

JULY 2019

# FRESHWATER INFORMER<sup>f</sup>

No. 272

## FREE

**Mandy Ann Taylor-Nichols**  
First time  
river fishing



North Kent



star  
catch

**James Clifton**  
5lbs 12ozs  
River Beult

**Scottie  
and  
Ruby Roberts**



**Tim Laycock**  
at  
Tanyard



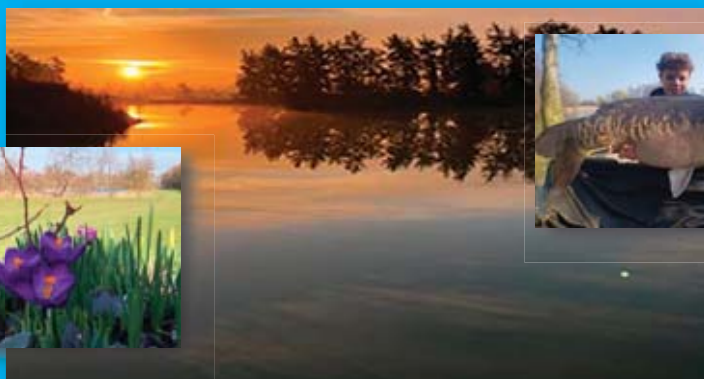
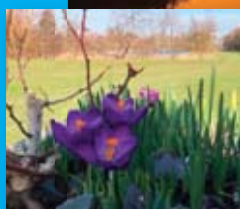
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## Hello and welcome to the July issue of the Freshwater Informer!

It seems utterly incredible to think that half of 2019 has already passed us by! I had so many things on my '2019 To Do' list, however, I have barely made any inroads in to those tasks! I had hoped to kick start my own fishing this year as it has taken a back seat of late due to so much time needed to be dedicated to the magazine. July is my ninth issue to hit the shelves and looking back, I cannot believe how much has been achieved in such a short time! The magazine is certainly going in my intended direction and readers appear approving of the format and content. However, never one to rest on my laurels, I will continually strive to improve and ensure that the magazine embraces all that is on offer to anglers in the South East.

I often wonder what Roger Standen would have made of today's Freshwater Informer? The early editions of the magazine perhaps gave no indication of the phenomenon that Roger (and Andy) created back in the 90s. Although the magazine has had a couple of owners since Roger let go of the reins, each new owner has built upon the original idea of providing a regular round up of the region's fishing and news. I have put my 'stamp' on the magazine with the addition of the Junior Informer, River Informer and the increased Sea Informer section and these sections have each built their own audience.

I have used the Freshwater Informer Facebook page to further the appeal and promote the title and the results have been quite remarkable! More people know of the publication now than ever before which has increased the circulation and provided a wealth of catch reports, news, articles and fishing gossip! Although the Facebook page is a lot of work in that I try and provide a daily dose of fishing news, it has created an incredible appreciative audience who have embraced the Informer with open arms creating a 'virtual' fishing family.

I am always looking for new advertisers in the magazine! Advertising here is very cost effective and budget friendly and you can promote your business from literally a few £££s a month. From a traditional box advert to sponsoring a section of the publication, there are so many ways you can promote your business through the magazine and all at a price which cannot be beaten. Advertising here means that your business is going to be seen by potential customers in your area! Don't forget that 10,000 magazines are distributed every month, along with 2,000 digital downloads, a nationwide subscription service and a Facebook page that reaches a quarter of a million people each month, how can you afford not to be advertising with us?

The past few weeks have seen a huge amount of catch reports received from junior and adult anglers alike which has been brilliant! However, please be aware that although I really welcome your catch reports, I cannot always guarantee that there will be enough page space to include all of them. This month has seen nearly 100 adult catch photos received, so I have had the difficult task of selecting as many as I was able to place in the pages available. Please remember that when you send your catch reports in please include your name, as some people use their Facebook tag which is not always suitable, the weight of the fish and venue. If you are enclosing a junior's photo please ensure that you give your permission for me to publish the photo!

Enjoy your fishing, Barry Reed

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## Letter to the Editor

"Hi Barry, Another couple of photos for the Freshwater Informer, if you can find room! I enjoyed another session at Lake Amy at Claygate Lakes fishing in a quiet corner. I started with corn on the bottom, but, to no avail as after two and a half hours I had caught just three small carp to show. It was time for a change of tactics. There had been some movement on the surface so a floating crust would seem my best course of



action! Carp of 3 – 4lbs came steadily to the net for the rest of the day, with a nice mirror of 5lbs 12ozs as well as plenty of commons. I also caught my PB so far this year with another mirror of 12lbs 9ozs. All the fish were coming off the top with almost a 'fish a chuck'. My total weight for the day was 66lbs 8ozs and my biggest bag yet this year.

Many thanks, Robin Piper

## No stopping the Essery Family!



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Colin Essery 21lbs



Dan Essery 24lbs



Dan Essery 27lbs

## The Freshwater Informer

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# Fishery Reports

## Elphicks Fisheries Horsmonden, Kent

**NORTH LAKE** is still producing. **Mike McDonald** had commons at 19lb, 22lb, 27lb, 29lb, 29lb, 29lb, 42lb and 3 mirrors at 27lb, 27lb, 36lb. **Nathan McDonald** had 5 commons at 27lb, 31lb, 32lb, 34lb, 36lb, and 4 mirrors at 29lb, 32lb, 36lb, 38lb. **Terry** had 5 commons at 22lb, 22lb, 24lb, 28lb, 34lb. **Ken Davis** had 3 mirrors at 24lb, 29lb, 36lb. **Paignton Gibson** had a 45lb, common. **Dean Hearsay** had mirrors at 20lb, 24lb, 27lb, 39lb. **PB. David Wheeler** had 2 mirrors at 23lb and 37lb and a 34lb, common.



Paignton Gibson 45lb North Lake 05.19

**PLANTATION LAKE** is fishing well. **Stuart Bevis** had 2 commons at 10lb, 39lb and a 17lb mirror. **Ronnie** and **Robert Ingleby** had mirrors at 18lb, 23lb, 32lb. **Stuart Esther** had a 28lb common and 2 mirrors at 15lb, 22lb.

**PRAIRIE LAKE** is producing. **Adam Perkins** had 3 mirrors at 20lb, 26lb, 26lb and 5 commons at 20lb, 24lb, 25lb, 26lb, 27lb. **Chris Smith** had 2 commons at 20lb, 26lb and 3 mirrors at 22lb, 25lb, 28lb. **Dean Eaton** had 2 mirrors at 22lb and 26lb and a 30lb common.



Chris Smith Prairie Lake 05.19

**KETTLES LAKE** is fishing well. **Dan Collard** had 19 carp to 25lb. **Stewart** had 27 carp to 19lb. **Phil Dixie** had a 14 lb mirror. **Ryan Meloy** had 2 mirrors at 15lb, 21lb and a 12lb common. **Luke Bostock** had 2 ghost mirrors at 7lb, 16lb and a 19lb mirror and a 10lb common.

**PULLENS LAKE** has still produced. **Ru Purle** had a 35lb mirror. **John Emerick** had 2 mirrors at 42lb and 47lb pb. **Adam Dalton** had 4 mirrors 28lb, 33lb, 44lb, 46lb. **PB. Paul Holman** had mirrors at 26lb, 28lb, 32lb, 35lb, 36lb, 37lb, 39lb, 43lb. **PB. John Daly** had a 35lb common and a 49lb mirror. **Steve Brammar** had a 27lb, mirror. **Paul Clark** had 3 mirrors at 25lb, 35lb, 38lb. **Jack Wood** had 3 mirrors at 26lb, 29lb, 38lb. **Glen Wood** had a 36lb, mirror. **Den Granger** had 2 mirrors at 30lb and 39lb. **Dave Thomas** had 8 mirrors between 25lb and 49lb.

**WEST END LAKE** has picked up a bit now. **Dave Thomas** had 3 mirrors at 31lb, 36lb, 37lb. **Mark Pallet** had 3 mirrors at 33lb, 35lb, 48lb. **Gary Harrow** had 2 mirrors at 32lb, 42lb. **The Brockhurst party** had 4 x 40s to 45lb and 7 x 30s to 37lb. **Robb Gannaway** had 4 mirrors at 41lb, 41lb, 32lb, 45lb. **Steve Foord** had 2 mirrors at 38lb, 42lb.



Robb Gannaway 41lb Westend 05.19



Stuart Bevis 39lb 4oz Plantation Lake 05.19

**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. **Mark Farmer** had 14 carp to 15lb.



Will Timson 26lbs Kettles



Robb Gannaway 45lb Westend 05.19



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# Fishery Reports

## Gabriels Fishery Edenbridge, Kent



The Bank Holiday weekend at the end of May was very quiet with few people fishing. Of those who did, all caught fish. **Owen and Linda** fished on Silver Lake and caught in a day session with ground bait and Crafty Catcher krill boilies eleven fish each. These varied from perch, roach and bream together with a 12lb common carp. Linda beat her husband by landing not only a 12.8 common carp but also a beautiful golden tench of 5lbs and seven bream, the largest being 5lbs. On Monday Bank Holiday **Chris** caught a 34lb mirror carp from Admiral Lake. The following week **Jeff O'Brian** organised a group's fishing on part of Oak Lake.



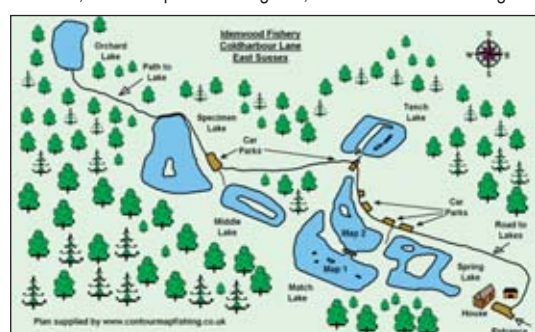
## Iden Wood Fishery Iden, Rye, East Sussex

**SPRING LAKE** Has fished well this month with carp showing in the shallower swims by the lilies. Night sessions have produced up to ten carp, mostly doubles with a couple nudging 20lb. The deeper swims giving good catches of bream and skimmers, worm working well.

**MATCH LAKE** The wet weather in the middle of June has freshened up the lake, and carp are feeding well with most of the spawning finished. Best carp this month a 28lb mirror taken from the back section. Good bream catches with specimens topping 5lb being taken on worm, maggot and small pieces of meat, pellet also working well. Maggot taking plenty of roach, prawn taking some good perch.

**MIDDLE LAKE** Carp feeding well, pellet, corn and meat taking fish to 12lb, skimmers showing through the middle on maggot, some good perch on prawns.

**SPECIMEN LAKE** Carp feeding well. The island swims have produced several specimens to 25lb with corn, meat and pellet working well, surface baits also scoring. Maggot and caster giving good catches of quality roach. Prawn good for the perch.



**ORCHARD LAKE** Carp also feeding well on this lake, a night session for one angler produced 15 carp with the best fish just topping 20lb. Surface baits working well. Maggot and caster giving some good roach and rudd.

## Wylands International AC Battle, East Sussex

**FIELD LAKE** has fished very well over the month. Anglers using simple float methods and have not had to wait long for a bite! This 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.

**MIDDLE LAKE** has fished it's 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.



Deeprse Field Lake



Dave Honeyset 28.06 lb Middle Lake



Sean 23.10lb Middle Lake

**KELL LAKE** is as tricky as ever, but, this said many anglers have had cracking sessions this month with a few anglers landing six or seven fish. Several 30lb plus have been banked.



Brian Collins 28.06lb Kell Lake



Jack 29lb Kell Lake

**MAISIES LAKE** has produced some stunning carp to mid twenties and some cracking large 50lb plus cats. Please remember to pre book on this lake as swims are limited. A big tip for this lake is not to fish near the reeds as this just results in lost fish.



Lee 28lb



Lee Marston 30lb Maisies Lake

**THE SPECI LAKES** New Speci has been fantastic through the month with some stunning carp up to 32 lb 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.

**OLD SNAKE** is open as usual and makes a fantastic place for a few bites. We are taking private match bookings and these are going from strength to strength with some fantastic bags being weighed in, sometimes 200 lb plus!

**ROSIES LAKE** Bags of 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 22lb.



Tyler Dunk 18.12lb New Speci



Dan Benton Rosies Lake



Dan Benton Rosies Lake

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# Fishery Reports

## Hawkhurst Fish Farm Hawkhurst, Kent

It's the first official month of running our 'Fish of the Month competition' and there have been many great entries after a busy month. We're pleased to say our first winner of the year is David Graveling, a long term Specimen Lake member. He has had a couple of great sessions; firstly netting our newly stocked ghost carp at 35lb 14oz (and naming him Casper) and a second session in which he landed a new PB in the form of a 36lb Common among five other carp. Well done David, you've won yourself 24 hours free fishing!

**SPECIMEN LAKE** A shout out to our bailiff **Rob** for landing a fantastic brace, including a new **PB**. The two immaculate commons weighed in at 38lb 8oz and 36lb 2oz! **Stephen Taylor** had a great session, landing a 28lb scaly Mirror and a 32lb Mirror. **Simon Evans** landed two lovely looking Commons, both weighing in at 26lb a piece. On another session, Simon caught a lovely looking 31lb 1oz Mirror. **Robert Pizzy** caught a fabulous looking 34lb Mirror. Rob the Bailiff captured the moment using the angler's iPhone. Robert then went on to catch a lovely looking 23lb Common, which he described as a 'little fighter', and a scale perfect 27lb Common finished off his session. **Tim Porter** had a busy 12 hour night session netting 4 carp up to 29lb and 2 catfish up to 44lb. On another night session, Tim landed two beautiful Mirrors. **Andy Punter** was happy to catch an awesome 59lb Catfish at the weekend. **Oli Rickson** netted a 17lb Common, 25lb 8oz Common and 28lb Mirror from swim 3 during a 24 hour session! A week long session for **Stephen Taylor** produced 12 carp between 17lb and 32lb and a 49lb Catfish. **Ricky Young** managed a new **PB**; a lovely looking 36lb 1oz Mirror. A massive well done to **David Graveling** for netting a gorgeous



38lb 8oz Common - Specimen Lake - Rob Ledsham



24lb Mirror - Specimen Lake - David Graveling



36lb 1oz Mirror - Specimen Lake - Ricky Young



36lb 2oz Common - Specimen Lake - Rob Ledsham



Weight unknown - Specimen Lake - Tim Porter



59lb Catfish - Specimen Lake - Andy Punter

ghost carp, weighing in at an impressive 35lb 14oz! David would like to name him Casper – I wonder why! **Alastair O'Brien** had a couple of fish on an overnight session and was very pleased to see a beautiful scaly Mirror. **Andy Punter** had a rather wet session but was pleased to land a 23lb grass carp. **Ashley Reeves** caught a 25lb 13oz Common during a 12 hour session, caught on Monster baits. **Ricky Young** caught an awesome hat-rick of Commons, weighing in at 27lb 4oz, 22lb 12oz and 21lb 8oz!

**MAIN LAKE** **Nigel Hildon** caught a 26lb Common on a 24 hour session. **Lynton Davis** landed a 60lb Catfish and 46lb Catfish on a weekend session. **Oliver Sherwood** did a weekend session and was rewarded with a new **PB** catfish of 58lb. **Josh Porter** sent in a great catch report from his 24 hour session on Main Lake. He had 8 fish out, 4 20's up to 28lb 10oz and 4 mid doubles. Well done to **Paul Marshall** for landing this lovely 34lb 5oz Mirror on his first session on Main Lake! **Marc Ballanger** landed three lovely carp weighing in at 14lb, 16lb and 20lb. He fished using Urban Baits. **Stuart Roberts** caught 5 Commons up to 28lb 4oz and 6 grass carp to 23lb on a 24 hour session. **Anthony Hallet** managed to bag an awesome 29lb 1oz Common on a day session from peg 9. **Tom Marshall** had a great session, landing 15 carp up to 27lb as well as 4 catfish. **Jon-Paul** and his son **Brandon** both caught on their trip to Main Lake - Brandon netted a 46lb Catfish and Jon-Paul had a lovely 20lb Common. **Jamie Morgan** caught 6 carp up to 27lb 8oz and a grasscarp, as well as a catfish. Krill boilies were working well for Jamie!



21lb 8oz Mirror - Main Lake - Tom Marshall



54lb Catfish - Main Lake - Andre

**DOVE LAKE** **Billy Lock** caught 9 fish on a weekend session, including 6 carp between 20lb and 26lb and a 60lb catfish. **Graham Young** managed another **PB** from Dove Lake on a quick 15 hour session, with a lovely Mirror weighing in at 27lb



38lb 4oz Catfish - Main Lake - Tom Benson group

4oz! Apparently it put up one hell of a fight. **Matt Harris** caught a lovely 20lb Common, which he also said put up a good fight! **Thomas Daw** came for his first session on Dove Lake after just turning 14; he caught a 20lb 2oz Common and 22lb 10oz Common! **Simon Fowler** fished a 24 hour session and was rewarded with 5 lovely Commons up to 28lb 8oz. **Jamie Morgan** managed to land 6 carp and 1 cat fishing with Krill boilies. The biggest carp went to 27lb 8oz. **Henry** caught a lovely 23lb Common.



60lb Catfish - Dove Lake - Billy Lock

**QUARRY LAKE** **Josh Dellaway** caught a lovely catfish weighing in at 16lb. **Quincy Benfield** cast, fought, and landed this 15lb 2oz Catfish from Quarry Lake all by himself on his second ever fishing trip!

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# Fishery Reports

## Claygate Lakes Claygate, Marden, Kent



**LAKE AMY** Congratulations to another member of the Jewel family! Ed Jewel has been down most weekends in pursuit of an unnamed 30lb + mirror. After catching numerous commons, he was rewarded with his goal, a lovely looking 31.8lb mirror which he has named "THE JEWEL". Fish coming out to small bags of pellet, fishing a pineapple/krill boillie or waffer.

Don't forget your margins as a few fish have been taken tight to the bank.

As you can see Harriet is pictured with her Dad Lloyd holding two different sized carp and as her face shows you don't always have to bag a big fish to have fun!

**LAKES SOPHIE/EVA** Pellet, corn and meat all taking fish with peg 10 on Sophie worth a try for the chub as they have been shoaled up. Remember some bread for a bit of fun off the top in the afternoon.

Simon usually fishes on lake Amy but popped down with son and fished Eva, I think his son had the biggest one of the day!



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**LAKE AMY** - Carp to upper 30s



**LAKE EVA** match/pleasure - Carp 27lb+ Tench 11lb+ Chub 5lb+ Barbel 6lb+ Perch 5lb+ Bream and other silvers



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



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# Fishery Reports

## Beaver Fishery Lingfield, Surrey



Ben 27-04 snipe



Bradley Gore



Bryn Kinasz 64lb birthday PB



Charlie Green 35-03

**SNIPE LAKE** has been producing again, **Luke Gator** had a good couple of sessions when he banked commons at 17-04, 23lb and 28-08 and a 21-04 mirror. **Jordan White** banked a few mirrors to over 17lb and a 23-02 common. **Tony Jones** had a great session when he banked commons at 28-06 and 30-08 and a 26-04 linear. **Ben** had a grassie at 27-14, a 23-08 mirror and a 13-10 stockie. **Mathew Rustemeyer** had a good session when he banked commons at 17-03, 20-06, 27-03 and 28-06 as well as 2 mirrors to 20lb. **Dave Russell** banked the ghostie at 23lb, **Matt Wilkinson** got a **PB** 27-12 common, **Mathew Dunster** had a 30lb common, a mid double mirror and the new lake record mirror weighing in at 36lb 14oz. Mark Newman had a 28lb mirror. **Gary Nichols** banked a 19-02 mirror. **Mick Box** landed a very well deserved 17lb mirror. **Micheal Foster** had a **PB** 27-07 common on his 1st visit to us. **Martin Sharman** had a 15-15 mirror, **Richard Rollinson** had 2 fish in an overnighter of a 22-08 mirror and a 25-08 common and **Darryl Cook** banked 26-08 common which was a target fish for him. Well done to all above.

**TUSCANY LAKE** has been producing lots of cats again. At the beginning of the month there seemed to be a lot of fish to upper 30's banked then the big ones got on the feed. **Jeff Betts** banked a few to low 30's, **Julian McConnell** banked 3 x 40's, **Keith Hardy** had cats at 28-11, 29-05, 31-02, 34-08 and 35-14. **Gordon Noakes** finally found the cats and banked a few to low 30's. **Mathew Rustemeyer** had a go and banked a couple to 40lb while his mate **Alistair Neale** had a **PB** 48. Steve Townsend banked a **PB** 49. **Charlie Green** was back amongst the cats with a few to mid 30's and **Mark Slasde** banked them to 48-05. **Peter Mew** had cats at 34, 38, 49-02 and 55-03, **Andrew Nicholson** had 5 to 32lb. **Shane Heffer** banked a Beaver **PB** at 53lb. **Steve Dear** had a 56-08. **Robert Black** a 27 and 2 x 50's but congratulations to Bryn Kinasz who, on his birthday session, banked a **PB** cat of 60lb, then done his **PB** again, this time, with one at 64lb and then caught another at 49lb!



Darryl Cook 26-08 snipe



Julian McConnell 48-05



Tegan Lindsay maze lake



Peter Mew 55-03



Trevor Bburgess 18-08 majors



Robert Black 50-08



Mark Newman 28lb snipe



Mat Rustemeyer 16lb andys pick



Mathew Dunster 36-14



one of Terry's fish on majors lake

**JEFFS LAKE** has again been fishing well for all anglers with fish reported to us to 12lbs. The June Open Match results were:

**1st** Adrian Bell with 50-08 **2nd** Sam Beckinsale with 38-12 **3rd** Bob Beale with 33-08.

**MOAT POND** has been producing carp to 7lb, ghosties, commons and mirrors and crucians to just over 3lb with lots of silvers. Well done to young **Bradley Gore** who patiently stalked a few very pretty carp out on a warm afternoon.

**DAUGHTERS LAKE** has started to fish well with **Steve Dear** banking a new stockie at 11-02, **John Davies** banking a 19lb ghostie. **Jim Dowd** had a 16-02 common and **Brian Owen** had a 17-02 grassie. Then as the algae growth died back we had a slight oxygen drop so we decided to shut the lake for a couple of weeks and aerate the water so the fish were left alone and stress free.

**EDEN POND** has again been the place to go if you are after some tench. A typical example of this is **Mark Allen** who banked 19 green tench and 1 golden tench and **Chris Scott** had 12 tench to 3-08, 1 bream and 4 carp to 4lb.

**MAZE LAKE** has seen a big difference in the catch rate since we introduced over 1,000 new small F1's into the lake during the winter. **Clive Mills** caught 40-50 new F1's, 8 bream and 2 carp to 3-08 while **John Palmer** had a good day when he banked about 30 F1's, 1 carp at 6lb, 4 bream and 2 tench. A special well done goes to 8 year old **Tegan Lindsay** and her **Dad** who decided to fish on Maze lake over a weekend and Tegan banked 8 carp and lots of silvers while her dad banked a few carp to 9-08.

**MAJORS LAKE** has had a new paddle wheel aerator installed and the water level is very close to being where it should be. The fishing on Majors Lake has been good for the majority of the anglers. **Terry Edwards** has done a few sessions this month and banked 6 carp to 9lb, 10 bream and 1 tench on one session then had mirrors at 11lb, 12lb and 17-06, commons at 9-06 and 10lb and bream to 5-08 on his next session. He then came back again and banked a 13-08 ghostie. **Trevor Burgess** had a few including commons at 5, 11 and 11-12, tench to 6lb and a mirror of 18-08. **Bradley Gore** had a nice ghostie of 11-12. **Alex Letton** had a few carp out to low doubles. **Steven Powell** had 5 carp to 9lb, 11 bream to 5lb then came back and had 6 carp to low doubles. **Curtis Young** banked a 16lb mirror on his homemade bolle. **Micky McMullen** had a 13-06 mirror and **Chris Whytock** had bream to 5-11 and a 20-07.

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!

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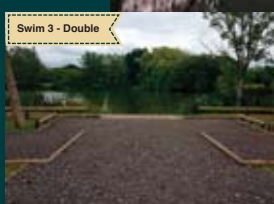
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Swim 21



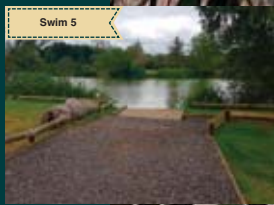
Swim 3 - Double



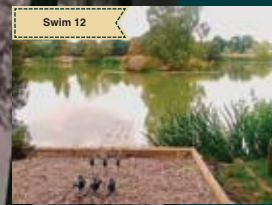
Swim 14 - Double



Swim 5



Swim 12



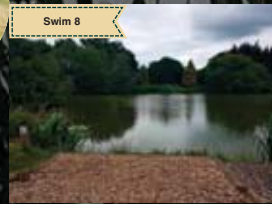
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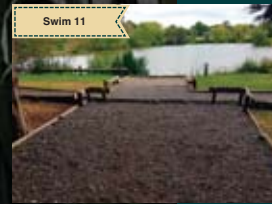
Swim 7



Swim 8



Swim 11



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# Fishery Reports

## Tanyard Fisheries Uckfield, East Sussex



Frazier Hookings



**COARSE LAKE 1** Steve had a productive day using maggots and sweetcorn to land three Common Carp, one Crucian Carp and two Tench. **Shaun** came for his first visit and landed his PB tench of 5lb, he also landed three Bream and two Mirror Carp, all using sweetcorn. **Benjamin** braved the rain and persevered to land an 11lb Common Carp using luncheon meat along with three Roach and two Rudd.

**COARSE LAKE 2** Tom came with his father for his first fishing trip and was very impressed with five Carp, two common of around 3-4lb and three Mirror Carp of around 5lb all using sweetcorn. **Stephen**, on his overnight session landed seven Catfish largest of 12lb and smallest of 5lb using robin red and luncheon meat. **Laura** and her partner **George** landed five Catfish, largest of 14lb and three Common carp largest of 8lb. **Tony** came for a day session looking for Catfish and was successful landing three Catfish 6lb, 8lb and 11lb all using luncheon meat and spicy pepperoni. **Chris** enjoyed the hot weather on his day session catching three Mirror Carp under 10lb and two Koi both of 7lb. **David**, returning to fishing after ten years, caught the bug again with three Common Carp and a Bream of 7lb using tuna boilies.

**COARSE LAKE 3** Jeff, on his first session of the season, landed nine Carp by mid-morning all under 10lb and all on maggots and sweetcorn. **Jarek** came for an overnight session proudly landing twelve fish, a mix of Carp all under 10lb and three Bream under 9lb. **Laurence**, on his first visit, caught five Mirror Carp largest of 9lb and two Koi, a 10lb and a 12lb. **Frazier Hookings** had a weekend session and went on to land a massive collection of fish consisting of two Common Carp largest of 12lb, three Mirror Carp largest of 10lb, one Tench and one Crucian Carp all on luncheon meat. **Mike Wheeler** came for a day session and landed, among others, a nice double figured Common Carp. **Josh Valentine-Wheeler** enjoyed a day session with his father, landing two Mirror Carp and one Koi. **Mike Valentine-Wheeler** had a very productive day with around twenty fish, the most notable being a Mirror Carp of just under 10lb. **Dan** came for a day session and landed five Common Carp and two Mirror Carp while stalking using bread and maggots. **Graham** enjoyed his day session with a productive twenty five fish a mix of Tench, Roach, Rudd and Crucian carp, all on bread and red sweetcorn.



Josh Wheeler



Mike Wheeler



## Tanyard Fisheries

Tanyard Lane | Furners Green | Uckfield | East Sussex | TN22 3RL

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

For information and sending us your catch reports to  
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Frazier Hookings

**CARP FREE** Reece came for a day of Tench fishing and wasn't disappointed landing five Tench under 5lb. He also landed two Perch of 2lb using worms. Amy persevered in the rain and went on to catch three Tench, four Roach and one Rudd all using maggots.

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# Fishery Reports

**Mousehole Lakes** Paddock Wood, Kent



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## Here are our season trophy winners - Match and Specimen



Padley Bowl - **Stuart Cottingham**  
 Cheeseman Cup - **Lee Wakeman**  
 Chairman & Committee Cup - **Martyn Hill**  
 Abrey Cup - **Tony Crossley**  
 Tibbets Ladies Cup - **Anita Ayling**  
 Bob Chapman Pole Cup - **Lee Wakeman**  
 Ron Williams Cup - **Pat Galpin**  
 A.C.A Cup - **Tony Crossley**  
 Houghton Cup - **Tony Crossley**  
 Cane & Pin - **Roger Trask**  
 Harry Fowler Memorial Cup - **Tony Fleet**  
 Bill Smith Match Recorder Cup - **Pete Groombridge**  
 Restocking Cup - **Lee Wakeman**  
 Match Championship Cup - **Tony Crossley**  
 Pike Match - **Austin Battell**  
 All Rounder Trophy - **Roger Trask**  
 John Anscombe Senior Citizen Cup - **Pat Galpin**



Bream Cup - **Jason Craven** 10lb 4oz  
 Carp Cup - **Warren Bellety** 50lb 4oz  
 Perch Carp - **Austin Battell** 3lb 4oz  
 Roach Cup - **Jason Craven** 2lb 12oz

Rudd Cup - **Bill Milton** 1lb 12oz  
 Chub Cup - **Tony Crossley** 5lb 2oz  
 Pike Cup - **Ian Seamer** 26lb 5oz



## Tonbridge & District Angling & FP Society



Roger Trask 5lb 2oz Crucian



As you know, our main report was on the recent report of a huge 5lb 2oz Crucian caught by **Roger Trask**. This caused a bit of a stir as Roger did not realise the magnitude of what he had achieved. His main interest was to get the fish back in the water! It wasn't until after he returned the fish that another angler told him that it could be a record. It was a terrible day with the rain tipping down making it difficult to get someone to take a nice photograph.

There were a few large Crucians stocked into the Old Ballast Pit 5 years ago and they were all over 3lb at that time as they were Brood stock from Coarsefish UK. Since the stocking, there have been several 3lb+ Crucians caught and two 4lb+ as well as this latest fish. Although the picture taken does not do the fish justice, we are very confident that this was a true Crucian. Only a recapture would confirm this.

Another notable catch was by one of our junior anglers, **Ellis Green**, who whilst fishing with his Dad **Rob** on the New Lagoon, caught this stunning 7lb 12oz Tench which was witnessed by New Lagoon Bailiff Bill Milton. Another nice capture from the New Lagoon was a beautiful 2lb Rudd caught by **Jason Craven**. **Austin Battell** had a busy pleasure session on the New Lagoon catching 32 Tench to 5lb 1oz, 12 Bream from 3lb to 5lb 7oz, 7 Carp to 6lb 2oz and around 20lb of mixed silvers. **Ian Seamer** had a nice 15lb Pike from Barden Lake fishing with deadbait.

**MATCH RESULT Sunday 16th June - Padley Bowl - Hartlake Down - 22 fished**

**1st - Colin Fowler - 5lb 15oz / 2nd - Stuart Cottingham - 5lb 11oz / 2nd - Martyn Hill - 5lb 11oz**

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Ernie - the next generation to fish

## Mick Battell Memorial Match

### SATURDAY 15TH JUNE 2019 - THE NEW LAGOON - 17 FISHED

It was a great start to the day with bacon rolls and a coffee kindly donated by Martin & Kelly from the Café in the Park at Haysden Country Park. 17 anglers competed in this points system match where 5 points is awarded for each specie and a point for every pound in weight you catch. The draw was much anticipated as we had two great match anglers among us, one of which has experience at the highest level. To everyone's disbelief, not only did they draw each other as a pair, they also drew two of the most fancied pegs on the lake!

It was an 8.30 start and Rod Craft started strongly, catching good quality Roach and Rudd, Jason Craven who is a venue regular drew one of the deeper swims and started catching good sized Roach, including one of 1b 1oz. Jamie Theobald fished down the edge and caught two very nice Tench over 4lb early on. As the morning went on, a few Carp to 6lb were getting caught and seeing that you could only weigh in 4 Carp, anglers were being quite choosy as to which ones they were going to keep. Venue bailiff, Norman Ayling was being kept very busy weighing the Carp as they were caught as they were being returned to the water immediately. Charlie Lovall called out several times but was catching small Carp, so decided to stick it out for some bigger specimens. The fishing really slowed up towards lunchtime and everyone was very pleased to see Julie Battell turn up with the much awaited grub which consisted of homemade steak pie, homemade chicken curry pie, loads of rolls and three lovely cakes.

The afternoon session did not improve much apart from a few Carp and the odd big Tench being caught but Charlie Lovall and Chris Green showed their experience by continuing to add points via some small silvers. With an hour to go, the rest of the anglers were fishing for second spot. Gareth Stokes had caught his quota of Carp and unfortunately had to return a 9lb Common, Austin Battell landed a 7lb Mirror to keep him and Kevin Hickey in the frame and Bing Crosby managed a couple of nice Carp to add to his partner, Jason Craven's nice bag of fish. Although Gareth Stokes had to return his 9lb fish, news came in that his partner, Jamie Theobald had caught another big Tench. Duncan Battell had reportedly caught two nice specimen fish, one believed to be a quality Rudd and the other, a decent Bream. Once the final whistle had blown, several pairs thought they may have done enough to nick the win as nobody knew they final weights of Carp caught.

As it turned out, Charlie Lovall and Chris Green had done enough to take the win and the battle for second spot could not have been any closer.

### RESULTS:

1st - <b>Charlie Lovall &amp; Chris Green</b>	108 points	Section 1 - <b>Gareth Stokes</b>	43 points
2nd - <b>Jason Craven &amp; Bing Crosby</b>	80 points	Section 2 - <b>Jason Craven</b>	40 points
3rd - <b>Gareth Stokes &amp; Jamie Theobald</b>	79 points	Section 3 - <b>Neal Rodgers</b>	34 points
4th - <b>Austin Battell &amp; Kevin Hickey</b>	76 points	Individual points winner	<b>Chris Green</b> 55 points
5th - <b>Rod Craft &amp; Neal Rodgers</b>	74 points	Bulkweight Carp	<b>Chris Green</b> 20lb 0oz
6th - <b>Phil Theobald &amp; Russell Battell</b>	56 points	Bulkweight Silvers	<b>Charlie Lovall</b> 16lb 2oz
7th - <b>Chris Stokes &amp; Martyn Hill</b>	43 points	Biggest Carp	<b>Chris Green</b> 7lb 14oz
8th - <b>Jon Smith &amp; average of all points</b>	33 points	Biggest Tench	<b>Charlie Lovall</b> 5lb 6oz
9th - <b>Duncan Battell &amp; Russell Scott</b>	22 points	Biggest Bream	<b>Duncan Battell</b> 3lb 8oz
		Biggest Roach	<b>Rod Craft</b> 1lb 2oz
		Biggest Rudd	<b>Duncan Battell</b> 1lb 12oz

A fantastic day was had by all and we all went back to the Royal Oak pub in Tonbridge, hosted by Andy & Sue where we had some magic card tricks from the impressive Rob Neal, a presentation and raffle and to top it off, we raised an impressive £1003.46.

Thanks to all the local businesses who donated prizes for our raffle and very special thanks to all my friends and family for their continued support to help make this a great day in the memory of my Dad.

*Austin Battell*



# Fishery Reports

## Charlies Lakes Ashford, Kent



Phil Potter



Danny Crowther 35lbs 5ozs

**Tom Green** had a good session fishing the lake with a total of 24 catfish up to 34lb 5oz. **Dean Elliot** and **Warren Kelly** fished pegs 7 & 8 over a 48hr session and had 49 catfish up to 36lb 12oz and 4 carp. **Steve Hines** fished peg 8 on a day session and had 10 catfish up to 30lb 4oz. **Roy Binks** jumped into peg 11 for a 24hr session and had 14 catfish to 30lb and 1 carp. **Pete Ellis** fished the lake with 3 of his friends they had a total of 52 catfish with a combined weight of 993lbs. **Gareth Jones** did his first session at the lake and ended up with 24 catfish to 31lb and 4 carp. **Danny Crowther** and **Dan Brown** did 36hrs in pegs 7 & 8 and had over 60 fish between them up to 34lb 5oz. **Darren Rogers** had a great 24hr session which included 28 catfish to 32lb 4oz. **Mark Brabon** fished peg 11 on a day session and had 15 catfish up to 30lb.



Jake Trapp



Kevin Bond 20lbs 2ozs



Kevin Bond 20lbs 5ozs



Matt Willcott 38lbs



Pete Ellis 37lbs



Roy Binks 30lbs



Steve Hines 30lbs 4ozs



Tom Green 34lbs 4ozs



Warren Kelly 36lbs 12ozs

## Framfield Park Fishery Uckfield, East Sussex



**SPRING LAKE** Fishing extremely well with match weights in excess of 150 lbs consisting of Carp to 15 lbs. Best areas are the pegs near the gap in the island with pole fished down the edge proving the best method. Pleasure anglers enjoying good sport with corn, maggot and pellet the best baits. Some nice Perch to 4 lbs showing which are falling to worm and maggot.

**BROOKHOUSE LAKE** Some nice Carp to high doubles showing when fishing corn or bread either tight to the islands or close in. Best areas are swims on the car park side.

**BURYWOOD LAKE** Most pegs producing Carp to 20 lbs plus with a few Grass Carp to 22 lbs showing from pegs on the far bank opposite the car park. Best baits are sweet flavoured boilies and pop ups. Catfish to mid 40's are showing from most pegs with worm or meat being good baits.

### MATCH RESULTS:

#### 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.

#### Spring Lake

- 1 Ian Oliver (Framfield) 135-14-0
- 2 Nobby Whiteing (Hawthorn) 111-4-0
- 3 Vic Tew (Epsom) 88-11-0
- 4 G.Stone (Epsom) 80-11-0
- 5 John Oliver (Framfield) 64-6-0
- 6 Keith Harper (Warlingham) 59-13-0.

#### Spring Lake

- 1 Mike Head (Carp Shop) 144-3-0
- 2 Martin Woodington (Framfield) 101-10-0
- 3 Mark Parrett (Carp Shop) 100-0-0
- 4 John Oliver (Framfield) 98-1-0
- 5 Nobby Whiteing (Hawthorn) 95-4-0
- 6 Ian Oliver (Framfield) 87-2-0.

### MATCH RESULT Rye D.A.S Open SUNDAY 16TH JUNE

River Rother, New Bridge, up and down of the bridge, 26 pegs.

- 1st Jamie Ford (Iden Wood Fishery) 26-14-0  
breem, worm over groundbait in the last two hours at 12 metres, also roach and perch close in, peg one upstream of bridge.
- 2nd Steve Palmer (Maver) 11-14-0
- 3rd Kevin Dyer (Preston Innovations Delcac) 9-0-0
- 4th Paul Hamlyn (Preston Innovations Delcac) 7-6-0
- 5th Paul Lamb (Browning) 7-4-0
- 6th Bill Postlethwaite (unattached) 6-15-0

### BIGGIN HILL ANGLING CENTRE

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Telephone: 01959 570265



# YOUR CATCH REPORTS



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sponsored  
by



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

After extensive research, where the limitations of both barbed and barbless were scrutinised, there has been an obvious need for improvement thus resulting in this radical design that crosses the boundaries between what we have had and what we now have.

Made from high grade Japanese wire, the key improvement has been the introduction of a series of minute horizontal grooves on the inside of the specially designed arrow shaped hook point, where historically the barb would have been. These grooves allow the hook to hold securely in the fish's mouth when pressure is applied, as the flesh presses into the grooves resulting in a firm hook hold with no slippage.

*What are you waiting for? Grab your rods and head down to your favourite water and remember to take your phone or camera!*



The winner of the  
**PALLATRAX GRIPZ Hooks Set**  
for JUNE is...  
**Graham Young**  
well done!

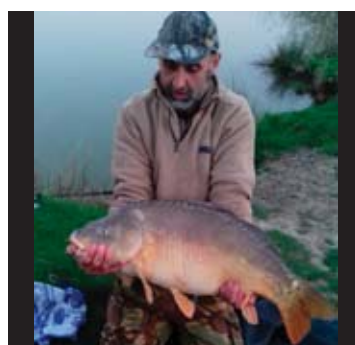
**WINNER**



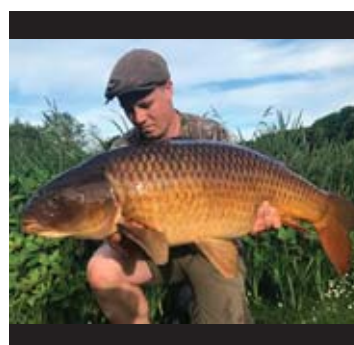
ALAN 'CAMO' TURNER - 30LBS



ALEX WELLS - 6LBS 8OZS TANYARD



ANDY COLLINS - CHEQUERTREE



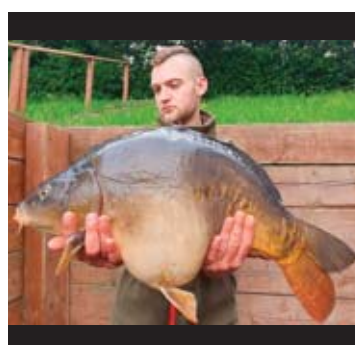
DANNY BOORER - 31LBS FROGMORE LAKES



CHRIS COGAN - 20LBS ORCHARD PLACE



BEN WREN - WYLANDS' MIDDLE LAKE



BILLY HALL - 23LBS BUCKSHOLE HASTINGS



EDWARD JEWELL - 31LBS CLAYGATE LAKES



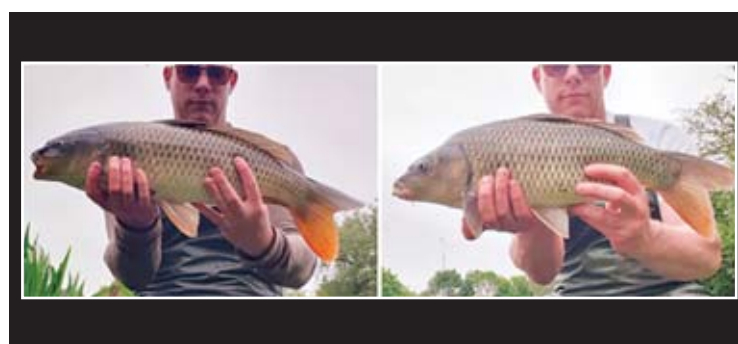
DAN LAWSON - 31 LBS ORCHARD PLACE FARM LAKE 7



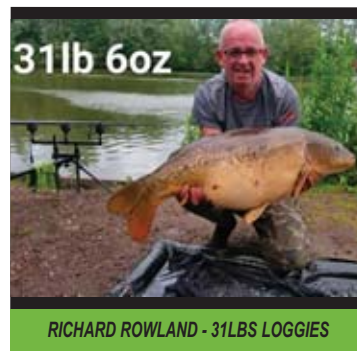
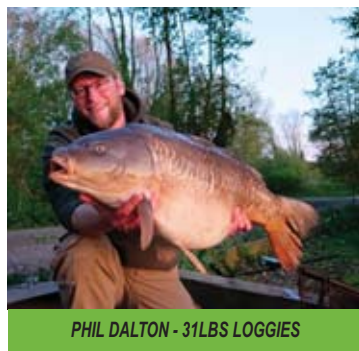
CONNOR MACKIE - 49LBS AT WINTONS



DAN KENYON - 25LBS KNIGHTINGALES



ANDY CROSS AT BLUEBELL LAKES

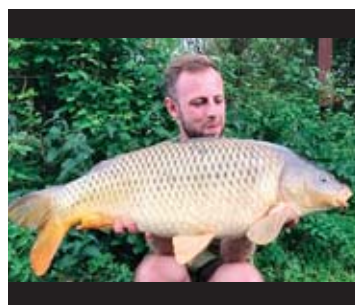




DAVE WAYMAN - 30LBS HUNTERS LODGE



DAVID GRAVELING - 35LBS CASPER AT HAWKHURST



DEAN CREASEY - 23LBS CLUB WATER



EMMA CREASEY - 21LBS



GEORGIE BRESNAHAN - 24LBS CACKLE HILL



GRAHAM FELSTEAD - 12LBS AT SANDWICH LAKES



GREG BOWLES - 43LBS WYLANDS



HAYLEY BOWLER AT LOGGIES



HELENA BALDOCK - 19LBS AT GREENACRES



IAN INGLIS - 22LBS IDEN WOOD



IAN TALBOTT - 29LBS HAWKHURST



JACK SMITH - 79LBS DARENTH LONG LAKE



JACK WATTS - 21LBS ORCHARD PLACE FARM



JAMES COLEMAN - 53LBS STRAWBERRY FIELDS



JORDAN BRIDGEMAN 16 LBS CHEQUERTREE



JUDE EDWARDS - 29LBS AT ELPHICKS



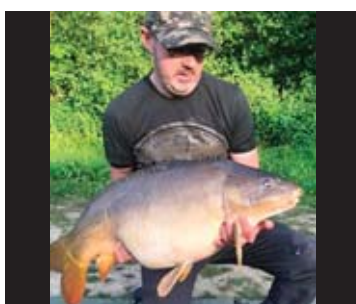
LEE BROCKHURST - 41LBS ELPHICKS



LUL FORCE - 25LBS STONES FISHERY



MARK BOXALL - 35LBS ELPHICKS



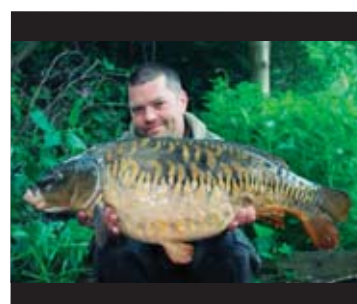
MARTIN GIBBS - 30LBS ELPHICKS



MATTHEW GOOD - 24 LBS SPRINGWOOD FISHERY



MATTY BOWLER AT LOGGIES



MICHAEL WITNEY ROOKFIELD POOL, CRAWLEY



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## Angling Societies



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Senior Membership – £60 + £10 Joining fee  
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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)  
**[www.lintonangling.co.uk](http://www.lintonangling.co.uk)**



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Friendly Angling Club in the heart of Mid-Sussex

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The club has an agreement with Gabriels Fishery near  
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We also have the privilege to fish 3 well stocked lakes  
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*Thank you for taking the time to read this and if you wish  
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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)



### **Hastings Bexhill & District Freshwater Angling Association**

Season runs from 1st April to 31st March.

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

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

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

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

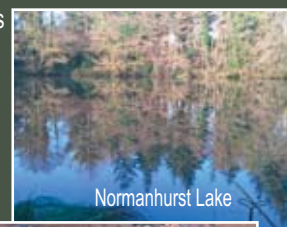
For further information please contact:

**Chris Pagan 07429 655237 Steve Potter 07935 268174**

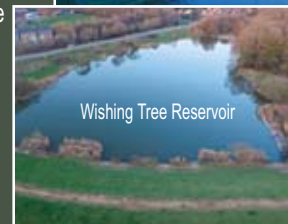
Postal enquiries: S Corke, 2 The Siding, Bexhill-on-Sea TN40 1RF

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

H.B.D.  
F.A.A.



Normanhurst Lake

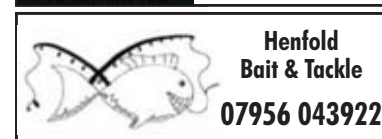


Wishing Tree Reservoir



River Rother

# Junior Informer



Thank you to our  
Junior Informer Sponsors

## Hello and welcome to the July edition of the Junior Informer!

We are now in the middle of summer with fishing at it's peak and the long holidays fast approaching! Last month saw the fishing season open again on the rivers and the recent rain mean that our waterways are in prime condition! If you fancy fishing on a river, you would be well advised to join one of the many great clubs that feature in the Freshwater Informer. Most of them have their own stretches of river where you can enjoy some great fishing in natural surroundings. River fishing is so much different from fishing in lakes, but really enjoyable and offers some different species of fish to catch. You can use the rods and reels that you normally use on lakes along with the same baits, but, there are some different fishing techniques and skills to learn! Perhaps you can ask a parent or family member to take you to the river and show you how to tackle this wonderful form of fishing? You will be glad you did!

Don't forget that wherever you fish, fish care is so important. Always make sure you have an unhooking mat with you and ensure it is nice and wet before placing a fish on it. Always keep it in the shade as they do become extremely hot when left out in the sun and can cause harm to fish. Unhooking mats are not expensive and all tackle shops sell them. A roll up mat only costs a few pounds and can be kept tucked away in the tackle bag until required.

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.

### KEELEY LEADS THE WAY AT EASTBOURNE!

Proud Dad Michael Moule got in touch, over the moon with daughter Keeley's recent success at Eastbourne:



"Hi Barry, we were fishing at Eastbourne recently in a Nomads competition and my daughter Keeley managed 2 smoothhounds, both weighing 4lb 3ozs. Keeley won the competition and also won heaviest round fish. The lengths were 83cm and 85cm. Baits were rag and peeler."

Well done Keeley!

### TIA IS HOOKED!!

Uncle Daniel Terry sent in this great report: "After having a few successful trips to Horsham Lakes at Upchurch with my niece Tia and having a good few first carp, Tia saw herself in the junior section of the Freshwater Informer and is now fully hooked! She was eager to get back out me so my nephew took her back to Horsham. She had her tactics in mind and she wanted to be on a method feeder and try some corn or pellets. After a few successful takes resulting in a few small carp, Tia wanted to upgrade her bait and try closer to a tree so she tried a huge chunk of luncheon meat. She left it and waited patiently and soon after her rod took off from the rest resulting in one of the biggest fish that I've seen from there. She was over the moon and is fully addicted now! A few other smaller carp resulted in a great day for her. Her casting has come a long way and she surprised us with her under arm flicks and accuracy with placing the bait where she wanted it. Tia is looking forward to her next trip and trying her hand with some new tactics she comes up with!"



### DUNGENESS ANGLING ASSOCIATION JUNIORS

Terry Carpenter report on the DAA juniors recent match at Littlestone: "The DAA junior anglers had their June meet at Littlestone on a rather grey and breezy Sunday morning. Eight young fisherfolk caught dogfish and smoothhounds. No whiting turned up but the anglers enjoyed a nice morning's fishing."



# FISHING FOR SCHOOLS

July Update

The school year is coming to an end and it's been another busy term for the F4S Kent team!

Our team – comprising Warren White, Charlie Rayner, Bob Goble David Evans, Kevin Durman, Steve Scrivener and Ian Tucker – have been working with Marshside School, Rowhill School, Meadowfield School and new schools to the programme, the Nexus School from Tonbridge and Learning Opportunities in Deal. They have also started their summer work with various mental health groups – more on that next month

Over the summer our coaches also give their time to various club, college and council-run junior coaching days.

Warren writes: "The young people need outdoor activities to do in the school holidays as many struggle for something to do. I have been contacted on many occasions by parents who want me to take their children on private fishing courses, but because this is about getting young people into fishing, I do not like to charge, so I always guide the parents to the free open days that I am involved with throughout the year.

"We need better access for young people to our local fishing clubs. I have students who start a real interest for fishing on our Cast Award courses with F4S, and they might progress to do an angling qualification. The problem comes when they come to leave school, where do they go from there? For most of our students, who have not all got a father figure around to help, they will probably drift out of fishing.

"You see this again and again with angling coaching days, they grab the young people's attention to fishing, but where does the young angler go from there?

"My answer is to get better ties with my local clubs but it is something that has to be built over time. Last year F4S got exclusive use of one of the members' lakes at the TWAPS club, which was a first for the club and had to be agreed at a club committee meeting. This club is now putting on more junior coaching days.

"Angling clubs historically have not always gone out of their way to attract young people into their clubs, and could have done a lot more, but I think most now realise they need to promote junior angling or who will take over when the old ones have gone?"



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

The temperature is rising and the heat is on. These may be lyrics from 1980s pop songs, but in July they can be very true. Some of the fisheries here in the South East close in hot weather as trout are easily distressed. The water warms to such a degree that it causes oxygen levels to dissipate. This means the fish won't feed and they sink to the lowest levels, lying dormant and trying to survive until a break in the heat when the oxygen rises to a more sustainable level. Not all will make it and any casualties of the heat are a loss to us and especially the fishery owner.

As our climate is changing towards hotter summers, fishery owners are trying to alleviate this problem. One way is to install aerators to create a cooling affect and increase the oxygen level. The bubble lines at Bewl Water reservoir perform this important job.

Coarse fisheries suffer as well, but it seems coarse fish don't stress as much as trout, which are a cold-water species.

In fact, carp seem to love the heat. Even if they are not feeding you will see them basking on the surface. It's always worth a try with an imitation fly (dog biscuit), but only try this if the fishery allows. If you remember, I did touch on this in the April edition of the Informer?

Back to trout. Late evening or early morning will give you the best chance of catching a fish or two. The trout waters that I know will stay open are Bewl Water, Lamberhurst and Springhill Trout Waters at Pembury near Tunbridge Wells.

Bewl can be a daunting place to fish, but there are many bays and promontories to try. Personally, I would go for the late evening from the banks. Try places like Rosemary Lane, Tinkers' Marsh (if there is water as it does tend to dry up!), Dunster's Bay, The Point and the top end of Hook Strait, although this is a bit of a hike. There are also Bramble Point and Bay and Seven Pound Creek, just to name a few.

Springhill Trout Waters, is also a favourite water of mine and is much smaller and more intimate. I've had some spectacular evenings there with sedge (caddis) flies. You may have been there all day and seen nothing but rudd (there are some big

ones in there), then as the evening draws on clouds of sedges appear from the water or crawling and climbing from the flora and take to the air to reproduce and the trout are ready to pounce!

There are too many species to mention but as anglers you only need a few patterns to cover the eventualities. I believe there are more than a couple of hundred species of midges and flies and if you are into entomology you could have a fascinating time looking at them all as they emerge on a summer's evening.

I have included some pictures of the dry sedge, the F-fly and some caddisflies. There are two types of caddisflies, those that build shelters for protection and those that don't (also known as free swimming or caseless caddis). Cased caddis flies construct their tube-like home from whatever is on the bottom of the lake – things like small stones, twigs and reed stems - making a perfectly camouflaged home for this succulent grub. It can be up to a year before they emerge. I have found all manner of detritus, twigs and alder catkins in trout's stomachs after dispatching them, all due to them eating these cased caddisflies.

The caseless caddisfly or free-swimming larvae spends most of its time under stones or rocks, but this species is more likely to be found in fast flowing rivers and streams.

The G@H sedge is a great fly to try during the evening. Though devised for running water is still a great and effective one to cast out onto still water. You can leave it or pull it back to create a wake. It's quite exciting to see a trout bow wave behind your offering and suddenly take it!

The other caddisfly patterns in the picture are all designed to fish deeper to impersonate the cased caddis. Stick flies and hare's ear with beads and some lead in the pattern to get down deep.

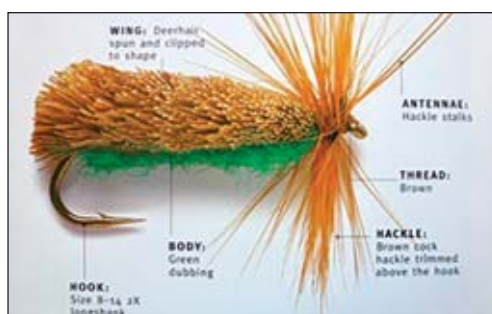
Your usual tackle will do - 9 foot to 9 and a half foot rod, 6-7 weight and fly line accordingly, with a tapered leader to 6-7 lbs.

That's all for now. I hope you enjoy your fishing this month.

**Be safe, but most of all have fun, Bob G.**



A few more patterns!



from 'Catch that Fish' by Peter Gathercole



from 'Catch that Fish' by Peter Gathercole

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## THIS MONTH'S

**WINNERS**

well  
done!



Jack Howe at Gabriels



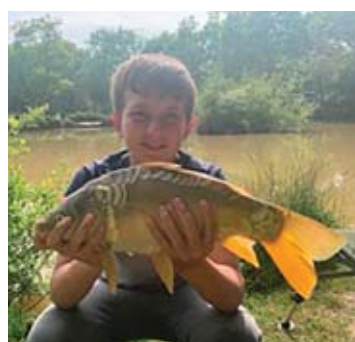
Tyler Lillycrop at Wylands



ALEX TOMLIN AT COOMBEWOOD FISHERY



AMELIA & COLIN ETHERINGTON AT MORE HOUSE FARM



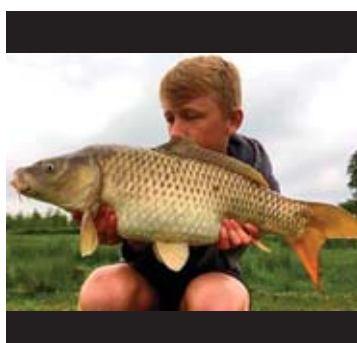
BAILEY AT AMAZON WOODS



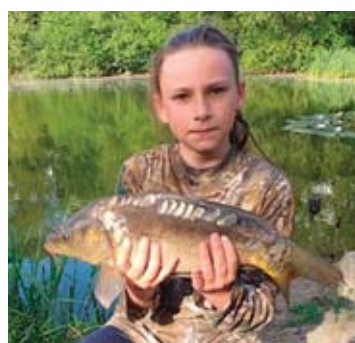
BRANNON COWLEY 12LBS AT COOMBEWOOD



CALLUM BOBBETT 12LBS 8OZS MOUSEHOLE NEW PB



DYLAN LENNARD AT FALKENVIL



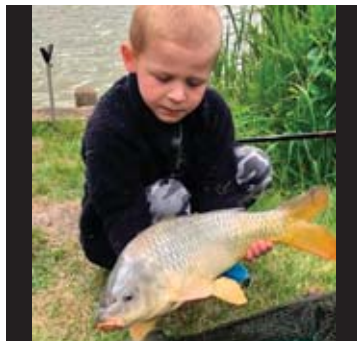
ELISE GRAY OF MEDWAY



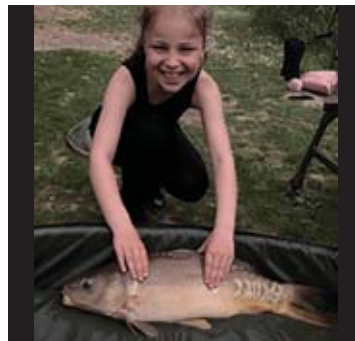
EMILY GRIFFIN AT ELPHICKS



FREDDY BEANEY AT PITTLANDS



GEORGE CLARK



HARRIET GALLAGHER AT PITTLANDS



HARRIETT AT HAWKHURST



HARRY TAYLOR 20LBS AT HARTLEY LANDS



HENRY BOWLER AT CHEQUERTREE FISHERY



HUNTER BLACKLEY



JACK HOWE 28LBS SUSSEX WATER NEW PB



JACK WOOD 38LBS ELPHICKS



JAKE CROWHURST 11LBS NEW PB CROWHURST CLUB LAKE



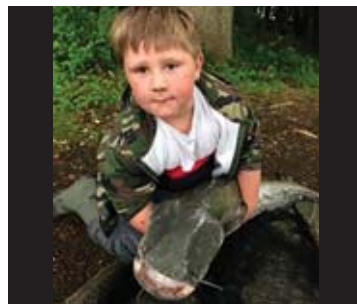
JENSON ADAMS FIRST CATFISH AT HAWKHURST



JESSICA MOORE WITH DAD AND GEORGE



JOSEPH MOORE AT PITTLANDS



JOSHUA DAVENPORT 22LBS AT FRAMFIELD



LEE AND ANGEL PRIOR



LEE AND HARLEY HODD 31LBS AT WYLANDS



LEELA &amp; ROBERT MOORE AT PITTLANDS



LILY - MAE ROCHE



LOUISA ROCHE



MACKENZIE SWANN 14LBS AT COOMBEWOOD



MICHAEL CARR FIRST FISH AT SANDWICH LAKES



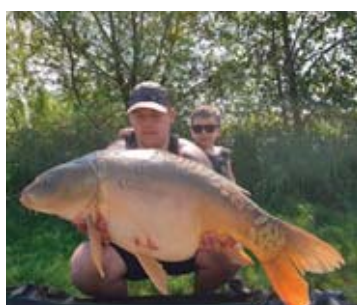
MICHAEL ROCHE AND HARRISON



OLIVER BAILEY 2LBS 10Z CLUB WATER



OLIVIA POPE 15LBS SUSSEX WATER



OSCAR GREEN &amp; OSCAR JUNIOR AT ORCHARD PLACE



OSCAR STEPHENS AT SAMS LAKES



RAHER HARDCASTLE 4LBS LONGSHAW LAKES



RILEY ESSERY 21LBS SUSSEX WATER



RYAN LEE AT WISHING TREE



TALLULLAH THOMAS 12LBS SUMNERS PONDS



## TOP TIME AT CACKLE HILL LAKES!



Kelly Inglis-Crush sent in this report of an event she ran at Cackle Hill Lakes recently:

"We ran a little competition on the top lake at Cackle Hill speci 2 for husbands and wives and dads and kids. Top prize was 2 x Top Cat rods donated by Catfish Pro and also a whole heap of Munch Baits. Top fish went to Keith and his son taking top prize with a catfish at 38lbs and a carp at 36.6lbs. Then Lloyd and his daughter Olivia taking 2nd place with 2 cats at 27lbs and 24.8lbs. It was also about learning water craft, different species and methods of fishing. Great weekend was had by all." Kelly sent us these photos from the weekend!





# River Informer

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OPEN  
7 DAYS  
A WEEK

## Welcome to the River Informer!

The new season is here and all those months of anticipation and waiting are over! The Opening Day was literally the day before this month's magazine deadline day, but, I did receive a few reports on the Facebook page from anglers who were out on the region's banks. Don't forget to send me your river reports and news! This section was only started at the beginning of the year so has not been fully 'road tested' yet! I am hoping you will change that!

## YOUR CATCH REPORTS



James Clifton 5lbs 12ozs River Beult



Karl Curtis with a chub from the Rother



Robert Houliston First river carp at 18lbs



Jacob Green Brown trout

## Early season success for Colin!

Colin Etherington sent in this early season report: "I had this lovely chub the other evening just as the light was fading from the Sussex Ouse. It gave a very vicious bite while using 3 Foot Twitch 14mm pellets. On the scales she went 4lb 5oz and was a spawned out fish ... I went home happy! Earlier that week, I also had an absolutely mint bream, again from the Sussex Ouse. The barbel have just finished spawning and it won't be long before I hook into one, hopefully! I took Amelia and Stanny Manny for an hour on the whip at a Haywards Heath club water. They had terrific fun and had a mixed bag of roach, rudd & perch. Kids are the future of angling and it's so much more fun than being in front of the TV on such a glorious day!!"



4lbs 5ozs chub



Mint bream!



Stanny & Amelia

## THE GOLDEN YEARS OF COARSE FISHING *by Bob Rolph* The Brooklands connection 1964-1966 (Part One)

**M**ost of us old Kentish carp and coarse fishermen from the 1960s fished at Brooklands Lake at Dartford at one time or another during their formative years. It was very much the 'in' place to go in those days, with the chance of a 20 lb fish for the relatively cheap D.A.D.A.P.S. ticket, well worth the money. I was no exception.

The old pit was in two halves with a causeway between, sited on the banks of the River Darent was originally in the eighteenth century the site of an old gunpowder mill which always needed water power for the production of explosives and has been the mainstay of the Dartford Angling club since 1931. More research into these old gunpowder mills and furnace ponds, sometimes called hammer ponds, in Kent and Sussex is something that I intend to do soon.

I have always been fascinated by estate lakes, hammer ponds and mills, which can be traced back to the Tudor and Stuart iron industry of between 1485 and 1714. To think that we are still fishing in such ancient waters, 400 years later, takes some getting round and that there are at least three surviving furnace ponds in Kent and a few more in Sussex. We all remember the great Perch that came out of the Furnace Pond at Horsmonden in the 1980s and the great Trout fishing once to be had at Bayham Lake near Tunbridge Wells in the early years of specimen hunting.

Dear Roger Standen once took me to fish for carp at the mill pond at Powdermill at Battle, and the trout fishing at the Powdermill Reservoir near Sedlescombe is of course legendary in May for the Mayfly hatch.

However, it was the carp fishing 50-60 years ago that I want to talk about this month, even if I was not the most successful of many others in that field. Freshwater Informer correspondent, Bob Morris, and his friends from the Dartford area were the kids in those days, but others of us from the Bromley region of Kent fishing Keston Ponds were also fishing Brooklands at the time with some degree of success. There were at least 3 groups of young aspiring carp anglers, all trying to outwit each other, and the fish, in the mid 1960s at this most taxing of fishing waters. In 1951 the lake was stocked with 500 Leney strain mirror carp, to complement heavy stocking also by the old Kent River Board, who had a programme of stocking the flooded gravel pits of Kent with up to 80,000 fingerling carp. Horton Kirby benefited most by this mass stocking programme, along with Sutton, and many of the Faversham and Snodland lakes.

Many future well know carp anglers learned their 'trade' at Brooklands lake, including Gerry Savage, Bob Morris, John Merriman, Paul Snett, Ken Rowley, Steve Edwards, Keith Dickens, Dave Rudd and Pete Bradley, Ron Gould, Ron Blackmore, Bob Buteux, Chris Haswell, & Jim Gibbinson to name but a few. Other names I never met were the Miller brothers, Ian Challis, Robin Monday and a Mr Llewelyn who all took a part in this great historic carp decade of fifty years ago! I spent too much time chasing around the country in search of catfish, tench and eels to be at all successful with the carp of Brooklands Lake, but one member of my group, Grahame Igglesden from Blackheath, formed a friendship here that was to propel him to the top of the carp fishing tree for a while in 1967.

During the summer of 1964, I fished a lot at Brooklands, travelling there from Bromley in my newly acquired A35 van, and collecting young aspiring carp anglers who had yet to pass their driving tests!. We all fished mainly mid-week nights and early mornings from the Cinder bank, Ashes and Baldwin's and from the causeway, catching many low double figure mirrors on balanced paste and spuds!



Bob with 12lbs Brooklands mirror

This was long before Fred Wilton had even seen a carp!!! The riverside bank was a nightmare, I seem to recall, for snagged tackle on the submerged remains of a framework used during the war to cover the lake with camouflaged netting. I lost so many fish in this spot that I moved round to the bay on the other side, where baits

could be cast to a shallow submerged bank 60 yards out. This was also Gerry Savage's favourite spot, so I didn't get it very often. Gerry had fish to 26 lb 8ozs in June 1966, quite a fish in those early years. My catches were fairly frugal, I never concentrated for long enough on one water at a time, but went off in search of other species too often! Then the Reservoir Trout bug caught me when Bewl opened in 1978! But that is another story, for later in this series!

Anyway in 1964, 3 anglers from Hertfordshire used to arrive in the middle of the night in their old navy



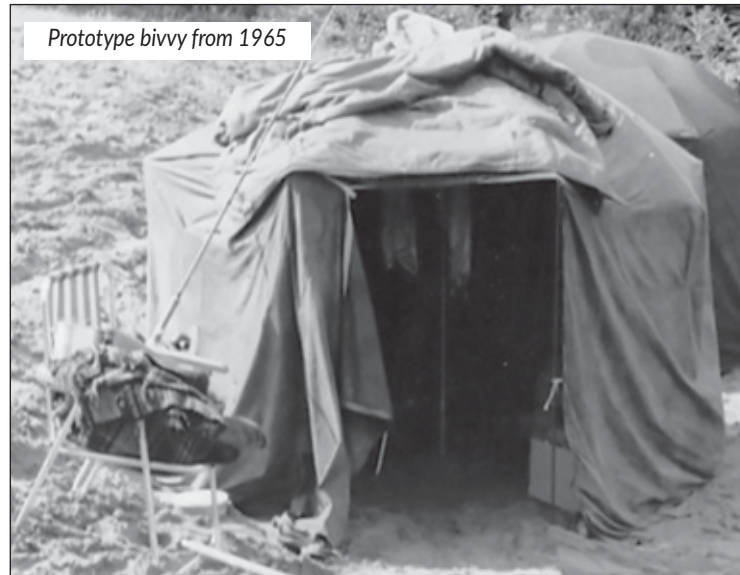
Bob with Brooklands mirror

Prototype bivvy from 1964

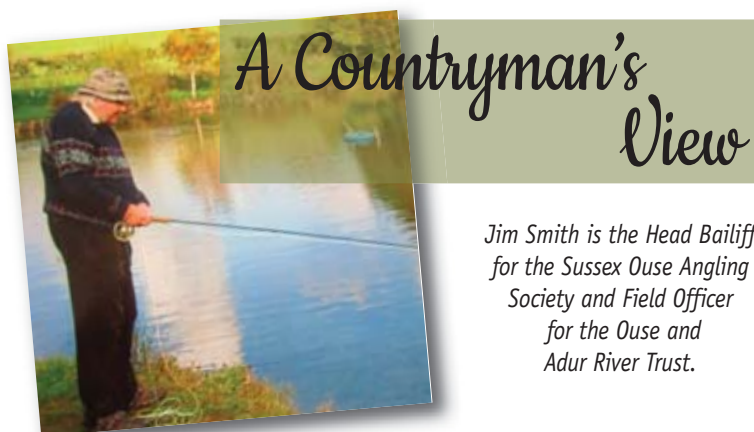


blue transit van, and park as quietly as they could on the old cinder bank, removing from the van rods, already made up, and make their way to the causeway pitches which divides the two lakes. These 3 characters from Hoddesdon had made the 50 mile journey down, under the newly opened Dartford Tunnel, before work each day, to tackle the notorious carp of Brooklands Lake. These 3 blokes used to fascinate young Grahame Igglesden, who got talking to them one morning after witnessing the leader Jack, land a 14 lb mirror right next to his fruitless swim. Grahame who was only 17 at the time, had come down with me, but was much more interested in what these other guys were doing, rather than continue a fruitless session with a useless carp angler like myself!

Prototype bivvy from 1965



*The Brooklands Connection will be continued next month!*



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

***"It's still dark when I awake early one morning, but, a blackbird is singing from his perch on a large Thornbush at the bottom of the garden. Even though it's only 3.45am, I am wide awake so I decide to take a walk to listen to the Dawn Chorus, so it's boots on and as dawn breaks I am heading towards the Ouse Valley, which is close to home.***



Blackbird singing

I find somewhere to sit on the river bank and look around at the countryside in all it's verdant green glory. The trees are now, in my opinion, at their finest, bursting with hope and new life. The air is filled with birdsong and as the daylight makes it's appearance, a mist rises from the valley floor. I sit quietly and marvel at what is unfolding in front of me. There is a pair of 'fishermen' stalking in the margins of a wet area, indeed these are expert fishermen being a pair of herons. After a while, they decide to try their luck elsewhere and fly off squawking their protest at being fishless. A thrush has been luckier finding his breakfast in the

form of a snail in among some ivy wrapped around the stonework of an old bridge.

It's now 4.50am and fully light and a pair of kingfishers whizz by in a hurry. The thrush has found another snail and a nest of young blue tits are calling for food from a hole high up in an old tree. There is a commotion high above me and as I gaze skywards with my binoculars I witness a group of crows mobbing a passing osprey as it flies northwards along the Ouse Valley. Through the glasses, I watch a fox hunting along a far hedgerow eagerly seeking a meal. Anyone interested in the countryside's wildlife would be well advised to invest in a pair of binoculars and sit quietly and enjoy the show!

As I make my way along the river bank, the may flies are hatching, but, not in the

numbers that I have seen in the past. I thought that I had disturbed a group of roach and dace who dive for cover, but, on closer inspection I noticed a pike laying motionless a short distance away, no doubt thinking about his next meal. I also spotted a large golden orfe, no doubt released by someone who no longer wanted it in their garden pond. As I approach Barcombe, a lone sentinel in the shape of a cormorant stands and watches me and soon this 'out of season fisherman' departs towards the coast.

Given the time of year, the river flow is low and the surrounding land is very dry, not a good sign, especially if we witness a similar long dry summer as last year. A couple of carp are moving around quite briskly, with spawning no doubt on their minds. On the next bend of the river a pair of swans are nesting and then I see the remnants of humanity lying on the ground! A carrier bag with empty wine bottles along with smoked salmon packaging have been left where their diners 'enjoyed' their meal/ I clear up the litter and ask myself 'Why'? I can only put it down to ignorance!

Not far from this spot a wooden weir once stood and us local boys from Barcombe and Isfield used to fish there. Some still do, but, sadly many local village families have passed away. This stretch used to produce a lot of pike and chub as well as an odd sea trout. We used to sit on the landing stage and the owner used to serve cups of tea and home made cake! Much work has since taken place on the river since those days with an automatic sluice gate being installed. The design of which is based upon the gates at Yalding on the Medway. This engineering changed the way the river fished and it never was the same as when us lads from the parishes of Barcombe and Isfield used to fish it. Many years ago the trains used to stop here and drop off water to the crossing keeper's house as there was no mains water here at that time!



Osprey

The buttercups and dandelions are making a grand show in the waterside meadows and there are a number of scrapes where badgers have been digging for worms, however, the ground is so dry to dig very deep. I see a pair of lapwings calling out. These birds used to be a common sight on agricultural land, but the increase in predators has seen a lot of chicks lost, many no doubt to a lone buzzard that I see. The valley has also seen a huge decrease in the number of house martins and swallows. The few pairs that I saw seem to be struggling to find enough wet mud to construct their nests. As a bonus, I hear my first cuckoo of the season! I had hoped to hear a nightingale, but, was disappointed on this day, however the following morning my luck was in!



Cowslips

pollution affects the watercourses. The fines levied out must be reinvested back in to our waterways and not end up in Government's coffers! As I have mentioned in previous articles, our region is a water starved area but still the unending development continues!

One bright Sunday morning, I enjoy a walk along the river in the warm sunshine. Although the river is low and clear there are quite a few fish moving about near the surface. Some chub and carp are happily swimming around some lily pads and all is looking good for the start of another proper river season on June 16th. The buzzards are feeding over some newly cut grass and are joined by a red kite that I often see. My main worry at the moment is that, as everything is so dry, a sudden thunderstorm and downpour will see water run off at an incredible rate and overwhelm the sewage works which will be unable to cope with such a surge of water and may cause problems. If you ever see anything which you feel does not appear to be right, please inform the E.A, the number is on our rod licences. Us anglers are the guardians of the river systems so we must at all times be on our guard to defend our precious waters. The only thing we should leave on the banks are our footprints and take nothing but memories!

I had a call from a concerned angler the other week who wanted to inform me of a possible pollution incident on the river. I went to investigate and thankfully the angler had only witnessed an amount of tree pollen on the river surface. However, best to be safe than sorry!



Bluebell railway

This Spring has seen a wonderful display of wild flowers. The red Campions on a tributary and cowslips in an untouched meadow have all been magnificent. These along with Horse Daisies and a bright white bush are attracting all manner of wildlife. I spot some yellow weasel and common bugle bluebells going over some wild orchid. Not far from this natural habitat is a housing estate being built which will make even more demands on the ever decreasing water supply. We must all, especially as anglers, keep the pressure on the authorities, especially when

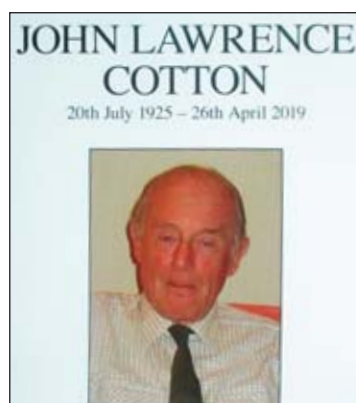


The Ouse by Bernard Venables

In my fifty years as a River Keeper on the Ouse I have known it to be fished by some famous fishermen, including the late Bernard Venables. He makes reference to the Ouse and it's sea trout in a number of his books as does local legend Gordon Vinnell of Isfield, whose book is proudly in my collection.

Finally, I would like to dedicate this article to the late John Lawrence Cotton who was the Hon. Secretary of the Ouse Angling Preservation Society and as such was my boss for many years, many happy years! So much time was spent in his company on and off the River Ouse. John passed away peacefully at home and his funeral took place on the 28th May 2019. Many fond memories and dearly missed.

Cheerio for now, Jim



The Sea Trout – a favourite of John

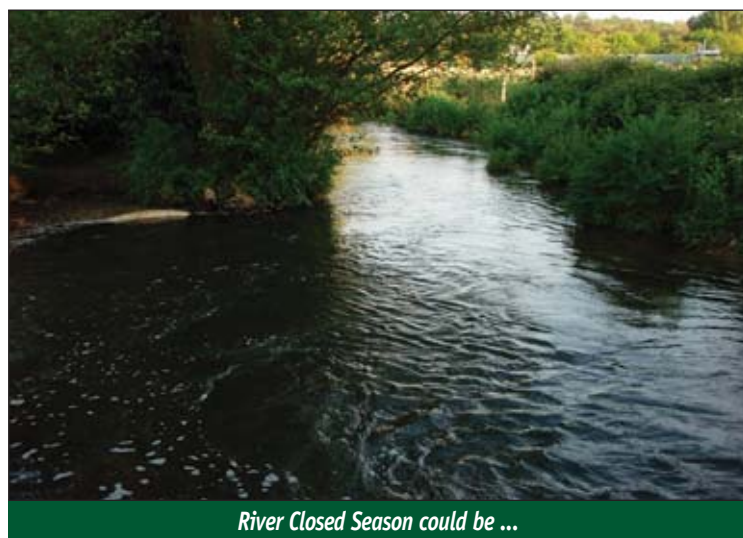


*I always try to get out on the riverbank for the opening of the new season, which usually means doing the first night somewhere on the Medway. Unfortunately, this year's events have conspired against me and I was not able to put in an appearance until the second evening. First sessions can be disappointing and so I try to be realistic about my prospects. Nevertheless, optimism has a way of taking over and we all like to dream about hooking the mother of all fish. This 16th however, was also Father's Day and as we know, in the fish world, the dads are often a lot smaller than the mums!*



Size unimportant

*As I have been saying though, it is not always about the size and so I was completely happy to settle for a couple of moderately sized chub and a low double figure carp as my opening gambit - as it was just a pure delight to be out at the riverside again. Kingfishers zoomed past, warblers warbled and Owls hooted - while the odd swirl from a decent fish, close to my baits, kept my interest, at least, half focused on the water. Heavy rain during the week prior had ensured that the river was in good condition after a relatively dry spell and I am now really looking forward to a few more sessions in the coming weeks. I have no targets set for myself - other than just pure enjoyment.*



River Closed Season could be ...

*Talking of the Closed Season though, it has been much in the news recently with a national survey being carried out by the EA in order to get an indication whether the majority are in favour of scrapping it altogether, changing/extending it etc. We all know that it would be almost impossible to cover the whole period that coarse fish are likely to spawn - without closing for four months or more, which I assume would be unacceptable to most anglers? The jury is still out on this issue. Whenever I have been involved in a debate about this closure, other factors have been discussed, such as the likelihood of poaching*

*and other skulduggery being reduced by the presence of anglers and also, on the other side of the argument, the need for venues to have a complete break from angling pressure to give the fish, wildlife and bankside vegetation a chance to recover. I tend to lean toward the latter point of view, as I prefer to see a more natural looking environment. I certainly feel that on many club waters and private fisheries the fish are subjected to far too much pressure over a twelve month period. Arguably, if you are running a commercial fishery and want to get the maximum profit from the venture, then a break is probably a bad idea, unless you have several waters and can rotate them.*



Early season barbel

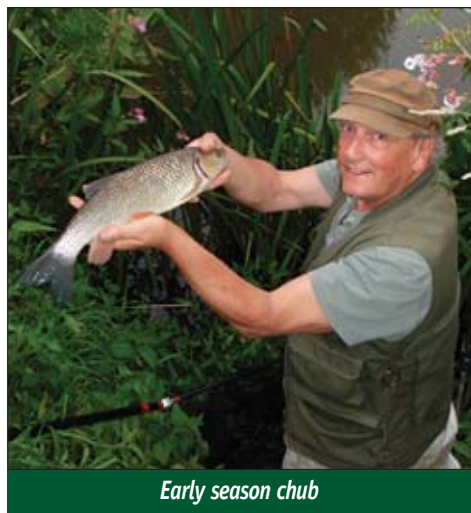
*As far as Angling Clubs are concerned, I support the principal that they should be allowed to arrange their own closure period - although imposing a new one or changing an existing closed season does constitute a major change in policy which should, I believe, therefore only be done after consulting the whole membership on the issue. Personally, I believe that the river closure is a good thing to keep, although as fish can often be seen still spawning at this time of the year, changing it to cover the whole of April, May and June could be a better option. Something that always puzzles me is the 'angling' and in particular 'speci -type' attitude toward spawning fish. It seems to be*



Is it just carp that need protecting?

quite proper to fish for pike during their spawning period of Feb/March (as that is when the females are at their heaviest) and also I know of waters where anglers who fish for big tench actually stop fishing at this time of year - as the tench have lost weight due to having just spawned. This does not make any sense to me at all. It often seems that it is only really carp that command this sort of respect and deserve protection so why is this?

On a different subject, I find that my fishing time overall is more limited at the moment due to various factors on the domestic side - grandfather duties being one comparatively new addition. While I am still trying to run a business (albeit a small one) and conduct other activities such as attending various meetings/functions both piscatorial and otherwise, it does start to impact on my two days a week minimum requirement on the angling front. I also like to do other things such as walking, bird spotting, reading and, of course, writing -



Early season chub

which I am doing less of these days - this column being the exception. I was not really expecting to be quite so tied up at this stage in my life - there used to be this thing called retirement!!! This is not really a serious complaint, but I am thinking that I may have to make one or two small adjustments to my lifestyle.

*Best Fishes & Adjustments*  
Bob Morris

# PINIONS



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## Tenterden Trout Waters Tenterden, Kent

May & June have been good months for fishing at Tenterden and we have been pleased that we have not had the searing heat of last year to contend with which caused many Fisheries enormous problems. The weather conditions have been helpful with the rainfall keeping our water levels high and the Trout have been performing well being about 3-4 feet under the surface, Montana, Damsels, Black Buzzers and Cat Whisker have been working well.

We hosted our Trout Masters Competition on the 19 May and Keith Richardson won with a bag weight of 19 ½ lbs comprising an unusual Silver Brownie. Congratulations and thanks to all our anglers who participated. Fishing was good and so was the weather and we all enjoyed the day. We have been stocking some quality Brownies and it has been nice to see quite a few being caught recently. Clive Pettifer caught a 4lbs 12 oz on a Cats Whisker on Lake 3. We are happy for our anglers to take Brownies if they do catch them apart from Boris who is 9lbs+ in Lake 3. He is our Trophy Brownie and catch and release only!

**We shall be closed for Summer on the 21 July at 9pm and we shall re-open at 8.20am on the 24 August with fully stocked lakes which is the late August Bank Holiday weekend.**

We have just re-stocked the Lakes for our final month and it's a great time of year to be out and about fishing and we look forward to welcoming you to our Fishery set in picturesque surroundings. It is always good to receive feedback and our Google reviews have been positive and helpful, our new Fishing Lodge has been well received by our Anglers.

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 wish all our Anglers a great Summer.

*Tight Lines – Gaynor, Richard & Audrey*



Emma with a super rainbow!



Clive Pettifer - 4lbs 12ozs brown



Keith Richardson  
Winner of our Trout Masters 2018 - 2019



Simon Topley with 4 beautiful rainbows

## Chalk Springs Arundel, West Sussex



Paddy Hill



Pete Button



Sam Mott



Tony Harrison

The fishing continues to be excellent, even on the hotter days. The spring water helps to keep the lakes cool throughout the hot weather, so hopefully the fish remain nice and active. If the sun is out and there is no wind, then the fish will go a bit deeper. The mayflies are all but finished now, although one or two are still hatching here and there. The usual flies are working well - damsels, pheasant-tails and buzzers are particularly effective. A few fish coming out on dries too, especially daddy longlegs and olives. Over the past few weeks, white flies have been used to good effect as well.

The annual Summer Invitation Cup was held at the beginning of June. Running since 1994, it was well supported as usual - thanks to those who made the effort! The fishing was excellent from the word go, with many fishermen bagging-up before lunch. There were even a few mayflies coming off the water.

After the barbecue lunch, the fishing continued into the afternoon until the 3 o'clock weigh-in. Ron Ransley and Tony Harrison were crowned this years winner with 16lb 2oz for their 6 fish. Plenty of cracking fish were caught, with an average size of nearly 3lb.

As always, pre-booking is recommended and check out the weekly updates on our website [www.chalksprings.com](http://www.chalksprings.com)

*Tight lines. Darren and Ally*



Invitation Cup Winners - Ron Ransley and Tony Harrison



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## Extremadura - return to barbel heaven

As regular readers will know, I love lure fishing and fly fishing equally, they are the methods I enjoy the most and I employ them whenever possible to catch a variety of species. I've been fortunate enough to catch several freshwater fish over the magical 100lb mark so I'm no longer motivated to catch big fish unless they fall to methods I enjoy using. Nowadays, my choice of venues and species of fish revolves around giving me the opportunity to use my absolute favourite methods, i.e. dry fly fishing or jig fishing.

### Surface action

What could be better than catching fish off the surface? Whether it's surface lure fishing for Bass or Pike, seeing predators smash into lures is such an adrenaline rush! Dry fly fishing for Trout, Carp or Spanish Barbel is more sedate but still equally as exciting. Imagine watching fish picking morsels of food off the surface, before carefully casting your fly to intercept them. If you've not experienced catching fish off the surface I urge you to try, it's so much FUN!

Fishing in Spain is another of my passions; I've been traveling there for close on 20 years. At first, it was in pursuit of Catfish on the mighty river Ebro in the company of James Gardner and our Catfish guru friend, Luke Moffat. For a few years James and I became obsessed with Catfish, but once you've caught as many as we did, the newness wears off and the urge to move on becomes irresistible. That was not before we sampled the untapped Carp and Zander fishing the river had to offer at that time.

### Barbel

I've just returned from a short four day trip to Extremadura Spain, dry fly fishing for Spanish Barbel. My companion on this occasion was Mark Bryant, one of the "Four Amigos". We were fishing a huge reservoir, one we've visited on several occasions. Our recent trips there have been in the autumn, but, algae had proved a major problem and had totally ruined our last trip. So, we decided a Spring trip was in order to avoid the "green stuff", thankfully there was no algae present but the fishing was still rather tricky. We struggled to find good numbers of fish in the margins; possibly they were elsewhere, still spawning?



Spanish Barbel

### Method

We were fishing from the bank, no boats on this brief trip so we had to walk the banks searching for feeding Barbel in the shallow, crystal clear water. Aided by the bright sunlight spotting fish wasn't a problem, although distinguishing Barbel from Carp was! Avoiding spooking the Barbel proved very difficult too as we found they were very aware of our presence, especially if we tried to fish too early in the day. Typically, we'd arrive at the reservoir at 11am, sometimes even later, allowing the Barbel to settle and start feeding, they're less spooky then. Perfect holiday fishing for those who prefer a leisurely start to the day! We'd trek the whole bank and we aimed to fish before approaching the water's edge and then starting fishing, working our way back to the car. We normally take it in turns to fish, one goes ahead while the other follows, sometimes spotting fish or taking pictures, but, generally enjoying watching things unfold. In this relaxed manner we both get to savour the action and can reminisce about the successes and failures of the day and try to work out how we can improve our presentation in the future. As soon as a fish is

caught, the second angler takes over, on this occasion with the lack of fish available we decided to change over every 30 minutes or when a fish was caught, whichever came first. This gives each angler the chance to cover new water and fresh fish as we walked the vast shoreline.

The going was tough, 30 °C and no shade! The water level was down to 53% of capacity, so any shade was several hundred meters from the shore. It's hard going, walking several miles a day over uneven ground, rocks, pebbles and sometimes soft sand but the rewards make it all worthwhile.

The fish were so spooky that we adopted a tactic that saw us wading out into the reservoir and casting back towards the shallows. By doing this we were less visible, no longer being on the skyline we were able to get much closer to the fish. The downside was being so much lower down we were unable to see the fish as well as when we were on the bank. The following angler now became the wading angler's eyes, often walking on higher ground to help spot fish and direct him into position before the fish were aware of his presence.

### It's all about the deception

To catch your Barbel you have to cast your fly into a small target area about the size of a tea cup; you see the fish are in such shallow water that their field of vision is very narrow. We've found that by cutting our leader down to as little as 5ft helps to turn our fly over and improve our accuracy which is essential.

The problem is the wind often sends the fly into unexpected places, so being able to see your fly at all times is paramount, as that's what you're aiming with. Sometimes your fly lands where you're not expecting, so now you're frantically searching the surface for it while trying to keep half an eye on the fish, hoping your fly is within its field of vision, even if it's not in yours! We add high visibility foam or fluorescent floss to our flies to help us see them. Sometimes however, the fly lands on its side, or in an effort to force our cast against the wind we might drive our fly beneath the surface and it's not buoyant enough to resurface and so becomes invisible to us. So when eventually you see a Barbel lift off the bottom and sip in your 'Bob's Beetle' it's a mini victory, to be celebrated and relived with your companion!



Bob's Beetle works again, the pink floss aids visibility

### Do they fight?

Once hooked, you have to hope that nothing stops your line flying off the reel. Any line around your feet or reel, or tangles that stop the line flowing out through the rod at this point will see your leader "pop" like a cork! These "wild fish" have never felt a hook before so when they do they head for the horizon at break neck speed. In the warm shallow water there's no stopping these fish on their first run, just let them go and enjoy the next few moments, before you start panicking, wondering if they're heading for some unseen snag. It's not unusual for a full 30 yard fly line plus 20, 30 or even 40 yards of backing to shoot off your reel as well on their initial run! The battle isn't over then as a Barbel rarely gives up without further long powerful runs accompanied by severe head shaking. The fish may not be huge, maybe 6lb or 7lb, measuring 24" [60cm] but it doesn't matter as they fight well above their weight.

**DAY 1** We arrived on the North shore of the reservoir, by a water tower, a popular feature for the few local anglers we see. The Spanish anglers are happy float fishing or legering catching anything that comes their way, they simply enjoy "shooting the breeze" with their friends while enjoying a relaxed day by the water.

We were relieved that the water was clear, so we started stalking the bank. Mark was on "point" and he quickly hooked, but, unfortunately lost his first fish. Although disappointing, it was, however, very encouraging too. An hour or so later after walking a couple of miles of shoreline we were still waiting to open our account. What to do next? Should we continue here and hope we stumble on some feeding fish or get back in the car and drive to the South shore hoping things would be better there? We opted to change location, retracing our steps quickly, we jumped in the car and drove to a large bay on the South shore.

This new area was less steep which made walking far easier and as a bonus there were a lot more Barbel there. Despite being mid-afternoon, the fish were still very twitchy and we were still fishless, so we were getting rather twitchy too. I was on "point" by now, but, as time was running short we agreed to separate, so we could both fish. Mark left me two large bays and went on ahead in an effort to find some fresh fish. I very cautiously stalked the bank like a Heron, as soon as I saw a Barbel I sat on the bank trying to be less conspicuous, before attempting to cast. I hooked my first Barbel "at last", only for the hook to snap! It was an old fly that had obviously been weakened by corrosion, "Andy nil, Barbel one"! I tied on a new fly; one Gary Collins had tied for me which sported a pink foam back which showed up perfectly. I repeated the procedure,

For expert service and advice visit Andy's shop The Friendly Fisherman in Tunbridge Wells [TN1 2PS] for a huge variety of freshwater, fly & lure tackle.  
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spotted a fish, sat down, cast perfectly for once and the Barbel sipped down the fly! Game on, the fish shot out of the margins across the bay. I could see a tree about 50 yards to my right, well away from my fish thankfully when suddenly everything goes solid! I'm no longer in direct contact with my fish, I slacken off but nothing happens. I'd hoped the fish would free itself by swimming out of the snag but I'm not so lucky, doh! I point my rod at the snag and my leader breaks off at the fly line, "Andy nil Barbel two"!

After these disasters, I finally manage three fish, creeping along the bank and finally taking to the water. By wading, I was off the skyline and hidden from the fish so I could approach them unseen. When I caught up with Mark, he'd been more successful having bagged six fish, so we were both relieved to have avoided a blank!

**DAY 2** The lack of fish and their behaviour had us both puzzled. We decided to fish an area we call "Atlantis" due to the flooded farm buildings there. We walked through the woods, a long way away from the water's edge so we weren't tempted to start fishing too early. We walked for over an hour to reach a distant bay that covers several hundred acres, it's vast. The margins were mainly populated with Carp, which outnumbered the Barbel 20 maybe 30 to 1. The Carp had no desire to take our flies, plus they spooked as soon as we approached them, which alerted the Barbel to our presence. We had to keep well away from the water's edge to avoid this and by keeping to the higher ground we were able to spot Barbel well before they knew we were there. As soon as we saw a Barbel we'd creep down the bank and wade out into the water before positioning ourselves within casting distance. It was slow going but, at least we had plenty of water ahead of us, so we were content to carry on in this manner!

We finally exited the large bay, rounding a peninsula; there was a flooded gravel track here where a group of Barbel were foraging among the stones. They were lined up, side by side across the wind, with their backs out of the water, it was that shallow! Mark was on "point" so he had an easy target; the bar was downwind, which made accurate casting easy too. A few casts and the inevitable happens, Mark expertly hooks a lively fish, what a relief. My turn next and it only takes a few moments before I hook into a fish too. The next "mini" bay gives us another couple of fish each before we come up against an obstacle, a flock of sheep. Out here the Sheep are usually guarded by huge mountain dogs, to keep wild Boar and Wolves away, these dogs are very intimidating when they start to approach you baring their teeth. We were very wary as we couldn't see a guard dog anywhere! There were however, a few cattle, which included a very aggressive looking bull. We decided to give them all a wide berth because running wasn't an option! The ground was littered with large rocks. We finally got a safe distance from the animals and resumed fishing. The shore was very shallow here so we now had to take to the water and wade, the wind was blowing onto the bank which aided our presentation. We caught a few more fish at regular intervals which was such a treat after the struggle we'd endured up until now. We proceeded along the bank taking turns, everything was working so smoothly now, it couldn't last could it? It didn't, at around 6pm something changed and the fish suddenly became very wary again. It didn't matter what we did they spooked off before we could fire our fly towards them. We hadn't covered all of the bank nor the broken ground and building around "Atlantis", so it looked like we could return the next day.



Mark Bryant bends into a crouch heading for Portugal



Plenty of space to explore

**DAY 3** Back to "Atlantis" and we walked through the woods again, but, not as far as the previous day, thank goodness. We proceeded to wade and cast to feeding fish, they were obliging, never easy but catchable all the same if you placed your fly on the money. We reached "Atlantis" finally, but, to our disappointment the Barbel appeared to be absent!

As we finished earlier than expected, we decided to scope out a couple of nearby locations with a view to fishing them on our final day. The low water had left many areas high on unfishable, one of our favorite spots, "redemption bay" required a yomp of several hundred yards to reach the water's edge and this was over the most difficult surface littered with stones, rocks and thick vegetation. We had to consider our last day's location carefully.

**DAY 4** We had decided to fish an area we call the "graveyard". We drove down a dirt track, through an orchard, that leads to a small grassy bay where we left the car. We then trekked for an hour over a rocky headland and through a sandy gully and beach that was overgrown with "wild" Barley and some creeper type plants; it was hard going in the heat, thank goodness for our canteens of water, an essential bit of kit.

We finally reached our destination, the headland opposite a large island. This left a massive amount of sandy shore to fish as we worked our way back to the car. Only one problem, where were the Barbel? We quickly walked the shore searching for signs of fish, any fish! We were in a bit of a panic by now as we could only see an occasional lone Barbel, even the Carp were thin on the ground. We decided that we were wasting our time here, so where next? We quickly return to the car and drive to another area we call the "Golf Course". It's close by but it's hardly any better, where were the Barbel? Time was running out, it's nearly 2pm and we knew that it'll be over by 6pm, if not earlier. So we hit the road again and drive to the other end of the reservoir, 40 minutes later via the motorway, we arrived at our last location.

Mark's on "point" but it's looking like we've blown out! Half an hour passes and it's now my turn on "point", the only Barbel I could see was in deeper water with its head down and its tail waving from side to side, tailing as it foraged for tiny items of food on the sandy bottom. While I stand, waiting, hoping for a target fish to arrive, I repeatedly cast my fly directly above this tailing fish. I made sure my fly landed heavily on the surface each time, as sometimes the disturbance this makes can induce a take. Well, after about a dozen casts, to my surprise, that's exactly what happened! The Barbel slowly lifted off the bottom and rose, ever so slowly, up through the water, finally rolling over my foam beetle! Wow, I was elated after such a struggle, a fish at last! Mark scratched his head, "you lucky sod" or something like that. His turn was next but he was not so lucky. After another half an hour I was on "point" again. Only one Barbel was in sight and it was facing away from me so I could not get into position without it seeing me. The wind was behind me so I had no excuses not to put it on its nose. Fortunately, I did put it on the money and it just lifted up and took it, "simples"! Why couldn't it always be that easy? Mark was starting to doubt his chances and struggled to find a fish that would accept his fly. I was on "point" again and I fluked another fish that was eating in the slightly deeper water, tailing. When your luck's in, your confidence grows and anything's possible. Mark was on "point" again, far quicker than he'd hoped but he went ahead while I tried to catch another deep water fish, cocky or what? I saw Mark disappear around yet another point, into yet another bay, but I was just too tired to follow. I left him to it; I decided to slowly walk back to the car. I knew it was rude, I should have told him I was going back, but it seemed too much effort to go and tell him. Besides if I trode carefully enough, I might just get another chance of a fish! That didn't happen, but thankfully Mark's persistence paid off and he bagged his biggest fish of the trip, a just reward for his diligence.



Unspoiled, as far as the eye can see

And so ends another Spanish trip, it was difficult but very enjoyable. We're already thinking about an Autumn trip, this time to another reservoir and we haven't even packed yet!

*Til' next month, tight lines - Andy Lush*

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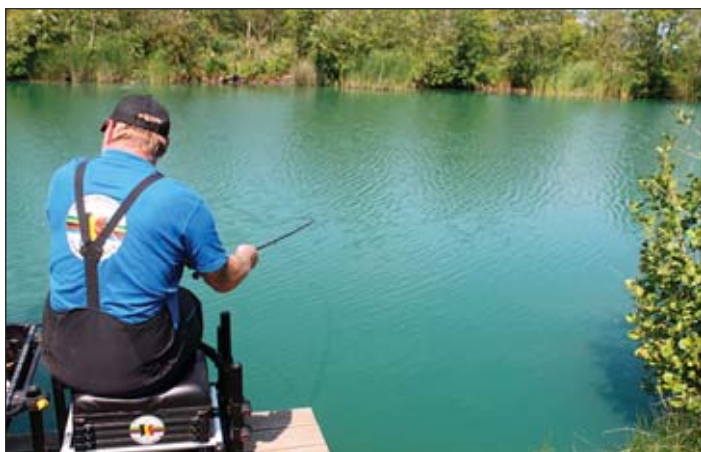


For details contact Andy Lush on 01892 528677

# METHOD FEEDER FISHING AT SANDWICH LAKES BY ANDY PHELPS



Today, I am at the Sandwich lakes fishery near Ash, Kent to try out some new bits of kit and put them through their paces. After having a delicious breakfast on site, it was time to get down to some fishing. I fancied testing the Middy 4GS Distance Baggin Feeder rod with the Middy 45g Grippa method feeders. Casting to the other bank on Damson lake is a tricky affair, especially when the wind picks up. I knocked up some of the new Marcel van den Eynde Supercrush Sweet groundbait, no extra additives needed with this mix as it is sweet as the name suggests, and also has some extra particles in the mix so the fish can munch on them, and some micro pellets to attract the carp, F1 and bream that are dominant in this lake. As hookbaits, I was armed with my trusty Van den Eynde Dumbbells, mini boilies and hard pellets in various sizes.



The cast is around 30 meters, which is not really that far, but, the tricky part is landing the feeder in between the reed beds that line the far bank margins. The reason for casting all the way over there is simply because the bigger fish seem to hug the far bank where the trees and grass banks give them plenty of cover, especially on match days! I have tried numerous rods to try and get the casts accurate, but have failed on some occasions due to one reason or another. The Middy 4GS Distance Baggin Feeder is fishable at 8'11'7"/12'7" by using the 11'7" I find the rod at the perfect length for the job, but I also have the option of adding the 30cm adaptor



should the wind pick up. I am using quite a heavy line for this style of fishing today, by using Middy M-Tech line in 8lbs, I know that the line is durable enough to constantly cast the distance with a loaded method feeder and also to withstand the punishment off the double figure carp that are common on Damson lake. Hooklengths are also stepped up for the job, Middy Low-Viz line in 0.18 or 0.20 are my choice as the line is stiff and very strong with the added bonus that it is virtually invisible in water. Hooks are a thing I have been playing with for a few months now, I have settled on the KM3 in sizes 16 or 14 with a pellet band or a bait spike for boilies.



I started off the session by using a 50/50 mix of micro pellets and groundbait, as I feel this gives the swim some attraction both via the scent of the groundbait and also some feed content with the pellets so that some bait might be left there after I retrieve the feeder for the next cast. As it goes, I did not have to worry about re-casting as the rod nearly got dragged in by an angry carp, which I sadly lost after a few minutes in the weeds. Second cast, same result. No matter what I tried I could not get the carp out from the weeds. I persisted with the plan, making a small adjustment, by casting a little further to the right, away from the weeds by around a foot.

This worked well, as I landed every fish I hooked from then on except one, which took off after taking the banana flavoured dumbbell, started swimming



toward me at a rate of knots, then changed direction and headed straight to the near side weeds to my left. I managed to hook and land some lovely F1, bream and skimmers. I did change my approach slightly as I noticed the fish were backing off from the swim, so by switching between just micros, or just groundbait I kept the fish coming. Another trick I adopted was to spray the method feeder with Van den Eynde Magic Spray, for some reason this always works, even on the hardest of days.



# Medway and Kent Sea Fishing Group



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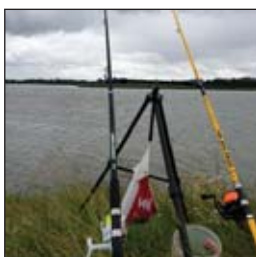
As we head in to July, the weather has not been very seasonal, or have we been lulled in to a false sense of security over the past couple of years? The summer species have been slow to put in an appearance in any numbers and at the time of writing, the sea temperature is between 13 and 14 degrees centigrade. The 'Mayweed' has been slow to clear and just when you think it has gone, it reappears! However, there have been some nice fish caught so let's hope this theme continues!

## Medway report

Lots of bass now moving along the river with multiple catches being made. A few flounders still being caught along with some eels. Ragworm and maddies best bait for bass. Medway Tackle Supplies at Twydall Green, Gillingham can supply all your fresh and frozen bait and great range of tackle. Call 01634 475260.



shown off Ramsgate's East pier on lug and squid baits. Fisherman's Corner, Ramsgate's local tackle shop, has a great selection of baits, lures, rods, reels and tackle, if you would like to pre-book bait call 01843 582174.



## Sheppey report courtesy of Sheppey Angling

Beach marks on the north shore doing well with smoothhounds, rays, bass, flounders, eels and a few soles. The hounds are taking crab, rag, and squid baits and the rays are preferring a fish bait. Fishing a little slow along Swale estuary. The boats out in the estuary are finding big smoothhounds, rays and some good bass. Mick said this has been quite a remarkable year for the numbers of good sized bass being caught on the island!

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



## Deal Report courtesy of Dave Chamberlain

Deal Pier is still the place to be in July, with the majority of the fish coming from the lower deck. The slightly deeper water is an advantage with the clear sea conditions; where the beach is a bit hit-and-miss in the daylight hours. Dusk and into darkness will produce the best results with smooth hounds and rays being a target fish from both venues. Mackerel shoals in the calmer weather are producing sport on the pier and beach - so make sure there is a set of feathers available in the tackle box when they arrive. Deal Pier is open every day at 8am, with late night on Fridays till midnight. This month's all night session from the pier is on the 8th July. Contact Fred Leach at Channel Angling Deal, by the pier entrance, on 01304 373104 for all your tackle and bait.



## North Kent report

The recent few weeks have seen some lovely hounds and bass caught, although on occasions the weed has made conditions 'challenging'. However, those anglers who have persisted have been well rewarded for their patience with some great fish caught from the Reculver and Herne Bay marks. The stingrays, depending on the weather will make an appearance this month, but do be careful when handling them! Other species caught have been dogfish, whiting and a few dabs. Early mornings and late evenings would be a great time to have a couple of hours with a lure rod!

Absolute Tackle at Herne Common stock a great range of quality fresh and frozen baits and a huge variety of tackle. Call 01227 636724 / 07809 330854.



## Dover report

The unsettled weather has curtailed the mackerel although the odd few have been caught on days when the water has cleared. Those fishing on the bottom have had loads of dogfish, some good smoothhounds, whiting, pouting, dabs and some bass to 5lbs. Samphire Hoe has, on calmer days, begun to fish with wrasse, pollack and a few bass down the wall. A few bass from Shakespeare beach. Channel Angling can provide all your tackle and bait for sea and freshwater and are authorised stockists of Zziplex rods. Call Craig on 01304 203742.



## Thanet report courtesy of Fishermans Corner

The area has been fishing exceptionally well. Good numbers of bass showing on lures, with local angler Paul Cox with a specimen 10lb 10oz and Jon Vaughan with 4 bass, best two at 8lb 7oz and 5lb 9 oz on peeler crab on high and low tide venues. Smooth hounds have also

## RECOGNISE A RIP TIDE!

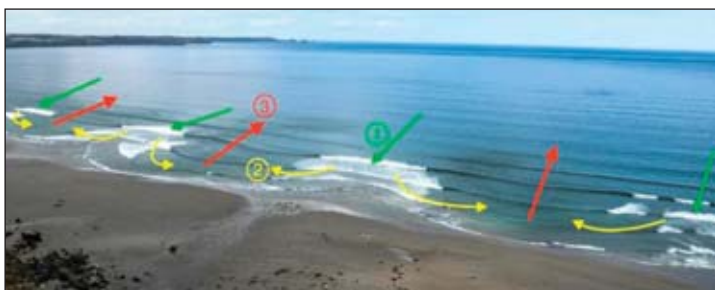


**It's that time of year when many of us visit the beach, but, a word of warning ... !**

Be very careful when you go to the beach. Before you go in, watch the sea.

If you see a space crossed between the waves, do not enter. It's a rip tide, and you will be pulled out in to the sea. Please tell your family and friends. This can save lives.

**If you see anyone in danger ring 999 and ask for COASTGUARD!**



## KENT BOAT REPORT courtesy of Jason Parrott

We have had a bumper month aboard the Lady Ann this month with plenty of big female hounds over 17 lbs and it has been nothing to have 10 double figure hounds in one trip! Most effective baits have been peeler crab and hermit crab or if you can find and if you have patience to use hardbacks which are picking out the quality fish. They are taking lug and squid cocktails and the blessed dogfish seem to be leaving baits alone, which is always a good thing! I am hoping the hounds will go over to squid soon as the peelers are starting to get scarce. It will make my life easier onboard as not every angler can prep the bait correctly and I believe that is crucial as bait presentation is key to a good trip. The bass are shoaling in numbers, but, the wind seems to put a stop to the water clearing. However, a bit of experimentation and slowing down the jigs seems to work and the bigger bass are there with some good doubles among them. I must confess we have been unlucky and missed out on these bigger fish, but, they are there in among the mackerel but we need the wind to leave us alone! The skate have been hit and miss this year which is unusual

as they are a 'banker card' for us, but when they decide to show themselves they are usually big females and have been up to 16 lb this month. All in all, it has been an exciting month with the possibility of a magical 20 lb hound not far away and the hope of some summer weather that will finally show it self!



*Tight lines from Jason on Lady Ann of Ramsgate*

If you would like a day's fishing on the Lady Ann, give Jason a call on 07966 273650



## Hythe report

Fishing was hampered by some rough days earlier, but, is now settling down. Some nice thornbacks, smoothounds, plaice, bass and dogfish being caught. It is hoped that the mackerel will come within casting range once the sea and season becomes more 'summery'!

Your local shops for all your tackle and bait are Dens Tackle 01303 267053 and Best Buddies 01303 253881.



## Eastbourne area catch report from Tony's Tackle

Beach angling is starting to improve with the 'may rot' gone now good reports of bass from Langney Point and Pevensey beaches. Kevin Morgan of Anglers Den landed a bass at Cooden beach over 4 lb, plaice and flounders showing in the daytime. Crazy fishing on the night tides thornback rays showing on the shallow beaches to 9 lb. Matt Cox landed nine in one session not so many from the Wish Tower area. Best bait for the rays are blueys or kalamari squid on 1 hook pennel rigs are favourite and don't be surprised if u land a conger as there have been quite a few caught up to 3 lb. While ray fishing, best baits in the daylight are black lug and king ragworm, crab will catch the pup smoothounds but stand by for the big hounds to arrive in the next couple of weeks. There are plenty in the boats from Beachy Head area up to 14 lb. Colin Vokins from the Eastbourne Angling Club had a great trip last week. Pollack, are being caught from the wrecks on sidewinders. Mike Malone had some good ones last week up to 14 lb. John Fradd's boat 'On a Mission' had plenty of plaice west of the light tower up to 4 lb on lugworm and squid baits. Brian the Lion on Panther continues to catch plaice, pollack and a few cod from the charter boat. Mackerel are just starting to show on feathers also a few good turbot being landed from the banks."

Any bait required contact Tony's Tackle on 01323 731388. **Tight lines, Tony Kirrage.**



**DUNGENESS** Latest catch reports on [www.seagullfishingtackle.com](http://www.seagullfishingtackle.com)  
 "I had this guy email me asking why I hadn't put up more reports on my site, had I given up doing them...no, I said I just hadn't received any reports! With so few reports coming in it's hard to motivate those on social media saying there are no fish out there. Nothing could be further from the truth as we have loads of fish out there...but not so many fishermen!

## BEACH REPORT

I said last year was the best beach bass season I have ever known... but this year could be even better. The beaches are alive with bass... the best reported so far is 8lb 12oz. Another species we have loads of is dogfish...there are so many fish about and mackerel have been in and out for the last month!

Here are a some of the June reports coming onto my site...

### Best bass reported to date

I had a customer pop in this morning (James Ellis) to pick up some bait and he told me last Sunday that he had a good day at Dungeness, with his best fish a bass of 8lb 12oz. He showed me a photo on his phone and I asked James to copy it to me...here it is...beautiful fish, best I have had reported this year...so far!



### A change can make a difference...

*I had this report in from Alex Whittlesea (AKA Shirley Codling)...  
 "Hi Tony, Stayed local Friday evening in search of a Bass or two. No Bass, so switched tactics for a ray and 30 minutes later found one of 7lbs 2ozs All the best, Shirl."*

### Colin...doing it the hard way

*I had this report in Sunday from Colin Hemsworth...*

*"Hi Tony, I fished near the station yesterday and with the weather bass was the target, I parked up and arrived to an empty beach. The wind was really blowing and after getting the shelter up and weighing down the tripod sent out a pulley rig loaded with lug, I decided against setting up two rods, even one was ambitious for a while. First fish was a*

*schoolie just before ht when it got a bit tougher to hold ground. The action picked up again late afternoon with two more bass and by this time the wind had calmed down a bit. As It got dark I had a flounder which was in very good condition and then the best bass of the day at 44 cm before packing up and heading home. Many thanks for the lug and will see you soon. Colin"*



## BEACH OUTLOOK FOR JULY

As summer really gets underway, the weather continues to be erratic... and the weather is the 'key' to what we will catch...clear water and you will the 'sight hunters' including mackerel...if its windy with stirred up 'coloured' water anything could turn up.

## BEST BAITS

With such a mixture of species about, besides the usual worm & squid, try using fish baits like 'bluey', herring, mackerel and sand eel.

## BOAT REPORTS

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

### So nice to see, well done Quinton...

*I saw this report in tonight from Jerry Oiller of Fairchance fame...*

*"Fairchance fishing today 01797 363544 Dungeness. Only 2 crew aboard today, 1 or 2 Pollock a Bass and Quinton Taylor with a 5lb Codling."*



## Tom's smile says it all...

*I had this report in from yesterday from Steve Savage...*

*"Hi Tony, photo of Tom and his 11.5 lb pollack caught out from the Varne Boat Club on the 1st June."*



## What a cracker...beautiful fish

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

*"A very happy Jack today - lovely 10lb cod. The photo doesn't do the fish any justice!"...Ant told me the fish was in immaculate condition and fought all the way up.*



## Jaws..Jason needs a bigger boat!

*I had this report in last night from Jason Adams out on 'Sea Otter' from Dungeness...*

*"36lb Tope caught today by Brian on half a fresh mackerel downtide! Congratulations mate!"*



## The numbers are growing...

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

*"Keith with the best codling from today - very encouraging to see them starting to make a bit of a comeback!!"*

## BOAT OUTLOOK FOR JULY

Its early days but it is very heartening to see such an increase of cod and codling being reported...I think this will continue with some more pollack on the wrecks. Rough ground is full of 'fish eaters'. It won't be long till we see some black bream being caught and we start chasing congers.

## BEST BAITS

With so much fresh mackerel about it would be a shame not to 'make hay while the sun shines', you won't beat fresh mackerel as bait.

## Hastings report courtesy of Hastings Angling Centre

Some very mixed weather in the last month varying from calm warm sunshine to blowing a full gale and very heavy rain. The gale did bring a few bigger bass inshore, the best that we heard of going around 11lb along with a few schoolie bass. A few soles starting to show as well. No mackerel off the beach to speak of as yet, just odd ones or two.

Out in the boats the fishing has been patchy with a few good catches and lot of very ordinary ones. Smoothounds have not made a good showing yet with only a couple of mid doubles reported so far. After barely seeing a small eyed ray for years, two were caught on the same day the best 9lb for Cliff Winch! Turbot also starting to show with July being one of the best months. A few codling are also still about.

Prospects for next month? July see the arrival of the Black Bream in good numbers, smoothounds still around, bass and pollack on the wrecks. The plaice will have fattened up nicely and well worth catching. Rays and tope with mackerel in good numbers for the very best fresh bait.

The Hastings 3 Day Boat Festival is on 26, 27, 28th July. First prize £500, best fish £500 and large prize table. Details and entry forms available from Hastings Angling Centre.



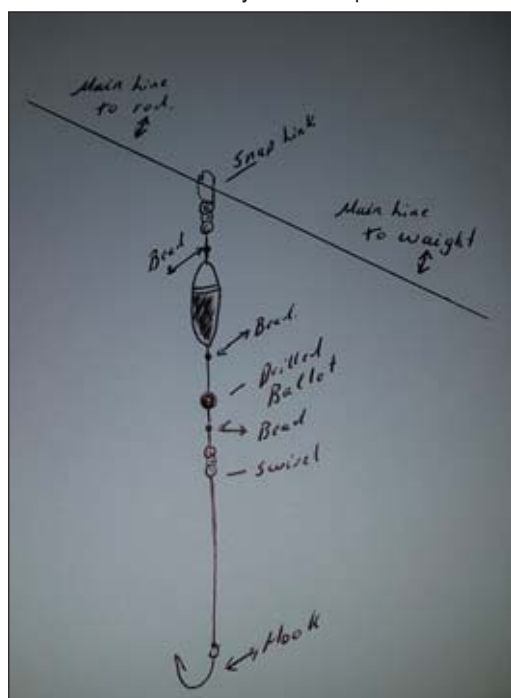
**SAM'S FISHING JOURNAL** courtesy of Sam Cox

## LIVE BAITING FOR BASS - PART TWO

### The Zip Sliding Rig Outlined

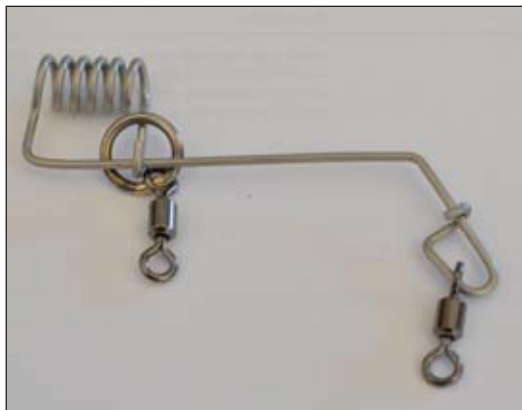
"My favourite way to present a live bait is on a sliding float rig. This method allows the angler to cover a lot of ground exploring all the features in a chosen area. However, conditions and some locations do not always allow an angler to fish the way they want to so we need to be adaptive to changes and not get trapped using the same old methods, anglers need many strings to their bows!

One method that I have been playing with for several years is the zip slider rig. The zip slider can be used with or without a float and it's a method that lets a live bait be presented fairly statically at any chosen depth. Live baits do not survive being cast out at distance so the use of a zip slider rig enables a bait to be fished at a fair distance and at any depth. Another advantage is that a live bait can be placed in a precise area. For example at Samphire Hoe, there are many rock boulders and by using a zip slider the clean areas and gullies between the rocks can be fished at any chosen depth.



The basics of a zip slider rig are that a weight is cast out into the chosen area, then a rig is clipped to the main line and allowed to slide down the main line. If the surface layers are to be fished then a float is used. To fish a live bait on the bottom a non-return sliding device will be needed. This device lets the bait travel down the line and due to its shape it can't slide back up. This is a good way of presenting a live bait at distance on the bottom. A hook length of three to four feet is tied to the lower swivel

on the non-return device, then the device is wound onto the main line through its coils. The rig then slides down until it hits the large bead above the weight and the live bait remains intact and healthy. A really good method if you want to place a live



bait in a specific area that bass are known to patrol. The way I really enjoy using the zip sliding rig is with a float. It's a surprisingly versatile method that enables baits to be presented in a multitude of areas and depths. The construction of this rig is simple. It's just a sliding float set up with a swivel and a good quality American snap link at the end. I often use this set up without a weight as this allows the live bait to swim in a more natural manner. This can only be done when it's calm and if there is not too much tide running, but, you must also keep an eye open for sea gulls, as they can very quickly pick up the live bait before it has been able to swim out of reach. I understand that some may query the use of the snap link and may doubt its strength. However, as long as it is of a decent quality there should not be any issues. We have tested the links that we use by tying 50lb mono to each end and two of us pulling as hard as we can. Despite the line digging into our hands which is painful, we could not have any effect on the snap link and it retained its shape well.

When conditions have been calm and settled for a few days and the colour falls out of the water, this set up can come into its own. Although the total length of my slider rig varies from six to eight feet, around four foot being hook length, the effect of the tide means I'm often only fishing two or three feet below the surface. The tide will push your live bait up, but, this can be counteracted by using a heavier weight. However, this will hinder the live bait from swimming naturally. I spend a lot of time throughout a session adjusting the amount of weight on the rig to suit the conditions and present the live bait in a manner that I'm happy with. When the water is fairly clear bass will be drawn up from a long way down to take a nicely presented live bait.

Reels should be left out of gear or with the clutch loosened and the ratchet on to avoid leaving a bass swimming around with a set up in tow. Bites are usually spectacular affairs typical of bass as they smash into the bait and tear away from any competition. At this point the anglers need to pick up the rod, knock the reel back into gear and wind like mad! Don't stop winding until the snap link has hit the large bead above the weight, then you will feel the fish and this is when the fight begins properly. The time between the initial take and the snap link hitting the large bead is a bit disconcerting as it feels like the fish is lost and to be honest, it is the most dangerous part of the situation. However, the fish will have probably hooked itself as the pressure of the line and the float being pulled through the water, nine times out of ten, drives the hook home.

When using this set up over rough ground I use a rotten bottom. I slide a large bead up my main line, then I tie on a swivel. From the swivel I tie two feet of eight pound test mono line, to this I tie the weight. Please bear in mind that power casts can NOT be used with this weak rotten bottom. For obvious safety reasons only a gentle lob can be used. The idea is that when the weight gets snagged the eight pound mono snaps leaving the angler free to play and land the fish. The areas I fish dictate that I always use a rotten bottom and I am yet to lose a bass."



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Headcorn Road, Biddenden TN27 8JW	
<b>Charles Lakes</b>	<b>07857 539785</b>
Steeds Lane, Kingsnorth, Ashford TN26 1NH	
<b>Chequer Tree Trout &amp; Coarse Fishery</b>	<b>01233 820078</b>
Bethersden, Nr Ashford TN26 3JR	
<b>Claygate Lakes</b>	<b>07770 513448</b>
Marden B2162 between Collier Street & White Hart Pub, TN12 9PL	
<b>Coombewood Fishery</b>	<b>07895 679569</b>
Redbrook Street, High Halden, Nr Ashford TN26 3JH	
<b>Elphicks Fisheries</b>	<b>01580 212512</b>
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<b>Gabriels Fishery</b>	<b>07730 066088</b>
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<b>Greenacres Farm Fishery</b>	<b>07933 934942</b>
Sissinghurst Road, Biddenden TN27 8EH	
<b>Great Engeham Pools</b>	<b>07973 410973</b>
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<b>Hawkhurst Fish Farm</b>	<b>01580 753813</b>
Hastings Road, Hawkhurst TN18 4RT	
<b>Horam Manor Fishery</b>	<b>01323 840889   07707 759364</b>
Horam Manor Farm, Horam TN21 0JB	
<b>Iden Wood Fishery</b>	<b>01797 280180   07906 232225</b>
Coldharbour Lane, Iden, Rye	
<b>Knightingales Fishery</b>	<b>07941 176205</b>
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<b>Orchard Place Farm Fishing Lakes</b>	<b>01892 838576   07860 608218</b>
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PO Box 895, East Grinstead RH19 9ND	
<b>Hastings, Bexhill &amp; District</b>	<b>Chris Pagan 07429 655237   Steve Potter 07935 268174</b>
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>	<b>Chris Knowler 07712 622858</b> <a href="mailto:chris@lintonangling.co.uk">chris@lintonangling.co.uk</a>
<b>South Norwood Angling Club</b>	<b>Steve Izatt 0208 778 0168</b> <a href="mailto:steveizatt@aol.com">steveizatt@aol.com</a>
<b>Tenterden Angling &amp; Preservation Society</b>	<b>Colin Sutton 01233 732006</b> <a href="http://www.tenterdenangling.co.uk">www.tenterdenangling.co.uk</a>
<b>Tonbridge &amp; District A &amp; FPS</b>	<b>Donna 07947 557140</b>
PO Box 131, Tonbridge TN11 8WB	
<b>Wantsum Angling Association</b>	<b>robuckbrown@hotmail.com</b> <b>Rob Tuck-Brown (secretary) 07484 144561</b>

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