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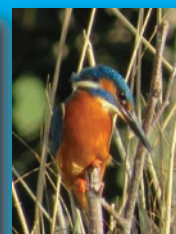
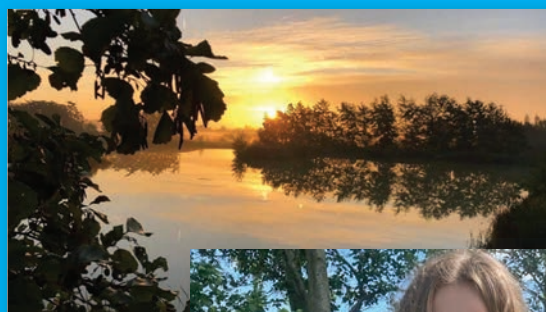


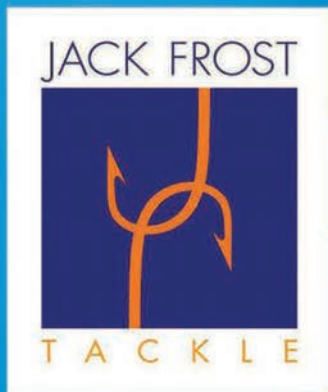
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www.jackfrostattackle.co.uk

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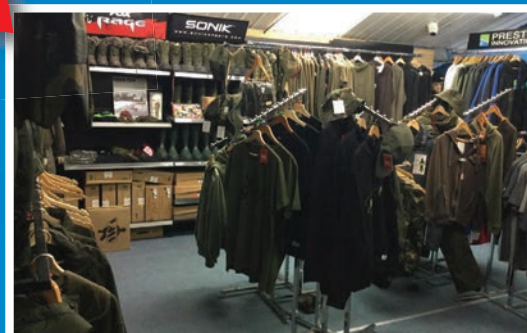
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Hello and welcome to the November edition of the Freshwater Informer

It's been another busy month as the unseasonably warm weather carried well into October, meaning that plenty of anglers were happy to keep fishing in shorts and t-shirts. A few short days later and all that remains is a distant memory. Temperatures dropped from the high teens to low single figures in the space of a single night and just as we'd all dug out our jumpers and woolly hats, so came the rain... Certainly where I live it has made an effort to rain every day since the middle of October and when it does, it really does!

Whether you choose to acknowledge climate change or not, the truth remains that the seasons have changed beyond recognition from when many of us were young. Autumn and Spring have largely diminished to just a few days, Winters consist of perpetual rain and Summers are a series of weather fronts that are either the 'hottest', the 'driest', or the 'wettest' since records began. Climate change, or at least the acknowledgement of it, forms the basis for Bob Morris' Piscatorial Politics piece in this month's FWI, alongside his latest fishing adventures. As water temperatures have dropped, so Bob has started to turn his attention to pike fishing. He's not alone in this and we are starting to receive a number of reports from predator anglers, whether pike or perch, as they begin to venture out. Early signs are that we could be in for a very good season indeed.

One angler who's enthusiasm rises as the temperatures drop is Russ Evans. This month he looks at the classic non-predatory winter species, the roach, and gives some great insights on how to approach fishing for these delicate feeding fish. There are a surprising number of opportunities in the South East to target specimen roach, from rivers, lakes and drains and Russ' advice could well help you succeed.

Glen Relf and Lee Nicoll pit their wits against both challenging conditions and wily carp on a visit to Mousehole Lakes at Nettlestead, whilst the editor struggles to carry out the simplest of tasks, such as tying a hook on, or remaining upright!



Lee



Alex

In the Golden Years of Fishing series, Bob Rolph takes a walk down memory lane to the tackle shops of yore, when he was a mere school boy, and Warren White offers good advice to some very modern school boys on how to survey and sample our rivers.

Good advice can also be found in this month's Sea Informer where Mike Thrussell from Tronixpro, covers everything you need to know on how to target cod this coming winter and the tackle that you will need.

Andy Lush sets off to paradise, that's Wales to you and I, in search of trout and we have a report from Austin Battell, on what certainly must be the perch fishers equivalent. Add to that a round up of all the local fisheries with readers and juniors captures for the month and you have the November edition of the FWI. Enjoy

Tight Lines, Alex Coutts & Lee Nicoll

The Freshwater Informer

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email: thefreshwaterinformer@gmail.com

Advertising – Lee 0787 3203998

Catch reports – Alex 07484 699437



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Beaver Fishery Lingfield, Surrey

Snipe Lake **Steven Gallagher** banked a small common, a 16lbs 8ozs mirror, a 17lbs 6ozs common and a 29lbs common, **Chris Edland** had a couple of carp to a 24lbs common, **Al Randall** banked a 16lbs 3ozs mirror, a 22lbs 5ozs common and a 27lbs 8ozs mirror, **Simon Welbourne** had a 16lbs 2ozs mirror, **Ross McDaniel** banked a 18lbs 12ozs mirror, **Adrian Glover** banked his first fish from Snipe in the shape of a 21lbs mirror, **Ian York** banked 2 mirrors at 24lbs 10ozs and 25lbs 11ozs, **Richard Lock** had 2 mirrors at 16lbs 4ozs and 19lbs 11ozs, **Scott Harvey** banked a 21lbs mirror and a 29lbs common, **Trevor Burgess** had a 16lbs 8ozs stockie mirror, **Phil Clegg** banked 3 commons at 20lbs 5ozs, 25lbs 6ozs and 25lbs 12ozs, **Craig Clayton** landed a 20lbs 4ozs common, **Steve White** banked a 22lbs mirror, **Callum Hall** banked his first Snipe carp in the shape of a 17lbs 2ozs mirror, **Danny Pye** had a 15lbs mirror, a 23lbs 4ozs mirror and a **PB** 30lbs 2ozs common while **Chris Shepherd** banked a 22lbs 8ozs mirror and then Hayley's Mirror at a **PB** busting 36lbs 9ozs.



Al Randall - 27lbs 8ozs - Snipe



Adrian Glover - 21lbs - Snipe



Chris Shepherd - 36lbs 9ozs PB - Snipe



Danny Pye - 30lbs 2ozs - Snipe



Richard Lock - 16lbs 4ozs - Snipe



Steven Gallagher - 29lbs - Snipe



Scott Harvey - 21lbs - Snipe



Phil Clegg - 25lbs 6ozs - Snipe

Westlake has again been prolific in its catches, **Dave Osbourne** banked 4 to low 30's, **Dave Parsons** banked a Beaver **PB** at 61lbs, **Fred Walker** had 2 to 36lbs, **Andy Elliott** banked 6 to 31lbs 12ozs while daughter **Amy** banked 4 to 32lbs, **Ben Ward** banked plenty of cats to 61lbs 4ozs, **Adrian Fox** and partner **Snezana** banked 5 to 44 on one session then 8 to 32lbs on another session, **Steve Deeley** banked 5 to low 30's, **Karl Wallis** banked 6 to a new **PB** 38lbs 15ozs, **Jay Martinelli** had a mad session and banked 16 cats to 50lbs, **Brian Hood** landed a 32, 49lbs 8ozs, 50lbs and 62lbs cats, **Martin Smith** banked 6 cats to a new Beaver **PB** of 63lbs 12ozs and then came back and banked another 12 to 63lbs, **Kieran Middle** banked 6 to 32lbs while his dad **Gary** had 3 to 31lbs, **Mikey Watson** banked his first ever cat at 23lbs 4ozs and 28lbs 15ozs, **Gary Corke** banked a 35lbs 7ozs on his day session, **Graham Jewiss** had cats to 52lbs 12ozs and **Vic Collier** banked 20 cats to 40lbs 11ozs.



Martin Smith - 63lbs 12ozs



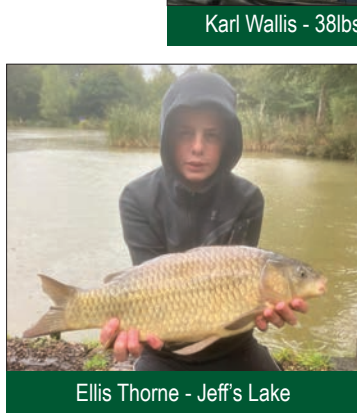
Snezana Fox - 44lbs - Westlake



Vic Collier 1 Of 20



Kierans first ever fish on his birthday - Jeff's



Ellis Thorne - Jeff's Lake



Karl Wallis - 38lbs 6ozs PB - Westlake



Dave Parsons - 61lbs Beaver PB - Westlake

Jeff's Lake has been a bit hit and miss but **Ian Tomsett** has taken to doing a few hours in the afternoon and has banked 48 F1's and carp to 7lbs 8ozs in 3 short sessions, **John Ogden** banked 9 carp to 11lbs and young **Ellis Thorne** had 7 carp to 8lbs 8ozs and even younger **Kieran** caught his first ever carp on his 9th birthday.

Daughters Lake has again been a bit tricky but a few have been out. **Adam Hughes** banked 2 mirrors at 11lbs and 12lbs 7ozs, **Trevor Burgess** had a 13lbs mirror, **Daniel Stremtam** banked a 14lbs 4ozs mirror, **Billy Fowler** had a 14lbs mirror, **Darren Giffen** banked mirrors at 12lbs and 17lbs 4ozs, **Paul Owen** had a 14lbs 3ozs mirror, **Bob Brown** banked a new **PB** of 18lbs common and **Tom Hasmi** banked his first ever grass carp at a **PB** 20lbs 2ozs.



Billy Fowler - 14lbs - Daughters



Adam Hughes - 12lbs 7ozs - Daughters



Darren Giffen - 17lbs 4ozs - Daughters



Bob Brown - 18lbs PB - Daughters

Eden Pond The tench fishing always slows down this time of year but that didn't stop a few anglers trying their luck. **David Elliott** had 9 tench to 5lbs and one bream, **Tom Delaney** banked 4 tench to 4lbs 8ozs and **Martin Davies** finally broke the magic 100 tench for the season by banking 4 tench and 4 bream. **Maze Lake** has seen F1's, bream and carp to 11lbs caught.

Majors Lake has again been great fishing, **Terry Edwards** continued his good form banking mirrors at 12lbs, 14lbs 3ozs and 18lbs 6ozs, commons at 15lbs 11ozs and 17lbs 7ozs and a ghostie of 17lbs 6ozs, **Tony Allen** banked 3 carp to 15lbs 11ozs while his son banked his first ever carp at 13lbs 5ozs then he had a 7lbs 15ozs mirror, **Steve Noakes** banked 3 carp to low doubles, **Paul Jackman** had a 12lbs mirror, **Stuart Hopkins** banked 5 carp to a PB mirror of 23lbs, **Sam Hopkins** had a low double fully scaled mirror, **Rick Hopkins** had a 15lbs common, **Jamayne Cassar** had 3 carp to a new PB 16lbs 2ozs common, **Trevor Burgess** had bream to 7lbs 2ozs and 3 carp to 13lbs 12ozs, **Darren Webb** banked a 6lbs bream, a 7lbs common and then broke his PB with a 19lbs 10ozs mirror followed by a 15lbs 4ozs common, **Dennis Wheeler** banked a 12lbs 5ozs fully and a 20lbs 7ozs mirror, **James O'Brien** and his son **Fraser** banked their first ever carp in the shape of 2 mirrors at 10lbs and 22lbs, **Jordan Muthakrishnan** and his mate **Steven Bankcroft** banked 3 carp between them to low doubles, **Bob Morris** and partner **Joan Smith** banked bream to 6lbs 6ozs and mirrors at 17lbs 10ozs and 22lbs 14ozs, **Chris Edland** banked a couple to low doubles and **Alan Teakle** banked a 23lbs 4ozs mirror.



Tom Hashmi - 20lbs 2ozs - Daughters



Jay Skilton - 17lbs 4ozs - Majors



Terry Edwards - 18lbs 6ozs - Majors



Stuart Hopkins - 23lbs - Majors

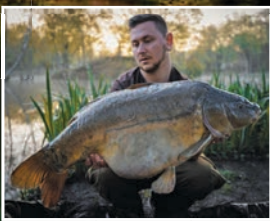


Jamayne Cassar - 16lbs 2ozs PB - Majors

Eastbourne Road (A22),
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Alan Baldock - PB 33lbs 6ozs 'The Long Common'



Andrew Hall - Mirror Carp, Pittlands



Jack Holden - 30lbs Common, Cotton Farm



Christopher Ryan - 17lbs 4ozs Carp, Sandwich Lakes



Kevin Avery - 17lbs Mirror, Claygate Lakes



Ryan Hemsley - 20lbs Mirror Carp, Elphicks



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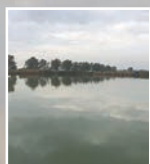
LAKES: Adult £10 with loyalty card £7

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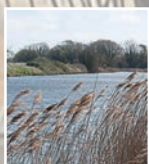
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Night fishing: Only by prior booking.

Note: Juniors up to 13 years
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Contact Wantsum Angling Association on 01227 678063

or visit us at

www.wantsumaa.co.uk

We can also be contacted via the
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Elphicks Fisheries



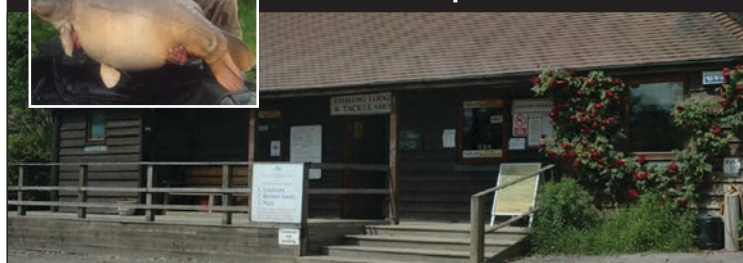
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5. ALL FISH MUST BE RETURNED TO THE WATER AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE FOLLOWING CAPTURE. NO STANDING. FISH MUST BE HELD LOW OVER A MAT/CRADLE FOR PHOTOGRAPHS
6. MINIMUM 15LB LINE AND NO BRAIDED MAIN LINE
7. NO SACKING OR RETAINING OF FISH IS PERMITTED. 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
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Dutch Perch fishing – out of this world

Austin Battell and Andy Bungay decided to travel to Holland in hope of getting amongst the stunning large Perch their waters have to offer.

The first day they were lucky together out at all, due to the strong winds which had been forecast for the whole trip. Fishing a more sheltered venue the pair managed plenty of Perch to just over 1lb and a couple of Pike whilst trolling. On day 2, the wind was still strong and not in the best direction but they ventured out and braved it for a couple of hours and managed plenty of Zander, a couple of small Pike and 33 Perch to an impressive 4lbs 7ozs.

Day 3 started off windy again but the forecast was good from mid morning with winds dropping but heavy showers.

It turned out to be a real red letter day as between them, Austin and Andy managed 76 fish to 4lbs 13.5ozs and many were over the 3lbs mark. As Austin commented "There's nothing better than seeing a stunning huge stripey appear from the depths up along side the boat after a hard fought battle. These Dutch Perch have spectacular colouring and are amongst some of the best looking fish I've caught."



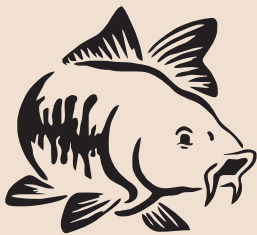
Austin Battell with another huge Dutch perch



Andy Bungay with a spectacularly marked perch



Zander and pike also featured in their captures



Shirkoak Fishery and B&B



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Kyprece Baxter-Davies - 13lbs Carp, Hawkhurst



Jenny Simpson - 23lbs Mirror Carp, Eastbourne



Sam Lumsden - 20lbs Common, Pittlands Lakes



Ronald Davies - Common Carp, Hawkhurst Quarry Lake



Bob Ament - 37lbs 8ozs Catfish, Orchard Place Farm



Jamie Hayward - 24lbs Mirror, Orchard Place Farm



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Wylands Farm
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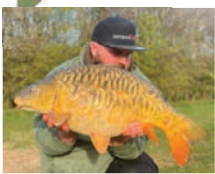


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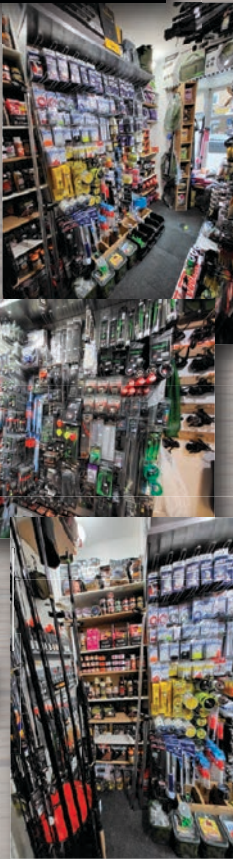
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Greenacres Farm Fishery Biddenden, Kent

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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 seemed to be the winning ways of getting a few fish out. Now the colder months are upon us then the perch should be showing up with the biggest so far been reported at 5lbs 3ozs.

Speci 2 Still producing catfish with some lovely carp in with the mix, the catfish are slowing up now the temperatures are dropping but one or two are still showing. Catfish are being taken on heavy baited areas of mixed sized marine halibut pellets using single 21mm robin reds or luncheon meat over the top. Carp are being caught the same way but with a solid pva bag with a wafer or a pop up over the top.

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 15lbs, average carp being caught are between 6-7lbs. Best baits to use are naturals like maggots, worms, luncheon meat and bread over groundbait or pellet.

Kingfisher This is an overstocked match lake and great fun with a guarantee of catching, 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.

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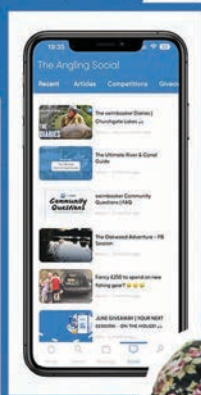
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MOUSEHOLE LAKES

24hrs with Glen Relf & Lee Nicoll



Kingfisher hunting on Kingfisher Lake

Having booked our session on Kingfisher Lake the day had come to load up and set off for our visit to Mousehole Lakes. This was the first time for me and Lee fishing at this venue and, as we don't get to fish together very much, we were looking forward to combining some quality fishing with a bit of a social during our time there.

Although it was our first time casting a line at Mousehole, Lee and I had represented FWI at an open day held by Kids In Mind, earlier in the year and on arrival were amazed by the amount of work that had been carried out over the summer. New signage, a smooth tarmacked drive and car park, and completely revamped swims to compliment the already impressive facilities. Testament to the passion and dedication of Owners, David and Joanne and their commitment to continually improve the fishery.

Once parked up we were greeted by Rob the bailiff. A vault of knowledge about the complex and very helpful with any information you might need during your visit. After a quick chat with Rob he brought around one of the fishery golf carts to transport our equipment from the van to our swims. A great service, it's always tricky to know what to take when fishing a new venue and we'd both fallen into the Carp anglers trap of 'We better take that - just in case'. Swims 6 and 7 were our chosen swims for our stay, with Lee going in 6 and me dropping in swim 7. A corner swim with plenty of features including overhanging margins, a channel and island, with access towards some more open water. The swims have plenty of space for a decent sized bivvy and are stone covered so not to become muddy in the winter weather, making for a very comfortable base camp.



21lbs 8ozs - first fish from Mousehole Lakes



Golf carts make setting up easy

With my rods checked and rigs tied, I set about finding my spots for the visit. Acting on Rob's advice I selected two spots off the island with the third rod set in the deep margins in front of my swim. The 'house bait' at Mousehole Lakes is from local bait company Carp Basics. It's accounted for plenty of fish from the venue and it would be foolish to ignore a proven bait that the fish are familiar with, so with that in mind I baited two of my rods with Carp Basics Ocean Fruit bottom baits straight from the bag and topped with corn, on a basic hair rig. For the third rod I opted for a manilla pop up fished on a multi rig. All three rods were presented over a small amount of maize, hemp and whole/crushed boilies. The complex allows both bait boats and baiting poles, allowing for very accurate bait placement. As luck would have it, a baiting pole was one of Lee's 'just in case' items and made light work of getting the first two rods in position. I chose to cast the third rod and bait up by catapult. Carp can become wary of tightly presented patches of bait and sometimes a more random baiting approach can trip them up.

Weather wise it was going to be challenging. A few days prior to our trip the temperature had dropped from high teens to single figures with the threat of stormy conditions. A solid change in conditions will normally bring the fish on in earnest but the inclement weather that we were faced with can have the opposite effect. Non the less, I was now set up and comfortable, I sat back and watched the water

for any signs. A carp rolled near to my middle rod just off the island in front of me. I had placed the bait about a rod length off in some deeper water, but based on what I saw I would have to move the rod closer to the island, although with fish in the area it seemed better to leave things as they were until I had more information to go on.

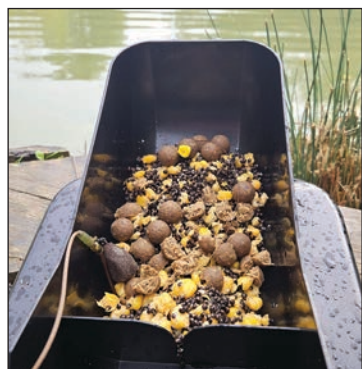
I noticed that a Kingfisher, after which the lake is named, was feeding to the right of the swim. It was fascinating to watch and I grabbed my camera to see if I could get a few shots, I turned on the camera, disaster! "No Memory Card Inserted" I had left my SD card in the reader at home, a quick phone call to my nephew who luckily only lives a few miles from the lake was able to pop into PC World, collect me a card and deliver it to me all before I really needed to use it. What a life saver! I was able to take a few pictures of the resident kingfisher after all.

Lee had setup in the swim next to me by now and also had his rods out on his favoured spots utilising the baiting pole to aid him getting the baits out to the areas as accurately as possible. With all the rods set up, a few cups of tea had been drunk and it was time for the dinner orders to be taken. A really great touch at Mousehole lakes is that the team will come to your swim and take your food orders. Our dinner options were, Pie, Mash and Liquor, Chicken Fillet Burger & chips, Beef Burger and chips or Minted Lamb, Mash and Vegetables. We both opted for the burger and chips, which was then delivered to our pegs piping hot. The burger was a 1/2lb burger with onion and Bacon topped with cheese and sauce. Excellent food and an excellent service, a superb treat and another area where the Mousehole team excels.

With dinner eaten, I rebaited the rods ready for the night time. I repositioned 2 of the 3 rods, the middle rod being much closer to the island now as that was the only sighting I had of a fish. I settled down for the evening, managing to sit out until dark. Then the rain came and forced me into my bivvy to spend



Plenty of space in the well made swims



Baiting pole ready to go



The successful bait

a long night since the nights are drawing in quickly this time of the year.

First light and everything was as I'd left it. I topped up the island swim with more hemp and corn placing my rig over the top. Just as I was making my first cup of tea of the morning, the rod on the refreshed spot tore off with a very fast take,



The left-hand rod was cast out

catching me by surprise. I spilled my tea, grabbed the rod and pulled into the fish. Hearing the commotion, Lee arrived in my swim. The way the fish was fighting convinced us that I was attached to one of the special fish that Mousehole is known for. At the beginning of the trip bailiff Rob had pointed out a spot in the swim that had produced a forty pound common and whilst the take had come from further out, the way the fish was holding bottom in the deep margins had us dreaming...



Second fish in the rain



When we were finally able to slip the net under the fish, it was neither a common or a forty! Instead it was a stunning looking mirror of 21lb 8oz. The battle had made a big impression on both me and Lee and only imagine what it takes to land one

of the really big girls. Photos done and fish returned, Libby arrived to take our breakfast order. A huge bacon, egg and sausage sandwich, washed down with a steaming mug of tea. The perfect way to celebrate the capture.

Soon after, the weather changed for the worst. The rain came down with increasing intensity, confining us to our bivvies. With a fish landed, a full belly and conditions deteriorating it was a bit too easy to batten down the hatches and ride out the storm from the comfort of my bedchair.

An alarm sounding woke me from my afternoon slumber and I stumbled out into the pouring rain. Soaked to the skin before I had even made it to the rod. I leaned into the fish and after another tense battle was able to land my second fish. An ounce smaller than the first, this one was a common. Firing off a few pictures, the fish was quickly returned and I retreated to my bivvy to dry off. That proved to be the last action of a session in difficult conditions and as soon as there was a break in the weather I took my chance and made for home.

See the Mousehole Lakes advert on page 43 for full fishery details

The Golden Years of Coarse Fishing

by Bob Rolph

The legendary former London Fishing Tackle Shops, their famous owner's and manager's

*During the late 50s and early 1960s I attended school in central London, at Blackfriars on the Thames Embankment C of L. And so was well placed to visit some of the best tackle shops around at the time, after school had finished. No Hamleys or Bassett Lowe in Regent street for me, and I had little interest in the massive toy shops in Oxford Street and beyond. It was, however, **GAMAGES DEPARTMENT STORE** of High Holborn, an old fashioned store of wonder, that had a huge model and train dept upstairs, and the greatest thing of all, a wondrous fishing and shooting department on the ground floor! All now long gone for re-development since March 1972, but I can still remember it well, even the layout of the rods and nets, set back from a long wooden counter full of tackle under a glass top. Today you would not believe the guns, shotguns and ammunition that they sold all over the counter at the end of the fishing tackle section!*

Upstairs, on the top floor was a model railway lay out of monumental proportions, however it was the fishing tackle dept. That held my interest from the tender age of 12. I could walk to the store from school at 3.45 pm sharp, past Fleet Street and the aptly named 'Breems Buildings' where Bernard Venables once had his office of the Daily Mirror newspaper, as he was a stalwart 'Newspaper Man'. Mr Crabtree was hatched in this building, and sold over 2 million copies and many reprints of this amazing paperback book. In the models section of the store they sold the iconic red and green Meccano sets, one of which was bought for me for my 12th birthday, a number 10 set in a wooden box at 19 guineas that's £19-19 shillings to you! Today they are worth many hundreds of pounds in mint condition, and I wonder where mine is now!?

I purchased my very first quality reel at Gamages, a Mitchell Prince for £5-5-0 shillings, and returned years later for my pair of Mitchell 300s LHW at £6-19-6 each!

Walker was still using Ambidex, Felton Crosswinds or half bale arm Mitchell's, and these were still prominent under the glass top counters, but I had to have a brace of the new Mitchell 300s as they were the epitome of French engineering where reels were concerned, and these were to supersede my Intepid and Omnia reels which I had when I was 9. Yellow linseed oil keep nets adorned the shop and there was an array of rods, nets and bank sticks in racks along the corridor. It was here that you bought your riverboard rod licence, for 2 shillings, and gazed in amazement at the Irish Tourist board posters of the great fishing to be had over the Irish Sea, where huge rudd, tench and bream just gave themselves up and popped into your Gamages keepnet!

Just around the corner from Gamages was **40 GRAYS INN ROAD**, and here was an old-fashioned bow fronted tackle shop of sheer excellence, J. Peak and Son, where I believe the angling artist Keith Linsell was in charge. One day in 1960 on an expedition from my school, I went in to find B.V and Trevor Housby discussing the merits of a split cane roach rod, fully set up with a centre pin reel attached. I was just 15 and told to give it a waggle! They asked me where I fished, and were very interested to hear that it was Keston Ponds. I've been there said Bernard, when I lived on Romney Marsh (Hamstreet) it transpired, and Trevor relayed stories of when he stocked carp from Summerhill Estate Lake near Tonbridge into Keston in 1957. Yes I know, I said, I was there to see them going in!

I walked back to Holborn Station to catch my train to Bromley a very happy boy, having just met my first two angling legends!, I lived on that tale for years. Trevor lived in Holborn for a while before moving down to Sway in Hants with his girlfriend of the time Carol, a very accomplished lady angler.

Further down west in London was Pall Mall where two of the most prestigious tackle shops were to be found. I often called in to **HARDYS** and **FARLOWS**, but could never afford their prices. They stocked the Rolls Royce of tackle with prices to match, including all the Richard Walker built cane rods made by B. James & Sons of Ealing, and an array of trout and salmon gear and flies upstairs. Down in the cellar were the waders, nets, boxes and bags, and it was from here that I purchased my Walker Superlite trout rod and net in fibreglass in 1972. Walker went on to develop his 'Farnborough' range of carbon rods for Hardys, as he had been involved in carbon fibre development at the Royal Aircraft Establishment after the war.

Further west too came Twickenham, where Dave Steuart ran the tackle shop called **EDGAR THURSTON**. Several times I've been to his shop and his house, where I met his late wife Kay and they showed me his pond in the back garden full of huge tench. Dave set up a catfish for us that had died at Claydon in 1971, he was a great taxidermist. He now lives down on the Test in Hampshire and is still going strong well into his 90s, a great carp and salmon angler in his time, along with his late wife Kay Steuart, and was privileged to have met her and May Berth Jones, two of our greatest late lady anglers of the 60s era.

Travel further out of London to the west and you come to Hillingdon near the A4, where that great Barbel angler Jack Harrigan ran **JUDDS TACKLE SHOP**. It was like travelling back in time in there, with cased fish, books, nets, rods and a wooden counter, with a smell that only a tackle shop or corn store can give you, of linseed oil, wheat, hemp, maggots and varnish. Jack always immaculate in a jacket and tie smoking a cigar which also added to the aroma of the shop. His tales of Royalty Days long gone were legendary and stories of his epic Barbel catches, and it's such a shame that this tackle shop is no longer there today.

North of London, up the Tottenham High Road, was the real Mecca for all us budding young specimen hunters in the 1960s, **DONS OF EDMONTON**, in Fore Street, just past the old Spurs ground. Don Neish had two shops up there on each side of the road, and it was here that we all went up to on a Saturday morning to obtain our rod blanks and rod building gear, especially during the close season. Peter Grundle was the manager and we went up to discuss our latest catches of roach from the London Reservoirs, tench and eels. Carp were very rarely on the agenda in those days, even though Cheshunt and Eggetts Lake were the top local carp waters of the time, and Bill Keel often popped in. In 1969 the building of glass trout fly rods was the thing, and the new blanks for the fibre glass Grafham Ghost were selling like hot cakes, for the imminent opening of the new Cambridgeshire reservoir. Don Neish nets, rods and tackle were the bees knees, and John Godards company Effgeeco sold here too their tackle boxes, landing nets, rod bags and all manner of ancillary stuff we had to have!

I used to incorporate a trip to watch Spurs on Saturday afternoon after visiting the shop in the morning, and being able to park in side roads around the stadium, would you believe!! And pay at the turnstile, about 10 shillings, program 6 pence! No wonder I never caught many big fish! Just up from Don Neish was **CHUBBS OF EDGWARE** where Fred Buller had a shop full of cased fish, and rods and nets hanging from the ceiling. He had big pike, and I believe the record carp after it had died at London zoo, 19 years after Walkers capture at Redmire in Sept 1952. All tackle shops in those days had massive fishing book sections, where the latest volume by Walker, Taylor, Stone or Gutfeld could be obtained for under £2. I bought books avidly, and still have a collection of over 500 hardbacks, some now worth over £500, try getting a book nowadays at a tackle shop - you'd just be told to "go on line"!

My first fishing book was 'Stillwater Angling' by Richard Walker, only the 3rd edition with the blue cover, now to be found in a case at the Carp Society HQ museum at Horseshoe Lake Lechlade. Why? Because it contains my hand-drawn map of all the fish we saw at Redmire Pool on that historic day, April 17th 1965!

South of the river, where I lived, there were also no shortage of quality specialist tackle shops. In Lewisham, Geoff Bucknall had **ROD & LINE**, where his trout fishing and pike fishing expertise was were sort after. He ran the Sundridge Lakes for some years with John Carol, and his house in Burnt Ash Lane, Bromley was a haven for us aspiring young anglers with loads to learn. He was the first to teach me how to tie trout flies, and gave advice on the rod blanks that we purchased from Dons of Edmonton and the rod builders of Bromley. He moved up to Bernard Castle on the Tees many years ago, but sadly passed away about four years ago now.

Closed in 2015, was **GERRY'S OF WIMBLEDON**, one of the first tackle shops to go self-service like a supermarket, but parking was a problem here and I gave up going in the end. Gerry Doughty was an accomplished sea angler and accomplished boat fisherman, and his articles appeared regularly in 'Angling' magazine. Again, I used to pop-in in July, on my way to the Wimbledon Tennis, in the days when you could. 'Just pop in' - I love my sports!!?

The rod building firms in Bromley were legendary, like Cliff Constable, Modern Arms and Dawsons. They were not shops, but you could visit by appointment, all down Homesdale Road, where Steve Edwards, and Chris Haswell worked at Marble Products.

Ken Brown had a small shop down there where we all used to meet, but Bromley was not well stocked with tackle shops. Loads of hardware and corn merchants sold maggots and hemp and wheat and sweetcorn, but little in the way of good tackle. Maggots were sold in large silver biscuit tins for £1-10 shillings a gallon, what are they now, about £3 per pint. They were much larger than today, and the big supplier was down a country lane in St. Mary Cray, Kent! You couldn't buy worms, we caught our own at night by torch light, and as for boilies, well Fred Wilton had only just invented them up the road at Keston Ponds! Bromley, really was the hub of coarse fishing innovation during the 1960s! Further afield, the rod building kit firm of J.B.Walker of Hythe (Marine Parade) was the place to go to get your split cane MK 1V carp rod kits. Their colourful catalogues are today very highly prized collectors items. Dick Walker the inventor of the carp rod is not related to this firm, but sold the kits under licence, and with his blessing. Other rod building firms that we visited were Chapmans of Ware, Simpsons of Turnford, Alan Brown of Hitchin and Going Bros in Essex. We all built our own rods in those days, nothing much was off the shelf, and some like our own Bob Morris continue to this day.

Everyone was building their own rods, and blanks of glass then carbon, rings, cork, spigots, reel fittings and crimson silk were intrical part of our fishing life. Some even modified reels with roller bearings on the bale arm, and electric bite alarms, bivvies, brollies and lavish landing nets were in full private development by hundreds of young 'specimen hunters' all over the country. Huge carp landing nets, could not be bought in the shops, so anglers like Chris Ball, Pete Badley, Mike Winter, Jack Hilton and of course Dick Walker, developed and made their own from built cane. These really were the glory days of coarse fishing in this country, of all the shops I mentioned only Farlows are still there. Even Hardys has gone, to where I know not!

There was a good tackle shop in Orpington high Street where I used to meet the angling artist Robin Armstrong, who grew up nearby. We fished together at the Tonbridge Ballast pits for carp and bream, before he went down to Dartmoor to take up a bailiffing job and set up a studio. Tonbridge had two good shops in the days when I fished the Medway, but they too are both gone now.

I took Meccano Magazine, Railway Modeler and the Angling Times. I could easily have gone either way, as I just loved railways and steam, but I chose the fishing life which has ruled me for over 68 years now. Ships, travel and the sea came later, but that's another story, blame it on my Father, sub Ltnt. William Rolph R.N.V.R. *God rest his soul.*

Bob Rolph

Angling is a pastime full of superstitions and rituals. Whether lucky hats, lucky mugs or rod pod mascots, it's not uncommon for even the most pragmatic of anglers to put their faith in something that affects their confidence far more than their ability to catch fish.

For me it's magpies, as the old saying goes 'one for sorrow, two for joy' and it sometimes seems that I spend as much time looking in the skies above, as I do looking at the water below. As my only chance to fish this month was the dreaded Friday 13th, I was going to need all the luck I could get...

You would think, as an un-athletic, middle aged man, that common sense would be enough to persuade me that trying to scale a rusty barbed wire fence was a bad idea. Unfortunately, despite my advancing years, my child like enthusiasm for fishing frequently finds me in situations where my ambition far outweighs my ability.

Taking camo to new heights



And so it was that I found myself in the uncomfortable position of hopping madly on one leg, desperately trying to keep my balance, whilst simultaneously attempting to extract myself from the aforementioned fence. The commotion was enough for a small herd of Sussex cattle to take a break from grazing and wander over to watch the unfolding drama. With poetic timing, they arrived at the exact moment that gravity made itself known. There was a loud tearing of fabric, followed by a dull whump as I landed on my back. I slowly got to my feet, retrieved my fishing gear and what was left of my pride, before setting off towards the river. My shortcut had cost me five minutes, my favourite pair of fishing trousers and my dignity. All I had gained was a gaggle of steers, who decided to fall into line behind me, no doubt keen to see what more entertainment I could provide.

I was hoping to try out some new crayfish lures that I had bought. Commonly known as ned rigs or finesse lures, these buoyant bodied lures are mounted on a jig head, so that even when static they still impart a degree of movement. Perfect for narrow stretches of river, such as the upper Rother, where casts may only be a few yards. Unlike traditional lures and spinners, they can be fished very slowly with just the occasional twitch, keeping them in the 'bite zone' for much longer without the need for repeated casting. As I closed in on the river I began looking for likely pools and lies that may harbour a fish or two. In a shallow run I spotted the unmistakable silhouette of a chub. I froze, raising a hand in an attempt to signal my bovine troop to do likewise. Chub are notoriously easy to spook and this was a real submarine of a fish. Bigger than any chub I'd previously seen in this stretch, with a slate grey back and just the occasional flash of white from its mouth as it intercepted morsels of food in the current. Commando like, I crouched down. Commando like in more ways than one...

Unbeknownst to me, my earlier encounter with the rusty fence had not only ripped my trousers but my boxer shorts as well. A fact that only became apparent to me as, with military precision, I lowered myself directly on top of some stinging nettles! I let out a garbled cry then fell backwards for the second time in as many minutes, poleaxed in pain and staring up at the sky. The Sussex thought this was fantastic and set off around their pasture with gay abandon, bucking and snorting as they thundered along the riverbank. By the time they returned I had managed to mash some dock leaves into a rudimentary poultice, gingerly applied it to the affected area, and patched the worst of my torn clothing with a handful of whole leaves. The cattle stood over me with an expectant look in their eyes as if waiting for an encore but I was here to fish and if my own exploits hadn't spooked the fish, then ten tons of beef 'on the hoof' stampeding the length of the river surely would have done. Hobbling bow legged, I made my way to the footbridge in the corner of the field and bid farewell to my four legged companions. Once crossed, I headed downstream in search of fish.



Stupid is as stupid does...

Stuck between a rock and a hard place





At least I kept the cows amused

The banks of the Rother are quite steep in places and a recent shower had made them more treacherous than usual. I half slid, half fell, down a muddy slope to the waters edge of a pool that had produced both chub and perch on previous visits and prepared to fish. Taking a lure from its packet, I reached for my reading glasses. Nothing! A fish at thirty yards I can spot no problem, my fingers in front of my eyes - not a chance! Using little more than guesswork I attempted to thread my line through the eye of the hook. Holding them up to the light, holding them down to the ground, nothing could help me focus. Eventually, by holding both line and lure at arms length and with a great deal of squinting, I was able to somehow marry the two together, making sure that I pulled a good three feet of line through to avoid the lure slipping off. It made tying the knot somewhat laborious but after what seemed like an eternity I was able to damp the knot down and pull it tight. The issue of the three foot tag end still remained and so I reached for my scissors. Holding the tag end, still at arms length, with my left hand, I ran the blade of the scissors as close to the knot as I dare with my right. A snip, followed by a splash - I'd been holding the mainline by mistake!

I flopped back against the muddy bank, dejected, I could have stayed in bed and had a better chance of catching a fish. I'd had enough, Friday 13th had beaten me. I threw my rod and net back up the bank and clambered up after them.

As my eyes drew level with the field above I spied a flurry of black and white feathers. One magpie, two magpies - one for sorrow, two for joy! I quickly saluted them and bid them good day. With renewed confidence I decided to fish on. I repeated the palaver of tying on a fresh lure, making sure I stayed well away from the waters edge while I did so. Once all was secure, I headed back upstream. The chance



The simplest of tasks proved difficult

of the big chub was too good to miss. I didn't want to attract the attention of the bullocks again, but if I stayed on this side of the river I could get back to the spot unseen. My optimism faltered a little as I drew level with the glide where I had seen the fish. The bank on this side of the river was a heavy tangle of brambles and stinging nettles with no obvious access to the water, the dull throbbing pain and ripped trousers an acute reminder of my earlier misdemeanours, causing me to hesitate. Still, the time to take a chance is when it's missed if you don't. Using my landing net handle as a staff, I eased myself into position. Close enough to fish but not so close as to risk losing my footing, I scanned the short stretch of water in front of me. Nothing. I checked, as best I could without my glasses, that my knots were sound and my line wasn't snagged on anything, then scanned again. Still nothing. The brambles were starting to grab at my clothing and I could feel the uncomfortable prickle of nettle stings through my shirt, I shifted my position slightly and looked a third time. Without warning the 'submarine' appeared from under a bush, lazily drifting down the river with the current. I cast the lure out

on the diagonal and twitched it into position, hoping to dissect the fish's trajectory. The water had no great depth and was clear enough that I could make out the bright orange crayfish pattern undulating enticingly in the flow. The chub drew level and hesitated, eyeing the bait with a degree of suspicion. It was now or never. I flicked the rod tip, barely an inch, and the lure responded in kind.

The movement was enough to trigger the fish into a strike and it turned on its head and engulfed the imitation crayfish with its gaping maw. The fight was an uneventful affair, neither of us having much room to move, and it was simply a case of waiting for the chub to pass in front of me and interrupting its passage with the net. With the net handle at full extension it took a surprising amount of effort to lift it from the water. Leaning back, I heaved and swung the whole lot from eight feet below me to eight feet above me to the top of the bank. With my 'staff' now engaged in its primary purpose, the only way I could get up the steep bank was to quite literally 'grasp the nettle' and haul myself up. My makeshift organic underwear did a surprisingly good job of protecting me from any more damage in my nether regions but the rest of me fared less well and I instantly became a mass of stings and scratches. Peeling back the mesh of the landing net proved to be the perfect antidote to the discomfort I was in, for there in the folds of the net lay a magnificent, scale perfect chub. I didn't have any means to weigh the fish, but pounds and ounces only ever tell part of the story, and whilst not a specimen in national terms, it was easily the biggest chub that I've caught from the top end of the River Rother. The majority of bigger chub that I've caught have looked rather dog-eared and war-torn as a result of the challenges they face in our ever changing rivers but this specimen was fully finned and as bright as a penny. A sure sign of a younger fish and enough to make me re-evaluate the rivers potential for the species. Having taken a few photographs, I found an easier route to the water from which to return my quarry before turning for home.

My euphoria of the capture faded with the evening sun, as the accumulation of scratches, bruises and stings made themselves known, slowing my walk to a stiff legged stagger. There is a pub between the river and where I'd parked my car and it seemed prudent to stop for a refreshment. I crossed the threshold, muddy boots, trousers flapping, with accumulated flora and fauna falling freely from about my person and fell against the bar. "Been fishing?" asked the landlord, cheerily, as he pulled me a pint of Harvey's. I nodded weakly. "I've always meant to give it a go" he continued, as he passed me my drink. "It looks such a relaxing way to spend an afternoon..."

Cheers!



Two magpies, and a fat chub



Specimen Roach give

If there is one fish that pushed me in the direction of specialist angling and away from my long angling career was when I slipped the net under my current PB Roach back in April. It was my first Roach over the 2lbs mark beating my previous best of 1lbs 15oz 8dr which was a miserable day when my umbrella blew inside out completely trashing it. So when my heart was pumping so quickly with adrenaline I thought it was going to burst. I took photos in between resting the fish back in the water in my net pan and then did a channel. I have had the pleasure to catch some amazing fish in my time but that I have caught more Redfins over the magic 2lbs mark since that day but on different helicopter rigs but mainly because the venues where I have chosen to fish that way was needed putting strain on the line and rigs to hit the spots. On that day

Tackle and tactics on that magic day

The water in question was the complexes Abbey Lake, 3.5 acres and known for its mixed species fishing. I was using my Preston Sentient 13ft waggler rod, 3.6lbs mainline tied to a size 16s wire gape hook to 2lbs breaking strain and my float was a tiny Drennan Carp 0.2g pole float which was dotted right down to a pimple with strung out No 10 shots. The tip of the float was lightly dipped in bristle grease so it would sit just above the surface in about 4ft of water with two red maggots on the hook fished slightly over depth. I fished just over a rod length out so in effect was using the rod like a pole and every cast I flicked out 3 or 4 red maggots over the top of my float on a little and often basis. Nothing happened for the first 20 minutes then I had a missed bite and on flicking the float tackle back out so that the bait would slowly sink through water column I had an instant bite that resulted in putting a quality roach in the net that weighed 1lbs 10oz, a very good start. Some days you just can't do anything wrong and this day were turning out to be one of those days. The bites were constant and I was slipping my net pan under some fantastic roach and perch, nothing was under the pound mark but at the same time nothing was over that magic 2lbs target. The weather conditions for early April were spot on for the way I was fishing, a slight breeze, coldish and slightly bright with all the margin growth around the lake beaten back by the winter. I was enjoying myself netting goer roach and the perch were quality and in fantastic condition. Around mid-afternoon the float tip buried and I was into a good fish with the rod tip bent over and thumping away, when it surfaced I saw the stripes of a lovely looking perch which went exactly 3lbs on the scales, a cracker of a stripey.

Late afternoon surprise made my day

With around 21 roach all weighing between 1lbs 3oz to 1lbs 12oz plus a dozen perch up to 3lbs I was having a wonderful session but I still wanted that big Redfin and just after 5pm as the Sun was starting to fade and the chill in the air felt colder I had a succession of 3 missed bites. They were unmissable bites but I missed them, something felt different so I set my pole float up a further inch to see if that change in presentation of the bait would help. I flicked out the float again and watched my float slowly sink to the tip, it held there for about twenty seconds and then disappeared out of sight, I lifted into the bite and my rod arched over and I could sense straight away this was something a bit special. I played the fish carefully and as it shot out into mid water a further rod length out taking line of my spool, it started to kite to my left. None of the previous fish had kited so I knew this was different, I could hear my heart banging in my ears, I was getting nervous and then I got a glimpse of the fish as it rolled over breaking the surface. A big silvery flank greeted me not once but twice as it surfaced, I was determined not to make a mistake as this was the one, I knew it was the roach I had been waiting for and as I slipped the net under the fish I unashamedly yelled out "Yes, get in there"

What a way to finish what was an incredible day's fishing with a 2lbs 10oz 4dr Roach on light float tackle to set a new personal best.

me an adrenalin rush

match fishing then it is the Roach, specimen Roach. The best feeling I have felt in my April 5th 2018 at Lemington Lakes in the Cotswolds. The fish scaled at 2lbs 10oz 4dr, which was caught during a Sussex Summer league match on the tidal river Arun on a wet day. I gazed down into my landing net and saw this incredible species it blew me away, I weighed the fish 3 times to make sure what the scales was showing was correct. I made a quick video on my phone which can be viewed on my 'Fishing Tail Films' You Tube channel. The Roach was the best feeling I have had to date, I was floating on pure adrenaline. My tactics altogether adopting scaled down mini specialist tactics using bite alarms and gravel pits where the big Roach were at distance and lots of long range casting. By the way back in 2018 I was using a float rod and very light tackle with maggots.

Research is often the way to success

I have now set my sights on catching a 3 pounder as I like to set myself targets and have joined a new syndicate in Norfolk which holds monster roach with a few over the 3lbs mark, in the past it has claimed roach of 4lbs 1oz, so it is a venue that produces big species of the target. I guess half the battle of catching big species of any size whether it be a roach, perch, chub, bream, tench etc etc is to get on a water that contains the quarry. Research and more research can often winkle out venues that hold monster fish but it is quite often the lesser known waters that hold fish of record sized proportions depending on how ambitious you want to be.

I am hoping by the time this piece goes to print that the weather is more suited to the time of month of year as October has been incredibly mild in the South East. I much prefer cool weather fishing and being wrapped up in my lined bib and brace, snood and jacket with a flask of tea as a means of being warm, rather than sitting by the lakeside in shorts. Cold frosty days fishing for big perch, roach and chub plus carp is much more to my liking so I will be keeping my fingers crossed for such conditions as I have so much to squeeze in this winter including a week's fishing in December at another fantastic place in Norfolk where I have been fortunate enough to catch 2lbs roach in the recent past plus the lake holds fish near the 4lbs mark. My Son in Law Andy will be joining me where I aim to introduce him to some quality roach fishing as he is a Carper and nothing would be more pleasing for me to see him catch a specimen roach over that magic two pounds.

Next time I shall be writing about the biggest fish of all, the mighty Perch which is undoubtedly one of the most popular species of today's angler.

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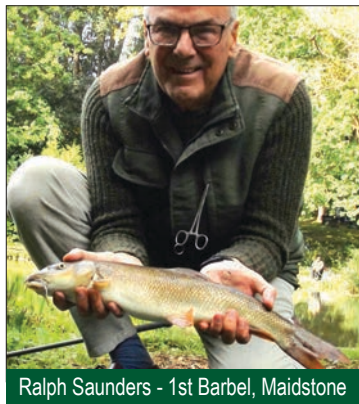
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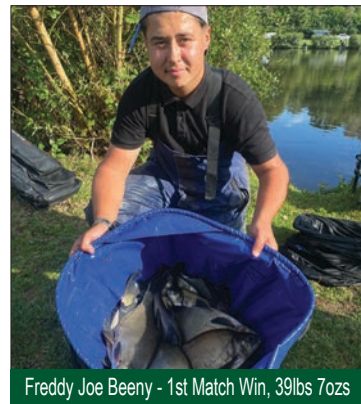
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Dylan Edwards - Common Carp, Moor Hall Fishery



Ralph Saunders - 1st Barbel, Maidstone



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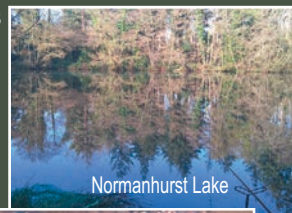
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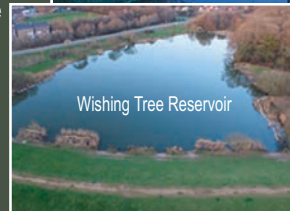
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Shore fishing for Cod

by Mike Thrussell Jnr

Cod are arguably the UK sea angler's favourite fish! It's common knowledge their numbers are not what they once were, but there are still good cod to be caught by shore anglers. Those that make the most of these opportunities keep their eyes on social media and forum boards for the very latest catch returns and fish when the fish are there and being caught. Predicting the movements of cod in current times by working the older marks that were traditionally fished is a strategy less likely to bring success. Shore cod average between 2 and 4lbs, but there's always the chance of bigger fish over 10lbs.

WHERE TO FIND COD

Cod are a versatile fish and are at home on shallow surf beaches, mixed rough ground and heavy rough ground in deeper water. On the shallower venues they target gutters and gullies running along the length of the beach but concentrate best where patches of rough ground or reef are as this holds much more food. They also favour clay or sandy banks and areas where depressions are formed.

If a beach only has feature from the low water line, then this is when that beach will fish best. A few fish may work the surf over sand as the tide floods, but most fish will stay in the rough.

In heavier ground, look for channels that cut in from deeper water or areas where bigger boulders are evident among a generally less dramatic seabed. They also seek kelp weed beds and will be found feeding over mussel beds.

On deeper steep-to beaches, try to find the demarcation line where the seabed starts to rise upwards towards the shingle line. This can be a hotspot on an otherwise featureless beach. Also, fish anywhere where the shingle sticks out as a finger to break the tide flow, and fish on the down tide side of this. It's where food will collect, and the fish will work this area fully.



As with all sea fishing, it pays to scout out the mark you intend to fish at low water, noting where the features are.

WEATHER AND TIDES

Cod like a rough sea with a good surf or swell. Onshore winds between Force 3 and 6 tend to give a good surf and generate enough water movement to bring the fish in. The best conditions are when you track a deep low-pressure system in off the Atlantic that blows for a few days, then passes through. As the wind drops, but the sea state is high, this is the best time to fish. You may also get a tide to fish when the eye of the gale passes over, as the wind will briefly drop before swinging direction.

Night tides give the best results, but a coloured sea in deeper water may produce in daylight, though results are rarely ever as good as at night.

Cod like to feel the tide, so the bigger spring tides and especially tides getting bigger every day are the ones to target. Once the tides go over the high cycle and start to get smaller than expect catches to follow suit. In most areas, the middle hours of the flooding tide tend to be best. They can be caught at low and high-water slack, but this is not a time to expect multiple bites. If there is a feature such as reef or rough ground on the venue you fish, then this can fish well on the ebbing tide too, but again it tends to be the middle hours when there is some tide flow that will produce.

As with so many mostly night feeders, picking tides that start to flood in the dark with high water also in dark fish the best.

SHORE COD FISHING TACKLE

With rough seas and heavy ground to contend with, plus the need to cast to long range, rods in the 6-8oz bracket (up to 200g) with a length of 13'6" or longer give the power and increased lead speed to gain the extra yards. The length also minimises weed contact in the surf by keeping the line higher when in the rod rest, and helps steer fish through heavy surf and over snags. Rods such as the Tronixpro Xenon Power, Xenon C-6 MX are ideal for this type of fishing, as well as the top-end Tronixpro Competition Naga rod.



For beach fishing a 6500 sized multiplier, such as the Guerilla Mono Mag loaded with 18lb Tronixpro Blaze Line and a 60 to 80lb Xenon Shockleader will handle all conditions.



If you're fishing into very rough ground, then more experienced anglers have found that a fixed spool reel, such as the Tronixpro Banzai Surf, with its faster retrieve ratio and direct power can drag fish through heavy ground more successfully. Load these reels with 40lb Tronixpro X8 Power Braid and dispense with a shock leader for close to medium range casting, providing it is safe to do so. Line capacity needs to be in the region of 350m of 0.35 mm line. When using braid, use 300yds of 30lb braid for general fishing, with mono backing as required. An 80lb braid leader is added to the mainline to take casting pressures.

The pulley rig will cover virtually all cod fishing situations off the shore. Begin with 50-inches of 60lb to 80lb Xenon Leader. To one end tie on a Tronixpro Big Bait Casting Snap, slide on a 5 mm bead, a Tronixpro Pulley Rig Bead and another 5 mm bead. Measuring up from the tag end of mono 22-inches, tie in a figure-of-eight knot. This stops the beads and pulley rig bead sliding any further. On to the tag end of mono, slide on a rig crimp, a 3 mm bead and an 8 mm bead, then the hook. Crimp the crimp lightly in place on the mono, just enough that under heavy finger pressure you can slide it on the line. This bead arrangement acts as a bait stop and avoids the bait blowing back up the line during the cast.

Hooks need to be strong but not overly heavy like the Tronixpro Beast Uptide hooks in size 4/0. Most anglers like to use two hooks positioned one above the other, with the top hook held in place by passing the line through the eye and tying on the lower hook. To position the top hook after baiting up, slide the hook down and wrap the line around the hook shank three or four times, then push the hook point into the top of the bait and out the other side. This is the best presentation for a big worm bait or squid bait.

In very rough ground, the top hook can increase the likelihood of snagging. In this case, it's wiser to use a single bigger hook, say a size 6/0 and bait up accordingly just filling the hook. This works best with crab and mussel baits.

TOP BAITS

Top bait for shore cod is black or blow lug. Mixing the two with a whole black above a couple of blow lug gives maximum scent and encourages the cod to take at the hook point. Worm works throughout the year too.

In the rough ground, mussel is an excellent bait, but needs lots of Tronixpro Baitex bait wrap to keep it secure during a powerful cast. In the spring, and summer, peeler or soft crab is excellent when fished into rough ground.

A top bait for bigger cod is a whole squid or two or three smaller squid on the pennel rig. Bind the lot up with Tronixpro Baitex until you have a large sausage shape with the hook points well exposed.

Tipping worm baits with a sliver of squid adds scent, movement, and colour. Also try tipping worm baits with crab, mussel, queen cockle and razorfish, the latter three working especially well after a very rough sea has displaced a lot of shellfish from the rocks and sand.

COD TACTICS

Be prepared to cast as far as you can, especially if there is recognised feature to fish to such as gutters, reef or rough ground. Cod will run the surf like bass, but tend to be further out and will concentrate where there is a feature. One way to increase casting distance is to wear chest waders and wade out thigh deep in the surf, but only do this where it's safe to do so and when you are fishing in close by company.

Fish two rods at different ranges if the sea conditions allow. However, in rough seas where weed may be present, you'll be more efficient if you use just one rod and concentrate on this exclusively. All the rods in the Tronixpro range have highly reflective tips, which help you see bites in the driving wind and rain.

A good solid rod rest is required, but carry a carrier bag or mesh bag and fill this with a few pebbles and hang it on the rod rest to add weight and stability in high winds.

Change baits every 15-minutes or so. In rougher seas, the scent from the bait quickly washes out and cod will only chase up a strong scent trail. Having a pre-baited second rig ready so that when you retrieve, you instantly replace the fished rig with the ready baited rig can save masses of fishing time and catch you more fish.





Gary Willis, Bass, Eastbourne



Luke Ripley, Bass, Eastbourne



Kevin Morgan, Bass, Eastbourne



Mark Saxby, Thornback Ray, Hastings



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Andy Lush – The Friendly Fisherman

Our first view of Clywedog in October 2022

Llyn Clywedog [SY18 6NX]

Cast your mind back to October 2022 we were in a severe drought. As the drought broke, the rains came, and boy did it rain! James Gardner and I had travelled to Llyn Clywedog in mid-Wales to fish with the 'England Fly Fishers Association'. The club is a collection of experienced fly anglers, who mainly fish the reservoirs in the Midlands. We had become close friends with several of their members, after sharing information on where and when to fly fish for barbel in Spain.

Three days of gale force winds and torrential rain, didn't spoil our trip. The camaraderie and the new friendships made, made it all worthwhile. Despite the weather, the trout were eager to feed in the upper layers, which was amazing under the circumstances. Even as the water coloured up, we still saw plenty of fish rising. We both agreed that we would return, and fingers crossed conditions would be more favourable. Llyn Clywedog is nationally famous for its dry fly fishing. So now you know why we had travelled for seven hours up country, across the boarder into Wales to revisit this reservoir.

Return to Clywedog

What a difference a year makes! There was water in areas that had been bone dry the previous year. The reservoir looked simply amazing. We were greeted by Russell Owen, the fishery manager on our arrival. He offered us advice on where to fish, and what tactics were currently successful. We hoped the fish would be "up on the dries", a few days before we left I'd seen some "Daddy Long Legs" [Crane flies] indoors, so we were hopeful.

I was "captain of the boat" for the first day and decided to head up-wind, stopping where the calm water met the ripple. If fish were "up" and feeding this is where they should be. As it was overcast and drizzly I had no hesitation on starting on dries. I tied a Bob's Bits on the dropper and a Hares Ear 'F' fly on the point, both in size 14. I'd chosen these mini dries, because the previous year it was obvious that the naturals were much smaller than those we normally see on our "lowland" reservoirs. James also put up a floating line with a team of nymphs, a Hopper on the top dropper, Cormorant on the middle dropper, and a 'FAB' [Foam Arsed Blob] on the point, "washing line style". In the event the dries were working he could quickly change. It was a good idea to use this "two pronged approach", until we knew what was working.

As we slowly drifted out into open water we spotted fish barely breaking the surface. Whatever they were taking had to be small as neither of us could see any flies hatching. There weren't enough fish showing to cover with my flies, so I adopted the "heave it and leave it approach". By fan casting ahead of the boat, leaving them on the surface for a minute or two before re-casting, I hoped to intercept fish. After about an hour that's exactly what happened, out of nowhere a fish took the Bob's bits.

Our drift gradually took us across the arm from 'Cwm Coch' back towards the moorings. Subsequent drifts took us across the arm, gradually moving down the valley towards the cages. There were obviously a lot of fish in this area, as most of the fleet was here. We systematically set drifts down the valley towards the Sailing Club, before heading further down the reservoir. James was getting some subtle enquires that didn't develop into proper takes. After my initial success I failed to raise another fish so it was time to change tactics. I switched to the "bung", this allowed me to position my flies at 3ft, 6ft and 9ft. I hoped this would help identify the depth band the fish were in. James carried on casting, occasionally changing flies but persisted with the floating line. In the middle of nowhere my "bung" suddenly buried, but I was far too slow and missed it! With renewed enthusiasm I concentrated again but no further takes materialised. We had no option but to return to the straight between the sailing club and the moorings.

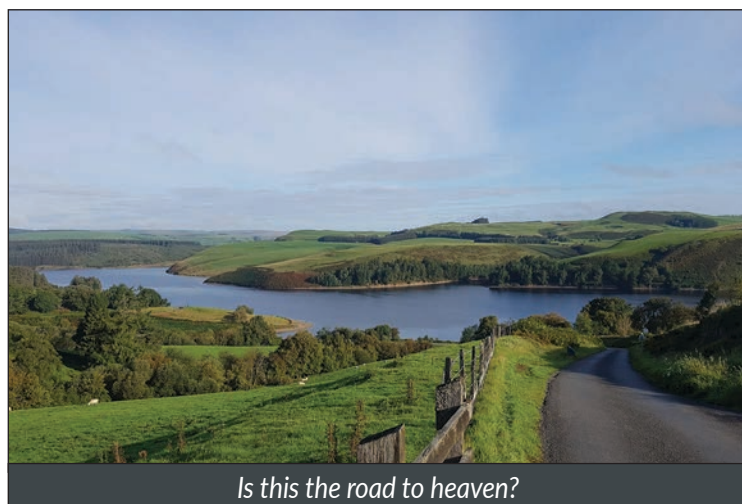
James had by now changed to a Rio 'Midge tip long', a floating line with a 6ft intermediate sinking tip. After missing several takes and only landing one fish he was searching for a combination that would allow him to retrieve faster while still fishing through the same depth. He hoped the faster retrieve would keep the fish

"pinned on". My next change was to search deeper, I switched to a Lee Wulff Predator tip line, a floating line with a 12ft intermediate sinking tip. This allowed me to fish deeper, while still using small unweighted nymphs.

**Fulling Mill
Bob's Bits**

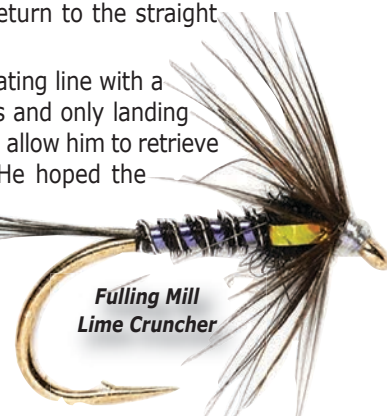


**Fulling Mill
Hares Ear 'F' fly**



Is this the road to heaven?

**Fulling Mill
Lime Cruncher**



After each cast I straightened my line, then slowly retrieved keeping pace with the boat's drift. This saw my two flies, a Fulling Mill Lime Cruncher on the dropper and an olive marabou nymph on the point, drop through the layers. At some point I hoped a trout would intercept one of these flies. What actually happened was the opposite, no takes "on the drop". As the boat approached my line, which was now almost vertical, the entire sinking tip and several feet of floating line had descended into the depths. I inched my flies up towards the surface, occasionally pausing. The first take was a rod wrenching affair that woke me from my day dreaming stupor. The fish had taken the 'Lime Cruncher' on the hang at about 20ft! I managed another fish using the same tactic, so it wasn't a fluke. The boat's drift speed increased as the wind freshened making it extremely difficult to get the same vertical presentation. I had to change lines, James had already made the switch to a Di3, a sinking line that sinks at 3" per second, this allowed him to "twiddle" retrieve his flies part way back to the boat before performing the upward path to the surface. Again all his fish were taking on the "lift and hang". I chose an Airflo 40+ Di5 line, I'd never owned one of these lines before and what a revelation it was. The weight forward section is Di5 [5" per sec], while the thin running line is intermediate. The lighter running line, not only increased my casting distance but it helped create the steep angle in the water I was hoping to achieve.

I counted the line down between 15 and 20 seconds before making the upward retrieve. It was important to get the angle in the line right as it headed upwards towards the boat. If I was too late starting the upward part of the retrieve, I had no chance to hang the flies as the boat drifted past the line. When I got it right I could hang the flies just ahead of the boat, and this was when I caught all my fish. James and I both finished on five fish apiece. Although we had struggled throughout the day, we had explored a lot of the reservoir, rather than staying close to the cages.

We had fished a variety of methods, from the surface down to at least 25ft. We felt we had done the "hard yards", which made us very confident for the next day.

Day two

The following day was much brighter, warmer and drier. The light breeze made it was perfect to drift slowly over vast areas of water, while fishing in a controlled manner. I wanted to fish dries but having caught fish so deep the previous afternoon, and with the brighter light I had my doubts that dries were going to work. I opted for the "Predator tip" line again, I didn't have to fish deep if I didn't want to. I would be scanning the water intently for any signs of fish on the surface, as I was eager to get back on the dries if at all possible. James started on an intermediate line which sinks at 1.5" per second, he could mix up retrieve speeds and patterns while searching through the top 5 or 6 feet. We knew there were plenty of fish in the channel from the moorings down past the cages to the sailing club. So we had to start there, undoubtedly there were fish elsewhere, but not so concentrated.

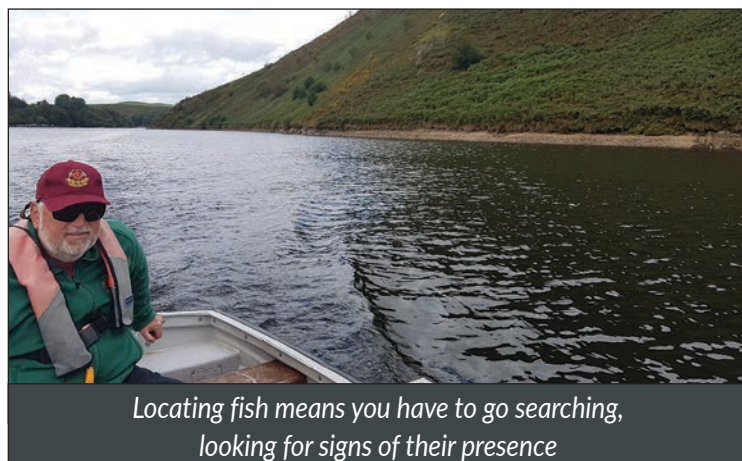


The steep banks provide shelter and a rich source of food in terrestrial insects

I was off the mark quickly, again the FM Lime Cruncher was the successful fly. This small black pattern with a hint of UV in it's dressing is a firm favourite of both James and myself. We switched lines and flies around throughout the course of the day, but the only consistent method was to fish deep with most fish coming on the final lift and hang portion of the retrieve. James always excels when it comes to concentrating over long periods of time, when very little is happening. From mid-day until around 5 o'clock I hit "the wall", no takes were forthcoming and I had exhausted all my ideas. I'd changed lines so many times during the day and by then I was beaten. James continued fishing, now on a Di3 catching an occasionally fish. He too was confused as where in the water column the fish were? He had caught at 25ft, 15ft and just sub-surface, yet we had seen fish on the surface too.

We were reaching our last hour of fishing, we weren't intending staying late as we had a long journey to the Midlands ahead of us. We were due to fish another reservoir on our way home, but that's a story for another day. As we neared the cages we noticed a sheltered area just downwind that was alive with rising fish! We both quickly switched to dries. James put up a Shipman's buzzer on the top dropper, a CDC Hopper on the middle, with a CDC Shuttlecock on the point. My two flies were minuscule patterns again, a Hares Ear 'F' fly dropper, with a Bob's bits on the point. James selection proved to be more attractive than mine as he hooked a trout immediately. Shortly afterwards he hooked two at once! I was struggling to sink my leader between the flies and wasn't getting any offers. I made a fresh leader, changed flies to something larger, so both the fish and I could see them! Two CDC hoppers went on, one in claret the other in hot orange, this did the trick as I started catching too. James was having a "bean feast" by now, the trout found his flies irresistible. Time was marching on but we were in no hurry to leave now. As the clock ran down we reluctantly packed up. We left Clywedog, dazed and confused, but wanting more. **We will return!**

Til' next month, tight lines, Andy Lush



Locating fish means you have to go searching, looking for signs of their presence



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



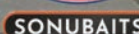
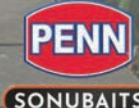
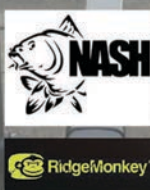


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THE OLD BALLAST PIT The aeration equipment has now been removed so all field side swims are now fishable. The railway bank platforms are nearly complete and should be open for fishing in the next few weeks.

BARDEN LAKE This will re-open for fishing on November 1st following a good rest after the KHV outbreak where we lost 32 Carp. Following EA netting and electrofishing, it was good to see that there is still a good number of large fish present.

HAYSDEN LAKE Fishing continues to be very good on here with recent match results producing bags to nearly 30lb. Pleasure sessions producing Skimmers, Roach, Perch, the odd big Bream to nearly 6lbs and Tench to just over 5lbs.

LONGFIELD LAKE A recent work party reinstated the footbridge and widened the path as well as reducing the steepness of the bank on one side of the bridge exit. Also some swim clearing was done, so lots more room for the few anglers that do fish it.

PIPPINS FARM Some of the small Perch we introduced a couple of winters ago are now reaching over the 1lb 8ozs mark. This could be a great Perch venue within another two winters.

MATCH RESULTS

AUBREY & TIBBETTS – BUNGALOWS

1st	Mick Orum	9lbs 8ozs
2nd	Ditch Howard	6lbs 7ozs
3rd	Pat Galpin	6lbs

CHEESEMAN CUP – HARTLAKE UP

1st	Colin Fowler	8lbs 1oz
2nd	Andrew Goldthorpe	6lbs 6ozs
3rd	Steve Parker	6lbs 3ozs

HOUGHTON CUP 2 – HAYSDEN LAKE

1st	Lee Wakeman	28lbs 1oz
2nd	Andrew Goldthorpe	24lbs 12ozs
3rd	Mick Smith	17lbs

CANE & PIN – MUCKSTREAM

1st	Steve Parker	8lbs 12ozs
2nd	Martyn Hill	5lbs 2ozs
3rd	Lee Wakeman	4lbs 14ozs

TIBBETTS LADIES

1st	Lisa Bedford	1lb 8ozs
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Brayden's Big Day Out

Brayden Parsons made the most of a family fishing trip to Wylands Angling Centre in Battle, East Sussex. Brayden, along with his Dad, his Uncle and his cousin, targeted the well known venue's New Specimen Lake. Baiting his rig with a 14mm Scopex boilie, the 13yr old landed this superbly proportioned common carp of 19lbs. Brayden also went onto land another carp of 15lbs 8ozs earning him this months bait bundle prize from **Sussex Bait Developments**.



Sophie's Surprise Capture

Sophie North had a shock when she visited her local water, Buckshole Reservoir, in Hastings. Fishing with her step-dad Mark, Sophie set up her tackle using 3lb line and a size sixteen hook to target the venues roach. Imagine her surprise as, when reeling in a small roach, this 8lb pike grabbed hold. Luckily Sophie managed to not panic and after a spirited battle was able to land her first ever pike. Sophie also features in this months Sea Informer making her a worthy winner of **The Simple Fishing Guidebook** by Carl Smith.



Felix Hardie - 22lbs Catfish, Hawkurst Fish Farm



Zac Cross - 23lbs Catfish, Hawkurst Fish Farm



Jayden - Mirror Carp, Tricklebrook Fishery



Syd Smith 10yrs - PB 22lbs 4ozs Common, Club Water



Riley Hayward - 13lbs 8ozs Mirror, Orchard Place Farm



Ieuan Gwynne 14yrs - 13lb Sturgeon



Nathaniel Tanner 7yrs - 1st Carp, Amazon Wood



Elsie Ward 7yrs 1st ever fish - 4lbs Common



Ollie Gates - 14ozs Roach, Orchard Place Farm



Riley Blackford - PB 7lbs Mirror Carp, Monks Lakes



Tia Kentell 10yrs - 15lbs Common Carp, Local Lake



Harlie Perren (right) 6yrs - 5lbs Common Carp



Ellamay Shaw - Common Carp, Wylands



Billy O'Sullivan 13 - PB 19lbs 1oz Mirror, Monk Lakes



Corey Church - PB 3lbs 14ozs Perch, Private Water



Bobby Ament - 17lbs 4ozs Mirror, Orchard Place Farm

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November update

by instructor Warren White



This year at Rowhill Special Educational needs school, Longfield, Kent, we have had the highest number of students we have ever had who wanted to enroll onto the BTEC fisheries course which started in September when the students returned from their summer break. The course is a combination of paperwork and practical work.

Since we have been back to school in September, as well as getting on with the BTEC work, we have also had some good fishing sessions with some fine catches of Carp, Roach and Perch at Grove farm fishery, Hadlow college. As we come to the end of the term in October, sessions that have been all day, will be cut back to a half day session as the fishing gets harder and the weather approaching winter gets colder. We will then look at visiting our local rivers more, which fish well through the winter, for silver fish and Pike.

Something a bit different that we recently did and part of the BTEC Fisheries course, was to carry out an Aquatic Invertebrate sample on flowing water to test the water quality.

Pond dipping is an activity that is fun, nothing beats the thrill of trundling into a stream, wellingtons on, with a net in and bucket in your hand and an anticipation of what you are going to catch. I can remember as a child at my local river Cray at the five arches, Footscray meadows, in the summer trying to catch minnows and stickle backs with a child's fishing net. I would be there hours, scooping my net into the water, trying to fill my bucket with fish. Lovely days.

So we arranged to go to Lulling stone country park on the river Darent, this would involve the students going into the water and being shown how to kick sample, which is a technique that involves holding a fine mesh net in running water in the direction that you are facing. This should be downstream of where you are standing, then with one foot kick the bottom of



Nathan 18.9.23



Ollie 18.9.23



the river bed, disturbing the sediment in the direction of the net. The contents of the net are then emptied into a sampling tray with invertebrates transferred to a magnifying pot to take a closer look, to help with identification we used an invertebrate picture guide and the results of the sampling were recorded.

As a general rule, if you find invertebrates such as Dragon and Damselfly nymphs, as we did, then the water quality is pretty clean, as they are normally sensitive to pollution. If on the other hand you are finding midges, worms etc these are more tolerant of pollution, meaning this water is not so clean.

Although all the boys had Wellies on, there was plenty of wet feet at the end, but a fun and enjoyable session had by all. Something that is often forgotten as a fisherman, is what other creatures live underwater, as well as fish. Doing an invertebrate sample opens your eyes to what lives in the water and more importantly these invertebrates are the main food source for fish.

I really enjoy my time on the river, whether it is fishing or just sitting by a river watching the wildlife around you. One of my favourite sights is seeing a kingfisher at work, a flash of blue and a splash into the water and another fish caught. A kingfisher is normally a good indicator of a clean river, as it will only chose to live where there is an abundance of small fish. Polluted waters do not contain enough available fish.





Connor Roome - 25lbs 4ozs Catfish, Stones Fishery



Danny Speer - 40lbs Catfish, Orchard Place Farm



Marc - 79lbs Catfish, Lake B, Pittlands



Stuart Roome - PB 33lbs Catfish, Stones Fishery

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

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

Victory Lake



Berry Lake



Damson Match Lake



Meadow Lake

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

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

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

Day Ticket Prices:

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

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Medway Man

Bob Morris

A drastic drop in temperature and the first frosts have signalled the start of my piking activities for this winter. This is frequently a normal thing but this year the change has been dramatic during the mid-October spell with some of the warmest autumn weather on record instantly giving way to cold clear nights and what feels like chilly days.

As I mentioned last time, I have been doing what I call combination sessions recently with pike fishing during the morning and afternoon then switching to feeder tactics at dusk. While I can't yet claim to have set the world alight with this approach, I have managed to catch a few small to medium sized pike during the same sessions that have produced evening tench and some decent chub on one stretch of river. One of the best features of this type of fishing is that I have yet to need to use a rod of more than 1 / 3/4lb tc. It is a fact that heavy pike rods are more to do with handling larger weights and baits/tackle rather than coping with the fighting qualities of the pike themselves. It amazes me that many pike anglers stick to these heavy rods - even when fishing a relatively close range with smallish baits. Obviously, you must tailor your outfit to the water as far as casting range and the presence of snags etc, but it is amazing how well an 8lb pike will fight on a barbel rod and centrepin - I thoroughly recommend it to anyone as an experience on the pike front.

Freelining is a method often frowned on by the pike fishing experts and I can understand this to some extent as it can be used in a way that avoids instant bite detection.



Free running floats

When fishing at close range with small dead baits however I find it an excellent tactic. All you must remember is to use an indicator heavy enough to hold the line under tension, thereby quickly registering any slack line movement. I normally use a buzzer in this situation and of course it needs to be one capable of detecting drop back bites. Another reason that I prefer this approach is that I am often fishing relatively shallow waters at this time of the year and the weed will not have died back to winter levels and as a result lead weights can often get caught up and cause a problem. Similarly, float fished baits, although great for these conditions usually, can also get snagged in the weed when a take occurs and cause a pike to drop the bait.

I have over the last couple of years been experimenting with free running floats for these challenging situations. A visible type of float is allowed to run on the line above the trace and the line clipped at the reel or fished directly off a light bait runner or pin. When a take occurs, the tension on the line will cause the float to react to the movement but should it come up against weed or a surface obstruction the line

will run freely through the float, without causing resistance to the pike. For visibility reasons I like to use a self cocking float or carp controller for this method and the line can run through a ring or swivel at either top or bottom. I prefer a braided line running through the top in weedy conditions.

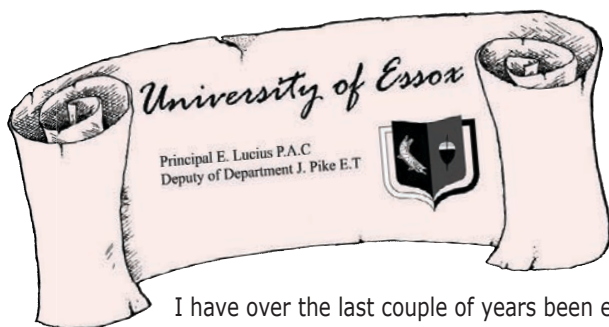
It is early days to give a proper assessment of this method yet and I have only used it up to about twenty-five yard or so.



The bobbins can be used with an alarm



A fine pike caught using a barbel rod



Having said this, it is proving very effective on the type of waters and situations that I have been exploring. I will update you on the progress with this over the next couple of months and anything else that I have positive news on. Something else that is probably worth mentioning here is



Bob's homemade indicators

that when using these tactics, my preference is for a free hanging bobbin/indicator, as I find that these are best for the detection of slack line takes and are also more portable when a roving style is being employed. My favourite home-made ones are constructed from a simple poly ball/or round pilot float with a cup hook screwed into the side. They can be fished with open or closed pick up and work well will buzzers. If they descend/fall to the ground, they even roll off the line if the cup hook is attached at a slight angle, great. I have used this type of indication for many years without problem and always have one or two of different sizes/colours in my bag. I even have some that incorporate a rattle, which are made from cat toys (pictured above) with a couple of shot inside to create an audible indication. I found that I soon became tuned into this sound when wandering without using a buzzer.

Best Fishes & Tactics - Bob Morris

Piscatorial Politics



Climate change is something that we are all going to have to learn to live with one way or another despite any progress being made on the government's 'net zero' target or other positive developments. Slowing global warming may be a possibility but reversing this process would seem to be a long way into the future - if at all feasible. This situation has many implications for us all and our lifestyles and of course Angling will be one of the activities where it will manifest itself over the next decade or two. Extreme weather events are

becoming more common globally with disastrous consequences - as we can see from recent events. It was not long ago that some (intellectual) friends of mine were agreeing that the world climate was altering but dubious that our activities were responsible!! None of them doubt it today. It may well be that we are not inline for earthquakes and tsunamis here, but heat waves, fires and the frequency of flash flooding could completely change the way that we all need to behave. We have seen the effect that these wild weather events can have on our waters, which include Oxygen depletion, instant bank erosion and the constant threat of pollution from sewage and agricultural run-off. Without massive investment in the environmental safeguards and infrastructure, starting immediately, the extreme changes to our weather patterns could lead to many disasters without even considering the potential threats to the Angling world. The constant stories of sewage spills and other pollution are extremely depressing with little sign that the perpetrators are being tackled. At times during my lifetime, it has seemed that certain elements of humanity have been at war with mother nature! I guess that this is not so surprising, as we seem to be at war with each other somewhere most of the time.

However, the fact that the whole subject is now seldom out of the news in one form or another is very encouraging as it should now lead to positive action being taken by government, the relevant authorities and ultimately 'all of us.'

We 'surely' must understand now that abusing nature is ultimately a war on ourselves!

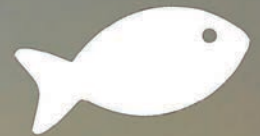
Good news but... Let's hope that it is not too late! **Bob M**

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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
Sandwich Lakes Coarse Fishery	Sandwich Ash Road (A257), Near Canterbury CT3 2DA	07936 409912
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
Willows Angling Centre	Bax Farm, Lower Road, Teynham ME9 9BU	01795 520887
Wylands Farm	Wylands Farm, Powdermill Lane, Battle TN33 0SU	01424 893394

Trout Fisheries

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

Tackle & Bait Supplies

Absolute Tackle	12 Wealden Forest Park Herne Common, Kent CT6 7LQ	01227 636724 / 07809 330854
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Anglers Den	6 North Road, Pevensey Bay BN24 6AY	01323 460441
Angling Specialist (ASH)	29 Queen Street, Horsham RH13 5AA	01403 264644
A.R. Tackle	8 Castle Street, Hastings TN34 3DY	01424 422094
Bait Bucket Tackle Warehouse	Unit T Rich Industrial Estate, Avis Way, Newhaven BN9 0DU	01273 933050
Best Buddies	28 Martello Drive, Dymchurch Road, Hythe CT21 6PH	01303 487144
Bodle Angling	Cuckfield Road, Burgess Hill RH15 8RE	01444 247757
Camos Carp Cabin	11 Turner Street, Ramsgate CT11 8NJ	01843 581784
Chris Brown Products	email: chrifoaks@gmail.com www.cbproducts.co.uk	01892 723670
Dens Tackle	73 Dymchurch Road, Hythe CT21 6JN	01303 267053
Eastbourne Aquarium & Reptile Centre	19-21 Seaside, Eastbourne BN21 3PP	01323 730635
Gabriels Fishery Tackle Shop	Marsh Green Road, Edenbridge TN8 5PP	07730 066088
Henfold Bait & Tackle Henfold Lakes	Henfold Lane, Newdigate, Dorking RH5 4RW	07956 043922
Jack Frost	Reynolds Place, West Green, Crawley RH11 7HB	01293 521186
Kent Angling Centre	44, Seal Road, Sevenoaks TN14 5AR	01732 905088
Medway Tackle Supplies	11 Twydall Green, Gillingham ME8 6JY	01634 475260
MFC Outdoor Store	9 Station Road, Hailsham BN27 2BE	01323 846883
NJ Tackle	150 Milton Road, Gravesend DA12 2RG	01474 353998
Orchard Tackle	58 High Brooms Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent TN4 9DB	07494 670328
Pinions Baits	431 London Road, Ditton, Aylesford ME20 6DB	01622 718580
Polegate Angling Centre	Unit 7, Birch Industrial Estate, Eastbourne BN23 6PH	01323 486379
Romney Angling	59, High Street, New Romney TN28 8AH	01797 362889
Sheppey Angling	Unit 5, Regis Business Park New Road, Sheerness, Kent ME12 1HA	01795 661089
South London Angling Centre	286 Lee High Road, London SE13 5PJ	0208 852 4451
Sussex Bait Developments	Falkenvil Fishery, Saltmarsh Lane, Hailsham BN27 2RJ	07971 303949
The Tackle Box	251 Watling Street, Dartford DA2 6EG	01322 292400
Trade In Tackle	Maidstone Road Wateringbury ME18 5EH	01622 814296 / 07941 085011

Angling Clubs & Societies

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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Swift Lake



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KESTREL LAKE up to 3 Rods

Day Ticket : £25

24 hours : £40

36 hours : £55

48 hours : £70

5 days : £145

6 days : £160

60 hours : £85

72 hours : £100

84 hours : £115

96 hours : £130

7 days : £175

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

KINGFISHER LAKE up to 3 Rods

Day Ticket : £20

24 hours : £35

36 hours : £50

48 hours : £65

5 days : £140

6 days : £155

60 hours : £80

72 hours : £95

84 hours : £110

96 hours : £125

7 days : £170

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