

# FRESHWATER INFORMER



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Lewis Jay Stewart  
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Alan 'Glug' Malcolm  
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## Hello and welcome to the September issue of the Freshwater Informer!

August has been another exceptionally busy month with lots happening both in the region's fishing community and here at the magazine. Many thanks for all the reports and news that have been arriving daily (and overnight!) and I always try and place as many as possible in the magazine. Space is always at a premium and I have to work within the budget available for the month.

I am delighted that our new website went live a few weeks ago and early feedback from readers is most encouraging. You will find the new page much clearer and easier to navigate around. Businesses will now be able to advertise in the various drop down boxes and this will be in the format of the popular Directory Listing at the back of the magazine. The cost is only £5 per month when 6 or 12 month period is booked meaning that your business can take advantage of the new website for only £30 for a half year or just £60 for a whole year! I have further plans to enhance the website and make it even better and this will happen in due course.

September technically heralds the arrival of the Autumn and I am sure you will agree that the year has flown by and the summer has literally melted away in front of us. However, out of all the months of the year, I think September is the best. The weather can still be very good and the fishing excellent. Indeed, depending on the weather (!) this scenario can continue right through in to October. Many of our species will be packing on the weight and forever hungry in preparation for the cooler period to come. The countryside takes on a new beauty as the verdant greens of the summer foliage develop in to beautiful shades of gold, brown and red. What better time to be out on the banks of our region's waters!

If your business is not yet appearing in the magazine then there is no better time to climb onboard! The cost of promoting your business with the Freshwater Informer is extremely budget friendly and effective. Please get in touch with me for an informal chat, I am more than happy to come and see you but it will cost you a cup of tea!

The magazine's Facebook page continues to grow in popularity with almost 6000 followers of the page. Although a lot of work, the page is a great way for the Freshwater Informer to communicate with readers and followers on a daily basis and this has meant a huge increase in demand for the magazine each month.

I will be away from 21 – 28 September when Mrs Reed and I have a well earned break in Cornwall. We have stayed at the venue before and have a lovely lodge on a lake (!). As you can imagine the fishing gear will be having a holiday as well! During this period I will not have access to emails or the Facebook page, but, will be available on the mobile number for anything urgent.

Enjoy your fishing, Barry Reed



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## Letter to the Editor

I was delighted to receive this letter from Alan Baker, from Westerham, in response to Bob Rolph's 'Golden Years of Coarse Fishing Series' being published in the magazine:

"Dear Barry,

The Freshwater Informer seems to be going from strength to strength and Bob Rolph's excellent articles bring back quite a few memories.

As from about 1965 onwards, I too, fished at Keston catching roach, perch and jack pike. While the rare appearance of a tench was always a 'Red Letter' day, it was the carp that intrigued me the most. After catching my first carp on floating bread crust, weighing 14 lbs, from Horton Kirby in 1969 and a 21 lbs carp on sausage meat paste from the same fishery in 1970, I decided that I needed to do something special. It was while fishing mid week evening sessions at Keston in 1971 that I recall meeting Bob a few times when he walked around the lakes. I was baiting with maggots in the channels among the lilies and fishing the lift method with peacock quill floats. The Goldstrike hooks that I was using were quite strong in the smaller sizes, albeit a little blunt! A few rubs on a sharpening stone soon remedied that.. Success followed when I banked two carp, one of 11 lbs 8 ozs in June and another of 17 lbs in July.

During the intervening period, I continued to catch a few doubles from Horton Kirby along with a creditable tally of carp to 19 lbs 4 ozs from the Ballast Pit at Tonbridge and single figure carp from Townland Pond at Oxted, a Waringham & DAS water at the time. Later I caught two more carp from Keston, both on the morning of 21 September 1974 using a secret bait I'd heard about on the carp angling grapevine earlier in the season. My terminal tackle consisted of a size 8 solder blobbed Low Water Salmon hook and a three swan shot running link leger and fished next to the 'four posts', the remains of a diving board. Soon after first light, I banked a 2 lbs 8 ozs chub followed by carp of 2 lbs and 14 lbs 8 ozs. The bait? Well, that was sweetcorn and it was the first time that I had used it and I believe they were the first fish to be caught on that bait at Keston! Young carp anglers today will be unaware how secretive we all were in those days! The news spread quickly as later that evening Steve Edwards phoned to offer his congratulations!

Many of you may be unaware that Bob published an article about Keston, titled 'Caesar's Pool' in the April 1981 edition of the influential, but long defunct, monthly magazine 'Angling'. It was illustrated with several images of Steve holding Keston carp, but sadly, cancer took Steve to that 'Great carp lake in the sky' just a few weeks before his 60th birthday. The tackle that I was using at that time was typical for the era, a pair of 11 feet, 1.5 lbs test curve fibreglass rods. These were self built on Fibatube blanks obtained from the rod makers Dawsons of Bromley. They were coupled with Mitchell 300 fixed spool reels. Unfortunately, I broke one of the rods while fishing on Johnsons Island and Road lake a couple of years later. I was even using a self built 42" landing net! The arms were made from cut down fibreglass sea fishing boat rod blanks and the block made from aluminium. The frame was constructed one afternoon working in my dad's shed. He was an engineer by trade so was well equipped with metal working tools!

For nostalgic reasons last season, I dusted down my one remaining Fibatube rod and coupled it with a 4.5" 'Leeds' centrepin reel. Although I failed to catch one solitary upper Medway carp, I did catch the ubiquitous chub and on another session landed a barbel on the rod too!"

**Tight lines, Alan Baker**

## The Freshwater Informer

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**COPY DEADLINE FOR OCTOBER 2019 – STRICTLY 5PM MONDAY 16th SEPTEMBER 2019**

**Please note - No submissions can be accepted after this date!**

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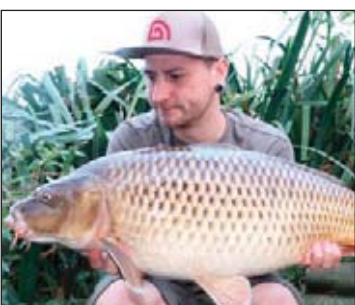


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# Fishery Reports

**Mousehole Lakes** Paddock Wood, Kent







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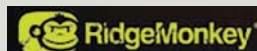
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# Fishery Reports

**Hartley Lands Fishery** Cranbrook, Kent







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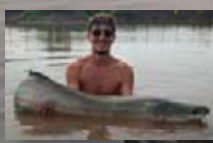
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**Loei Jungle Fishing Lake**



# Fishery Reports

## Beaver Fishery Lingfield, Surrey

**SNIFE LAKE** has again been producing some cracking captures. **Kieron Wallace** had a 19lb mirror, **Scott Harvey** banked a well deserved common of 20lb, **Liam McCormack** had a 20lb mirror, **Jack Davis** got a new **PB** when he banked a 24-14 mirror, **Steve White** had 2 commons at 20lb and 24lb and a fully scaled mirror at 16lb, **Dave Russell** banked 2 mirrors at 18-05 and 20lb, **Darryl Cook** had a 22-10 common, **Connagh Hoade** banked a common of 21-14, **Alfie Hawkins** had a 24-03 mirror, **Simon Gore** banked a 17-08 mirror, **Gavin Bryant** had 2 mirrors at 17-12 and 27-12, **Martin Cowdrey** banked a 24-04 mirror, **Max Stevens** banked a lovely linear, Our very own **Ben** had a mirror of 18-04 and a 28-02 common and I had a 24-08 common, **Chris Edland** banked a 24-08 common and a 25-08 mirror while his buddy **Darryl McClaren** banked a 14-08 mirror, commons at 20lb and 28-01, a 23-06 mirror and a **PB** grassie of 29lb.



Chris Edland 24-08 Snipe



Darryl McClaren 29-00 Snipe



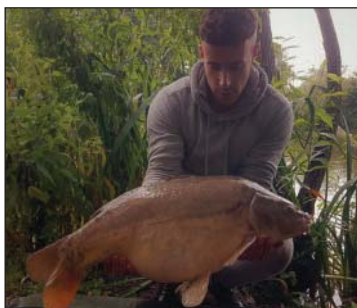
Kieron Wallace 19lb Snipe



Max Stevens 14-08 Snipe



Scott Harvey 20lb Snipe



Gavin Bryant 27-12 Snipe



Gavin Bryant 70lb



Gavin Bryant 80lb



Gavin Bryant Tuscany 2



Gavin Bryant Tuscany

**TUSCANY LAKE** has really been doing the business this past month. Well done to **Vic Collier** who had cats at 28-12, 30-11, 32-09 and 40-01, **Gordon Noakes** banked 4 to mid 30's, **John Lampert** had a great first cat session when he banked 5 x 30's and 5 x 20's, **Peter Collins** had cats at 22lb, 24lb and 31lb while their friend **Steve Deeley** had 3 at 21lb, 33lb and 63-10, **Peter Ellis** had one at 50lb, **Danile Latham** had one at 54-09 and then a **PB** of 64-10, **Andy Watson** had a good birthday session when he banked 12 cats ranging from 24-06 to an impressive 76-04, **Julian McConnel** had a



James Green 58lb 4oz



Steve Deeley 63-10



Wayne Tibbs 52lb PB

couple out to 50-04, **Simon Mercer** had 7 cats to 34lb on an overnighter, **Gary Middle** banked 3 at 24lb, 27lb and 37lb, **James Green** got a **PB** when he banked a 58-04, Wayne Tibbs also got a **PB** when he banked one at 52lb, **Antony Gunn** had a few out this month, he banked cats at 17lb, 26lb, 30lb, 34lb, 35lb, 38lb and 52lb but the session of the year so far must be **Gavin Bryant** who banked 3 high 30's, 3 low 40's, a 70 then a monster of 80lb all in one night in torrential rain.

**JEFF'S LAKE** has been the place to go for a bit of fun catching F1's and a mixture of coarse fish. The Jeff's Lake Open Match results were good this month. The top 3 places were 1st – **Sam Beckinsale** with 89-04, 2nd **Clive Mills** with 69-04 and 3rd **Pawel Lesniak** with 39-08.

**MOAT POND** has been doing well for a mix of species but mainly small carp have been banked, one example of this is **Jim Masters** who came down for the day and banked 12 carp to 9lb.

**DAUGHTERS LAKE** has been a bit up and down of late due to the remaining algae playing havoc with the oxygen levels. Again this month we have seen a few fish banked. The grassies have definitely made an appearance, **Matt Godden** landed one at a new **PB** of 18-08, **James Oldfield** had a **PB** grassie of 15lb and a common of 9lb, **Jay McCloughlin** had a 12-08 mirror and a 10lb common, **Ross McDaniel** banked a **PB** grassie of 20-09, **Ben** banked a grassie of 20-10 and I managed to winkle out a mid double grassie and a small common of 8lb.



Ross McDaniel 20-09 Daughters

**EDEN POND** has been the place to go for the tench again this month with anglers really getting among them. **Roger Vallance** banked 9 tench to 3-08, **John Nightingale** banked 7 tench and a crucian and **Dave Lidgley** banked 10 tench to 3-04 and plenty of silvers.

**MAZE LAKE** has again this month seen the new F1's being caught as well as bream to 6lb and commons and mirrors to 5lb. Some of the bigger F1's have also made an appearance. We have also had a few matches on Maze Lake and the top result was 65-14.

**MAJORS LAKE** has had a good month with lots of decent fish out, well done to the following: **Will Cousins** banked a low double ghostie, 1 small mirror and a small common, 2 tench and a 19lb mirror, **James Smythe** had a **PB** mirror of 18lb, **Charlie** and **Maria** had 6 carp to low doubles, **Dave Russell** banked a 17lb mirror, **Roger Vallance** banked a 5lb tench, a small common and a 7lb bream, **Chris Secole** had a 17-10 **PB** mirror, **Stephen Gage** banked 16 bream to 5lb and 2 commons at 8lb and 15lb and when the Millers visit you know carp will be caught! **Rick Miller** banked 3 to 12-08, **Graham Miller** had 2 to 10lb and Tom Miller had 4 to 20-06 and bream.

We apologise that we cannot report every catch on every lake, especially if we are not informed of the fish banked! Well done to all and please don't forget to send in or tell us about your catches.



Tom Miller 20-06 Majors



Chris Seacole 17-10 Majors



Will Cousins 19lb Majors



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# Fishery Reports

## Claygate Lakes Claygate, Marden, Kent



Well, what a mad month August was... from extreme temperatures to gale force winds, it was still nice to see the die-hard fishermen out on the banks. With the air pressure we even had barbel along with pike being taken off the top with bread. We had one angler on **Sophie** fishing peg 27, which is 10ft deep on the bottom hooking a bream, within a split second it had come up and out the water like a marlin!

It was good to see young **Zac** and **Fin** back at the lakes again, along with **Clair** and **Stephen**. You two have learned so much in such a short time, especially learning that yellow ground bait doesn't just die your hands, but everything else that you touch, one of the boys looked like they had yellow jaundice!

**LAKE EVA** Banded pellet, corn, meat and good old bread are working well, with pleasure anglers having catches of over 200lb.

**LAKE SOPHIE** The bream have been coming out with nets of 10-24lb taken with some nice size roach and a few chub.

**LAKE AMY** Good old Cell topped with yellow still taking fish along with pineapple wafers, krill also worth a try.

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# Fishery Reports

## Framfield Park Fishery Uckfield, East Sussex



**SPRING LAKE** Fishing extremely well with both club and pleasure anglers enjoying excellent sport. Best methods are pole or waggler fished initially at 6 metres coming in close to the bank later on in sessions. Most pegs producing with pegs in the 40's accounting for bigger carp up to mid doubles. Best baits are corn, pellet and meat with worm accounting for good perch up to 3lbs.

**BROOKHOUSE LAKE** Similar tactics required with pegs close to the gap in the islands the most productive areas. Best baits are corn and meat which are accounting for quality carp up to 16 lbs.

**BURYWOOD LAKE** Pegs on the car park side fishing well with common carp up 20lbs falling to pop ups fished close to features. Also some good grass carp to low 20's showing when fishing worm or sweet flavoured boilies. Cat fish showing with three 60lbs plus specimens banked in the last week.

### OPEN MATCHES

#### Spring Lake

- 1 - Mike Head (Carp Shop) 241-10-0
- 2 - John Oliver (Framfield) 178-10-0
- 3 - Alan Stewart (Framfield) 148-4-0
- 4 - Nobby Whiteing (Hawthorn) 142-14-0
- 5 - Dennis Cooper (Framfield) 134-0-0
- 6 - Tony Lane (Carp Shop) 133-11-0

#### Spring Lake

- 1 - Mark Parrett (Carp Shop) 132-9-0
- 2 - Lee Perry (Faulkners) 126-11-0
- 3 - Ian Oliver (Framfield) 115-11-0
- 4 - Nobby Whiteing (Hawthorn) 100-0-0
- 5 - Mike Head (Carp Shop) 99-3-0
- 6 - Tony Lane (Carp Shop) 98-6-0.

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# Fishery Reports

## Wylands International AC Battle, East Sussex

**FIELD LAKE** has fished very well most anglers using simple float methods and have not had to wait long for a bite. The lake is very popular with the younger generation of angler with large amounts of fish being caught.

**HOUSE LAKE** has been as popular as ever with some very nice specimens being landed including several twenty plus carp. As the weather has been so mild the margins and shallower water have fished very well.



Lee Bangs - House Lake

**MIDDLE LAKE** has fished its socks off with many personal bests being recorded this month. In the warm sun the fish have been bathing in the upper layers and the carp have responded very well to surface fishing.

**KELL LAKE** Many anglers have had a fab time on Kell this month with a few anglers landing six or seven fish. 'Warty' has shown his face a few times at over 30lb and a common of 36lb has been banked.



Crawford - Middle Lake



Ashley Reeves - 36lb Kell Lake

**MAISIES LAKE** has produced some stunning carp to mid twenty and some cracking large 50lb plus cats. Please remember to pre book on this lake as swims are limited.



Dave Honeysett - Masies Lake



Derick - Masies Lake

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**THE SPECI LAKES** New Spec has been fantastic with some stunning carp up to 31lb being landed, it has fished very well and has been very popular through this month. Large beds of boilies seem to be doing the trick on new and old speci at the moment.



Mark Minion - New Spec

Jason Cadwell - New Spec Lake

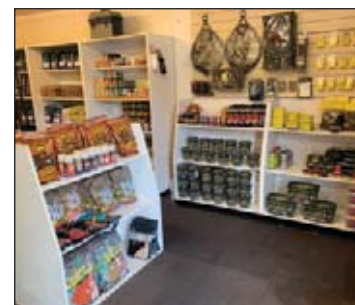


**OLD SNAKE** is open as usual and makes a fantastic place for a few bites. The matches are going from strength to strength and some fantastic bags are being weighed in, sometimes 300 lb plus.

**ROSIES LAKE** Up to 9 crucian carp have been landed in a session on various methods including method feeder and float fished worm. The carp have been as hungry as ever with many being caught up to 23lb.

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# Fishery Reports

## Tonbridge & District Angling & FP Society



### Abrey & Tibbetts Cup BUNGALOWS - 14/7/19

- 1st Ray Allen 25lb 0oz
- 2nd Ditch Howard 10lb 3oz
- 3rd Pat Galpin 8lb 4oz

#### Ladies:

- 1st Lisa Bedford 14oz
- 2nd Donna Hill 10oz

#### Juniors:

- 1st B. Wakeman 11lb 6oz

### Restocking Cup - NEW CUT - 21/7/19

- 1st Lee Wakeman 11lb 12oz
- 2nd Bill Wicker 10lb 10oz
- 3rd Pat Galpin 10lb 6oz

### Float Only Match - NEW LAGOON - 11/8/19

- 1st Ray Allen 28lb 8oz
- 2nd Ditch Howard 21lb 3oz
- 3rd Peter Hole 17lb 1oz

### MATCH RESULTS SUMMARY:

#### Chairman & Committee Cup CEMEX CUP - 23/6/19

- 1st Stuart Cottingham 10lb 8oz
- 2nd Tony Hoyland 6lb 4oz
- 3rd Dave Lee 5lb 4oz

#### Lake & River Match HAYSDEN - 30/6/19

- 1st Mick Smith 22 Points
- 2nd Stuart Cottingham 19 Points
- 3rd Bill Wicker 17 Points



Angus Attenborough Plantation Lake 08.19

**PLANTATION LAKE** is fishing well. Nick Miles had 2 mirrors at 11lb, 19lb and 2 commons at 16lb, 28lb. Louis Miles had 3 mirrors at 14lb, 16lb, 27lb, Dave Lee had 2 commons at 24lb, 25lb and 2 mirrors at 12lb, 29lb. Kieran Martin had a 31lb, common. The Attenborough group had a good 3 day session. Alex had 8 carp to 27lb, Mr Attenborough had 9 carp to 32lb, Angus had 3 carp to 33lb.

**PRAIRIE LAKE** is producing. Matt Bruford had 3 mirrors at 21lb, 22lb, 27lb and a 20lb common. Alec West had mirrors at 19lb, 19lb, 24lb, 26lb and commons at 20lb, 27lb, 29lb, Nick Wells had 3 x 30lb, 10 x 20lb, and 6 upper doubles commons and mirrors. Matt Beard had mirrors at 16lb and 23lb. Ollie and James Smith had mirrors and commons at 22lb, 22lb, 23lb, 27lb, 28lb, 28lb, 29lb, 31lb.

**SANDWICH LAKE** is producing carp to pva bags and small method feeder. Silvers are coming out on bread and maggots. Mr Excellent is still taking carp off the top and Mike Harrington had carp at 3lb, 6lb, 9lb, 10lb and later had another 8 carp to 12lb. Mark Farmer had 14 carp to 15lb. Grazvydas Kaziukonis had 45 carp to 10lb on a method feeder.

**KETTLES LAKE** is fishing well. Jack Boyd had a 16lb mirror. Simon Roberts had mirrors at 8lb, 11lb, 17lb, 19lb, 22lb and commons at 9lb, 11lb, 14lb, 24lb. Tom Littlewood had an 18lb mirror and 4 between 10lb and 13lb.

## Elphicks Fisheries Horsmonden, Kent

**NORTH LAKE** is still producing well. **Philip Tuppeny** and the 1066 carpers had 58 carp: 4 x 40lb, 18 x 30lb, and 36 x 20lb. **Keith Davis** had 2 mirrors at 40lb, 41lb. **Richard Green** had 7 carp to 39lb 4oz. **Paul Russell** had carp of 29lb, 33lb, 38lb and 47lb.



Joe Norman 35lb North Lake 07.19



North Lake



Paul Kent North lake 08.19



Peter Norman North Lake 07.19



Jake Boyd 16lb 4oz Kettles lake 07.19



Simon Frost 18lb 10oz Kettles Lake 08.19

**PULLENS LAKE** has still produced. **Ron Fuller** had 2 mirrors at 25lb and 34lb. **Sam Rozier** had 3 mirrors at 28lb, 31lb, 32lb. **Simon Farmer** had 3 mirrors at 28lb, 29lb, 33lb and a 28lb common. **Den Granger** had 3 mirrors at 26lb, 37lb, 38lb. **Sam Rozier** had 2 mirrors at 23lb, 28lb and a 36lb, common. **Dave Thomas** had 2 mirrors at 32lb and 51lb.

**WEST END LAKE** has picked a bit now. **Paul Butler** had 2 mirrors at 35lb, 43lb. **Gary Harrow** had a 44lb common and mirrors at 32lb, 35lb, 38lb, 39lb, 39lb, 41lb, 47lb, 49lb. **Paul Heskett** had 2 mirrors at 40lb, and 46lb.



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## Fishery Reports

### Tanyard Fisheries Uckfield, East Sussex



Brandon



Callum Thomas



Shaun



Zibi



Chelsea



Shaun



**CARP FREE LAKE** Stuart landed the most elusive koi on his day session. Steve had a sunny day's fishing and landed four tench and three roach using maggots. Steve H landed a beautiful koi carp.

**COARSE LAKE 1** Harrison White caught himself a nice bream on an afternoon session. Dimitrius came for his son's first trip and landed two common carp of 3lb and 5lb along with a nice tench.

**COARSE LAKE 2** Lyndon landed himself fifteen fish, a mix of carp, from his day trip, largest of 13lb 4oz mostly using maggots. Peter made use of the sunshine and had a nice 25 fish, 12 common carp, 7 bream and 6 tench of mixed sizes largest of 11lb. Chelsea and Shaun came for two day session landing 22 fish, a mix of common carp, mirror carp and catfish.

Tony S came for a day session and landed his long sought after catfish. Barrie Thomas landed a very nice catfish weighing in at 10lb. Callum Thomas landed two nice catfish, a golden tench, a koi of 6lb 7oz and a tench of 4lb 7oz. Hannah Thomas landed two catfish on her overnighter, both around 10lb. Noah Abraham came for days fishing in the heat and landed six mirror carp and

one common carp. Frazier Hookings came for a week's session and landed four catfish and five common carp among several more over his stay. Robbie Lambert also stayed with Frazier and landed himself two catfish among others. Joe landed himself two common carp, one of 3lb and one of 6lb. Mark had a good morning with three carp of 6-8lb and eight bream of 3-4lb. Trevor and Max Butler landed themselves a nice fifteen fish - twelve carp and three bream, the largest of the common carp at 10 lb 5oz and a PB for Trevor with a 9lb 5oz common. Brandon had a nice common carp. Ross had a very nice sized catfish. Harrison White on his first overnight session landed a lovely common carp.

**COARSE LAKE 3** Stephanie had a nice 12lb common carp. Dan landed a 10lb mirror. Max along with Jake and Steven landed a 5lb koi carp, eleven common carp around 6lb, one tench and one mirror of 5lb. Thomas had a good afternoon and overnight landing himself a twenty five mix of carp using red sweetcorn. Charlie had five common carp also using red sweetcorn.

He had a very good couple of days collectively landing twelve rudd, thirteen bream, one gudgeon, two koi carp and a common carp all using maggots.



Hannah Thomas



Harrison W



Radek



Ross



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### Species present in our lakes

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# Fishery Reports

## Hawkhurst Fish Farm Hawkhurst, Kent



9lb Common - Quarry Lake - Taylor Goodall



Quarry Lake - Ron Davis - Sunday



25lb Common - Main Lake - Harrison Mills



27lb 4oz Common - Main Lake - Tom Marshall

What a busy month it has been! Hawkhurst Fish Farm is buzzing with life at the moment and not only the wildlife but many keen anglers have been travelling to our banks in search of some of the monster Carp and Catfish that inhabit our waters. There have been some absolutely stunning carp out over the last few weeks, but our Fish of the Month competition winner this month is a catfish. A 5 day session on Main Lake really paid off for **Dave Leftley**, who smashed his **PB** when he managed to land an 84lb Catfish! This is a lake and fishery record, and one we really think deserves to win our competition... we can't imagine what a fight it must have put up! So a big well done to Dave, who has won himself 24 hours free fishing!

**SPECIMEN LAKE** There have been some great carp captures out of Specimen Lake over the last week weeks. **Roger Williams** landed a scale perfect Common weighing in at 31lb. **Paul Hewett** had an impressive 32lb Common from peg 8. **Luke Williams** caught a lovely looking 29lb Common. **Tim Porter** landed a scale perfect 31lb 6oz Common. **David Graveling** had a brace of Mirrors weighing in at 29lb and 30lb. On another session, David managed 8 fish, including a 53lb **PB** Catfish and a lovely looking 32lb 4oz Common. **Ricky Young** made up for a lack of carp on his most recent Specimen lake session by netting this impressive 52lb catfish! Ricky would like to pass on his thanks to Rob the bailiff for his help and assistance. **Steve Taylor** managed a new **PB** catfish weighing in at 59lb 8oz, and one of our blue carp weighing 42lb 10oz!

**MAIN LAKE** has been very lively over the last couple of weeks, with both carp and cats gracing the banks regularly. **Joe, Garry** and **Harrison** fished a 48 hour session and had 18 fish out between them, with carp up to 30lb, 2 grass carp weighing 14lb and 16lb and a catfish at 18lb.



30lb Mirror - Specimen Lake - David Graveling



31lb 6oz Common - Specimen Lake - Tim Porter



60lb 10oz Catfish - Main Lake - Matt Scott



84lb Catfish - Main Lake - Dave Leftley



Bobby - Quarry Lake



Gareth Morris - 51lb Catfish - Main Lake



Isabel and Jamie - Quarry Lake



16lb Common - Quarry Lake - Curtis Brightwell

**KEV HOLT** managed a new **PB** 28lb Common and a catfish near 50lb. He gave us 10/10 and said the lake, tackle shop and ground always look great! **Gareth Morris** fished a 72 hour session, landing a total of seven fish, all 20lb+. He also had a whopper of a catfish weighing in at 51lb! He also mentioned the lad fishing next to him was fishing for cats. Total weight was 700lb, with the average cat weighing in at 45-50lb. What a great session! **Ashley Reeves** and co caught 18 fish in total, including a 40lb catfish and 27lb mirror. They were caught using monster baits plum ice slip D rigs. **Dave Leftley** and his **Dad** spent 5 days on Main Lake. Dave tells us they really enjoyed their time here. Dave's Dad had a 28lb 8oz mirror carp, while Dave smashed his **PB** with an 84lb Catfish. Apparently they can't wait to come again. **Lou Smith** caught an incredible looking 25lb 12oz Common. **Ty Monty** had an awesome first visit to Main Lake. He fished peg 2 and caught a 44lb catfish and 18lb Common, using krill! **Tom, Dave** and **Sam** fished pegs 1-3 and had a good haul of fish, including carp and cats! **Tom Marshall** had a brilliant session, banking 20 fish. It included mirrors up to 28lb 6oz, commons up to 27lb 4oz, grass carp up to 27lb 8oz and Catfish up to 46lb. **Matt Scott** caught an incredible 60lb 10oz Catfish during a night session. Dave and his Dad had a great session on our Main Lake. Dave's Dad landed a rather lively 28lb 8oz mirror carp, while Dave smashed his **PB** when he caught the monster catfish weighing in at a hefty 84lb.

**DOVE LAKE** One of our specimen waters, Dove Lake is away from the hustle and bustle of Main Lake but still holds an awesome stock of carp and a few large catfish too. **Ben Barrett** managed to land a 17lb Common and 25lb Common during a day session! He says he'll be back soon for some bigger ones... **James Gardner** fished 48 hours (his first visit to Hawkhurst Fish Farm) and it didn't disappoint! The action kept coming almost from the off with his first bite coming before he managed to get the 2nd rod out. It was clearly the start of things to come as he managed 11 bites with 10 fish landed, the biggest carp was a common caught on the 1st day weighing 25lb 12oz, along with a 40lb 2oz **PB** catfish also a 17lb **PB** ghosty. **Jack** and his **Dad** sent in a great catch report from their two night session, they fished using krill snowman rigs and were rewarded with several carp and catfish! **Pete Davis** fished for a couple of days with his father-in-law **Alan Parker**, they lost 4 and caught 10- one of which was Pete's new **PB** weighing 31lb 2oz! **George Knight** landed a 25lb 5oz Common during a 60 hour session.

**QUARRY LAKE** is a pleasure lake; great for a fun days fishing whether you are an experienced angler, or a beginner looking for a new **PB**. **Scott Mansell** and his 6 year old son **Archie** has a great session- it was their first visit here and after a slow morning Archie was into his first Carp by midday. Between them they had 10 Carp in the end ranging from 6lb with the biggest being 11lb. Archie finished off with his first ever Catfish at 9lb which he was over the moon with! Scott says they will definitely be coming back again. **Ron Davis** has had several great sessions over the last few weeks; he's an expert on Quarry Lake and one of our star anglers! Bob landed a lovely 16lb catfish. **Jake** and his Dad **Christopher**, along with friend **Luke**, all managed new **PB**'s when fishing Quarry Lake at the weekend! Jake landed his second ever catfish, weighing in at 26lb, Christopher caught a 10lb Common (his first time carp fishing), and Luke caught a lovely 11lb Linear. Nathan landed an impressive 22lb 8oz Catfish. **CJ** and **Rachel Lewington** lost two (including a big cat) but landed 7 fish, the biggest being 16lb 8oz! **Mason** caught a 16lb Catfish, and then right at the end of his session landed an incredible 34lb Catfish which is a new lake record! At time of print we were still waiting on photos, but the other anglers on the lake helped him weigh it and were all impressed with Mason's angling skills! **Tommy** landed his first ever catfish, and **Taylor** managed carp up to 9lb! **Eileen** and **Curtis** have progressed from Junior Lakes to Match Lake and now to Quarry Lake. They caught many lovely carp including a 16lb Common for Curtis and a 12lb 10oz Common for Eileen! They said the bailiffs and other fishermen all contributed to their fantastic day. **Jamie** (age 8) and **Isabel** (age 10) both had an awesome session on Quarry Lake with their dad. Jamie managed to land carp up to 12lb and his first catfish weighing 22lb; Isabel caught her first catfish weighing 13lb and a common at 9lb.

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# Tanyard Fisheries

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

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## FRESHWATER INFORMER READERS ARE THE BEST!

Recently on the ever popular Freshwater Informer Facebook page, Mel Crighton got in touch asking for help to go fishing. Mel's regular fishing buddy was poorly and unable to take Mel for their regular fishing trips. I put up a post asking if anyone could assist in the matter. A good number of kind hearted Freshwater Informer readers offered assistance and Lee Brockhurst was one of those generous people who answered the call! Mel and Lee had a session at Elphicks and this is Lee's report on the day:

"Well a visit to Elphicks for the day has ended but WHAT A DAY!

After answering a call for help from the Freshwater Informer, I had the pleasure of meeting and fishing with Mel Allan Crighton for the day. The disabled Veteran from Borstal hadn't been to visit the complex in many years and I explained that he would probably be unlikely to recognise the place after so long and that he'd just have to re visit and give it a bash.

Early doors at 7am we both set up on Kettles for the day ahead. Our choice of swims was limited due to overnight anglers already set up and we had only one bank to choose from. We dropped in to swims that we felt served us best from the limited choice.

It wasn't long before Mel had his first take! A spirited grey/silver mirror around 4-5lb graced the net, putting Mel on the Elphick's scoreboard for the first time. Around an hour and half passed before the next bite. The temperature on the lake began to rise quickly in the morning sun and at 10am Mel had his second common which came in just shy of a PB at exactly 12lb. Over the next four hours the lake seemed to fade, high pressure

and temperatures were very uncomfortable and the heat made life hard work, but sheer persistence saw fish number three.

It was an absolute belter of a grass carp that took his bait and made a 25 yard dash which Mel isn't likely to forget in a hurry! After about 15 minutes the fish was banked, weighed and some carp care applied to a scale lift from a previous injury and some bleeding from the fight it had given Mel. The fish set a massive new target and PB, weighing in at 27.06, and estimated two and a half foot long. Massive congratulations on the new PB Mel! It was an absolute pleasure fishing with you today and I look forward to our next outing."

**Tight lines, Lee Brockhurst and Mel Crighton**



## GREAT SESSION AT HYTHE FOR RICHARD!

Richard Smith had a great evening on a beach near Hythe and was kept very busy:

"Hi Barry. I went out on a ray and sole hunt in the Hythe area.

I arrived at 7.30pm and quickly set up. Seagulls were swarming along the beach so my thoughts were that there must be a lot of activity in the sea, and I wasn't wrong! I had one rod out for rays using a pulley dropper rig loaded with bluey and the other rod out for the soles using a three hook flapper loaded with lug. The rays came on the feed just after 9pm with the first one weighing just over 6 lbs. The second one gave me a slack line bite about 30 mins later weighing 7lb 6oz.

I released the ray back to the sea and started walking back to my tripod to see my Vega Potenza rod arched over, saved by the reel caught on my tripod cup! I quickly picked it up and started reeling in to find a small ray around 4 lbs had taken the lug on my sole rig "they must be hungry"! After releasing the ray, I baited up both rigs again and cast out and within 20 mins I had another ray bite on the rod rigged with bluey. I reeled in the ray to the tide line and was just about to unhook it when my Vega Potenza rod shot out of the tripod again. I had only cast the rod out about 30 yards, if that, and was hoping for a sole, but I was quite happy to reel in a nice size bass, which I couldn't weigh as my digital scales had packed up. I unhooked and released both fish and baited up again. All went quiet on the rod for soles, but the rays kept coming and I reeled in another 3, estimated between 5lb and 6lb before calling it a night about 11.45pm.

What a cracking night!"





# Hartley Lands Fishery

Swattenden Lane, Cranbrook, Kent, TN17 3PS

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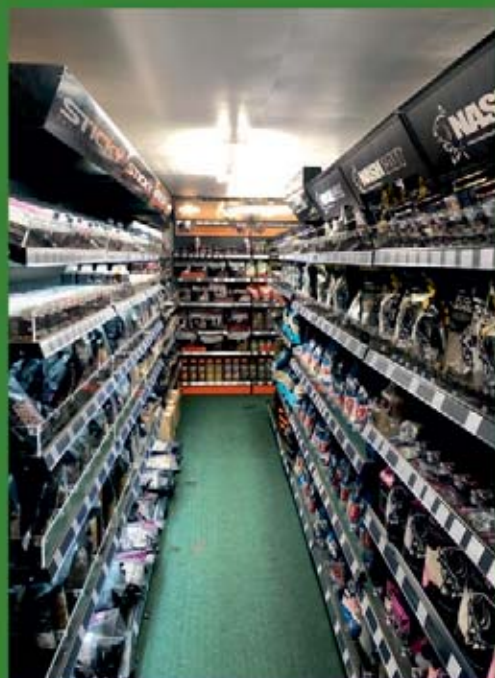
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# POM'S PEG



## Simon Pomeroy - An introduction

"My angling journey has certainly been varied to date with my first memory of catching sticklebacks on a tiny Scottish Burn, through to owning boats in this country and abroad, running fisheries, tackle shops and for the last 20 years designing and producing baits, terminal tackle ranges and fish catching tactics. All in all it has been an interesting angling 'career' which has certainly opened my eyes to 'The Good, The Bad and The Ugly' - and though I'm now in my 50's I'd like to think there are still a few years left to build upon my experiences so far!

Fishing has always been the ultimate escape from the rat race for me, whether it was floating in the ocean off Bermuda for Amberjack or casting a fly on a shallow moorland stream for tiny wild brownies. To be amongst nature at times when most people will still be wrapped up in bed or watching television, seeing things that only nature can provide is both wonderful and inspiring, but my ultimate aim has always been to catch, and to catch more in a safe and responsible manner - whatever the species.

I certainly do not pretend to know it all, but some of my experiences have led me to study entomology and the ecology and biology of fish allowing me to open my mind, as best as I can as a human, to what really counts to challenge the quarry I hunt. Taking such a position is not that easy and sometimes it is difficult to see through the 'fog' of the modern sport with slick marketing and unchallenged mainstream trends, but I try to never assume anything whilst always being happy to question everything.

By having such a questioning approach leads me into my first piece which focuses on some, if not the most, important factors that have influenced my angling and without doubt put me in a position to catch more on the day. Nature has an incredible way of challenging us as anglers with so many variables that change so frequently but, some of the basics never really change and they are a great place to start at and learn about. Obviously, each of the following topics are far more in depth that I can write about in such a short piece and at some stage I will revisit to really drill down into each topic.



Stunning ghostie caught on  
oh so simple tactics

### Location/watercraft:

Whether I have been drifting over a channel wreck for bass or carp fishing on a huge Dutch water system, location will always be the key factor. Simply put: if there are no fish in your swim you are up against it and never expect fish to come to you! When I owned my own lakes it was incredible how many anglers would plot up in swims away from showing fish with an assumption that these fish would at some stage turn up to be caught! Unfortunately if only it was that easy and the fact was those fish were where they were for their own reasons, which could be anything from keeping away from angler pressure to feeding on a natural hatch - only the fish ever truly know!

Outside of match fishing, where the draw decides, or on a water you have to fish a particular spot, swim selection is key and there are a host of factors that can make the decision of swim selection for you, the main being seeing fish show. Walking the water, making no assumptions and local knowledge all revolve around the best location on the day and always be prepared to move. If you're not catching and fish are showing the pain of a move will quickly disappear once you are catching!

### Bait:

Another mind boggling topic from my early angling days, where the most exotic we got was cheese laced with Elderberry wine! The bait market is a minefield with so many options - where do you start? For me the main thing is that the bait has to be of the utmost quality and designed to be

*I am delighted to welcome Simon Pomeroy to the Freshwater Informer! Simon will be writing a selection of articles on a wide variety of angling subjects over the coming months which I am sure you will enjoy!*

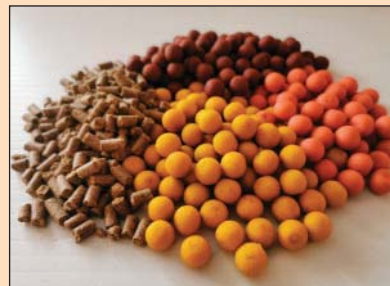
Location - you can't catch  
them if they're not there



both of benefit to the fish eating it and to have a positive impact on the water and environment in which it's fished. By taking that correct stance, by default, I also end up with a far better bait - giving a fish something it wants to feed on and not something we, as humans, want it to feed on. A subtle reframing of a few words, but with huge implications either way!

Natural baits will always stand head and shoulders over man-made ones, as these are the very food sources 'designed' for fish to survive on with the essential proteins and nutrients they require for a healthy and sustainable diet. I try to incorporate naturals within most of my baiting approaches but using maggots, worms and the like can be difficult as everything eats them and within carp fishing that can be frustrating!

Try to investigate the ingredients and design behind your baits and don't just accept a boilie or pellet 'as is' because the main factor is the ingredients and not the smell (the flawed sniff test!?) or price being the deciding factors. I'm not here to critique as fishing is only a joy, but if some anglers were to put more focus to their bait selection they would certainly catch more, as well as benefit the environment fished within.

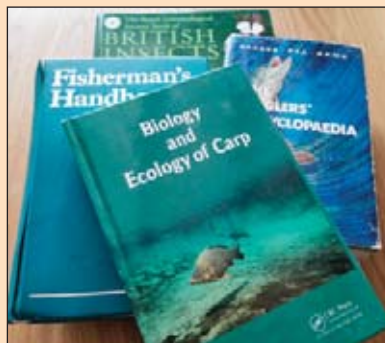


*Are we questioning their ingredients enough?*

### Terminal tackle:

Are we trying to reinvent the wheel when you consider the 'Old Skool' approaches to angling i.e. quality components, consistently effective, fish safe and as unobtrusive as possible? I'm from an era where these were the key factors within our rigs, whatever the species or tactics. I would certainly say that in the fog of time the unobtrusive element has been forgotten when with pressured fish nowadays it is even more applicable. There is a trend that the focus is what we see as humans means it is the same for what a fish may see. What we should never forget is it is actually a case of what a fish can sense, seeing being one of those senses but far from the most efficient. It could be said that their eyes are their most inefficient as most of the time they are swimming in dark, at night, and murky conditions.

If we look at carp, though you can dovetail this with all species, they are masters of their own environment whilst we are but visitors. It is incredible when you discover their true sense and how heightened they are and learning this, especially from my fish farming, has given me a very conscious mind-set of how complex and efficient a creature they are. They can detect, and 'read', tiny changes in water pressures.



*study all aspects of your quarry*

interest! My intentions going forward will be purely to explain the conclusions I have come to within my own angling after my experiences to date. I truly enjoy helping others to catch more fish so always feel free to contact me or Barry if you have any questions or would like me to focus on any particular topic.

Until next time stay safe and enjoy your fishing."

*Kind regards, Simon (aka Pom)*

**E-mail: [simon@pallatrax.co.uk](mailto:simon@pallatrax.co.uk)**



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I am absolutely delighted to welcome Pallatrax as the new sponsors of our Catch Reports Section. This section is where you display your catch to other Freshwater Informer readers.

Each month, Pallatrax will choose from the published photos and pick their winner.

The winner will receive EIGHT packs from the innovative new GRIPZ hook range.

The lucky angler will have a packet of sizes 2,4,6,8,10, 12,14 and 16, so will be equipped for all eventualities. This fantastic prize is worth over £40 RRP!

To be in with a chance to win this fantastic set of GRIPZ hooks, all you have to do is send us your catch photo via our Facebook message page or email [barnic@btinternet.com](mailto:barnic@btinternet.com) Entry is FREE and all coarse fish photos are welcome! From a carp to a roach, send us your pictures! Please make sure you tell us where it was caught and it's weight.



## Gripz Fishing Hooks

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**WINNER**

**Steve Mack**  
well done!



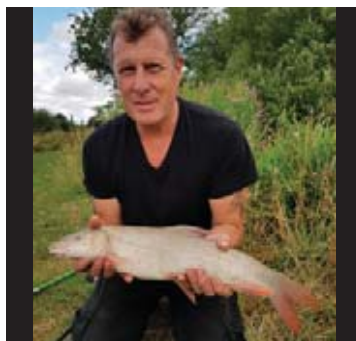
ADAM MARCHANT 48 LBS HUNTERS LODGE SUSSEX



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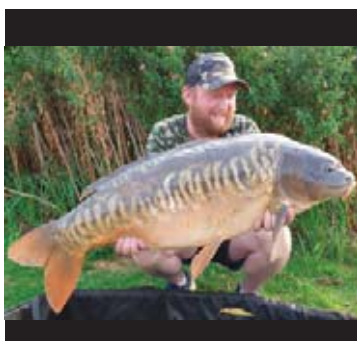
ANDY TERRY AT WILLOWS



BERT BRABHAM 27 LBS IDEN WOOD



CHELSEA JONES AT TANYARD FISHERIES



CHRIS SMITH 37LBS COTTINGTON



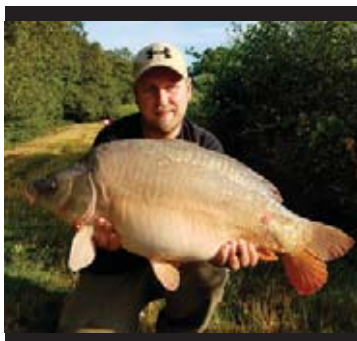
COBY YOUNG AT MONK LAKES



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EMMA CREASEY RIVER STOUR



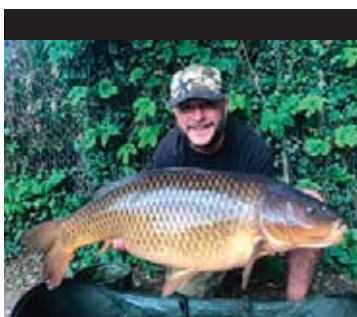
GRAHAM HEAD 34LBS ELPHICKS



GRAHAM YOUNG 21 LBS HARTLEY LANDS



HELENA BALDOCK AT COOMBEWOOD



IAN HOBBS 36LBS DARENTH



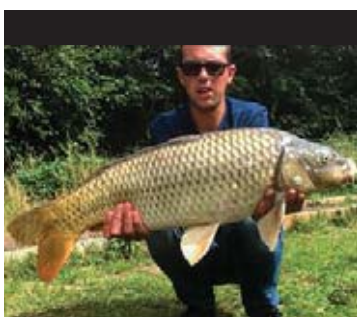
JACK HOLDEN 30 LBS FROGMORE LAKES



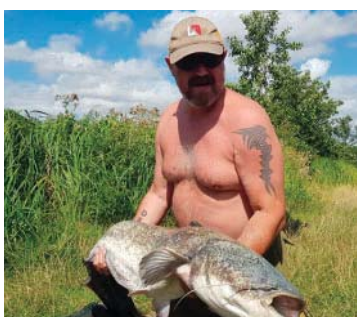
JACK KEEN AT SUMNERS PONDS



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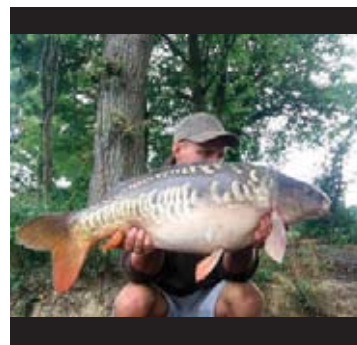
LEE TAYLOR 36 LBS COTTINGTON LAKE PEPPER



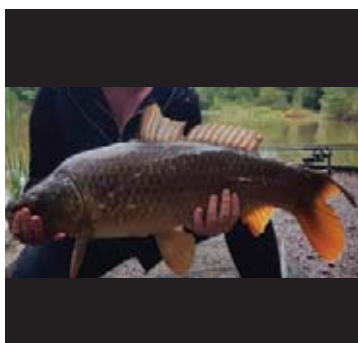
MARK CRAMP 34 LBS ELPHICKS



MICHAEL CHITTENDEN AT COOMBEWOOD FISHERY



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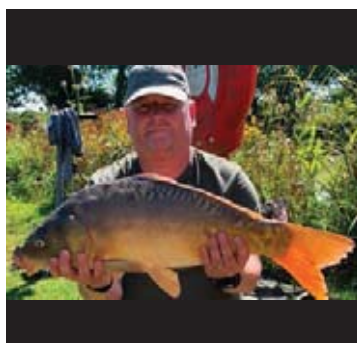
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# Junior Informer



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Junior Informer Sponsors

## Hello and Welcome to the September edition of the Junior Informer!

Unfortunately, the summer holidays are now over and it's back to school! I do hope you enjoyed your time off and that you managed to get plenty of fishing time in! Many thanks to everyone who sent in their catch reports and news during the holidays and I have included as many as I could on the Junior Informer Photo Album pages. Pallatrax, who sponsor the Junior Catch pages, tell me it is a very difficult job each month trying to pick the winners! They feel that every photo is a winner and all the anglers in the pictures should be proud of their achievements, so well done to everybody! Don't forget that even though the holidays are over, you can still send your photos to us by email or the Facebook page. However, please ensure that your parents or guardians have given permission for us to print your pictures, this is most important!

Business owners – I am always looking for sponsors for the Junior pages as it is the sponsorship that helps us provide these pages dedicated to young anglers. If you would like to get involved and show the angling community that you care about getting young people fishing, please get in touch with us by phone, email or Facebook message. All our contact details are at the front of the magazine.

*Enjoy your fishing, Barry*

The support of our sponsors listed above makes the Junior Informer possible. If you would like to become a Junior Informer sponsor please do get in touch!

Having your logo displayed at the top of the page for a year shows everyone that your business supports and encourages junior anglers!

Please email, call or send a message to the Facebook page. Contact details are at the bottom of the inside front cover. Thank you.

### GREAT DAY FOR THE GRAY FAMILY!

Kirsty Gray sent in these great photos of a recent fishing trip to a Medway lake with Megan, Elise, Morgan and Kai. They had a great day and as you can see from the photos enjoyed their session and caught some nice fish!



### Freddie is a Happy Chappy!

Laura Pritchett took these photos of their MONSTER day at the recent Korda event at The Tackle Box, Dartford!

Laura said: "I have the happiest little boy ever. Freddie met his 2 heroes!"



### DUNGENESS ANGLING SOCIETY JUNIOR MEET



Dungeness Point

I had this report in from Terry Carpenter who runs the Dungeness Angling Association (DAA) Juniors, who had their meet today...

"DAA juniors had their July meet Sun 21st July at Dungeness.

It was a bright sunny morning with a nice breeze blowing.

Fishing was slow but most caught whiting, with George catching a nice dog fish on his last cast. Well done to the ten who fished."





At the start of the new school year it seems apt to look back on what the Kent Fishing for Schools programme has achieved in 2019 and forward to the next term.

Our work in the past school year has included seven schools. The team completed four school courses before the school summer break and then when the schools return in early September have three more schools to work with, the last course finishing in the end of October.

Warren White said: "The four schools that have completed their angling courses, all cater for children with special educational needs but are so different from each other.

Rowhill School has students with behavioural and learning needs, so the Cast Award courses for the younger students can be quite challenging. But the school also funds a two-year BTEC fisheries course for older students. The students seem to flourish on this course and this year we have a student who, on leaving Rowhill, has enrolled on a higher education fishing course at Hadlow College. Great oaks from little acorns grow!

"A new school to the programme this year is Nexus School. They have really been impressed by how the course has gone, and it's benefits to the students and from November we will be delivering the AIMS Award accredited qualification to their students.

"There is a long-standing group of boys with autism from Broomhill Bank North, who we have been teaching for four years and they were our first graduates from the Aims Award course, passing with flying colours. Each year we take a maximum of six pupils from the school – three new pupils and our three musketeers! I think it is important that we stay in touch and support them in their fishing.

"Meadowfield School is one of the schools we have dealt with the longest. They have students with profound, severe and complex needs, and as always they have been a lovely group, who gave it their best at this year's course and all really seem to enjoy being out in the outdoor environment."

*Here's to the next school year, may it be just as successful!*



## *Fishing 4 Schools – September Tip of the Month* from instructor Rob Goble

We have had a strange few months weather-wise, but hopefully September will be more settled as we go into Autumn.

August brought welcome rain for our lakes and rivers but when the sun was up, on some days it was a little unbearable. And what of the record-breaking temperatures of late July? Phew!

In September, the daylight hours reduce as we move further away from the sun and we have cooler nights but pleasant daylight hours. Our lakes and rivers will start recovering from low water conditions and as oxygen levels rise the fish, especially trout, become more interested in eating and we can take advantage of that.

Damsel nymph flies will be a good bet, as well as hare's ear, with or without a gold bead at the head and lures will start to play their part, especially the cat's whisker, which is a firm favourite with many anglers.

But, observe what is happening on the water around you. There could be a hatch of buzzers and you will see the fish topping. Or you may see smaller fish like roach or rudd skittering and flying out of the water - this is a good indicator that larger fish are on the chase. They will smash into the shoals, after herding them and pick them off one by one. That's the time to get your lure into this mayhem, it could be that fish of a lifetime!

You will have noticed several pictures of the crane fly or daddy-long-legs with this feature. At this time of year, you will see larger crane flies after seeing smaller versions throughout the summer months, and one fly that can be successful is the smaller hopper family. But saying this, you can fish daddys throughout the year.

The crane fly larvae, known as the leather jacket, lives in soil, leaf litter or mud around ponds, lakes and streams. It can be a real pest in the garden, if it gets under the lawn or in root crops. If the conditions are right, with the wind (if any) blowing



onto the water's surface, crane flies are easy pickings for the trout. I have yet to try one on the carp, but I'm sure it will work. Once airborne they are very cumbersome flyers, with their gangling legs at the mercy of the wind.

I have had some great days fishing with crane flies, especially at Bewl Water, where you can always find a bank with the wind blowing onto the water. It can be like the mayfly season, with fallen 'daddies' getting stuck in the meniscus or being drowned and becoming a ready meal for the trout's taking.

Fishing the daddy is very simple. Use a 9-foot rod or 9-and-a-half-foot rod, for a 6-7 weight with accompanied fly line, a tapered leader of around 7-8 lbs BS, to a length of 10-12 feet then add your artificial, 10-8 hook size.

It is advisable to use a pattern with folded wings as you may experience a lot of twisting if you use a fly with outstretched wings.

Cast out your daddy and let it sit naturally on the water's surface, drifting around with any breeze. Make sure you don't have too much slack line between your rod tip and fly. When the fish takes the fly it can be explosive but don't be in a hurry to lift into the fish. Wait for the line to move then lift and fish on!

These patterns come in various sizes and colours. Some have bodies of foam to keep them up in the surface and can be deadly! You can also have them tied with gold beads at the head to fish a little deeper and they do work - a slow retrieve is all that is needed. All these patterns can be purchased at good tackle shops that sell fly equipment and online.

One last thing, if you would like me to write about something you have a problem with or would like an article from a particular angle, please contact myself (robert.goble@blueyonder.co.uk) or Barry at the Informer. I am only too glad to help.

*That's all for now. Have fun, be safe. Bob G.*





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Pallatrax have kindly offered to support our region's Junior anglers by offering two fantastic Day Session Carp Packs to two lucky entrants picked from the Junior Catch Photos sent to the Freshwater Informer each month!

**Each 'Ready, Steady, Fish' pack contains:**

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- Packet of 15 x 10mm pop ups

The fantastic pack is worth over £20! All you have to do to be in with a chance of winning one of the 'Ready, Steady, Fish' packs is to send your Catch Photo to the Freshwater Informer by email or by message on the Facebook page!



## THIS MONTH'S

**WINNERS**  
well  
done!



Jake Didds at Horsham Lakes



Ruby Goodayle at Claygate Lakes



ALFIE COSTEN AGED 6 AT GEDGES



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DARREN MOORE WITH JESSICA AND GEORGE



DYLAN LENNARD MEMBERS WATER



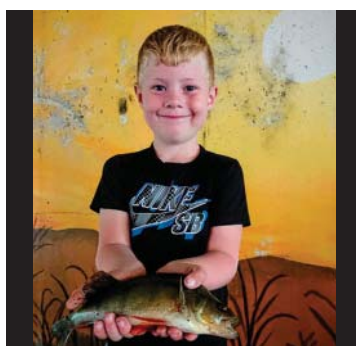
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RILEY DANIELS 12LBS AT STONES FISHERY



RILEY MERRY 3LBS 4OZS



RILEY VIDLER 21LBS AT CHEQUETRE



SCOTT AND ARCHIE MANSELL AT HAWKHURST



THE ETHERINGTON FAMILY AT PEVENSEY BAY



TOMMY ARMOUR



TOMMY GOODMAN 2LBS 6OZS RIVER MEDWAY



TYLER MACHIN 27LBS FROGMORE NEW PB



WILLIAM BENNINGFIELD 21LBS HORTON KIRBY



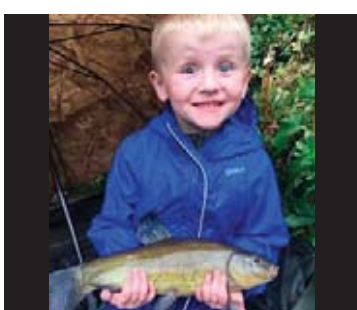
ZAC EDWARDS AT ELPHICKS 23LBS & 33LBS



ZACH NOLAN



DEAN AND ARCHIE MASON 15LBS



HUNTER BLACKLEY AGE 4 PB TENCH



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## Top angling from Hawkhurst juniors!

Darren Wetherell sent in this great report following visits to Hawkhurst Fish Farm:

"We had two visits to the Quarry Lake at Hawkhurst Fish Farm and the kids averaged 12 fish each ranging from 10lb to 22lb. The two carp for Naiyah were 21.5lb and 22.4lb, Toby's catfish was 20.9lb in the photo but he had 3 catfish - 17lb, 20.9lb & 14lb and carp to 15lb. Naiyah had all carp from 8lb upwards. They love spending an afternoon down there!"



## IN OTHER NEWS...

### News from South London Angling Centre

"Congratulations to our customer Alex Zlampa who has reached the British Pairs Carp final at Barston on 22nd August and also the individual Carp Championship Final at the Willow Lakes, Herts 4th October.

Good luck Alex, go Smash it!"



Send us your catch reports via Facebook or email: [barnic@btinternet.com](mailto:barnic@btinternet.com)

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# A Different Approach by Dave Charley

The Hoover



The sense of anticipation leading up to a fishing trip can distract you for days, if not weeks, on end. Formulating ideas over and over in your mind of how you're going to try and lure the lakes biggest inhabitant into your net. The sense of mystery of what lies below the rippling surface and our imagination running wild with day dreams of fantastical events that could unfold at the water's edge.

It's these desires that keep us coming back for more, the thrill of that once in a lifetime achievement that will stay with you for the rest of your life.

## WHAT DREAMS ARE MADE OF . . .

So let's have a look at some ideas that can hopefully improve your fishing and make your dreams come true.

### EYES ON THE PRIZE

Finding the fish is critical, so to improve your chances always come armed with a pair of polarized sunglasses & binoculars. The sunglasses will help reduce the blinding glare off the water's surface, enabling you to firstly locate the fish and secondly detect any underwater features, such as clear areas amongst thick weed, or potential snags that could be a disaster waiting to happen. A good pair of binoculars, I like to use my bird watching 8x40's, will greatly increase your searching ability for any illusive carp, even on smaller waters.

So upon arrival don't just jump into the swim closest to the car park or where a big'un came out last week, spend some time walking around the venue looking for signs of fish. It doesn't have to be gin clear water to spot fish; look out for bubbles and cloudy patches of water that reveal feeding fish disturbing the lake bed. Keep an eye on the surface for any bow waves or disturbances of fish in the upper layers. This time is invaluable in helping you locate where the fish are. Any bait presented near fish has a far better chance of catching than if there are no fish present at all!



Walk calmly and quietly taking time to observe the water in front of you. Which direction is the wind blowing? Is it a cold wind where the fish might be hiding at the back of it, or a warm breeze transporting nutritious goodies to one corner of the lake? If you find a likely looking spot just be still for ten minutes and allow yourself to be aware of what's in front of you. If you're feeling fit and nibble, climbing suitable trees along the bank can give you wonderful lookout points that will help you locate your prize.

Every venue has its unique set of challenges, whether it be a 100 plus acre venue where the fish could be kilometers away, or an intimate pond with just ten carp residing. Learning watercraft skills comes from time and experience immersed in nature rather than just watching countless YouTube clips. Take notes of your observations & catches and you'll soon start to build up an understanding of how your water works. Scribble down on a note pad where you locate fish, what was the wind direction, air temperatures, moon phases, barometric pressure? Next time you observe fish in the same area, compare your previous notes to see if there's any patterns emerging; you might be very pleasantly surprised!

Carp are a cold blooded species which means its body temperature will be the same as the surrounding water. The carp's metabolism is significantly related to water temperature, although there always needs to be a good level of oxygen present as well. Consistent temperatures above 15C mean the carp's metabolism, and therefore appetite should be high, whereas below 5C they can become incredibly sluggish. So if water temperature is an important factor in helping us understand what state the carp might be in, why not pick up a small thermometer and collect this data. You'll soon discover that certain areas are only visited in the warmer months. This knowledge can also guide you during the colder months, when the fish are much harder to find, as you can now focus your attention on other areas by the process of elimination.

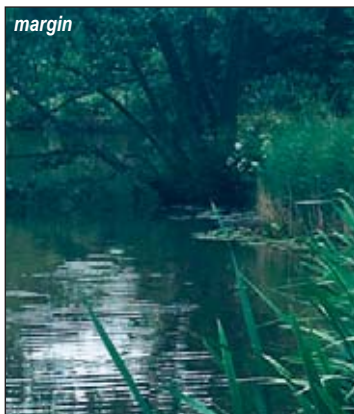
carp caught



### FINE MARGINS

One of the biggest features on any fishery, and very often overlooked, is the margins. This zone is the area where land meets water, where terrestrial and aquatic communities meet. These zonal edges, also known as an ecotone, are often the most important part of the environment due to the greater diversity & abundance of species present. This richness will be greater if a thriving population of plants is present, that will provide habitat for not only fish but an array of invertebrates (snails, shrimp, water fleas etc), all of which carp love to feed on.

I've already mentioned about taking note of the direction of the wind, and I would like to delve into this a bit further. A consistent wind from one direction will result many tiny food items and



organic matter being pushed into one area or a windward bank. Organic matter is fed on by bacteria, which is then consumed by aquatic insects, which in turn will attract carp . . . hence why they will often follow a wind. Winds also increase the oxygen levels in the water and therefore stimulating a rise in the carp's activity and feeding potential. More often than not the shallower waters of the margins are the warmest areas of a lake, so you can see just why these areas can create the optimum conditions for feeding carp in the warmer months.

Add in an overhanging tree or extended reed line and you have a great chance to make your carp fishing dreams come true.

### KEEP IT DOWN

So if you have now found some fish and chosen your swim accordingly, try keep it down and make as little noise or disturbance as possible. As anglers we are trying to catch the fish off guard to make a mistake and take our bait. This occurrence is far less likely to happen if you've made loads of noise and spooked the fish to the other side of the lake!

Rather than putting out kilos of bait and disturbing the swim, throw out a couple of singles to the showing fish. Get some rigs into the water before setting up your bivvy and the rest of your gear. It's amazing how many anglers make the mistake of setting up everything for their session and leaving the rods until the last . . . you're not going to catch any fish from dry land.

Set up quietly away from the water's edge and if possible use some bank side vegetation to hide your presence. The vibrations of heavy walking will quickly reveal your presence to any nearby fish, so try to keep your footsteps to a quiet minimum. In water the particles are much closer to together than in the air, so underwater vibrations are quickly transmitted from one particle to another, meaning sound travels four times faster in water. Quiet talking won't have sufficient energy to force water particles to move, but slamming a car door closed certainly will.

There is a trend regularly seen with carp fishermen to fish a margin from the opposite bank, rather than being right next to the spot. Fishing in close proximity allows you to place your rigs with incredible accuracy compared to casting from any distance, and that also applies to baiting your spot. Less line in the water will reduce the likelihood of any detection of your presence and the last thing you want is for a carp to swim into a taught line, spooking off and alerting any other fish around that something's not right!

When fishing at close quarters don't set up your rods sticking right out over the water which could be seen by carp cruising along the margins, instead bring everything back and hidden from view. When presenting your rig along the margins, use a back lead to pin your line to the lake bed, or even fish with slack lines. Having tight lines directly from rod tip to lead can easily reveal your presence to the fish.

During your session don't be lazy and snooze away your time inside the bivvy. Set your alarm for the crack of dawn and you'll be amazed at what you can see in this brief window of opportunity. Sunrise and sunsets can be the best times of the day for fish activity and scanning the water throughout your session will lead you to increase your catch rates. If you feel bite time has been and gone, reel in and go stalking for fish which is far more exciting than sitting behind stationary rods. You'll be impressed at how quickly you can notice the fish's feeding patterns and routines throughout the day by spending time observing the water from hidden vantage points.

As carping legend Terry Hearn says, every percentage counts when trying to catch the fish of our dreams.

**Author: Dave Charley**

**Fishery Development & Management**  
**specimenfisheries@gmail.com**



# River Informer

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Welcome to September's River Informer!

I have been encouraged with the catch reports coming through for this section. The water flow at this time of year makes fishing more difficult, but August did see us receive some much needed rainfall. Let's hope it knows when to stop! The coming few months will see our rivers really begin to switch on and we should enjoy some cracking sport. Keep those reports coming in!

## YOUR CATCH REPORTS

### GOOD DAY ON THE STOUR FOR LEE

Lee Prior had a great day on the River Stour. He had a couple of perch of a similar size to the photo as well as lots of dace, chub and a pike!



### followed by another good session on the Stour

Hi Barry, I had a nice day down at Grove Ferry on the perch using maggots and lures and a couple of little roach.



### Quality roach from the Medway for Robert!

Robert Petters has been enjoying some great roach fishing on the River Medway recently with some quality fish falling to tares and hemp.



### GOOD DAY ON THE STOUR FOR DEAN

Dean Creasey had a good session on the River Stour recently having these fish and others. These were the best fish from the day.



### MATCH RESULT – RIVER MEDWAY

Maidstone Victory Open, River Medway at Barming 20 fished  
The river was in fine form and produced some quality nets of silver fish!

- |     |  |
|-----|--|
| 1st | Stuart Cottingham (Maver SE)<br>on peg 2 used hemp on the pole to catch 16-14-0 of prime roach.                |
| 2nd | Paul Hamlyn (Preston Innovations Delcac)<br>took 11-15-0 of skimmers and roach on the pole at peg 14 on caster |
| 3rd | Fred Brown (South East match group) 11-9-0   |
| 4th | Paul Udell (Maver SE) 9-7-4  |
| 5th | Mick Roberts (Maidstone Victory) 9-4-8   |
| 6th | Jake Marshall (Croydon) 8-0-8  |

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# THE GOLDEN YEARS OF COARSE FISHING *by Bob Rolph*

## Where are they now? (Part One)

**T**his month, Bob remembers many of the great anglers from the 'Golden Era', some of whom he is still in touch with and some who he has lost track of. Sadly, many have passed away, but, Bob has many fond memories of them all which he will relive here.

Alan Gould in the old punt at Redmire



"So where are you all, the Kentish lads I used to fish with all those years ago at Keston, Rookery, Dartford, Faversham and Snodland? I was saddened to learn of the demise of so many old friends when I wrote out of the blue to Chris Ball two years ago. Until then, I had no idea that we had lost such eminent anglers as Hilton, Quinlan, Gutfeld, Winter, Waggstaff, Reynolds, Alan Bown, Pete Frost, Chris Haswell, Steve Edwards, Gerry Savage, Roger Standen, Ron Blackmore, John Darling and so many others. I knew that we had lost Walker, Taylor, Venables, Stone, Buller, Rickards and Housby, and now sadly just recently John Wilson, Rod Hutchinson and Roger Smith. Most of these legendary anglers wrote

articles regularly in the four great magazines of the mid 1960s. Angling, Creel, Fishing and Anglers World, many also wrote inspirational books which today's young anglers would do well to read, they are all gone, but not forgotten. I was very fortunate to have known and fished with a dozen of them, but could never emulate their successes! In a future article in the Freshwater Informer, I will discuss these famous titles, and list my 20 greatest fishing books.

I have managed to contact 12 of my former fishing friends from 50 years ago. Some still fish occasionally and some have given it all up for one reason or another. Remember Dennis Darkin from the BBC 2 Fishing Race in 1975? He now lives, near me, not far from Canterbury and was keen to relive old times. I took him down to my local carp lake at Chilham Castle last week, and he told me about the great carp fishing adventures he had at estate lakes in Surrey where he met Bernard Venables one day, and we relived old times at Caesars Pool in the mid 60s.



John Dickens eel fishing on the GUC

Also at Keston last summer, I met up with Ken Rowley again for the first time in 45 years. We were boys together at that lake with the late great carp anglers Chris Haswell and Steve Edwards. I've spoken to Dave Rudd on the phone, and he promises to take me fishing again next season, or on an all night deer hunt, - I don't think so! Peter Rogers is still researching BV and writing great books on the subject. Tony Meers continues to write and edit great books on fishing and I see them both occasionally. Chris Ball wondered "where the hell I had been for 45 years", and Charles Kirkham thought I was still around, but hadn't got round to writing. Ian Howcroft necessitated an 8000 mile trip to Perth to see him again after a gap of 54 years!

Fred Wilton lives in Monmouth and I've spoken to him on the phone. Martin James MBE remembered me of old in Kent. Jim Gibbinson recalled old times fishing for carp, tench and eels in a lengthy email recently even though he is not too good at the moment and Grahame Igglesden recalled old times fishing with the good and the great all those years ago.

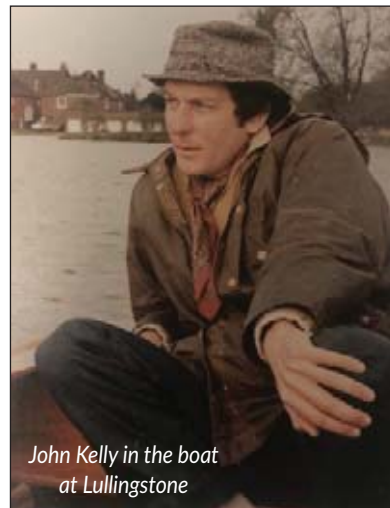
This still leaves about 8 of my former fishing acquaintances of old unaccounted for. John Kelly from Sidcup was secretary of the Lullingstone Kingfishers trout lake, and his garden pond was used by Dennis Darkin and John Darling during the filming of the "Fishing Race" in 1975.

Ron Gould was a mad keen carp man who fished with us at Brooklands, and

had a 29 lb carp from Redmire in 1966. Brian Hook astounded the carp angling world in 1966 by catching 3 x twenty pound carp in one day from Redmire. He once lived near Bromley I believe. They were members of the S.E. London Specimen Group, along with Pete Badley.

Dave Cruickshank from Eltham was a keen catfish man like myself and fished with me and Ron Blackmore at Claydon in 1968-71.

David Thornton and I went carp and barbel fishing together regularly in the early 1970s. He lived at Keston Mark in those days, and Alan Tisdall, Bob Skerritt, and Pete Worrall were all long lost members of the Kent Specimen Group, who once lived in Homesdale Road, Bromley. This road, on the way to Keston Ponds, was the hub of Bromley fishing in those days. Ken Brown's tackle shop was at one end, and Alan Tisdall and his wife Margaret, lived next door. Steve Edwards, Kerry Payton, and Chris Haswell all once worked at 'Marble Products' down the road, and Cliff Constable and Modern Arms rod building firms were also near to Homesdale Road. Geoffrey Bucknall lived in Burnt Ash Lane, and we kids were often round his house asking for advice on the latest blanks we had bought from Dons of Edmonton.



John Kelly in the boat at Lullingstone



Dave Thornton with 16lb Snodland mirror

Ken Brown's tackle shop, now a bistro, was our meeting place, and many an expedition set off from here with 10 gallons of maggots in the back of our vans, at £1 - 10shillings (£1.50) a gallon, would you believe! Bromley, in those days could rival Hitchin or Northampton for the up and coming anglers that lived there, and the bait and tackle developments that took place just 2 miles from the hallowed water of Keston Pond!

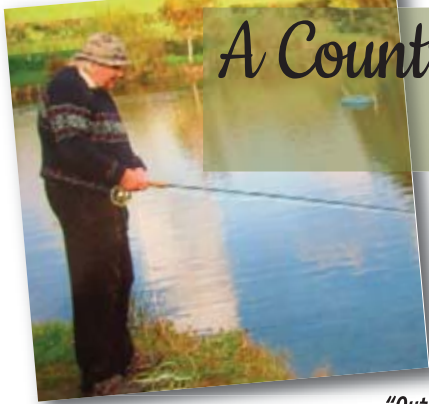
Gerry Berth Jones of the Carp Catchers Club, lived at Petts Wood and I was often round his shed drooling over his tackle. David Carl Forbes lived at New Addington, and Trevor Housby often called in to

friends in the Bromley area. John Mitchell, Geoff Keeble and a Mr Page, big noise in sea fishing, lived near me in Hayes, not to mention Ken Rowley, Peter Cockhead and Barry Graham, all great fishermen in their day, but largely unknown to today's young anglers. Few of today's young carp anglers really know of the great Dick Walker and the vast influence he had on what they are now doing. They would do well to read the new book just published called 'Dick Walker - Legend', published by the Little Egret Press.

So where are you all now? You can't all be dead! I was born a Kentish Man (west of the Medway), but am now a Man of Kent living in the Stour valley near Chilham. Oh, that muddy River Medway, the reason I became a fisherman 65 years ago this year, it has so much to answer for!!! My mis-spent youth was on the Medway at Tonbridge, Wateringbury and Yalding, float fishing for huge bags of roach, dace and perch with stewed wheat and hempseed and at night "bottom fishing" for bream and eels. I used to travel there by Green Line coach from my family home in Hayes, long before I could drive, but you had to get there early in those days to bag a decent swim. I used to trudge round the gas works at Tonbridge to the "Muck Stream" downriver carrying my Green Efgeeco tackle box, rod holder and canvas bucket full of ground bait! I was 12 years old! How things have changed ....!

If you know any of the anglers and their whereabouts today, I would love to hear from you! Please get in touch with Barry, the Freshwater Informer editor. Next month, I will continue my 'delve in to the past' conjuring up some more great names and memories!"





# A Countryman's View

Jim is the Head Bailiff for the Sussex Ouse Angling Society and Field Officer for the Ouse and Adur River Trust.

**"Out in the countryside with the woods, streams and rivers life is never boring in any way as the verdant green of the developing season's colours has now turned to a much darker hue. In a few places, the odd tree has fallen as a result of summer winds and the dryness of the soil and others are showing signs of stress and worse still the dreaded Ash Die Back disease. Along the hedgerows, some elms have fallen victim to Dutch Elm Disease and the beetle Scolitis Scolitis has much to answer for! Many of our native Elms have been felled and burnt and the small saplings that were coming along well have also become infected along the river banks. Such a shame as we used to have some wonderful examples here along the waterways. Perhaps, one day, a strain of elm that is resistant to disease will be developed? I remember fondly sitting under the shade of an original elm tree fishing in the river! These great trees are part of our countryside throughout England and their demise is very sad.**

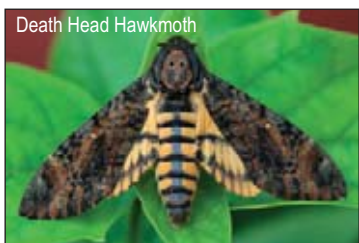


Ash Die Back disease



Dutch Elm disease

A word of warning during this warm summer weather! Lurking in the grass and bracken are ticks. They attach themselves, unknowingly by the host, and cause an irritation. This can develop into Lyme Disease and needs medical attention and treatment with antibiotics. An infected person develops flu like symptoms, so always worth checking if you have been walking through grass on the way to your fishing spot especially if sheep or cattle are in the area.



Death Head Hawkmoth

The butterfly population has been active and I found a rare visitor from Africa. I noticed a Deaths Head Hawkmoth feeding on some tree sap, the young of which, their caterpillar, feeds on potatoes. However, there are no potato crops in fields near us at present. These creatures have been known to raid bee hives for honey and are named as such due to the

Skull Line pattern on the thorax. I touched the one I saw with a piece of rush to see if it would squeak and it did! It was a privilege to witness this moth, but, it did not remain in the vicinity for long.

The wild summer flowers have been good this year on the river banks. A lot of blue flowered Teasels are all out. No doubt once the seeds ripen, the goldfinches will arrive to gorge on their favourite food! Teasels used to be used in the wool industry for carding the raw wool. When the plant has died off for the winter it is also used for Christmas decorations and sprayed with gold and silver paint. There has also been a lot of Hemp Agromery. It's flowers are pink and loved by the butterflies. I watched some Painted Ladies on one clump, no doubt having made the trip from



Wild Teasel



Meadow Brown Gatekeeper

the foothills of the Atlas Mountains in Morocco. Another species enjoying the summer bounty is the Meadow Brown Gatekeeper and I also spotted a pair of Burnett Moths with its bright red spots and one of our rare daytime flying moths. The warm seasonal weather has given rise to good numbers of dragonflies, some quite large and lots of bright green damselflies. I noticed a number of dragonfly remains on a riverside cattle track and as I sit quietly I spot the culprit, a hobby which is soon joined by a second bird. A wander along a woodland footpath reveals a patch of Agrimony and some larger butterflies, Fritillaries are fluttering around. This little butterfly haven is also home to some commons and Purple Emperors which I have seen in this spot previously, although I didn't witness any on this occasion.

Later that week, I had a call from a house in the village about a suspicious plant growing in a garden flowerbed. I went off to investigate and found a Thornapple or Datura. It is deadly poisonous and the fruits are egg shaped covered in spikes, hence their name. I dug it out wearing gloves and burnt it! It could have been nasty especially if children had come in to contact with it! On a regular evening walk back from the river, part of my route takes me along a disused railway where there have always been a number of Glowworms, but, on this occasion none were seen mysteriously. There were a good number of Bumble Bees on the Balsam by the mills. However, it was necessary to have to pick up an amount of litter including glass bottles and domestic waste, no doubt the leftovers from a picnic of people who had come to 'enjoy the countryside'! Why do people do it? Ignorance does tend to spring to mind! As the daylight began to fade I watched a Barn Owl hunting a small patch of rough grassland and I saw that a fox had dug out a litter of young rabbits from the bank of the old railway. Further along a bumble bee nest had been dug out by a badger as it had left its claw marks as evidence. A Tawney Owl made its presence known from an old tree it was perched on.

The following day I had a treat in the form of a pair of Humming Bird Hawkmoths in the garden on a budleia bush. Their hum is quite audible! While outside, I felt something crawling on my arm, it was a ladybird and it decided to bite me and gave me quite a nip!



Thornapple

A regular haunt of mine is the estuary, where I normally see seals. This occasion was no different! I watched it dive and surface some way from where it descended below the surface. I was grateful to watch it swim seaward and hoped that it would keep going in that direction! There was a chap fishing there for the mullet using red ragworm and he told me how he had watched the seal catch a couple of them. A couple of egrets were wandering along the muddy banks waiting for the tide to turn in the hope of some small fish. There were a number of small bass showing and a report recently of a rare shad. I stood on the middle of the bridge and remembered that we used to have to swing it open in my days on the River Board! A glance towards Asham Docks reminded me of the cement works there that closed way back in October 1967. The cement trade was brisk on the Ouse and the last of the regular ships that called there was the Celtic skippered by Captain Alfie Sheaf. There was also a ship called the MV Ferrocrete and the vessels coming upriver were under the control of a Trinity House Pilot at all times. Happy memories of times gone by!

A solitary crow is picking at something and on closer inspection it's a fair sized crab that has been washed up on the tide. The river flows have remained reasonable this summer but a constant watch is needed to maintain their health. As mentioned before, anglers are the 'eyes and ears' of the waterways so if you see anything that you are not happy with, call the number on your rod licence, 0800 807060.



Asham Wharf

Later that evening, I ventured out with my fly rod to have a go at some chub with a white moth fly. It worked with a couple being caught and a fine end to my enjoyable day.

In the news recently was a report that the Southern

Water Company had been fined millions of pounds for water pollution, but, it would seem that not a penny is going back in to the affected environment. Why should this money go into government coffers? With all the cuts to the Environment Agency's budget, this money should be used to restore the damage done to the streams and rivers!"

Cheerio for now, Jim Smith



Chub on the fly



# Medway Man

## Bob Morris

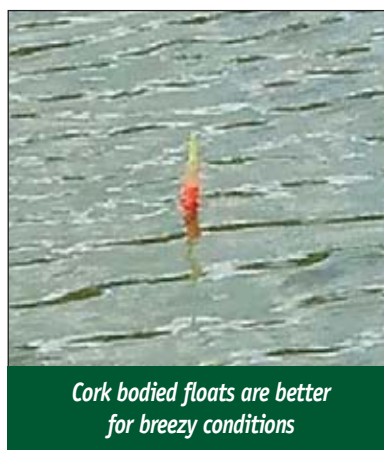
**Regular readers of this column will know that I like to do a bit of tench fishing and when I do my favorite method is using a float set up, particularly when the fish are feeding in the margins. . This, of course, is one of the simplest tactics but often the most effective. All methods have their drawbacks however, and using a float is no exception - whichever way you set it up.**

Regular readers of this column will know that I like to do a bit of tench fishing and when I do my favorite method is using a float set up, particularly when the fish are feeding in the margins. . This, of course, is one of the simplest tactics but often the most effective. All methods have their drawbacks however, and using a float is no exception - whichever way you set it up.

When using a float at close range (a rod length or so out) I like to use the 'lift method' where possible. This simple system pretty well relies on a single shot attached about six to 8 inches from the hook with the float, usually a quill or straight variety - attached bottom end only and set at near enough the exact depth. The float is adjusted so that approx half of it is sitting upright above the surface and ideally at a slight angle to prove that the shot is definitely sitting on the bottom. When the bait is picked up the shot is also lifted from the bottom which is instantly indicated by the float keeling over and laying flat. At this point it can safely be assumed that the fish has the bait in its mouth and a strike can be made - unless a very large bait or a long hair rig is being used, in which case it is often wise to delay until the float moves off. This is the perfect way to fish, at least, it is, in extremely calm conditions when the only disturbance is likely to be from the fish. Any form of strong wind ripples or drifting surface weed/flotsam will interfere with this system and demand a change of tactics.



Some of Bob's floats



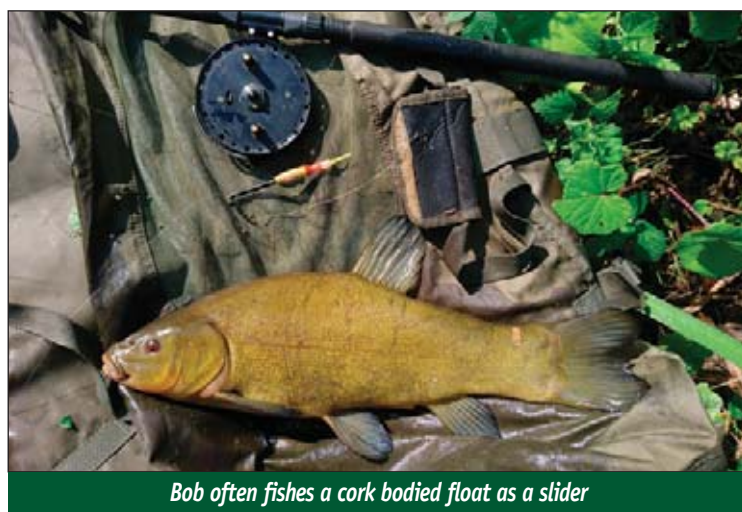
Cork bodied floats are better for breezy conditions

For moderately more breezy conditions, I normally find that beefing up the size of the float and shot will often get you out of trouble along with setting the float over depth and then tightening the line until the required length of float is visible. This version works extremely well in more windy weather and can be a lot more stable because the shot is under some tension. It is however, not as sensitive and a quick strike is best

avoided, as it is possible for the fish to pick up your bait and then blow it out towards you, or drop it. This, of course, slackens the line and allows the float to lay flat without you knowing if the fish still has it in its mouth or not. I generally wait for a sail away bite when fishing this way, as I have found that a significant number of strikes on the lift are missed - sometimes I am sure, because of small fish like roach and small bream playing about with the bait. If conditions are too rough for even this type of set up but I still want to use a float, I opt for a running lead arrangement. This was always called a float-leger rig when I was in my early years of learning the ropes, but, I rarely hear of it being used today - although one of my friends that likes to go stalking always uses it and says it is the most versatile. Basically, this is a running weight of whatever type is preferred with the inclusion of a slightly more substantial float - again attached by the bottom end. I like to use a cork bodied variety of appropriate size and I prefer to use it as a 'slider' with the line running through the bottom eye or swivel and the depth, then being set by a rubber stop - which can easily be moved to the required position. The reason for the larger, more buoyant float is that as it is to be attached to a heavier weight on the bottom, it is more likely to be pushed under by the drag/current or even fish brushing the line as the lead is unlikely to move.



Ideal conditions for the 'Lift Method'



Bob often fishes a cork bodied float as a slider





Bob's favourite 'lift' set up

This is a great method and suitable for a variety of conditions and I have even used it in gently flowing rivers. The problem with it however, is that when the float suddenly disappears - which it has to do, you really have no choice but to strike in case it is a bite. I say in case, because a good percentage of the time it will be caused by a 'liner' or fish fouling the line between float and lead. This is really common when float fishing

and a number of sizeable fish move onto your patch. If you doubt that your missed bites are actually fish picking up your bait, just try casting in without any bait on for a while. I think that you will be amazed at how many apparently good 'bites' you still get. It is one of the pitfalls of floatfishing in general and is also one of the main reasons why I like to fish the 'lift method' - where possible, as it is almost certain that a lift bite is not a false indication.

To give a perfect example of these methods at work, I can recount a recent session where I arrived at 8.30am at my tench swim on a lake where I had been struggling to get more than the odd bite this season. I introduced about a dozen handfuls of groundbait, laced with pellets and chopped boilies into the near margin adjacent to some pads. I had my float rod and pin set up to fish a running float/lead style as it had been windy the previous week and the method had worked well elsewhere. I let the swim fester for a little while in the hope that fish would move in before I cast and possibly disturbed it. On this occasion the tactic seemed to work and ten minutes later I was delighted to see that a substantial amount of bubbling had already started in the area. After swinging my tackle complete with a small side-hooked boilie into the baited spot, I did not have to wait long before movement on the float occurred. All manner of bobs, dips and sideways swirling was going on, then suddenly pop it was gone, so a gentle strike to the left

... nothing. The same thing next cast - bait still there? After five times of this happening, I decided to wait and watch the line. Next time it went down I waited - ten seconds later it came up again. Several more strikes resulted in nothing, and I decided to change to the 'lift method' as an experiment.

Well, what a difference, the next two hours produced six tench all between four and six pound - one lost plus two carp (occupational hazard) with all of the bites, that I struck, being the classic lifts with the float keeling right over and laying flat. Only one bite was missed, although there were many other indications that I did not react to, as the float either popped straight down or swung off to the side. Some of these could have been bites, but I think that my decision to ignore them was probably vindicated.

On a different subject, I have been reading and enjoying Bob Rolph's stories in the last couple of issues and it has certainly re-kindled some memories of the old days on the carp and Spec-scene.

I have probably met and spent time with almost

all of the guys that Bob mentions, at some stage over the years, either on the bankside or at one of the many carp group meetings that we all used to attend. I have not got space this time to go into any detail but perhaps I will in a future Episode of Medway Man?



Bob and his mate Cliff with a pair of Brooklands carp from the era that BR has written about.  
Thanks for the memories

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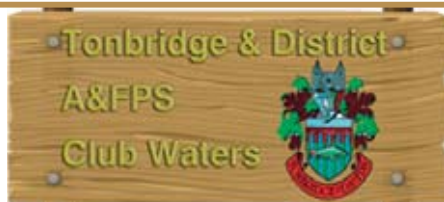
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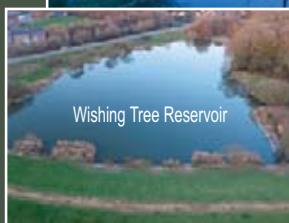
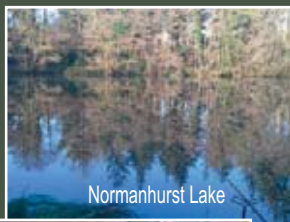
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Established in 1895 the association provides its members and day ticket anglers with various lakes and rivers to fish throughout Hastings, Bexhill and the surrounding area.

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.

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For further information please contact:

Chris Pagan 07429 655237 Steve Potter 07935 268174

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



## Tenterden Trout Waters Tenterden, Kent

We hope you have had a good Summer and we welcome our Anglers back for the second half of the season with fully stocked Lakes. Fishing can be very exciting in the Autumn here at Tenterden so dust those rods off and come and enjoy some fishing downtime with us. You will discover 3 Lakes stocked with Rainbows, Browns & Blues and the photo gives you an aerial view of what we have to offer here.

We have been busy with Lake Management and other maintenance at the Fishery whilst we have been closed for Summer which all adds positively to your fishing experience here.

We have our Lakeside Fishing Lodge with complimentary tea/coffee facilities and WC. It is a great social hub for our Anglers and their families with a balcony where you can sit and unwind with great views of beautiful Wealden Countryside.

Please check the Home Page on our website and click on the current month under Latest News for an up-to-date fishing report. We also have an Instagram Gallery – so please follow us.

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

If you are looking to learn the skill of Fly Fishing this year please see the Tuition Page on our website and book a lesson with Richard Stokes.

We also offer Gift Vouchers for that special present please call Gaynor on 01580 763201 or email [gaynor@coombe-farm.com](mailto:gaynor@coombe-farm.com) to make your purchase.

We are pleased to announce that the Farm/Fishery is now available as a wedding venue whilst the Fishery is closed in the Summer and we are taking bookings for 2020/2021. Further info is available on our website.

*Tight Lines – Gaynor, Richard & Audrey*

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## Chalk Springs Arundel, West Sussex

August has been a mixed month weather wise and this has obviously affected the fishing. During the hot weather the fish go a bit deeper, so you need to get down to the right depth. Although we've had a few days of showery rain, this won't make too much difference to the water temperature at this time of the year. However, on the cooler and cloudier days the fishing will be better. The usual flies are working best – Damsels, Hare's Ears, Daddy Longlegs and on occasions, dries too. The fishing should remain consistent through the rest of the summer, with the spring water helping to keep the fish active.

As always, pre-booking is advised.

Finally, this is my last report for Chalk Springs as I am leaving the fishery to pursue a new career. I would personally like to thank all of my loyal customers, some of whom have become great friends over the past 29 years.

*Tight Lines all, Best wishes, Darren*



Danny Leung



Kevin Allen



Pete Button

# CHALK SPRINGS Trout Fishery

## NOW UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT!

A welcome to one of the UK's top trout waters from it's proud new owner

My name is Nick Christian and I will be taking over at this premier trout fishery on the 28th August 2019. I will be accompanied by my new manager, Ally Riach, who many of you will know already. I was involved at Chalk Springs in the early days when Jonathan Glover had the fishery and have fished at the venue on a number of occasions since those early days.

I am currently making some substantial changes to benefit our anglers which include an improved office and lodge building with a log burner and hot drink making facilities to make even your winter visits more comfortable!

The future fish stocks will include larger trout of 3lb up to double figures! Our new website and Facebook page will be updated regularly with catch reports and results of our 'Fish of the Week' awards.

Our ticket prices will still remain competitive and the new prices will be announced in the Autumn.

We believe that our value for money prices reflect the quality of the facilities and fishing available at Chalk Springs and offer superb value to trout anglers who expect great fishing and matching hospitality.

Details of our new website will be announced in the near future, so watch this space!

We look forward to welcoming customers past, present and future to Chalk Springs in the coming months! *Tight lines Nick and Ally*

*Corporate Day  
bookings welcome -  
please call Nick or Ally  
for details*

Chalk Springs Trout Fishery, Park Bottom, Arundel, West Sussex BN18 0AA

Tel: 01903 883742





## The quest continues!

My knowledge and experience of catching carp on fly tackle has grown enormously over the last few months. I've managed to fit two sessions in each week, sometimes a whole day otherwise an afternoon and evening. As they say "practice makes perfect", well I've not achieved perfection yet so I'll have to keep practicing!



Andy's first twenty on the fly

I've been visiting so many different waters, nine so far and counting. I always find going somewhere new very exciting, I have to approach each lake with an "open mind" and "feel" my way into each session. Observing the fish's reaction to my loose feed gives me clues as to what to do next? If several fish are taking confidently and competing with each other it's just a matter on topping up frequency with small amounts of feed. It's an easy mistake to increase the quantity of feed as this often results in fish scattering as they follow the floaters as they drift downwind.

The amount of surface angling pressure also has an effect on the fish's behaviour to my approach. The way carp mouth the biscuits and my flies has seen me experimenting with alternative patterns. This has even seen me resorting to tying some flies that sit much lower through the water's surface in an effort to outwit these cautious fish.



Lilies provide cover and fish can always be found near them

Finally the number of fish in the water also has an effect on my tactics, small numbers of large fish in a "Specimen Lake" requires a much more patient "softly, softly" approach than a "Match" lake where far more fish are present.

### New water

To illustrate how this all plays out I'll describe an afternoon / evening session I spent with Jacob Harman when we visited a new carp lake I'd been tipped off about by a friend. I had no prior knowledge of the stock density or possible sizes.

We found a nice quite area away from other anglers, so we wouldn't be competing for their fish. There was a small patch of lilies to our left which offered some sanctuary if the fish need it. We had open water in front of us and to our right, so any fish hooked could be guided away from potential snags.

Not knowing how many fish were in this water I fed "little and often", "you can't take it out once you've put it in". After maybe an hour or so, the first carp appeared in our swim, it tentatively took a biscuit and departed. We were both encouraged by this and introducing more feed frequently was necessary as it was being demolished by hordes of small roach. On the plus side, this activity was likely to be noticed by any inquisitive carp in the area. A little while later, after introducing yet more feed, another two sizeable fish appeared and took advantage of the free snacks. After what seemed like an eternity we started to get frequent visits from several different fish, a mixture of mirrors and commons, and what's more they looked a good size too!

### Patience is a virtue

It's often said that patience is a virtue and thankfully my patience paid off as gradually the carp started to visit our spot more frequently and staying a little longer while taking a few more biscuits. This was all the incentive we needed to start fishing.

### Going solo

This was only Jacob's second carp trip so having got some fish visiting our spot it was his turn to try his luck. I trickled a few more floating trout pellets into the spot, these had been sprayed with a fish oil to send out a flavour trail. I wanted to concentrate the fish directly in front of us now and get them taking the remaining freebies and Jacob's fly.

Gradually the loose offerings were being taken but somehow the fish were avoiding making a mistake which made me question my fly choice, a "Deer Hair Mixer". A quick change to a black "Hopper Popper" was a mistake because the roach attacked it as soon as it hit the water and it spent far more time under the surface than above! Having noticed the amount of bread being used the previous evening when I did a 'recce' of the water, I now chose a white "Deer Hair Bread" fly. This was an inspired choice it turned out because the next fish nailed it and Jacob now had his hands full guiding it away from the lilies. With my guidance he expertly played a beautiful mirror carp into a clear spot to our right, once in the net we both admired his new PB of 16lb 8oz.

My turn next, it took quite a while to draw fish back into our swim after

Andy offers a guiding service for those who wish to learn more about 'Lure Fishing & Fly Fishing'.  
For details visit [www.thefriendlyfisherman.co.uk](http://www.thefriendlyfisherman.co.uk) or phone 01892 528677





Jacob's first 'solo' fish of 16lbs 8ozs

all the commotion. I noticed each time I introduced more feed, fish would instantly re-appear, so they were never too far away! My chance came soon after a fresh introduction of bait; a lovely common took my fly and shot out into open water. It kited to my right so I was applying side strain to bring it back from under a tree when the hook pulled, NO!

Jacob was back on the rod again and while I was away getting some more pellets from the car, he made no mistake hooking yet another fish, a mirror of 16lbs! The boy could be dangerous if he ever takes fishing up seriously. Finally as the light started to fade I hooked and landed a nice common of 12lbs which saved my blushes.

What an enjoyable session, it wasn't easy but that made it so much more rewarding. I will be returning as I saw plenty of bigger fish than we caught and they all looked immaculate.



This 21lbs Ghost Common is Andy's second twenty on the fly

*Tight lines. Andy*

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### Trout

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### Carp & Pike

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

For details contact Andy Lush on 01892 528677



# Angling Societies

## The Linton Angling Society - Membership Vacancies

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For further details contact: **Hon. Secretary: Chris Knowler on 07712 622858**

e-mail: [chris@lintonangling.co.uk](mailto:chris@lintonangling.co.uk)

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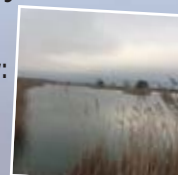
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For further details contact the Secretary:

**Rob Tuck-Brown on**

**07484 144561**

or email: [robtuckbrown@hotmail.com](mailto:robtuckbrown@hotmail.com)





## BORN TO BOAT CAST – THE HISTORY OF UPTIDE & BOAT CASTING: PART ONE

### History in Brief

"Almost a year to the day before I was born, a young journalist stumbled across a method of angling that would revolutionise sea fishing here in the UK. This journalist was my father Bob Cox, an enthusiastic photographer and passionate angler.



Arthur Wietzel - Bradwell's first skipper

On the evening of the 2nd of May 1972 he was on board Arthur Wietzel's charter boat "Providence". My Dad was there to photograph and document the night's events for an article in the now long gone Angling magazine. Along with his camera, he took along a light bass rod and perched himself up the bow of the boat so not to get in the way of Arthur's paying punters at the back. Little did he know that this would lead to the development of a method that would see some truly amazing catches of a variety of species.

In the few years that lead up to this, Dad and a hand full of friends, regularly fished the beaches of Essex for smoothounds and bass, so that evening he employed the methods he had used on the beaches. He was beach casting from a boat, a standard running ledger with a 3-5 ounce breakaway cast out and across the tide. At the end of the session he had caught nine thornback rays and two decent bass. The paying lads who were all just dropping over the side had only caught two thornbacks between them. Dad fished a few times a month from Arthur's boat and it soon became apparent that what he was doing out fished the conventional over the side method.

By the winter of 1972 one of Dad's angling friends, John Rawle had been given a boat to skipper, a 33 foot Aqua Star called the Aquamanda. This gave them a chance to really develop the method and to try and understand why it worked so well. Other anglers had cast from a boat before, but not with the results that my father had achieved and more importantly John and my Dad refined the method and came up with the reasons why it worked so well. It was thought by some to be a method only for shallow water, and this does hold some weight, uptiding works well up to depths of around 90 feet, over that it becomes difficult and unnecessary.



Bob Cox (left) and John Rawle (right) 'Back in the Day'

By 1975, my Dad had been given a charter boat to run, her name was "Cygnus M" owned by the once well-known Geoffrey Bucknell. Both John's and my Dad's boats were now berthed at Bradwell marina. They could now cover all of the Thames Estuary. Some of the catches they made back

then will seem unbelievable by today's standards. An afternoon in May saw 66 thornbacks landed and in June 1976, 180 bass were caught in just two hours. By the

end of June that year, they had collectively landed 1500 bass. Large stingrays over 50lb were caught and catches of over 1000lb of cod in just one day were recorded. By the late 70s, both John and my Dad both had their own new steel boats, John's was the "Vicky Emma" and Dad's was "Gemini Girl". These two boats would account for some remarkable catches as pictured in this article.

Not only were these two skippers 'trendsetters' in the fact that they were developing uptiding, but, they were probably the first skippers to set bag limits on their boats when it came to bass. So although the attached pictures look excessive by today's standards, they were actually just part of that day's catch.

I remember one party of anglers that had not experienced uptiding and were used to piking over deep water wrecks. My Dad & his crew member Dick Train, set up their rods and cast them all out, they then went into the wheel house to make tea. On returning to the deck they were met by eight anglers all reeling in. These anglers could not grasp the method. My Dad took all the handles off their reels and said "give us a shout if you think you have a bite". Sure enough they started catching fish, not only that but they had learnt a new method of sea angling.

In 1978, I was five years old and was out on Dad's boat most weekends. To me these catches were just normal. I once told a paying customer that his bass was too small and that he should let it go. That bass weighed about 8lb and the angler was not impressed with my 'off the cuff comments'!

By the age of seven, I could cast a moderate distance with an uptide rod and a multiplier reel, by nine I was allowed to fish from the bow of my Dad's boat, but only on calm days. Once I was fifteen, I was often his crew and if the paying anglers were new to the sport, I would fish for 8-12 anglers. This involved setting up their rods, baiting up for them and telling them when they had a bite and how to deal with it. I would also often fillet, skin and wing all the fish landed during the steam back to the marina.



Dad and John landing a fish

The early 80s also saw the development of boat casting for tope in the Thames Estuary, up until then tope were a rarity around these parts. A customer was reeling in a fish, which turned out to be an eel when his rod hooped over and after a very brief tussle it was off. On retrieving his end tackle it was noticed that half an eel was still hanging on the hook. My Dad then set up a rod with a wire trace and cast it out baited with an eel tail. The result was the first tope caught on uptide gear, the fish weighed in at 50lb and was returned. Later the tope record was to be held at Bradwell twice, a fish of 76lb from John's boat and a fish of 82lb from Kevin Benham's boat the "Val Kerry". Although we never had a 70lb on our boat, Dad did have three tope over 60lb in one day, the biggest being 68lb. These fish were all caught from the East Barrow in around 12 feet of water, all to eel section and all to uptiding.

I have many fond memories of this period of time, in reflection, I was very spoilt to be out on the boat as often as I was and although I haven't caught many really big fish, I have caught lots of very decent fish. I have sampled and witnessed some of the very best fishing that the UK had to offer.

Although there is at times some fairly good fishing to be had nowadays, sadly those glory days are in the past and I very much doubt we will see them again. Thornback rays and smoothounds to a degree have made a recovery and the powers that be are struggling to get to grips managing the bass fisheries, but I do fear the cod fishery in the Southern North Sea has gone for ever. This truly must be one of the biggest mistakes in fishery management our country has seen.

At its height, there were seventeen charter boats operating from Bradwell Marina in Essex, today there is only one. In part two I shall go into detail of how to use the method of uptide & boat casting and explain why it works so well." *Tight lines, Sam*

### Gemini Girl and the Vicky Emma







# Medway and Kent Sea Fishing Group



Sea Reports are proudly sponsored by - Medway and Kent Sea Fishing Group

The past few weeks have been 'challenging' around our coastline. The expected mackerel shoals have not materialised, although Dover's Admiralty Pier has been the most consistent mark as usual for mackerel. The fish have shown on one tide and then been gone on the next. The water clarity has not helped as it has not been clear enough for long enough. The 'blow' we had in mid August certainly stirred things up a bit, but was not really what we wanted at this time of year. A few nice soles have been caught and the bass have been around in good numbers. At the time of writing there are still some smoothounds being caught with the Eastbourne marks being the most reliable. It is getting to that time of year when we start thinking about the Autumn and Winter fishing!!! You know what I am talking about! Will they arrive this year? We can but keep our fingers crossed! The current sea temperature is around 18 degrees.

## Medway report

Plenty of bass being caught right along the river as far back as Halling and Wouldham. They are not of a great size but have provided good sport on light tackle. Eels and a few flounders also being caught. Ragworm has been the most effective bait.

For all your tackle and fresh and frozen bait, call Lewis at Medway Tackle Supplies on 01634 475260.



## Sheppey report courtesy of Sheppey Angling

Local marks still fishing well. The smoothounds are still being caught from the shore and boats, but their numbers are thinning out. The thornbacks are returning and the bass are still being caught in good numbers with some flatfish and eels. No reported problems with weed., Minster to Leysdown probably best shore marks to aim for.

Call Sheppey Angling on 01795 661089 or 07902 092595 for all your bait and tackle needs.



## North Kent

The smoothounds are still being caught on crab baits but numbers are now thinning out. Plenty of bass with some fish to 5 lbs being reported. Other species have included dabs, dogfish, thornbacks and some eels.

Absolute Tackle at Herne Common have a great selection of the best fresh and frozen baits and a huge range of tackle. Call 01227 636724.



## Thanet Report courtesy of Fishermans Corner

The warmer sea temperature has slowed the the daytime fishing down but there are still fish to be caught!! Ramsgate's East pier has avoided a lot the problems with weed and is still producing school bass and flatfish. There have also been species like red gurnard and red mullet. Scaling down hooks and gear can prove effect (LRF Fishing) for pouting, small pollack, bass and herring.



For any advice on fishing Ramsgate pop in to Fisherman's Corner 01843 582174.

## Deal Report courtesy of Dave Chamberlain

September can be the best month for catching big bass from the Deal, Walmer and Kingsdown beaches. Large baits such as Bluey and squid mounted on a 4/0 hook can account for a specimen. Smooth hounds have been around for the last few months and they have been taking the fish-of-the-month prize on Deal Pier with a few double figure size fish. The warm weather has caused the weed to be a problem for beach anglers fishing the flood tide over the high water. The obvious alternative is to try the low water which has been clear of the nuisance. If you are looking for soles, then night tides, small hooks and ragworm as bait is well worth a try on Walmer beach. End of this month should see the whiting shoals start to return for the autumn season.

Channel Angling at the pier entrance can supply your tackle and bait. Call Fred on 01304 373104.



## Dover report

The mackerel have been showing but not in huge numbers. However, the average size of fish has been good and anglers are stocking up the freezer in preparation for the cooler months. Other species caught have been bass, dogfish, pouting and the odd smoothound. Samphire Hoe has fished pretty well with numbers of wrasse, pollack, bass and mackerel.

Channel Angling at Dover has a great range of tackle and fresh and frozen baits always available. Call Craig on 01304 203742.



## Hythe report

The warmer days have seen the beaches packed with beach goers! However, night tides have seen some good catches of soles, dogfish, smoothounds and a few thornbacks are still around. Some tides have produced good numbers of soles and others nothing! September will no doubt see the whiting begin to arrive and many anglers will begin to start planning their Autumn fishing campaign!



For all your tackle and bait call Dens Tackle on 01303 267053 or Best Buddies 01303 253881.



Well what can I say, the weather has been so mixed, it's like autumn has come early. I don't think the beach and boat fishing has ever been better...OK we have seen changing species over the last ten years but it's so sad to see the decline in the number of anglers wanting to take advantage of it.

## BEACH REPORT

The beach has been fishing 'its socks off' another great bass year with more smoothhounds about and more 'monster' dogfish than I can ever remember. Plenty of mackerel have been caught but as is usual not every day...you have to be lucky. As I write this we are experiencing a great run of sole.

*Here are a couple of the August reports coming into my site...*

## Best reported this year...so far

*I had this report in from Paul Joy this morning...*

"Hi Tony, had this beast last night, 10min before I was leaving, just over 11lb. took me for a 50 yard walk, to land it. Taken less than 15ft from the low Mark, on half mackerel, pulley pennel, and 8/0, sakuma, a new pb for me, I'm over the moon,"



## Well done Jamie for going...

*Well done Jamie Pantrey not only did you catch some cracking sole last night, you the first beach report for 12 days...I was beginning to lose faith in beach anglers...*

*"Hi Tony been a year or so since fishing at Galloways, brilliant last night down there."*



## Some great fishing for Andrej...

*I had this report sent in today by Andrej...*

"Hi Tony, Hope you are well! Been fishing by the boats on Thursday with my brother (his first trip in 11 years time lol) High to low tide

Plenty of fish about! Caught 10+ Dog fish, Whiting and a couple of Dover Sole with the biggest of 37cm. It was a great and busy afternoon to be out! Andrej"



## Some great sole being caught

*I had this report in this morning from Steve Howkins...*

*"Good morning Tony, I had these 2 sole on Saturday night from the middle of hythe ranges, biggest one 38cms. Thanks as always for the great bait"*



## My favourite fish...smoothy

*I had this report in from Ryan at the beginning of the week...*

*"Good afternoon, Thought I would send you my fishing report for Friday night, first time fishing dungeness and first time fishing solo with my first smoothie the target... Started with a couple of doggies and then the rod started tapping... In it came and made me a happy angler first smoothhound and target fish achieved only a little one but makes no odds to me.. had another but it came off just as I got it shore as well.. will definitely be back again! Ryan Dixon"*



## Well done young Lady...

*I had this report in from Terry Barber earlier in the week...*

*"My 13 year old daughter caught this today just now behind the boats it was about 3 or 4 pound is it a smoothhound not sure if it is can u please let me know and that was caught on dead bait Terry"... Yes Terry a lovely smoothhound...I can't tell if its a 'starry' (small white stars on the body) we get more of those than 'commons' around here.*





## Very nice sole...

*I had this report in from Simon Newman on Wednesday...*

**"Nice 45 cm (2lb 2 oz) sole from East Bay last night. Also saw eels, dogfish and only 3 whiting making targeting sole viable!"**



## BEACH OUTLOOK FOR SEPTEMBER

This can be one of the best months of the year...you still have summer species (getting bigger) but you have the hope for autumn coming...you can see some very big bass and sole this month.

## BEST BAITS

Lugworm is everybody's favourite but rag works as well with fish baits.

## BOAT REPORTS

*Here are a few of the August reports coming into my site...*



### Another cracker hauled in...

*I had this report in tonight from Anthony out on Peganina (07989778361) from Rye...*

*"A very happy Scot with his new 72lb PB eel and a very relived MR Newman that his shock leader knot held!! Very challenging trip with an absolutely raging tide using 2lb 12oz of lead too just hold the bottom and resulting in a nail biting 10 minute battle - I actually couldn't watch as the 50lb ugly stick bent double as the very pissed off eel made every attempt to avoid coming to the boat!! It was netted, weighed in sling and swam away lovely!!!"*

### Plenty of fish for Fairchance...

*I saw this posted by Jerry Oiller of 'Fairchance' fame launching from Dungeness..."Fairchance fishing today 01797 363544*

*Dungeness. Local lads in the Boat today, and a good mixed bag, 7 Codling, 8 Pollock, 2 strap congers a Thornback and 21 Black Bream, Plenty of Mackerel. Eleven Species in all. Tight Lines and Happy Days.*



## Some nice bream and bass...

*I had this report in tonight from Anthony out on 'Peganina' (07989778361) from Rye..."Been an absolutely mental couple of weeks and I haven't taken many photos but here are a few that I managed to take!!!"*



### Cracking 'sunshine' pollack

*I had this report in this afternoon from Anthony out on Peganina (07989778361) from Rye..."Lost count of the bream but plenty to be had, also had plaice, wrasse, red Gurnard, tub Gurnard, coddling, pouts, mackerel, scad, red mullet, thornback, smooth hound, doggies and pollack! Fish of the day for me was this crash diving 84cm monster pollack tipping the scales at just over 13lb!!!"*



### Loads of Bream, great evening

*I saw this from Ant posted on facebook last night...Anthony out on Peganina (07989778361) from Rye...*

*"This little lady on fire tonight catching loads of bream I not even had to help lol"*



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"I have to start by asking 'What's going on with this weather'? It has been making chartering nigh on impossible with a gale of wind one day and flat calm the next! We have had some small shoals of mackerel showing their beautiful faces with fish near the 1.5lb mark and on the slacker tides and clearer water you can bag up. Along with the mackerel, a few better bass showing, unfortunately, not in any numbers, but, worth a punt with single lug or rag or target the bigger bass with double squid. Skate haven't been as widespread as normal with plenty of juvenile males, but, the big girls are missing maybe just a poor year or maybe the pulse beamers have taken their toll? Anyway, I am not going to get on my 'high horse' and will leave that subject for another day. Smoothounds, my favourite fish, are still about although not many doubles. They can still be found if using peeler and get good results. The other charter boats at Ramsgate are doing ok on live prawn bait but you have to concentrate with it though. A few of the other and faster boats at Ramsgate have found a few codling and bream but a long way off.

Now, let's talk about the event of the year! The Ramsgate RNLI junior sponsored fishing event took place in August and at the time of writing we had 80 rods and reels donated and 14 charter boats gave their day up for free on Friday 23rd August. All fish caught were released and a points system provided the final places for the juniors. We are hoping to have broken the £5000 for Ramsgate RNLI and would like to thank the Freshwater Informer for a lovely donation."

Tight lines and hope to see some of you aboard Lady Ann of Ramsgate, Jason



If you fancy a great day afloat with Jason, call him on 07966 273650

The very happy couple...

I had this report in from Jerry Oiller of Fairchance fame launching from Dungeness... "Fairchance fishing today 01797 363544 Dungeness What better way to spend your Honeymoon, than a day out Bream Fishing on the Fairchance, Lovely Day and Lovely Couple. Happy Days."



BOAT OUTLOOK FOR SEPTEMBER

What a great month to come...September the best of all worlds, all those summer species to go for plenty of bait fish should see more cracking bream fishing...and if we get the weather to get afloat on a regular basis, will we see a 100lb conger.

BEST BAITS

With some much mackerel about it would be a shame not to take advantage...but you can get the odd day when you can't find a single fish. It's worth the investment of tacking some frozen just in case...bluey or mackerel, they all work.

Hastings report courtesy of Hastings Angling Centre

Hastings Report

July and beginning of August were a very tricky period with weather varying from record heat to drenching rain to 50mph+ gales which made for some very difficult fishing conditions. Boats have had little chance to get afloat and the beach fishing has also been very hard. Mackerel have been had in some numbers on the odd few days of calmer weather with bass eels and soles making the catch most days.

The Hastings 3 day boat festival was badly affected by the weather with big swells and wind making for only one day afloat and then it poured its hardest all morning. The other days were fished on the beach. Shame really as a lot of effort was put in and the best sponsorship ever had been donated. See report below.

Prospects for September; this is often one of the best month's of the year for boat angling with all the summer species at peak weights and numbers. The biggest plaice and black bream of the year regularly come in September. The big Spring tides can bring some very good bass in, mackerel can be prolific off the beaches given calm weather and bass fishing with lures can be very good. As ever it all depends on the weather!

Hastings 117th International Boat Fishing Festival

The 117th annual three day Hastings International Boat Festival sponsored by Hastings Angling Centre Ltd was fished 26th, 27th and 28th July. Unfortunately, the weather was very poor on all three days and they were only able to get afloat on the Saturday and even then there was a big swell and a very fresh wind combined with drenching rain in the morning. The Friday and Sunday matches had to be fished on the beach. Entry was good, given the conditions, with 64 anglers taking part on over 20 boats.

The Festival is based on points for the best five specimen fish weighed in by each angler each day, with each day being a separate match with prizes and the overall Festival being rewarded with cash and trophies

In the very difficult conditions specimen fish proved elusive with remarkably no 100% specimens being recorded.

The prize giving and fine buffet was held at the East Hastings Club with the Mayor and Festival President Nigel Sinden presenting the trophies.

Best specimen of the Festival was a plaice of 3lb 15oz (87.5 points) caught by Ed McBryan, fishing on Barry Coleman's boat Pez Vela, winning him The Friendship Trophy and £500. Paul Murray won the South of England Trophy and £500 first prize with 325 points. Paul Murray had the highest aggregate points to win the ICSEA Gold Cup. Heaviest fish was Charles Dickinson's Smoothound of 10lb 9oz narrowly beat Cliff Winch's Thornback ray of 10lb 6oz. The junior prizes were all taken for the second year running by Amy Dickinson. Top lady was



Kay Goodwin and top veteran Charlie Ball. Team prize won by Paul Murray, Bill Ellis Alan Kent and Pete Wiseman. The Club team prize went to Hastings & St Leonards SAA Ralph and Colin Crosby, Paul Murray and Bill Ellis.

A donation of £100 was raised from the raffle for the Firefighters Charity. The prize table for the day was again excellent with sponsorship and prize donations being the best ever with 16 prizes each day in addition to trophies and main cash prizes. Many thanks to Shimano for donation of an excellent rod and reel. Everyone would also like to thank Hastings Angling Centre, ACW Brickwork Ltd, Carlsberg, C&G Commercial Services Ltd, Coleman Hire, Steve Erends Home Improvements, Greenweld (SE) Ltd, SJ Homewood, Seashore Graphics, MDJ Services for their generous support and to Hastings & St Leonards SAA and East Hastings AA for hosting the event.



Winning Team



Club team - Coronation Cup



Ed McBryan - Best specimen



Colin - sole



A Dickinson - Junior winner RNLI Trophy



Charles Dickinson - Hastings Cup



## MAIN TROPHY WINNERS

- South of England Trophy Most points on one day **Paul Murray**
- Friendship Trophy Best specimen in the Festiva **Ed McBryan**
- ICSA Gold Cup Most points in the Festival **Paul Murray**
- Cinema Deluxe Cup Greatest weight of fish **Alan Kent**
- Lewis Abbott Cup Most points from flatfish **Bob Elliott**
- Borough of Hastings Cup Biggest fish **Charles Dickinson**
- Hastilow Cup Heaviest cod in the Festival **Tim McPherson**
- Herne Bay Cup Best specimen Dogfish **Paul Murray**
- Palmer Cup Most points from cod **Tim McPherson**
- Richardson Trophy Heaviest ray **Cliff Winch** Thornback
- Farnham Trophy Team of four **P Murray, B Ellis, A Kent, P Wiseman**
- Veterans Trophy **Charlie Ball**
- Ladies Rose Bowl **Kay Goodwin**
- Bon Ami Cup Most junior points **Amy Dickinson**
- Skinners Trophy Best junior percentage **Amy Dickinson**
- RNLI trophy Most Junior points **Amy Dickinson**
- TSB Shield Most points from flatfish **Bob Elliott**
- Saffir Vissers Trophy Most different species **Kay Goodwin**
- Pedro Cup top local angler **Paul Murray**
- Whitbread Trophy longest fish **Charles Dickinson**
- Coronation Cup best club team of four **Bill Ellis, Paul Murray, Colin and Ralph Crosby**
- Nelson Cup top score in Coronation Cup **Paul Murray**
- Family Cup **Glyn and Steve Shoesmith**
- Pollack Cup **Mark Fairhurst**
- Frank James Cup Best flatfish **Bob Elliott**

## Beach Friday

1st	Colin Crosby	4lb 11oz
2nd	Ralph Crosby	3lb 7oz
3rd	Shane Salmon	1lb 10oz

## Beach Sunday

1st	Ralph Crosby	3lb 15oz
2nd	Colin Crosby	2lb 2oz
3rd	Alan Kent	1lb 8oz



Charles Dickinson - smoothound



Paul Murray - Winner



Charlie Ball - Veteran winner



Kay Goodwin - Ladies Winner



# Directory

## COARSE FISHERIES

<b>Beaver Farm Fishery</b> Eastbourne Road, Newchapel, Lingfield RH7 6HL	<b>01342 324006   07710 656041</b>
<b>Cackle Hill Lakes</b> Headcorn Road, Biddenden TN27 8JW	<b>01580 292292   01580 291954   07885 284500</b>
<b>Charlies Lakes</b> Steeds Lane, Kingsnorth, Ashford TN26 1NH	<b>07857 539785</b>
<b>Chequerfree Trout &amp; Coarse Fishery</b> Bethersden, Nr Ashford TN26 3JR	<b>01233 820078</b>
<b>Claygate Lakes</b> Marden B2162 between Collier Street & White Hart Pub, TN12 9PL	<b>07770 513448</b>
<b>Coombewood Fishery</b> Redbrook Street, High Halden, Nr Ashford TN26 3JH	<b>07895 679569</b>
<b>Elphicks Fisheries</b> Spelmonden Road, Horsmonden TN12 8EL	<b>01580 212512</b>
<b>Furnace Brook Fishery &amp; Fish Farm</b> Trolliloes, Cowbeech, Nr Hailsham BN27 4QR	<b>01435 830835</b>
<b>Gabriels Fishery</b> Marsh Green Road, Edenbridge TN8 5PP	<b>07730 066088</b>
<b>Greenacres Farm Fishery</b> Sissinghurst Road, Biddenden TN27 8EH	<b>07933 934942</b>
<b>Great Engeham Pools</b> Bethersden Road, Woodchurch, Ashford TN26 3PU	<b>07973 410973</b>
<b>Hartley Lands Fishery</b> Swattenden Lane, Cranbrook TN17 3PS	<b>07703 825064</b>
<b>Hawkhurst Fish Farm</b> Hastings Road, Hawkhurst TN18 4RT	<b>01580 753813</b>
<b>Horam Manor Fishery</b> Horam Manor Farm, Horam TN21 0JB	<b>01323 840889   07707 759364</b>
<b>Iden Wood Fishery</b> Coldharbour Lane, Iden, Rye	<b>01797 280180   07906 232225</b>
<b>Knightingales Fishery</b> Stone-in-Oxney, Nr Tenterden TN30 7HA	<b>07941 176205</b>
<b>Mousehole Lakes</b> Maidstone Road, Nettlestead, Nr Paddock Wood ME18 5HR	<b>07725 783405</b>
<b>Orchard Place Farm Fishing Lakes</b> Pearsons Green Road, Paddock Wood TN12 6NY	<b>01892 838576   07860 608218</b>
<b>Sandwich Lakes Coarse Fishery</b> Sandwich Ash Road (A257), Near Canterbury CT3 2DA	<b>07936 409912</b>
<b>Tanyard Fishery</b> Tanyard Lane, Furners Green, Uckfield TN22 3RL	<b>07833 532842</b>
<b>The Firs Fishery &amp; Campsite</b> Nickley Wood Road, Shadoxhurst, Ashford TN26 1LZ	<b>www.thefirsfishery.com   01233 733492</b>
<b>Tricklebrook Fishery</b> Colts Hill, Five Oak Green TN12 6SH	<b>07743 955812</b>
<b>Wylands International AC</b> Wylands Farm, Powdermill Lane, Battle TN33 0SU	<b>01424 893394</b>

## TROUT FISHERIES

<b>Chalk Springs</b> Park Bottom, Arundel, West Sussex BN18 0AA	<b>01903 883742</b>
<b>Cinder Hill Fly Fishing</b> Membership available from <a href="mailto:r.nathan@btinternet.com">r.nathan@btinternet.com</a>	<b>01892 770903</b>
<b>Hazel Copse Trout Fishery</b> Baynards, Rudgwick, West Sussex RH12 3AF	<b>01403 822878</b>
<b>Spring Hill Trout Waters</b> Albans Farm, Romford Road, Pembury TN2 4BB	<b>07951 304515</b>
<b>Tenterden Trout Waters</b> Coombe Farm, Chennell Park Road, Tenterden TN30 6XA	<b>01580 763201</b>

## ANGLING CLUBS / SOCIETIES

<b>Bromley (Kent) &amp; District AS</b> PO Box 895, East Grinstead RH19 9ND	<b>bdas-kent-enquiry@bdaskent.co.uk</b>
<b>Hastings, Bexhill &amp; District</b> Chris Pagan 07429 655237   Steve Potter 07935 268174 Postal enquiries: S.Corke, 2 The Siding, Bexhill-on-Sea TN40 1RF	
<b>Haywards Heath &amp; District AS</b>	visit <a href="http://www.hhdas.com">www.hhdas.com</a> or email <a href="mailto:info@hhdas.com">info@hhdas.com</a>
<b>Linton Angling Society</b>	Chris Knowler 07712 622858 <a href="mailto:chris@lintonangling.co.uk">chris@lintonangling.co.uk</a>
<b>South Norwood Angling Club</b>	Steve Izatt 0208 778 0168 <a href="mailto:steveizatt@aol.com">steveizatt@aol.com</a>
<b>Tenterden Angling &amp; Preservation Society</b>	Colin Sutton 01233 732006 <a href="http://www.tenterdenangling.co.uk">www.tenterdenangling.co.uk</a>
<b>Tonbridge &amp; District A &amp; FPS</b> PO Box 131, Tonbridge TN11 8WB	Donna 07947 557140
<b>Wantsum Angling Association</b>	<a href="mailto:robtuckbrown@hotmail.com">robtuckbrown@hotmail.com</a> Rob Tuck-Brown (secretary) 07484 144561

## TACKLE & BAIT SUPPLIES

<b>Absolute Tackle</b> 12 Wealden Forest Park, Herne Common CT6 7LQ	<b>01227 636724   07809 330854</b>
<b>Cackle Hill Lakes Tackle Shop</b> Headcorn Road, Biddenden TN27 8JW	<b>01580 292292   01580 291954 07885 284500</b>
<b>Camos Carp Cabin</b> 11 Turner Street, Ramsgate CT11 8NJ	<b>01843 581784 <a href="http://www.camoscarpabin.net">www.camoscarpabin.net</a></b>
<b>Carpers Den</b> Ashford Road, High Halden, Ashford TN26 3LJ	<b>01233 850644</b>
<b>Channel Angling</b> 158-160 Snargate Street, Dover CT17 9BZ	<b>01304 203742</b>
<b>Dens Tackle</b> 73 Dymchurch Road, Hythe CT21 6JN	<b>01303 267053</b>
<b>Fishing Tackle &amp; Bait</b> Ralph's Farm Shop & Nursery, Wierton Road, Boughton Monchelsea ME17 4JW	<b>07724 776031</b>
<b>Friendly Fisherman</b> Camden Road, Tunbridge Wells TN1 2PS	<b>01892 528577</b>
<b>Henfold Bait &amp; Tackle</b> Henfold Lakes, Henfold Lane, Newdigate, Dorking RH5 4RW	<b>07956 043922</b>
<b>Hooked on Green</b> Unit 2, Bellbrook Industrial Estate, Uckfield TN22 1QL	<b>01825 760139</b>
<b>Kent Tackle</b> Hawkhurst Fish Farm, Hastings Road, Hawkhurst TN18 4RT	<b>01580 754422</b>
<b>Medway Tackle Supplies</b> 11 Twydall Green, Gillingham ME8 6JY	<b>01634 475260</b>
<b>Nick's Tackle</b> 10 Knightrider Street, Maidstone ME15 6LP	<b>Tel: 01622 673899</b>
<b>NJ Tackle</b> 150 Milton Road, Gravesend DA12 2RG	<b>Tel: 01474 353998</b>
<b>Pinions</b> 431 London Rd, Ditton, Aylesford, Maidstone ME20 6DB	<b>Tel: 01622 718580</b>
<b>South London Angling Centre</b> 286 Lee High Road, London SE13 5PJ	<b>Tel: 0208 852 4451</b>
<b>Sues Tackle Cabin</b> The Spice Warehouse, Rye Harbour Road, Rye TN31 7TE	<b>Tel: 01797 225015   07980 290247</b>
<b>Trade in Tackle</b> Maidstone Road, Watlington ME18 5EH	<b>Tel: 01622 814296   07941 085011</b>

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