave Allen	7 Fish		9lb	9 1/2oz
3	A.Flitcroft	6 Fish		7lb	12 1/2oz
4	K Landless	5 Fish		7lb	11 1/2oz
5	P.Wild	5 Fish		7lb	7 1/2oz
6	S.Cutting	5 Fish		7lb	3 1/2oz
7	R.Walden	5 Fish		7lb	0oz
8	S.Crowson	3 Fish		5lb	3 1/2oz
9	D.Wainwright	3 Fish		4lb	4oz
10	R.Landless	2 Fish		3lb	3oz
11	K.Taylor	1 Fish		1lb	7 1/2oz
12	P.Cliff	Nil		-	-
13	J.Wadham	Nil		-	-

Overall Winner on the points basis is Dave Allen with 18 Points. Congratulations to him. All the more of an achievement as he has to drive from Alsager in Cheshire to compete. First round winner was Steve Crowson.

Association of Major Clubs - Pitsford - 13th September 1997

This was fished on a windy and difficult day. But despite that quite a lot of fish were caught. Unfortunately R.W.F.F. seemed in common with one or two other clubs to have found the smaller fish. The match was won by Grafham Water F.F.

The results were as follows

1	G.W.F.F.A.	31 Fish	53lb	3oz
2	East Midlands.T.F.A.	34 Fish	52lb	8oz
3	Bewl Bridge "B"	30 Fish	42lb	9oz
4	R.W.F.F.	30 Fish	40 lb	2oz
5	Mid - Northants T.F.A.	21 Fish	30lb	12oz

Association of Major Clubs Pitsford (Contd)

R.W.F.F. Results:-

1	A.Flitcroft	7 Fish	9lb	11oz
2	G. Legge	7 Fish	9lb	9oz
3	P.Buck	5 Fish	5lb	13oz
4	K.Landless	4 Fish	5lb	12oz
5	S.Crowson	5 Fish	5lb	12oz
6	R.Landless	3 Fish	3lb	9oz

A.M.C. Association Match - Grafham - Saturday October 4th 1997.

1	Grafham Water F.F.A.	48lb	8oz
2	East Midlands "A"	47lb	7oz
3	Mid - Northant's T.F.A.	40lb	1oz
4	R.W.F.F.	40lb	0oz
5	Bewl Bridge "B"	23lb	2oz

Overall Winners - Bewl Bridge "A"

R.W.F.F. Results: -

1	M.Introna	8 Fish	13lb	2oz + time bonus =	17lb	6oz
2	K.Taylor	6 Fish			8lb	10oz
3	G.Bloodworth	5 Fish			7lb	5oz
4	L.Smith	4 Fish			6lb	11oz

English National Championships - Grafham Water September 5th 1997

Congratulations to Paul Wild who came 9th and to Ian Barr who came 10th both with 12 fish. Well done also to Paul Miller who re-qualified to fish for England by finishing 2nd in the English team on Loch Leven

Triple "A" vs. R.W.F.F. Sunday Sept. 7th 1997 - Rutland Water. (Report from Sean Cutting)

Two teams of 10 took part. Some of Rutland's finest were there on the day. What a pity they could not come out in a boat with us. This "friendly" day out was organised to help the Army Team get to know the water prior to their Inter Services Match a couple of days later. We even had one of the R.A.F.'s top rods fishing for R.W.F.F. and one who likes to drink a bottle of "Old Fart" - his words not mine! This did put the wind up the Army at first as they thought A/O was a spy and you know what they do with spies! Anyway, an exceedingly good day was had by all and the food wasn't bad either. I hope that next year, they have some Ghurkhas in the match so a hot curry would not be out of place!

Sunday seemed to be the best day for some time at Rutland Water with everyone having a good day's sport. It was a far cry from putting on the "DI-7 and pulling like a demon. Instead, most people preferred to risk the floating line and dries. This is what most fish seem to want! For me something dry and hot orange seemed to do the trick. There were a few hard liners (get it?) who still managed to show up the rest of us. by fishing a Hi - D line and mini lures successfully. No names mentioned at this stage, Graham P?

Triple"A" Match (Contd)

Results - not that they matter a bit - were as follows:-

R.W.F.F.	40 Fish	81 lb	11oz
A.A.A.	24 Fish	49lb	4oz

Thanks are due to Tug Wilson & Steve Perkins for organising the day. We all look forward to next year. Maybe this will be the one. You never know in this sport.

Speakers and events are being organised for the coming winter. So any suggestions as to what you would like for a change please contact the Secretary as soon as possible. The following events are being considered. Tackle Auction/ Video Evening/ Speakers on River fishing/Saltwater fly fishing/ fly tying evening as per 1996/97/fly tying with video support etc.

All the best for the remainder of the season which ends on 29th October. Get that Winter Ticket - very good value. The secretary took 92 fish on it in 1996. There are plenty of fish left to be caught. There has been some talk that anglers make too big a dent in the potential over wintering stock for there to be sufficient carry over to the next season. Not true! - the Cormorants are far better anglers than any of our experts. Don't let them have what's left!

(See over for Sean Cutting's Report on the Hinckley Shield)

N.B. **NEW TELEPHONE NUMBERS:-** **FISHING LODGE - 01780 686441**
WING OFFICES - 01572 653021

Yours Sincerely

John Wadham (Hon. Sec)