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48HR - £55
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CONCESSIONS
1 ROD - £8

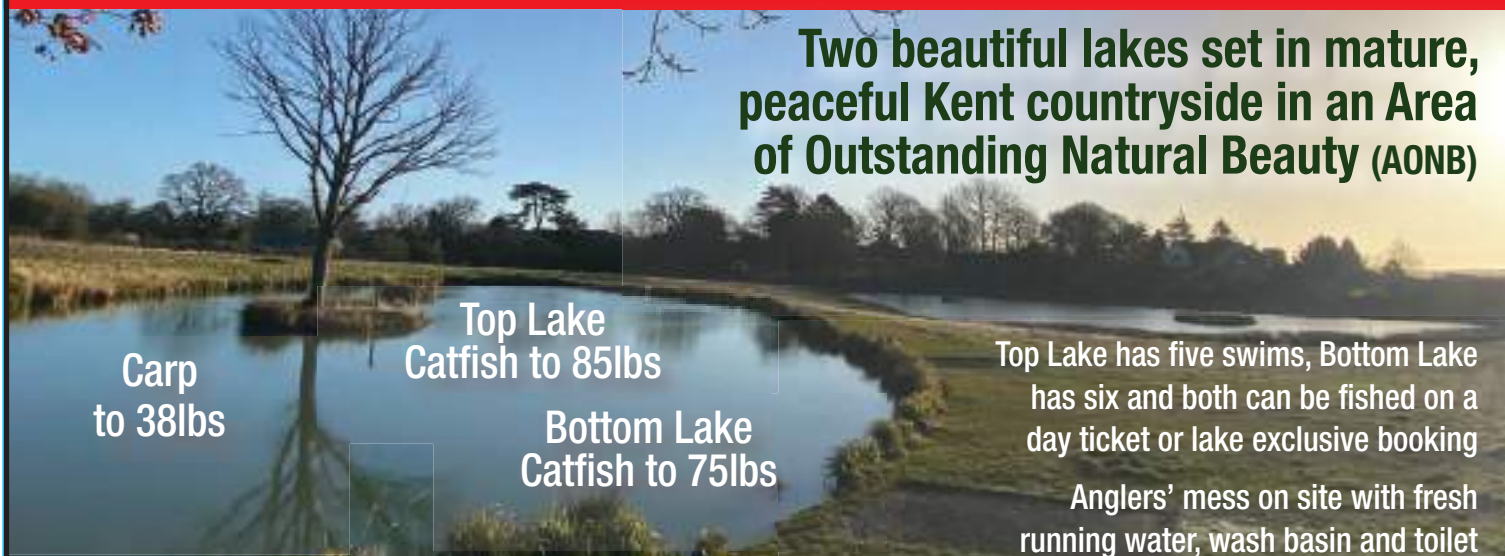
FOOD IS AVAILABLE ON SITE FROM MID-MARCH TO OCTOBER

www.orchardplacefarmfishing.co.uk

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



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

Hello and welcome to the August edition of the Freshwater Informer



In the words of Alice Cooper 'Schools Out For Summer' and there's never been a better time to get out on the bank. The benefits of angling are well documented, whether that be the social aspect, the positive impact on mental health, or simply as an opportunity to get away from it all and find peace and solace within nature. Angling is many things to many people. Of course, if you are reading this chances are that you are already an angler, and well aware of the



benefits. However many are not, which is why during national fishing month (July 27th - 1st September) the Angling Trades Association, in conjunction with the Environment Agency, are once again running their Take A Friend Fishing initiative. A



scheme that allows you to register for a free one day rod licence so that you can introduce a friend to this wonderful pastime. Visit www.takeafriendfishing.co.uk for full details. Also during the holidays, a number of local clubs and fisheries will be running their own open days to give youngsters a chance to get out on the bank. Kids In Mind Angling Adventures will be hosting their FREE summer event at Wylands Farm, nr Battle on Sat 24th Aug. Lots of expert help and encouragement will be on hand, including representatives from the Freshwater Informer. It would be great to see you there.

UNTIL THEN, HAVE A GREAT MONTH, THE FWI TEAM.

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DATES FOR
YOUR DIARY
2024

OCTOBER publication
CONTENT DEADLINE 16th September
NOVEMBER publication
CONTENT DEADLINE 21st October

DECEMBER publication
CONTENT DEADLINE 18th November
JANUARY 2025 publication
CONTENT DEADLINE 16th December

The Freshwater Informer

email: thefreshwaterinformer@gmail.com



COPY DEADLINE for SEPTEMBER 2024

MONDAY 19th August 2024 at 5pm

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Beaver Fishery Lingfield, Surrey

Snipe Lake has again been producing some cracking fish, we have had original mirrors out to 29lbs 8ozs, stockie mirrors out to just over 20lbs, commons out to 32lbs 10ozs and at last the big grassie made an appearance on the bank when he was caught by **Jack Weller** weighing in at a new **PB** of 33lbs 10ozs.

Westlake has seen cats of all sizes being banked again, from low doubles to some bigger monsters. Most anglers have been catching multiple cats whether it be on day sessions or longer. Lots of 40's, 50's and a couple of 60lbbers have graced the banks

Jeff's Lake has again, much like last month been fishing well with commons and mirrors being banked to low doubles, F1's a plenty and some cracking bream to 7lbs.

Daughter's Lake has seen commons to 21lbs, mirrors to 19lbs 6ozs and the grassies have certainly woken up with lots being banked to 30lbs.

Eden Pond has produced carp to 7lbs, bream to 4lbs and plenty of tench to just over 5lbs.

Maze Lake has been a tad trickier than last month but has seen some anglers banking multiples of fishes, with mirror and common carp to 6lbs, ghost carp to 5lbs and bream to 5lbs.

Majors Lake has been, yet again producing some lovely fish. F1's to 5lbs, tench to 4lbs 8ozs, bream to 8lbs 2ozs, fully scaled mirrors to 17lbs 8ozs, ghosties to 15lbs, commons to 22lbs 4ozs and a **NEW LAKE RECORD** mirror caught by **Terry Edwards** at an impressive 29lbs 14ozs.

We issue a catch and fishery report on Facebook every Thursday and Sunday afternoons to go into further details of the anglers, their catches and all up to date news regarding what is going on with maintenance around the fishery.



Dean Aldridge - Westlake



Dean Curran - 27lbs 2ozs - Daughters Lake



Ian Stovell - 26lbs 4ozs - Snipe Lake



Mike Flatt - 22lbs 4ozs - Majors Lake



Jack Weller - PB 33lbs 10ozs - Snipe Lake



Jack Notridge - 30lbs PB - Daughter's Lake



Callum Hutchins - 31lbs 15ozs PB - Snipe Lake



Steven Gallagher - 28lbs 9ozs - Snipe Lake



Ray Box - 29lbs 8ozs - Snipe Lake



Terry Edwards - 29lbs 14ozs NEW LAKE RECORD Majors



Archie May - 21lbs 5ozs PB - Daughters Lake



Elliott Moreland - 17lbs 2ozs - Daughters Lake



Matt Jones - 19lbs 8ozs - Snipe Lake



Chris Sheperd - 21lbs - Majors Lake



Toby Bennet - 51lbs PB - Westlake



Josh Bashford - 56lbs - Westlake



Martin Smith - 62lbs 8ozs - 1 of 7 Westlake



Mark Nichols - 32lbs 10ozs - Snipe Lake

It's good to be back

Alfie Western sent in a great report on the capture of his new PB

"After a good year without fishing, I decided it was time to get the rods back out with all this heat and walking around Brooklands seeing the size of some of the fish on the top I couldn't help but get down there again.

The Bailiff gave me a tip there was about 10 fish in Glastonbury swim, and he said no one was there. I got round there and see a group of fish. I persevered all day in the blistering heat with dog biscuit with no success after a hook pull and missing a few fish the activity died down, so I let the controller float drift round into a cove to my right. A dog biscuit soaked in a bit of KSC oil, inside a BREAD BOMB, as I figured when they swell in the water they are never coming out. I let the float drift for about 30 minutes and low and behold, I hear a fish to my right as if it crashed out, she must of knew straight away she was hooked as my line then pulled tight I couldn't even see the controller float with all the commotion!

She took me through numerous weed beds for about 10 minutes then decided to give up as she was covered! Eventually I managed to net a huge common, amazed at the sheer size of its belly, and as it flopped into the net my legs turned to jelly. Some other anglers came around and said that I had caught the Queen of lake. It was difficult to get an exact weight on the scales but they were pulling comfortably past the 40lbs mark, and as she'd weighed 41lbs 8ozs at her previous capture, we settled on 41lbs.

So I did it! After 4 weeks of fishing every Saturday, losing 2 good fish to weed beds and putting in a lot of effort in the process, I landed my first UK forty. I will never forget the feeling at age 22, I can officially say I am hooked on fishing AGAIN!"



Alfie Western
PB 41lbs Common Carp
Brooklands

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

www.beaverfarmfishery.co.uk

Email:
beaverfarmfishery@live.co.uk
Facebook: beaverfishery



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

Facilities include:

- On Site Tackle Shop
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- Disabled Friendly Toilets
- Seasonal Snack Bar with Hot and Cold Food
- 1 hut available for hire



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

Tricklebrook Fishery
Five Oak Green, Kent



Lewis Hill - Mirror Carp - New Lake



21lb Mirror Carp - Old Lake



Anthony - 36lbs 8ozs Common Carp - New Lake



Lewis Hill - 24lbs Mirror Carp - New Lake



Richard Spooner - 25lbs Mirror - Old Lake



Anthony - 30lbs+ Common Carp - New Lake



Charlie Young - Mirror Carp - Old Lake



Charlie Young - Mirror Carp - Old Lake



Charlie Young - Mirror Carp - Old Lake



Kris Smith - 27lbs 13ozs Mirror - New Lake



Kris Smith - Common Carp - New Lake



Kris Smith - Mirror Carp - New Lake



Charlie Young - Common Carp - Old Lake



Charlie Young - Mirror Carp - Old Lake



Charlie Young - Common Carp - Old Lake



Charlie Young - Mirror Carp - Old Lake



Charlie Young - Mirror Carp - Match Lake



Charlie Young - Grass Carp - Old Lake

PRICES

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



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

LAKE RULES

1. A TICKET MUST BE PURCHASED BEFORE FISHING

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

3. NO NUTS OR PARTICLE

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

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

6. MINIMUM 15LB LINE AND NO BRAIDED MAIN LINE

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

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

9. BARBLESS HOOKS ONLY

10. NO LEAD CORE, NO FUSED LEADERS OF ANY KIND INCLUDING SAFEZONE

11. NO FIXED LEAD RIGS. ALL LEADS MUST PASS FREELY OVER LEADER KNOTS. RIG CHECKS WILL BE CARRIED OUT

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

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

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

15. NO DOGS ALLOWED

16. BARBECUES ALLOWED IF OFF THE GROUND

17. NO BAIT BOATS

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

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

20. ALL RUBBISH TO BE TAKEN HOME

CCTV IN OPERATION
OVER WHOLE SITE

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



Looking forward – a long river campaign

I have to admit that for the past few seasons I have wasted time waiting for the right conditions to fish rivers. Ideal conditions to me being a nice tinge of colour, unless fishing a chalk stream of course, a steady flow suitable to run a stick float through its paces or presenting a nice big piece of bread flake or cheese paste close to an overhanging tree or a big crease where the main flow pushes away from a bend thus creating a nice slack piece of water to explore with some confidence and high hopes. I know I am asking for dream scenarios but in years gone by those conditions in conjunction with an overcast sky were common place, well at least to my memory as I was always out fishing the rivers and enjoying every minute of it. Fishing rivers is not for the faint hearted either and this year already on my local stretch of the Upper Medway it has been a bit scary fishing the steep slippery banks after ploughing through the overgrown undergrowth, one slip and an early bath it will be.

However with said I will be visiting the Thames and Hampshire Avon shortly and access to the riverside will be less daunting as the venues I will be visiting are much more accommodating to fish and of course film as I plan to document the sessions for Fishing Tail Films YouTube channel. I have been busy planning the trips, preparing the baits and making up rigs to target species like chub, river bream, roach, dace and barbel. I think I have more selection of baits than most tackle shops but then again probably most of us anglers do.

Big Dace Are My Target

For some reason catching big Dace is at the front of my fish to target this season and the venues I plan to fish hold plenty of big Dace so I can't wait to get started. A few seasons back on a session on the Hampshire Avon I was running a big stick float through its paces in amongst streamer weed beds and I was catching some cracking big Dace in the 10 ounce and upwards bracket, it was great fishing and I have planned a return very soon and I hope to be writing about some good catches in my next article. The current Dace record I believe stands at 1lb 5ozs 2dr but it is not supported by photographic evidence so whether that is the official record I am not sure as the process of claiming records is a long drawn affair not that I know by experience as I have not claimed a species to be a record, but hopefully one day I will, there is after all "a possibility in every cast" now where have I heard that saying before?



The River Avon at Britford



A specimen Medway Dace

What a Dace and What a Match

My biggest Dace to date and I think will be hard to beat although I will try is a fine specimen of 1lb 1oz which was caught during a competition many years ago on a South Norwood AC club match on the River Eden in a swim that was like a whirlpool. It was a peg that I knew very well and enjoyed fishing it as it threw up some nice Chub, Roach and Dace and the humble Gudgeon which used to make up most of my backing weights on my river matches. The forecast was for a very hot day and at the draw which was a roving draw on this particular match I knew a low number would guarantee a good choice of swim and the swirl pool swim which

was permanent peg number 31 by a barbed wire fence, was the swim I wanted and to cut a long story short, I drew out number 3 and with anglers 1 and 2 opting for short walk pegs I marched off for a long walk across the field to my chosen destination. I think I half run to the peg as I really fancied a good days fishing as on very hot spells of weather which we were having at the time swims with plenty of oxygenation were going to be a good holding area for the fish to shoal up. The swim was a fast moving swim that swirled around like a washing machine. To the left upstream was a shallow stony section where the river would rush over picking up speed into the main part of the swim which had a hole of around 4 feet before shallowing up again. It was in the deeper sections that the fish would shoal up and every bite produced a different species. Gudgeon, Perch, Roach, Chublets up the pound mark plus some proper Chub in the 3 to 4lbs range and they were the target to bolster a good back up weight of the smaller species. Bleak and Dace plus big minnows could also be caught but on this particular day the swim produced some very big Dace which I bagged up. At first I thought they were the usual chublets but on closer inspection I could see that they were in fact cracking hand sized Dace which seemed to get bigger and bigger the more the match went on. I caught fish virtually every cast on my stickfloat approach and I did not want the match to end as I was enjoying myself far too much. I had a bonus Chub of 3lbs plus which I knew was going to guarantee a top 3 finish but I was hoping for more. I had not seen a soul all day long so had no idea what the others had caught but I need not worry as by the time the scales had arrived at my peg just over 2lbs was leading and I knew I had that and more in one fish alone, that bonus Chub. I scaled 15lbs 11ozs and asked for the Dace to be weighed separately and it went 1lb 1oz, what a great fish and that was backed up by half a dozen more in the 12 to 14 ounce bracket. Second place weighed 4lbs 11ozs and third 3lbs 7ozs so I had a comfortable win. I fished the same swim a few times after that day but although I caught some Dace they were not in the same league as that hot summers days.

Goodbye To A Good Friend

I attended the recent Bodle Angling show in Sussex and enjoyed catching up with our FWI's Glen Relf although he failed to recognise me at first as I was not wearing my beanie or summer hat as I do in my pictures and videos lol. Working in the angling industry as I did for a few years in the past it was good to catch up with some old faces from yesteryear who are still working in the trade albeit for different companies, they still have the same passion for the game and that is good to see. The visit to Bodle was tinged with sadness as I received a message from my mate Rhu that my fishing buddy and friend Keith Snelgrove had passed away in the early hours of that morning. Keith was diagnosed with a brain tumour in April and passed away in June, the speed of his passing will feel raw for some time as we had more



Russ in search of big Dace



Planning ahead for my Winter campaign

Tight Lines and Wet Nets - Russ Evans

good times and fishing trips still to do. They say you never know what tomorrow can bring and it is so true, so I intend to fish even more as I know that is what Keith would have wanted. In one of our final conversations a few days before Keith died he said to me "carry on fishing and I will bask in your glory" bless him.

If there is anything fishy that you would like to make contact with me about, venue info or tackle recommendations please feel free to email me at fishingtailfilms@aol.com I am always happy to help out if I can.

I know I am wishing my life away but I really can't wait for the cooler weather months to arrive so I can get out Perch fishing again and some winter chub sessions plus some roach fishing in the mix. The great thing about being an all-round specimen angler is the variety of species to target and various methods to target them with. Variety is the spice of life even in the fishing World.

Good Luck if you are out and about by the water's edge this month and I shall look forward to catching up with you next month.



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



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Horsmonden, Kent TN12 8EL

Tel: **01580 212512**

email: info@elphicks-fisheries.co.uk

www.elphicks-fisheries.co.uk



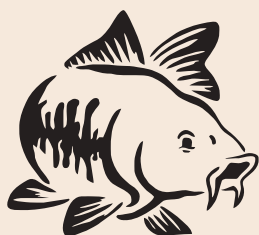
Stuart Loder - 48lbs Catfish - Greenacres Fishery



Ryan Hemsley - 30lbs Common - Elphicks Fishery



John Austen - Common Carp



Shirkoak Fishery and B&B



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This beautiful setting needs to be visited and enjoyed!

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

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

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or visit our website **www.greenacresfarmfishery.co.uk**

Email : greenacresfarmfishery@gmail.com



Gabriels Fishery Edenbridge, Kent

Admiral Lake the summer season started with a bang for our specimen lake with many large fish coming out of the water. Boilies and some good groundbait is the popular choice. Special mention to **Terry Hatcha** for landing several fish over 40lbs, including 42lbs 6ozs beauty now named Mr. Max. Also to **Levi Ward** for 40lbs common and really stunning grass carp at 25lbs 4ozs amongst others. Many pbs on the lake this June/July, well done guys!

Oak Lake never a disappointment, is doing super well after some landscaping and the removal of trees causing excess leaf drop. Some beautiful fish caught so far in 2024, including many common and mirror carp 15-24lbs and sizable grass carp.

Swallow Lake our peaceful novice carp lake is fishing well with plentiful catches of smaller mirror and common carp, traditional simple bait and small hooks always do well in this water.

Silver Lake our match lake, available to day tickets and contains an array of species. Fisherman have been delighted with the amount of fish coming out of the water, both float and method feeding tactics and any bait goes from sweetcorn to maggots and boilies and everything in between, mirror and common Carp from 4-14lbs, as well as bream, roach, perch and some spectacular gold/green tench.

Hare Lake has been re-organised as our predator lake and is now housing pretty mean pike! At least 20 fish over 15lbs have been added last winter, to share the lake with several specimens over 22lbs already in residence. Carp and other species are still happy to jump on your hook, but pike is the main word for Hare these days.

River Eden is doing as it always does, it makes for a tranquil day spend amongst nature, some meaty chub have been caught recently on our stretch.

Specimen Lake (Admiral) can now be booked on line as well as at the fishery, please read terms and conditions. Our well stocked tackle and bait shop is open 7am-7pm throughout the Summer months.



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Match Lake

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www.gabriels-fishery.co.uk

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For More Information please contact
Scott 07766013492

A collage of images showing various carp species, including common carp, mirror carp, and grass carp. It also includes images of fishing equipment like rods and reels.



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**Robin with his
5lbs 14ozs
Claygate tench**



Letter to the editor



in a large trench surfaced at the net. Weighing in at 5lbs 14ozs, it's my biggest tench this year by some margin and was a great way to round off my session. Packing up to beat the worst of the weather, I estimate that I had well over 40lbs of fish in under 5hrs fishing, making for a very enjoyable trip. **Robin Piper**



One of Robin's prawn caught carp

CATCH CULT

ANGLING MAGAZINE

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

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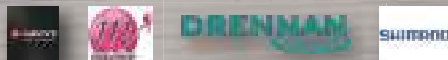
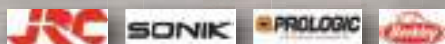
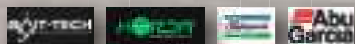
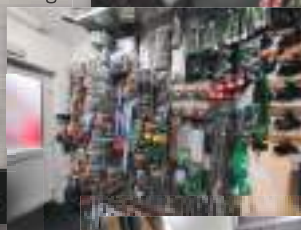
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Also a massive thanks to Sue and Andy at the Royal Oak Tonbridge for having us for the evening and to Medway Tackle Tonbridge, Tonbridge & District Angling and Andy Comben for sponsoring the event. Most of all, thank you to all that participate in this great day in memory of my Dad. Jon Round, you are a legend for making the 500 mile round trip to take part.

Austin Battell





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Diary of a Match Angler

As an all-round angler I enjoy all forms of fishing. From
This year I have started to take a mo

MONKS LAKES Lake 2 - 24 anglers

I set up 3 rigs one for mugging one for fishing paste and one normal rig with a strung out bulk for fishing baits like expander pellet, maggots, etc. I tie all my rigs out of 0.20/6lb Drennan supplex line as that's what I've got the most confidence in, 0.20 supplex covers most of my fishing for carp and f1's. I then fish 0.16/4lb hooklength as it's strong and durable and can easily cope with landing double figure fish.

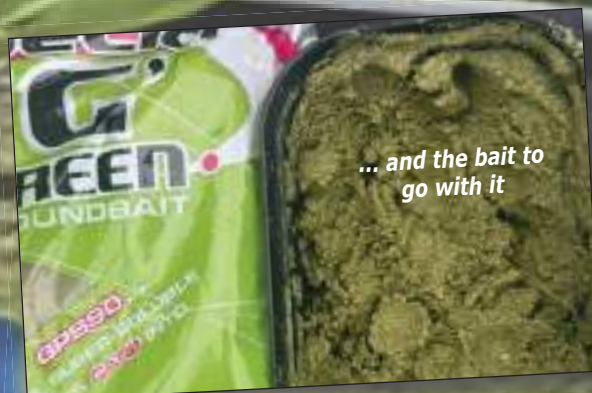
I began the match by feeding mainline match F1 sweet ground at 14m and then fed mainline match 2mm micros and self prepared hemp at 6m. I then started on the 14m line fishing single maggot on the hook and managed to catch a few skimmers. I immediately knew I had to try something different as people around me started to catch carp. So I then re-fed my 14m line with more groundbait and then dropped in on my 6m line and fished paste over the top of my micros and hemp and wasn't long before I was into my first carp however it was only around a pound, and I had 5 more the same size straight after each other. Then it went completely dead but it wasn't just me. Around the 12pm mark I could see a lot of fish shallow so I picked up the mugging rig and dropped it in front of them and I bagged up as I managed to put around 40lb in the net in about 2 hours. Then the clouds rolled in, making it hard to see any fish, so for the last hour I was fishing down the edge on paste again and managed to land a few bigger fish. At the whistle I managed to put 68lbs on the scales, which was enough to give me 2nd place overall.



Ready for action at Monks Lakes



Freddy's all conquering paste rig ...



... and the bait to go with it

MONKS LAKES Lake 4 - 24 anglers

I'd never fished lake 4 before, but some other anglers I know had fished it, and gave me advice, so I was feeling confident. When it was time for the draw I picked out peg 5 which is permanent peg 140. Being told that it's not the best place to be, my hopes sank a little as it's shallow and snaggy and having no structure to fish to.

I set up three rigs one for fishing expander pellets, one for fishing shallow and one for fishing paste as not having fished the lake before I knew I had to try everything until I found out what they wanted. I began the match by fishing at 14m, feeding two medium matrix toss pot full of Mainline match 2mm micros, to which I added a bit of Sonubaits power scopex bait booster to give them some extra attraction. I then went in with the soft pellet rig and started on a 4mm expander and got an instant response, landing a fish of around three and a half pounds. I then went back in but this time I didn't feed anything and once again had an instant response, this fish being a bit smaller. I thought well this isn't a bad start! I went back in, however this time I fed again, and had another. After about 30 minutes I started to realise my peg was beginning to turn into a jacuzzi with loads of bubbles coming up and I was getting some missed bites. So I shipped back in and picked up my shallow rig. I put a 6mm Mainline match hard pellet in the band and shipped back out, feeding 4mm Mainline match hard pellets over the top. I spent around 10 minutes on this and it failed to produce.

Ring the changes, it was time to try the paste rig, my personal favourite. I make my paste out of special g groundbait and it works unbelievably well and depending on how the fish respond to it, depends on how soft I make the consistency. With the fish starting to feed hard, I made it very wet and sloppy so as it hit the bottom was easy for the fish to inhale it, giving unmissable bites. It was a long and tiring day as I was fishing paste at 14m all day and there was a bit of wind too, but I knew I had to stay out there as I couldn't get a bite short. As the final whistle went I said to myself "I might of done ok here". When it was my time to weigh in, I managed a total weight of 49lbs 3ozs and was enough to take the overall win.

pure fishing for predators on the rivers, to specimen carp in commercial fisheries. A more focused approach to my match fishing.

Freddy Joe Beaney

GEDGES Main Lake - 18 anglers

My next match was at Gedges Lakes, on the main lake. It's a stunning lake with 43 pegs and holds a great head of silvers and carp. It's well maintained and a lovely fishery. I wasn't feeling particularly confident as every time I have had a match on lake 1 I have either drawn pegs 46/47 in the back left hand corner of the lake which I've had no luck from. I put my hand into the bag I picked out peg 69 and knew it was a pukka place to be. Before I set up I like to look at my peg and see what I'm working with. I had a island in front of me so it was obvious I was going to be on the feeder for majority of the day. I also set up a skimmer/bream line just in case the carp backed off. For my feeder setup I fish an inline ics system which allows me to change feeders when I feel I need to. I then tie on a feeder quick change bead to the line and this pulls into the end of the feeder but once a fish is hooked it pulls out from the feeder to make it free running. I use 3 inch hooklengths, as that's what I have found works best, and a size 12 Guru super LWG with a Guru bait spike. Then it's down to changing hookbaits on the day but my favourite at the moment is the mainline match krill and squid 6mm wafers.



A nice Roach from Gedges

So I began the match feeding my skimmer line I fed three palm size balls of Mainline match sweet marine groundbait, with some chopped worm, micros, hemp and some dead red maggot in the mix. I fed this around at 13m. I wasted no time and got straight on the feeder. My first chuck was tight to the island, and it only took around 2 minutes before the tip was round and the first fish was in the net. Fortunately for me, it was the first carp caught and filled me with confidence. I repeated the process and managed to keep them coming until just past midday, before they backed off. Swapping to my skimmer line, I put on a grain of corn, as that's the bait to use for picking out the better stamp fish at this venue and it wasn't long before I was into a skimmer. However I couldn't buy another bite on that line so it was back to the feeder. It was now around half 1 so an hours gone by without a bite, and I was starting to worry as I could see people around me starting to catch the odd fish I loaded the feeder again and before I could set the rod into place it was round YES!!! I managed to catch steadily for the last hour and a half of the match. The feeder line had really paid off and gave me 58lb 14oz, and enough for the overall win.

GEDGES Main Lake - 33 anglers

My next match was a team match against Crowborough. There were 33 of us fishing, so I knew it was going to be a tricky day. My hand went into the draw bag and I pick out peg 42. As I got to the peg It looked really good as I could see some fish moving in the upper layer of the water. The match started and because I could see some fishing up in water over by the island, I picked up the waggler rod and had a few quick chucks around to try and see if I could get a quick response, but unfortunately I couldn't. So I picked up the feeder rod and chucked tight to the island. I was pinging over 6mm hard pellets and started to get a few liners. I reeled in, reloaded the feeder, fired it back out, and in no time the tip was round and the first one in the net. after that nothing happened. I was switching and changing my approach, but it was clear that it nothing was feeding in earnest. All I could do was keep ringing the changes and pick up the odd fish on each cycle. The majority of the fish were elsewhere, although by the whistle i was able to put 20lb 6oz on the scales which was good enough for second in my section.

HAWKHURST FISH FARM Match Lake - 20 anglers

I drew peg 20, an end peg, and this filled me with confidence as I knew that I'd have plenty of space to play with. Fishing the venue before I new paste fishing short, and down the edge works very well and also shallow fishing can be a brilliant tactic too. I started the match by feeding a line at 14m with just micros, I then fed hemp and micros at 6m and F1 sweet groundbait down the edge. I started on paste fishing 6m and had an instant response and the first carp was in. Next put in I was in again. I was catching steadily, but I was starting to realise that it was going a bit quiet, so I picked up my pellet rig and headed out on my 14m line. All I had was liners, although I persevered with a few change baits. With around 2 hours to go it was time to swap to paste down the edge. The response was instant, and it was a fish a chuck. Amazing fishing that luckily lasted up till the end of the match. The whistle for all out was blown. I was the first to be weighed in, which meant an anxious wait as the scales went from swim to swim, but thankfully my 92lbs 3ozs (pictured right) was enough to place me first.



Claygate Lakes Claygate, Marden, Kent

Lake Eva Mates **Ollie** and **Harry** have both been in and managed to have a ghostie out on recent trips. Bait recommendation of bread or dog biscuit in the afternoon is working well at the moment. Our regular, **Ben**, 'the fly man' popped onto the lake and caught a lovely looking mirror on the fly.

Lake Amy I'm sure **Leon** was happy with his recent catch. Thank you to '**Monday Ray**' who is still sending in pics of his recent fish, they're looking great! Again, Ben 'the fly man' has been popping in on Sunday afternoons with his little helper, great to see some pics you sent in. When you see him and his boy I think that tells everyone what fishing is all about.

Lake Sophie Early mornings we are seeing tench coming out and as the day warms up carp are being taken off the top. Bait recommendation; tail of prawn which are proving worth a try along with worms specifically for the tench.



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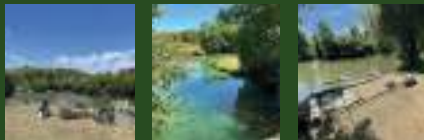
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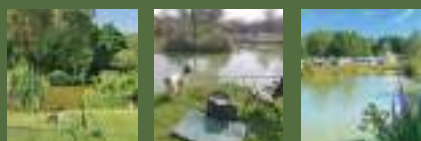
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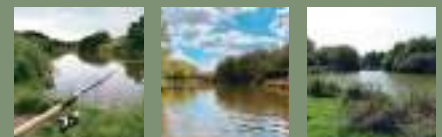
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FISHERY IN FOCUS - SANDWICH LAKES with Glen Relf

Having walked around the banks of Victory Lake on a previous trip delivering copies of The Freshwater Informer to the fishery, I had a good idea of what to expect. A beautifully matured lake that exceeds all expectation of what a commercial fishery typically looks like. A water that manages to cram a huge amount of character into its relatively small 2 acres. An island, lily pads, reed lined margins, open water and intimate tucked away swims. Every turn presents a new challenges and opportunities.

My first port of call was the on site tackle shop for a catch up with bailiff Ken South. After a quick chat, a run through the rules, and some helpful advice, it was down to the lake to find a swim. New to the water, and on limited time, I wanted to set up in an area that gave me plenty of options. I was also mindful that a friend, Dean Ashby, was joining me later to act as photographer, so needed enough space to accommodate two bivvies. A swim on the far bank of the lake ticked all of the boxes. Lilies to the left, the island out in front, with a reed fringed bay to the right of me. Ken's advice was 'keep it simple – keep it stealthy', and despite the temptation of the island, he said that the margins can be very productive on this lake, so that is where I chose to focus my attention. My right hand rod was quite simply a pop-up rig lowered in front of the reeds with a few freebies and pellets introduced over the top. On the left hand rod I fished a solid bag, with a balanced hookbait, that I was able to 'scud' under some overhanging branches further along the bank. Traps set, I set



Searching for spots



A view from the swim with plenty of options

The night passed without incident, but at first light the dawn chorus was joined by a screaming bite alarm as a fish did its best to drag my left hand rod off the rests. Victory holds fish in excess of 30lbs, although I quickly realised that the culprit on the end of my line wasn't in that calibre. Non the less, it put up a very good account of itself and I breathed a sigh of relief when a chunky mid-double rolled over the net cord. This common carp was absolutely

about making camp. Despite being mid-July, a cold front had blown in, bringing rain and causing the temperature to plummet. Dean soon joined me, setting up his house on the other side of the swim. As it was getting near dark, he chose not to fish, but introduced a small amount of bait to a couple of areas in order to prime them for the following day. This can be an excellent tactic on small waters where you can keep an eye any activity, only introducing a baited rig when an opportunity presents itself.



solid bags for 'scudding' under overhangs



What a way to start the day





A well attended match was underway behind us



Trafalgar offers a completely different challenge

immaculate, a stunning deep chestnut colour that glowed in the early morning sun. Dean duly fired off some shots, before hurriedly checking his spots to see if he could add to our tally. Despite our best efforts, we couldn't buy another bite, and as the sun climbed in the sky, we decided that breakfast was the best course of action. As we made our way across to the café, a match was getting underway on Damson Lake behind us. This is one of the great attractions of Sandwich Lakes, it really does cater for anglers of all abilities and disciplines. General coarse lakes, that looked to be a favourite among the holiday makers that were camped on site, runs waters for the pleasure angler, prolific match waters and two specimen lakes. After a superb breakfast at the café, we decided to take a look



The cafe serves a proper full English

at the second specimen carp water on site, the newly opened Trafalgar. The contrast with Victory couldn't be more apparent. Whilst Victory feels like an old estate lake, Trafalgar gives off gravel pit vibes. Wide open with grassy banks. If anything, this adds to the appeal of the fishery, as it really does offer something for everyone. We chatted to some of the anglers fishing, but it seemed that the inclement weather was hindering feeding spells on both lakes. On the walk back to our swim we stopped to watch the match. By contrast the fish in these lakes were feeding in

earnest, with anglers landing some sizeable fish for a match lake. Most of them looked very close to double figures, and we got the impression that a substantial weight would be required by anyone hoping to frame.

Back on Victory, the lake looked idyllic as the sun broke through the clouds. All we needed was another fish. Unfortunately, as is so often the case on smaller waters, weather conditions and angling pressure can cause incredibly unpredictable feeding patterns. A tactic or bait that will have fish queuing up to get caught one moment, can be the world's best carp

repellent the next. But that's why it's called fishing rather than catching, and with a full belly of bacon and eggs, and the sun on my face, I soon drifted off.

Dean on the other hand, still had a point to prove, and just before last knockings I was rudely awakened as his hard work paid off. Spotting some bubbles over one of his spots, he'd sneaked a rig into position and was now attached to a rather angry carp. Shattering my peace in the process. I joined him at the front of the swim to perform the netting duties, and in fairly short order we had the second carp of the trip safely on the bank. This time a mirror, and deceptively heavy due to its somewhat round profile, it scaled a shade over 17lb.

With both of us on the score sheet, we slowly packed up for the long drive home.

Sandwich Lakes really does offer a 'one stop shop' for fishing. With a touring site, excellent cafe, well stocked tackle shop, variety of lakes and advice on tap from Ken, or owner Kev. It makes a great fishing destination.



A chunky carp from the Match Lake



Dean with his solid 17lbs mirror



Karen Patterson - 1st ever Perch



Dave Wayman - 6lbs Tench - Three Ponds



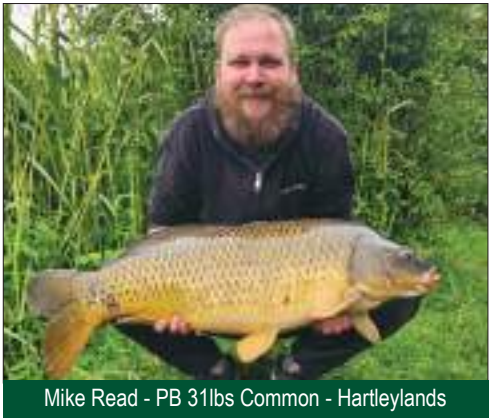
Kevin Finch - 36lbs 1oz Common - River Medway



Ben - Common Carp - Cottington



David - Grass Carp - Cottington



Mike Read - PB 31lbs Common - Hartleylands



Ralph Saunders - 5lbs 8ozs Tench - Majors Lake



Robert Joe - PB 36lbs 8ozs Grass Carp - Stour Valley



David Turner - 8lbs Common - Claygate Lakes



Bob - Catfish - Charlie's Lake



Tom Cooke - 8lbs 8ozs Mirror Carp



Dan Neil - 7lbs Common Carp - Club Water



Neil Wale - Catfish - Private Water



Ian Le Beau - 28lbs Common Carp - Hartleylands



Ronald Davis - 18lb Common - Charlie's Lake

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Fish of the Month Prize Winner

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



Consistency is key

One Angler who has featured in the pages of the FWI a number of times over the past few months with his captures from Hawkhurst Fish Farm is **Ricky Young**.

Ricky has been putting together an enviable list of captures from the popular Kent venue's Specimen Lake during a series of 48hr trips. In his latest report, Ricky

managed to land a brace 30lb commons, with Carp of 31lbs 4ozs and 33lbs, as well as a number of back up fish. This is the perfect compliment to a previous trip, where he landed a brace of thirty pound mirrors.

It will be interesting to see what he can add to this tally with this months **ParkerBaits** bait package in his armoury!



Mike & son David - 23lbs Mirror - Cottington



Paul Lambert - 31lbs 8ozs Mirror Carp - Syndicate



Alan Stokes - Common Carp



Ian Le Beau - 23lbs Common Carp - Moor Hall Fishery



Scott Barrett - 3lbs 6ozs Crucian - Club Water



Lewis Boulcher - 47lbs Common - Walthamstow



Dave - 10lbs Common Carp



Alan Cornwall - PB 99lbs 7ozs Catfish - Framfield



Andy Nelms - PB 32lbs 11ozs Common - Hartleylands

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Tonbridge & District Angling & FP Society

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

Barden Lake The fishing has been excellent since late April with the Tench showing regularly and Bream to double figures being caught. The Carp fishing has picked up in the warmer weather with some good fish being caught. **Austin Battell** has had some good sport on the feeder, catching Bream to over 12lbs and a 5lbs Eel. Lots of Roach and Perch to 1lb also bring caught.

The Old Ballast Pit Lots of Carp being caught with Bream and Tench to good sizes also showing.

The New Lagoon Some great sport being had by some of our younger members with Carp, Tench, Bream and lots of silvers bring caught.

Haysden Lake Little reports coming in but it has always been a Summer fishery so it's always worth a visit.

Longfield Lake The usual Tench and Bream being caught with the odd Carp also being reported.



River Medway has fished well since the start of the season with good match weights and dome nice individual specimens being caught.

Chris Maxwell fished one of the newly trimmed swims, using one of his many micro lures, Chris landed a stunning Chub of just over 6lbs. **Steve Parker** had a nice 1lb 6ozs Roach in one of the recent matches plus there was a small Barbel caught in a match.



MATCH RESULTS:

CHAIRMAN & COMMITTEE CUP

Hartlake Down – 24/6/24 – 20 fished

1st	Dave Lee	16lbs 7ozs
2nd	Peter Hole	9lbs 13ozs
3rd	George Kyles	9lbs 11ozs

MATCH RECORDER SHIELD

Hartlake Down – 14/7/24 – 20 fished

1st	Steve Parker	12lbs 14ozs
2nd	Phil Edwards	12lbs 4ozs
3rd	Derek Butcher	8lbs 1oz

ACA CUP - Flood Barrier to Leigh Footbridge

21/7/24 – 9 fished

1st	Andy Goldthorpe	4lbs 2ozs
2nd	Dave Lee	3lbs 6ozs
3rd	Mick Smith	2lbs 12ozs

RESTOCKING CUP

Swanmead – 30/6/24 – 18 fished

1st	Bob Doyle	21lbs
2nd	Mick Smith	15lbs 4ozs
3rd	Jimmy Sene	13lbs 3ozs

ABREY & TIBBETTS

Flood Barrier to Barden Park 7/7/24

16 fished

1st	Andy Goldthorpe	12lbs 12ozs
2nd	Mick Smith	7lbs 14ozs
3rd	David Brooks	7lbs 4ozs



Tenterden Angling Club - Pilgrims Hospices Charity Open GLYN SWIFT MEMORIAL - Great Knelle



Well done **Dave Phur** on both the win – and an excellent Tench catch. Lovely fish weighing 6lbs 4ozs and 5lbs 10ozs.

A couple of good backing weights of over 10lbs for **Stephen Ryan** and **Stephen Longley** demonstrating what a great stretch of the River Rother Tenterden Angling Club has at Great Knelle.

Excellent fishing and another £100 raised for the good cause that is Pilgrims Hospices www.pilgrimshospices.org

- 1st - Dave Phur**
18lbs 12ozs
- 2nd - Stephen Ryan**
10lbs 12ozs
- 3rd - Steve Longley**
10lbs 6ozs

*Tony Docker (right)
displays his catch*

*Dave Phur (left)
with his 18lbs 12ozs winning bag*



Angling Societies

Hastings Bexhill & District Freshwater Angling Association

Season runs from 1st April to 31st March.

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

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

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

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

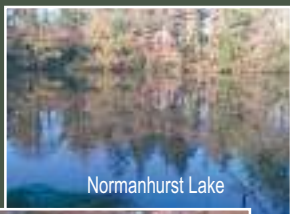
For further information please contact:

Chris Pagan 07429 655237 Steve Potter 07935 268174

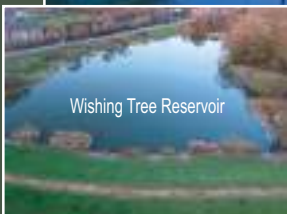
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The Linton Angling Society - Membership Vacancies

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Our waters contain Carp to 32lb, Pike 30lb+, Tench 8lb+, Chub 7lb, Perch 4lb and Roach to 3lb, including some good Bream and Eels. All year fishing, member's guest permits, night fishing allowed.

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Jim's Journey

Last month was all about getting started and landing a fish. This trip was all about expanding on that and looking to put more fish on the bank, as well as putting some elements of watercraft into practice and identifying spots in the lake.

The chosen venue was Wylands Angling Centre, nr Battle, East Sussex. There are nine lakes to choose from, all predominantly stocked with carp, all with varying degrees of difficulty, challenges, and sizes of fish. House Lake is where I was heading, as it offers the best of both worlds. Rated as a runs water, but with a good chance of a double, or even a twenty.

I got dropped off at 7am, when the gates open. The first thing that I did was have a quick walk around the lake. One of the things that I have learnt is that fish will very often feed on the end of the wind as this is where all of their food gets blown.

The wind was blowing into the road bank, and that, added to the fact that it was starting to rain, meant that I didn't spend too much time looking around the top end of the lake, instead jumping in the first swim through the gate.

A lot of the advice I have been given is to make getting the rods in the water a priority, but with no coat to put on, the first job was to get my shelter up. It didn't take too long and I was soon able to tackle up my rods without getting soaked.

Having borrowed more of Dad's old gear I was planning on fishing with two rods. On the left hand rod I chose to fish in the same style as my last trip, where I had lowered the rig in close to the margin. I had to cast it this time, but I was able to walk along the bank and introduce my freebies by hand.

With my right hand rod I wanted to take a more open water approach and try out pva mesh. This is a really simple, but effective way, of making sure that you have loose feed around your hookbait. Again, I had 'borrowed' some of Dad's pre-tied bags from his bait bucket but I had also bought my own mesh and pellets from the tackle shop. My first cast didn't go quite where I expected as the extra weight/resistance of the mesh bag threw me off a bit, but I decided to leave it as, like I explained, wherever it lands it will have a pile of pellets or boilies next to the hookbait to hopefully attract the fish, and get a bite.



The weather was challenging

tore off. This fish was smaller than the first, but it was very encouraging to catch a fish on a new method. I made sure I had dried off the hook, then hooked on another mesh bag. This time I was a lot smoother with the cast and the rig landed much closer to where I wanted it to be.

While I waited for another bite I took cover under the shelter and tied up some more mesh bags for myself. Here's a tip... if you are tying up pva mesh, don't leave it where the rain can get to it! Some of my mesh had got a bit damp and exploded when I tied off the bags, sending pellets all over the place. Lesson learnt!



The first fish fell to the margin rod

Other advice that I have picked up is to watch the water for any movement or activity, but again the rain was making this quite difficult and it seemed that waiting it out under cover was the better option.

Suddenly, the left hand alarm sounded and I had to get a bit damp, whether I wanted to or not. After a strong fight, I netted a long, lean common carp. I wanted to weigh it, but had forgotten to bring my (Dad's) scales. Based on what I had caught before, I estimated it at about 6lb. This was the margin rod, so I cast it back out and walked round to put another handful of bait in. As I got back to the swim the right hand rod bleeped. I thought that it was the wind, when it suddenly



Avoid getting PVA wet - lesson learnt

The next run again came on the open water mesh rod. Another good fight, with another common that was a similar size to the first. Full of confidence, I cast out another bag in the general area. As I mentioned earlier, this is the beauty of this type of fishing, you don't have to be entirely precise with where your rig lands as it will always have a pile of freebies with it.

In fact, one angler told me that it can be a good tactic to not cast to exactly the same spot, as it keeps the fish moving around and searching for bait.

By now the rain had eased off and become occasional showers, meaning that I could spend a bit of time watching the water. The wind and cloud cover made spotting fish almost impossible, although I did see the odd movement that I took as rolling fish.

It was further out than where I was fishing, so after an hour without any action, I decided to re-bait and cast to that area.



Last gasp carp, and biggest of the day

The reaction was almost instant, and I soon found myself attached to my fourth carp of the day. This time it was a pretty mirror carp, which made a nice change.

Feeling confident, I cast back out to the new spot and received a repeat response. I barely had time to turn the alarm on before line was streaming off of the spool. This fish was another immaculate common.

By now it was getting quite late in the day and I needed to start packing away.

No sooner than I started, when the margin rod, which had been silent since the first fish of day, burst into life. This was a much stronger fish and it fought really hard. Several times it tried to get under trees and bushes along the

margin, giving me quite a few hairy moments. Thankfully luck, if not the weather, was on my side and I managed to bundle yet another nice common into the net. I was a bit annoyed that I didn't have any scale, as this fish looked a fair bit bigger than the others, and I think it might have made double figures.

I also noticed that while I had caught more fish in open water, the two biggest fish of the day had both come from very close in by the margins, which gave me plenty to think about whilst I packed away my wet gear and waited for my lift home.



A pretty mirror from open water



The calm after the storm!

James Relf

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George B - 5lbs Rainbow Trout, Bewl Water



Tom Graham - 9lbs 10ozs Blue Trout

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Andy Lush
- The Friendly Fisherman

Time for a change

Some anglers are quite happy fishing one water, getting to know its moods and that of the fishes. Staying on a water, while fine tuning methods and presentations can be worthwhile. Having mastered a water, some anglers are quite happy to stay and reap the rewards of their previous efforts. There's nothing wrong with this, in fact if fishing time is limited it makes good sense.

Time to move on

I on the other hand start to get itchy feet. One of the most enjoyable things in my fishing is starting a new campaign. It could be fishing a new venue or targeting a different species, possibly with a different method. The learning process is so much fun, and is a journey I savour.

Sometimes the change in direction isn't always thought through. Take last winter for instance, fishing with my old mate Melvyn Oakley sent me off in an unexpected direction. Borrowing a 'waggler' rod and catching quality roach, rejuvenated my interest in float fishing. Before I knew it, I was 'feeder' fishing too.

So what's next?

Well I've joined Tonbridge & District Angling & Preservation Society. It's ironic that I should buy a permit this season, after receiving a complementary one for so many years, which I never used when I had my tackle shop! Anyhow I've started exploring the river downstream of Tonbridge. I've not opened my account as yet, but I imagine the leg work I'm putting in now, will pay dividends later this season, we'll see?

Thinking outside the box

Recently I was fishing a gravel pit, something I've never done before. It's water was so clear, and weedy, don't get me started on that! My main problem was finding lures that would provide sufficient casting range, that would stay weed free. Weed-less lures do exist but this stuff was solid, almost reaching the surface. I thought about surface baits, but the cool weather meant the fish weren't aggressive enough for that tactic to be successful. Soft plastics rigged 'Texas' style was another option, but it would have required an ultra fast retrieve to stop the line collecting weed like a washing line.



Pike fly and Cheb weight combo



Cheb weights come in a vast range of sizes



Soft plastics and Cheb combo, note EWG offset weedless hook

Finally I dispensed with treble hooked baits and settled on using some pike flies, combined with light 3g and 5g Cheb [Cheburashka] weights to provide the casting distance. Keeping my rod held high at eleven o'clock, I was able to keep the fly fishing just sub-surface above the weed. Visibility was so good, I could easily see any weed free pockets of water. Here I slowed the retrieve, letting the fly drop down out of sight. The pike responded almost immediately, launching themselves from their lairs. The excitement didn't end there either, as I had several last gasp takes at the very end of the retrieves too.

Some so close to the boat that I got sprayed with water! Lure fishing doesn't get any better than this, the pikes size was immaterial, it was all about the takes.

If you're not familiar with Cheb weights, let me explain how useful they are at 'fine tuning' your lures. These ball shaped weights come in a vast range of sizes from 2g - 40g. Where they differ from traditional bullet weights, is they have a clip that slides through the weight and attaches to the lures hook. Rig your lures with large eyed singles, and carry a selection of Cheb weights, and you're ready to tackle any depth of water. The beauty is that you can quickly change the weights to suit any eventuality, such as depth changes or differing amounts to flow. This is especially useful when fishing tidal rivers or even bass fishing from the shore.

Lure fishing Bewl for Trout



Another tool from my tackle box, Vibe-baits stay deep catching perch, pike, trout and zander

We were in 25ft [7m], I cast across the wind and allowed the lure to reach the bottom. A short lift of the rod saw the bait vibrate vigorously, a few inches off the bottom. A short pause saw the lure swing towards the boat before hitting the bottom. Another short lift repeated the same attractive action, and so on back towards the boat. I had kept a close eye on my echo sounder's screen and had noticed an occasional shoal of larger fish between 20ft [6m] and 25ft [7m] which I was sure were trout. This was soon confirmed when I had a gentle take. A quick strike and I'd hooked what at first felt like a decent perch, but gradually it morphed into a rather nice trout of over 3lbs!

Over the next few hours we continued fishing deep with a variety of 'vertical' metal baits. All our trout however were caught on Vibe-baits, along with several nice perch. Despite seeing trout shallow throughout the day we failed to catch any of them. This confirmed a view held by Bewl regular Ray French, who has always maintained that there are two levels of trout in the reservoir. I wondered if the fish we were seeing shallow, were the new stockies? While those deep were fish that had been in the reservoir for some time, and had adjusted to the conditions? Whatever the reason, searching through the layers of water, using different lures was our successful approach.

A final thought

In my opinion lures are tools that give you depth control. Understanding where each lure fishes effectively is the key to success. Matching your lure selection to the waters you fish is so important and is far more important than their appearance.

Tight lines, Andy Lush

As I've already mentioned I enjoy challenging fishing. On a recent outing to Bewl Water, I was guiding a father and son who were camping there and wanted to sample the trout fishing. I was anxious about how deep the trout would be? Fortunately on our day the luck was with us and we had some cloud cover. The proceeding week had been bright and windy, conditions apt to keep the trout deep. Again we were lucky in our timing as 3,000 rainbows had been stocked earlier in the week. I felt we had favourable conditions, and this was reinforced by seeing some surface activity as I prepared the boat.

I headed towards the dam and the deep water. In the light ripple I could clearly see fish as they broke the surface. First off I got my guests to cast shallow diving minnow crankbaits, across the path of these fish, but they showed no interest at all. The fish were staying shallow and travelling very fast upwind. Next I suggested trying a variety of in-line spinners. I hoped their vibration would catch the trout's attention. Unfortunately they showed no interest in these either. While father and son fished through the upper layers, I tried another ploy. I tied on a Vibe-bait, a vertical metal blade bait.



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

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

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A bigger PB than his Dad!



Despite his tender years, 6 year old **Jayden** not only managed to out fish 39 adult anglers during a Bank Life social held at Martello Lakes, but beat his Dad's PB in the process!

Thinking that Jayden was playing a bream, Dad Damien, left his son to his own devices, whilst he dealt with a carp he had just landed. It was only when the giant mirror surfaced that he realised what Jayden had hooked and

hastily grabbed the landing net. Once on the bank it was clear that the youngster had not only landed a new **PB**, but beaten his Dad's best too, by over 3lbs, when the scales swung round to 35lbs 8ozs. A superb achievement that makes him this months winner of a **Sussex Bait Developments** bait package.



Jayden
PB 35lbs 8ozs Mirror Carp
Martello Lakes

A roach to be proud of

Jack Jackman landed this very impressive looking roach on a recent trip with his Dad Paul.



Jack Jackman
PB Roach
(estimated 3lbs+)

Jack, who has been fishing since the age of three and has already completed his Bronze, Silver, and Gold Get Fishing certificates, was float fishing using a 3mtr Whip, when the incredible redfin took his 6mm robin red pellet hookbait. After a tense battle, the 5yr Old who is now working towards earning his Cast Award, managed to land the impressive specimen. Unfortunately the pair had no scales to hand, but Dad Paul estimated the fish to weigh at least 3lbs, the fish of a lifetime in roach terms. This combined with young Jack's obvious enthusiasm for angling makes him the worthy winner of a signed copy of **Carl Smith's** book 'The Simple Fishing Guidebook'.





Reggie Bristow - PB 18lbs 7ozs Common Carp



Brayden Parsons - 13lbs Common - Wishing Tree Reservoir



Maya Carden-Bowles with her first ever fish



Summer Chant, 79cm Smooth Hound, Pevensey Bay



Brayden Parsons, 14lb Common Carp, Clive Vale



Devon Castleman, Common Carp, Wishing Tree Res



Charley Milton - PB 20lbs 8ozs Mirror - HartleyLands



Charlie Rose - 8lbs Common Carp - Club Water



Jayden - 16lbs 3ozs Mirror Carp - Martello Lakes



Gabrysia Marten - PB 5lbs 3ozs Mirror Carp - Passies



Fergal Smyth - Mirror Carp - Wylands, House Lake



Monty Hill - 14lbs 11ozs Common Carp - Park Lake



Louis Davies - Mirror Carp - Chequer Tree Fishery



George - 20lbs 8ozs Common - Tricklebrook Fishery

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August update

by instructor Warren White

As we all know in recent weeks the weather has been changeable, with some really wet days. To be honest for my summer fishing coaching I would prefer it cool than too hot. At this time of year my coaching work is very busy. An insight to some recent sessions.



D.D.A.P.S Junior Fishing Fun Day

Sunday, 7th July was this year's date for D.D.A.P.S' – Dartford & District Angling & Preservation Society, Youth Fishing Day. This is a massive event that normally draws in, up to 300 juniors, but numbers must have been down this year because of the horrendous wet weather forecast.

The event is a great opportunity for families to see inside one of Dartford's Jewel in the crown, venues, Horton Kirby.

The day started well, warm, and sunny. I normally coach three different styles of fishing on the Western lake at Horton Kirby. The Whip, which caters well for the youngest of juniors, with no fishing reel it means you don't get the tangles associated with rod and reel fishing and can teach the basics of float fishing, always showing how to plumb up first. I have a waggler rod set up for older juniors wanting to use a rod and reel and I like to fish one rod on the bottom using a small method feeder as there are some nice carp in this lake. I personally do not like to fish a lot before the participants turn up, but I like to feed. I normally have a quick go on the Whip to find out if the fish are there, while I wait for the Juniors to turn up. Straight in front of me, a few metres out, I fed a few maggots little and often for the Whip and catapulted a few robin red 6ml pellets on the feeder line. On the expected start time, the other coaches got students, but I was without a participant, so I cast out the feeder rod, feathering down the line I noticed a pull and I was playing a carp. I called over to a dad and Junior who were fishing by me, to come over, and his lad could play the carp, which he did and eventually after a good fight we landed it.

After that, with plenty of juniors coming my way, the fishing was steady with plenty of silver fish on the Whip and the odd carp on the feeder. As 11am approached, with the weather forecast looking spot on, the sky's blackened, the heavens opened and for the rest of the day, apart from a short break, it never stopped raining. The best decision I made today was taking an umbrella with me. Although it is never easy to coach using an umbrella, especially if you are fishing a method where you are frequently casting, today it was a saviour, keeping us all dry including a few parents as well.

At 3pm the end of the event, came and went, I was still under the umbrella with a junior and his dad. As one of the other coaches came into my swim to say goodbye, I said I would wait a little longer under the umbrella in the hope it would stop raining, more in hope, but he informed me the rain was in for some time to come. In the end, I packed up as well as I could under the umbrella then loaded up my fishing porter and made a mad dash for the car park, unfortunately getting wet!

Thanks to The Tackle Box and Kent Police for their support and those at the Dartford Club (DDAPS) who made this event happen.

Rowhill School Work

On my weekly Thursday fishing session at Rowhill school, we have been recently having some nice catches of carp, on the feeder at Grove farm, fishery Hadlow. But today, fishing the feeder on the bottom, was really hard. It was evident today that the fish were on the top. So, a change to surface fishing, saw Johny (The Heron) and Reggie (The Perch Whisperer) have a terrific day catching carp. We started feeding floating pellets in the margins and it wasn't long before we saw fish feeding on them. But what made a difference was slight adjustment from a controller float to freelining in the margins, that had the fish taking the bait more positively.

Fishing For Schools

Today, I was helping, at a Fishing for Schools session as they were a coach down. The school was Broomhill Bank North from Hextable. It was nice to be back at Monk Lakes, as when I ran Fishing For Schools, Kent, we had some really good sessions there. I arrived early and headed for Lake 1 at the fishery. It turned out a good session. The best overall method for carp was the method feeder using pineapple wafers. But the best feat of the day was a lad catching a carp approaching 10lbs using a Whip. This lad seemed



DDAPS Junior Fishing Fun Day



A young angler in the making

to love float fishing and had been catching silver fish and some nice bream throughout the session. When suddenly, he struck into a carp that led him a merry dance, but after skilfully playing the fish, we were eventually able to net a nice carp.

On a day where the wind really got up, it would have been easier for this student to just concentrate on the feeder, but he stuck to his guns float fishing in windy conditions and was rewarded for his work.

Fishing For Schools, Kent - Mental Health Programme

I was at Shorne country park recently on a Fishing For Schools, Mental health event, with Charlton Athletic community.

Arriving, quite early in the morning, there was soon quite a lot of anglers on the long lake where I decided to fish. Apart from plumbing up, I decided



Luca with a whip caught Carp

not to break the water again and fed damp micro pellet. I choose a swim that had fished well, float fishing, using corn a few days earlier and because heavy rain was forecast, it might be a case of all guns blazing at the start. All or nothing.

When the people arrived, using a whip with corn, we went in and on the first cast we had a bite, that saw the float slowly, diagonally go under. Then all hell let loose as the fish tore around the swim, using a Whip we were definitely being overpowered by this fish, but eventually we got control and a lovely looking fully scaled mirror carp came to the net. Over the next few casts, we had a flurry of small Tench, but unfortunately as the session went on, it got cold and we had constant torrential rain, its meant to be July!

The participants went to the Café to have a hot drink and warm up. We gave it a while, but with the rain getting stronger and the weather forecast showing further rain, we called a halt to the session. Some days you just cannot beat the weather.

I would like to thank our fisheries Hadlow college, Monk lakes and T.W.A.P.S for their ongoing support and The Tackle Box, Dartford for Funding Fishing for schools.



Johnny 'The Heron' with a Carp

Allcocks Aerial Reel, funding for F4S Mental Health

Funding has been a bit tight this year for the work F4S do with mental health charities. So recently, because I wanted to raise some money for The Mental health work, we do at F4S, I decided to sell a couple of pieces of vintage tackle that I had obtained over the years. This tackle comprised of an Allcocks aerial, centrepin reel, and a vintage tackle box with tackle, both pieces over 100 years old.

I decided before selling the reel that I would get it serviced as I wanted it in A1 condition for the new owner. I spoke to Kevin Peet, co-owner, along with his brother Gary, of the Tackle box, Dartford, and told him I wanted the reel serviced and he told me to bring it in and he'd see what they could do.

A week later I got a call from Kevin, saying the reel had been serviced and was running nicely. He told me that his brother Gary had a liking of centre pins and would like to talk to me with a view to buying it. I liked the sound of this, as I knew, this reel had been sat in a drawer at home for the best part of 35 years. Knowing Gary liked his river fishing, and would use it, meant a lot.

I have always used a closed faced reel, for my float fishing on rivers, so I would never use it. We came to an agreement on the price and Gary bought it, both happy that the money was going to F4S Mental Health charity work.

In most cases an Allcocks Aerial, being a collectable reel, would be bought by a collector and never used. So, it was nice to know it was going to be used. Also for sale was a black japanned metal concertina, tackle box with vintage tackle which I sold on a well - known Auction site.

The money raised, from both the reel and tackle box, has been put towards the Mental health work we do at Fishing for Schools.



Gary Peet of The Tackle Box with his 'new' vintage Aerial Reel

The Golden Years of Coarse Fishing

by Bob Rolph

Legends of the 60's - No.5

Fred J. Taylor MBE 1919 - 2008

What more can be said about probably the most prolific angling writer of the 20th century, who wrote for over 60 years in the Angling and Country magazines of the time. He was not just a great coarse fisherman, writing his first article in 1954, but also a fine chef, tackle rep, guitarist and countryman. Equally at home shooting rabbits, playing with his ferrets, advising on all matters piscatorial and encouraging children to take up fishing.



Fred J. Taylor's first two books

Born within a year of his great friend Dick Walker in February 1919, he lived most of his life in the Buckinghamshire town of Aylesbury in a house in Priory Crescent. His letters to me from that address are prized possessions, although I never actually had the privilege of fishing with him.

He was an avid globe trotter who wrote extensively for the Anglers Mail, Shooting Times, Angling, Anglers World, Fishing, The Field, and Saga Magazine, and many National Newspapers including the London Evening Standard. His many books include 'Favourite Swims', 'Angling in Earnest', as well as many country books such as 'Reflections of a Countryman'. A great read all about his life during the war. During his time in Australia, he also wrote an acclaimed cookery book, as well as a children's short story. His barbecues were legendary, as was his cooking and wine making, and he could describe a scene in print with his command of the English Language.

Fred's early years were spent in and around the Aylesbury area with his brother Ken, cousin Joe, and non fishing brother Den. He fished the Ouse and at Tring Reservoirs for Tench, Bream, Chub and Pike. He saw active service during the 5 war years in Tanks as a 'Desert Rat' in Tobruk in the Libyan desert, finally returning home to marry Carrie in 1944. The 'Fryer Tuck' of Angling was always the centre of attention at any gathering of anglers. His tales of past piscatorial escapades and war years were evidently spellbinding.

When I was invited to contribute a chapter to his Biography 'Fred J. Taylor Remembered' in 2022 and attend the book launch at Les Webbers Wraysbury lakes, I learnt so much more about him from my old mate Charles Kirkham, who had fished with him on numerous occasions on the Great Ouse, Avon and Kennet during the 1960s. Charles, as a boy, lived at Stoney Stratford and could walk along the river Ouse to Dick Walkers fishing hut, where he often met and talked with F.J.T.

Coarse fishing was Fred's thing. He fished all around the rivers and lakes of the Home Counties. His many books, and thousands of articles, on Tench, Chub, Pike, Barbel, Bream and Perch fishing were inspirational to young anglers like myself and Charles. His first book 'Angling in Earnest', was published in 1958. Followed 'Favourite Swims', in 1961 detailing his top 15 pitches on lake and river. All were available to fish on day ticket or club membership, and I fished in 6 of them!



Fred's 28lbs 4ozs Pike from Tring Reservoir

One swim, The Willow Pitch at Redmile is probably the most famous, but Fred famously failed to catch a large Redmile Carp, down there in several visits, just like me! He was never a 'big carp man', although at Rackley Hills, Sand Spit lake, in Leighton Buzzard he caught carp to order for TV when hosting an event for 2 young competition winners from the Angling Times with Macdonald Hastings. Fred was a great exponent of Pike fishing, and I think that this was his favourite fish. He developed and promoted dead baiting for pike, and fished plugs and spinners with great skill, from his vast collection of artificial lures, see photo. He continued this theme in America with great success.

Fred loved the rivers for chub and roach, and helped build the fishing hut on the great Ouse at Thornton Bridge with Dick Walker, where he caught huge bream and perch from the 'Cabbage Patch' swim. Many a friendship was forged here in this fishing hut of Dick's, non more so than when Fred's Daughter Valerie was staying there for a week in

1962, and met her husband-to-be, Ian Howcroft, a budding young specimen hunter from Luton was chub fishing nearby. It was early days of the 1960s and Ian was convinced that barbel were to be had here in the river Ouse and nearby weirs. My mate of old Charlie Kirkham was fishing the Buckingham A.C. Swims on the opposite bank, and chatted to Fred, Dick and Ian about tactics from across the narrow river, catching several 5lbs plus chub, greatly impressing Mr Walker. Ian eventually caught barbel from the Great Ouse, and wrote about it in Peter Wheats collectable book, *The Fighting Barbel* 1967. Fish up to 4lbs 10ozs. Dick Walker had previously caught Ouse Barbel up to 9lbs in 1952. Including a catch of 6 fish. But not from the Leckhampton stretch at Thornton Bridge, where Dick Walker rented one bank from the local farmer. The River Ouse 'Monsters', previously thought to be Catfish, were later declared to be large Barbel.

Ian courted Val for several years and eventually they were married, but not before Ian had caught dozens of 9lbs Bream from Tring Reservoir in the late 60s, and Fred a pike of 28lbs. Ian and Val had a daughter, Avril, but life in Luton proved untenable during the early 1970s, so they decided to emigrate to Perth, Australia, on the 'Ten Pound Pom' scheme in 1971, where their quality of life in Wanneroo next to Lake Joondalup, 30 miles north of Perth was greatly improved. The lake, much to Ian's dismay, only contained turtles and dangerous snakes, but life improved and Fred and Carrie were envious of their new lavish lifestyle and the glorious weather, so they decided to go too in about 1978, and bought a house near to Ian and Val in Wanneroo, Perth, next to the edge of the lake and not far from the sea and the outback.

The sea fishing was great, and Fred accompanied Ian on trips out from Exmouth, where years previously Ian had taken a record tiger shark of 1200lbs.

Rabbits were Fred's thing out there, and he went out shooting with local experts, and enjoyed the social life of barbecues and the glorious weather. I know what it's like out there, I've been there many times too, and the lifestyle is to die for! Fred, however, became restless for the life and friends back home in Aylesbury, so they returned to England after less than 3 years in Australia, to a small bungalow in Cheddington Bedfordshire.



F.J. with a fine Barbel



F.J. Taylor - one of the great angling innovators

Globe trotting did not finish for Fred. Along with 26 states in America, New Zealand and elsewhere, he discovered the fishing in Canada, where he fished for huge carp with Chris Tarrant in the Red River. He was revered by the fishermen of America and Canada, gaining awards, including the Silver Dolphin award in the USA.

Ian, Val, and Avril still live in Perth, and correspond regularly with me and Charles, especially over the recent publication of the book 'F.J.T. Remembered', a huge volume compiled by Tim Paisley and Ian. Ian and Val are both in their 80s now and not in the best of health, but I hope to visit them again soon when I am next in Perth.

In England during the 1960s Ian was the leader of the tench syndicate at sawmills lake Wotton Underwood, where the Taylor brothers caught huge bags of large Tench from an anchored punt at the edge of the reedbeds. Fred loved this type of fishing and pioneered the practice of heavy groundbaiting with fresh ox blood as a binder. Angling for Barbel on the Avon and Kennet, as well as perch fishing on local lakes, preceded his love affair with the carp of Canada and the Red River

Fred's lengthy articles, including 68 for *Carpworld* magazine were legendary, and he covered everything from coarse fishing to cookery, shooting, ferrets, and the countryside, he just loved giving his help, time and advice to youngsters. During the seventies, in his *Junior Anglers World* column, he gave away prizes for the fish of the week. He also took young

boys fishing, always supplying the tackle, bait and expert knowledge. An experience they would never forget.

In later life Fred supported charities such as the Les Webber MBE foundation at the Wraybury lakes, and teamed up with Chris Tarrant who is also a great supporter of this charity for underprivileged children by getting them started in fishing and getting them off the streets. The tackle auction at the book signing 2 years ago raised thousands for the Les Webber foundation, who invite children to go and stay at the fishing lodge and fish the lake with local experts.

In 2008 he was awarded an MBE for services to angling, presented by the Lord Ltnt .of Buckinghamshire for services to angling, as he was not well enough to attend at Buckingham Palace.

Despite enduring several heart operations, Fred remained an enthusiastic angler right up until his death at 89 years old. His memory lives on in print in his vast archive of work for evermore, and we should all read it if we want to become better anglers.

**Gobio, Gobio
where art thou Gobio?**



Despite their relatively diminutive stature, the humble Gudgeon holds a soft spot in the heart of many a hardened angler.

Paul Waghorn has been on the hunt for one of the biggest of the smallest fish, landing this behemoth from a small drain on the Medway at Tonbridge.

Paul told the FWI, "I can honestly say it is my biggest Gudgeon since I was 14, that was 50 years ago when I had a similar, but unweighed monster from the Teise."

Measuring over 16cm long, and weighing in at a very impressive 3ozs, tempted the giant Gonk on a single red maggot on a size 18 hook, fished in less than 15" of water, leading Paul to believe that the stretch could hold a fish to rival the current UK record of 5ozs.



Jack Fellows - 30lbs+ Common - Wylands Fishery



Jason - 19lbs 8ozs Ghost Carp - Mousehole Lakes



Jim - 23lbs 3ozs Common - Mousehole Lakes



Tyler Newport - 30lbs+ Common - Wylands Fishery



Tyler Newport - 26lbs - Middle Lake, Wylands

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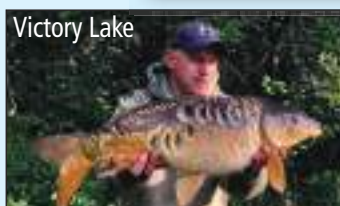
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KINGFISHER LAKE this pond is 0.6 acres in size and is heavily stocked with commons and mirrors to 12lbs and is ideal for bagging up! All eight swims are wheelchair friendly with excellent access direct from the car park. A bridge from Kingfisher allows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

Do you ever feel that normal life, business, family commitments, social activities etc, interfere with your fishing plans and even your enjoyment of angling generally? I often do, even though I believe that I now have a much more balanced overall view of things and realise that this is probably the wrong way round.

The problem is that our mental capacity to cope with a whole range of potential issues without one or two suffering is limited and, I suspect, varies considerably due to a variety of factors. Sorting out priorities is one of the constant struggles for us all and a clever balancing trick, particularly if you are one of those who are frequently able to get it right. I am however still writing this piece as Medway Man and not Dr Morris, so I will now try to steer it in a piscatorial direction.



The author has caught lots of Tench close in on the float...

and not living on site while this was underway. My initial hopes that this would mean more available time to get out on the bank were soon laid to rest with deliveries of building materials, meeting the contractors and discussions with the bank all impinging on fishing time. Fortunately, this is all coming to an end now and some form of stability will, hopefully, return to the camp.

On the fishing front itself, I have to say that I am quite pleased that most of my sessions have been positive. I have managed to catch and avoid any blanks, albeit a close call on a couple of trips recently. I am particularly pleased with some river evenings that have produced a few good-sized Chub, while my tench fishing efforts have continued to bear fruit. It is true that I could have been concentrating on some rather more difficult venues (tench wise) to get the chance of a bigger fish or two but with restricted time available I chose to go for something with a better chance of action – in fact only one total blank this summer so far. The majority of my tench have been taken on the float and these close-range tactics have also produced some decent sized bream, roach and a 4lb Eel. All extremely enjoyable stuff and added to the frequent sightings of interesting wildlife of all sorts, it has made my time at the waterside this spring/summer a really great experience.

Having reached a stage in life where I consider myself to be at least semi-retired, I have discovered, as have many others, my time to be even more restricted and I am struggling to get a couple of sessions in a week, which at one stage I would have considered totally inadequate to satisfy my angling requirements. But does this matter? I suppose that the real answer is no. I suggest that 'Yes and No' would be more accurate though because I have always thought of my angling activities as extremely therapeutic and helpful to my overall state of mind. I have heard others say the same thing and it is a proven fact these days that our sport/ hobby is frequently a saviour to many with troubled minds. I suppose that it is all a matter of finding our own acceptable level of participation and making peace with it. I am fortunate that although I may want to spend more time out fishing, I'm happy with the situation as it is and always look forward to my next outing and if it has to be cancelled then so be it because I know it is for a good reason and it just makes the anticipation of the next trip even stronger.

Recently we have been undergoing a major house renovation



Roach, Eel and good-sized Bream have also made an appearance

Best Fishes & Time management, Bob Morris



Piscatorial Politics

Talking about wildlife and the environment generally, I was really pleased to see the rivers in such good nick for the start of the season following the wet spring. On our local river Darent various stretches started to produce luxuriant banks of streamer weed and this is a good indicator to the health of the water. Unfortunately, a couple of weeks back I noticed that some of these clumps were going brown and dying off. This is unusual for this time of year and aroused my suspicions. I then did some investigation into other stretches of the river and streams connected to it. On a couple of them large banks of Starwort (usually prolific throughout) had also disappeared. Starwort is quite a tenacious waterweed and often thrives even

in winter! My theory is that some form of pollution is once again responsible. In this location it is extremely unlikely that sewage leaks are responsible, and this pretty- well leaves agricultural run-off's or weed control introduced into lakes in the valley which have outlets into the river. We know that you can't let weed and pads totally take over your fishing lake, but I would urge caution when introducing weed control preparations and certainly avoid using anything that contains Malachite. This chemical not only kills weed but also much of the other water life – particularly amphibians, Frogs, Toads, Newts etc. I am surprised that it is still readily available as it is almost certainly largely responsible for a drastic nationwide decline in their numbers.

I would like to ask all Club committees and authorities in charge of these weed control measures to ban the use of Malachite – especially as there are other safer options available.

Bob M



The River Darent was in fine fettle at the start of the season...



...but the weed soon died off - agricultural run-off or over zealous fishery management?



Malachite can have a detrimental effect on all forms of aquatic life

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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
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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
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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

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Angling Specialist (ASH) 29 Queen Street, Horsham RH13 5AA	01403 264644
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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: chrisofoaks@gmail.com	01892 723670 www.cbproducts.co.uk
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 For all enquiries please email: info@tonbridge-angling.co.uk	07570 505934
Wantsum Angling Association or contact via website www.wantsumaa.co.uk	



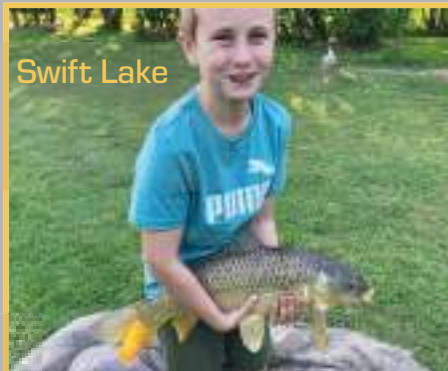
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48 hours : £70

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



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24 hours : £35

36 hours : £50

48 hours : £65

5 days : £140

6 days : £155

60 hours : £80

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96 hours : £125

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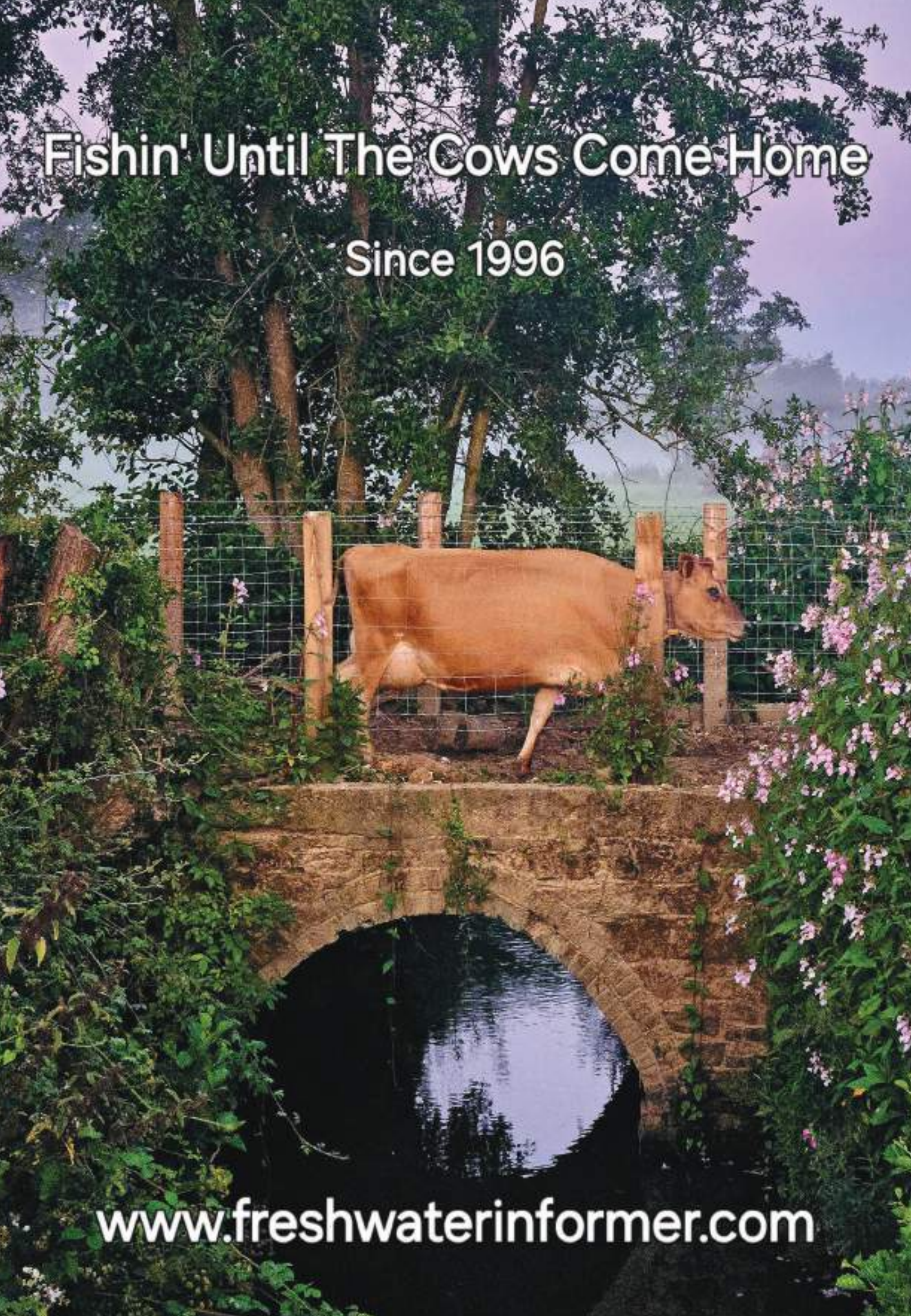
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