

RUTLAND WATER FLY FISHERS



August 2002

Website: www.rutlandflyfishing.co.uk
email: rwff@bigwig.net

Junior's Evening

We still need a few volunteers to help out as boatmen at the junior's evening on the 15th August. It is essential for our sport that we encourage the youngsters and those who help on these evenings find it immensely rewarding. So check your diary and give Andy Flitcroft a ring on 01572 770703.

The George Moore Memorial Rudder Match

This was fished in a flat calm and raised £57, which Mrs Moore kindly donated to LO-RS. Thirty-eight anglers took part. The best fish to win. This was a rainbow of 5lb 6oz. Two other 5lb fish were caught. So there are some big ones there. Perhaps we will see them around the banks and weed beds in October.

Greys Team RWFF, Beats All Comers

The Hardy Greys Championship 2002 was won by our team, Sean Cutting (capt), Steve Crowson, Andy Flitcroft, Mike Gunnell, Paul Wild and Stuart Young. Held at Rutland on Wednesday, 31st July, it was a close run thing



Sean Cutting receiving the invitation to the International from Chris Ogbourne

with only ounces between the top 3 teams who now go onto the Grand International final, at Rutland in September. Success was achieved on floating lines using mainly Daiwl Bachs, with the best places being along the Dam, the South Arm, Old Hall to Browns and L buoy to Yellowstone. (Full results on back page).



John Wadham's Fishing Report

There are plenty of fish in Rutland as stocking has now reached 70,000 fish with about 38,000 fish recorded caught from about 10,000 returns. With the hot thundery weather consistent with the "dog days", the bank fishing has inevitably slowed up. Although, the

deeper spots like Stockie Bay are still producing some fish.

The water level is down about a metre. However the recent deluges have raised the level slightly and perhaps freshened it up a little. There is plenty of weed in the margins harbouring shoals of this years fry which in hook terms are about a size 10 long shank!

Best fishing at Rutland

last year was the last week in August & first week in September when the fish

came on the perch fry. Not wishing the season away, let's hope for a repeat performance: but let's hope also it lasts for more than a fortnight as happened last year! This is traditionally the best time for the fry feeders: just as the water starts to cool down and the Browns are still in good nick. The theory behind this is that an offshore wind drives away cont...

CHAIRMAN'S NOTES - John Maitland, Chairman RWFF



After almost six years as Chairman I can look back at several changes in Club affairs which are now well established procedures, the regular News letter, the pre-season dinner in March, and the Club web-site, to name but a few. Members may well think of other ways in which your Committee could make improvements but these will remain only wishes unless they are passed on to us. While the AGM does give an opportunity it is always better to pass on such proposals whilst they are fresh in mind. I am usually at-home in the evening, at least while bank fishing is dire, and my phone number is on the Newsletter so don't be shy.

One such project being currently discussed in committee is the possibility of a more glossy publication, annual to start with, to supplement the Newsletters. In Andrew Flitcroft we have a magazine publishing professional who is prepared to act as editor, but only if he has a small team to help with the production. Some other committee members may be able to help but ideally we would like volunteers from the membership who are prepared to give time before next spring to get the project going. Distance from Oakham, where Andrew lives, need not be a bar if one has internet access. Names to me or the Secretary please.

In spite of poor bank sport at Rutland at the moment I have had my 'string' well pulled this week. An afternoon boat at Grafham on Sunday gave Dick Stephen 10 and myself 8 to 3½ pounds on buzzer and Diawl Bach; the best sport after 6pm. On Wednesday morning at Ravensthorpe I have rarely seen so many fish moving, after damsel nymphs over the weed. Close imitations would not work (no wiggle? but a size 12 olive shuttlecock dry gave us eleven in the boat. Now (Friday) we hear of good catches to Diawl Bach in Rutland's south arm shallows - so tonight I hope!

John Wadham's fishing report continued

the "hot" surface water and replaces it with cooler water from underneath.

This rule will almost certainly apply at Rutland. So let's hope for the North East wind. This should draw a great many of the fish, which are at present in the main basin, up to the dam.

A good example occurred at Grafham in 1976. After a prolonged hot spell with air temperatures in the nineties and a water surface temperature of 27degC, the entire fish population of the lake appeared in the Dam wall basin in a strong Easterly wind blowing off the wall. There were so many fish there that the water looked black.

After that, the lake fished its head off.

Roll on the North Easterlies! Not Westerlies please!

Ladies day June 29th

This was a great fun day with some 12 ladies taking part. Dave Doherty and John Wadham ran the event for AWS. The programme included fly dressing, knot tying, tackle talk, casting tuition, and an excellent buffet lunch. After lunch, a strong Westerly wind put in an appearance which, unfortunately reduced us to bank fishing in the Sailing Club bay. We did not catch any fish although one or two fish were seen. Two ladies did venture out in a boat but "enjoyed" a very storm tossed visit to the Sailing Club Bay with RWFF club member Paul Turner. Thanks to all those who helped out on the day. Talking of ladies fly fishing - Hilary Tomlinson ventured out in a boat with her son on the Tuesday boat league and caught her first trout - well done Hilary!

Anglian Water Aid Fly Fishing Challenge - 26th June 2002

Anglers travelled from all over the UK for this event, which raised £6,500 for Water Aid. The money will be used to provide safe water supplies & sanitation and hygiene to developing countries. About a third of the anglers were beginners and were given expert tuition by AWS staff. The lake fished well in bright windy conditions. The winning team caught 11 fish for 18lb 8oz

Anyone interested in taking part or helping out in 2003 or if you wish to know more about Water Aid please contact Chris Evans on 01733 414163 or e mail him on cevans@anglianwater.co.uk

During the competition the fish seemed to be eating most things including daphnia, which is good to see. Many fish seem to have converged on the boils or in the main basin generally. Lets hope they continue to feed for the rest of the season. Last year the boils were off and this may have contributed to their loss of condition in the autumn.

The lake fished particularly well in the second week in July this year with 433 anglers taking some 1531 fish.



This photograph showing Stuart Young, reserve member of the Greys Team RFFF, was taken after he won the prestigious International Flyfishing Trophy at Grafham earlier this season. This trophy dates back to the 1930's and has many well-known names in the sport over the last 7 decades!

Prospects at Grafham

If you fancy a change try the Dam Wall. There is quite a dense algal bloom so you need an offshore wind. This bloom keeps the fish close and offers cover to the pin fry. The fish in Grafham have grown at a remarkable rate mainly due to dense daphnia colonies and prodigious hatches of green buzzers. The writer's present average size is 3lb 5oz. Best patterns seem to be green buzzers and sedge imitations and small floating fry. Present diet is mainly pin fry. Best bank fishing is mornings and evenings. Hope you have plenty of backing on your reels!

Boats are also doing well. However, the recent hot weather has inevitably, as elsewhere, slowed things up a bit, so keep your eye on the forecasts.



The Greys Team RWFF's team photograph showing the main six team members. Left to right are: Mike Gunnell, Kevin Taylor, Sean Cutting, Paul Wild, Andrew Flitcroft and Steve Crowson. At the recent England final, Kevin was away on holiday and Stuart Young took his team place.

HOUSE of HARDY
ESTABLISHED 1988

The Hardy Greys
Championship
2002

GREYS

SUMMARY OF ENGLAND FINAL RESULTS

RUTLAND WATER - 31 JULY 2002

TEAM PLACINGS	Team Result		
	Fish	lb	oz
1 GREYS TEAM RUTLAND WATER FF	36	75	7
2 BEWL BRIDGE FF	36	75	3 5/8
3 ACA MASTERLINE	35	74	8 5/8
4 OSPREYS	32	72	13 1/4
5 MERIDIAN FF	31	68	12 1/4
6 BATH TEAM PULLING MILL	28	53	14 5/8
7 RENEGADE FF	25	40	15 1/8
8 FISHING FOR FUN	22	44	8 5/8
9 HUMBERSIDE ANGLING TOFT NEWTON FF	21	44	1
10 GREENWELL PERSUADERS	21	41	14 1/2
11 HARDY ANIMALS (CONSETT INVICTA)	19	30	8 5/8
12 CHEVY GREENADERS	18	34	8 1/4
13 WANNINGFIELD FFA	15	29	4 1/2
14 CHEOLERS FLY-TYERS	14	25	8
15 ST EDMUNDS	11	23	1/4
16 PRINCE ALBERT AS	11	22	1 1/2

HEAVIEST BAG

	Fish	lb	oz
1 Roy Fox MERIDIAN FF	10	28	12
2 Rob Edmunds ACA MASTERLINE	10	24	11 1/4
3 Peter Johnson BEWL BRIDGE FF	10	23	15 5/8

HEAVIEST FISH

	lb	oz
1 Stephen Pearl OSPREYS	3	11 1/2
2 Andrew Flitcroft GREYS TEAM RUTLAND WATER FF	3	2
3 Tony Fox MERIDIAN FF	3	1 3/4

Championship Management
by Chris Osborn & Phillip
Administration and Results
by Martin Brown

ENGLAND FINAL - 31 JULY 2002
Reg Vardy Audi



LAST KNOCKINGS - A WRY LOOK AT GOINGS ON AT RUTLAND



Half way through the season and the summer lull has set in, banks are deserted, fish are on the boils and people are going on holiday, in fact Nigel the warden has just got back from his third overseas holiday this year but it's a hard life being a bailiff, or so he says. An unusual season weatherwise - the recent rudder match was fished in a flat calm in sharp contrast to every other competition this year which seems to have been fished in a gale. The rudder competition result was determined by the best brace of fish which meant that Graham Pearson and his partner didn't win despite catching more fish than the other pairings - which went down well with everybody else besides which he must have enough silverware cluttering up his mantelpiece already.



The staff turnover in the restaurant continues apace, I think they're on their third manager so far this season and you still can't get a drink when you come off the boats, still we fishermen need to remember that the primary purpose of the fishing lodge restaurant is to sell ice cream to the grockles on hot sunny afternoons. I don't know what the food's like this year although Phil Brown from the tackle shop says that he is always able to pick up something hot and tasty from upstairs!



If you see boat anglers wearing a small pack around their waists, they are not colostomy bags but the anglers own lifejackets, the advantage is that you don't end up with neck strain at the end of the days fishing. They may not save your life but they're OK with AWS at the moment. The AWS life jackets don't always work as Mike Netherclift found out earlier this year when he took an unplanned dip in the harbour. Apparently he didn't go in deep enough or for long enough for it to work so if this happens to you remember to take a deep breath and dive down towards the bottom and you should pop back up. As a bonus you may even get to work out what depth the fish are at.