

FRESHWATER INFORMER



FREE

Alfie Thompson with daughter Mimi on her first fishing trip



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Summer has arrived!

After a rather 'hit and miss' start to our Summer, we have seen a marked improvement in the weather over the past couple of weeks. Could it be that our Summer is finally here?

Mid June saw the rivers and canals open up for fishing once again after what has seemed like an eternity for many running water enthusiasts.

The unsettled weather at the end of Spring saw some rainfall, enough to freshen up some stillwaters and vegetation, but it done very little for volume and waterflow in the rivers. I was over at Tonbridge recently and had a wander along the Medway behind the castle and there was barely any flow at all on the water, it did rather resemble a canal! Talking of water levels, on my June delivery schedule I thought that Bewl Water looked very low, saying that it does seem to have been low right through the Winter period. As I sit here writing my 'monthly rant' it is a glorious day with blue sky and warm sunshine and little prospect of rain for the fortnight ahead.

Now the rivers are 'open for business', I would like to be able to welcome more reports and catch photos from anglers fishing the rivers throughout the region. Once again I am asked why are there so many photos of carp? The simple answer is if anglers do not send silver fish pictures in to me, I cannot print them, it really is as simple as that. If you take a catch photo on your river, you do not have to disclose the location, but simply say caught on River Stour, Medway, Ouse etc. Carp anglers are generally happy to state the venue, where local rules allow on media reporting, and I am happy to enjoy them and share with readers who also enjoy seeing their success. Food for thought?

The South of England Show at Ardingly took place in the middle of June and the Cinder Hill Troutng Syndicate kindly invited me to share their stand for the three days of the event. Unusually the weather was fantastic right through the weekend and there was a very good visitor attendance. It was great to chat with so many anglers over the course of the weekend and many took advantage of the 'have a go' at fly casting provided by Cinder Hill's instructors. I received a great deal of positive feedback on the content of the Freshwater Informer and a number mentioned that they were enjoying Bob Rolph's series of articles on Redmire. This month sees Part 3 with the final article in August. Bob informs me that he has enough articles currently written to last until Christmas! He was recently away on holiday and spent most of his time writing articles, I am sure with Mrs Rolph's approval!

The June front cover of Dylan Green and his 8lbs tench was very well received and many readers have been in touch praising Dylan and his great photo. It was a very worthy picture and deserved to be placed on the front of the magazine. Well done Dylan!

Enjoy your fishing! Barry Reed

The Freshwater Informer

6 Meadow Way | Wouldham | Rochester ME1 3GR

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01634 869317

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COPY DEADLINE for AUGUST 2022

MONDAY 18th July 2022 at 5pm

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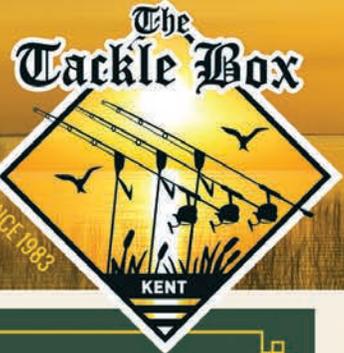
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Tricklebrook Fishery Five Oak Green, Kent



Owen



Jamie Masher - 20lbs Old Lake



Andy Parsons - 22lbs Old Lake



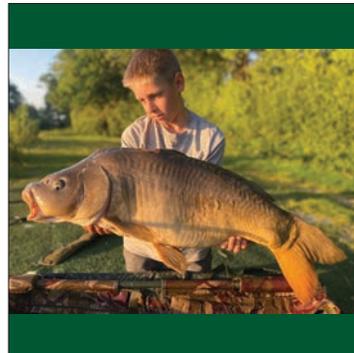
Daryll - 19lbs New Lake



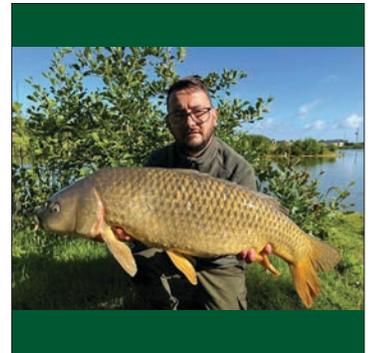
Kenny - 27lbs 4ozs New Lake



Calum



Charlie Young - 22lbs New lake



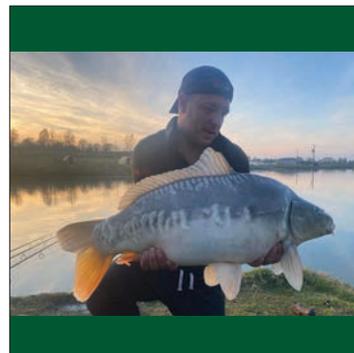
Doey Payne - 24lbs New Lake



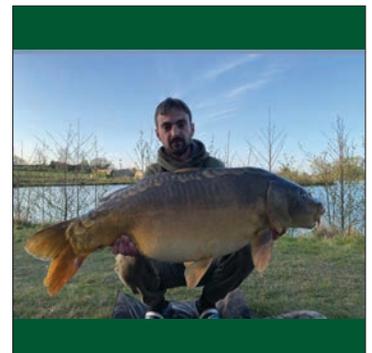
Ellie - 22lbs New Lake



Graham Beadle - 18lbs 8ozs Old Lake



James



Jason - 33lbs New Lake



Jez - 26lbs Old Lake



Reece Wickens - 31lbs 13ozs Old Lake



Steve - 20lbs New Lake



Lee Young



26lbs



14/06/2022



14/06/2022



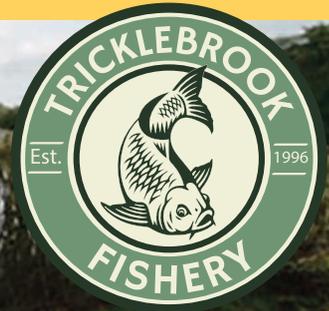
16/06/2022

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5. ALL FISH MUST BE RETURNED TO THE WATER AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE FOLLOWING CAPTURE. NO STANDING. FISH MUST BE HELD LOW OVER A MAT/CRADLE FOR PHOTOGRAPHS
6. MINIMUM 15LB LINE AND NO BRAIDED MAIN LINE
7. NO SACKING OR RETAINING OF FISH IS PERMITTED. THE REMOVAL OF FISH FROM THIS VENUE WILL BE VIEWED AS A CRIMINAL ACT
8. EACH ANGLER MUST HAVE A MINIMUM OF 42 INCH LANDING NET AND A LARGE PADDED UNHOOKING MAT/CRADLE REGARDLESS OF TARGET SPECIES ON SPECIMEN AND BACK LAKE
9. BARBLESS HOOKS ONLY
10. NO LEAD CORE, NO FUSED LEADERS OF ANY KIND INCLUDING SAFEZONE
11. NO FIXED LEAD RIGS. ALL LEADS MUST PASS FREELY OVER LEADER KNOTS. RIG CHECKS WILL BE CARRIED OUT
12. RECREATIONAL DRUGS WILL NOT BE TOLERATED - IMMEDIATE BAN FOLLOWS
13. PLEASE INFORM FISHERY MANAGEMENT OF ANY SNAGGED TACKLE OR FISH
14. ANY FISH OVER 28LB MUST BE REPORTED TO BAILIFF
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PLEASE NOTE : To fish Snipe Lake, Westlake (formerly Tuscany Lake) or Daughters Lake there are certain tackle requirements in force. Please call or look on our website at beaverfarmfishery.co.uk

Snipe Lake Our very own **Andy 'Stalker' Squire** had a little dabble and managed to nick a stunning 20lbs Fully. Fishing in the edge with slow sinking maggots, half an hour was all it took. **Scott Harvey** got off the mark on his first night with a 19lbs 8ozs Common. **James Currall** on his first night on Snipe banked a 23lbs Mirror. **Simon Wellborne** finally managed to bag one and end the blanks with a 20lbs 12ozs Mirror. **Adam Vipond** continued his run of PBs with a 27lbs Mirror. First timer **Michael Kinnings** managed a new **PB** with a 27lbs Mirror. **Becky Skinner** landed her biggest fish from Snipe when she netted a chunky 28lbs 3ozs Mirror. **Connor Peppard** banked his first ever Grass Carp at 20lbs 8ozs and then added a 20lbs Mirror. **Jeff Smith** finally landed his first Snipe Carp, a nice Common weighing in at 28lbs. His mate **Martin Cowdrey** had a great session, banking a 21lbs Mirror, 29lbs 11ozs Common and a 31lbs Common. **Al Randall** had a couple of good sessions, landing four fish. A 16lbs 10ozs Common, 21lbs 5ozs Mirror, 22lbs 14ozs Mirror and a 26lbs 11ozs Linear. **Steven Gallagher** had brilliant 15hrs, managing a 15lbs 8ozs Common, 20lbs 1ozs Mirror, 21lbs 4ozs Mirror and a 25lbs 6ozs Common. **Ian Yorke** was back again and netted 'Hayleys Mirror' for a second time at a new **PB** of 34lbs 10ozs. Best result of the month goes to **Phil Clegg**, who banked a 18lbs 6ozs Mirror on his first session, then returning for 5 nights banked 5 fish; a 20lbs 8ozs Linear, 21lbs 12ozs Mirror, 28lbs Mirror, 29lbs 8ozs Common and a new **PB** of 32lbs, which turned out to be a new lake record Common for Snipe.



Al Randall - 26lbs 11ozs Snipe Lake



Adam Vipond - 27lbs



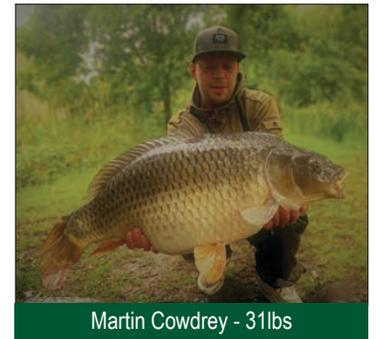
Andy - 20lbs



Becky Skinner - 28lbs 3ozs



Phil Clegg - 32lbs PB Snipe New Lake Record Common



Martin Cowdrey - 31lbs

Westlake The Cat fishing has been a bit slower this past month. Plenty of 20's and 30's being caught, but only a few of the big girls graced the bank. **Jacob Bacon** managed a 35 and a 48 in a day session. **Graham**, who runs the on site Burger Bar, landed a 30 and a 45. **Brian Hood** banked 5 up to 38lbs. **Jeff Betts** landed 4 in a day session from 21lbs, up to 31lbs. **Gordon Noakes** managed a 35lbs and a 50lbs 4ozs. **Ryan Streeter** fishing day sessions banked 3 x 30's and a new **PB** of 53lbs. **Steven Deeley** had a busy session landing 9 Cats to 36lbs 10ozs. Regular **Darren Evans** has banked several 20's and 30's, then finally getting a couple of the bigger residents at 52lbs 6ozs and 55lbs 4ozs. **Martin Smith** had a great 48hr Birthday trip, landing 10 fish up to 55lbs 4ozs. **Ted Gribben** had a busy night banking 2 low 30's and a 64lbs 5ozs. Biggest of the month goes to **Les Franklin** who managed a 25lbs 8ozs, 37lbs, 51lbs and a new **PB** of 65lbs 4ozs on a very busy lake over the Jubilee weekend.



Martin Smith 55lbs 4ozs Westlake



Les Franklin - 65lbs 4ozs PB Westlake

Daughters Lake The Carp decided to finally spawn over the Jubilee weekend so we shut the lake as usual for a week to let them recover. Before spawning it was fishing quite tricky, but after it reopened there have been some good results to day and night anglers. **Ross McDaniel** managed his UK PB Grass Carp at 21lbs and a 10lbs 4ozs Common. **Ollie Shaw** banked a nice 15lbs Mirror. **Daniel Strentan** landed a 14lbs 8ozs Mirror and



Lewis Herbert - 12lbs Daughters



Claire Owen - 16lbs PB Daughters



Chris Shepherd - 18lbs Daughters

a 16lbs Grass Carp. **Terry Edwards** had a 12lbs 14 Mirror and a 13lbs 4ozs Mirror on a day session. **Lewis Herbert** landed a lovely dark low double Fully. **Dave Thomas** banked his first ever Grass Carp weighing in at 19lbs. **Bart Gre** managed 2 x 13lbs Mirrors and a 12lb Common. **Richard Tweed** had four Mirrors up to 13lbs 6ozs. **John Coleman** banked his first Daughters Carp after a couple of blanks in the winter landing a 11lbs 9ozs Mirror and 3 Commons up to 16lbs 9ozs. Husband and wife **Paul and Claire Owen** gave Daughters a go for the first time and were both rewarded. On the first day session Paul landed a **PB** 15lbs Mirror. Two weeks later Claire came out top, managing 2 **PBs** in one day, an 11lbs 2ozs Mirror was first up, then beating that with a 16lbs Common. Best session was from **Chris Shepherd**, who managed 5 fish between 11lbs 8ozs Mirror and a lovely 18lbs Fully.

Majors Lake Majors Lake has mainly been about the Bream this month with plenty banked to over 7lbs. The Carp finally spawned mid June, so that made the Carp fishing a bit hit and miss. Couple **Saby & Nora** had a great day banking 10 big Bream, 2 Tench and a surprise Pike. **Terry Edwards** has carried on his day sessions throughout the month, landing 4 low double Carp and 6 Bream to 5lbs 2ozs. Young **Jay Palmer** had a great 24hrs, managing Bream, Tench and Carp up to a **PB** 19lbs Common. **Simon Groves** banked 4 decent slabs and a 14lbs Mirror. **Dennis Wheeler** was very happy after a day session landing 3 Tench up to 7lbs, which broke his long standing 53 year old **PB**! **Charlie Cox** had a good day on the feeder managing 7 Bream between 4 & 6lbs and 3 x F1s up to 5lbs. **Andy Phillips** had the best day's Bream fishing this month, banking 12 fish all between 5 & 7lbs. Brothers **John and Andy Coleman** fished 2 x 48hr session and managed 6 Tench, 12 Bream and 8 Carp up

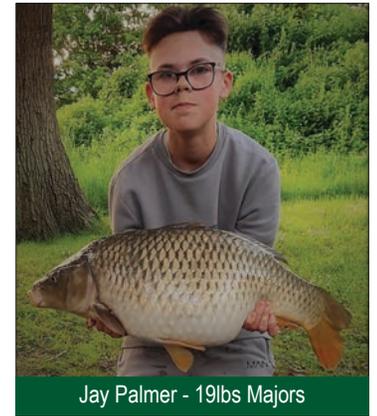
to 14lbs 3ozs between them. The best result goes to **Lucas Tricker** who managed 5 Carp up to a 13lbs Fully on his first 24hr trip then returned a week later and banked a right mixed bag. An F1, 2 Tench, 3 Bream, 10lbs Common and a new lake record Carp weighing in at 24lbs 2ozs and beating the previous record by a massive 2ozs!



Lucas Tricker - 24lbs 2ozs Majors New Lake Record



Simon Groves - Big Bream Majors



Jay Palmer - 19lbs Majors

Moat Pond has fished fairly consistently throughout the last month with most anglers having a good day of Carp and mixed species. Young **Finley Parker** outfished his Grandad and banked 6 Carp to 9lbs. **Gareth Osmond** managed 6 Carp to 7lbs on a short day session. **Kieran Jeffery** thought he was having a good day, landing 7 Carp to 10lbs only to be out done by his girlfriend **Chloe Blagrove** when she banked a PB 11lbs Ghost Common. **Dave King** enjoyed his day with the feeder netting 7 Carp, 2 x F1s and a big Bream. **Luke Casserley** had a great day, banking 10 Carp to 11lbs and 2 nice Tench. Best day's action goes to **Clive Mills**, landing 10 Carp to 7lbs, 7 Tench to 3lbs and loads of Roach, Skimmers and Perch.

Eden Pond With the heatwave over the last week, Eden will be past it's best for this year, being a small shallow pond. Some good catches have been out over the last month, but a few have struggled as well. **John Howe** had a good first day session, banking 9 Tench, 4 Bream and 2 F1s. The best catches have been by **Chris Scott**, who had 3 great days on there. Best day saw him land 17 Tench to 4lbs, 3 Carp and 2 decent Bream.

Maze Lake Maze, like Majors, has been about the Bream over the last month with plenty of anglers bagging a few up to 5lbs+ along with small Carp, F1s, odd Tench and Silvers. Carshalton A.C had a match on there with 8 anglers. Winning weight was 44lbs 10ozs of Bream by **Trevor Pavitt**. Best report came during the 30 degrees we had when **Dave Horsley** landed 18 Bream, 3 F1s, a 7lbs Mirror and loads of Silvers in 6hrs!



Chloe Blagrove - 11lbs

Jeff's Lake Even though Jeff's is heavily fished throughout each week it still regularly produces multiple catches. F1's being the main fish banked, with Bream, small carp and Tench also making an appearance. Method feeder and pellet is the main tactic which often produces the best results. Even in the hot weather mid June catches of 25+ fish were possible.

Please remember to send any catches from any of our lakes and ponds via WhatsApp on 07710656041.

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Hawkhurst Fish Farm Hawkhurst, Kent

Our lakes are fishing consistently well at the moment; it is great to see anglers achieving new PBs and having a successful day's fishing! One report really stood out to us, and this angler has won herself a free session: **Maddie Hawkins** had a great day on Quarry Lake, catching a total of 20 fish, which also broke her **PB** twice within an hour! Some other highlights include **Curtis Brightwell** who managed to catch the 'Big Blue' up on Specimen Lake, weighing in at 43lb 6oz. **Damo Pearson** hired out our new predator lake, Four Trees Lake, for the day and caught a 38lbs 10ozs Catfish, his dad also landed a 28lbs 8ozs Catfish. **Lisa Branch** also fished Four Trees Lake and managed to net a couple of Pike. Our Junior Lakes have also been fishing well - these are the perfect place for novices (young and old!) to experience catching their first fish and are open 7 days a week, 10am to 5pm, with no prebooking required. We hire out all necessary equipment so you can turn up empty handed and still have a fun days fishing. Call the office on 01580 753813 if you would like more information.



Maddie Hawkins - Quarry Lake



Chris - 16lbs Four Trees Lake



George - Four Trees Lake



Henry Lindsay - Main Lake



Dan Luckhurst - 23lbs Dove Lake



Curtis Brightwell - 43lbs 6ozs Specimen Lake



Damo Pearson - 38lbs 10ozs Four Trees



Maddie Hawkins - Quarry Lake



Rodger - 28lbs 8ozs Four Trees Lake

Hawkhurst Fish Farm

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Check www.hawkhurstfishfarm.co.uk for more info!

Letter to the editor



"Hi Barry, I had a recent session at Claygate Lakes on an overcast day with little breeze. I fished on Lake Sophie with my usual 10' ledger rod, 8lbs bs line, 1/2 ounce Stonze weight on a running rig and a size 12 barbless hook. I fed a few bits of corn to the far side to generate some interest and soon had four small bream between 1-2lbs. I then had a long wait before the tip went round and one of Dave's better bream of 5lbs 12ozs was soon in the net. I changed hookbait to prawn and shortly after I had a nice pull round resulting in a fine tench of 6lbs 9ozs. It was just a short trip, but an enjoyable one catching some nice bream and a good tench." Regards, Robin



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Elphicks Fisheries

Horsmonden, Kent

Simon Blowers
15lbs 8ozs
Sandwich Lake



Andrew French - 50lbs North Lake



Danny Hornby - North Lake



David Barron - 35lbs 4ozs Prairie Lake



Jeff Downing - North Lake



Mark Cramp - 43lbs 4ozs Pullens Lake



Nick Howard - 48lbs 6ozs Westend Lake



Keith Finch - 40lbs North Lake



Wheeler Boys - North Lake

Great double for Andy French!

Andy French had a session on North lake at Elphicks and was rewarded with two huge fish! However, it didn't start well for Andy as the first 36 hours of the session were fruitless. Andy moved swims and was rewarded with these two lovely fish, a common at 51lbs 8ozs and a mirror of 42lbs 8ozs!

Top angling!



Good session at Mousehole for Charlie's crew!

Charlie Kenward sent in this report after a great time was had at Mousehole Lakes!

"Hi Barry, We have just got home from a 60 hours session on Mousehole Lakes: Ian Blacker had an 8 fish haul ranging from low doubles to upper doubles to a 24lbs 8ozs leathery mirror and new PB. Steve Mack had 2 out at 16 and 19lbs. Me, Charlie had 2 out at 24lbs 10ozs PB common and 14lbs scaley mirror. Lee Davey has had a tough last few months on the bank with a string of blanks but at 4:30am in the morning finally reeled in a 19lbs common. It was a great session with lovely weather and once again great service from the team at Mousehole. Big shout out to Rod the bailiff for his help throughout our stay!" Regards, Charlie





WELCOME TO ARUN ANGLING CENTRE

Arun Angling is located just five minutes from the A27 on the outskirts of the pretty town of Angmering.

The store offers FREE car parking to its customers.

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We cater for all disciplines of freshwater angling including carp, specimen, match and pleasure.

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Open: Monday to Friday 8.30am to 5pm Saturday 8am to 5pm Sunday 8am to 2pm (BST only)

Any questions

Call: 01903 770099

Email: arun.angling@hotmail.co.uk

Find us on

The Old Blacksmiths Yard Water Lane Angmering BN16 4EP



www.arunangling.co.uk

Claygate Lakes Claygate, Marden, Kent

Lake Amy Our regular member **JD** had a cracking birthday weekend with over 130lbs of fish caught which included two commons both just shy of 32lbs each off the same spot. Jack also celebrated his birthday at Claygate and had set his sights on a known 30lbs fish called 'Boris' ...and guess what...he caught him! Unfortunately, he'd dropped a couple of pounds after spawning. Well done to **Ray Smith** on catching 'Mrs Brown' who is just under 33lbs and is now Ray's new **PB**.

Lake Sophie Our club members **Brian** and **Alex** have been targeting the tench. Match and pleasure anglers are enjoying a mixed bag of fish that are being caught from here including some lovely bream.



Lake Eva Start on the bottom fishing meat, pellet or small pop ups, then try on top in the afternoon with dog biscuits. Well done **Paul Morris** on your new **PB** of 25lbs.

Membership We're now taking on members! Please visit our website for more information. We will still be selling day tickets for all lakes, but a membership may save you money on regular fishing trips.

Please remember barbless hooks and take home or bin any left over bait using the bins provided to ensure the quality of the water is maintained through the summer months!

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BAIT & TACKLE

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New Claygate Lakes

DAY & NIGHT FISHING - TN12 9PL

For all match and pleasure bookings and enquiries please ring Dave **07770 513448**

NIGHT FISHING ON ALL LAKES

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

www.newclaygatelakes.co.uk



GREENACRES FARM FISHERY



Sissinghurst Road | Biddenden | Kent | TN27 8EH

Located on the Weald of Kent in Biddenden we offer syndicate quality lakes for all. There is one specimen lake for carp up to 30lbs+, one specimen predator lake for carp to 27lbs+, catfish to 60lbs+ and pike, one match lake with twenty-two purpose built swims, one coarse lake and finally a tench/family pond. Facilities include a club house with toilets, shower, wet room and kitchen facilities.

This beautiful setting needs to be visited and enjoyed!

Prices start at £10 per session on the coarse lakes, £15 for the specimen lakes rising to £25 for a 24 hour ticket (£5 extra for a third rod).

Gates open at 7am and close at 7pm

SENIOR DAY TICKETS ON OUR COARSE LAKES HERON AND BLUEBELL ARE AVAILABLE FOR £5 MONDAY TO WEDNESDAY

To book, please call or text us on **07933 934942**
or visit our website **www.greenacresfarmfishery.co.uk**

Email : greenacresfarmfishery@gmail.com



Tonbridge & District Angling & FP Society

Barden Lake Fish have been spawning periodically and the lake is closed during the spawning sessions. Some nice fish were caught leading up to the latest temporary closure. Carp, Tench to 9lbs and Bream well into double figures have been reported.

Old Ballast Pit Carp fishing has been very good with multiple catches of 20lbs+ fish reported. Big Bream and the odd Tench to nearly 7lbs also Eels to 6lbs have been caught recently.

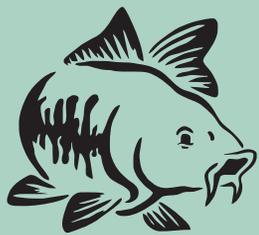
New Lagoon Water level is low, but the fish are still feeding well and in good condition. Decent Bream, Tench, the odd Carp and a few good silvers being reported.

Haysden Lake Pleasure fishermen have reported some good double figure bags of mixed silvers from all around the lake but the recent match fished in the hot weather didn't produce the weights expected.

Longfield Lake Tench, Bream and Carp being reported with plenty of new members targeting the big Tench.

Pippins Farm Lots of small fish on maggot but if you persevere with bigger baits, there are bigger fish prepared to take these with Tench, Carp and decent Roach to over 1lb being caught.

River Medway Reports of nice Carp from several of our Medway sections. Plenty of double figure fish showing and lots of Bream with the odd Tench.



Shirkoak Fishery and B&B



Since taking over in November 2019 we have removed some of the smaller fish and added some big scaly mirrors and pike as our predatory fish, this is part of our ongoing stocking program.

OAP TUESDAY £10 incl. bacon roll! Pre-bookings only



We can also offer food delivered to your swim, our full English breakfast is proving extremely popular!



Fishing prices start at £12 for 2 rods for 12 hours.



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www.shirkoakfarm.com

For more information please call Hugh on **07973 410973**

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Hartley Lands Fishery

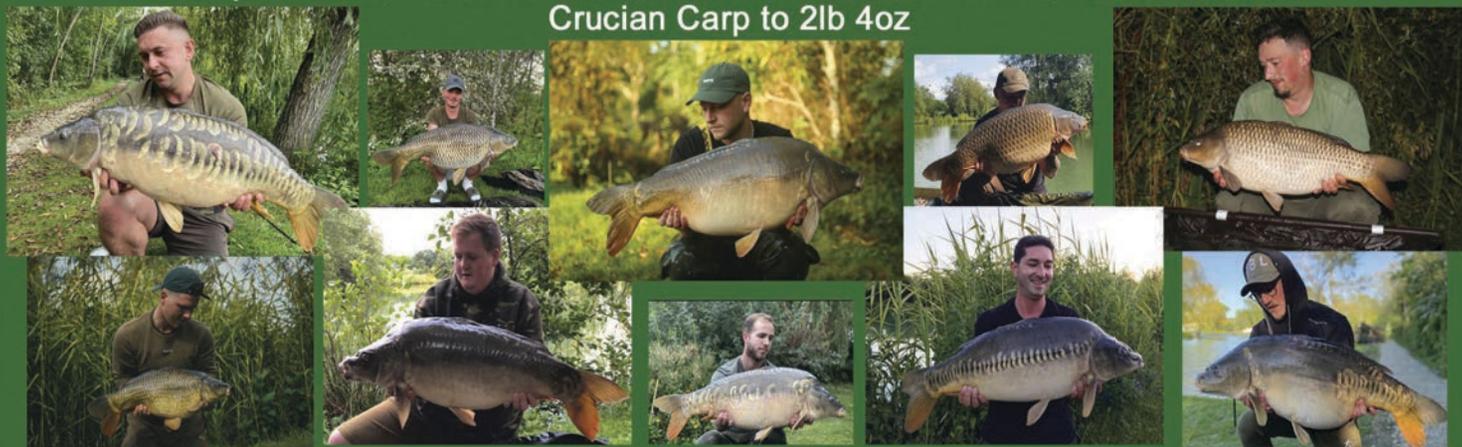
Swattenden Lane, Cranbrook, Kent, TN17 3PS

We are a day ticket fishery that offers specimen carp fishing, pleasure / coarse fishing and match fishing across our 6 lakes and 1 pond. Our lakes are maintained and managed to the highest of standards creating the best possible fishing environment and experience.

The complex is run on a booking system basis only other than Samson and Finches.

We also have brand new toilet and shower facilities built that cater to everyone's needs.

Carp to 38lb+, Tench to 10lb+, Perch to 5lb, Bream to 7lb, Roach to 2lb,
Crucian Carp to 2lb 4oz



Open: 7am - 7pm summer time & 7am - 5.30pm winter time

Bailiff number: 07703 825064



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Instagram

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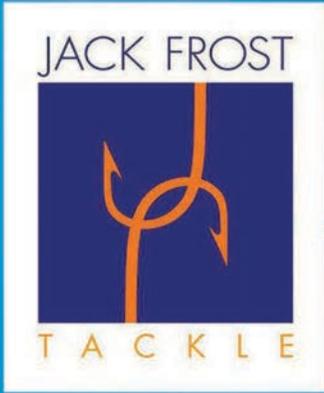
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Mick Battell Memorial Fishing Day



MONK LAKES - LAKE 3 - 11th June 2022

Another fantastic day this year with some special friends and family and after 10 years, I've managed to get my hands on this much sought after trophy. A real Red letter day for me fishing wise, helped by drawing 'Mr Consistent' Chris Green as my partner. We also won the new Silverfish trophy donated by Big Bruv and Dawn. We all enjoyed some great fishing with plenty of species caught. Thanks to Jay and Neal for the weighing in of the fish.

Great food as always provided by Mum, Tracey and Dawn, followed by a great evening at the Royal Oak with Andy and Sue for the presentation, food, a few beers and plenty of rum.

Thank you all for supporting this great day in memory of Dad, thanks to Medway Tackle and Tonbridge & District Angling for the sponsorship and my family look forward to seeing you all again next year! **AUSTIN BATTELL**



Results:

1st	Austin Battell & Chris Green	181 pts
2nd	Gareth Stokes & Neal Rogers	142 pts
3rd	Dave Roberts & Rod Craft	133 pts
4th	Chris Stokes & Duncan Battell	117 pts
5th	Jim Fletcher & Jason Craven	111 pts
6th	Steve Twort & Jamie Theobald	106 pts
7th	Russell Scott & Jon Smith	100 pts
8th	Roger Fermor & Kev Hickey	92 pts
9th	Martyn Hill & Mark Roe	90 pts
10th	Russell Battell & Graham Fisk	73 pts

Individual Points - Austin Battell 99 pts

Bulkweight Silvers - Austin Battell 33lbs 8ozs

Bulkweight Carp - Russell Scott 42lbs 8ozs

Joint Bulkweight - Austin Battell 51lbs 8ozs

Silvers Trophy - Chris Green

Joint Bulkweight - Austin Battell 107lb 0oz
Chris Green

Biggest Carp - Russell Scott 13lbs 12ozs

Biggest Tench - Rod Craft 2lbs 9ozs

Biggest Roach - Kev Hickey 8ozs

Biggest Bream - Gareth Stokes 3lbs

Biggest Other - Austin Battell (Ide) 2lbs 7ozs





ORCHARD PLACE FARM FISHING

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Pearsons Green Road, Paddock Wood, Kent TN12 6NY



Carp to 49lb+

01892 838576 or 07860 608218

Catfish to 112lb+

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SPECIMEN LAKES

DAY TICKETS AVAILABLE
24HR - £30
48HR - £55
(additional charge for 3rd rod)

FULLY FUNCTIONING LAKE 13 - CARP & CATFISH WATER

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CONCESSIONS
1 ROD - £8

FOOD IS AVAILABLE ON SITE FROM MID-MARCH TO OCTOBER

www.orchardplacefarmfishing.co.uk

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



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Bottom Lake
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Top Lake has five swims, Bottom Lake has six and both can be fished on a day ticket or lake exclusive booking

Anglers' mess on site with fresh running water, wash basin and toilet

Horsmonden Fishing Lakes, Grovehurst Road, Horsmonden TN12 8BQ
All enquiries and bookings to Orchard Place Farm Fishery on 01892 838576



Welcome to The Willows Angling Centre

Tel: **01795 520887** www.thewillowsanglingcentre.co.uk
 The Willows Angling Centre, Bax Farm, Lower Road, Teynham, Kent ME9 9BU



Langley's Lake

A 3-acre specimen carp lake with hard fighting fish up to 30lbs. We only allow a maximum of 8 anglers at time on to this water which has a variety of features to fish to. Langley's is the largest lake at the venue and there are a number of additional fishery rules in place on this water. The average depth is around 5'. Get your tactics right and you can expect a great session!
£15 / 12 hours - £30 / 24 hours
 No concessions.



The Stream

Approx 1/3 mile long with an average width of 30', this canalised section of water offers anglers the opportunity to fish with a pole or rod for a variety of fish including crucians, roach, rudd, bream, perch and tench. A very popular water for those who enjoy a more traditional style of fishing. The average depth is 4' and there are 60 pegs available.
£10 / 12 hours - £20 / 24 hours
 Concessions available.
 Match bookings available.



The Pan Lake

A more intimate water than Langley's with carp to 20lbs along with a selection of silver fish including roach, tench, barbel and perch. With an average depth of 5' and lots of features, this pretty water offers all anglers a great day out.
£10 / 12 hours - £20 / 24 hours
 No concessions.



Farm Lake

An average depth of 4' with lots of features, this lovely water is well stocked with carp, bream, roach, perch and F1s. This water is a popular choice for families, young anglers and beginners and is close to the well presented on-site facilities.
£10 / 12 hours - £20 / 24 hours
 Concessions available.

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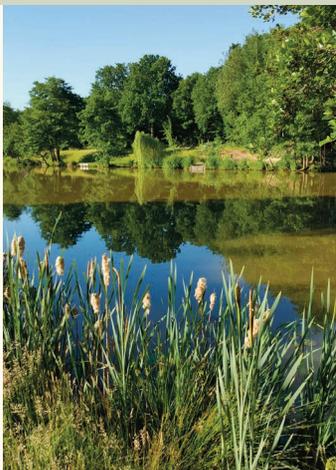


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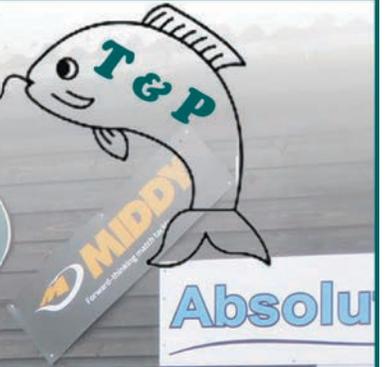
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This section is where you display your catch to other Freshwater Informer readers. Each month, Pallatrax will choose from the featured photos and pick their winner. **The winner will receive 8 packs from the innovative new GRIPZ hook range.** The lucky 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 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!**



WINNER

The winner of the PALLATRAX GRIPZ Hooks Set for JUNE is...

Ian Hobbs

well done!



Apsey Beaney - 22lbs 14ozs Coombewood Fishery



Brian Lucas - Club water



Adam Carmichael - 35lbs 1oz Elphicks



Archie Adams - Elphicks Fishery



Alun, Beau and Sid - 42lbs Darenth



Chris Kavanagh - 38lbs 2ozs Frant Lakes



James Clifton - 4lbs 13ozs on the Magical 16th



David Graveling - 27lbs EMR



Jamie Hayward - 24lbs 10ozs Mousehole Lakes



Joe - 49lbs 12ozs Elphicks



Koen Easton - 52lbs 8ozs Wylands



Matt Divers (Jnr) Willows Angling Centre



Matthew and Chloe at Eureka Fishery



Mark Cramp - 43lbs 4ozs Elphicks



Ray Reeves - Coombewood Fishery



Rose Day - 14lbs Sandwich Lakes



Harry Devell - 17lbs 6ozs



Ema - 22lbs 3ozs Charlies Lakes



Sussex Fishing Gurus at EMR



Russell Scrace - 30lbs PB Stubpond Fishery



Maddie Hawkins - 18lbs 11ozs Hawkhurst



Andrew Hall - 38lbs Cackle Hill



Marc Harris - 14lbs 12ozs Claygate Lakes



Samantha Parkins - 24lbs 4ozs Kent gravel pit



Marcus Deacon - 22lbs Sussex water



Scott Metcalf - Tricklebrook



Nick Tsalikidis - 24lbs Falkenvil Fishery



Kristy Knowlden - 34lbs 12ozs 'Poppy' Barden Lake



Hayden O'Reilly - 39lbs 8ozs Club water



Jordan Parish - 15lbs 5ozs Wylands



Terry Miller - 33lbs 8ozs Orchard Place Farm



Stephen Kavanagh - 34lbs 5ozs Frant Lakes



Jack Holden - 11lbs Club water



Dave North - 26lbs Wylands



Daniel Ayers - Coombewood Fishery



John Jones - EMR



Matt Divers (Snr) Willows Angling Centre



David Ralph - Coombewood Fishery



Owen Reeves - 22lbs Coombewood Fishery



Matthew Clark - 22lbs 8ozs Shirkoak Syndicate



Graham Felstead - 12lbs Sandwich Lakes



Ben Wright - 48lbs 2ozs



Wesley Laker - 25lbs Mousehole Lakes

Nice 16th chub for James

James Clifton sent in this report after opening his new account on the Glorious 16th:

"I went out on opening night to fish from midnight on the magical 16th June and managed a few chub. I had a number of fish these being a couple of 2lbers, a scraper 3lber and a lovely (but spawned out) 4lbs 13ozs stunner." Regards, James



River carp for Chris and Dean!

Chris Cooke sent in this report after an opening day bonanza of river carp shared with angling buddy Dean!

"On the 16th June Dean, my angling buddy and fellow bailiff, hit the local rivers again and managed these nice carp, not the biggest, but lovely when they are wild!" Regards, Chris



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Carpinsula Conquered!

One of the most amazing looking fish I have ever caught is the Sturgeon,

a species of fish with multiple strains that really look like something more in keeping with Jurassic Park than a modern fishery! They truly look so prehistoric and up close they are fascinating fish, which can really leave you speechless with their unique beauty and distinct appearance.



Albino Sturgeon

our too frequently postponed trip was to take place. One of my angling buddies, Rich Shaw, and myself travelled on the 'wrong' side of the road to reach our destination from Calais. After only a two and a half hour run we had arrived and, even as old age looms, I have to confess to being somewhat excited. The Sturgeon Lake, Dino Pool, not only holds 14 different species of Sturgeon but also a fish called an Asp, as well as some beautiful Carp, so it would be nice to catch a selection and that was the plan. It's never about size for me, but more about the beauty of fish and the different species I can target but there was some big fish to be caught, as we were to find out!

At Carpinsula you are truly among the beauty of nature within the well maintained and beautiful natural surroundings. Jelle has a huge passion for his fishery and that was obvious with not only his helpful attitude but also the facilities on site, including a trailer and quad service to our swims, certainly making life a lot easier!

One of the novel things I have to mention was the chorus of frogs in the reed beds that surrounded our lake. It was an incredible sound that on discovery was coming from the tiniest of frogs and again highlighted that we were truly at a wild and wonderful fishery that puts the environment at the top of the list, and rightly so.

Tactics were to be our 'go to' Stonze System wrapped in my Method Mix, which was enhanced with added particles, Gamma 0.36mm mainline and the highly effective LQ rigs using 25lb Steamlink and size 4 Wide Gape Gripz design hooks. On the bait front, through export challenges, I could only take hook baits so had glugged a hundred or so of the 14mm Jungle Squabs. Glugged hook baits can be a huge edge as fish find them so quickly due to the boosted flavour and with Jungle (Tigernut, Peanut and Clove) it has a hugely successful track record wherever it goes – so fingers crossed as it had never been fished on this venue before. With my new Solar Bivvy erected and the rest of my swim sorted, I made up the first batch of my Method Mix - such an under used tactic, but has caught me so many fish of so many different species over the years. Yes, the ingredient profile of your Method mix



The Asp - another new species for Pom

is key but ignore this tactical approach at your own peril, as my tale will quickly highlight how good it can be!

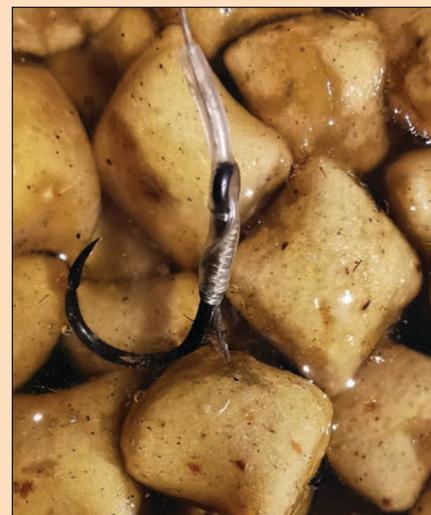
Both rods were cast into position and I sat sipping my first brew with the excitement of fishing for such species and the anticipation of the bite coursing through my veins – come on we all know the feeling, don't we?! Though it can be a waiting game, I do have huge confidence in my approach and it was only 30 minutes before the first

Several years ago at a fishing show in Holland, I met the owner of a new fishery in Belgium, Jelle Eurlings, who described opening up a unique complex, Carpinsula, within a nature park where the emphasis was on working with nature and looking after the environment within his fishery management – a man who was definitely singing off the same hymn sheet as me! He had gravitated to Pallatrax after having seen my natural Stonze fishing weights and can claim to be the first fishery to fully adopt them and ban lead weights due to the toxicity concerns.

When he mentioned he was creating a Sturgeon Lake I was sold and was set to fish it, but then the issues of Covid prevailed and it was only several days ago



Happy Days



Jungle Squabs soaked in the Jungle Glug



Rich Shaw with a Sturgeon



Pom with another specie of sturgeon

occurrence with a somewhat of a half-hearted run, to me the alarm is just an indicator and the indication was more than enough to hit and yes, I felt the weight of my first fish from the depths of Dino's. It was not long before I saw the impressive shape of what was to be a Star Sturgeon and, with thumping heart and bated breath, I gently drew the fish over the landing sling and I could let out a sigh of relief!

Over the next three glorious days the action was pretty constant for both myself and Rich. We caught over 30 Sturgeon of several different species, including three Albino Sturgeon which were unbelievably beautiful. I was also fortunate to catch four, including the largest, of the 15 Asp that the water held, plus three beautiful mirror carp to 26lbs. A true 'Red Letter' session.

For me angling is as much about the memories created as anything else and this was a trip that will be there for life, incredible venue that ticked all the boxes, great company, lots caught and new species landed – what more could you ask for? It was also great to see that the Stonze System, Gripz and Jungle had yet again gone to another fishery and performed so unbelievably well. The fact that it worked on so many species, with different feeding habits, so successfully just gives further evidence that with such tactics we are onto something both innovative and very special! If you are looking for an exciting trip into Belgium then I can fully recommend Carpinsula as a venue to have a close look at. An intimate and gorgeous venue with great facilities, on site or close by, and with several unique lakes catering for a multitude of different species including: Common and Mirror Carp, Grass Carp, Sturgeon, Koi, Asp and some huge Catfish.



We will definitely be returning!

Simon 'Pom' Pomeroy

Web link: CarpInsula - Dino Pool | The Carp Specialist

www.thecarpspecialist.co.uk/carp-lakes/carpinsula-dino-pool



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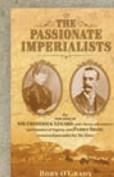
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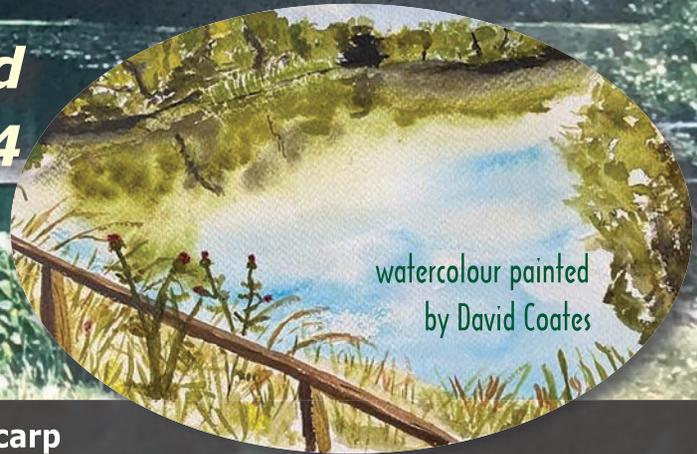
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The Golden Years of Coarse Fishing

by Bob Rolph

Redmire Pool – PART THREE

The Glory Years of carp and carp anglers - 1967 to 1984



watercolour painted
by David Coates

Serious fishing started again on June 16th 1966 and carp anglers from NW Kent were among the first to book their £5 weeks with John Nixon of Creel magazine. Most were regulars at Brooklands Lake at Dartford (named 'Goodwood' by Jack Hilton) for reasons of secrecy!



Alan and Grahame fish spotting from the old wooden punt

Most were members of various specimen groups of which you had to be to book a ticket, so four members of my group sent in their applications, along with anglers like Ron Gould, Pete Badley, Brian Hook, Keith Dickens, Steve Edwards, Grahame Igglesden, Ron Blackmore and John Kane to book successive weekends down there during the summer of 1966.

John Nixon held the fishery for just two years by which time Jack Hilton, Roger Smith and Mike Mintram got to hear about it all from Grahame, who was fishing Brooklands with them at the time. Only 12 big fish were caught from Redmire during this 2 year period, but 3 were over 30lbs!

Jack wasted no time in booking a week in September when he captured the 6th largest carp ever caught, a common of 35lbs, in the presence of Grahame, Roger and Mike. This fish and two others proved that what we had seen two years earlier from the tree tops was no exaggerated illusion.

Jack and Roger Bowskills' three fish were just 35 years old and had been in the lake since 1934. The last to fish under the Nixon era in March '67 were Wagstaff and Reynolds from Northampton who teamed up with Bob Jones and Pete Climo from Newport, but eels

were a problem on that trip and the famous pair from Northampton never fished there again! Jack negotiated the fishing lease from the start of the 1967 season, when only six fish were taken in two seasons, he offered the fishing to ten hand picked carp anglers on a rotating syndicate basis and this was to be the start of a glorious 8 year period when the likes of Rod Hutchinson, Bill Quinlan, Bob Jones, Len Arbery, Pete Cranston and



What particle baits!! We used big bread jobbies, worms or potatoes

**12 of the many
legendary Redmire
Carp Anglers from
the 1965 to 1985 era**

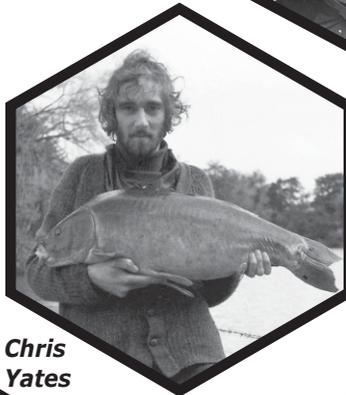


**Tom
Mintram**

*Historic carp photos
supplied by Chris Ball*



**Bill
Quinlan**



**Chris
Yates**



**Bob
Jones**



**Dick
Weale**



**Kevin
Clifford**



**Jack
Hilton**



**Kevin
Maddocks**



**Len
Arbery**



**Peter
Springate**



**Ritchie
McDonald**



**Rod
Hutchinson**

Billy Walkden and of course Jack Hilton, caught literally hundreds of 20lbs plus carp on particle baits like sweetcorn, beans, sultanas as well as maggot and sausage meat baits. At least 16 were over 30lbs up to a monster of 40lbs by Jack.

In 1975 a famous carp angler from Epsom in Surrey called Tom Mintram, father of Mike, took over the running of the syndicate when the fishing really took off, with anglers like Kevin Clifford, John Carver from Sevenoaks and Dick Weale started catching large numbers of big carp on small particle baits, stalking the fish in the margins and fishing high up in the shallows. There were some disputes over the running of some of these syndicates, and some anglers fell out. I cannot comment on any of this, as I was not party to any of it, being on the reservoirs at the time and not involved with carp fishing, but I heard about it all from my mate, Steve Edwards. The next person to run the fishing was John Carver. This was the period when more Kentish anglers made the long journey down there and were successful. Ken Rowley, Steve Edwards, Chris Haswell and Bob Morris all fished Redmire in the 1980s, Ken had six twenties and Steve a 31lbs.

In the 1980s three new names came to dominate the carp fishing at the Pool. Chris Yates, Pete Springate and Kevin Maddocks. Their massive catches were to outdo what had been caught so far, starting with the record carp that Chris Yates caught on the opening day of the season in 1980. A massive mirror of 51lbs 8ozs from the shallows on sweetcorn. This fish of course had been caught many times before at lesser weights by most of the main protagonists, notably by Eddie Price in 1959 at 40lbs and by Roger Bowskill in Sept '66 at 38lbs on worm from The Dam. It sadly died in 1981 at the grand old age of 49.

*June 16th 1980.
Legendary capture by
Chris Yates 51lbs 8ozs*



continued overleaf ...

The Glory Years of carp and carp anglers - 1967 to 1984 ...continued from page 35



Ron Gould - September 1967

Leather of 29lbs 8ozs on sausage meat

officially or unofficially over the years at carp fisheries all over the country. These fry are so prolific that it would make sense to make use of them. They can't all grow on in Redmire, there wouldn't be the room or food, and the fishing would decline. Chris Ball tells me that some have been sold commercially in the past, rather than let them die. I took some home in 1966 and they grew to be lovely 8 inch mirrors when I released them into Keston Pond!

There are not just big fish in Redmire. Along with the gudgeon and eels, many smaller carp in the 3-9lbs range were present in the pool in the 1960s and before. The carp breed like rabbits down there and many small fry get washed over the outfall during a big storm, I saw it myself in 1966, and it was handy we had black plastic dustbins in our vans at the time! Quality 20lbs carp are a very valuable commodity, around £1000 each so I understand that it is no wonder our carp fisheries need fences and padlocked gates these days to protect them from the otters and mink. I've yet to see a carp undo a padlock though, this is for the poachers I suppose, what a world we live in

The legendary carp anglers of the '60s, '70s and '80s at Redmire Pool were undoubtedly Rod Hutchinson, Jack Hilton, Bill Quinlan, Chris Yates, Pete Springate, Kevin Maddocks, Kevin Clifford, Len Arbery, Tom Mintram, Dick Weale, Richie MacDonald, Dave Short and Bob Jones. Between them, they accounted for over 200 20lbs+ carp, many of course, repeat captures!



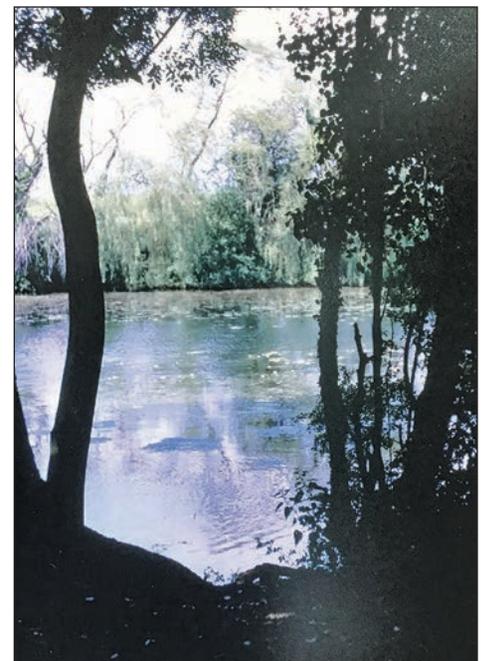
John Kane - 22lbs July 1967

Chris Yates also caught a common of 43lbs 12ozs in Aug 1972 shortly after Jack Hilton had landed a mirror of 40lbs in the July of that year. These were the masters of carp fishing, true legends of the sport, and you can read more about it all in the books I recommend at the end of this series. Everything is recorded, all the fish, baits, swims etc, there was little of the secrecy we get today, but more details came out in later years. At the time of these great catches at Redmire on mainly sweetcorn and particle baits invented by the late Rod Hutchinson, in Kent, Fred Wilton was developing his high protein golf ball size baits with members of my group at the Dartford lakes and Keston. Cream boilies did make an entrance at Redmire during this Golden Era, but the early fish were mainly caught on worm, maggots or bread. Although Fred now lives near Monmouth, I don't know if he ever fished at Redmire, although I expect he's popped in a few times!

All this shows the great involvement that Kent's carp anglers have had at Redmire over the past 60 years. Probably more from the South East have ventured down that way than all the others put together! I was one of them, but failed miserably to catch a whopper, but it was one of the greatest periods of my angling life, and I now look back at that time with great affection.

Sadly, most of the great anglers that I mention in this article are now no longer with us, but their memory lives on in carp fishing history. I would say that modern carp fishing started in about 1950, when Bob Richards broke the record down there with a fish of 31lbs and started it all off with the CCC and Dick's 12 friends. The previous record of 26lbs had stood for 20 years from Mapperley Reservoir near Nottingham by Albert Buckley. When Dick Walker and his mates started at Redmire at this time, carp were generally treated very badly compared with today. Sometimes fish were gaffed, killed for trophy, or sent to London Zoo! Nets were very small and coarse and wet hessian sacks were used to keep fish alive overnight. In contrast, the carp of today live a life of luxury with unhooking mats, cradles, large fine micro mesh nets, weighing gantries and the like, and even get medical treatment with ointments if the mouth or fins get injured. Today's young carp anglers realise the importance of fish husbandry and conservation and the vast stocks of quality carp we have today have benefited from this care.

Many carp fisheries today have large aerated holding pools on site where fry can be brought on and reared to greater size. I have no doubt that Redmire 'Leney' fry which are prolific, have been grown on either



The evening pitch opposite the Willow Pitch

Other great names, too numerous to mention, also caught huge carp, many from our own South East region, notably Ken Rowley, Steve Edwards, John Carver, Bob Morris, Brian Hook, Pete Cranstoun, Chris Haswell, Ron Gould and John Kane. Some other very good anglers spent hundreds of hours down there without catching anything of note! Well known names like Roger Smith, Grahame Iggesden, Fred J. Taylor, Mike Mintram, Ron Blackmore and Alan Tisdall, to name but a few! One even 'disgraced' himself by just catching a couple of seven pounders on worm!!

To fish there today it will set you back about £500 for the week, a far cry from my day when it cost me £5 per week! Anyone can go, you book via bailiff Les Bamford at the beginning of the year, and it's now run by the new owners of the Bernithan Estate. I think it's easier to get cup final tickets, or a day at Wimbledon, as they go like hot cakes! There are strict rules on tackle and ethics, and you must use their landing nets and dip them before fishing each day. It's an experience not to be missed, and you may even meet the 'Redmire Ghost'! Richard Walker wrote about Redmire in the 1950s, and now 70 years on, the magic of the place is still very evident, albeit with a few modern innovations, which are not to everyone's liking, namely otter fencing, barked pitches, fibreglass punt, cooking and BBQ area and a new boathouse right beside the hallowed Willow pitch! Today, you can still fish Redmire, but not for £1 per day! In my next piece I will describe the work that went on in the winter of 2018 to save the fishery from almost certain demise, and what was found when they drained the lake and dredged out 6,000 tons of red silt, returning the lake back to its former glory.

I would jump at the chance to visit there again just to view the new restored pool which I last saw just before the work started in the Autumn of 2018. Previously, I had not been down there for 53 years! I will talk about the 'Restoration' in my final episode of the Redmire saga in next month's issue (August).

Bob Rolph

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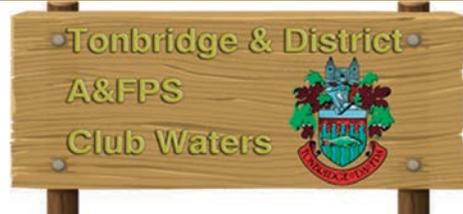
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Medway Man

Bob Morris

For the first time ever, I missed the opening day of the river fishing season! This has been for a variety of reasons, with the main one being an attack of 'Arthritis' in my right leg!!



This meant that I would have been restricted to the few places that I could fish close to the car and although I was tempted, I then had to consider various domestic issues that would have to take precedence - something that probably would not have been a consideration in days of old, as I would have found a way to accommodate all activities and still get the first night in on the river or lakeside. However, I can assure you that I will be 'busting a gut' to start rectifying this situation very shortly!

The 'Glorious 16th' as it was traditionally called was a date that was always ringed in red on my calendar and although my fondest memories are of misty dawns on the first morning with Carp or Tench being my main quarry, I have in more recent time transferred this annual ritual to the riverside and I can well recall many first nights, ensconced in my chosen swim, amongst the lush undergrowth, awaiting the final few minutes before the 'Kick off' and the traditional brew up just before the magic moment of the first cast of the new season.

There are many tales to tell of first nights on the rivers, both locally and further afield and I think that overall my

memories of the actual first night from the fishing (fish catching) point of view are that the disappointing ones are in the majority. Having said that, frequently this has been followed by a very productive period which has then restored my faith in what I am doing on the tactics front. Expectations for the results on first night of the new season can often be unrealistic, particularly on a river, where weather conditions, water levels and



A nice way to start - but not this year

the spawning cycle can have a huge affect on the likely chance of success. By contrast my recollections of opening sessions on still waters are generally the opposite with some spectacular results being achieved on many occasions with, sometimes, the level of success completely outstripping my expectations on an ongoing basis. I have recently been thinking about some of these past events, in order to inspire my writing of some of the chapters for the new book - which I am hoping to have published and out on sale in September. There are so many memories/stories that it is really a matter of just picking one or two appropriate ones for inclusion. I am hoping to be able to release further details of how to order copies of the book or where to collect etc, soon but I am happy to talk to anyone interested in the book - either by phone, email or whatever ahead of this.

I am now approaching the final stages of putting it all together now, but it is a complicated process when doing it yourself and I can only say that I am reasonably happy with the progress at the moment.



Bob's favourite method



They don't have to be big



Netting an intruder



Another interloper

Finally, just to turn the subject back to my actual fishing activities recently, I can report that in spite of the various problems and activities mentioned above, I have been continuing my pursuit of Tench with a certain amount of success. I have not been targeting the larger specimens, in particular, but have had one or two good ones and some reliable action in the margin swims - which has been allowing me to use my favourite float tactics. Most pleasing of all is the fact that a couple of waters that I had not fished before have responded quite well, albeit that I still have much exploring to do.

As previously mentioned in the column, I have often found the need to fish much heavier than I would like in these margin swims because of the chance of the pitch being invaded by large Carp and recent sessions have been no exception to this - with at least six decent sized ones including a couple of mid twenties showing up - although how this 'considerable disturbance' has affected my Tench catches and prospects I am still not too sure! On two occasions I have actually been feeding the carp on the surface with cat biscuits in an (only partially successful) attempt to keep them well away from the Tench swim. **How times have changed!**

Best Fishes & Species, Bob Morris

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

The weather has improved considerably over the past few weeks and the rivers are now open for business. The long Summer holidays are approaching so life looks pretty good at the moment!

There have been lots of events happening and more to come in the following weeks. I try and feature many here in the Junior Informer but lots more are posted on the magazine's Facebook page so it is worth keeping a close eye on that for up to date information. Crawley Angling Society has been holding a series of FREE Family Fishing Days at Beaver Fishery and Latchetts Lakes. These have been very well attended by people who have never fished before and those who are returning to the sport, but feel they are a little rusty and want to brush up on their forgotten skills. The final session is on 6th August at Beaver Fishery.

DDAPS have their big Junior Fishing Day at the beginning of July at Horton Kirby Lakes so that event may have passed by the time you get your magazine. However, DDAPS and The Tackle Box at Dartford arrange this event every year and it sees hundreds of people attend. It is brilliant in promoting fishing and extremely well sponsored by The Tackle Box. Reflections Angling at Dorking begin their Summer Fishing programme in August at Henfold Lakes. Look for all the information here in this month's Junior Informer section.

The South of England Show took place at the Ardingly Showground in mid-June and it was very busy and well attended. Cinder Hill Fly Fishing had a marquee alongside the pond in the middle of the showground and their instructors were offering free 'have a go' lessons to juniors who wanted to try their hand at fly fishing. During the weekend over 100 boys and girls 'had a go' and really enjoyed the experience. Perhaps many will take up fly fishing in the future and be featured in the Freshwater Informer holding a giant trout? Let's hope so!

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WINNER

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Devon Castleman



Ethan Wright



Albert Jack Crittenden - 14lbs 6ozs



Charley Milton - 12lbs 8ozs Coombewood Fishery



Beau Howell - 18lbs Darenth



Taylor Lorraine - 16lbs 8ozs Shirkoak Fishery



Bruce Bolton - 9lbs Frant Lakes



Albie Boxer - 4lbs Lydd water



Ellie Neal - Tricklebrook



Corey - 5lbs Coombewood Fishery



William Stevens - first tench



Mercy Devell



Ronnie Drouin - first fish from Orchard Place Farm



George Pikington - 9lbs



Shane



Grace Day - New PB at Sandwich Lakes



Finlay Parker - Moat Farm Pond



Matthew May - first ever carp at Knightingales Fishery



July update



from director Charles Jardine



On quite a few occasions now, I have mentioned our sister charity – Castaway. In many ways, this purpose designed initiative is a perfect counterpoint to Fishing for Schools in that the design of the day and the overarching concept is to deliver angling into the lives of those who are returning to life from the darkness that is treatment for cancer, and then the resultant tentative steps that accompany recovery.

I was chatting the other day to colleagues and every single person we knew, one way or another, had been affected by that vile disease. What better way than to seek some small solution through angling...add a tincture of nutrition and cookery, a bit of fun and away we go.... Creating a community of folk who know what others are, or have been, going through.



So, rather typically, on one of the few wet days we have had this summer, a group of absolute strangers arrived at the home of our Eastern regional F4S representative, Sally Acloque to fish her gravel pit – and despite the rain and all the disruption it brings, we had a riotous time on our first ever coarse fishing themed get together which we truly hope will inspire many more.

To be honest, those fish of summer, Rudd and Tench, I am sure, were placed on this planet to ensure that we became immersed in the sport. Each of the participants want to go again and that in itself is the best PR we could possibly have! Some asked where they could buy kit the next day, Not a bad return for a day's introduction in petulant showers of rain...and lord, it was cold, too!

The important aspect is that Castaway harmonises with our work at Fishing for Schools. The two elements should be utterly complementary and provide a seamless and effective introduction for this body of people far worse off than ourselves. I like to think that is what we do. And the two initiatives are hugely compatible.

In the future – and the conversation is still to be had – I would love to see the work that we do at Castaway start to focus more on young people and help with their cancer related issues – drawing on our unprecedented knowledge in the area of young people and educating through F4S and utilise the very special coaches we have – such as Warren White, Ian Tucker, Kevin Durman, Michael Salisbury and other similarly brilliant angling coaches throughout the UK – all of whom, do not just possess a phenomenal skill at teaching angling methods and other skills to young people, but have huge empathy and compassion for the people in their gaze.

Another one of those 'watch this space' moments! **Charles Jardine**



First barbel for Joshua King!

Joshua King sent me this report after catching his first ever barbel from a local river:

"Morning Barry, It's Joshua. Dad and I went for an early morning fish on the river and I caught my first barbel. It was caught on luncheon meat and weighed 5lbs 6ozs from a Haywards Heath club stretch of river." Joshua

Well done Joshua, top angling!



Hang on Ashleigh!

Andy Bungay sent in this report of a monster catfish caught by his daughter Ashleigh at Pittlands Angling Club. Andy had to hang on tight to her:

"A recent capture for my daughter Ashleigh whilst we were at Pittlands Lakes Angling Club, Horsmonden, weighing at 49lbs 4ozs. For the majority of the fight I had to have my arm around her waist due to the power of the fish, but after a 25 minute battle we managed to land the fish which completely smashed her previous catfish PB by 41lbs! We also lost a bigger one a short while later which took us up the other end of the lake almost spooling us before a hook pull. On to the next trip for another few!"

Thanks Andy Bungay



Look out fish, Freddie's back on the bank!

Laura Pritchett sent in this great report after her son Freddie and some fishing buddies had a recent trip to Cottington Lakes::

"Well the time had come for Freddie to find a new fishing venue for him and his fishing buddies. After emailing and ringing round, Cottington Lakes were more than happy to help us out and very accommodating and eager to assist us, so off we went for our first session on Black Lake. The shop's staff and bailiffs were brilliant, helpful and friendly and offered loads of advice. Many fish were caught and Freddie was happy with the new lake and is now eager to go back. The three boys Rhyad, Freddie and Ruben have formed a strong bond through fishing and celebrate each others' triumphs and are so quick to help one another out. This picture just sums up our first session. Here's to many more memories being made and a big thank you to Cottington Lakes!"

Laura Pritchett



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Pre-booking is essential, please contact:
Alison Edser at Reflections Angling on
07956 043922 or
email: reflectionsangling@yahoo.com



All courses are held at:
**Henfold Lakes Fishery,
Henfold Lane
near Dorking RH5 4RW**

July update

by instructor Warren White



June has been a very busy month for us with a variety of very unique projects underway offering courses to a range of groups. The courses provided for the young people have a variety of benefits. The educational side of the work that forms part of the Cast Awards focuses on relevant Health and Safety issues, weather conditions, fish care and the Countryside Code, we do not focus solely on fishing!

Stone Lodge School, Dartford

Stone Lodge are a new addition to the Fishing for Schools programme and we are thrilled that The Tackle Box at Dartford have funded the four sessions course for this local school. The Tackle Box has kindly donated all the tackle and clothing required to provide this course and to use on our other programmes as well. It has always been my belief that if the fishing industry is going to prosper in the future we need to be encouraging more young people to get involved with fishing and it is up to coaching organisations, tackle shops, fishing clubs and fisheries to play their part in attracting new blood. After all it's the youth of today that will be the future of fishing tomorrow! This is why the partnership with The Tackle Box and F4S, two big organisations in their own fields, is a special one.

It was useful that when myself and Charles Jardine (F4S Director) met with The Tackle Box, the Peet brothers knew Charles from his younger days when he lived



and fished in Kent, for me, it is my local tackle shop!

Our first session with the Stone Lodge students took place at Shorne Country Park. There is no better place to start new students than Shorne Country Park as it is full of fish, just what you want for a group of

students mostly new to fishing. They got the chance to handle plenty of fish and get used to using a disgorgers. Such a variety of fish were caught including tench, roach, crucians, perch and rudd. The course today was funded by The Tackle Box at Dartford who also supplied us with tackle and new clothing which we wore for the first time today. Brilliant!



Trevor Gibbens Group

A great day out with the Trevor Gibbens group as it happened over the Jubilee holiday so we had our own little Jubilee party! Lots of new friends were made and we had some brilliant catches of fish. This course is run by Fishing for Schools and the six sessions are funded by The Cobtree Charity Trust. Many thanks to The Cobtree Charity Trust for their ongoing support.



Longfield and Hartley Scout Group

There are not enough days in the week at present! The coaches from Fishing for Schools put on an angling session for the Longfield and Hartley scouts at Grove Farm Fishery at Hadlow College. The past couple of years with Covid has been tough for all youth organisations to keep the membership up, but by putting on exciting outdoor events such as fishing should make scouting an attractive option! We had a really good day's fishing with lots of new skills learnt and some really keen young people who have all the signs of taking up fishing as a hobby. We received a message after the event from the scout leader who attended the fishing who simply said "What a great day!" You have to admire the scouting family who give up so much of their own time to help young people.



Once again our sincerest thanks to our funders The Tackle Box at Dartford and The Cobtree Charity Trust along with the fisheries we have used at Grove Farm, Hadlow College and Shorne Country Park run by T.W.A.P.S.

TROUT INFORMER



Brick Farm Lakes

Herstmonceux, East Sussex



Brick Farm Lakes Ladies Day - bring a friend Sunday 17th July 2022

Let's Get Fishing ... No Experience or Tackle Necessary!

Are you already a keen female angler? Or perhaps you've recently started fly fishing with your partner and wonder how many other women enjoy the sport? Let's get more ladies involved.... bring a female friend along to our first Ladies Day and take advantage of professional coaching and a friendly atmosphere with fellow females interested in the sport... all in the stunning Sussex countryside at BRICK FARM LAKES.

For only £45pp you will receive a 2-fish ticket, all equipment & licences (if needed) and...

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10am - fishing commences (with professional coaches available)

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Licensed bar available

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26th August 2022 - the

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The Fishing Lodge
Brick Farm
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East Sussex
BN27 4RS



01892 826041 / 07951 304515



www.springhilltroutwaters.co.uk



A busy South of England Show for Cinder Hill Trouting!



The South of England Show took place at the Ardingly Showground over three days in mid-June. All the days were very well attended with thousands of visitors enjoying the show and all its attractions.

Cinder Hill Trouting Syndicate, a friendly local trout fishing group, had their usual marquee alongside the Showground's onsite pool and members were on hand to chat with fellow anglers and non-angling visitors who were interested in trying their hand at fly casting. Cinder Hill's instructors, Mark and Kevin, were kept very busy throughout the weekend with over 100 individual tuitions, many for keen juniors who wanted to try this method of fishing.

Cinder Hill kindly invited the Freshwater Informer along to share their stand for the weekend and I enjoyed many conversations with anglers and was able to say hello to a lot of magazine readers.



One family came along with their young son Zach and stayed for ages. Zach was very chatty and drew me a couple of fishing pictures and another picture done with his new 'magic' pens! However, he took the 'magic' picture home with him!

It was a thoroughly enjoyable weekend indeed.

Here is a small selection of photos from the weekend:





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Andy Lush - The Friendly Fisherman

Lure Fishing

Go West!

James Gardner and I made the long journey west down the M4 towards Bristol, our destination for the next two days would be Bristol Water's Chew and Blagdon reservoirs. We hadn't fished these stunning waters for at least ten years! It's incredible how easily it's been to get into a routine of travelling up country to the Midlands where so many trout waters are within easy reach of each other.

One of the advantages of having fished different waters, for different species, over many years around the country is that you make friends with other "like-minded" anglers. It's helpful knowing you can call on them for some up-to-date information and advice on how a particular water is fishing. Martin Cottis, who guides on Chew and Blagdon, got my call a few days before our trip. Martin informed me that the Chew was still fishing slowly with hatches of buzzers sparse and confined to the shallow margins, on the downwind shore. If the wind dropped however in the evening there would be a chance of catching on small dry flies such as his favourite 'Bob's Bits', in black, claret or fiery brown. Blagdon was also tricky he told me with a few olives hatching in the shallows at the 'top end' but the buzzer hatches here were sparse also.

James and I really enjoy fishing "away from home" as often as possible. Fishing unfamiliar waters tests our ability and broadens our knowledge as we try to adapt to the prevailing conditions. The weather affects the fish's behaviour and location so we have to tune our approach accordingly. The first thing we try to do is establish a pattern which will enable us to catch more fish, quickly. This usually means fishing from a drifting boat covering as much water as possible while fishing a variety of depths. The first fish encountered is always vital as we hope that the first pieces of the puzzle are falling into place. What depth, what speed of retrieve, which density fly line, which fly, what position on the leader? All these elements hopefully provide the vital information that will lead us to success. Adapting our approach, which sees us using similar, but slightly different tactics, helps us succeed. So you can see how each catch is hard earned, but the sense of achievement far outweighs their size!

Chew reservoir BS40 8XH [01275-332339]

The weather was not looking good with a very strong north westerly blowing the length of the reservoir. I met Martin Cottis and another local legend John Horsey who also guides on both reservoirs, in the car park where we discussed our best options. Most of the boats would be heading behind 'Denny Island' seeking shelter; fortunately there were plenty of fish here. Martin told me there were also fish in 'Herons', it was less sheltered so would be less busy. This was where we headed as it would give us the option to drift.

Our first drifts started on the up-wind shore where we had most shelter. If fish were feeding high in the water they would be here, if not our short drifts would take us into the shallow downwind banks. As we left the shelter our drift speed gradually increased, approaching the shallows downwind we felt we were drifting too fast. We were going to have to "drop the hook" and anchor up if we wanted to fish in the subtle manner we suspected would be necessary to catch.

Fortunately just before we decided to do this, I caught a fish and James had a take so we had located some fish. Being in water no deeper than 7ft our choice of fly line was easy, it had to be a floater. The fish we'd been told preferred skinny flies fished almost static. My team consisted of Claret Hopper - top, FM Nemo Cruncher - middle and a weighted FM Kingfisher Damsel - as a sacrificial point fly to anchor the cast and also create an angle in my leader, so each fly would search a different depth. James team was a black FM Pseudo Diawl Bach - top, brown Cruncher - middle and FM Hot Head Damsel - point.

We dropped anchor in about 10ft which allowed us to cast into the shallower margins and slowly inch our flies back towards the boat. It sounds easy but we had to compensate for the boat's yawing motion as it swung from side-to-side on the anchor as the wind gusts increased. Takes were at a premium and it was surprising how a small tactical change can make such a big difference. I changed my top dropper fly to a buoyant FM Mini Coral Booby. This resulted in three fish in a matter of fifteen minutes. Only one took the booby, the others took the middle dropper Nemo, why? My idea to use a buoyant fly was to effectively shorten the



Fishing on the drift, searching for fish

sinking section of my leader and create a steeper angle in the leader to hover my middle dropper and point fly above the weed. James also made a small change replacing the Hot Head Damsel for the lighter Kingfisher Damsel which again was a subtle difference. This immediately produced two small pike both around 5lbs before he hooked something substantially bigger. His rod now took on a full fighting curve without the desired effect; the large pike resisted leaving the bottom, shook its head once and bit through the leader!

After this the takes dried up unsurprisingly so we just moved along the bank and re-anchored in the same depth. By regularly moving in this fashion we managed to catch a few more rainbows which was very satisfying. The wind showed no signs of abating as the evening approached so we decided to anchor on the more sheltered up-wind shore, still in Herons. This produced a final flurry of fish and seeing some rising as they mooched along the weedy margins which gave us hope that the fish were becoming more active. Fingers crossed for the following day on Blagdon!



Fulling Mill
Mini Coral
Booby

Blagdon reservoir BS40 7UN [01275-332339]



Andy's happy place, Blagdon

Blagdon is a very special place nestling in a valley overlooked by the Mendips, the lake sits surrounded by farmland, and tranquillity. I've always found the fishing here testing, never easy, but very satisfying when you eventually hook up. So why do I love this place so much? A good question really, but sometimes you just find your 'happy place' and Blagdon's mine.

Yet again another wild day was forecast with the wind increasing from mid-morning onwards. Being so close to the Severn Estuary, Blagdon doesn't get much shelter from westerly winds which was the direction it was today. It was an easy choice to head up the 'top end', as it was at the bottom of the wind where most fish were likely to be. We bumped into Martin Cottis again, he was guiding a client and he also suggested the 'top end' was where we should start.

Not knowing the water well we decided to fish on the drift, seeing if we could locate fish before "plotting up". This turned out to be a mistake as a few easy fish were caught early on by

those who elected to drop anchor from the off. By the time we realised what we needed to do it was already too rough to hold anchor in the exposed open water at the 'top end'. We had to seek shelter and ended up in 'home bay', just out from the boat harbour.

We anchored in around 10ft of water and were now able to present our flies much more slowly, with more control. This didn't bring the desired result instantly, but after an hour James and I had bagged a fish each, time to move! Well we thought it was a good idea to try other sheltered areas in the hope of stumbling on more fish. We tried 'Cheddar water', the dam and 'Butcombe bay' before heading back to 'home bay', with our "tails between our legs". We dropped the hook in a similar area as before and tried again. We were both fishing floating lines with similar flies as yesterday. I had however replaced my buoyant booby top dropper fly with a hopper when we were drifting in an effort to fish through the depths. Now I switched back to the booby on the top dropper and instantly caught three fish in four casts on the Nemo Cruncher! This couldn't be a coincidence; again the fish were being very picky as no one else was catching. Martin was intrigued that I was using a buoyant fly on the top dropper rather than the usual point position when fishing the "washing line" method. The "washing line" presents all the flies in a horizontal plane just sub-surface whereas my tactic still fished through the depths but effectively the buoyant fly was suspending my flies around mid-water and just off the bottom. After this brief success something changed and we continued scratching around trying to work out what we needed to change without finding the solution.

We finally packed up as the light began to fade; coincidentally the wind was dropping too. Martin's boat was still on the water as we left, he later informed me he bagged four fish on his favourite dry flies, at last knockings. So much for local knowledge!




GUIDED LURE & FLY FISHING DAYS

WITH ANDY LUSH

Andy offers a guiding service for those who want to learn more about 'Lure Fishing' and 'Fly Fishing'

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

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

TROUT Reservoirs or smaller stillwaters in the South East. These days are suitable for beginners or improvers who wish to learn 'how to catch more fish', or just have a FUN day with an experienced fly fisherman.

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

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

Til' next month, tight lines Andy Lush



Coarse Fisheries

Beaver Farm Fishery Eastbourne Road Newchapel, Lingfield RH7 6HL	01342 324006 / 07710 656041
Charlies Lakes Steeds Lane, Kingsnorth, Ashford TN26 1NH	07857 539785
Chequertree Trout and Coarse Fishery Bethersden, Near Ashford TN26 3JR	01233 820078
Claygate Lakes Collier Street, Claygate, Marden TN12 9PL	07770 513448
Coombe Wood Fishery Redbrook Street High Halden, Near Ashford TN26 3JH	07895 679569
Elphicks Fisheries Spelmonden Road, Horsmonden TN12 8EL	01580 212512
Eureka Fishery Nicholas Road Kennington, Ashford, Kent TN25 4AG	07597 879621
Frant Lakes Hawkenbury Road Bells Yew Green, Tunbridge Wells TN3 9AP	01892 616424
Furnace Brook Fishery and Fish Farm Trolliloes, Cowbeech, near Hailsham BN27 4QR	01435 830835
Gabriels Fishery Marsh Green Road, Edenbridge TN8 5PP	07730 066088
Greenacres Farm Fishery Sissinghurst Road, Biddenden TN27 8EH	07933 934942
Hartley Lands Fishery Swattenden Lane, Cranbrook TN17 3PS	07703 825064
Hawkhurst Fish Farm Hastings Road, Hawkhurst TN18 4RT	01580 753813
Horam Manor Fishery Horam Manor Farm Horam TN21 0JB	01323 840889 / 07707 759364
Horsmonden Lakes Grovehurst Road, Horsmonden TN12 8BQ	01892 838576
Iden Wood Fishery Coldharbour Lane Iden, Rye TN31 7UT	01797 280180 / 07906 232225
Knightingales Fishery Stone-In-Oxney, Near Tenterden TN30 7HA	07941 176205
Mousehole Lakes Maidstone Road Nettlestead, Near Paddock Wood ME18 5HR	07725 783405
Orchard Place Farm Fishery Pearsons Green Road Paddock Wood, Kent TN12 6NY	01892 838576
Pittlands Lakes Churn Lane Horsmonden, Paddock Wood TN12 8HL	01892 723068
Sandwich Lakes Coarse Fishery Sandwich Ash Road (A257) Near Canterbury CT3 2DA	07936 409912
Shirkoak Fishery Bethersden Road, Woodchurch, Ashford TN26 3PZ	07973 410973
The Lakes at Beachborough Beachborough Park Newington, Near Folkestone CT18 8BW	07469 809877
Tricklebrook Fishery Colts Hill, Five Oak Green TN12 6SH	07743 955812
Willows Angling Centre Bax Farm, Lower Road, Teynham ME9 9BU	01795 520887
Wylands Farm Wylands Farm, Powdermill Lane, Battle TN33 0SU	01424 893394

Trout Fisheries

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

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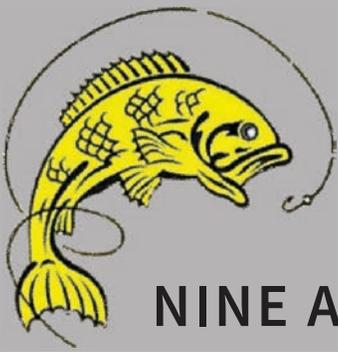
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Arun Angling Centre The Old Blacksmiths Yard Water Lane, Angmering BN16 4EP	01903 770099

Best Buddies 28 Martello Drive Dymchurch Road, Hythe CT21 6PH	01303 487144
Bodle Angling Cuckfield Road, Burgess Hill RH15 8RE	01444 247757
Camos Carp Cabin 11 Turner Street, Ramsgate CT11 8NJ	01843 581784
Crowborough Tackle Shop 2, Lexden Lodge, Crowborough Hill Crowborough, East Sussex TN6 2EG	01892 667671
Dens Tackle 73 Dymchurch Road, Hythe CT21 6JN	01303 267053
Eastbourne Aquarium & Reptile Centre 19-21 Seaside, Eastbourne BN21 3PP	01323 730635
Gabriels Fishery Tackle Shop Marsh Green Road, Edenbridge, Kent TN8 5PP	07730 066088
Henfold Bait & Tackle Henfold Lakes Henfold Lane, Newdigate, Dorking RH5 4RW	07956 043922
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South London Angling Centre 286 Lee High Road, London SE13 5PJ	0208 852 4451
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Angling Clubs & Societies

Bromley (Kent) & District AS PO Box 895, East Grinstead RH19 9ND email: bdas-kent-enquiry@bdaskent.co.uk	
Cinder Hill Fly Fishing Membership available from email: r.nathan@btinternet.com	01892 770903
Cypri Angel Pool Bexley carp syndicate membership water enquiries to Dean Bray dean.bray@hotmail.com /	07843 272328
Fly Dressers Guild (Sussex Branch) New members welcome Contact Simon	07799 484166
Hastings Bexhill & District Postal enquiries to S. Corke, 2 The Sidings, Bexhill On Sea TN40 1RF Chris Pagan 07429 655237 / Steve Potter 07935 268174	
Linton Angling Society Jason Tuckey on	07983 569220 or email lassecretary@lintonangling.co.uk
North Sussex Piscatorials email: northsussexpiscatorials@gmail.com Parish Lane, Pease Pottage, Sussex RH10 5NY	07824 443720
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