

RUTLAND WATER FLY FISHERS

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

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OCTOBER NEWSLETTER 1998

Dear Member,

Fishing Report

The bonanza continued on into October then came to a sudden abrupt halt. The fish seemed to do a total bunk. If you were lucky they would appear for about ten minutes at the death and be uncatchable. Quite clearly they were feeding out in deeper water and coming for a "night-cap" They did not even give one a chance to change flies! Then the Secretary went away for a few days and they came on again. He will have to do it more often for the benefit of his fellow anglers!

As per usual for 1998 the weather had the last word. Last Friday hail stood six inches deep locally after some of the most spectacular thunderstorms seen in October for many years. On Saturday we had gales and six hours of rain. On Sunday the dreaded West North Westerly gale turned the whole lake to soup. Then flood water after the heavy rain entering the top of the South Arm made things look very bleak for those hoping to fish the last weekend of the season.

The best conditions seem to be a flat calm or very light wind. Last Tuesday, in just that weather fish were caught all around the lake.

Best bank spots have been the Transformer, Burley, Sailing Club Bay, New Zealand Point, Carrot Creek, Barnhill Creek, Dickenson's Road End, Fantasy End of the Dam, Sykes Lane & Whitwell Creek. So still a fair choice of spots.

The average Rainbow now stands at 3lb. This is the best ever end of season average size and bodes very well for 1999, given a Winter akin to 1998. This has been the year of the 5 pounder. Will 1999 be the year of the six pounder?

The Brownies have been conspicuous by their absence. However some very large specimens have been seen "on the wing" some as big as a size 12 wader!

Nigel Savage is there again with a superb 7lb 11oz Rainbow taken by from Whitwell Creek on - guess what? Floating fry of course! He also had a 6lb 8oz fish the same day. The fish contained Perch fry up to 5 ins and sticklebacks. The "smaller" fish took close to the bank. Both fish fought hard making numerous long runs.

John Dracup got among them taking a perfect Rainbow of 6lb 8oz on a white booby on a Hi-D line from one of the pontoons in Whitwell Creek. The fish fought hard at one time going under the pontoon. This is John's career best fish. Another one to the tally in this field.

Lewis Carlin of Town Crier fame was also in on the action taking a quick four up to 5lb 2oz on Black Buzzer and Tadpole in an hour on the bank adjacent to Fantasy Island.

The Secretary took a career best Rainbow of 6lb 6oz from the Fantasy end of the dam on a dry daddy longlegs fished almost on the "dap" only some 10ft out from the rocks. The fish ran some 150 yards along the dam and was finally landed just beyond the third pillar up the dam. Anyone got 150 yards of backing on their reel? He also took a five pounder in the same manner from the same spot. Both in horrendous weather. The largest fish to be caught from the bank this season was a 9lb 6oz Brown caught by one time club member, Graham Bailiss at the Transformer Road End.

Boat Fishing.

This, not surprisingly, has slowed somewhat mainly due to the weather which has prevented sailings on many days recently.

However the rudder men are still catching with Graham Pearson & George Moore taking 16 fish for 55lb 1oz all on Gold & Silver tubes in the North Arm. George getting the best fish. A Brown of 6lb 10oz.

One plus factor of the boat fishing has been the high average size of the fish caught. However, the absence of any number of weed beds has made locating fry feeders a very hit and miss affair.

Jon Marshall and Nathan Clayton took the pairs Trophy in the Anglian Water v Environment Agency match with 12 fish for 28lb thus retaining the Trophy.

Some boats may be available in early November but many will be out of commission for refurbishment for next season. So check with the Lodge first to see what's available.

A more comprehensive survey of the 1998 season and the prospects for the rest of the winter and the Fur & Feather will appear in the November issue.

SPECIMEN FISH AWARDS 1998

Trout & Salmon Trophy for the best Rainbow

The best Rainbow of the season is a superb specimen of 8lb 1oz caught from the Fantasy End of the dam by Malcolm Janik from Spilsby on a size 12 Hares Ear fished on a floating line in an Easterly wind. The fish gave Malcolm a tremendous battle and leads the field for the Trout & Salmon Shield.

Trout Fisherman Trophy for the best Brown -

A good example of the high average size of the Browns referred to as "size 12 waders" (size 11 in this case!) is the 11lb 11oz fish caught by Mike Barrett from Sheffield. Details of which were not to hand for the last letter. The fish was caught on a Tube in the North Arm on a Hi-D line. This is the largest Brown ever submitted for a Club Trophy and now leads the field for the T.F. Trophy. The largest Rainbow being the 13 pounder caught by Dave Dakers from the bank on the North arm "no wading" area in 1992.

Fario Junior Trophy for the best Brown

Sadly no Junior members have submitted a fish for this trophy this season.

The Mike Ellis Junior Trophy for the best Rainbow

The best fish submitted by a Junior member is a fish of 2lb 11oz caught by Michael Wild from Costock near Loughborough on 23rd August in the Pro/Am boat competition with boat partner John Maitland. It was caught on a damsel nymph fished on a "slime" line with 8lb lbs. leader in front of a drifting boat off Barnsdale Spinney.

Winter Programme 1998/99

| Date | Function | Venue | Room |
|-------------------------------------|--|---------------|-------|
| Tuesday 10th Nov. 1998 | A.G.M. (Agenda and 1997 minutes enclosed) | Fishing Lodge | N/A |
| Tuesday 12th Dec. 1998 | Forum of "experts" | | |
| Tuesday 12th Jan 1999 | Fly Tying Evening & Prize Giving | Victoria Hall | Small |
| Tuesday 26th Jan 1999 | Video Evening. | Victoria Hall | Small |
| Tuesday 2nd Feb. 1999 | Christopher Robinson Fishing Abroad available to the "Hoy Poly" | Victoria Hall | Small |
| Tuesday 9th Feb. 1999 | Competition Meeting | Victoria Hall | Small |
| Tuesday 16th Feb. 1999 | Tackle Auction | Victoria Hall | Large |
| <u>Monday 1st March 1999</u> | Cooking evening * | Victoria Hall | Small |
| Tuesday 23rd March 1999 | Dinner & Speaker evening | Victoria Hall | Small |

** Note that the cooking evening will be on a **Monday** not Tuesday as usual*

All functions start at 7.30pm unless otherwise advised

Full details of these functions will be given in the newsletters preceding the events giving you all as much notice as possible.

It is proposed subject to ratification at the A.G.M. that subs will be unaltered for 1998/99.

Membership Cards will therefore be available earlier than previously. Therefore we should all be able to pay up by December 31st as required in Rule 5c of the club constitution.

Association of Major Clubs

Three cheers for the chaps who got us through to win Group 2 at Hanningfield. This was a tremendous effort. Hanningfield is a fair way off and the club would like to acknowledge the effort put in by all those who contributed to our win and to all those other souls who got us through the preliminary rounds. Details & results in next newsletter.

Wheely Boat Launch

This took place at the Fishing Lodge on Saturday 24th October and the Secretary represented the club at the launch by Mrs Tombleson wife of the late Peter Tombleson of who did so much for us anglers during his lifetime. Prior to its use in the 1999 season, A.W.S. will be drawing up guidelines for its deployment as a fishing vessel for the disabled confined to a wheel chair. It accommodates two and is a "roll on - roll off" rectangular flat sided aluminium boat. This sounds like a very good idea. Much easier than trying to lift a wheel chair plus occupant into a standard fishing boat.

Tackle sale at the Fishing Lodge - Sat 14th - Sunday 22nd November.

There will be some good bargains including 33% discount on all Wychwood clothing and some selected rods. The Shop will remain open 7 days a week until December 31st. It will however be closed for stock taking on 9th & 10th November and over the Christmas period.

Winter fishing

Don't give up now just because it is November. The fish aren't aware of the date! In fact the fishing can actually get better as the impact of angling pressure is forgotten. All the fish with the exception of odd gravid female Rainbows are in mint condition. Browns must of course be returned to the water. The present diet is Bloodworms Corixa & Sticklebacks. This will not change much for the next two months. The Bloodworms are most available to the fish where they are turned up by in incoming wind and the fish are quite readily caught if it drops after a good blow. Small "Taddies" and Bloodworms are a safe bet.

The "no go" fishing areas are as follows

North arm.

Transformer Fence round to Dickenson's Road End including Tim Appleton's, Burley Reach & Dickenson's Bay.

South Arm

From the barrier at the bottom of Hambleton Hill including Daltons Point to the Green Bank boundary and from the Sailing Club boundary to the Gibbett Gorse boundary. The Old Hall Point, a very useful spot, is available for fishing.

The Winter brace ticket is available from October 30th To December 31st and costs £75 - 00. Good value if you like! Also the 4 fish evening ticket is available all day during this period @ £9 - 00

Rutland Fur & Feather Bank Competition - Sunday December 13th.

For booking and further details contact the Fishing Lodge on 01780 686441. This is great fun and so far has been a great success with some tremendous catches taken. Remember the fish have had a rest from the seasons bombardment and appear ready to take anything!

Enclosures

- (1) Map of Rutland showing "no go" areas for the Winter Fishing.
- (2) Subscription renewal form for 1998/99.

Best of luck with the Winter Fishing. Don't forget to fish into the wind on warm days and downwind when its cold.

Hope to see you at the A.G.M. on the 10th Nov.

JohnWadham

Hon Secretary