

# Rutland Water Fly Fishers



[www.rwff.org.uk](http://www.rwff.org.uk) September 2008 Newsletter

As you may have noticed the newsletter is a two monthly affair. So please don't worry if you think you may have missed an issue.

How's it fishing? August 2008 has been a cool, dull & windy month. This has kept the water well mixed and the surface temp has never been too warm for the fish.

Despite the end of July heat-wave the boat fishing has been exceptional.

The water level is down about 2m below top level-despite the amount

## Rutland Fishing Update ...

of rain we appeared to have had in the last months. Let's hope it does not get too low and fully expose the weed beds.

The main centres of activity are the main basin and the area between Hideaway Bay and Browns Island.

The boats have had the lion's share of the fish. Most have caught in the Main Basin, but the top of the South arm has also been productive.

Bank anglers have been picking up some good fish with some exceeding 5lb: this mainly along the Normanton Bank where the weed beds are well spaced out.

A recent rummage in the guts bin revealed quite a varied diet with the fish eating vast quantities of small black terrestrials - resembling a stomach full of black sludge, snails, caddis & tiny buzzers - these mainly in the Manton Bay/ Browns Island area.

There was little evidence of the consumption of fry. I guess that, fish seen moving among weed beds and apparently chasing the fry, may in fact be knocking snails off the weed and taking them as the float away - just out of reach of one's cast!

It was quite clear that the larger more seasoned fish contained mainly snails.

Extract from AWS report



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W/E 22 August: Rutland Water continues in fantastic form with a rod average of 4.29 – very high for the time of the year. Fish quality has been excellent with average fish weight reaching 2½lb on certain days.

Boat anglers have had the best of the sport but there are signs that bank anglers are getting into fish again.

Most methods are working with nymphs down the south arm whereas everything seems to work in the Main Basin. Bank anglers are taking fish with nymphs with fry patterns well worth a try with the numerous weed beds that are showing. One angler reported taking two fry feeding Rainbows both over 5lb in two recent visits.

The Anglian Water Four Man Loch Style match was a great success,



fishing to a rod average of 7.48. Jim Watts from Ryhall was the top indi-

vidual rod recording the best fish, a 5lb 1oz Rainbow. Jim was a member of Team Anglian – the winning four man team. Jim's catch consisted of eight rainbows for 23lb 12oz.

The best tactics were to fish floating/midge tip lines with nymphs mainly in the South arm and around Manton Bay, Lax Hill and Browns Island. In an outstanding match with no time bonus Rutland Water provided the competitors with some excellent sport. The average size of the fish was close to 2lb 8oz and the conditions impressed those that took part.

1 <sup>st</sup> Team Anglian	32 fish for 81lb 12oz
2 <sup>nd</sup> A.C.A. Rio Masters	32 fish for 80lb 8oz
3 <sup>rd</sup> Team Loop	30 fish for 77lb 2oz
4 <sup>th</sup> Maran Kingfishers	32 fish for 73lb 12oz
5 <sup>th</sup> Team Tightlines	31 fish for 73lb 6oz
6 <sup>th</sup> Cormorants	32 fish for 72lb 4oz
7 <sup>th</sup> Hanningfield	28 fish for 69lb
8 <sup>th</sup> Fish Hawks A	28 fish for 64lb 5oz
9 <sup>th</sup> Northern Nomads	29 fish for 63lb 13oz
10 <sup>th</sup> Fly Boys	25 fish for 60lb 12oz

### CATCH & RELEASE

As you may already be aware the C&R restriction was lifted at Rutland Water on the 4th August: due mainly to the improvement in the Ergasilus situation

### WEED BEDS

At last they have come and pretty well all around the bank and in some places extending some 50M out from the bank. There are the usual weed free spots and in some areas such as Yellowstone & Normanton bank the weed beds are well spaced.

It is mainly Elodea Canadensis - Canadian pond weed mixed with Potamogeton Pectinatus – resembling grass. However as the picture taken in Old Hall Bay & Barnhill Creek-- is now re-appearing after a long absence. This growth of weed has many benefits: the main one being as a refuge for fry,

damsels, corixae etc. Also when it dies back the subsequent decaying matter will give food & shelter to other fauna – especially blood worms



for next year's buzzer hatches.

The fish feel quite "safe" feeding along the weed fringe out of sight of anglers and have no excuse for fry bashing over deep water!

Fishing predictions at Rutland are of course always suspect like forecasting the weather more than three days ahead! However prospects are better than for many years for good fry fishing from the bank this back end.

### **HISTORY OF EMICS - East Midlands Immediate Care Scheme**

Following a recent incident to a club

member, this piece may well be of interest to all members who find themselves involved in a medical emergency whilst fishing at Rutland Water. Many thanks to all at EMICS and to Mary Boothroyd - Care Scheme Secretary who sent this in.

When Dr Tim Gray moved to Oakham in 1980 he told the Ambulance Service that he would be prepared to respond to local R.T.A. – this was in the days before ambulances were manned by paramedics.

In 1984 he persuaded 5 doctors from local practices to set up the Rutland Accident Care Scheme (RACS) for a 6-month trial period. The Scheme was a registered charity and all members worked voluntarily. They were poorly equipped but were very successful in appealing to the local community to support them financially and this is still the case today.

Within a few years the Scheme expanded to cover Leicestershire and all doctors were paged by the Ambulance Service to attend incidents – during the early years the callout was only about 20 to 30 a year.

The number of doctors involved varied over the years but averaged at about 10.



When the Ambulance Service expanded to cover more and more of the East Midlands it was decided that RACS would have to make the same commitment or cease to exist.

In 2004 the charity was re-named East Midlands Immediate Care Scheme (EMICS) and now covers Rutland, Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire, Derbyshire, Northamptonshire and parts of Lincolnshire.

The number of doctors is now 18 but Dr Gray is the only original member still involved and is still the Chairman of the Scheme.

Last year EMICS doctors attended 452 incidents. Over the years EMICS has been involved at many different types of incidents e.g. RTA's, sporting, train, farm and aeroplane.

Everyone connected with the charity gives their time and expertise voluntarily so every penny donated to the scheme is spent on keeping the doctors equipped with the up-to-date equipment necessary to deal with the various emergencies they have to deal with. For each doctor it costs £15-20,000 to add lights and sirens to his/her car and supply all the equipment needed to carry out this vital service.

The public cannot call on our services directly - doctors are mobilised by East Midlands Ambulance Service (EMAS). When they receive a 999 call EMICS is one of the resources they can rely on.

All the doctors carry a pager and when they get a message giving details of an incident they contact the control room at EMAS to let

them know they will attend. If they cannot attend they just ignore the message.

The proceeds from The litter pick in March 2009 will be in donated to this organisation which has attended a number of incidents in our area.

### **NOTICE BOARD**

This is kept up to date with club info and news of future activities. Photos of club members' successes – especially juniors pictured with fish. If there is any club business you would like publishing or advertising here contact JW.

### **SEASONAL TROPHIES 2008**

Please do not forget that, in response to popular demand, the period in which you can claim now ends 31st December.



Tom Cooper (above) with a catch taken from Hideaway Bay on black buzzer 16th June. Best Brown 4lb 8oz Rainbow 3lb 5oz

Browns only April 1st to October 29th

inclusive. Rainbows from opening day to 31st December. Claims submitted so far:

**Best Rainbow Senior:** J Allen, 6lb 0oz on the 19/04/2008.

**Best Brown Senior:** Mike Barrett 7lb 14oz on the 12/04/2008.

**Best Rainbow Junior:** Tom Cooper 4lb 01/4 oz on the 03/07/2008.

**Best Brown Junior:** Tom Cooper 4lb 8oz on the 16/06/2008.

### **SCIERRA PAIRS — 2008 FINAL**

This match – Rutland - Saturday 30th August.

Congratulations to club members David Lang & Mike Gunnell for coming second in this event with 48lb 6oz. The lake fished very well on the day in a light South Easterly wind and overcast conditions and gave an average of 5.7 fish per rod.

Some anglers had completed their limits by mid-day. Most fish were caught in the Hideaway Bay to Browns Island area and in the main basin.

Most of the fish were caught on or very near the surface on anything from boobies to epoxy-buzzers.

### **IT'S NEARLY THAT TIME OF YEAR AGAIN !!!**

It's not very often that we fish in near perfect conditions, yet a mild overcast day in August, early September can provide the right climate for the annual Return of the Daddies. Let me explain....

Sean Cutting and I had spent 3 fruitless hours in Rutland's North Arm chasing trout with our floating lines and nymphs, when we decided a change in our fortunes was re-

quired. Pleasure days afloat can be like that, a few drifts here and there, trying places that have produced quality fish in the past.

Just as we were passing Hinman's Spinney in a westerly direction, I noticed a Daddy skipping over the surface.....and then it was gone. Then another, but this one escaped.

As we cleared the edge of the wood, a light warm north westerly breeze blew across the long grass and we noticed several decent rises ahead of us. We slowed right down to observe.

Trout, some good fish too, were cruising ahead of us, occasionally snatching at a clumsy crane fly. We quickly changed our casts and I put on 2 hoppers, a ginger & a brown, well spread apart and cast into the killing zone. The point fly landed just right and within seconds, a good Brown was heading for the sailing club. Gradually I won the tussle and a 4lb Rutland Brownie graced my net briefly, before it was safely returned.

Sean was into action as well. He had adopted his favoured Washing Line method, with a small sparkler booby on the point, with 2 hoppers above. The bend in his Orvis 7 weight rod, was all the evidence I needed to realise that he was into a fighting fit rainbow, with attitude. After several testing runs, an immaculate fin perfect rainbow of nearly 5lb came to the net. Wow! We had not seen fish like this for a long time.

Further fish followed to both our rods, all quality fish, not freshly deposited stockies! Casting our hoppers towards a rising fish, occasionally missing the target, but yet, getting the fly grabbed by another mint specimen.

Sport was fast and furious. The

breeze was gradually increasing and we realised our feast may soon be over. We were now able to hang our flies in the off shore wind and drop them on the heads of feeding trout.

Absolute magic! Another rainbow had fallen to the Daddy of all flies and we both had now taken half a dozen fish in a short yet frenzied session.

Then.....nothing. They had gone, just like turning off a light. No more rises, no more daddies skipping and rolling across the surface. Nothing.

We checked other areas where the breeze was blowing off the land, but apart from the odd Daddy, no more rising trout.

Next stop the southern tip of Brown's Island, where Sean had spotted a few rising fish. He was soon into action, this time with dry flies, Cul's to be precise.

By gently casting to rising fish, he had soon finished his 8 fish limit and started on his lunchtime hamper, for which he is famous.

Me, I could not make the Cul's work, so I put a Red Ribbed Diawl Bach between to hoppers to finish my day off as well. We put our rods away and headed back to the lodge.

The wind had dropped a little, as we approached the grassy bank that had produced such marvellous mid afternoon sport. Gradually, I noticed a few rises, as Sean steered us towards the scene of the fall of so many daddies.

They were at it again, crashing all over the place. Such is the joy of fishing at this time of year when,

conditions are just right. Kev Taylor.

## **RWFF LOCH-STYLE 2008**

The 2008 Loch Style Competition took place at Rutland Water on Sunday 14 September 2008 and with a total of 26 member (13 boats), was well supported by the club and members who all enjoyed a really first class days fishing.

The weather was kind to us for a change and we were blessed with a light to moderate S/E wind and bright hazy conditions coupled with occasional cloud.

Most boats made for either the south arm/Manton or the main basin, although Leon Smith and his partner Barry Vaughan opted for the North arm and were suitably rewarded for their courage with 11 fish to 28lb. 14oz with the best at 3lb. 8oz. Unfortunately they did not make it into the prizes.

Because of the brighter conditions the fish gradually went deeper during the day and the preferred option seemed to be small flies, i.e. buzzers and Diawl Bach fished slowly on a long leader, although fish were caught on other flies and methods.

## **RESULT ...**

A total of 151 fish were caught during the day giving a rod average of 5. 8% (11.6% per boat) an excellent result confirming the quality of the boat fishing, particularly accepting the large number of fish that have been caught in recent major competitions/practice days.

The average weight of the fish caught was 2lb 1oz, although Phil Brown fishing with Jamie Weston managed a rainbow of 4lb 3oz. for the best fish trophy.

Elaine Sherry with one of 3lb 15oz closely followed him, and this formed part of her first ever 8 fish limit at Rutland.

The final results are as follows:



1<sup>st</sup> Paul Wild 16 fish for 38lb.  
£50 Nigel Goodson — best fish 3lb. 6oz



2<sup>nd</sup> Gordon Bloodworth 16 fish for 36lb. 4oz  
£30 Al Owen — best fish 2lb. 15oz



3<sup>rd</sup> Jayne Alecock 16 fish for 35lb. 12oz.  
£20 Elaine Sherry — best fish 3lb. 15oz.

The Chairman John Maitland who

fished the competition with Peter Gover presented prizes and I will not mention the result, but suffice to say they lost a number of big fish....

John thanked members for their support; he also thanked staff from Anglian Water for assisting with the weigh in and Roy Taylor for organising the event.

### **WATER AID 2008**

Near perfect weather conditions met all the 36 teams arriving at Rutland Water from all over the UK for the seventh Anglian Water WaterAid Fly Fishing Challenge. The scene was set for some excellent fishing for the 130 anglers entered in this years event and a good haul of cash for the charity WaterAid.

Rutland Water Fly Fishers (RWFF) were on hand again this year to provide support and expert tuition to the 50 novices participating in the event.

Novices have again been encouraged over the years and this has become both a popular and important feature of awWAFFic. It is introducing more people to the fantastic pastime of Fly Fishing each year.

At the start many of the boats travelled to the top of the south arm around the Manton Bay area and the rest headed for the main basin and dam. Teams got into fish early on, with the help of the 20 RWFF experts afloat, and caught steadily through the day.

A change in wind direction and a drop in wind speed made the fishing slightly more difficult in the afternoon. Of the 132 anglers on the water 73 caught 156 fish giving a rod average of 1.2 Fish were caught on mainly Dry Flies and Nymphs on floating lines.

The winning team (sponsored by Mor-

risson Construction) emerged as Computer Recycling Technologies Fly Fishers from Cheshire with 15 fish for 38lb 0oz. In second place were IWS Wranglers (Lichfield) with 12 fish for 28lb 5oz and third place went to Morrison South Wales with 11 fish for 27lb 10oz.

The top individual experienced angler (sponsored by Projective Ltd) was Nick Donald from CRT Fly Fishers with 8 fish for 19lb 12oz. Nick also caught the largest fish (sponsored by LES Engineering) of the day a cracking 5lb 7oz rainbow on a dry fly.

The best individual novice (sponsored by RSK Group PLC) was Carl Dearden (May Gurney) with 6 fish for 12lb 14oz.

The largest fish caught by a novice (Sponsored by J N Bentley) weighed in at 3lb 3oz and was landed by Adam Brookes from IWS Wranglers.

A dinner (supplied by Horseshoe Catering, sponsored by May Gurney)

was held after the event where Paul Gibbs, Director of Waste Water Services for Anglian Water, presented the winners trophies.

The evening was finished off with an auction (run by Jeff Dale of Oakham auction centre) and a raffle to raise money for WaterAid.

The Top Gillie trophy went to Al Owen (above right) for the second year running. Al was supporting the IWS Wranglers Team who finished in second place.

The total raised by awwaffic during 2008 was over £21,000 taking the total raised by the event to over £103,000 in the seven years it has been running.

Event organisers Chris Evans and Paul Dimbleby would like to thank all those individuals and organisations that have made this years event possible.

These include Anglian Water (particularly AW Fishery staff and AW Volunteers), Rutland Water Fly Fishers (organised by John Wadham and Mal-





colm March), Nick Flatt (graphics and Photos), WaterAid committee, Horseshoe catering, the event sponsors, contributors and all the companies who entered teams.

**ASSOCIATION OF MAJOR CLUBS 2008—CHEW VALLEY GROUP 1**

It was a close fought and tense fourth round of the Association of Major Clubs Division One at Chew Valley Lake which saw Rutland Water Flyfishers pipped at the post by Bewl Bridge Fly Fishers.

Bewl had 48 fish for their six-man team, two more than Rutland, which made them winners by just 3lb 7oz!

Chew fished extremely well, despite coloured, dirty water which had reduced visibility of just 18ins, to produce a rod average of over six fish per angler. Congratulations go to Jayne Alecock for being RWFF’s top rod on the day. Not bad for a last minute stand in for the team and her first trip ever to Chew Valley!

Most fish came from the basin in front of the sailing club and down to the dam, with another popular area being from the mouth of Villice Bay towards the lodge.

Best methods included Black or bright Boobies on a floating line with black Diawl Bach’s, Red Ribbed Cormorants and Black Snatchers other

successful patterns.

With two matches still to go, both at Rutland, there is a three-way tie for first place between Rutland, Hanningfield and Bewl.

Results were as follows:

1. Bewl	48 fish =	112-04 =	6pts
2. RWFF	46	108-13	5pts
3. Hanningfield	40	100-07	4pts
4. Fish Hawks	32	75-01	3pts
5. Bristol	27	58-13	2pts
6. Soldier Palmers	15	32-04	1pt

RWFF individual results, including a time bonus:

1. Jayne Alecock	8 fish for	22-11
2. Mike Gunnell	8	20-04
3. Mike Barrett	8	18-08
4. Sean Cutting	8	17-12
5. Kevin Taylor	8	17-11
6. David Lang	6	11-15

RWFF’s overall positions after the first four rounds are:

1.= Hanningfield	17pts (cum weight)	317-11
1.=RWFF	17pts	316-11
1.= Bewl Bridge	17pts	302-07
4. Soldier Palmers	15pts	249-09
5. Fish Hawks	11pts	205-06
6. Bristol RFF	7pts	190-12

**AW RUTLAND TUESDAY EVENING BOAT LEAGE 2008**

Tom’s Champion! Empingham’s Tom Cooper was crowned the Tuesday Night Boat League champion last week with a total of 55 points. Going into the last match Tom and his brother Richard were neck and neck with 52 points apiece. On the final night first place went to Si Gaines, Mick Brooksby took second and Chris Evans third, with Tom Cooper in fourth gaining another 3 points.

Richard was unable to add to his tally so victory and £50 in tackle vouchers went to brother Tom. Tom and Richard’s father, Gary Cooper, won £10 in tackle vouchers for the best fish over

the 14 weeks, a Rainbow of 4lb 3¼oz.

John Seaton, senior warden at Rutland Water said "This year the Boat League has been exceptional with 191 rods taking an impressive 549 fish. We would like to thank all those who took part in this popular event and for the support they have given the boat league over the years."

The final top six places were

1 <sup>st</sup>	Tom Cooper	55 points
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Richard Cooper	52 points
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Chris Evans	47 points
4 <sup>th</sup>	Keith Jones	40points
5 <sup>th</sup>	Gary Cooper	31 points
6 <sup>th</sup>	Si Gaines	27 points



Tom Cooper, winner of the 2008 Tuesday Night Boat League at Rutland Water, shakes hands with brother Richard who came a close second. The brothers live in Empingham. Richard won the title in 2007. Tom (left) and Richard (right).

### ELFA NATIONAL 2008

25 ladies entered the 2008 National Final at Bewl Water for qualification in next year's International to be held in Ireland at Lough Leane, near Killarney. Congratulations for three RWFF club members, Hilary Tomlinson, Sue Sissons and Jayne Alecock who qualified for the team.

### A FISHY JOKE TO END ON ...!!!

(Apologies now, but it made me laugh.)

An elderly, but elegant lady goes into a fishing tackle shop to buy a fishing rod and reel for her grandson's 15th birthday later that week.

She doesn't know which one to get, so she just grabs one of each and goes over to the counter.

The salesman is standing there, wearing dark glasses. She says, 'Excuse me. Can you tell me anything about this rod and reel?'

He says, 'Madam, I'm completely blind; but, if you'll drop it on the counter, I can tell you everything you need to know about it from the sound it makes'.

She doesn't believe him but drops it on the counter anyway. He says, 'That's a two meter Shakespeare graphite rod, with a Greys reel and 5-lb test fluorocarbon line. It's a good all around combination, and it's on sale this week for £144.

She says, 'It's amazing that you can tell all that just by the sound of it dropping on the counter. I'll take it!

As she opens her purse, her credit card drops on the floor. 'Oh, that sounds like a Visa card, says the salesman. As the lady bends down to pick up the card, she accidentally passes wind.

At first she is really embarrassed but then realises there is no way the blind salesman could tell it was she who had passed wind. The salesman rings up the sale and says, 'that'll be £158.50' please.

The lady is totally confused by this and asks; didn't you tell me it was on sale for £144? How did you get to £158.50?

'The Duck Caller is £11 and the Fish Bait is £3.50.'

# *RUTLAND WATER FLY FISHERS*

## **HANBY CUP**

**SUNDAY 2nd NOVEMBER 2008**



### **PAIRS BOAT MATCH to FISHERY RULES**

**Fishing: 0930 -1600**

**Enter by booking at the Fishing lodge on the day. The Club has provisionally booked 10 boats**

***8 Fish limit and no time bonus***

**Prizes for winners & runners up**

**For further details contact organiser:  
Paul Wild on 01780 720308**

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