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TO ALL

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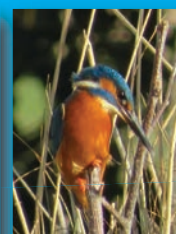
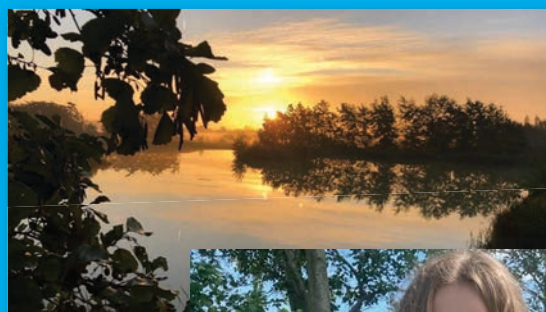


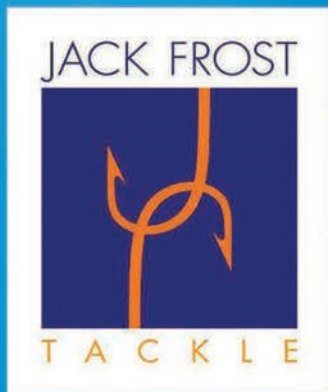
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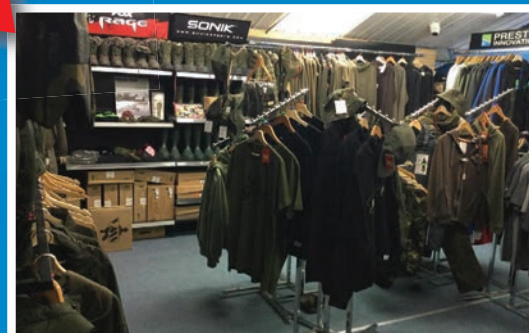
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Hello and welcome to the January 2024 edition of the Freshwater Informer

First of all we want to wish all of our readers a Very Happy New Year!. It's difficult to know how to reflect on 2023. I think it is fair to say that it was a year of challenges, in both fishing terms, and those of taking on our beloved Freshwater Informer. From a fishing point of view it has been a case of twelve months of nearly but not quite. Too hot, too cold, too wet, too dry has been the order of the day. Rivers running through fields and ponds reduced to puddles.

But in amongst the gloom there has always been a little ray of light shining through. A sunrise across the marshes, the cobalt blue dart of a kingfisher, an unknown giant meandering through the lilies. These are the things that keep us going back. And plenty of anglers have been going back. Month after month, despite the weather, we receive reports from hundreds of anglers of all ages, wanting to share their catches, from a first stunted roach caught on the humble maggot through to immense carp that have taken many months, or even years, of painstaking effort and attention to



detail before they finally succumbed. We celebrate all with equal measure – the common bond between anglers of all ages and abilities.

It is also the common bond between anglers that has been so helpful as we have picked up the baton of the Freshwater Informer. The amount of people willing to help has been staggering. Whether delivering magazines, writing content, offering advice or helping with the technology side of things, it is hugely appreciated. Speaking of technology, we are working hard behind the scenes to bring the website up-to-date and become a more useful resource. It's small steps, but we now have a map to



give a visual guide to the fisheries and tackle shops that

stock the magazine. Have a look at www.freshwaterinformer.com we welcome your feedback on how we can continue to improve it for our readers. Elsewhere we have big plans for the year ahead. We can't say too much yet, other than Watch This Space! In the meantime, sit back, relax, pick up plenty of tips from this months magazine and plan your fishing for the year ahead.

HAPPY NEW YEAR, THE FWI TEAM

FRESHWATER INFORMER

DATES FOR
YOUR DIARY

2024

FEBRUARY publication

CONTENT DEADLINE 22nd January

MARCH publication

CONTENT DEADLINE 19th February

APRIL publication

CONTENT DEADLINE 18th March

MAY publication

CONTENT DEADLINE 22nd April

JUNE publication

CONTENT DEADLINE 20th May

JULY publication

CONTENT DEADLINE 17th June

AUGUST publication

CONTENT DEADLINE 22nd July

SEPTEMBER publication

CONTENT DEADLINE 19th August

OCTOBER publication

CONTENT DEADLINE 16th September

NOVEMBER publication

CONTENT DEADLINE 21st October

DECEMBER publication

CONTENT DEADLINE 18th November

JANUARY 2025 publication

CONTENT DEADLINE 16th December

The Freshwater Informer

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COPY DEADLINE for FEBRUARY 2024

MONDAY 22nd January 2024 at 5pm

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We opened our doors at the end of 2016 in Sparrows Green, Wadhurst. Bowie is a very experienced professional barber, whether it's a traditional scissor cut or a modern fade, we cater to all styles and ages. Toddlers can enjoy a haircut in our vintage fire engine while adults can enjoy the refreshments and free WiFi. We have parking right outside and plenty more on the street, no appointment needed just come in and take a seat!

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Wadhurst TN5 6TE



Beaver Fishery Lingfield, Surrey

Both Ben and I hope you all had a great Christmas and New Year. Although the fishery has been shut over the Christmas period to anglers we have as usual been cracking on with the winter maintenance. Spring will be upon us so we are making room for Mother Nature to do her thing. Daughters Lake and Eden Pond should be open by the time this magazine is delivered as the road works leading up to those lakes should be completed.

We have had a couple of hard frosts of late and that has seen most day anglers stay in the warm which is understandable. There have been some hardy souls out though so here is a little round up of some of the catches. **Jeff's Lake** has seen some nice fish banked, **Tony Slater** had some carp from 4lbs to 8lbs, a few lovely perch and some silvers and **John Howe** had a great few hours when he banked 12 F1's and 6 bream in one session then banked 8 bream and 2 F1's on another session. Fish of the Month winner young **Ellis Thorne** was back and winkled a few carp out on his usual method feeder rig too. **Majors Lake** saw **Terry Edwards** doing a few day sessions and he banked bream to over 6lbs, mirrors at 8lbs 3ozs, 10lbs 4ozs, 11lbs 1oz and 12lbs 1oz, 12lbs 7oz as well as two commons at 11lbs 2oz and 19lbs 4ozs, **Chris Shepherd** banked a **PB** pike at 11lbs 2ozs, **Dave Parsons** banked 3 mirrors to 12lbs, **Darren Webb** continued his good form banking 1 bream, a 6lbs 6ozs common and a 13lbs 10ozs mirror while **Martin Smith** left the catfish lake alone and did his first session on Majors and banked 2 bream at 6lbs each, a massive F1 at 7lbs and 2 mirrors at 11lbs 8ozs and 12lbs. **Maze Lake** has only seen a handful of anglers on but reports of carp to 9lbs, bream to 5lbs, F1's to 3lbs and some nice perch have been banked. **Westlake** has not seen too many catfish anglers on there but the few who chanced it were rewarded. A big well done to **Peter Ellis** who finally banked his 1st ever December cat

weighing in at 30lbs, **Danny Neale** banked a 30lbs 4ozs while son-in-law **Ryan Hickling** banked 4 cats to 24lbs 10ozs, **Vic Collier** banked a very welcome cat at 31lbs 3ozs, **Martin Smith** banked cats at 23lbs, 27lbs, 28lbs, and a couple of low 30's and **Dean Aldridge** banked 7 cats to low 30's on one day session, came back on another session and had an impressive 10 December cats to 30lbs. **Snipe Lake** has a history of being tricky in December in past years but so far it's produced a few carp. **Ian York** was pleased to see a carp slide over his net chord, although one of the smaller mirrors at 17lbs 6ozs he was pleased none the less, his fishing buddy **Richard Lock** banked a 23lbs mirror. **Darren Giffen** tried his luck and banked his first Snipe carp, a 29lbs 4ozs common which is also his new **PB**. **Martin Smith** gave Snipe a go for the first time, making full use of his fishery membership after banking on Westlake and Majors Lake he was confident his luck would continue and it certainly did. It was either beginners luck or good fishery advice from us but he was very happy to bank his first Snipe carp in the shape of a 15lbs 12ozs fully scaled mirror followed by a 24lbs common.

Well done to all.



Vic Collier - 31lbs 3ozs - Westlake



Dean Aldridge - Westlake



Ian York - 17lbs 6ozs - Snipe



Martin Smith - 12lbs - Majors



Martin Smith - 24lbs - Snipe



Martin Smith - 15lbs 12ozs - Snipe



Peter Ellis - 30lbs - Westlake



Richard Lock - 23lbs - Snipe



Terry Edwards - 6lbs 1oz - Majors



Terry Edwards - 11lbs 1oz - Majors



Darren Giffen - 29lbs 4ozs PB - Snipe

Leigh breaks the three pound barrier

Plenty of anglers spend a lifetime fishing for a two pound roach and never achieve their target. Leigh Holman has not only caught fish of that size but he has now broken through the 3lbs barrier with this incredible redfin of 3lbs 4ozs. By a stroke of luck FWI were on hand to witness the fish and get Leigh's reaction.

'Two years ago I landed a very big roach of 2lbs 14ozs from the water. Thinking there might be something a bit special living in its depths i have been trying to figure out a way to target them. Summer fishing was a lottery, loads and loads of 8 to 12ozs roach plus the bream and tench made it impossible but once the water cools the chances increase. Last week I hooked, and unfortunately lost, what I'm sure was a very good roach so today, with almost perfect conditions I gave it another go. After half a dozen bream to 6lbs the swim went a little quiet. Then I got a solid drop back and connected with a good fish that was giving plenty of head shakes, something the bream don't do so much. As I got it close it came to the surface and I could see it was a huge roach. In the net at the first attempt and i could see this was something very special. Not just its length but that it was chunky too. Over the moon is an understatement!'



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Newchapel, Lingfield, Surrey RH7 6HL
Tel: 01342 324006
Mobile: 07710 656041

www.beaverfarmfishery.co.uk

Email:
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.

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- Automatic Security Gates that close at 7pm (Summer) 6pm (Winter)
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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 its 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

www.elphicks-fisheries.co.uk

A PB perch for Charlie

Charlie O'Leary had a hectic session at Tricklebrook Fishery, when he tackled their match lake in pursuit of perch. Fishing a variety of baits, he employed a leapfrog approach to locate the spikey predators. Basically, the technique involves fishing two rods, recast at regular intervals and leapfrogged over each other to cover as much water as possible and track down the fish. Once located, you can focus both rods on that area and enjoy some fantastic action. Often seen as predominantly a river tactic for pike, Charlie proved its worth on stillwaters for perch when he landed stripeys of 1lb 4ozs, 1lb 10ozs, 2lbs, 2lbs 2ozs and a new personal best of 2lbs 14ozs.



Hawkhurst Fish

Hastings Road, Hawkhurst, Kent, TN18 4RT
T: 01580 753813 E: info@hawkhurstfishfarm.co.uk

Happy New Year to all our visitors -

Wishing you tight lines and great new PB's!

MAIN LAKE, DOVE LAKE AND ALL PLEASURE LAKES
will reopen 2nd February

SPECIMEN LAKE Remains open to Members only

JUNIOR LAKES reopen 10th February (weather permitting)

WATERSIDE CAFÉ will reopen at 9am on 3rd January



www.hawkhurstfishfarm.co.uk

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ALL LAKES DISABLED FRIENDLY!



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.



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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

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48HR - £55
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1 ROD - £8

FOOD IS AVAILABLE ON SITE FROM MID-MARCH TO OCTOBER

www.orchardplacefarmfishing.co.uk

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Bailee Curran - 32lbs Mirror Carp - Mousehole Lakes



Ilan Rae - 30lbs 4ozs Common - Mousehole Lakes



Sleepy Lee with a Bream



Graham Beadle - 27lbs Common - Tricklebrook



Graham Dann - 18lbs Common - Falkenvil



Justin - 24lbs Common - Hawkhurst Fish Farm



Mason Laker - 29lbs 2ozs Common - Shirkoak



Dave McQuillan - 18lbs stillwater Pike



Russ Evans - stillwater Roach



Luke Chambo - 21lbs 10ozs Common Carp



Jason Shaun - 20lbs Common Carp - Greenacres



Adam Fairclough - mid-twenty Common Carp

Brick Farm Trout Fishery

Match Reports

Eastbourne District Fly Fishers held their 'Fur and Feather' Christmas event with us when they enjoyed bacon rolls on arrival before heading out on 3 fish tickets followed by a festive lunch consisting of roast turkey and stuffing baps, roast potatoes and mince pies. **Neil Cutmore** was lucky enough to find the fish straight off the bat therefore fulfilling his bag within the first hour. EDFF's newest and youngest member **Jamie Blake** soon followed with his 3 fish bag totalling 8lbs which included a hard fighting rainbow of 3lbs 9ozs.



Brick Farm V Chalybeate – The 2 teams headed out around Brick Lake at 8.30am after a peg draw and the obligatory bacon and egg baps. A few anglers hooked fish almost immediately and throughout the morning more fish were fighting well and being landed and lost. Final results at 1pm were incredibly tight – with only 1 fish difference, and a total weight of only 1lb 13ozs separating the teams, Brick Farm brought up the rear with a very healthy 48lbs 1oz for 20 fish while Chalybeate took the top spot with 49lbs 14ozs for 21 fish! Top fish went to **Rob Barden** of Brick Farm at 7lbs 4ozs, and the best 4 fish bag was caught by Chalybeate's **Bob** with 14lbs 1oz! Well done everyone!!

Brick Farm League – This month's match was well attended with 17 anglers joining us. After the ever welcome bacon baps, each angler drew their peg from the bag and headed out to await the whistle to start the match at 8.30am. Fishing appeared a little slow to start but it wasn't long before Dean Baker arrived at the lodge just after 10am having caught his 4 fish closely followed by Danielle Adams. At the final whistle 12 anglers had bagged all 4 fish and the remaining anglers were all reporting multiple fish lost, some frustratingly right at the net and one on a double hook-up (a single dropper is allowed). Final results were very tight with just 3oz separating the top 3 spots this month. **Dean Baker** won this match with a bag totalling 9lbs 3ozs, **Danielle Adams** came in 2nd place with a 9lbs 2ozs bag and **Ray Burt** took the 3rd spot with a bag weight of 9lbs 1oz. Once again well done to all!



League winners with their prizes

Greenacres Farm Fishery

Biddenden, Kent

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!!

Speci 1 This lake has been proving challenging at times with the weather being so up and down, but to those that are up for a challenge have been reward with a couple of fish. Solid pva bags over a small bed of particle has seem to be the winning ways of getting a few fish out. There are some lovely perch in here, with the biggest out so far at a whopping 5lb 3oz.

Speci 2 Catfishing has slowed right down now that the cold weather has moved in, but this only means that the pike should start to wake up. Carp are being caught with a solid pva bag with a wafter or a pop up over the top of a lightly baited area.

Heron A lovely mixed coarse lake that has been very popular with the regulars catching a lovely mixed bag of fish with the odd chance of catching a good size carp up to 15lb, average carp being caught are between 6-7lb.

Kingfisher This is an overstocked match lake and great fun with a guarantee of catching all year round, brilliant for family's or anyone wanting to teach their kids how to fish. Stay away from boilies in here and use natural baits like, maggots, corn, pellets, worms etc.

Bluebell A little tench pond tucked out of the way, this pond is showing a good number of tench being caught on float or feeder tactics using worm, maggot, paste or sweetcorn on the hook. The carp in here are also stunning fish that can be caught up to 10lb with also the odd roach, rudd and gudgeon.

FISHERY RULES : Please dip all nets, slings, cradles and unhooking mats located in car parks before entering a lake. No one under the age of 16 to be left unattended at all times. No one under the age of 18 is allowed to night fish without a responsible ADULT. No takeaways. CCTV IN OPERATION AT ALL TIMES. Please visit: www.greenacresfarmfishery.co.uk for a list of rules.



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Anglers dig deep for charity

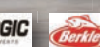
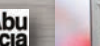
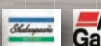


RKB Leisure are pleased to announce the final amount raised from our recent charity event for the children's Padua ward at the William Harvey hospital was £4000! The money has been passed to the Friends of William Harvey Hospital and this huge donation is going to have a huge impact on the children lives of the Padua Ward.

A Message from the Padua ward: "I can honestly say that every single penny is worth so much to us and will be spent on improving our outdoor space, craft supplies, new toys, games, consoles, babies bouncers, Sensory lights and anything we can think to purchase that will improve children's hospital stays. Being in hospital can be so hard for families so having some funds to spread some fun, playfulness and laughter is always welcome by our parents, patients and staff. Thank you to everyone who organised and dedicated time to the fundraiser and to everyone who donated. You have made a valuable contribution! THANK YOU, From Ailish and all of the Padua staff"

Romney Angling

Located in the heart of New Romney, Romney Angling is a friendly, local, family run fishing supplies shop that was founded in 2021. We pride ourselves on the hundreds of items we provide to fishing lovers around the country. Whether you're a novice or an expert, Romney Angling will have the fishing products you need, and our friendly staff are armed with knowledge to provide any advice or answer queries you may have.



59 High St, New Romney TN28 8AH

01797 362889

Info@romneyangling.co.uk



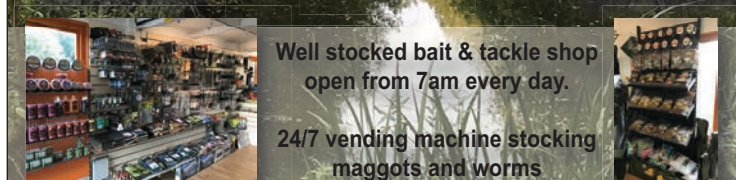
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Busman's holiday brings success for Andy



Andy Jenkins took a break from his bailiff duties at Wintons Fishery for a busman's holiday in the form of a 48hr session at Shirkoak Fishery at Woodchurch. He sent us the following report:

George karadjordjevic and I had a great 48hr session at Shirkoak Fishery. Each landing 4 carp and a small pike for George. Best was a cracking 29lbs mirror for myself backed up with a 20lbs 2ozs



common and a couple of low doubles, all taken on dnabaits the bug wafers over a handful of hemp, maize and matching boilies. George had his on Manila bottom baits with small mesh bags of pellets. Georges best was a cracking mid double mirror. Pike were elusive but we managed to land one. A great fishery and great to get a bend in the rod in December.



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In the edge with Alex

I've always maintained that the great thing about fishing is that it is a sport where the individual sets their own goals. For some it's to catch a fish, for others, as many fish as possible. On this particular trip my own personal goal was food...

I stopped in at Kent Tackle to buy some maggots. Whilst there I couldn't resist trying out the latest 'all singing, all dancing' bedchair that was set up at the front of the shop. From behind the counter, Lucy watched on as I balanced myself precariously on the latest in bankside comfort. "We've got the Wideboy version in stock" she said, raising an eyebrow. "Are you calling me fat!" I cried in mock indignation, making to storm out the door. But when I had to stop, turn sideways and breathe in to fit through the opening, I had to concede that she had a point!

I caught my reflection in the door glass. There was no doubt that I have gained a substantial amount of 'insulation' this winter, there was also no doubt that the reason I had chosen Tricklebrook Fishery at Five Oak Green as my destination for the day was in part because of the chance of a big roach, and in part because the return journey would bring me past the Burger King on the A21.

Something had to be done.

I spent the journey thinking up a compromise, I would allow myself a fast food treat but only if I earned it. The bigger the fish I caught, the bigger the meal I could order. I'm keen to cast a line at the best of times, but the added motivation of a burger at the end of it saw all manner of tactics swirling around in my head as I approached my destination. In recent years, my time at Tricklebrook has been limited to the occasional winter day session on their match lake in pursuit of perch, but roach are the species that currently hold my attention and I knew that the lake above holds some real specimens.

Back when I was obsessed with fishing, rather than just passionate about it, I was relentless in my approach. I would fish before work, after work and any time in between. It wasn't uncommon for me to drive for up to an hour to catch the last twenty minutes of daylight because it felt 'right' and I knew that I had to be on the bank. Every season, there would be a point in time that I was so in tune with the lakes and rivers that I knew exactly when, and how, I would catch my quarry. Even on lakes that I'd never visited before, I would be able to predict the movements of the stock and be ready and waiting for them. At times it seemed almost too easy. During one such period I spent my time at Tricklebrook and whilst the proper anglers sat behind motionless indicators, I plundered the lakes stock from all of the unfancied areas of the lake, culminating in the capture of the venues then biggest fish, the incredible moonscale, just inches from the bank and in water barely deep enough to cover her back.

Since those halcyon days, many things have changed. What was then 'Main Lake' is now 'Old Lake' and I'm nowhere near as prolific in catching fish. The only constant is Nigel, Tricklebrook's head bailiff, always happy to offer advice and point you in the right direction. And so it was on his advice that I once more climbed the steps to 'Old Lake' in pursuit of a big roach. I was pleased to see that the water has matured far more gracefully than I have and couldn't help but pause in the various swims, reliving past victories as the memories came flooding back. A rumbling in my stomach brought me back to reality. I needed to catch if I wanted to eat. Although



Float fished maggots were the order of the day

roach were my quarry, I decided to hedge my bets, and potentially increase my food order, by fishing a swim up towards the island. Nigel had told me that some of the better perch patrol around the overhanging branches and I find it almost as hard to turn down the chance of catching a big stripey as I do a cheeseburger!

As is usually the case, my 'day' session was in reality little more than a few hours and it was approaching 1pm before I was settled in my chosen spot. Almost continuous rain over the previous week meant that water levels were well up but I was still a little surprised to find a depth of nearly six feet two rod lengths out, in what I'd always considered to be the shallower end of the lake. Although it must be said that when I was chasing the venues carp, it was during spring and summer and the winters didn't seem anywhere near as wet as they are now.

Float fished maggot was the order of the day for the

simple reason that, with time against me, it would allow me to explore all areas of the swim in front of me, and keep ringing the changes in terms of both depth and distance. Initially I set the float to dead depth, but would explore the water column until I found feeding fish. Pouches of maggots were catapulted at regular intervals to build up a steady stream of attraction and hopefully some fish would follow.

An hour in and, with not so much as a twitch of the float, I was starting to doubt myself. Gut instinct had told me that the roach would probably be shoaled up towards the windward end of the lake by the dam. Greediness had made me think that I could catch both roach and perch and celebrate with a fast food banquet.

With my dinner on the line, I got increasingly jumpy, even reeling in to go and look at the match lake, but when I got there the only angler fishing it was in my preferred area. Dinner or no dinner, I couldn't bring myself to encroach on another anglers fishing and after all, part of my self imposed challenge was to stop me from eating so much!

I scuttled back to my swim and in a panic started casting and firing maggots in all directions. Still nothing. Then the merest of indications, little more than a slight vibration of the float tip. I concentrated, it did it again. Then a slight dip, then it sailed away.

It's hard to concentrate when you're hungry

Whether it was the drop in light, the constant feeding, or just luck, the swim was suddenly alive with roach. No matter where I cast the result was the same, a sail away bite. The only downside was that these were bite-sized roach. I started to rack up a steady total, like shimmering silver leaves, one roach after another came to net. Some mental gymnastics were in order if I was to stick to my deal. One of my favourite sides at Burger King are their Cheesey Chilli Bites. I had to start somewhere and that seemed as good a place as any. In my head, each small fish would equal a single 'bite' the more I caught the more I could order. Four, six and twelve ran through in quick succession. Before long I was looking at a twenty piece 'share box'. More than enough, even for a glutton like me! I had noticed the odd disturbance around the edges of the swim, as if a predator may be lurking nearby. Tricklebrook has a history of producing some very large Perch and the possibility of catching a whopper in exchange for a Whopper was a temptation too good to resist. I upped



Bite sized roach for a bite sized meal

my hook size and changed from a maggot to a prawn section. I was still holding out hope for a nice roach and didn't want to use too bigger bait and ruin my chances. Nothing! I moved all of the shot up the line and tried down through the layers, still nothing. I moved the shot down to the hook to keep the attention of the smaller fish, but that didn't work either. By now dusk was settling in. starlings announced their arrival as they sought sanctuary in the trees behind me, night ahead. I was running out of options and eventually had to concede that my diet start far sooner that I had hoped for. With the gates shutting at 4pm, I slowly tackle together, leaving my float out 'just in case' I could turn things in my favour as the last of the light slipped away. Eventually I had to accept defeat and made my way back to my car and homeward bound.

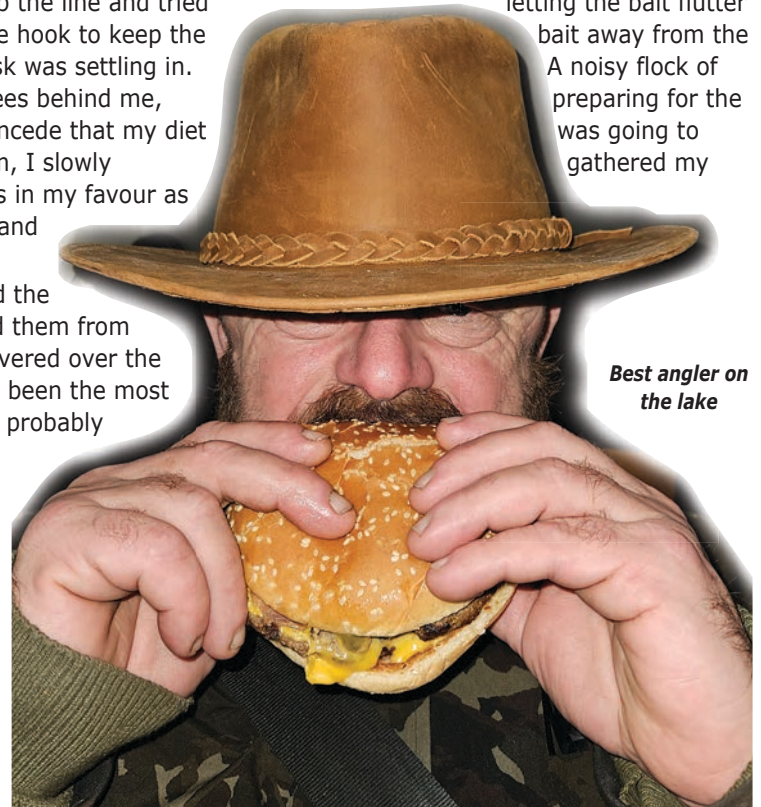
The neon sign of Burger King illuminated my failure as I approached the order terminal. I had at least 'earned' a box of chilli bites, I selected them from the menu. Checkout/Continue Order, read the prompt. My finger hovered over the choices. More mental gymnastics. Now that I thought about it I had been the most successful angler on the lake that day and that probably

deserved some kind of reward. I quickly added a bacon double cheese burger to my order.

Five minutes later I was sat in the car with a mouthful of calories. 'Best angler on the Lake' I thought to myself, although Only angler on the Lake would have been more accurate! That's the great thing about fishing – **The goals are what you make them!**



Illuminating my failings in both fishing and self-control



Best angler on the lake

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21lbs Mirror Carp

Jude Edwards didn't let the recent weather deter him from visiting Tricklebrook Fishery at Five Oak Green. Despite only fishing for a short day session, the 19 year old made the most of his trip. Targeting the windward end of the venues Old Lake, Jude managed to land three fish for a combined weight of over 60lbs, including an absolutely amazing looking, high backed and heavily scaled twenty one pounder. Well worth braving the cold for.



18lbs
Mirror Carp

21lbs Mirror Carp

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In The Edge With Alex





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My Fishing Travels by Russ Evans



Fishing Tail Films is a reflection of my Passion for Angling and catching a variety of species throughout the seasons from Perch in the cold months to Bream and Tench in the spring. Fishing large gravel pits and rivers is where I like to spend the majority of my time by the water's edge. Specimen Chub, Carp and Roach are also on my target list each season.




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The Golden Years of Coarse Fishing

by Bob Rolph

Kent's early days of carp fishing

If it wasn't for the need of vast quantities of sand and gravel to build the new houses needed between the wars, carp fishing as we know it today would not have evolved and become so popular.

In 1926 the carp record stood at just 26lb from Mapperley Reservoir near Nottingham by an angler called Albert Buckley, and fishing for them by design was considered by many to be a long and futile exercise requiring great skill and very fine tackle. By 1950, 'BB' (Denys Watkins Pitchford) wrote in his many country books about them, and in particular in his master work 'Confessions of a Carp Fisher', but these fish were generally wild carp living in remote pools on private land or on estate lakes where they had never seen an angler. Also around this time Bernard Venables popularised the pursuit of carp and tench in his 1949 paperback book 'Mr Crabtree goes Fishing' published by the Daily Mirror, when a 10lb fish was considered a super specimen and worms, potatoes or bread paste were the only known baits worthy of consideration!

I started my interest in fishing for carp just after this period, which coincided with the rise of Richard Walker and his friends from Hitchin, who told us in his writings that carp could be caught quite easily if you knew where to look. In his book 'Stillwater Angling', first published in 1953, he goes into great detail about his revolutionary ideas to capture large carp, which he had already put into practice on Sept 13th 1952 at Redmire Pool in Herefordshire where he captured probably the most famous carp ever caught, a super specimen common of 44lbs, nicknamed by him 'Clarissa' and sent to the London Zoo where it lived on for a further 19 years.

Such actions would be frowned upon today, but there was a time 75 years ago when big fish were invariably killed for 'stuffing' and not carefully returned to the water after a short spell in a carp size baby bath! Fish, years ago, were often weighed by the gills or even gaffed, my how things have changed now for the better. Dick Walker revolutionised carp fishing during the 1950s, and his followers, including me, designed and built rods and tackle, and looked for suitable lakes and ponds which might just hold a monster or two.

In 1956 there was no such thing as a commercial carp fishery, stocked with massive fish which were caught each week on a rotation basis! When I started fishing in the late 50s we just had day ticket, club lakes and ponds, free fishing, or very expensive syndicate waters which were the preserve of the rich and famous! Redmire was stocked with Leney carp in 1934, but did not start to appear again until after the war, when Walkers mates started fishing it. Very exclusive, by invitation only, in those days it really was who you knew! One of the first good club lakes in Kent was at Dartford, where 'Brooklands' had held good fish for years before the war, where Gerry Savage and Bob Morris were the resident experts in the 1960s. Soon another enterprising man called Fred Spice who lived on Main Road, Sundridge Kent, near Sevenoaks took over the lease of a working sand pit over the road from him, and stocked it with rather dubious carp, charging £10 to fish there for the season. 'Spicers' as it became known was notorious, and was near to the Holmedale Pit at Riverhead, worked by Marley Tiles, and I lived nearby, I also worked at Marley for a while at their HQ site.



Carp - a new and exciting challenge



Standard 'specimen group' attire of the time



Grahame Igglesden with a fine kent carp

So I, together with many a future well known angler, bought a ticket for the 1964 season, and we were all eager to see what transpired. Not much as it happened. Ray Warner, Ken Stabler, Jack Hilton, Roger Smith, Bill Quinlan, Jim Bates, Neville Tunmore, Geoff Bucknall and Dennis Darkin all fished here with me that first season with very limited success, as the pit was still being worked up until 1966. The carp loved to move into the dredged areas after dark as they only dug from 8am to 5pm, and no swim was ever the same 2 days running, Leney strain carp they were not, being fat round bleached things averaging just into double figures, with no decent scales of markings. I just had the one fish of 13lbs one night, not a pretty fish, more like a football with fins!

We all moved on to greater things after the Kent River Board had stocked thousands of small carp into Horton Kirby, Sutton, Darenth and other pits in the Medway, Darent and Stour valley areas. Hilton and co went to Redmire, and the rest is history!

Keston, Holwood and the Bromley AC pits at Sevenoaks and Tonbridge all received my attention after our time at Spicers, but it was the series of

newly dug pits at Snodland where I achieved most of my early success with the carp. Dave Hill introduced me to the Freemasons Arms AC waters at Snodland, and got me a ticket for the 1965 season. The fishing down there was superb, no monsters but dozens of fish between 9 and 17lbs, and it was here that I really learnt my carp fishing during the summer months. Johnson's lake next door was also great for the pike in winter and the tench in June, and I wish that I had continued to fish here, but the call of the reservoir Trout was too great in 1978, and I switched to Bewl. Two well known anglers and rod builders from Pluckley in Kent, Mike Harris and Bruce Ashby hit the headlines in the 1970s with huge carp catches from the Pluckley pit and at East Peckham including a 40lb fish, but it was all very secret at the time and Tony Fordham was with them on the rod building front. I was in Bromley with the Edwards, Rowley, Haswell and Wilton brigade targeting Keston, never really moving further than Dartford or Sutton lakes, then Snodland and of course Redmire.

The estate lake at Summerhill Park off the A21 at Tonbridge held a good head of carp after the war, and many a fish from here disappeared to other lakes in the region, the lake was heavily over stocked anyway! River carp started to appear in the boating marinas on the River Medway, and many a Wealden pond held an untold monster carp. Kent carp fishing was now a well established phenomenon, as Bob Morris will testify, and local anglers like him and Grahame Igglesden, Ken Rowley, Steve Edwards and all the Dartford crowd started to catch huge numbers of good fish from all over the county. Bromley had several good rod builders like Cliff Constable, Dawsons and Modern Arms, but most anglers new to carp fishing built their own rods and tackle, as it just wasn't available off the shelf like it is today. Hythe, down on the marsh had one of the countries leading split cane rod builders in the name of J.B.Walker of Marine Parade. They made rods and kits for Richard Walker (no relation) of his famous MkIV carp and Avon rods.



Another double weighed for the camera

Today their coloured catalogues are worth more to collectors than the original price of the rod kits! Keston ponds near Bromley has held carp since before the First World War, the original gravel workings excavated in Georgian times as material to build London. The 3 lakes were turned into a landscaped garden in Victorian times as the grounds to Holwood House nearby, where water was pumped up to the huge house and Charles Darwin used to visit from his house at Downe to collect botanical specimens. It was here that Fred Wilton started to develop the boillie bait in Feb 1971, later to improve it at Sutton and Darenth lakes with Jim G, Grahame I, Steve E and Gerry S. I know because I was there too! Great and historic times in carp fishing 'The Golden Years of Coarse Fishing' were in full swing.

Kent today is known as 'Carp County' according to Chris Haswells book of the same name. He was one of our gang from the 1970s and along with Steve Edwards was taken from us far too soon. Between them they accounted for so many huge Kentish carp, and their legacy lives on in the form of Steve's son Warren and his grandsons who continue to catch large fish from waters all over Kent. The pits at Faversham and Oare were a favourite of Jim Gibbinson in the pioneering days of Kentish carp fishing and in his book 'Carp' and 'Big Pit Carp' he mentions fishing at Bysingwood lakes near the old Gunpowder Mills at Faversham, a favourite haunt of his.

The collecting of old or antique fishing tackle is a hobby on its own. Several past friends of mine have had very valuable collections in their time. Reels, especially centre pin reels and early bale arm fixed spool models can fetch hundreds of pounds at auctions. Ron Blackmore, Pete Rogers, Alan Clout, Chris Wells and Alan Baker were local anglers who had large collections of old tackle at one time or another. I collect hardback specialist fishing books, and my old prototype tackle from the 1960s is now housed at the Carp Society Museum at Lechlade. Antique tackle fairs are held each year mainly at Redditch and Romsey, and auctions regularly appear on the angling calendar in London. There used to be a great tackle auction at the Great Danes at Hollingbourne each October, but not now for several years, I last met Robin Armstrong, the Artist, there about 35 years ago!

Some famous rod and nets have exchanged hands for thousands recently. Dick Walkers famous Mk 1V carp rod and landing net, Jack Hilton's Rods, Bernard Venables net from the front cover of Mr Crabtree, and Jack Hilton's famous landing net handle with all his carp captures printed in ink neatly on the handle. I have seen and handled every one of these true pieces of angling history, not forgetting Pete Badleys famous landing nets and frames! Chris Ball had a huge collection of valuable artefacts, and his great mate Chris Sandford (the actor) is one of the most famous of all the old antique tackle collectors.

My most valuable book is a mint first edition of 'Confessions of a Carp Fisher'. By BB, worth probably £300 and found at a car boot sale in Sevenoaks for £4.35 years ago. Several of my fishing mates have book collections worth well over £20,000 what with their 1st editions and leather bound volumes and rare books by the hundred. There are over 3,500 books about fishing out there, probably more than any other sporting titles. Even all the football, Golf and Cricket books together wouldn't come close! What a secondary hobby to have got myself into, surely beer mat collecting would have been much cheaper and less time consuming, but I wouldn't have changed my fishing hobby for the world. Why would I? When I can still enjoy it well into my 78th year!!

Bob Rolph



21yr old Bob with another Snodland mirror



Mid 60's capture from Snodland



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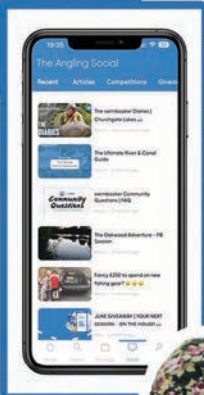
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FISHERY SPOTLIGHT AT SHIRKOAK FISHERY

with Glen Relf & Lee Nicoll

Shirkoak Fishery is a three acre lake situated on the outskirts of the very picturesque village of Woodchurch. Run by Hugh and Sarah Pickett, the lake's stock include Carp to 33lbs, Pike to 23lbs, Tench and Bream to 7lbs as well as Roach, Rudd and Perch.

Arriving at the fishery, Owner Hugh Pickett was on hand to show us to Willow Pod, one of two well appointed and fully self contained fishing lodges available at Shirkoak Fishery. In the summer months the perfect base for couples to enjoy some fishing, sightseeing or just relaxing in the beautiful Kent countryside, whilst in the winter months, the ultimate in bankside accommodation for anglers not overly keen on braving the elements but still wanting to cast a line.

Glen had prior work commitments and wouldn't be able to join us until Sunday morning, so instead Richard Steel, another behind the scenes helper at FWI, had agreed to come along. With parking directly behind our accommodation it didn't take too long to transfer our tackle to our very upmarket swim. Just as well, as the weather was horrendous with torrential rain forecast for most of the day. Once settled we took stock of the situation. Willow Pod is set at the far end of the lake and gives access to a good sized bay to the left and an island and near side channel to the right offering plenty of space for two people to fish comfortably. Unfortunately, the rain was making things anything but comfortable and we decided to



Willow Pod - our home for the weekend



Richard's common on the first evening

travel the short distance into the village of Woodchurch, to get some lunch and formulate a plan of attack. The two main pubs, The Six Bells and The Bonny Cravat, are thoughtfully situated right next to each other. We plumped for the rustic charm of The Six Bells but the locals that we spoke to assured us that the food and service was equally good in both.

Fully sated, we returned to the lake and made ready to fish. The weather was still abysmal but the lodge is equipped with an extended porch area that reaches right to the waters edge, meaning that we could be near our rods and still shelter from the worst of the rain. With the light levels dropping rapidly and not a lot to go on, we decided to fan out our rods, baited with high attract singles, across the bay and island margin in an attempt to nick a bite.

Nothing happened for a couple of hours but as the evening turned to night, so the rain eased off. Out in the darkness we could hear the occasional fish topping and it wasn't long before Richard's left hand alarm signalled a run. After a spirited fight a chunky common, which might just have made double figures, was bundled into the landing net. Its always nice to get off the mark on a new water and with that box ticked, and the rain returning with a vengeance, we decided to call it a night and retire to the luxury of the Pod.

The following morning Glen arrived bright and early, closely followed by another friend, Davin Archer, who was visiting the venue to target pike. As if on cue, breakfast arrived, delivered by Hugh's wife Sarah and we busily discussed tactics between mouthfuls of bacon, egg and sausage. Richard would stick with Carp, Davin was going to target pike, Glen would go for a 50/50 approach and I was going to float fish for roach and perch with a second rod set up for pike.

Unlike the others, I had a second night in the pod and would revert to carp during the hours of darkness.

The lake at Shirkoak is roughly kidney shaped, around 3 acres in size, with two islands. With carp still showing in the bay, myself and Richard were staying put in front of Willow Pod. Glen would set up between the islands and Davin was going to the far end of the lake. Between us we felt that we had most options covered. Breakfast finished and we set off to our respective swims, or to be more precise we kicked the other two out of our exclusive area! The weather was better than the previous day but the constant threat of rain loomed on the horizon. I started baiting a spot with maggots, whilst Richard adopted similar tactics to the previous evening. Although now he could see where he was casting, he added a small pva bag to each of his rigs. From further along the bank, Glen gave a shout. His deadbait rod had been picked up almost immediately. A little too quickly, as it caught him unawares and he rushed the strike and missed the pike. An encouraging start nonetheless. Davin had an equally quick start in his chosen swim, although the fact he was using a float gave him time to focus and not panic. A nice jack was the result. Back at 'base camp' I was starting to pick up roach and skimmers on the float. I hoped that steady feeding would encourage more into the swim and maybe the attention of any lurking pike that would hopefully find my deadbait placed off to the side. It's worth pointing out that the rules regarding pike and carp fishing at Shirkoak are fair but rigorously enforced. Suitable unhooking and handling equipment are a must have, although I like to think that any competent angler would carry these as standard, rules or not. The carp activity in front of Richard had started to wain and it was clear that they were moving towards the main body of the lake. In normal times he might have followed them but with ever darkening skies and a ready supply of tea to hand it was difficult to leave the comfort of the lodge. Our suspicions were confirmed when further along the bank, Glen's alarm signalled a run on his carp rod. Better prepared, he made no mistakes, which resulted in another lovely looking common carp, almost identical in size to the one caught by Richard.



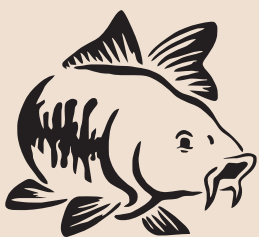
Proper plates for a proper breakfast



Davin was soon off the mark

Short winter days meant that the daylight hours were flying by and as the light levels started to drop so there was a shout from Davin. He had hooked another pike.

continued overleaf



Shirkoak Fishery and B&B



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Glen's reward for braving the conditions



Float fished deadbaits proved successful



Proper fish care equipment is essential



A strikingly marked double figure pike

Not one of the twenty pounders that reside in the lake, but a very powerful and good-looking double figure fish. This one also falling to a float fished deadbait. We all reeled in and went to help with the weighing and photographs, happy to see what the lake has to offer. On the way back we stopped for a chat with some other anglers who had also had a nice mix of carp and pike, including a mirror of 29lb.

Back at our swim I said to Richard that I would give the float another 30mins and then ready the carp rods for dark. By now I was getting constant action from a mixture of roach, bream and the occasional perch. It really was a great sport. With five minutes to go before my half hour time limit, the float buried as I struck into something far more substantial. Clearly the carp were making their way back to the bay before I was ready for them! 4lb line and a soft rod meant that I had to take things very carefully, every time the fish rolled I had visions of the small size 14 hook pulling out. Thankfully for the most part, the carp was content to plod around in open water and not go on any crazy runs. I'm not even sure that it knew that it was hooked! Eventually it came close enough that Richard could net it and we breathed a collective sigh of relief as we looked down at 21lbs 10ozs of fully finned muscle resting in the net. A memorable fish to catch on standard carp gear but all the more special on the float. As we had with Davin's pike, the others came around to help with the weighing and pictures, and soon the mirror was back in her watery home. With darkness drawing in and rain in the air, nobody was in any rush to recast. Instead they packed away their gear while I made everyone a cup of tea from the comfort of the Pod. As we drunk the last of the brew, we all agreed that despite the horrible weather, we had all had a great trip. With very little prior knowledge of the venue, we had all caught decent fish, the food and accommodation was fantastic and Hugh and Sarah had been superb hosts. So good that I stayed an extra night as much for the breakfast as the fishing!



This twenty pounder couldn't resist a worm

Mark hits the mark!

The fact that rivers have remained largely unfishable since the end of summer hasn't put self confessed, pike-mad angler **Mark Day** off from targeting them. Restricted to short sessions, Mark has slowly been building up a picture of where the river predators have relocated to in the heavy flows and focusing in on the areas



where the bigger fish are layed up. After catching a succession of smaller fish, he hit the jackpot during an afternoon trip when he caught four good pike in just a couple of hours, including these two fine doubles. Proving that the rewards are there to be had if you are willing to put in the effort.

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Contact Martyn on **07802 248861**



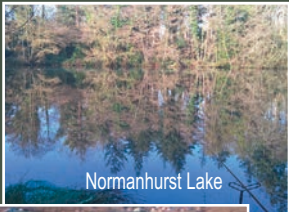
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For further details contact: **Jason Tuckey on 07983 569220** e-mail: lassecretary@lintonangling.co.uk

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Simple Sea Fishing

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Tips and Tricks for Uptide Fishing by Mike Thrussell Jnr

Casting uptide and away from the boat is the only way to effectively fish areas with fast flowing tides. It was devised exactly for this reason, but an added benefit is that water noise on the hull can create a scare area that the fish move away from. Casting 30yds away from the boat puts the bait in an area where fish are more likely to feed.

A line bow is created by feeling for the lead hitting the seabed, then releasing 10 to 25yds of free line to form a downtime bow. The bow in the line sees the lead weight pulled directly backwards deeper into the ground for maximum anchorage. When you stop releasing line, the rod tip will bend over and hold. Bites are detected by the rod tip pulling downwards, then springing back straight as the fish pulls the weight out. Simply wind in the slack line until you feel the weight of the fish, then let the rod tip pull over to fully secure the hook.

Uptide fishing rods need to be 9ft 6in in length up to 10ft, but the shorter length is optimum in most situations. Uptide rods are designed with a supple tip to help induce that pulled over tip to enhance bite detection, but with power quickly coming into the mid-section and then a very stiff but to provide the rod power to play fish that are fighting using the very fast tide flow against their body masse. For winter fishing and very fast tides, a rod rated to cast 4-10ozs or 6-10ozs is ideal. In shallower water up to 60-feet or so, and when the tidal flow is lessened, a lighter rod rated around 2 to 6ozs will give ample casting distance and power but give more sport.

Some anglers still like to fish multiplier reels and mono lines when uptide fishing. A more effective approach is to choose a large 8000 sized fixed spool reel, like the Tronixpro DV8 loaded with 30lb to 40lb X8 Power Braid. The advantages are that the large fixed-spool reel has a rapid pickup and retrieve rate of line, enabling the angler to feel the weight of the fish quicker, helping to improve the hook up ratio. The advantage of fishing braid lines is that the braid is much thinner in diameter for the same breaking strain than mono is, so it reduces tidal pressure on the line and requires less lead weight to hold bottom. Furthermore, the braid is virtually non-stretch, so bite detection is much improved.



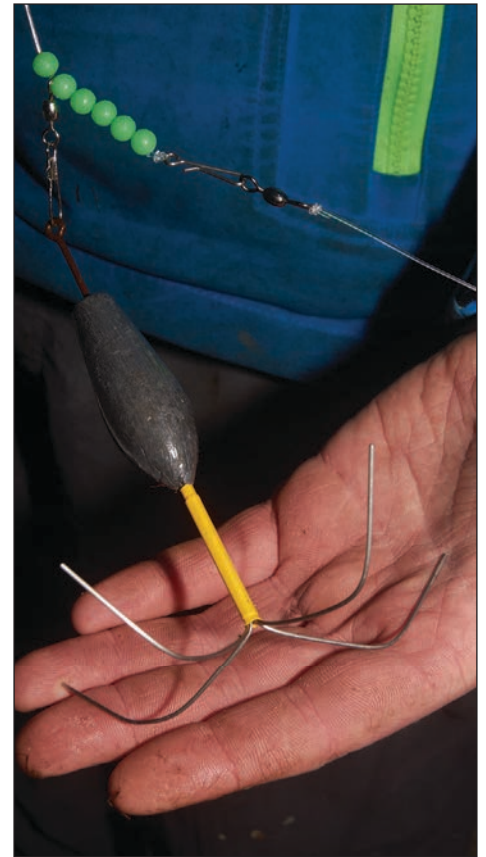
If you choose 40lb to 50lb braid, then for average boat casting, which is a simple above the head or sideways flick with the lead and bait outside the boat, then you don't need a shock leader even with 8oz leads and big baits. However, more experienced uptide casters will use a 60 to 80lb braid shock leader to help combat any seabed abrasion on the main line when fishing 30 to 40lb main line braid. The leader needs to be no more than twice the length of the rod.

For 80% of uptide situations, you'll need no more than a 6oz grip weight. If you find the 6oz is not quite holding, then release more line to increase the bow size and effect in the line, which usually cures the problem. An additional trick is to carry heavy duty

elastic bands with you and wrap the bands around the locked in release wires. This increases the grip of the lead weight. If you want to turn a release wire lead into a fixed wired lead, just put a small-sized cable tie around the locked in wires and nose of the lead and pull the tag end tight with pliers. In areas where very fast tides occur, fixed wired leads up to 8ozs maybe needed and these, called Sputniks after the early Russian satellite, have oversized fixed wires to increase their grip.

Simple sliding ledger rigs are normally quoted for uptiding, and they are the most effective. Slide a Tronixpro Zip Slider boom onto the main line or leader, then a 5mm plastic bead and tie on a size 2 Tronixpro Coastlock Snap Swivel. Tie on a size 2 Rolling Swivel to 36" to 48" of 30 to 40lb AXIA Fluorocarbon and clip this to the snap connector on the Coastlock Swivel, then add the hook. The Fluorocarbon is very tough, much tougher than mono, and will better resist the pin like teeth of cod, the abrasive lips of bass and rays, also huss and even conger, also seabed abrasion. The lead weight then goes on the connection clip of the Zip Slider.

Hooks need to be stronger Viking patterns such as the Tronixpro Beast Uptime in 3/0 to 6/0.



Winter cod, also summer smoothound and bass, also rays can come through in small groups or shoals. By having your rigs made with a swivel at the top of the Fluorocarbon, you can have two spare rigs ready baited and simply clip one off and reclip on a new one to the Coastlock Snap Swivel and recast. This maximises the amount of time you have a bait in the water and will dramatically increase your catch rate.

A top tactic when casting away from the boat is to imagine a narrow cone in front of you that is your personal space to cast into, but without encroaching on the anglers to the side of you. Cast short, medium and longer range across the width of the cone and explore the ground that you have available to you. You're looking for areas that will give you a greater percentage of bites. These are small areas of stone or boulders, depressions in the seabed, a rise in the general

level of the seabed and anything else that breaks up the ground feature. You can mostly guarantee that if you search hard enough, you will find one area that produces a significantly greater number of bites.

A good tip to further increase your bite ratio is to slide on to the hook trace above the hook a 5mm bead, then a Tronixpro Double Rattle Bead, and another 5mm bead. Above the top bead and below the lower bead, onto the hook length, tie on sliding stop knots from a separate section of Tronixpro Rig Gum using a 5-turn Grinner knot. Position the rattle bead about 10-inches above the hook, but reposition it closer to and further away from the hook to increase the frequency of bites by repositioned the stop knots that will slide on the hook length. Typically, on calmer days with less tidal flow, the rattle bead needs to be closer to the hook, and in faster tides, further away.

It's impossible to hold the rod when uptiding. Most charter boats have rod holders either fastened to the metal safety rail or set into the tops of the gunnels. However, this puts your rod tip high up and near vertical in many cases which is not ideal for bite detection. Far more effective is to have a pair of Tronixpro Wire Rod Wraps. These are a length of flexible wire coated in a soft sponge material. They can be wrapped around the top of the safety rail, then wrapped around your rod. They are ultra-tough, lightweight, but fully secure rods in place from even the most savage of bites and have saved many a rod from going over the side. They are a must have for the serious uptide angler.



TROUT INFORMER

Brick Farm Lakes Herstmonceux

The weather has been much better recently with multiple dry days and even a few crisp frosty mornings. The Lakes have been fishing consistently well over the last few weeks and we have seen some great bags of fish coming out. Various flies have been successfully catching and some days it doesn't seem to matter the pattern; it's more about getting a fly in the right place. I cannot stress enough how important it is to move around whilst fly fishing, try to watch the water and read what the fish are doing. More often than not they give their location away and also can give hints as to what they are feeding on too. Never be afraid to move to the fish, as there is definitely no guarantee they will come to you! The most productive flies of the last week have been the good old Cats Whisker closely followed by the ever reliable Blue Flash Damsel. The slight exception to this has been on the milder days when Diawl Bach and other small nymphs are catching well. This was proven in particular recently by **Paul Latimer** who had a stunning 7lbs 8ozs Rainbow from Spring Lake on a small red Diawl Bach.



Paul Latimer
7lbs 8ozs

Tenterden Trout Waters

Tenterden, Kent



December Winter fishing has been good at Tenterden with many Anglers catching their full bag limit and more. Killer flies have been Blue Flash Damsel and Cormorant. We have stocked some quality Rainbows ranging from 3lbs-8lbs. It's time to get the rods in the car for some relaxing, fishing downtime at Tenterden in 2024. Water levels are high and the fish are active and fighting hard – they love the cold! We have a comfortable Fishing Lodge for you to make a cuppa with our compliments which all adds to a good fishing

experience at Tenterden. We have a heated/comfortable Shepherds Hut where you can stay and fish with 20% off fishing permits this Winter. We are in the Top 50 Stillwater Trout Fisheries in the British Isles and a Trout Master Stillwater. Gift vouchers are available for permits, tuition and staycations. Follow us on Instagram & Facebook.

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Fishing with friends in 2023

Andy Lush - The Friendly Fisherman

I was in a privileged position owning a tackle shop for nearly fifty years, in that time I met and made friends with so many anglers. As time passed, some of these friends drifted away, often pursuing other species, or in some cases using different styles of fishing that my shop didn't cater for. Fast forward to 2023 and I now have a precious resource, that when I was working was not available in abundance, time! So I've made an effort to reconnect with some of my old mates, and spend some time fishing with them. So here are some of the highlights.

Ed Wade

You might remember I wrote about how Ed and I became reacquainted. Ed booked a days pike fly fishing, we chose Bewl Water as the venue. The purpose of our visit was to go through the methods Ed would need to master when he fished "big pike" Mecca, Chew Valley.

Ed is a very successful carp angler, having caught plenty of big fish, at home and abroad. During the day we reminisced about where our fishing had taken us. The memorable captures, special places we'd visited and trips in the planning stages. He was now starting to refocus his efforts on catching specimen pike again. Fishing is a bug that you never want a cure for!

I fondly remember a day we spent afloat many years ago on Ardingly reservoir. At the time Ed was on the waiting list for the pike syndicate at Weirwood. I suggested he should practice the boat methods he would need to learn, while waiting for his ticket. So my job was to show him how to organise the boat and rig the tackle. I remember the trip didn't start too well, when my echo sounders battery died very early on and we had to fish without its aid. As we slow trolled our trout livebaits over 'Hammer Point' my baitrunner's spool slowly purred. Line peeled off the lightly tensioned spool. My float trolled livebait had dragged under and I was convinced it had just snagged the bottom, that was until the float changed direction heading out into open water. I wound down quickly and set the hook into a very large pike, which Ed expertly netted. It weighed 28lbs, my personal best at that time I think?

Ed and I met up again a couple of times last summer, this time chasing carp on the fly. Now Ed has far more knowledge of carp and carp fishing than me, so it was going to be interesting to see what he could learn from me? We first visited Willingham fishery [GU5 0SQ] near his home a water I'd not fished before. If I'm honest neither of us quite got to grips with the fishing there and were disappointed with the condition of the fish.

However we both enjoyed meeting up again and agreed to try again, somewhere else. I suggested a trip to Elphicks fishery [TN12 8EL] near me this time.



A blast from the past, Andy's Ardingly pike

continued overleaf

We met bright and early on what was forecast to be a scorching hot day. Not ideal conditions but fortunately the carp didn't mind. It wasn't easy, although the fish were on the surface right away it took a lot of patience to figure out the best presentation. Feeding small amounts regularly to draw and hold the fish was essential. Making sure the fly sat low in the surface was important, as was making sure the last few inches of the leader was hidden in the surface. Once we made these adjustments we both started catching some very nice fish that gave a good account on our fly gear. We both had a lot of fun and were totally exhausted by the end of the day. I'm sure Ed will enjoy a lot of success next season when he finds time to use the new skills he learnt. I look forward to sharing some more time with him chasing carp or maybe pike, on the fly?

Melvyn Oakley

Melvyn and I used to fish Eridge Park, way back in the 1970's! God that makes me feel ancient writing this. Anyhow back then, pleasure anglers, like me would use match tackle and tactics, we just weren't as good as our heroes, Ivan Marks, Billy Lane or Robin Harris.

Back in the 70's we were catching large numbers of tench, either on delicate float tackle or 'swing tipping' when legering. Around that time a permit to fish Eridge Park was a prized possession. Catching 10, 15 or even 20 tench a day wasn't unusual. To make the most of the opportunity you had to arrive early in the morning, around dawn. I can still remember the excitement watching the lilly's trembling as tench worked their way towards the baited swim. A trail of pin head bubbles would betrayed their approach, before the float started its hypnotic dance and then sailed away. "Happy days".

Melvyn was, and still is an enthusiastic match angler. We finally met up and fished Furnace Brook in the autumn, he had to lend me the tackle, I was going to be the pupil for a change. I hadn't used a float rod or bait in at least twenty years, and it showed! While I was faffing about Melvyn got to work, with the pole. We both caught some skimmers and small roach, when the inevitable happened and I hooked a carp that decided it wanted to be on the other side of the lake! Unfortunately the hook link popped just as I was about to gain some line, operator error I suspect! Melvyn carried on bagging more skimmers and finally a couple of carp. I enjoyed the action so much I didn't touch my lunch and only managed one cup of tea! That's the sign of a good days fishing.



Andy's PB roach

I set my float a little over depth, so my float wouldn't drift out of position. I started with a couple of balls of loosely mixed fishmeal groundbait, which clouded the water nicely as it fell through the surface layers. I hooked two red maggots on the size 16 hook and cast my 'waggler' past the baited spot, before burying the line and dragging it back into position. I didn't have to wait long for my first bite, the insert 'waggler' slowly sunk until it was just visible under the surface. A quick strike and I'd hook a stunning roach of 12 ounces. A few more bites produced more fin perfect roach of a similar size. By now Melvyn's swim was starting to produce too, his more "softly, softly" approach was paying dividends with one quality roach after another. Another bite and my float buries, a quick strike is met by solid resistance. Slowly I eased the roach towards the net, I couldn't believe how large this fish was as I scooped

We both enjoyed the day so much that another was hastily arranged. This time 'Elphicks' was the venue. We were greeted by a hard frost, a quick walk around 'Kettles Lake' revealed no other silly buggers had arrived before us! I chose swims that were bathed in the early morning sun. This wasn't just for our comfort, I hoped these swims would benefit from the warmth and draw the roach for most of the day. We spent a little time plumbing our swims, trying to locate any changes in depth, what this revealed was a gradual slope rather than a distinct drop off.



Melvyn's 2lbs 2ozs mega roach



Matt Peverall's Bewl pike

it into the waiting pan net. On the scales it registered 1lb 9oz, by far my biggest roach!

Melvyn's swim by now was "rocking" and produced two monsters of 1lb 15oz and 2lb 2oz! The day was a blur after that, it couldn't last, could it? As the sun moved from east to west we were left in the shade and the temperature plummeted. With that our action stopped but it didn't matter really as we'd had an awesome day. Before leaving we were already planning our next trip in January.

Matt Peverall

Over the last five or six winters I've spent a lot of time fishing Bewl Water trying to unlock its secrets. The pike's behaviour has changed, previously James Gardner and I were very successful catching large numbers of pike, some over twenty pounds, while trolling spoons and large crankbaits. In fact we were so successful that most of the other

serious pike anglers followed our lead employing similar tactics. Then James and I got distracted by the lure of fishing for zander on Grafham and Rutland reservoirs in the Midlands.

On my return to Bewl I became aware of Matt Peverall and his father who were targeting perch, but were also catching some proper pike. For the last couple of seasons, Matt and I have been sharing information about our results and other relevant details. We had been trying to organise a day together for some time, and it finally happened recently.

It was a pleasure to fish with another lure angler who had developed his own style and had confidence in a different selection of lures. Because Matt has focused on perch, his choice of baits was significantly smaller than mine, also he weights his lures with a lot less lead. Matt skippered the boat and we headed for some 'hot spots' we both knew, that often held perch. One spot in particular was jam packed with fish, but they were playing "hard ball" to start with. That was until Matt changed his approach and started a more 'finesse' retrieve, while using a mini 'grub tailed' shad, presented on 2 or 3g jigs. Fortunately it was flat calm, which allowed him to use such lightly weighted baits. After casting, Matt would hold his rod high and watched the slack hi-vis braid intently, takes were often seen as the line straightened, rather than felt. To say I was impressed is an understatement, and what's more the perch showed a preference for this presentation too. The change in approach saw us both catching lots of perch with several over a pound. We wondered if the colder water had slowed the 'wasps' down sufficiently for the bigger fish to get a look in? We spent most of the day drifting around this one large shoal but finally decided we should check out a few of our other spots to see if their residents were as active? They weren't! Our final stop was near the boat jetty, Matt was still using mini lures when his light spinning rod hooped over, it was obviously a pike. Gradually he gained control and we, Seko his spaniel and I watch the action unfold. Finally I scooped the net under a nice mid-double figure pike, and so ended a very enjoyable day.

I have to mention Matt's gun dog Seko, he was so well behaved and attentive watching our every cast. What was extraordinary was if we dropped a fish, Seko would gently pick it up, jump up onto the boat seat, and gently lower it towards the water before letting it go! Simply amassing, what a dog.

Andy Jones

I've known Andy for many years although being a match angler our paths only crossed when he started fly fishing. My shop was an 'oasis' for trout anglers, in fact it drew anglers from all over the South East for that very reason.

Andy happened to see one of my posts on 'Facebook' about catching carp while fly fishing. He said he'd love to try catching carp in this way, and so an arrangement was made. By coincidence the day fell on Andy's birthday in early September. We met at Orchard Farm [TN12 6NY] early in the morning, being a Friday I was keen to secure a swim with the wind off our backs. This was very important if we were going to be successful. I spent the first half an hour feeding the swim and tackling up, while explaining the tactics we were going to use. By the time we were ready the first carp were cautiously taking our floaters. The expression on Andy's face when he hooked his first fish was a picture, and made the early start worthwhile. Once in the net we both admired a fully scaled mirror of 17lbs, what a beauty! After that his natural dry fly skills came to the fore and several more carp graced his net. Andy's birthday trip was a success with him landing 7 carp, and the best tipped the scales at 20lbs! I managed to share in the action too, catching 13 fish, with 2 over 20lbs. "It's great when a plan comes together".

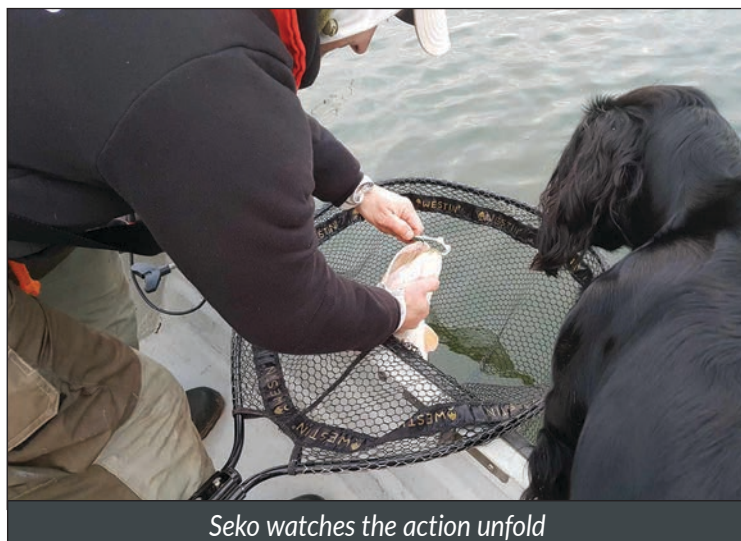


Andy Jones with his 'birthday present'

Finally

I must mention my two good friends **James Gardner** and **Gary Collins**. I've shared many days fishing in their company during the past year, thanks guys, it's been emotional!

Tight lines, Andy



Seko watches the action unfold



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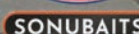
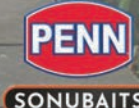
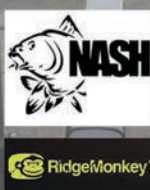


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Tonbridge & District Angling & FP Society

Fishing has been quiet on most of our waters due to the recent weather conditions. The stillwaters have fished well for those that have ventured out.

The **Old Ballast Pit** is fishing well for Bream, the odd Tench, Roach and Carp. The recent matches have thrown up some good weights and individual fish. Carp to 32lbs, Bream to 9lbs and Tench to nearly 5lbs have been recorded.

Haysden has fished well for most species with decent Pike, Bream and Roach recorded.

Barden lake has been quiet although some nice Carp have been recorded.

The **New Lagoon** is fishing well for Silvers, Bream, Carp and the odd Tench.

The **river** continues to fish well if you can find the fish. Canon Bridge is producing good bags of Roach and a few small Chub. Ensfield Bridge has produced the odd Chub to over 4lb.

Hartlake up in the Cut is producing lots of small Roach and a few Skimmers.



MATCH RESULTS

TONBRIDGE V EDENBRIDGE
Sportsground - 26th November

1	A. Bush (Eden)	3lbs 2ozs
2	Ditch Howard	2lbs 4ozs
3	Mick Smith	1lb 12ozs
4	Andrew Goldthorpe	1lb 9ozs
5	Tony Clark (Eden)	1lb 7ozs
	Tom Fowler	1lb 7ozs
7	A. Brooks	1lb 5ozs
8	Pete Riddy	1lb 4ozs
9	Lee Wakeman	1lb
10	Steve Parker	2ozs
	B.Wallis (Eden)	2ozs

12	J.Brice (Eden)	DNW
	D.Brooks	DNW
	John Cooper	DNW
	Bob Doyle	DNW
	Colin Fowler	DNW
	N.Whitaker (Eden)	DNW

CHRISTMAS MATCH
Bungalows/Long Reach
10th December

1	Pete Groombridge	1lb 7ozs
2	Tom Fowler	9ozs
3	Ben Groombridge	8ozs

CHRISTMAS SPARE - KNOCK UP
Swanmead - 17th December

1	Steve Parker	17lbs
2	Colin Fowler	16lbs 15ozs
3	Mick Smith	8lbs 4ozs

MATCH CHAMPIONSHIP TOP TEN
STANDINGS after Xmas match.

1	Colin Fowler	138lbs 11ozs
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2	Steve Parker	109lbs 2ozs
3	Mick Smith	82lbs 15ozs
4	Lee Wakeman	77lbs 8ozs
5	Andrew Goldthorpe	73lbs 6ozs
6	Austin Battell	73lbs
7	Steve Edwards	59lbs 7ozs
8	Ditch Howard	50lbs 15ozs
9	Tom Fowler	50lbs 9ozs
10	Roger Marsh	48lbs 4ozs



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In things that go bump the night

Many anglers go years or even decades without catching a thirty pound carp. **Layton Buckwell** managed to catch one on only his second ever night session. The eleven year old was fishing at Pittlands Lakes, nr Horsmonden, when his bait was picked by the behemoth. Even more impressive is the fact that he managed to land it in the dark, no mean feat when you see the size of the massive mirror. Clearly already on the path to a successful angling career, we're sure that this months **Sussex Bait Developments** Bait package will help him catch even more monster sized fish.



Following in his father's footsteps

Stanley Etherington may only be 7yrs old but he is already proving to be a 'chip off the old block'. His Dad Colin is a very accomplished all round angler and young Stanley is keen not to get left behind. His latest quest has been to target pike in the waters close to his home in Burgess Hill, with considerable success. Where not only has he been able to land magnificent specimens, such as the one pictured, but also take a keen interest in all aspects of their safe handling.

We are sure that Stanley will be able to learn many more useful tips as this months winner of a signed copy of **Carl Smith's** book 'The Simple Fishing Guidebook' he might even be able to teach Dad a thing or two!





Aaron Johnson, age 8 - PB 29lbs Mirror Carp



Mollie Gunn - big Common Carp



Jimmy Pitt, age 9 - Common Carp



Kenzie Luck, age 12 - 24lbs Carp



Bradlee Luck, age 10 - 16lbs Catfish



Conor, age 6 - 3lbs 15ozs Rainbow Trout - Brick Farm



Reegan Ransley - Koi Carp - Eureka Fishery



Charlie Ransley - Common Carp - Eureka Fishery

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Mighty in miniature

Ruffe are a species of fish that few people know about and even fewer fish for. Once relatively common these tiny predators have become increasingly rare in recent decades as they have struggled to adapt to our ever changing waterways. Whether through pollution, habitat destruction or simply by being pushed out by other species, the humble Ruffe is a species in decline. Similar in appearance to a small perch the Ruffe, or Pope as it occasionally known, differ in that, unlike perch, they have no stripes and are instead are a drab brown colour with a mottling of dark spots. The British Record stands at a little over five ounces and a fish of half that weight is probably less common than a thirty pound carp. I say probably, because so few fishermen target them and certainly no one gives them names and tracks their growth rates. One young angler that is hoping to change that is 13yr old **Rory Fuller**. Despite showing a knack for catching much larger species of fish, it is the humble Ruffe that has gripped his imagination and he fishes for them, with considerable success, at every available opportunity. Don't be surprised if the next British Record you hear of is for a fish you've never heard of!



Rory Fuller with a specimen Ruffe



Fayth Turner
Tench



Noah Bion-Roome, age 8 - first fish



Archive Ransley - Mirror Carp - Eureka Fishery



Arthur Brindley, age 5 - first ever fish



Finley Marchant, age 6 - PB 15lbs Common Carp



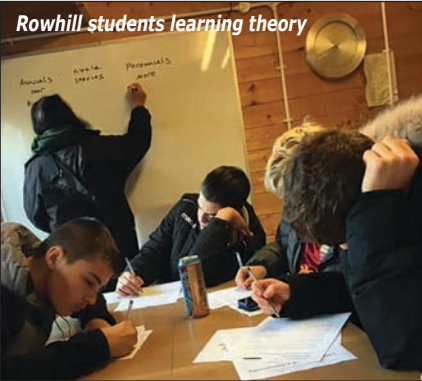
Max Swift - PB 16lbs 8ozs Mirror Carp



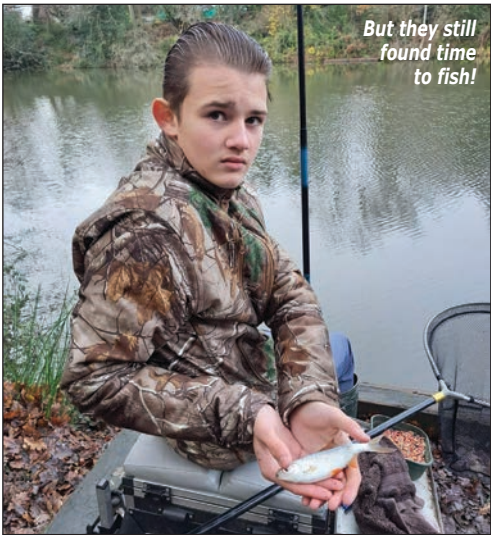
Ivie Fuller, age 10 - Rudd

December update

by instructor Warren White



It's easy to want to be on a fishing course in the height of summer, sitting next to a lake with the sun beating down, without a care in the world but come the winter and the pupils really get to test their enthusiasm. Obviously, no one is forced out into the cold but it always amazes me how keen the students are to get out on the bank. Lessons in a nice warm classroom are all part of the course and the theory plays a large part of the pupils education but they are all for putting that theory into practice. Even in mid December, when given the choice between sitting in the dry and helping with maintenance at a local lake, they chose the latter! Of course, one good dead deserves another and after helping clear some overhanging branches and having a good tidy up around the swims they were rewarded with a chance to fish. Plenty of roach landed, plenty of fishery skills put into practice and plenty to look forward to in the new year!



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Phil Andrews
Set Up

Eastbourne District Fly Fishers Club

Eastbourne District Fly Fishers Club is a group of keen fly fisherman in the Eastbourne and surrounding area. With their base at Brick Farm Lakes, Windmill Hill, near Herstmonceux. They are a friendly little club, with the aim of promoting the social aspects and pleasure of fly fishing by providing a variety of events for members to participate in and to meet and socialise with each other, thereby increasing the enjoyment and knowledge of fly fishing.



A programme of events are held regularly throughout the year, comprising outings to various fisheries, an annual barbeque and dinner, with regular newsletters to keep members up to date on days they have been unable to attend. Friendly light hearted competitions also take place for various trophies, medals and annual awards for the successful anglers and we have several lady anglers in our ranks who more often than not show the men how it's done when it comes to catching fish.

The club recently held their annual Chairman's Day at Brick Farm Lakes, involving a full day of activities, after the most welcome complimentary bacon roll to kick off the morning. Starting with a team competition in the morning, lunchtime sandwiches in the lodge and the competition for the Casting Trophy in the afternoon.

After very unseasonably mild weather leading up to the event, with daytime temperatures well into the mid twenties, the weekend turned much colder, although the

sun shone with clear blue skies, albeit with a cool northerly breeze. Given the bright conditions, low levels and clear water in all the lakes and the rather sudden drop in temperature, some felt that the fishing could prove to be just a little hard going, but thankfully nobody blanked, with 4 members catching their limit, the total weight caught being 44lbs 3ozs, all rainbow trout. Fishing on a 3 fish ticket, two teams were drawn from the hat, with the result of the competition to be decided by the total number of fish caught by the team. Team A comprising Caroline Cutmore, Jamie Blake, John Harratt, Peter Winder and Mike Richardson proved victorious, capturing 12 fish, while the B Team managed 9 fish.

Peter Winder, the current chairman caught the heaviest bag, his 3 fish totalling 7lbs 11ozs, which included a fine 3lbs 13ozs fish; a bloodworm pattern being the successful fly, whilst Malcolm Dengate, landed the heaviest fish on the day, weighing in at 4lbs 5ozs. The majority of fish were caught early on in the morning, with it becoming a little more difficult to entice any interest as the day progressed.

Following the lunchtime refreshments, members adjourned to the field next to Stag Lake for the competition for the Casting Trophy where an array of 7 coloured hoops was set out on the grass at varying distances, the objective being to cast a fly to land in each hoop within a 2 minute time period. 9 members had a go, with everybody using the same equipment, resulting in a tie for top spot between Caroline Cutmore and Mike Richardson, both achieving 6 hoops, so a cast off was required to decide the winner. Mike could only hit 4 hoops second time around, but Caroline managed to land in all 7, still with some 27 seconds left of her 2 minutes, so proving a worthy winner, thus retaining the trophy she won last year and keeping it in the Cutmore household for a further year as hubby Neil won the event in 2021.

With all the excitement over, all retired to the lodge for a cuppa and a slice or two of Caroline's delicious sponge cakes. All in all, it turned out to be a very enjoyable day. The current adult subscription is just £20 for the year 1st January to 31st December, with young persons up to the age of 17 being granted free membership.

Membership is open to anyone with an interest in fly fishing, whether experienced or just starting out. For more information or anyone who would like to join us for what we are sure will prove a rewarding exercise to enhance your fly fishing experience, please contact our Treasurer / Secretary: Mike Richardson, Telephone: 01435 812854, or e-mail: edffc2016@gmail.com, or enquire via Brick Farm Lakes.



Jamie landing a Trout

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

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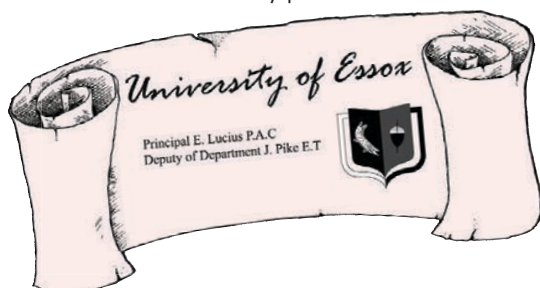
Medway Man

Bob Morris

Are you looking forward to the new year? I certainly am, for a whole variety of reasons too numerous to go into and mostly nothing to do with fishing, although I have to say that on the piscatorial front, I have a few ideas that I am very keen on for my angling activities during 2024. Anyway, I start off this time by wishing you all the very best with whatever you get up to during this coming twelve months and, of course, Best Fishes.

I seem to have done very little fishing in the run up to Christmas since the last episode. A lot of festive social activity and other events, car trouble, daughter moving house and a short bout of a nasty flu-type virus were all in the mix, as far as excuses go. A weekend visit to the Carp Society AGM, held at Horseshoe Lake in the Cotswolds was followed by several other Angling get togethers including my own one 'Medway Man & Friends' which was advertised in the last issue and elsewhere. Unfortunately, I have to say that it was a disappointing turnout on the night for a variety of reasons although we all really enjoyed the evening (pictured) and I would like to thank everyone that did attend. I must confess that I am not very good at social media, and I am a reluctant user. I probably should have left the promotion of the event to someone with greater skills in that department. Also, as I was saying there is always a lot happening at this time of year and so it is often difficult to compete.

As I have said before my fishing time during the winter is often split between Pike fishing and river sessions and sometimes combining the two – when conditions are favourable. Recently however the rivers have been high and coloured for much of the time. I don't mind these spells for barbel (albeit frequently grim/wet weather) but usually find pike fishing difficult at such times. For this reason, my recent piking efforts' have been restricted to still waters which are normally immune to these fluctuations in conditions. Last month I explained how I had been using a method where a free running float was used without a backstop. This was to cut down on any resistance to the pike which may cause it to drop the bait. This had been successful in shallow weedy waters, but I had yet to try it in deeper areas. I can now reveal that I have used it in depths of up to fifteen feet without any problems.



Regarding whether pike are worried about resistance when they pick up a bait, Opinions within the pike angling world seem to vary. Some say that if the pressure is constant, it is OK! I can only say that although I have experimented using tight lines and bait runner tactics with some success, I have had enough aborted takes to make me concerned. It is always tempting to put any dropped takes down to small pike or eels, where they exist, I have however fished on several waters where this can be largely ruled out. For this reason, I tend to be a bit on the cautious side – hence the free running float trial. On the important subject of hooks, I have recently been trying a single hook Catfish Pattern supplied by Pallatrax/ Gripz.



These have worked extremely well in conjunction with my elastic/bungy rig described in the last chapter. The last few fish that I have caught have all been taken on the size one and 1/0 versions of these – dependent upon bait size. I have used smaller barbless singles in the past with good results, but my current bait of choice is a chunk of Mackerel of about 3 or 4 inch – which in theory may smother a smaller hook. All seems to be working well now and as usual I have not had to open a pike's mouth yet, as all recent fish have been hooked neatly in the corner of the mouth.

Also following last months story of my injury at the hands/teeth of a recent pike, I have been using my garden glove to further cut down the chances of a mistake.



The latest version of Bob's bungee rig



Another one falls for the bungee rig

As you can see from the ad, I still have a few books for sale. However, I also have several numbered copies from the first batch of 50 - which customers had ordered but failed to collect. I suppose that I am now open to offers on these as well.

Finally, I have been asked recently if I am now considering writing another book. The answer to this is yes and I am currently putting a few ideas together, Although I can't say at the moment what form it will take or time scale - so watch this space.

Best Fishes & New Year's Methods - Bob Morris

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Chart Hill Lakes	Chart Hill Road, Chart Sutton ME17 3EZ	07398 571337
Chequertree Trout and Coarse Fishery	Bethersden, Near Ashford TN26 3JR	01233 820078
Coombewood Fishery	Redbrook Street, High Halden, Near Ashford TN26 3JH	07895 679569
Elphicks Fisheries	Spelmonden Road, Horsmonden TN12 8EL	01580 212512
Eureka Fishery	Nicholas Road, Kennington, Ashford, Kent TN25 4AG	07597 879621
Furnace Brook Fishery and Fish Farm	Trolliloes, Cowbeech, near Hailsham BN27 4QR	01435 830835
Gabriels Fishery	Marsh Green Road, Edenbridge TN8 5PP	07730 066088
Greenacres Farm Fishery	Sissinghurst Road, Biddenden TN27 8EH	07933 934942
Hawkhurst Fish Farm	Hastings Road, Hawkhurst TN18 4RT	01580 753813
Horam Manor Fishery	Horam Manor Farm, Horam TN21 0JB	01323 840889 / 07707 759364
Horsmonden Lakes	Grovehurst Road, Horsmonden TN12 8BQ	01892 838576
Iden Wood Fishery	Coldharbour Lane, Iden, Rye TN31 7UT	01797 280180 / 07906 232225
Knightingales Fishery	Stone-In-Oxney, Near Tenterden TN30 7HA	07941 176205
Mousehole Lakes	Maidstone Road Nettlestead, Near Paddock Wood ME18 5HR	07725 783405
Orchard Place Farm Fishery	Pearsons Green Road, Paddock Wood TN12 6NY	01892 838576
Pittlands Lakes	Churn Lane, Horsmonden, Paddock Wood TN12 8HL	07716 065900
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Shirkoak Fishery	Bethersden Road, Woodchurch, Ashford TN26 3PZ	07973 410973
The Lakes at Beachborough	Beachborough Park Newington, Near Folkestone CT18 8BW	07469 809877
Tricklebrook Fishery	Colts Hill, Five Oak Green TN12 6SH	07743 955812
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Spring Hill Trout Waters	Albans Farm, Romford Road, Pembury TN2 4BB	07951 304515
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Polegate Angling Centre	Unit 7, Birch Industrial Estate, Eastbourne BN23 6PH	01323 486379
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Bromley (Kent) & District AS	PO Box 895, East Grinstead RH19 9ND Email: bdas-kent-enquiry@bdaskent.co.uk	
Cinder Hill Fly Fishing	Membership available from email: r.nathan@btinternet.com	01892 770903
Hastings Bexhill & District	Postal enquiries to S.Corke, 2, The Sidings, Bexhill On Sea TN40 1RF Chris Pagan 07429 655237 / Steve Potter 07935 268174	
Linton Angling Society	Jason Tuckey on 07983 569220 or email lassecretary@lintonangling.co.uk	
Tonbridge & District A & FPS	PO Box 131, Tonbridge TN11 8WB	Martyn 07802 248861
Wantsum Angling Association	or contact via website www.wantsumaa.co.uk	01227 678063



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6 days : £160

60 hours : £85

72 hours : £100

84 hours : £115

96 hours : £130

7 days : £175

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KINGFISHER LAKE up to 3 Rods

Day Ticket : £20

24 hours : £35

36 hours : £50

48 hours : £65

5 days : £140

6 days : £155

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72 hours : £95

84 hours : £110

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