

TRISH  
WITWORTH  
21lbs 8ozs  
MIRROR CARP  
FRANT  
LAKES

**FREE**



Sandwich  
Coarse Fishery

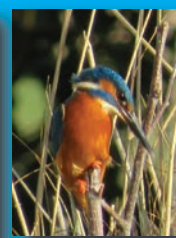
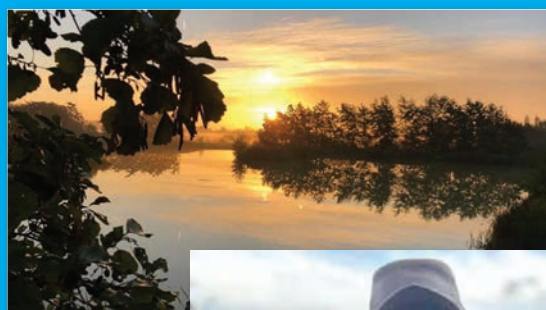


Tel: 07936 409912

email: [enquiries@sandwichlakes.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@sandwichlakes.co.uk)

[www.sandwichlakes.co.uk](http://www.sandwichlakes.co.uk)

Sandwich Ash Road (A257), Near Canterbury CT3 2DA







## ORCHARD PLACE FARM FISHING

13 FISHING LAKES in the KENT COUNTRYSIDE

Pearsons Green Road, Paddock Wood, Kent TN12 6NY

01892 838576 or 07860 608218



**Carp to 49lb+**



**Catfish to 112lb+**

At Orchard Place Farm you can surround yourself in the natural beauty of the Kent countryside, located just outside of the picturesque town of Paddock Wood, and only 8 miles from Maidstone. The fishery boasts 13 lakes - 10 carp and catfish lakes and 3 match/pleasure lakes.

### SPECIMEN LAKES

DAY TICKETS  
AVAILABLE  
24HR - £30  
48HR - £55  
(additional charge  
for 3rd rod)

### FULLY FUNCTIONING LAKE 13 - CARP & CATFISH WATER

Many swims have disabled access • All-weather pathways leading all around the lakes and up to each individual swim • Purpose-built toilets located in the main car park (with hot shower) • Between Lake 3 and Lake 4 (toilet and sink block only) • Block constructed by Lake 7 also contains a microwave, fridge and washing up facilities.

### MATCH/ PLEASURE LAKES

DAY TICKETS  
2 RODS - £10  
CONCESSIONS  
1 ROD - £8

**FOOD IS AVAILABLE ON SITE FROM MID-MARCH TO OCTOBER**

[www.orchardplacefarmfishing.co.uk](http://www.orchardplacefarmfishing.co.uk)

Tackle/bait/shop situated in the main car park, stocking all top bait brands including worms maggots etc. Everything you need at VERY competitive prices.



## NEW TO ORCHARD PLACE FARM! HORSMONDEN FISHING LAKES



Carp  
to 38lbs

Top Lake  
Catfish to 85lbs

Bottom Lake  
Catfish to 75lbs

Two beautiful lakes set in mature, peaceful Kent countryside in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)

Top Lake has five swims, Bottom Lake has six and both can be fished on a day ticket or lake exclusive booking

Anglers' mess on site with fresh running water, wash basin and toilet

**Horsmonden Fishing Lakes, Grovehurst Road, Horsmonden TN12 8BQ**

All enquiries and bookings to Orchard Place Farm Fishery on 01892 838576



# Hello and welcome to the July edition of the Freshwater Informer



Good things come to those that wait, and after waiting for three months the river season is open again for anglers that prefer a bit of flow to their fishing. Mind you, three months is a mere blink of an eye when compared to the length of time it has been since an eel has been landed to challenge the record set in 1978 by Steve Terry. The iconic shot of Steve cradling an 11lbs 2ozs fish must have graced hundreds, if not thousands, of articles and books over the last five decades, providing the ultimate challenge for any would be specimen hunter. Steve Ricketts proved to be the man with enough determination and perseverance to finally achieve the seemingly impossible when he banked a leviathan of 11lbs 3ozs to set a new British Record by 1oz. Yes, good things come to those who wait, and I for one can't wait to get back out on the bank...



*HAVE A GREAT MONTH, THE FWI TEAM.*

## INDEX

- 4 Fishery Reports A round up of all of the latest goings on at the regions best fisheries
- 8 Cheese Paste and Fingers Crossed, Russ Evans Russ looks forwards to the new river season and back at the recent National Tench Championships
- 14 Rights For Rivers Movement, Stewart Allum Currently being trialled in our region, Stewart looks at the potential implications for angling of this new initiative
- 16 Anything but Carp A carp free zone of readers catches
- 24 Jim's Journey, James Relf Follow the learning curve of a novice angler as Jim looks at what's needed to get started in 2024
- 31 Parker Baits Competition Winner Is it you?
- 32 Trout Informer Reports from the regions trout fisheries
- 34 The Friendly Fisherman, Andy Lush There's more to fly fishing than just trout, as Andy asks "is fly fishing for everything?"
- 36 Junior Informer The regions younger anglers share their successes, and we reveal this months competition winners
- 38 Fishing For Schools, Warren White Warren provides an update on the important bridge between angling and education
- 40 The Golden Years of Coarse Fishing, Bob Rolph This month in his Legends Of The 60's series, Bob covers the life and times of a man who inspired generations of anglers, Mr Bernard Venables MBE
- 44 Medway Man, Bob Morris Pride comes before a fall. Join Bob on the glorious sixteenth as his new river campaign gets underway

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY  2024	JUNE publication	OCTOBER publication
	CONTENT DEADLINE 20th May	CONTENT DEADLINE 16th September
	JULY publication	NOVEMBER publication
	CONTENT DEADLINE 17th June	CONTENT DEADLINE 21st October
	AUGUST publication	DECEMBER publication
	CONTENT DEADLINE 22nd July	CONTENT DEADLINE 18th November
	SEPTEMBER publication	JANUARY 2025 publication
	CONTENT DEADLINE 19th August	CONTENT DEADLINE 16th December

The Freshwater Informer

email: thefreshwaterinformer@gmail.com

COPY DEADLINE for AUGUST 2024  
MONDAY 22nd July 2024 at 5pm

The Freshwater Informer cannot accept responsibility for the quality of goods or services advertised in this publication. All views expressed are those of the contributors concerned. All images received are accepted as being true and accurate and as described.



## Beaver Fishery Lingfield, Surrey

**PLEASE NOTE:-** To fish Snipe Lake, Westlake (formerly Tuscany Lake) Daughters Lake and Majors Lake there are certain tackle requirements in force. Please call or look on our website at [beaverfarmfishery.co.uk](http://beaverfarmfishery.co.uk). All anglers on Westlake are required to have a dedicated Catfish mat and you are required to have a large unhooking mat and minimum 36inch net to fish Majors Lake.

**Snipe Lake** has seen a fair few fish banked, various original mirrors to 31lbs, stockie mirrors to 26lbs and commons to 32lbs 14ozs. The biggest common fell to **Jordan Simpson** who gets a special mention as it was his 1st fish from Snipe Lake and also a PB.

**Westlake** has seen cats banked from 7lbs all through the 20's, 30's, 40's 50's and right up to 68lbs. A special mention goes to a few PBs. **Relvin Rapley** banked a few to a 38lbs 14ozs PB and **Marcus Cole** banked a 63lbs 8ozs PB.

**Jeff's Lake** has been producing bream to 6lbs, F1's to 6lbs, lots of new stockie mirrors to 4lbs, commons and mirrors to 12lbs.

**Daughters Lake** has produced plenty of mirrors up to 16lbs, commons to 18lbs 14ozs and grassies to 28lbs 8ozs.

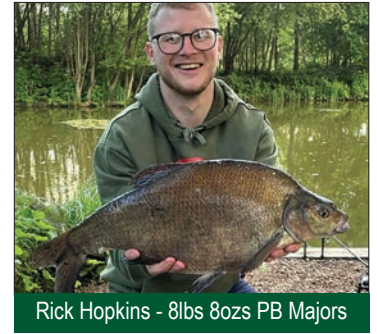
**Eden Pond** has produced carp to 8lbs, bream to 5lbs and plenty of tench to just under 5lbs.

**Maze Lake** has seen most anglers banking multiples of fishes, with mirror and common carp to 8lbs, ghost carp to 6lbs and bream to 6lbs.

**Majors Lake** has seen anglers banking bream to over 8lbs, tench to 7lbs, fully scaled mirrors to 21lbs 9ozs, commons to 19lbs and a new lake record mirror at 28lbs 6ozs caught by **Ben Bradley** which is also a new PB for him.



Jordan Simpson - 32lbs 14ozs PB Snipe



Rick Hopkins - 8lbs 8ozs PB Majors



Ben & Mason Bradley - 28lbs 8ozs NEW MAJORS RECORD



Chris Sheperd - Daughters



Wayne Attwater - Snipe



Connor Peppard - Snipe



Richard Marshall - 32lbs 6ozs PB



Martin Smith - 63lbs 8ozs Westlake - 1 of 20



Relvin Rapley - 38lbs 14ozs PB



Colin Stone - 32lbs PB Westlake



Lee Bonkers - Snipe



Danny Neale - Daughters



Terry Edwards - Common - Majors



Jim Taff - Daughters



Ian York - Snipe



Dan Pearse - 66lbs Westlake



**Mousehole Lakes** Paddock Wood, Kent



Jim - 42lbs 11ozs Mirror - Kingfisher

Michael - PB 44lbs 14ozs Common - Kingfisher

Richard Salvidge - New Venue Record 46lbs 13ozs

Eastbourne Road (A22),  
Newchapel, Lingfield, Surrey RH7 6HL  
Tel: 01342 324006  
Mobile: 07710 656041

[www.beaverfarmfishery.co.uk](http://www.beaverfarmfishery.co.uk)



Email:  
[beaverfarmfishery@live.co.uk](mailto:beaverfarmfishery@live.co.uk)  
Facebook: beaverfishery



We are a commercial day ticket fishery and have 2 Specimen Lakes, 3 Coarse Lakes and 3 Ponds.  
Open 7am - 7pm Summer time and 7am - 6pm Winter time. Day ticket, overnight and long stays welcome.

Facilities include:

- On Site Tackle Shop
- 9 Car Parks including Disabled Friendly Parking
- Shower/Wetroom
- Disabled Friendly Toilets
- Seasonal Snack Bar with Hot and Cold Food
- 1 hut available for hire



- Concessionary Tickets for Junior, Disabled and OAPs
- No pre-bookings taken for swims
- Win a FREE SESSION with our Fish of the Month Competition
- Automatic Security Gates that close at 7pm (Summer) 6pm (Winter)
- 24-hour CCTV



Tricklebrook Fishery

Five Oak Green, Kent



30lbs - Old Lake Mirror



Frankie Fritz - 38lbs 8ozs Mirror - Old Lake



Freddy Joe Beaney - PB 27lbs 14ozs - Tricklebrook



Charlie Young - New Lake



ZB - 25lbs Mirror - Old Lake



New Lake Common



New Lake Common



Lee Young - Old Lake Mirror



Old Lake Mirror



Charlie Foster - 29lbs Common - Old Lake



PRICES

DAY TICKET X2 RODS - £15  
DAY TICKET X3 RODS - £20  
24 HOUR TICKET X2 RODS - £30  
24 HOUR TICKET X3 RODS - £35  
36 HOUR TICKET X2 / X3 RODS - £45 / £55  
48 HOUR TICKET X2 / X3 RODS - £60 / £70



Book now on  
Swimbooker



# TRICKLEBROOK FISHERY

This fantastic coarse fishery consists of two very well stocked lakes.  
A 4 acre specimen lake stocked with big Catfish up to 50lbs, huge Carp up to 40lbs, big Perch up to 6lbs and beautiful Roach over 3lbs. And a 1 acre match fishing lake teaming with a variety of species weighing up to 28lbs.



find us on facebook and instagram  
[FACEBOOK.COM/TRICKLEBROOKFISHERY](https://www.facebook.com/tricklebrookfishery)



Open from 7am 365 days a year!  
**A UK CARP TOP 100 FISHERY - BOOK NOW!**  
[tricklebrookfishery.co.uk](https://tricklebrookfishery.co.uk)

TEL 07743 955812 | 01892 835453 | EMAIL [info@tricklebrookfishery.co.uk](mailto:info@tricklebrookfishery.co.uk)

Tricklebrook Fishery | Colts Hill | Five Oak Green | TN12 6SH

Telephone bookings are to be paid in advance and are non-refundable • Credit and Debit cards now accepted

## LAKE RULES

1. A TICKET MUST BE PURCHASED BEFORE FISHING

2. ALL NETS, UNHOOKING MATS AND WEIGH SLINGS MUST BE DRY BEFORE DIPPING IN THE DISINFECTANT BATHS

3. NO NUTS OR PARTICLE

4. BOILIE AND PELLET ONLY FOR SPECIMEN AND BACK LAKE - ALL BAIT WILL BE INSPECTED

5. ALL FISH MUST BE RETURNED TO THE WATER AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE FOLLOWING CAPTURE. NO STANDING. FISH MUST BE HELD LOW OVER A MAT/CRADLE FOR PHOTOGRAPHS

6. MINIMUM 15LB LINE AND NO BRAIDED MAIN LINE

7. NO SACKING OR RETAINING OF FISH IS PERMITTED. THE REMOVAL OF FISH FROM THIS VENUE WILL BE VIEWED AS A CRIMINAL ACT

8. EACH ANGLER MUST HAVE A MINIMUM OF 42 INCH LANDING NET AND A LARGE PADDED UNHOOKING MAT/CRADLE REGARDLESS OF TARGET SPECIES ON SPECIMEN AND BACK LAKE

9. BARBLESS HOOKS ONLY

10. NO LEAD CORE, NO FUSED LEADERS OF ANY KIND INCLUDING SAFEZONE
11. NO FIXED LEAD RIGS. ALL LEADS MUST PASS FREELY OVER LEADER KNOTS. RIG CHECKS WILL BE CARRIED OUT

12. RECREATIONAL DRUGS WILL NOT BE TOLERATED - IMMEDIATE BAN FOLLOWS

13. PLEASE INFORM FISHERY MANAGEMENT OF ANY SNAGGED TACKLE OR FISH

14. ANY FISH OVER 28LB MUST BE REPORTED TO BAILIFF

15. NO DOGS ALLOWED

16. BARBECUES ALLOWED IF OFF THE GROUND

17. NO BAIT BOATS

18. FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH ANY OF THE RULES WILL RESULT IN BEING ASKED TO LEAVE AND/OR BANS WHERE APPROPRIATE AND NO REFUND WILL BE OFFERED

19. TRICKLEBROOK IS NOW OPERATING A ZERO-TOLERANCE POLICY TO ANY ACTS OF AGGRESSION OR ABUSE TOWARDS ITS BAILIFFS AND STAFF

20. ALL RUBBISH TO BE TAKEN HOME

CCTV IN OPERATION  
OVER WHOLE SITE

OPENING TIMES  
SUMMER 7AM - 7PM WINTER 7AM TO DUSK





# Cheese paste and fingers crossed

Hopefully by the time this article goes to print my landing net would have been slipped under some nice Summer Chub as I intend to make up for lost time as last year's river campaign was nothing short of a disaster as most river sections I wanted to fish were in flood or unfishable and talking to many anglers their river fishing had to take a back seat for the same reasons so let's cross our fingers for better fortunes this time round.

Although my freezer has last season's stock of cheese and meat paste ready to go I still like to, as part of my preparation process, make up a fresh batch so stinky cheese like stilton, extra strong grated cheddar has been wafting around the garden from my mixing bowl to remind the neighbours that the new river season is near. It can be a time consuming process knocking up stinky cheese paste but very rewarding when you are looking into the landing net pan with a big fat chub sitting in it a few days later. I sometimes blitz through a blender slices of bread to mix in to form the paste or I like to use good old Aunt Bessies Shortcrust Pastry Mix which has 14g of fat content in a 500g bag size and fat is a good attractor for the hungry chub especially as they will be looking to build up the body weight again after fighting against strong currents for most of the winter season. I spend a good hour or so knocking up a few cheese paste balls for the freezer stock and the more you kneed the paste the better it will be so if you think you have reached the right consistency then you probably haven't so continue for another ten minutes until your hands and fingers have cried enough! However with cheese paste in my bait bag there is one other bait that I take with me and that is a good supply of very soft sliced bread which I have found to be deadly when targeting chub, it is such a great bait to use. I prefer to present my flake on what I like to call a 'loop hair rig' and on my Fishing Tail Films YouTube channel in the #shorts section I show the rig to camera along with the components to make it for your fishing sessions. If you are never confident that the bread is still attached to your hook then this set up will be the answer you are looking for as fishing with bread is a confidence thing and knowing the bait is still attached brings such confidence when it a waiting game type of fishing session.



*Russ with his 24lbs 15ozs Common*

## The National Tench Champs

Next month I will give an update on how my early chub sessions panned out as I will as ever be filming along the way in the hope of catching that special fish or new PB. In last month's column I mentioned I competed in the 2024 National Tench Championships at Linear Fisheries on Oxlease Lake. It was another fantastic event but sadly for me the tench stayed away from my baits as it did for 15 of the 28 competitors but I did put the net under a cracking looking Common of 24lbs 15ozs as you can see by the photo. 28 tench came out in total with a few in the 9lbs bracket so some quality tincas were caught plus some big carp on tench gear with 35lbs being the biggest. I was in the only section that never troubled the steward to weigh in a tench apart from numerous carp so I am beginning to wonder if Oxlease has it in for me as that is two years running this has happened or I have just been plain unlucky and if I manage to get a ticket for next year's event and a tench blank happens again then I will have to wave the white flag of surrender.



## The Result

Wyn Jones with 4 tench for a total of 31lbs 8oz was crowned the National Tench Champion ahead of Matt Perring who also had 4 tench but with a lesser weight of 28lbs 9ozs with in third place Jason Stokes with 3 tench for 25lbs 4ozs. Mark Davis collected the biggest tench trophy with a fine specimen of 9lbs 12ozs and whilst I competed in the 48 hour event I also produced a video for my channel so if you are intrigued as to what this great event is all about then you can view the build-up, updates during the competition plus the presentation and prize giving awards where some fantastic prizes were given out by the sponsors. Well done to all those that competed, the event organiser Ben Kennedy and all the stewards from the TenchFishers for making the event very enjoyable to fish and take part in plus all the sponsors like Linear Fisheries, Harrison Rods, The Tackle Box in Dartford and Hook Bait Company, roll on 2025.

## On the Lookout

Sadly some of my old fishing haunts are no more accessible to fish with in one case one of my fishing clubs in Surrey closing its doors to all angling so it can concentrate on its garden centre business more, which happened the season before last which was a great shame and a shock at the time. So I am on the lookout for a couple of new clubs to join that can offer all-round mixed species fishing (including night fishing) with some specimen sized fish in the mix as well. Rivers, gravel pits, reservoirs or lakes are all waters that I like to fish in peaceful surroundings so if you know a club or syndicate that is also happy for me to do a bit of filming for my YouTube channel as well then please drop me an email to: [fishingtailfilms@aol.com](mailto:fishingtailfilms@aol.com) - Thank you.



*Runner-up Matt Perring 9lbs 5ozs Tench*



*Ross Bracken - Tench caught during Tench Champs*

## Looking Ahead

I have always been an angler that looks ahead to my fishing exploits and by that I mean planning for the next part of the season whether that is spring, summer, autumn and winter and so on. I do get on my own nerves sometimes being this way as whilst fishing in summer for example I am looking what I need to be doing for the up and coming autumn and winter months. So instead of enjoying my summer fishing I am worrying about what I should be doing in the next few weeks of the season ahead, yes it is good to plan but I think I over plan and then the heavy rains arrive and destroy what I was planning to do which then becomes very frustrating. I think because I film more nowadays I feel the need to plan more and forever checking on the weather forecast for up and coming fishing sessions. During my match fishing days I planned like there was no tomorrow and know that for a successful match or session you have to put in effort as opposed to just turning up and chucking a line out in the water and hoping for the best, I can't do that, fishing to me is pointless if I just turn up unprepared and having no kind of set plan of what methods to use, bait to feed with and what species to target. I am prepared to walk two miles along a rugged riverbank and have a good days fishing than fish a few yards away from my car and have an average day catching. I know some anglers have

health issues and walking long distances is not possible I have met many on my travels over the years and I really feel for them but whilst I am capable to reach sections of big lakes or rivers where the fish tend to be I will walk that yard until my body tells me otherwise.

## Eels, I love them

I saw recent reports of a huge eel well over 11lbs being caught which is likely to beat the current record of 11lbs 2ozs, what a fish and what an achievement. Catching eels on my summer holidays to Reculver Cliffs back in the late 60s and early 70s hold happy memories as I loved catching them and watch that float move along the surface before sliding away out of sight before I struck into some frantic rod bending action, it was great sport. I also won a few matches on the River Rother targeting eels whilst other anglers were scratching around for small bleak on the surface. I was then catching the eels on the pole on the first ledge after just feeding for the first two hours with dead maggots and chopped up worms. Great when a plan comes together.

Until next time, may your lines be pulled as often as possible but most important of all enjoy your fishing.

**Tight Lines - Russ Evans**

*fishing tail films*



**Greenacres Farm Fishery** Biddenden, Kent

*Please read our rules online before booking, for any enquiries don't hesitate to ring up and ask or drop us a text. We look forward to seeing you on the bank!!*

**Speci 1** This lake has come alive and has been rewarding people with some lovely fish which have all fallen to lightly baited areas fishing a solid pva bag over the top. The main goal in this lake is to keep topping up your spots with bait to keep the fish in your area as their metabolism to feed is a lot higher now that the hotter temperatures are here. Perch fishing on here has been rewarding to anglers that are willing to fish for them with some just shy of 3lbs. These fish have all been caught on float fishing tactics by using worm or maggot on the hook and constantly sprinkling maggots over the top on every cast with a catapult to keep the rudd and roach in the swim that then attracts the big perch.

**Speci 2** The carp in this lake have been coming out by fishing to margin spots with solid pva bags or a little pva mesh bag and using fruity or sweet boilies like cell. Catfish are the more dominant fish in this lake and do push out the carp feeding in your area, as they will eat anything. But if you wish to just target the catfish then the best method is to use high attractant boilies or pellet like krill boilies or marine halibut pellet over a large bed of pellet that's soaked in a fishy attractant.

**Heron** People have been having a cracking time on here catching large mixed bags of silvers and carp on both float and method feeding tactics. Baits that seem to be working is maggots, castors and worms over a ball of groundbait when float fishing and feeder fishing seems to be banded 10mm pellets.

**Kingfisher** This lake is the one to be on any time of the year as it produces lovely mixed bags of fish and keeps you going all day. Fish can literally be caught on the top two sections of your pole on any bait that you wish to use, as long as you stick to the rules.

**Bluebell** Tench and carp are still being caught out of this pond and the key is to bait up little and often with a pole pot or with a catapult and add a ball of groundbait every now and again just to keep their heads down grubbing around.

**Don't forget to dip your nets, slings and unhooking mats/cradles or you will be asked to leave. CCTV IS IN OPERATION!**



## Rodmill Carp Syndicate

10 acre lake situated on 80 acres of farmland

250plus fish to 30lb

15 swims, vehicle access to all swims

night fishing

limited spaces available

For More Information please contact

Scott 07766013492







# GREENACRES FARM FISHERY



Sissinghurst Road | Biddenden | Kent | TN27 8EH

Located on the Weald of Kent in Biddenden we offer syndicate quality lakes for all. There is one specimen lake for carp up to 30lbs+ and perch to 5lbs, one specimen predator lake for carp to 30lbs+, catfish to 60lbs+ and pike to 15lbs, one match lake with 22 purpose-built swims, one coarse lake and finally a tench/family pond. Facilities include a club house with toilets, shower and wet room.

*This beautiful setting needs to be visited and enjoyed!*

Prices start at £10 per session on the coarse lakes. For the specimen lakes prices start at £20 for the day rising to £30 for a 24hrs ticket (up to 3 rods). Lessons now available for all ages. Gates open at 7am and close at 6.30pm (Winter hours 7am to 5pm)

**SENIOR DAY TICKETS ON OUR COARSE LAKES HERON AND BLUEBELL ARE AVAILABLE FOR £8 MONDAY TO WEDNESDAY**

To book, please call or text us on **07933 934942**  
or visit our website **[www.greenacresfarmfishery.co.uk](http://www.greenacresfarmfishery.co.uk)**  
Email : [greenacresfarmfishery@gmail.com](mailto:greenacresfarmfishery@gmail.com)





**Elphicks Fisheries** Horsmonden, Kent

Darren Trottman - 47lbs 4ozs PB - Westend Lake



Peter Jeffrey - 30lbs 12ozs - Kettles Lake



Adam Beaven - Kettles Lake - 26lbs



Christine Beaven - Kettles Lake - 17lbs



Georgie Pace - Prairie Lake



John Pearn - 34lbs - Prairie Lake



Darren Trottman - Westend Lake



Simon Groves - Westend Lake

**Elphicks Fisheries**

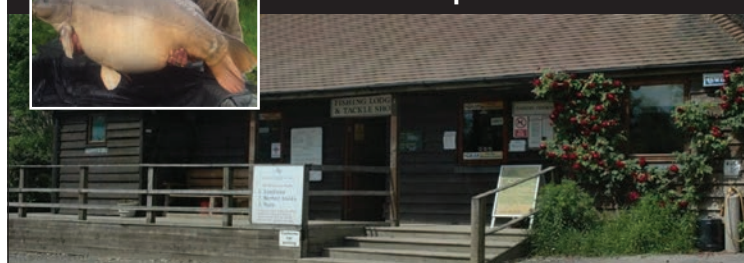
Elphicks has been designed and built with the modern angler in mind. We have 7 lakes available for day ticket and session fishing. Each lake has it's own parking within easy reach of the swims and all swims are 'all weather' - either built of Astroturf, stone or bark. Please contact the fishery for further information on any of our lakes.



**Elphicks Fisheries** Spelmonden Road  
Horsmonden, Kent TN12 8EL

Tel: **01580 212512**

email: [info@elphicks-fisheries.co.uk](mailto:info@elphicks-fisheries.co.uk)



[www.elphicks-fisheries.co.uk](http://www.elphicks-fisheries.co.uk)

**Trade-In-Tackle** T: 01622-814296 M: 07941-085011

**NEW & USED FISHING TACKLE**

**Business FOR SALE**

Enquire within or call the shop  
or trevs mobile  
01622 814296  
07941085011





## FRANT LAKES TUNBRIDGE WELLS

Eight lake day ticket fishing complex

**Carp to 40lb, Perch to 4lb+, Bream, Roach, Tench and more!**

**Purpose built complex with cafe, bait shop, toilets  
and shower suite for overnight guests.**

**Two Specimen Lakes (open 24hr+ 7 days a week).**

**Six Main Lakes (open Friday to Sunday for day tickets).**

**All swims pre-booked to ensure no overcrowding.**

**Easy to book your lake & swim online in advance.**

**Book & Pay Online (Mobile Friendly)**

**[www.frantlakes.com](http://www.frantlakes.com). Tel: 01892 616424**

**Hawkenbury Road, Bells Yew Green. Tunbridge Wells TN3 9AP**





# Rights for Rivers Movement

## - the implications for angling

by Stewart Allum



An unforeseen aspect of the Covid Pandemic was that as the country came out of lockdown, people turned to the British countryside for outdoor recreation in their tens of thousands and much of this was centred on our rivers. Angling, the quiet, contemplative rural pastime we'd long taken for granted, suddenly found itself marginalised as hordes of canoeists, kayakers, wild swimmers and paddle-boarders took to the water in ever increasing numbers, accompanied of course by others whose idea of a day in the country would be to leave the riverbanks liberally festooned with all manner of noxious litter. All was not lost however, far from it in fact as many of these new converts to the great outdoors, often well-educated and highly motivated, soon found themselves appalled by the shocking state of our rivers and coastline where polluters have been allowed to run rampant for decades as successive governments, keen to avoid sanctioning water bill increases had colluded with privatised water companies to cover up their lack of investment, stating that all was hunky-dory.

This of course was far from true and as we anglers had been telling everyone for generations, our rivers were in some cases little more than open sewers. Sewage treatment works designed and built in the immediate post-war decades being overwhelmed by our rapidly expanding communities, with some now barely fit for purpose.

Not surprisingly a huge outcry resulted, with all manner of campaigners and activists stirring up a furore of dissent, those with catchy sounding titles like 'Surfers against Sewage' grabbing the national media's attention. Angling of course had its heroes too like Paul Whitehouse, Bob Mortimer and Feargal Sharkey, with Paul and Feargal emerging as national spokespersons when it came to highlighting the many failings of our water industry. The role of anglers as guardians of our environment was finally becoming recognised.

However there's yet another new initiative swiftly gaining traction throughout the country, which has hitherto gone largely unnoticed. I refer to the burgeoning 'Rights for Rivers' movement.

I live in East Sussex where my local River Ouse is being used as a test case for rolling out a 'Rights for Rivers' programme throughout Britain, the proposals from which could start to become enshrined in law within as little as two years' time. Driven by 'green' leaning councillors and politicians, together with sympathetic representatives from both the Rivers and Wildlife Trusts and based on models already successfully implemented in Columbia and Venezuela, the group's proposed Charters will seek to define rivers and the wildlife dependent on them as living entities having legal rights akin to those enjoyed by human beings. 'Rights of Rivers' would thus by definition give equal rights to all the biodiversity contained within rivers, akin to the 'Human Rights' already granted to ourselves via existing legislation. Its exponents refer to this as an 'ecocentric' approach, as opposed to what they consider to be the 'homocentric' approach which has until now been applied via the UN Charter for the Earth (1982). The model being embraced is that which was applied to the Atrato River in Columbia in 2016, where illegal logging and mining were poisoning the river to a dreadful extent (mercury etc.). The indigenous people went to court and were granted 'River Rights' under which they could sue their government. The court recognised the river's biodiversity as a priority and granted it legal status, subject to international law principles.



Sussex Ouse Sea Trout - a key indicator species

All of which might appear quite commendable until one learns that In 2022 the Colombian Supreme Court took a quantum leap further and decided to ban all recreational angling throughout that country, based on what they termed a 'precautionary principle' even though they recognised there's no compelling evidence to prove fish suffer as a result of catch & release. As things stand it seems this has not yet been enforced, though the court's decision appears not to have been revoked.

My local angling club (The Ouse Angling Preservation Society), being based close to Lewes, was consulted by the organisers of our local Rights for Rivers movement ('Love our Ouse') and I immediately volunteered my services. Naturally, given the fact that such an organisation is bound to attract some with deeply held animal rights convictions, I felt it was essential that angling interests were properly represented here. To that end I've undertaken a series of presentations about the fish which live in





Love our Ouse - River Tour Lewes

our local river, not just from an angling perspective but also looking at the threats they have to face such as pollution, abstraction, habitat

loss (via unwarranted weir removals etc.), commercial exploitation and predation. I'm pleased to say that these have been generally well received to date and that feedback so far has been very positive. Understandably perhaps, many folk are quite knowledgeable about animals, plants, trees etc.; things which they commonly encounter, yet have very little knowledge about the lives of our wild fish, other than as a source of food for various creatures. The fact that some species can live for thirty, forty, fifty years and more, or that they can only spawn successfully under certain conditions, whilst common knowledge to us, comes as a real surprise to many; as does the fact that those fishes with a low tolerance to pollution or poor water quality can be vital indicator species in this respect. In addition to discussing the fish themselves, highlighting the good work carried out by Fish Legal and its predecessors, the ACA and the Pure Rivers Society, going back to the beginning of the last century, helps reinforce angling's rightful place at the cutting edge of environmental campaigning. Other speakers at the seminars I've attended have included representatives from the local Rivers and Wildlife Trusts plus the Water Company, together with the environmental lawyers who are drafting the actual charter, so a broad and largely well-informed balance of views is being represented here.

Local Rights of Rivers movements plus other similar initiatives are rapidly spreading throughout Britain. At the last count, at least nine other such groups are in the process of development and these include the Bristol Avon, Cam, Dart, Don, Deben, Exe, Medway, Severn and Wensum. It goes without saying that angling interests need to be properly represented here so if you're aware of any such activity in your area, please don't hesitate to become positively involved, as we can't afford to be complacent or to allow other interests to dictate the future of our waterways. Angling has a long and justifiably proud history at the forefront of freshwater environmentalism and needs to underpin its position here by forming a helpful and integral part of all these various movements, going forward.



River Tour

REPORT ILLEGAL FISHING

101 For Non-Emergencies

999 If a crime is taking place

Or The Environment Agency Incident Number:

0800 807060

FISH WITH CARL





YouTube

Ange's Hair & Beauty

At Ange's Hair & Beauty, client satisfaction is our top priority. We strive to create a welcoming and comfortable atmosphere, ensuring that every visit is a positive and enjoyable experience.







At Little Shed of Designs we make bespoke Oak Clocks and Ornaments which can be personalised with a message or name depending on the space on the item.

We also try and bring your own ideas to a product if we can, we will.

Etsy Site

Social Media







CATCH CULT ANGLING MAGAZINE

CATCH CULT IS A MULTI SPECIES MAGAZINE AIMED AT THE ALL-ROUND SPECIALIST ANGLER.

IT'S ACTUALLY PRINTED ON PAPER, JUST LIKE THIS ONE!

FOR THE PRICE OF A COUPLE OF PINTS WHY NOT GIVE CATCH CULT A GO?

Single copies and subscriptions available from:

www.catch-cult.co.uk



## Worth Tool Hire

Worth Hiring Better Than Buying!

High Quality tools and plant, for domestic and commercial Projects

Worth tool hire is ready to help make your project a success. We have a vast range of products available for short or long term

Email: [enquiries@worthtoolhire.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@worthtoolhire.co.uk)

Phone: 07770888521

## Iden Wood Fishery

5 secluded lakes set in 60 acres of woodland, containing  
Carp to 30lbs, Tench to 5lbs,  
Bream to 9lb plus Roach,  
Rudd and Chub

Tel/Fax: Andy Ashdown  
01797 280180  
Mobile:  
07906 232225

Vehicle access/night fishing  
allowed / match bookings taken

Spring Lodge | Iden Wood Fishery  
| Coldharbour Lane | Iden | Rye |  
East Sussex | TN31 7UT

## The Tackle Box

The Tacklebox has been in business since 1983. We stock the best carp and Specialist fishing tackle and equipment available from the industries top brands and we complement that with seeking out products from outside the fishing tackle industry giving you that little surprise of discovering something different in our store.

[www.tacklebox.co.uk](http://www.tacklebox.co.uk)

## In The Edge With Alex

# FRESHWATER INFORMER

To place a business card advert in The Freshwater Informer, please contact us to discuss prices and artwork.



Dave Wayman - PB 1lb 10ozs Roach - Three Ponds

Neil Wale - First ever Catfish

Alex Stokes - 5lbs 8ozs Tench - Tonbridge Water

Trish Witworth - First Bream - Frant Lakes

Glen Relf - 2lbs Goldfish - Furnace Brook

Dave Wayman - 4lbs 8ozs Tench - Three Ponds

Suzie Etherington - PB 3lbs 8ozs Perch - Framfield

Jack Holden - 10lbs 4ozs Tench - Cotton Farm

Carl Smith - 25lbs 12ozs Grass Carp - Cackle Hill

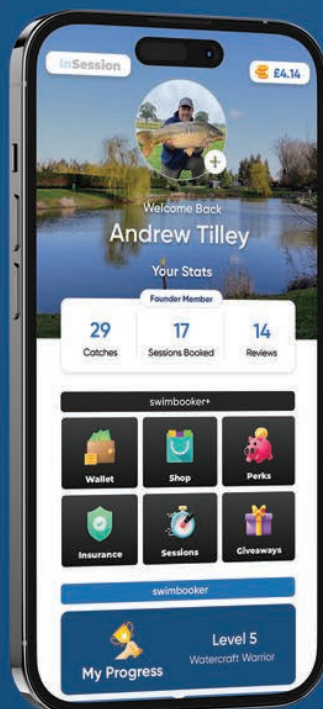




# swimbooker

Less Hassle. More Fishing.

We don't believe that  
booking your fishing in  
advance should cost extra



- ✓ 250+ Lakes
- ✓ Live Availability
- ✓ Catch Reports
- ✓ No Booking Fees

Download our free app today to  
see just how many fisheries agree with us



SCAN ME



# Hawkhurst Fish Farm

Hastings Road, Hawkhurst, Kent, TN18 4RT

T: 01580 753813 E: info@hawkhurstfishfarm.co.uk



## Junior Coarse Fishing

Open 10am – 5pm, 7 days a week.



No booking or experience required! With 3 very well stocked ponds, it's the perfect place for novice anglers (young or old!) to come and enjoy the pleasure of catching a fish – or several!

We've got everything covered, from equipment hire to rod licences, and our water bailiff will be there to offer assistance.



Check [www.hawkhurstfishfarm.co.uk](http://www.hawkhurstfishfarm.co.uk) for more info!

## Hawkhurst Fish Farm Hawkhurst, Kent



Steve Wheatley - 35lbs 1oz Grass Carp - Specimen Lake



Jamie - 31lbs Common - Main Lake



Steve Wheatley 33lbs 11ozs Mirror - Specimen Lake



Anthony Louch - 34lbs 1oz Mirror - Dove Lake



Ron - Quarry Lake



Oliver Claridge - Specimen Lake



### WANTSUM ANGLING ASSOCIATION

Marshside Lakes - River Wantsum - River Stour



Wantsum Angling  
PO BOX 1238  
Herne Bay  
CT1 9UL



**NIGHT BOOKINGS AND  
GENERAL ENQUIRIES :**  
07570 505934  
[wantsum\\_angling@outlook.com](mailto:wantsum_angling@outlook.com)



# MFC Outdoor Stores

Here at MFC Outdoor Stores we have a huge range of fishing supplies. From Fox and Korda to Drennan and Gardener we have a wide range of different brands for you to choose from. We also have a large range of Air Rifles and Workwear for those who are interested.



**PROLOGIC**  
CATCHING ELEMENTS

**RidgeMonkey**

**FLADEN**  
Anyone can fish.

**NGT**

**E-S-P**

**SONIK**

**DRENNAN**

**NASH**

**FOX**

**GARDNER**

**KORDA**  
THINKING TACKLE

**GURU**  
KNOWLEDGE IS POWER

**okuma**

**HINDERS**  
Bait

**m mainline**

**STICKY**

**CRAFTY CATCHER**  
GET CRAFTY | CATCH BIGGER | CATCH MORE

**DYNAMITE**

[WWW.MFCOUTDOORSTORES.COM](http://WWW.MFCOUTDOORSTORES.COM)

Phone: 01323 846883 Email: [info@mfcoutdoorstores.co.uk](mailto:info@mfcoutdoorstores.co.uk)

9 Station Road, Hailsham, East Sussex, BN27 2BE







**Best Buddies**  
Pet and Fishing Supplies

**STICKY**

**DRENNAN** **01303 487144** **KORDA**

Fresh & Frozen Bait including Lug, Rag, Squid, Crab, Bluey, Mackerel & more...

Maggots, Casters & Worms ALL YEAR ROUND!  
Boilies, Liquids, Particles, Groundbait, Method Mixes & Pellets.  
Rod & Reels, Nets, PVA, Hooks, Line, Weights, Tools & Accessories.

**BAIT-TECH** **DYNAMITE** **E-S-P** **NGT**

**GURU** **28 Martello Drive** **Mustad**  
**Hythe CT21 6PH**

# PINIONS

## FISHING BAITS

Open 7 days a week  
Monday - Saturday 9am until 5pm  
Sunday 10am until 4pm

**DELIVERY SERVICE AVAILABLE**

**01622 718580**

431 London Road, Ditton, Aylesford ME20 6DB  
(only 5 minutes from M20 Junction 5) Ample FREE parking

WhatsApp us on  
**07808 645806**

**BAIT-TECH** **DM** **CRAFTY CATCHER** **mainline** **SONUBAITS** **Copdock Angling**

Check out our Instagram page  
**#pinionsfishingbaits**

**www.pinionsfishingbaits.co.uk**

# Horam Manor Fishery

10 secluded lakes in the Sussex countryside

Mixed coarse fishery with carp to mid 20s  
Perfect for families and experienced anglers

Day ticket fishing - Dawn to Dusk - Only £5 per rod!

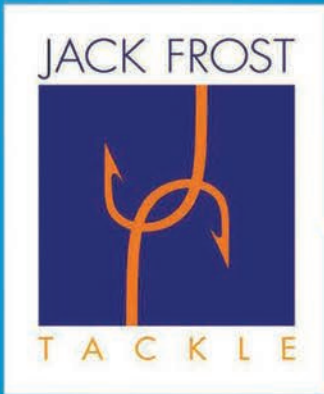
24 hour fishing  
by prior arrangement  
Non-members £20  
Members £10

Annual Day Ticket membership 1 rod - £80 / 2 rods - £120  
Buy a whip, bait + Day Ticket for just £15!

Horam Manor Farm, Horam TN21 0JB  
**01323 840889 / 07707 759364**

**www.horammanorfishery.com**





[www.jackfrostattackle.co.uk](http://www.jackfrostattackle.co.uk)

01293 521186

Reynolds Place, West Green, Crawley RH11 7HB



Jack Frost Tackle Crawley. Crawley's Premier fishing tackle shop for carp fishing, match fishing and sea fishing.

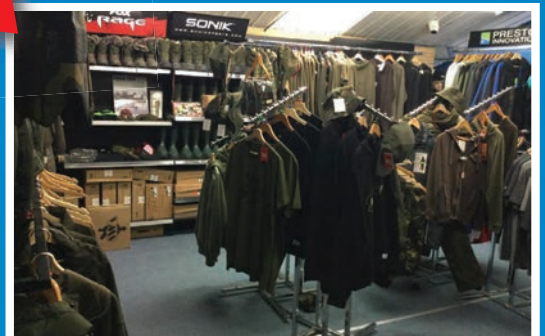
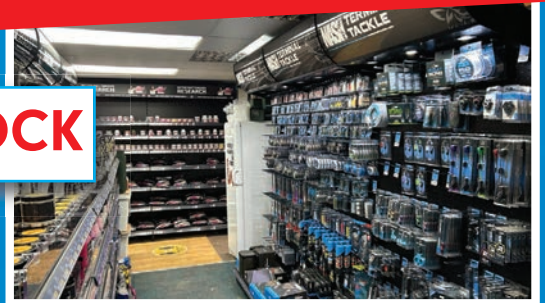


**SURREY AND SUSSEX SHIMANO SERVICE CENTRE - 01293 521186**

**CCMOORE Baits NOW IN STOCK**

- Over 400 rods on display
- Surrey and Sussex Trakker & Nash Super Centres
- One of Sussex's biggest Superstores with two floors and 3,500 sq.ft.
- **FREE PARKING**

**WE BUY GOOD  
QUALITY SECONDHAND  
TACKLE - CALL FOR  
DETAILS**



**Free Spirit**  
FISHING



**NEW CLOTHING SHOWROOM NOW OPEN!**

The South's LARGEST selection of clothing and footwear. Please see our Facebook page.



## Claygate Lakes Claygate, Marden, Kent

**Lake Eva** Well down to **Ben aka 'The Slider'** with a lovely 28lbs ghostie which was caught off the top. FCB bait competition was won by **Kai** with a 27lbs 8ozs catch and **Bobby** with a 27lbs 7ozs catch. We thought we'd have two winners as there was only one ounce between the two fish. Please pop in and collect your prizes from the shop.

**Lake Amy** FCB bait winner was **Matthew Good** with a catch of a 30lbs common. **Leah** has been back on the fish with a 34lb along with numerous mid twenties. **Kevin aka 'The Goo Man'** has been catching consistently on FCB baits and goo's which can be purchased in our on-site tackle shop. **Ray Monday** has been doing well and catching regularly on his secret bait.

**Lake Sophie** Tench and bream have been coming out early in the morning and again late in the evening. Some nice roach have been coming out weighing in at around the 1lb mark. Worm, corn, meat all seem to be worth a try at the moment.



### New Claygate Lakes

DAY & NIGHT FISHING - TN12 9PL

For all match and pleasure bookings and enquiries please ring Dave **07770 513448**

NIGHT FISHING ON ALL LAKES

ON-SITE  
FOOD  
UNIT

**Claygate Membership & Day Tickets** We are a day/night ticket fishing but due to the cost of living we are offering 12 months membership on all lakes (The 12 months membership starting from payment). Please visit our website for further details or pop down on a weekend to discuss membership details and have a look around.

**Snack Wagon:** Mon – Sun hot & cold drinks inc snacks. Sat & Sun hot & cold food served. **WC's & Showers:** Separate men & women's open all week.



LAKE AMY - Carp to over 40lbs



LAKE EVA - Match/Pleasure. Carp 30lb+ Tench 11lb+ Chub 5lb+ Barbel 6lb+ Perch 5lb+ Bream and other silvers



LAKE SOPHIE match/pleasure - Carp 16lb+ Tench 8lb+ Chub 5lb+ Barbel 4lb+ Perch 3lb+ Bream 11lb+ Roach 2lb+ Skimmer Bream and other silvers



[www.newclaygatelakes.co.uk](http://www.newclaygatelakes.co.uk)





# THE FAMILY PARKS GROUP

Fishing lakes in Dorset,  
and East Sussex

With 14 well stocked lakes spread across 3 locations, our sites are ideal for beginners right through to professionals.

Book for just the day, or come on holiday to us at The Family Parks Group.

Wylands



Sharnfold



Lyons Gate



 [thefamilyparksgroup.co.uk](http://thefamilyparksgroup.co.uk)  
 03333 055 011





# Jim's Journey

*Up until very recently, Jim Relf's experience with rod and line was limited to a few holiday sessions tiddler bashing with a float rod. All that changed this spring when Jim and a few of his friends started to take a more focused interest in the sport, looking to catch fish by design, rather than just as a way of killing time at a campsite. Giving us an ideal opportunity to follow his progress as he sets out on the well trodden path that we've all walked at some point. What are the pro's, and cons, of becoming an angler in 2024?*

## PART 1 - Where to start?

I must admit that I have an advantage over many new anglers. A dad that has amassed far more tackle than he'll ever need, over a lifetime of fishing, does mean that I am able to beg, borrow, or steal, rods, reels, landing nets and all of the hardware needed to get out on the bank, without breaking the bank.

It's only temporary, or so I tell him, until I find out which direction my fishing will take me. With the basics sorted, I still wanted to have my own input and do my own learning, so a trip to a tackle shop was the next stop.

Walking through the door of Jack Frost Tackle, in Crawley, I was blown away by the number of products on display. It was difficult to know what I needed, or where to start. Luckily, a guy called Joe, who works there, realised that I was out of my depth and came over to help me. I explained that I was interested in trying to catch a carp. Joe took me over to one of the displays and explained what did what, and why you might use it in certain situations. The most important thing that he told me was that when starting out, keep things as simple as possible. He showed me how to set up a lead clip, a variety of leads for different scenarios, and how to attach a basic pre-tied hair rig to create a simple but effective presentation. He talked me through the different types of bait, but again suggested that rather than complicate things with pop-ups, wafers or balanced baits, I should pick a proven food bait that I could use for baiting up, and as a hookbait. On his recommendation I chose a bag of 18mm fishmeal boilies. With the business end sorted, I was raring to go.

The following afternoon, dad was planning to visit Furnace Brook Fishery to do some feeder fishing and asked if I wanted to tag along. I didn't need asking twice. I looked at some of the articles on the lake that have appeared in the Freshwater Informer, and found some videos on YouTube. From what I saw and read, it seemed that quite a few fish get caught from the margins, so that

would be a good place to target. On arrival, I picked a swim on the corner of the lake. Dad pointed out an overhanging tree as a good spot, which backed up what Joe had told me the day before about how it was better to fish accurately in your own margin, rather than try and cast to the far side of the lake and be fishing badly. I tackled up my borrowed rod, and dad disappeared off to find a swim for himself.

Due to where I was fishing, I could walk along the bank and swing my rig out to where I wanted it. Then I baited up with a handful of boilies over the top of it. I walked back to the swim and put the rod on some rod rests, clipped on the bobbin, and turned on the alarm. Then sat and waited. I had read about looking for 'feeding bubbles' but a stiff breeze was making it hard to see, although on the plus side the breeze was pushing into the bank where my bait was. I had been told that this was a good thing, as it blows natural food into the area which the fish will follow. After about fifteen minutes the bite alarm let out a few beeps and the bobbin twitched a couple of times. I hovered over the rod but nothing else happened. It did it again a few minutes later, but again nothing happened. I thought that it might be the wind catching the line, but the third time it happened the bobbin went right up to the rid and the rod tip bent around, before the bait runner started to click into life.

I grabbed the rod and lifted into the fish. The first mistake I made was to not disengage the bait runner, and line fizzed off the spool. The second was to have



Joe was a big help at Jack Frost Tackle



The choice of bait is mind blowing



the drag set too tight, so that when I turned the reel handle the rod was nearly pulled out of my hand. Whatever was on the end was much bigger than the small roach I had caught float fishing on holiday. I quickly loosened the drag off to a point where the fish had to put a decent bend in the rod before it could take line. I was pretty sure that I had hooked a carp, but I know that there are a variety of species in the lake so didn't want to get too excited. The longer the fight went on, the more sure that I was, and when a big tail broke the surface, I knew it had to be a carp. After what seemed like forever, I had to try and net it. I had a 42inch net with me that was more than bigger enough, but trying to get everything lined up was quite a challenge. I'm sure it will become more naturally to me as I get more experience, but I was sure that I would loose the carp on



9lbs 2ozs of hard fighting Common Carp

more than one occasion. Eventually I got the rod high enough, and the net low enough, to bundle the fish into the mesh. I couldn't quite believe it. I had done what I set out to achieve and caught a carp. I went to get dad and he showed me how to set up the unhooking mat and handle the fish safely. The barbless hook came out really easily. The fish looked huge to me, and we weighed it at 9lbs 2ozs. I can't imagine what it must be like to catch a twenty or thirty pounder. Hopefully I'll find out one day. We took some photos then carried the fish back to the water in the mat, before letting it go. I repeated the process of placing the bait, and baiting up and just before we were due to leave I hooked and landed a slightly smaller carp. Incredibly, dad landed a 15lb'er on his feeder rod at almost the same time and we a great photo of us both holding our fish. I definitely feel that I've learnt the first piece of the puzzle and feel confident that I am ready to go out on my own and stand a chance of catching, but that will have to wait until next month.



Nearly at the net

James Relf



Furnace Brook  
... naturally inspiring

"A piece of  
angling heaven"

River-fed 5acre lake with a range  
of specimen fish including:

- Tench (5lbs +)
- Perch (3lbs +)
- Roach & Rudd (2lbs +)
- Bream
- Barbel
- Carp (up to 25lbs)

Furnace Brook CIC is a Certified  
Gold Standard Member of the  
UN's Generation Restoration



UNITED NATIONS DECADE ON  
ECOSYSTEM  
RESTORATION  
2021-2030



### Batsford Hollow

For group overnight stays

#### Facilities:

- 8 secluded & spacious swims
- Bespoke overnight shelters
- Catering facilities
- Showers

### Main Lake

Day & overnight tickets

#### Facilities:

- 16 easy access, spacious & secluded swims
- Parking close to lake
- Catering facilities
- Showers





# Absolute Tackle

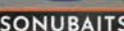


**[www.absolutetackle.co.uk](http://www.absolutetackle.co.uk)**

**All the top brands for the coarse, carp, predator and sea angler**

**Quality fresh and frozen baits always in stock**

**We stock the best range of leads for the sea angler in the South East!**



**01227 636724 / 07809 330854**

**Plenty of FREE parking right outside the door**

**Monday to Saturday 9am - 5pm / Sunday 9am - 1pm**

**12 Wealden Forest Park, Herne Common CT6 7LQ**

**Between Canterbury & Herne Bay on A291 - just 10 minutes from either!**

**Email: [badders22000@hotmail.com](mailto:badders22000@hotmail.com)**

**BAIT AVAILABILITY DEPENDENT ON TIDE AND WEATHER CONDITIONS**



**Tonbridge & District Angling & FP Society**

The Society has now joined CLUBMATE, so any new members wanting to join can visit our website to get the link or visit us via the Clubmate website.

**Barden Lake** Still fishing very well for Tench to 10lbs 6ozs and Bream to nearly 14lbs. Good Carp being recorded by several of the regulars.

**The Old Ballast Pit** Carp fishing has been really good of late with some great multiple fish captures. **Jordan Winter** has been doing well, catching a good mixture of the smaller and larger stock. New member **Matthew Webb** was pleased with his first session on the Pit with a couple of bangers of 18lbs and 21lbs.

**The New Lagoon** Plenty of new members are enjoying the fantastic fishing on offer on here. A very popular venue for teaching the youngsters. **Cristian Pupazan** and his son **Eric** enjoyed a fantastic day catching various species.

**Haysden Lake** **Roger Marsh** enjoyed some of the Bream fishing recently with a good bag of 45lbs. **Paul Reddy** won the recent match on here with 14lbs 14ozs of Bream and Skimmers. A few odd good Tench to nearly 6lbs being reported.

**Longfield Lake** Not many reports coming in at present but some great fishing should be reported over the next few weeks.

**Pippins Farm** Larger baits picking out the better fish with Tench and small Carp being caught and plenty of Perch with fish to 2lbs.

**River Medway** **Marcus Taylor** targeted his favoured stretch and landed a couple of nice Chub to around 4lbs on the opening night. **Nygel Humphrey** found Bream to 5lbs above Hartlake Bridge. New member **Bob Wallis** won the first match on the river in the Country Park with a very impressive net of Bream for 73lbs 10ozs.







Luke - Tilgate Park, Silt Lake



Dick Ivinson - Mirror Carp - Normanhurst Lake



Tony Spalding - 22lbs 8ozs Mirror - Lovelace Fishery



Alfie Foad - 22lbs Ghostie - Mousehole Lakes



Allan Brown - PB 26lbs 4ozs Common - Hartley Lands



Gareth Brown - 18lbs Mirror Carp - Hartley Lands



Roy Smith - 21lbs Fully Scaled - Tricklebrook



Alfie Foad - 30lbs Mirror - Cackle Hill Fishery



Jamie Hayward - PB 44lbs Common - Loggies Lake



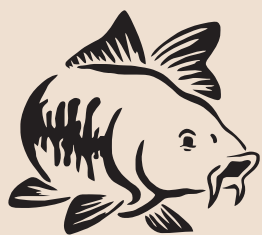
Harley Fletcher - 23lbs Common - Sherwood Lake



Ronald Davis - Common Carp - Hawkurst Fish Farm



Carl Smith - 25lbs 12ozs Grass Carp - Cackle Hill



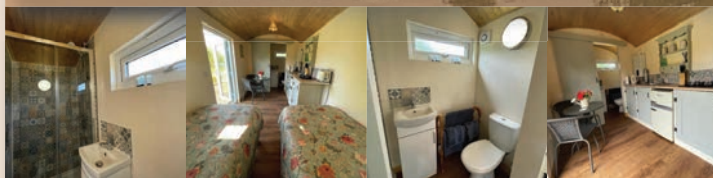
## Shirkoak Fishery and B&B



### WHY NOT TRY A POD?

Sleeps two people - included is shower, toilet, wash hand basin, kettle, toaster, double gas ring, sink, microwave, bedlinen, towels, cutlery, crockery & BBQ.

Minimum stay is 48 hours at £120 per day for two people including fishing.



This beautiful tranquil fishery is situated on the outskirts of Woodchurch village, stocked with carp to 30lbs+ and Pike to 20lbs+.

Night fishing is permitted by prior arrangement only. We can also offer food delivered to your swim, our full English breakfast is proving extremely popular!

Fishing prices start at £12 for 2 rods for 12 hours.



**OAP TUESDAY**  
**£10 incl. bacon roll!**  
Pre-bookings only

Shirkoak Fishery, Bethersden Road, Woodchurch, Ashford TN26 3PZ

Follow us on Facebook  
'Shirkoak Fishery'  
for regular updates



[www.shirkoakfarm.com](http://www.shirkoakfarm.com)

For more information please call  
Hugh on **07973 410973**  
or **01233 860279**





## Buy Carp Bait Online in the UK



Here at monster baits we've been constantly evolving for well over a decade now.

Our aim is to innovate and to supply the very finest bait our ever changing Industry has to offer.

All of our baits that we are producing contain the essential ingredients and additives that are sourced from the very best and highest quality distributors in the UK.

This in turn creates an irresistible bait that not only benefits the condition, health and welfare of the fish, but also massively enhances catch rates.

Our flavours and additives have been carefully selected and blended to stand-out from our market competitors.

We believe that when fished correctly our range of products will return you with some outstanding results.

Use Code Mb15 for  
15% off your baits  
order at the checkout

5kg deal is £55 frozen and £60 for shelf life  
you get any 5kg boilies, 1x hook bait, 1x  
gravy and a spray



10 kg deal is £85 frozen and £90 shelf life  
you get 2x 5kg boilies, 2x hook baits, 1 x  
gravy and 1x spray



Facebook - [www.facebook.com/monsterbaitscarp/](https://www.facebook.com/monsterbaitscarp/) Website - [www.monsterbaits.co.uk](https://www.monsterbaits.co.uk)

TikTok - [www.tiktok.com/@monsterbaits](https://www.tiktok.com/@monsterbaits) Insta - [www.instagram.com/monsterbaits\\_official/](https://www.instagram.com/monsterbaits_official/)



## Gabriels Fishery

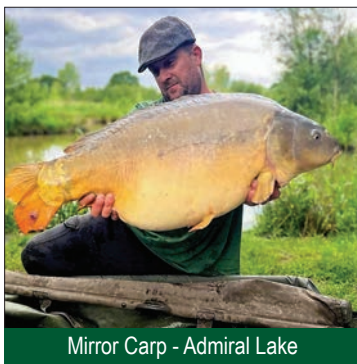
Edenbridge, Kent



Common Carp - Admiral Lake



Stu - 5lbs 4ozs Chub - River Eden



Mirror Carp - Admiral Lake



40lbs Common  
Admiral Lake

5 lakes and  
1.25 miles  
of the  
River Eden

Toilets and  
shower facilities

**GABRIELS  
FISHERY**

Advanced booking  
available  
Day & night  
session fishing

Camping &  
Caravanning facilities



SWALLOW LAKE  
& HARE LAKE  
great for beginners



Specimen Lake  
ADMIRAL LAKE  
fish to 41lbs



OAK LAKE  
carp to 30lbs



SILVER  
Match Lake

Well stocked bait & tackle shop  
open from 7am every day.

24/7 vending machine stocking  
maggots and worms

Gabriels Fishery | Marsh Green Road | Edenbridge TN8 5PP  
Bait and Tackle Shop: 01732 865355

Email: [info@gabriels-fishery.co.uk](mailto:info@gabriels-fishery.co.uk)

[www.gabriels-fishery.co.uk](http://www.gabriels-fishery.co.uk)



# BODLE angling

Cuckfield Road  
BURGESS HILL RH15 8RE

## 01444 247757

Opening times:

Mon-Fri: 8.00am to 5.30pm

Sat: 8.00am to 12.30pm

Sunday: Closed Bank Holiday: Closed



check out our Facebook and Instagram  
for the latest news and competitions!

These lovely family owned lakes just south of  
Maidstone are open all year for you to enjoy!

**CLUB AND MATCH BOOKINGS WELCOME**

COARSE LAKE totals 5.5 acres

SPECIMEN LAKE covers 1.4 acres



## 07398 571337

OPEN DAILY 7am to 7pm (walk-ins welcome)

Night fishing available 7pm to 7am



Chart Hill Lakes

[charthilllakes](https://www.facebook.com/charthilllakes)



Chart Hill Road Chart Sutton ME17 3EZ  
[www.charthilllakes.co.uk](http://www.charthilllakes.co.uk)





Oli Holewell - 33lbs Mirror Carp - undisclosed water



Paul Hodges - 30lbs Common - Hawkhurst, Dove Lake



Sandy Turner - 7lbs 8ozs Common Carp - Claygate Lakes



Harley Hodd - 30lbs Common - Goncourt Lakes



Luke Dyne - 20lbs Mirror Carp - Sandwich Lakes



Pete Walton - 36lbs 2ozs Mirror - Elphicks Fishery



Ralph Saunders - Mirror Carp - Majors Lake



Kieran Lock - PB 27lbs 4ozs Mirror - E.M.R.

# ParkerBaits.co.uk

## Fish of the Month Prize Winner

The winner of this months **ParkerBaits** prize is **Trish Witworth**, who fished a weekend session at Frant Lakes, nr. Tunbridge Wells.



20lbs 8ozs Mirror Carp



PB 27lbs Common Carp

Fishing with her partner Lee, the pair caught ten fish between them, with Trish accounting for carp of 20lbs 8ozs, 21lbs 8ozs, 24lbs and topped off with a new PB of 27lbs, as well as her first ever bream (see page 16).

This competition is open to all species. To be in with a chance of winning, send your catches to [thefreshwaterinformer@gmail.com](mailto:thefreshwaterinformer@gmail.com). Winners will receive 3kgs pellets, with matching liquid and hookbaits, all supplied in a handy bait bucket, and are available in either their **OG Fish**, **OG Fruit & Nut**, **FRESHWATER INFORMER** or **Mini-Mix** varieties.



Ryan Hemsley - 24lbs Common - Elphicks Fishery



Mark Day - Ghost Carp - Sandwich Lakes



Laura Sheehan - 20lbs Mirror Carp - Lovelace Fishery



Lynton Davis - 14lbs Common - Pittlands Lakes



Harley Hodd - 46lbs Common - Goncourt Lakes



Lee Macdonald - PB 30lbs 12ozs Mirror - Hartley Lands



Tony Young - 14lbs 8ozs Common - Furnace Brook Fishery



Oliver Carr - 25lbs Common Carp - Hawkhurst Main Lake



Luke - Mirror Carp - Tilgate Park, Silt Lake



Lee - 29lbs Mirror Carp - Frant Lakes



# TROUT INFORMER



## Brick Farm Lakes

Herstmonceux, East Sussex



The cooler weather of recent has meant that we are lucky to still be seeing some good fishing as the water temperatures aren't as high as they were this time last year. The fish are responding well to all sorts of flies – from Daddies and Diawl Bach to Buzzers and Damsels. As the weather continues to warm up, don't forget that we do offer flexible opening hours and if we know you're coming out then you can fish into the latter hours making the most of the evening rise – this is where our 10-fish ticket really becomes a no-brainer!

Brick Farm Lakes regular, **Mark Leeves** recently visited us and was pleased with his nice 6lbs 14ozs Rainbow from Spring Lake on a Diawl Bach, and we had a fantastic group day when 8 members of Ouse Valley Flyfishers visited us on Sunday 9th June. They quickly spread out over all four lakes and fish were soon being caught in profusion with a couple of good ones in the mix: **Martin Nock** hauled out a Brown of 5lbs 8ozs and moments later **Tony Godden** had a Rainbow of 5lbs 5ozs. By lunchtime there were quite a few full bags and some additional fish were purchased for the afternoon. Conditions were excellent with clouds coming over, and plenty more fish were caught. Everyone caught and almost everyone had reached their ticket limits. The day ended with a satisfactory rod average of about 2.8 fish per person – we have received fantastic feedback from the group and look forward to seeing them again soon.



Martin Nock - 5lbs 8ozs



## Tenterden Trout Waters Tenterden, Kent

heated/comfortable Shepherds Hut where you can fish with 20% off our permits all year round. We are in the Top 50 Stillwater Trout Fisheries in the British Isles as voted by Trout & Salmon. Gift vouchers are available for permits, tuition and staycations. Follow us on Instagram & Facebook. Discover more on our website [www.tenterden-trout-waters.co.uk](http://www.tenterden-trout-waters.co.uk) We look forward to you visiting us for some trout fishing downtime.

**Tight Lines, Gaynor, Richard & Audrey.**

June has brought bright and warm weather and as predicted the Trout have become more illusive. Our anglers are honing their skillsets to catch fish and in the main this is working for them. We would advise to have intermediate and sinking lines in your tackle bag, Damsels are currently working. Please watch our website (Fishery News) for Summer closing which can vary each year due to weather conditions but we will be closed in August to give the lakes/fish and ourselves a rest.

We have 3 lakes (5 acres of water) and offer Catch/Keep, Catch/Release permits for full day, half day and evening. Kick back and relax in our comfortable Fishing Lodge where you can make a cuppa with our compliments which all adds to a good fishing experience here. Come and stay in our

### TENTERDEN TROUT WATERS

Coombe Farm, Chennell Park Road  
Tenterden, Kent TN30 6XA

*We aim to provide an excellent day's sport  
in beautiful Wealden Countryside.*

Day Permit £44 = 4 best fish  
Half Day Permit £30 = 2 best fish

Catch & Release &  
Junior Permits available.

Regular stocking of top quality  
Rainbows, Browns & Blues to 12lbs

TACKLE AVAILABLE TO HIRE  
TUITION BY APPOINTMENT

**A TROUTMASTERS WATER**

**RANKED IN THE TOP 50 OF THE TOP 100 STILLWATER  
FISHERIES IN THE BRITISH ISLES**

Contact (01580) 763201

[www.tenterden-trout-waters.co.uk](http://www.tenterden-trout-waters.co.uk)





## GUIDED LURE & FLY FISHING DAYS WITH ANDY LUSH

Andy offers a guiding service for those who want to learn more about 'Lure Fishing' and 'Fly Fishing'

**LURE FISHING** Fish a variety of reservoirs for Pike, Perch and Zander. These days are suitable for beginners and improvers who wish to 'fast track' their way to success. Learn more about lure fishing, the use of boats and fish finders, or just have a FUN day with an experienced Predator angler.

**FLY FISHING** One of Andy's favourite methods, Trout, Carp or Pike can be targeted.

**TROUT** Reservoirs or smaller stillwaters in the South East. These days are suitable for beginners or improvers who wish to learn 'how to catch more fish', or just have a FUN day with an experienced fly fisherman.

**CARP & PIKE** More anglers are looking to find exciting ways of catching their favourite fish. Carp off the top during the summer takes a lot of beating. Pike in the spring and autumn, whatever their size they are a lot of FUN on the fly!

**TO BOOK A DAY** email: [info@thefriendlyfisherman.co.uk](mailto:info@thefriendlyfisherman.co.uk) with your contact phone number and Andy will call you back and discuss details.



## Brick Farm Lakes Trout Fishery



Set within the stunning East Sussex countryside, we are a family run fly fishery comprising 4 well stocked lakes. Almost in a secret valley of it's own, we have a superb oak-framed lodge for anglers and their guests overlooking Brick Lake, which provides a warm and welcome space with tea, coffee, licensed bar and bacon sandwiches etc.



- Day tickets, no pre-booking required
- Bespoke corporate & group events available
- Qualified coaching & equipment hire, via prior arrangement



[brickfarmlakes.co.uk](http://brickfarmlakes.co.uk)

The Fishing Lodge, Brick Farm  
Herstmonceux  
East Sussex BN27 4RS  
Tel: 01323 832615  
Mob: 07730277118



## HAZEL COPSE TROUT FISHERY OPEN AS USUAL

Cooks Hill  
Rudgwick  
West Sussex RH12 3AF



Contact julie on 07591 373959 or 07849 061824



01892 826041 / 07951 304515



[www.springhilltroutwaters.co.uk](http://www.springhilltroutwaters.co.uk)





Andy Lush  
- The Friendly Fisherman

# Fly fishing for everything?

**Most anglers consider fly fishing is a method only employed to catch trout and salmon. True, most fly fishermen do fish for these species, but with a little imagination you can catch many other species, in fresh and salt water.**

Of all the methods I use to catch fish, fly fishing is my favourite. It's a hunting style of fishing, find the food, and you'll find the fish. Like lure fishing it's possible to catch fish that aren't actually feeding. Once located, it's then a process of working out how to catch them. This can be as simple as just changing flies. Maybe a colour change is enough, or switching from un-weighted to weighted patterns, to trigger takes 'on the drop'. I'm always thinking about my next change in tactics, there's always another way! If you want to kick back and relax, then maybe fly fishing isn't for you?

## PIKE ON THE FLY

As many will know, I've spent thousands of hours in pursuit of pike. I've used live baits, dead baits, and lures to catch fish from lakes, rivers and reservoirs. On odd occasions I've fly fished, usually when it was the only method allowed. So, not my first choice method!

This spring, however I choose to fly fish for pike on Bewl Water. I was on a mission to track down some of its elusive large pike. The migration of pike into the shallow margins at spawning time, meant I could eliminate most of the seven hundred and seventy acres of water. Casting lures into such shallow, weedy water would be frustrating. So I choose to fly fish instead. The fly line would deliver my un-weighted flies into the shallows with no fear of snagging. Although I was hoping to catch a monster, in reality I was just hoping to see one!

My first two days were spent searching all the creeks and bays around the reservoir. These were potential spawning sites. The water was cold and dirty, so I wasn't expecting much. To my surprise, I did catch a few jacks. Often the smaller male pike arrive in the spawning bays before the larger females. So I was happy I'd discovered some locations worth revisiting on future trips.

I waited a couple of weeks, for the water to warm, before my next visit. I hoped more fish would be in the shallows. The pike I'd caught previously had come from grassy banks, rather than the tree or bush lined shoreline. Always looking for a pattern, I focused on the grass banks first, before trying the trees and bushes. Bewl can be a 'ball breaker', blanking on my next three days wasn't in my game plan! Despite not catching, I was strangely enjoying myself. I was getting more comfortable casting my 'heavy duty' #10 weight outfit, quite a contrast from my #6 trout rod!

On day six, as I motored up 'Hook straight', I inexplicably found myself drawn towards some overhanging bushes, along 'Bryant's point'. The water was gin clear and looked very inviting. I cast my floating line parallel to the bushes. As I watched my mohican 'wiggle tail' fly slowly sink, I suddenly became aware of a pike right next to it. I quickly twitched the line and saw the fish shoot forward, engulfing the fly. I set the hook and enjoyed a brief battle, this fish was no monster. Encouraged by this success, I worked my way along the bank. A small tree overhanging the water caught my eye. My cast landed perilously close, as I straightened my leader, the fly line twitched. This was enough for me to set the hook into another small pike. Two fish in less than half an hour, saw my confidence restored. So how did I manage to blank for the next seven hours? That was my last session, the water was getting close to the 'tipping point' of 18 to 20 'C', when pike suffer from 'heat stress'. So what did I learn? Not a lot really. Despite my best efforts, I didn't see the monsters I'd hoped for.

**TACKLE** A 9ft, #9 or 10 weight rod is required to cast big air resistance pike flies. A selection of sinking lines, the most versatile being the intermediate, will allow you to search through the depths. Fulling Mill have a large selection of pike flies, take my advice and get several Wiggle tail patterns, the pike just want to 'kill' these! Fulling Mill also supply a range of pike leaders too.

## BASS ON THE FLY

Bass are available all along the Kent and Sussex coast. The peak time to fish for them is from June through to October. So they make a great alternative to pike during the warmer months. I'm no expert when it comes to bass, their locations or the tides effect on their behaviour. Fortunately I know a man who is! Robin Howard, AKA 'Fishy Rob' is a lure and fly fishing fanatic! He can be contacted via Facebook at 'Brighton Inshore Fishing'. Based in Brighton, Rob has an intimate knowledge of where and how to catch bass, from the beaches and estuaries along the Sussex coast. Rob also applies this knowledge to boat fishing, out of Brighton Marina. I joined Rob for a fun day afloat a few years ago, we fly fished, while others aboard used lures. It was interesting seeing how each method produced fish at different states of the tide, 'every day's a learning day'.



*The predator becomes the prey*



*Mohican fly with added 'wiggle tail'*



**TACKLE** A #7 weight trout rod with a floating line is all you'll need when shore fishing. I used 'Seaguar Hard' fluorocarbon leader in 15.4lb [0.285mm], a selection flies should include; Clouser minnows, Lefty's deceivers, 'Softy' minnows and 'Softy' sandeels. For boat fishing I would add a selection of sinking lines; intermediate, Di3 and Di7.

## **ZANDER ON THE FLY**

Another viable target for fly anglers. You need look no further than Grafham or Rutland reservoirs for somewhere to start. However there are good populations of zander in many rivers now, including the Thames. Although mainly a nocturnal predator, zander are very feisty, and will not hesitate to hit a fly that comes too close! Being a shoal fish, once you catch one, others should follow. Although not the hardest fighters, they definitely make up for this by their appearance. Takes from zander are what keep you coming back for more, 'the tug is the drug'.

**TACKLE** An #8 or 9 weight rod, with a selection of sinking lines, depending on whether you are boat or bank fishing. Zander are most often caught close to the bottom, so use a line that will keep your fly close to the deck throughout the retrieve. Consider using very short leaders, with a buoyant fly to achieve an aggressive 'down and up' movement, as you inch retrieve the fly along the bottom. Wire tippets are unnecessary, I use 'Seaguar Hard' fluorocarbon in 19lb [0.33mm].



*Fly fishing for zander, another challenge*

## **BARBEL ON THE FLY?**



*Wild fishing for Spanish barbel*

Not a species you would expect to catch on a fly, right? By the way, I'm talking about Iberian Barbel. I have fished large reservoirs in the Extremadura region of Spain. There are several species of barbel in Spain and Portugal, the most famous being the Comizo, which can exceed 30lbs. The exciting thing about fishing for these 'wild' fish, is the vast empty waters they inhabit. Often you don't see another angler all day, bliss! Finding the barbel requires walking miles of shoreline. Scanning the crystal clear water for any signs of fish, before you even think about casting. When you do find fish, that's when the fun really begins. The barbel are feeding in very skinny water, so a stealthy approach is vital. They appear to be feeding on microscopic food items, such as corixa and daphnia. Whatever it is they can be induced to take a dry fly! Once hooked, these torpedoes take off at 'break neck speed', heading for the horizon. Definitely the best dry fly fishing I've ever experienced!

**TACKLE** I use a #6 weight outfit with a floating line. I use 'Seaguar Hard' fluorocarbon 8.8lb [0.205mm] for my leader, for its abrasion resistance. The barbel's lips are very abrasive! Flies need to be buoyant and easily seen. I use Bob's beetles, a black foam backed pattern with a Hi-vis "hot spot" on its back. This makes it easy to spot in the waves or weed, where barbel are often found. Two other essentials, are quality sunglasses and a canteen for water. Its hot in Spain in June and September, when I fish you can't do without either!

## **CARP ON THE FLY**

Over the last five or six years I've become more and more obsessed with catching carp during the summer. The main difference, from all my other fly fishing, is I feed floating bait to attract the them to the surface, and to draw then into my casting range. There is a skill to this, which I have written about in detail, in past articles. I've just completed a carp fly fishing 'blog' for 'Fulling Mill Flies', which will be posted on their web-site very soon. This covers everything you need to know about catching carp on the fly!

**TACKLE** I use an #8 weight outfit in snag free waters, and a #10 when targeting fish over 25lbs. Matched with a weight forward floating line. Leader material is 'Sufix Duraflex', a co-polymer nylon in 15lb [0.25mm]. This ultra fine material is a 'game changer' for surface fishing, or zig-rigging! A selection of Fulling Mill's deer hair mixer flies and Disco's completes the outfit. Lastly, some 'Gink' fly floatant and 'Leader Sink' degreaser, to make the fly float and the last few inches of leader sink.

## **CATFISH ON THE FLY!**

Now this is a species I've only just started fly fishing for. I've not got much to say about techniques or tactics at this stage, but I'm sure I will learn a lot as I do more. The one thing I've already noticed, is I get takes very soon after moving into a swim. Changing casting angles, or flies hasn't induced any further action, so moving frequently seems to be a necessity?

**TACKLE** I'm currently using a #10 weight outfit, but might step up to #12 if fish sizes dictate. A selection of fly lines, floating, sink tip and intermediate have all been used on the lakes I fish, which rarely exceed ten feet [3m] in depth. I'm current using some of my pike flies attached to 44lb [0.52mm] 'Seaguar Hard' fluorocarbon. Catfish have very abrasive mouths, covered in micro 'velcro' like teeth, so wire is unnecessary.



*A new adventure begins, first one on the fly*

## **Trout, where it all starts**

If you've never tried fly fishing, I strongly recommend you start with trout. It's a simple style of fishing, which requires very little stuff to get started. It's surprisingly in-expensive when compared with other forms of fishing. There are several local waters, Bewl, Brick Farm, Spring Hill and Tenterden, that can help you out with casting instruction, advise and fishing of course. So what are you waiting for?

*Tight lines, Andy Lush*



# Junior Informer



**JUNIOR  
COMPETITION**

kindly sponsored by Sussex Bait Developments

email: [sussexbait@hotmail.com](mailto:sussexbait@hotmail.com)

or contact sy: 07971 303949

Send in your catch photos  
and the lucky chosen winner  
will win **2.5kg of Hulk Boilies**  
with **2.5kg of matching pellet**  
courtesy of SBD



## Double PB for Bobbi



Lots of anglers set themselves a target of beating their personal best at the beginning of the season. Very few manage to achieve it, and fewer still manage to achieve what 11-year old **Bobbi Mclemon** accomplished, breaking two PB's on his very first session of the year! Fishing with Dad Rob, at a water in Hythe, Bobbi caught seven carp including a new **Personal Best** mirror carp of 18lbs 2ozs (see page 37 opposite) and this incredible common of 32lbs, which not only



PB 32lbs Common Carp  
Hythe

beat his **Personal Best**, but that of his dad's as well! That in itself makes him a worthy winner of this month's **Sussex Bait Developments** bait package.

## Rare Roach rewards Alex

Pole fished worm proved to be the winning method for 14-year old **Alex Stokes** when he visited a local venue. Having already put together a nice mixed bag of fish made up of small silvers, a carp, and a 5lbs 8ozs tench (see page 16),



PB 2lbs 4ozs Roach  
Tonbridge Water

Alex was surprised to find himself connected to a fish that remains the holy grail for many anglers, a 2lbs plus roach. Weighing in at 2lbs 4ozs, this magnificent fish not only set a new **Personal Best** for Alex, but in all likelihood, a new venue record as well, as the lake has no previous form of producing such large silver fish. We hope that Alex will find a few extra edges in **Carl Smith's** book 'The Simple Fishing Guidebook' that may help him tempt any other unknown specimens that reside in the water.



HENFOLD BAIT & TACKLE Henfold Lakes, Henfold Lane, Newdigate RH5 4RW

TACKLE HIRE AND TUITION AVAILABLE

07956 043922







Elijah - PB 91cm Smoothound - Pevensey Bay



Dominic - Common Carp - Club Water



Josh Whiting - 21lbs 8ozs Common - Hartley Lands



Keegan Davis - 8lbs Catfish - Pittlands Lakes



Maurice Tanner - 40lbs Catfish - Amazon Wood



Bobbi Mclemon - PB 18lbs 2ozs Mirror Carp



Fayth Turner - Common Carp - Claygate Lakes



Frankie-Ray and his sister Dolcie-Rae Joiner



Leo Crowther 3yrs - Mirror Carp - Horam Manor



Harvey Cassidy - PB 29lbs Common - Hawkhurst



Harley Williams - Mid Double Common - Dartford



Master Snden - 18lbs Common - Park Lake



Frankie Smith - PB Common Carp - Horam Manor

**CANTERBURY**  
PLUMBING SUPPLIES  
VISIT OUR  
AFFORDABLE DESIGNER  
BATHROOM SHOWROOM  
@ wincheap ind. est.

**Warren White**  
**07837 758923**  
[www.coachingcoarsefishing.co.uk](http://www.coachingcoarsefishing.co.uk)

**Fishing for Schools**  
**020 7840 9212**  
[www.countryside-alliance.org/the-foundation/fishingforschools/](http://www.countryside-alliance.org/the-foundation/fishingforschools/)

**THE LITTLE SHED**  
Of Designs  
f i

**Angling & Anxiety**  
HIT LIKE & SUBSCRIBE

**Henfold Bait & Tackle**  
**07956 043922**

**SCOTTIES Fishing Tackle**  
25 Southwick Square  
Southwick BN42 4FP  
01273 592903

Please like and follow us  
on FB & Instagram  
[@thelittleshedofdesigns](https://www.instagram.com/thelittleshedofdesigns)



# July update

by instructor Warren White



*This time of year, is a very busy time in the school fishing calendar.*

*Fishing for Schools got their Kent programme underway at the start of May and will be busy with various schools up until the end of July when the schools go on their summer break.*

*Les Jones, who now runs the Fishing for school's programme in Kent, sent me over a few stories, which gives an insight to his school sessions.*

## Thamesview School, Gravesend at Grove Farm Fishery, Hadlow

Another sunny Monday for Thamesview and we welcomed a new fly-fishing coach. David Fisher has joined our Kent team, a recommendation from Bob Goble. One of the students spent the morning with David and was so taken with the new skill of fly casting, that he was keen after lunch to have another session with David.



Thamesview Cast Awards

his parents to buy him a fly-fishing kit. We had a wheelchair student who was very keen. He was putting bait on, casting a whip and with help unhooking and returning fish. Everyone caught decent sized roach, plus the share of big carp as is normal at Hadlow. At the end of the session, all students, obtained cast starter and cast level one awards. We had a short recap and a presentation ceremony, where they were all presented with certificates for passing.

## Longfield Academy at Grove Farm Fishery, Hadlow

They had been so unlucky with the weather, the two sessions that they have had so far have been in heavy rain.

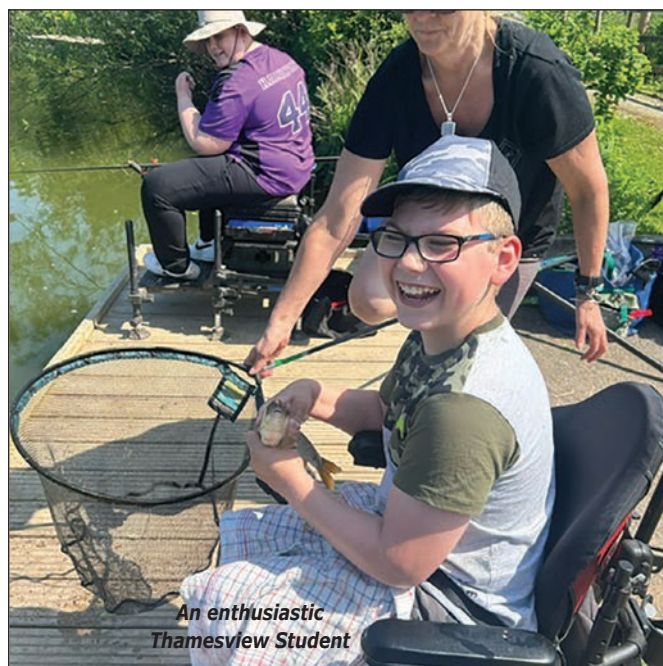
Again, all students were shown basic whip set ups. Catching, roach, perch, and of course hooking carp. I had a margin pole set up and explained why we gear up the tackle to target and land safely the bigger fish. Explaining how the elasticated sections of a strong pole work. One student who had been with me all day, said that after catching smaller fish, she wanted to have a go with the margin pole for something bigger. With the last cast of the day, fishing with suspended bread flake, we watched as a 12lbs common circled the bait before taking it. The squeal, of delight from the student could be heard across the lake "I've hooked a big one". Very soon the 12lbs was in the net, then unhooked on the mat before being photographed and returned safely. Thanks to the Tackle box Dartford for sponsoring Longfield Academy for this course.

## Rowhill School, Longfield

I (Warren White) work mainly now with one school, Rowhill SEN school at Longfield, where we combine fishing and teaching a fishing qualification. When I first started at the school 16 years ago, we had two students on the course. Recently at a meeting at the school, planning for the coming year, we have 16 students wanting to do the fishing course. It just shows the demand for young people wanting to fish.

## Rowhill School, fishing sessions

A good session at Hadlow today with Rowhill school. We have been a bit unlucky with the weather this week, Tuesday and today it rained throughout the session although it did not dampen the spirits of the students, who seemed to really enjoy the day. The two students I was coaching today opted to fish on the bottom with feeders. One who loves a long cast, went close to the island in the middle of the lake and the other fished close in. He was fishing in the margins, catapulting a few pellets in, close to a bush and an easy under arm cast with a little method



An enthusiastic Thamesview Student

He watched patiently as another student started the afternoon session with David but was asking questions all the time. At the end of the day, he said he was going to ask



Rowhill Student  
Kia with a Carp



feeder combined with pineapple waffer, saw it hitting the same spot each cast. The lad fishing near the island couldn't get a bite but the lad fishing in the margins, had four carp and lost a few. A lesson to be learnt here. To his credit the lad who struggled near the island, changed tactics as the session went on, fed on top and soon had the fish feeding, and near the end of the session had a nice carp.



Nathan on the rocks

On another day we took a field trip to Allhallows to look at the difference in fresh and saltwater environments. What a beautiful day! The students really seemed to enjoy being at a such a beautiful and peaceful place. The lads combed the beach looking for things of interest and had fun finding various crustacean shells. We had a fish on a freshwater dyke, which is just beginning to wake up after the recent wet and cold conditions. A few rudd caught today but the potential for some nice fish in the coming months.

Part of the BTEC course work this year at Rowhill school, has been learning about Aquatic environments and part of this is about learning how to identify different flora that live in these environments to better understand how to care for the water and surrounding land.

On a recent angling session with Rowhill school at Shorne country park, Gravesend. Something pointed out to me, was a distinctive and beautiful plant that was growing on the edge of the path next to the lake. The Bee Orchid is a sneaky imitator – the flowers look identical to a female bee. Males fly in to try to mate with it and end up pollinating the flower. Nature at its best.



Bee Orchid

## Angling Societies



**Hastings Bexhill & District Freshwater Angling Association**  
Season runs from 1st April to 31st March.

Established in 1895 the association provides its members and day ticket anglers with various lakes and rivers to fish throughout Hastings, Bexhill and the surrounding area.

We currently have seven waters that provide a mixture of species at specimen weights to suit all anglers' preferences. As well as the lakes run by the association we also offer members the ability to fish various stretches of river in the surrounding area.

The association provides waters to suit all ages, abilities and interests so there's something for everyone.

To apply to become a member please download and print the application form from our website. Complete and return to the Membership officer on the application, alternatively it is possible to purchase your membership from any of the tackle shops listed on our website.

For further information please contact:  
**Chris Pagan 07429 655237 Steve Potter 07935 268174**  
Postal enquiries: S Corke, 2 The Siding, Bexhill-on-Sea TN40 1RF

**hastingsandbexhillangling.co.uk**



Normanhurst Lake



Wishing Tree Reservoir



River Rother



**14 miles of River and 7 Lakes containing:**  
Carp to 52lbs 4ozs, Tench to 12lbs 8ozs, Bream to 19lbs+, Barbel to 15lbs 2ozs, Chub to 5lbs+, Perch to 3lbs 6ozs, Pike to 31lbs 6ozs, Crucians to 4lbs 6ozs and Grass Carp to 29lbs 6ozs.

Also large Roach and Rudd to 3lbs and large eels.

**WE HAVE NOW JOINED CLUBMATE**  
View the waters on the web  
**[www.tonbridge-angling.co.uk](http://www.tonbridge-angling.co.uk)**  
or  
**<https://tdafps.clubmate.co.uk/register>**

**NEW Gold Membership** £225 + £10 Joining Fee  
**NEW Silver Membership** £85 + £10 Joining Fee  
**NEW Bronze Membership**  
OAP 66+/Student 16-18/Disabled  
(Proof Needed) £45 + £10 Joining Fee

For all enquiries please email:  
**[info@tonbridge-angling.co.uk](mailto:info@tonbridge-angling.co.uk)**

### The Linton Angling Society - Membership Vacancies

We are a small but friendly club with beautiful lake, 2 ponds, 5 reservoirs and over 8 miles of fishing on the River Medway and Beult. Our waters contain Carp to 32lb, Pike 30lb+, Tench 8lb+, Chub 7lb, Perch 4lb and Roach to 3lb, including some good Bream and Eels. All year fishing, member's guest permits, night fishing allowed. We run over 30 matches a year and have a large junior section. Concessionary rates available for OAPs, Disabled and Juniors.

For further details contact: **Jason Tuckey on 07983 569220** e-mail: [lassecretary@lintonangling.co.uk](mailto:lassecretary@lintonangling.co.uk)

**[www.lintonangling.co.uk](http://www.lintonangling.co.uk)**

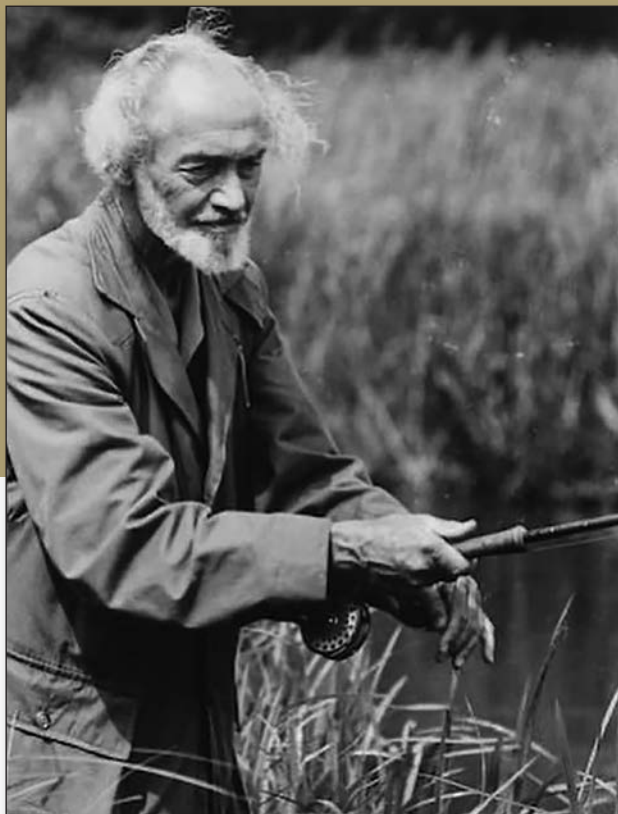


# The Golden Years of Coarse Fishing

by Bob Rolph

## Legends of the 60's - No.4

### Bernard Venables MBE 1907 - 2001



*Bernard Venables, or B.V as we all came to know him, was no great captor of huge coarse fish, but his writings, paintings and drawings from 1940 to 2000 were inspirational to generations of young anglers.*

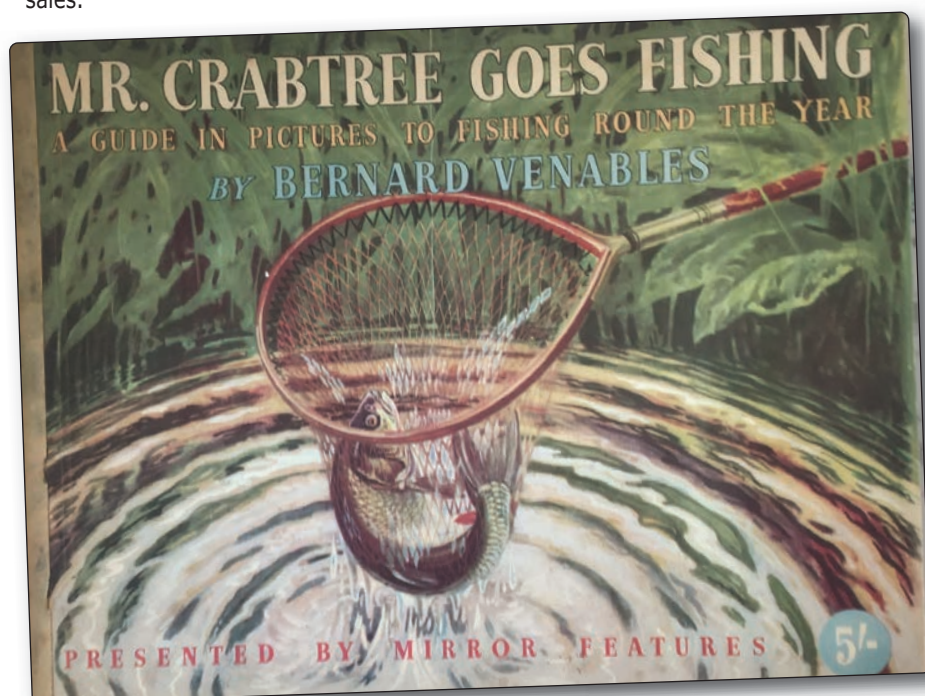
*An accomplished artist and newspaper journalist, who started his working life in Fleet Street on the Daily Express in 1937 at the age of 30, his first published work was a brochure on Tank Warfare in 1942.*

Born in Catford in 1907, his family soon moved out to the Kentish countryside, to Ham Street on the edge of Romney Marsh, then to South Norwood during the First World War, where he discovered the joys of fishing, wildlife and the English countryside, before a move back to the outer London suburbs again.

His interest in fishing brought his first angling book 'A Fisherman's Testament' in 1949 together with 34 of his b/w line drawings at the insistence of his journalistic friend a Victor Taylor, with whom he drank in the bar of the 'Olde Bell Pub' in Fleet Street just after the war.

My first edition of this book once belonged to his work colleague Maurice Wiggin to whom he presented it in Nov 1949 with a signed copy, Maurice gave it to me years ago.

The books 'Fishing' and 'Fish and Fishing' came next in 1953, but it was the cartoon strip 'Mr Crabtree Goes Fishing', first published in 1949, that really first put BV's angling artistry on the map in a very big way. Bernard was poached by the Daily Mirror in 1946 and they wanted to promote fishing in the paper, and BV was the man to do it. Mr Crabtree was originally a gardening strip, but come the winter months when all gardening was done, Mr Crabtree turned to fishing with his fictional son Peter, modelled on his real son Julian. Jack Hargreaves suggested the name, himself an original Fleet St man from days gone by. The Mirror sold millions in those days, and the fishing strip proved very popular, so popular that Jack Hargreaves, himself a well known angler suggested that it should be made into a book. This was done, and in 1949 the famous paperback book printed its first edition which sold out in no time. Later editions followed and it ended up selling over 2 million copies at 5 shillings a copy. Bernard was on the staff of the Daily Mirror so never received a penny from its vast sales.



The wooden landing net on the front cover was once owned by Pete, a friend of mine, and I have lovingly handled it on several occasions

Angling became a great feature of the old Daily Mirror, they gave prizes for the fish of the week and an annual Angling Awards dinner and ceremony to which all the great anglers of the time attended. This was all well before my time in angling, I never did see a copy of the paper with Mr Crabtree in it, but Bernard stayed on at the Mirror until 1953 when he was asked to start the Angling Times up in Peterborough by the East Midland Allied Press in July by Howard Marshall.

Countless young boys grew up in the 50s and 60s reading the exploits of pipe smoking Mr Crabtree and his son Peter, catching fish to die for, Tench and carp in summer, Barbel and perch in Autumn and Pike in the winter on plugs, from idyllic pristine well stocked waters in the south of England, an era long since passed us by I regret to say. The colour plate of the Rudd on page 91 eying a surface fly are imprinted on my mind! I met him once in that glorious fishing tackle shop J. Peak and Sons at 40 Grays Inn Road off High Holborn. I went to school at Blackfriars on the Embankment and often

walked to the shop after school past Fetter Lane, where BV's office was in the appropriately named Brems Buildings. One day on a late summers afternoon, when I should have been at sports day, I went up there and talked my sort of sport with Bernard Venables in the shop. We talked of Roach of Kennet Chub and of Keston Ponds which he knew all about.



I had just caught my first Keston Carp and he wanted to know all about it. Then Trevor Housby came in and the talk turned to that of Shark off the Azores and big game fishing off Fowey in Cornwall. I was out of my depth by then and made a hasty retreat, I lived on that encounter for many years!

In 1953 BV teamed up with Jack Thorndyke and Howard Marshall to start the new publication Angling Times, now in its 71st year, he wrote a column in it for 9 years from 1953 to 1962. I bought my first copy in August 1957 for just 6 old pence, had the headline 'Bob does it again' referring of course to Bob Reynolds massive carp catches from Billing Aquadrome in Northampton. This is what inspired me to start serious big fish angling, then meeting and fishing with him 10 years later. The Angling Times had a circulation of 170,000 copies in its heyday of the mid 1960s and remains to this day the greatest angling periodical in the world. Bernard left Fleet Street after 16 years for his new project which was to change his life.

This new Angling newspaper venture wasn't the only project that Bernard was involved with. In 1963 he started the very upmarket colour monthly magazine 'Creel', which was far before its time in its quality of print and photographic reproduction. Sadly it only lasted 4 years as production costs and falling circulation meant that it came off our shelves in Nov 1967 to be amalgamated with Brian Harris's Angling Magazine.

Fishing magazine had the same fate 2 years later. During BV's tenure as editor the circulation reached 40,000 in its 18 issues but fell to 5000 when John Nixon took over for the last 2 years. John included a specimen hunters column in which I wrote, but the product could not survive the 5 different wonderful magazines of the glorious 1960s! These really were the Golden Years of Fishing journalism in this country. Brian Harris kept 'Angling' going for 10 more years but eventually this too fell by the wayside, probably because of my writing in it!

TV producers snapped up Bernard in 1965 to do a series on the coarse fish species called 'Anglers Corner' which was shown first on BBC 2, and later on BBC 1. He sat in his study and talked eloquently, in that refined voice of his, about a different species each week. These short films are still available to watch on YouTube.

Best known as a freshwater angler, Goffs Park Lake, near Crawley, was the scene for success in 1958, where Bernard caught 3 large carp to 19lbs and was seen there by my old mate Dennis Darkin when he was a boy.

BV was also a sea angler and big game angler of some repute, an explorer and promoter of tourism for Portugal, Ireland and Zambia. He spent time with the whalers of the Azores, and shark fishing in Madeira, walking the Zambezi river, and salmon fishing on the Avon where he caught 20lbs plus fish.

I saw him on the quayside at Fowey and Polruan in Cornwall during the 1960s unloading blue shark off the Gurney Grice boat Blue Phantom, but it was off Machao in Madeira, that Bernard had his most epic capture in January 1959.

The old whaling station was near here, and waste from that site filtered into the sea, 10 miles east of Funchal near the island of Porto Santo. I was there last December, looking out to sea from the Airport lounge, where this epic encounter took place 65 years ago, only 1 mile off shore. Bernard Venables, that quietly spoken very refined gentleman caught a 6-gilled shark estimated at 1700lbs in weight, it was on the front page of the Angling Times on Friday February 13th 1959. I remember it well, I still have the copy of the paper!

Bernard was fishing from the boat 'Altaire' only about a mile off shore at great depth, over 100 fathoms down, using local volcanic rock to get the bait down to where he knew the huge shark lived. He fought the great beast for over 4 hours, before it was taken back to Funchal to be photographed and weighed more accurately. The catch was the largest fish ever caught in the northern hemisphere at the time and was the talk of the town for many days in the capital Funchal the capital of Madeira.

Little is left today of the old big game fishing harbour, as large cruise ships now take up space where once a dozen or more charter boats went out each day to do battle with Shark, Marlin and Sailfish. The old harbour wall has been re-developed with a modern cruise terminal. My wife and I are frequent visitors to this wonderful island.

Bernard was a promoter for the Portuguese, Irish, Zambia and Moroccan tourist boards and his expeditions along the Zambezi river and with the whalers of the Azores are well documented in his many books and articles. His Autobiography 'A Stream of Life' published in 2002 is well worth a read, as is the new book of his articles called 'A prospect of Angling' edited by his old friend Peter Rogers of Bexleyheath and published in 2001 by the Little Egret Press, containing 370 pages and 85 drawings from his angling articles over the years.

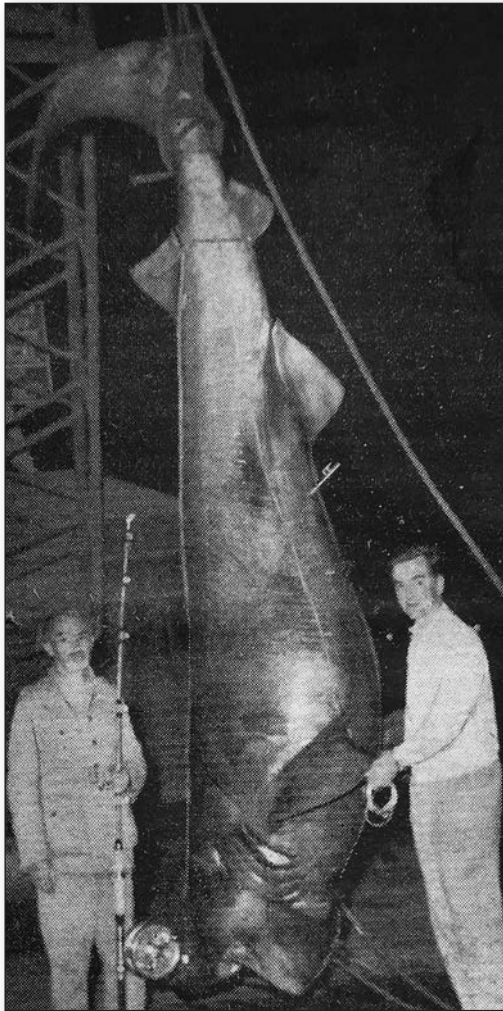
BV will be remembered as one of the 4 great pioneers of angling during the 1960s who were never short of a word to say in the journals of the time. Walker, Taylor, Venables, and Peter Stone from Wolvercote near Oxford. All names I grew up with who have all vastly influenced my angling life, and whose 50 books and thousands of articles between them also influenced the direction Angling has gone today.

Bernard was a wordsmith of angling knowledge and description, almost Shakespearean in his prose, using ten words to describe a scene when just the one would have sufficed for the rest of us! He regularly attended angling shows, events and conferences in his early retirement

years, and I well remember talking to his at the Alexandra Palace Show in 1970, when he was resident on the Angling Times Stand. That was also the time when I first met Roger Standen, up from Bexhill for the day, little did we know that 25 years later he would first publish our Freshwater Informer magazine, and that it would endure to this day!

Bernard Venables lived almost the entirety of the Twentieth Century, for 94 years in fact, and could be described as the Grandfather of modern angling. His 22 books a lasting legacy to an era long since gone, when our rivers teemed with fish, and pollution, abstraction, chicken manure, and plastic were never the main conversation on the riverbank. He was invested with the MBE in 1995 by Prince Charles for services to Angling and outlived Izzac Walton by just one year, to whom I feel he should be compared. From grayling fishing on the Kennet, to giant shark off Madeira, BV was a legendary English Gentleman we should never forget.

**Bob Rolph**





## Sandwich Lakes Sandwich, Kent

The recent weeks have been as diverse as the weather with some anglers catching (please excuse the pun) the lakes perfectly leading to great results on all of the lakes around the complex. The matches have all been well attended and again the main match lakes Damson and Victoria have fished well. Bags of F1s and carp being landing up in the water on pole and waggler tactics.

**Meadow Lake** has produced numbers of large Bream and is now becoming a destination for some of the match guys when fishing on the complex. Meat and pellet seems to be the way



forward. Some great evening sport has also been reported, with a number of the lake's ornamentals making an appearance.

**Kingfisher** has been regularly fished and has produced double figure carp along with some good roaches to anglers using the method.

**Berry Lake** has fished well and as I write this the Fishery Team are removing some of the marginal reeds and thinning out some of the weed that has grown recently. A local angler reported an evening of tench action which was welcome news as these are a species that often avoids capture.

**Victory Lake** is as expected becoming a very busy venue with the improvement in the weather and on June 12th a 32lbs carp was reported from the lake by a visiting angler down for a 48-hour session.

The new lake **Trafalgar** is slowly being opened and has already produced a couple of thirty pound mirrors which is great news and shows that the carp that populate the new lake are doing well. Small mesh bags, single hook baits and chods have been successful. Lots of captures have been under the rod tips.

Elsewhere onsite the Fishery Team are constantly looking at ways to improve the Fishery and Caravan Park and have just added an amazing play area for our younger visitors!



## Chris Brown Products



*Designed & manufactured in the UK...*

*Chris Brown manufactures a wide range of specialist big fish tackle*

*Visit our online shop now!*

*[www.cbproducts.co.uk](http://www.cbproducts.co.uk)*

Technical Enquiries:

E: [chrisofoaks@gmail.com](mailto:chrisofoaks@gmail.com)

T: (01892) 723670





SANDWICH LAKES Sandwich Ash Road (A257), Near Canterbury CT3 2DA

email: enquiries@sandwichlakes.co.uk

Sandwich  
Coarse Fishery

Visit *Sandwich Lakes* in 2024

Tel: 07936 409912

Sandwich Lakes is a delightful day ticket fishery in East Kent situated near to the Royal Cinque Port town of Sandwich. Set in a beautiful countryside location, the venue caters for all anglers from the specialist carp angler to beginners.

### *Our unrivalled facilities include:*

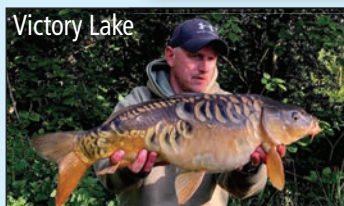
A waterside cafe serving hot and cold food and drinks  
Ladies and gents toilets • Plenty of free parking  
On site tackle shop for bait and tackle • Rod hire

We can offer our visitors six coarse fishing lakes containing a variety of fish from silver fish to specimen carp. Matches and fishing lessons can be arranged by contacting our Fishery Manager Kevin Killeen.

### *The lakes:*

**VICTORY LAKE** (1 rod £12.50) a specimen water of two acres with interesting island features and lily pads in the margins. Stocked with commons and mirrors to 35lbs along with ghost carp, tench, roach, rudd and specimen perch. Night fishing by prior booking available.

**KINGFISHER LAKE** this pond is 0.6 acres in size and is heavily stocked with commons and mirrors to 12lbs and is ideal for bagging up! All eight swims are wheelchair friendly with excellent access direct from the car park. A bridge from Kingfisher allows easy access to Victory Lake.



Victory Lake



Berry Lake



Damson Match Lake



Meadow Lake

**MATCH LAKES - DAMSON AND VICTORIA** one acre in size, each of these lakes are designed for the match angler having shallow margins with reeds for summer fishing and a deep drop off for light feeder work and winter fishing. They are stocked with a great variety of fish including carp to 16lbs and we believe these are the most uniquely designed match lakes in Kent!

**MEADOW LAKE** one acre in size with eight marked pegs and traditional grass bank fishing, Meadow is stocked with scaley mirrors and commons to 14 lbs. This lake also holds large perch and roach so you will be sure to catch!

**BERRY LAKE** is one acre in size and stocked with 3000 F1s, commons, mirrors, roach, rudd, perch and some large bream. Float and pellet tactics work well on this lake. IN the summer months, surface sport with mixers produces huge bags of fish.

### *Day Ticket Prices:*

1 rod - £8    2 rods - £10    Family Ticket (2 adults and 2 children) - £25    Under 16s - £7    Sundowner (3pm to 7pm) - £7  
Rod hire (includes seat hire & landing net) - £6    Night fishing (by prior arrangement) 24 hours - £25 48 hours - £50

## *Holidays at Sandwich Lakes*

All bookings



on Sandwich Lakes

30 touring pitches with 16 amp EHU, toilet and shower block with disabled wetroom.

Caravans and Motorhome pitches

Caravan Club Site - £24

Main site PITCHUP from £28

Pitch fees include EHU & showers!



SINCE 1907  
CARAVAN AND  
MOTORHOME CLUB

We also have a CL site for Caravan & Motorhome Club members

[www.sandwichlakes.co.uk](http://www.sandwichlakes.co.uk)



# Medway Man

## Bob Morris

**A**s I said last time, I had been really looking forward to getting out on the river at the start of this season having missed out on this traditional event over the last couple of years. With the wet spring and recent showery weather, I was expecting the conditions to be ideal. They were, with just a nice flow and a hint of colour and so had hoped to start with a bang. As it turned out, in my true piscatorial style, it was more of a crash!

Having arrived at my chosen pitch an hour or so before sunset, and found all to be perfect, I took a few pictures and then went about the happy task of tackling up. This was a bit more involved than it could have been as I had not found the time to set up rods, rigs etc. However, this took little effort, and I was soon ready to swing the first bait of the new season out into place amongst a couple of handfuls of free offerings. The traditional brew was called for to herald in the new season, so I lit the stove and reclined in my chair while the bats started to emerge and scour the water margins for insects. A Tawny Owl flew across in front of me, looking extremely large in the dusk light. A few dark looking clouds had materialised at this stage and although I was confident that it was not going to be a wet night, and as usual had not brought my brolly, I decided to put on my waterproof trousers and coat just to be prepared. As it turned out it was slightly more than a brief shower and the swim became rather slippery to put it mildly!

Having had a good many wet sessions of late I had learnt to be extra careful with my movements and restrict them to a minimum where possible. With first tea of the season consumed and first cast approaching I could not help wondering how long I would have to wait for the first bite. Opening nights have been unpredictable on the river fishing front and I can remember some real stinkers where nothing had happened at all until well after dawn and a couple where I fell asleep within twenty minutes and woke to a completely blank dawn. In fairness this had only happened on new stretches or completely new rivers. Tonight I felt that I would really crack it, and as it happened I almost did. Unfortunately, it was my rib cage that took the hit, rather than the fish. Having placed my bait perfectly in position and settled back to await events, a sharp tap on the rod tip within a couple of minutes had me thinking it was probably caused by a bat. Having picked up the rod however it was immediately pulled round to my right and a short but hectic scrap with a decent chub saw me land my first fish of the 2024 campaign. I was extremely pleased with myself as I returned this fish to the river and may have become careless. They do say that pride cometh before the fall...

In the darkness, as I moved up the bank to my chair I slipped and ended up crashing to earth, where a sharp protrusion of wood contacted my ribs! Initially I thought that the cracking sound was my ribs rather than the wood as I lay there in the margins (fortunately dry at this point) I felt sick and could see stars of the coloured variety. It took me a while to recover and climb back to my chair. After a while I decided that another brew and a recast was called for and a call to the emergency services was put on hold, even though breathing was still rather painful. Several more bites followed with a two more good sized chub landed and another lost and I considered this to be a successful start to the season, although the trip back to the car carrying my gear was a rather painful experience. I made my mind up to be even more careful next time and even to use my rope and peg more often, despite thinking that it probably would not have helped me on this occasion.

The second session, a couple of days later turned out to be similar except it was a dry evening and a lot less hazardous on the bankside, which was fortunate as I was still suffering the effects of the fall. I chose the same swim again and was not disappointed with



*Kicking off the season in style with a six!*



the action. Several good bites before midnight produced a couple of splendid Chub with the best one at just over the six-pound mark. This was particularly pleasing as I have fished the Medway for many years, and this is only my third from the river. Despite not being obsessed with the size of fish these days, it is always great to land a big one and certainly a good start to my summer's efforts here. These initial sessions have boosted my enthusiasm to do more river fishing this year and I have a few ideas to test out on the tactics front which I will hopefully be able to reveal in future tales from the riverside.

It was great to be out on flowing water again and to witness the riverside wildlife going about



Big Chub are impressive looking fish



The author is still finding time for Tench

its daily activities. During these opening sessions, these sightings have included Kingfishers, Buzzards, Owls, Sparrowhawks and the other day the unusual sight of a pair of Ravens landing in the riverside trees. As good as all of this is, I have not given up my day job as they say, and I am happy to report that my tench fishing campaign is still going well on several different waters with a healthy amount of action for most of the time.

With any luck things will continue in this vein – although I know that with fishing in general this is always going to be a big ask.

Best Fishes & Catches,  
Bob Morris

 BobMorrisCustomRods

 Bob-Morris-93450776

 Bmt1@btconnect.com

 01322 866015

Ltd. Signed Copies

1st Addition

(No.'s 1 -50)



Contact Bob Now

TALES  
OF A  
MEDWAY  
MAN

Don't Fence Me Off

2ND BOOK BY

BOB MORRIS





Featuring contributions by Bob's Friends; Cliff Webb & John Carver



Coarse Fisheries

<b>Beaver Farm Fishery</b> Eastbourne Road Newchapel, Lingfield RH7 6HL	<b>01342 324006 / 07710 656041</b>
<b>Charlies Lakes</b> Steeds Lane, Kingsnorth, Ashford TN26 1NH	<b>07857 539785</b>
<b>Chart Hill Lakes</b> Chart Hill Road, Chart Sutton ME17 3EZ	<b>07398 571337</b>
<b>Chequertree Trout and Coarse Fishery</b> Bethersden, Near Ashford TN26 3JR	<b>01233 820078</b>
<b>Coombewood Fishery</b> Redbrook Street, High Halden, Near Ashford TN26 3JH	<b>07895 679569</b>
<b>Elphicks Fisheries</b> Spelmonden Road, Horsmonden TN12 8EL	<b>01580 212512</b>
<b>Eureka Fishery</b> Nicholas Road, Kennington, Ashford, Kent TN25 4AG	<b>07597 879621</b>
<b>Furnace Brook Fishery and Fish Farm</b> Trolliloes, Cowbeech, near Hailsham BN27 4QR	<b>01435 830835</b>
<b>Gabriels Fishery</b> Marsh Green Road, Edenbridge TN8 5PP	<b>07730 066088</b>
<b>Greenacres Farm Fishery</b> Sissinghurst Road, Biddenden TN27 8EH	<b>07933 934942</b>
<b>Hawkhurst Fish Farm</b> Hastings Road, Hawkhurst TN18 4RT	<b>01580 753813</b>
<b>Horam Manor Fishery</b> Horam Manor Farm, Horam TN21 0JB	<b>01323 840889 / 07707 759364</b>
<b>Horsmonden Lakes</b> Grovehurst Road, Horsmonden TN12 8BQ	<b>01892 838576</b>
<b>Iden Wood Fishery</b> Coldharbour Lane, Iden, Rye TN31 7UT	<b>01797 280180 / 07906 232225</b>
<b>Knightingales Fishery</b> Stone-In-Oxney, Near Tenterden TN30 7HA	<b>07941 176205</b>
<b>Mousehole Lakes</b> Maidstone Road Nettlestead, Near Paddock Wood ME18 5HR	<b>07725 783405</b>
<b>Orchard Place Farm Fishery</b> Pearsons Green Road, Paddock Wood TN12 6NY	<b>01892 838576</b>
<b>Pittlands Lakes</b> Churn Lane, Horsmonden, Paddock Wood TN12 8HL	<b>07716 065900</b>
<b>Sandwich Lakes Coarse Fishery</b> Sandwich Ash Road (A257), Near Canterbury CT3 2DA	<b>07936 409912</b>
<b>Shirkoak Fishery</b> Bethersden Road, Woodchurch, Ashford TN26 3PZ	<b>07973 410973</b>
<b>The Lakes at Beachborough</b> Beachborough Park Newington, Near Folkestone CT18 8BW	<b>07469 809877</b>
<b>Tricklebrook Fishery</b> Colts Hill, Five Oak Green TN12 6SH	<b>07743 955812</b>
<b>Willows Angling Centre</b> Bax Farm, Lower Road, Teynham ME9 9BU	<b>01795 520887</b>
<b>Wylands Farm</b> Wylands Farm, Powdermill Lane, Battle TN33 0SU	<b>01424 893394</b>

Trout Fisheries

<b>Brick Farm Lakes</b> Windmill Hill, Herstmonceux BN27 4RS	<b>01323 832615</b>
<b>Cinder Hill Fly Fishing</b> Membership available from: Email: <a href="mailto:r.nathan@btinternet.com">r.nathan@btinternet.com</a>	<b>01892 770903</b>
<b>Coltsford Mill Trout Fishery &amp; Fly Tackle Shop</b> Mill Lane, Oxted, Surrey RH8 9DG	<b>01883 715666 / 07798 605867</b>
<b>Spring Hill Trout Waters</b> Albans Farm, Romford Road, Pembury TN2 4BB	<b>07951 304515</b>
<b>Tenterden Trout Waters</b> Coombe Farm, Chennell Park Road, Tenterden TN30 6XA <a href="http://www.tenterden-trout-waters.co.uk">www.tenterden-trout-waters.co.uk</a>	<b>01580 763201</b>

Tackle & Bait Supplies

<b>Absolute Tackle</b> 12 Wealden Forest Park Herne Common, Kent CT6 7LQ	<b>01227 636724 / 07809 330854</b>
---	------------------------------------

<b>Anglers Den</b> 6 North Road, Pevensey Bay BN24 6AY	<b>01323 460441</b>
<b>Angling Specialist (ASH)</b> 29 Queen Street, Horsham RH13 5AA	<b>01403 264644</b>
<b>A.R. Tackle</b> 8 Castle Street, Hastings TN34 3DY	<b>01424 422094</b>
<b>Bait Bucket Tackle Warehouse</b> Unit T Rich Industrial Estate, Avis Way, Newhaven BN9 0DU	<b>01273 933050</b>
<b>Best Buddies</b> 28 Martello Drive, Dymchurch Road, Hythe CT21 6PH	<b>01303 487144</b>
<b>Bodle Angling</b> Cuckfield Road, Burgess Hill RH15 8RE	<b>01444 247757</b>
<b>Camos Carp Cabin</b> 11 Turner Street, Ramsgate CT11 8NJ	<b>01843 581784</b>
<b>Chris Brown Products</b> email: <a href="mailto:chrifoaks@gmail.com">chrifoaks@gmail.com</a>	<b>01892 723670</b> <a href="http://www.cbproducts.co.uk">www.cbproducts.co.uk</a>
<b>Dens Tackle</b> 73 Dymchurch Road, Hythe CT21 6JN	<b>01303 267053</b>
<b>Eastbourne Aquarium &amp; Reptile Centre</b> 19-21 Seaside, Eastbourne BN21 3PP	<b>01323 730635</b>
<b>Gabriels Fishery Tackle Shop</b> Marsh Green Road, Edenbridge TN8 5PP	<b>07730 066088</b>
<b>Henfold Bait &amp; Tackle Henfold Lakes</b> Henfold Lane, Newdigate, Dorking RH5 4RW	<b>07956 043922</b>
<b>Jack Frost</b> Reynolds Place, West Green, Crawley RH11 7HB	<b>01293 521186</b>
<b>Kent Angling Centre</b> 44, Seal Road, Sevenoaks TN14 5AR	<b>01732 905088</b>
<b>Medway Tackle Supplies</b> 11 Twydall Green, Gillingham ME8 6JY	<b>01634 475260</b>
<b>MFC Outdoor Store</b> 9 Station Road, Hailsham BN27 2BE	<b>01323 846883</b>
<b>NJ Tackle</b> 150 Milton Road, Gravesend DA12 2RG	<b>01474 353998</b>
<b>Orchard Tackle</b> 58 High Brooms Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN4 9DB	<b>07494 670328</b>
<b>Pinions Baits</b> 431 London Road, Ditton, Aylesford ME20 6DB	<b>01622 718580</b>
<b>Polegate Angling Centre</b> Unit 7, Birch Industrial Estate, Eastbourne BN23 6PH	<b>01323 486379</b>
<b>Romney Angling</b> 59, High Street, New Romney TN28 8AH	<b>01797 362889</b>
<b>Sheppey Angling</b> , Unit 5, Regis Business Park New Road, Sheerness, Kent ME12 1HA	<b>01795 661089</b>
<b>South London Angling Centre</b> 286 Lee High Road, London SE13 5PJ	<b>0208 852 4451</b>
<b>Sussex Bait Developments</b> Falkenvil Fishery, Saltmarsh Lane, Hailsham BN27 2RJ	<b>07971 303949</b>
<b>The Tackle Box</b> 251 Watling Street, Dartford DA2 6EG	<b>01322 292400</b>
<b>Trade In Tackle</b> Maidstone Road Wateringbury ME18 5EH	<b>01622 814296 / 07941 085011</b>

Angling Clubs & Societies

<b>Bromley (Kent) &amp; District AS</b> PO Box 895, East Grinstead RH19 9ND Email: <a href="mailto:bdas-kent-enquiry@bdaskent.co.uk">bdas-kent-enquiry@bdaskent.co.uk</a>	
<b>Cinder Hill Fly Fishing</b> Membership available from email: <a href="mailto:r.nathan@btinternet.com">r.nathan@btinternet.com</a>	<b>01892 770903</b>
<b>Hastings Bexhill &amp; District</b> Postal enquiries to S.Corke, 2, The Sidings, Bexhill On Sea TN40 1RF Chris Pagan <b>07429 655237</b> / Steve Potter <b>07935 268174</b>	
<b>Linton Angling Society</b> Jason Tuckey on <b>07983 569220</b> or email <a href="mailto:lassecretary@lintonangling.co.uk">lassecretary@lintonangling.co.uk</a>	
<b>Tonbridge &amp; District A &amp; FPS</b> For all enquiries please email: <a href="mailto:info@tonbridge-angling.co.uk">info@tonbridge-angling.co.uk</a>	<b>07570 505934</b>
<b>Wantsum Angling Association</b> or contact via website <a href="http://www.wantsumaa.co.uk">www.wantsumaa.co.uk</a>	





# Mousehole Lakes

NINE ACRES - THREE LAKES

**BAILIFF ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE**  
FOR UNLOADING YOUR EQUIPMENT  
TO YOUR SWIM



Kestrel Lake



Swift Lake



Swift Lake



Kingfisher Lake



## SWIFT LAKE (Match/Pleasure) up to 2 Rods

Day Ticket : £10

### KESTREL LAKE up to 3 Rods

Day Ticket : £25

24 hours : £40

36 hours : £55

48 hours : £70

5 days : £145

6 days : £160

60 hours : £85

72 hours : £100

84 hours : £115

96 hours : £130

7 days : £175

Exclusive Hire up to 6 anglers for 48 hours : £450

### KINGFISHER LAKE up to 3 Rods

Day Ticket : £20

24 hours : £35

36 hours : £50

48 hours : £65

5 days : £140

6 days : £155

60 hours : £80

72 hours : £95

84 hours : £110

96 hours : £125

7 days : £170

Exclusive Hire up to 15 anglers for 48 hours : £1,000



**NEW CAFE OPEN**



## Mousehole Bait & Tackle

is open 7 days a week for all your needs. Contact Joanne on **07725 783405** for any bait and tackle enquiries.



**TOILET & SHOWER BLOCK WITH DISABLED FACILITIES**

FREE shower for overnight & 48hr plus sessions

Maidstone Road | Nettlestead | Maidstone | Kent | ME18 5HR

**07725 783405**

[www.mouseholelakes.co.uk](http://www.mouseholelakes.co.uk)



Covering The South East Since 1996



[www.freshwaterinformer.com](http://www.freshwaterinformer.com)