



*Lest we Forget*

Issue 21 November 2017

*'GEEZER' is at  
it again !!!!!*



Inside this month -  
Scott 'Geezer' Grant  
Gary milky lowe  
Paul Hobbo Hobbs  
Alby Smith  
Mark Carper..... Plus Much much More





*Hello and welcome...*

*To another belting read of your favourite  
FREE online carp magazine!!*

*Winter is practically upon us, so please  
remember, whilst the days are not too bad still,  
the nights are now long, dark and cold.... So  
make sure you start taking all your winter survival  
gear boys and girls. It is better to have it and not  
use it, than to not have it and completely ruin  
what could be a great session...*

*Get the 5 season bags out, extra gas canisters,  
spare clothes in the car... extra tea bags in case I  
am in the area!!!*

*We hope you enjoy our writers' articles again for  
this month... we have a fine bunch here now!!  
Don't forget you can contact us anytime on the  
emails below, and keep those articles, catch  
reports and pics coming in.  
Till next month... wobbly bobbins.*

*Team Talking Carp*

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Les Etangs De L’Ecurie, Etang St. Pierremont, Carp Gran  
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# *The Black Lagoon Part two by Scott Geezer Grant*

Following on from part one..... and to bring you up to speed, myself and Steve had just finished our dinner a banging curry my mrs had made, as we sat discussing what to have for pudding my middle rod ripped off!! I lifted the rod and could tell it was a better fish, it weeded me up several times, as the fish neared the bank a big clump of weed was attached to my line it had lodged itself around the lead clip and all up the tubing as I walked back Steve was ready with the net, as the fish got closer Steve said it was a "good fish with a very pale belly," hopefully it was the leather that goes around the mid 20lb mark. The fish was ready and as Steve slid the net under her and lifted he knocked her off!!! What a complete \*\*\*\*\*!!... I must admit with the amount of

weed around the fish I couldn't even tell if she was in the net.

Steve felt terrible and apologised profusely, I just said it's okay mate these things happen, but a little while later after I got the rod back out I let him have it, I called him everything and he took it like a man, I was playing on the situation big time.. every now and then looking away as I couldn't stop laughing. I topped the area up with a couple of kilos of mixed sized boilies via the throwing stick, hoping the fish were still feeding in the area, Steve was yet to bank a fish and we were hoping it wouldn't be long before his alarms started to sing.

We ended up having a box of Mr Kiplings finest the old faithful cherry Bakewell's washed down with a cup of coffee made

with the foulest milk ever (as Steve was making it) long life crap!!!.. honestly it baffles me as to why when anglers go fishing they drink crap coffee and crap milk and never have any sugar, and yet when I'm making the coffee with top notch coffee, top notch milk they love it and they have the nerve to want sugar as well!... It's a total joke I can tell you, but I will always make a legendary cup of the finest.

I continued to give him a barrage of abuse and we were rudely interrupted by Steve's left-hand rod, and at the same time the rain made an appearance yet again, he was on it like a flash and after a short battle I done the honours with the net (and no I didn't knock it off). It turned out to be a small common but welcome all the same,





he was as pleased as punch and after a few snaps the fish was treated and returned. Darkness was well upon us and being in deepest Essex there was little light to be had, but with the aid of my RM Tec headtorch he managed to get the rod back out on the spot, with the rain now evident we were both soaked but in high spirits for hopefully a few more fish. After a few more coffees (yes, I did get my milk) we decided the rain was in for the night so I went back to my bivvy to dry

out and get changed.

I ended up laying on my bed relaxing so much I fell asleep and was woken by a few bleeps on the right-hand rod, I looked



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at my phone and it was 6 o'clock in the morning!!! This is a sure sign I'm getting older. I stuck the kettle on still half asleep and must have dozed off as when I came around a few minutes later my bivvy was like a sauna!!... I am a danger to myself sometimes, but I bet it's something many an angler has done before. I made the coffee and nipped out for a leak, it was quite chilly and damp and when I looked over at Steve's bivvy there was no sign of life..lazy

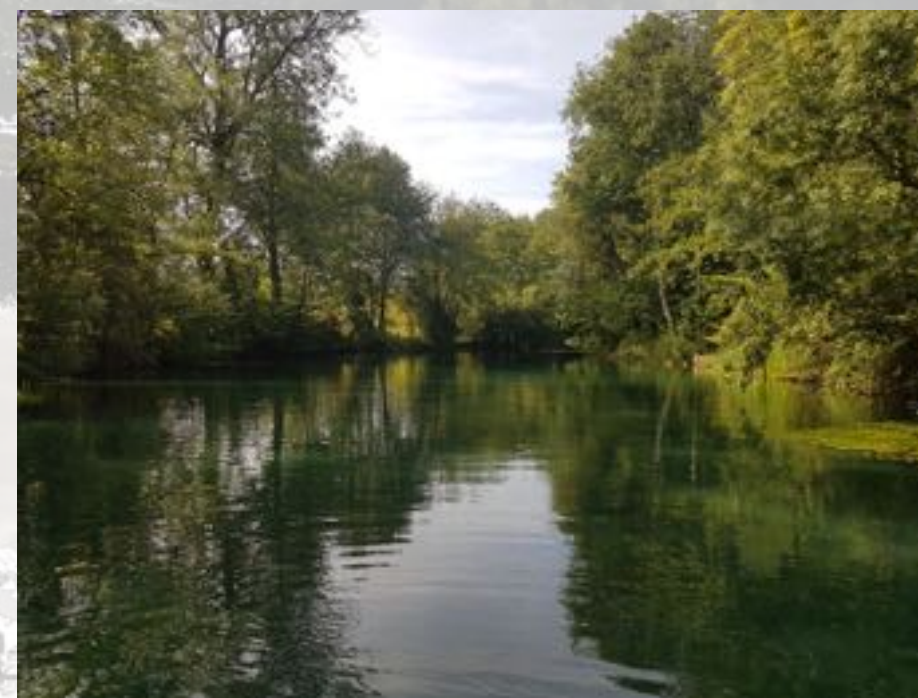
I kept on getting the odd liner and as my line was laying across and in the weed, it was a sure sign the fish were mooching about, as the sun got higher in the sky the temperature started to rise and it became quite pleasant, the bivvy sides were pulled back and it was nice just to lay there watching the water, that was until a gravelly northern voice piped up, low and behold Steve had arose and was wanting a proper morning coffee, he'd



also had a quiet night on the fish front, but was also getting a few liners.

Come 11:00 o'clock I was down to shorts

and a tee shirt, the rain had finally done one, Steve was doing the honours and cooking breakfast again, which totally blew me away, I will never live it down how much gas he's used on this trip. At one point I thought he was going to have a meltdown as he had to change his gas bottle... the one he'd only been using for the last 2 years!!!! I was wallowing in it and was finding any excuse for him to light his gas stove.



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Proper funny stuff and you had to be there to really appreciate what I'm trying to write.

As we sat eating what was now brunch my receiver let out a couple of bleeps, again liners, then a few more, I took a stroll and stood by my rods, my line was twitching like a goodun, just watching it was getting the heart racing and I was saying any minute now that rod has got to go. Well

after 10 minutes the line stopped twitching and I was hoping the fish had moved out of the weed and onto the dance floor! maybe some 20 minutes later and the right hand rod was away, as I lifted the rod the fish had already weeded me up to the point where the fish wasn't budging, I applied a little pressure but the fish was staying put, I decided to try an old trick and put the rod back on the

buzzer, open the bail arm and let the line off. Hoping the fish will think it's shed the hook as there is now no tension on the line whatsoever and swim out. Ten minutes went by, 20 minutes went by and after 40 minutes of sitting watching my line I decided to don the life jacket and take to the boat, thinking that if I get above the fish in the boat (if it's still on) should release it.



I jumped into the boat and Steve passed my rod and net, I reeled slowly down towards the fish and the boat thought it was torville and dean ffs! spinning left then right then left again, thankfully it wasn't windy otherwise it could have been a completely different story. Finally, I was above the fish and low and behold she popped out of the weed straight into and under the biggest bed of silt I have ever seen, this really was turning into an endurance test and there were a few f\*\*\*s being thrown around I can tell you. I managed to net the fish which was a small mirror along with lorry loads of silt and as I was trying to row back to the bank the bed of silt that was half in the boat was pulling me back. Steve was howling with laughter, but myself on the other hand was not!! I

managed to pull free of the silt bed and got the fish back to the bank, the fish really are dark with lots of character and some maybe only small but in a few years' time there is going to be some right lumps in here.

Later in the afternoon/early evening owners Ian and Catherine popped up with little Alfie, as we sat chatting Ian mentioned that he didn't recognise

the twenty common I'd had and it had surely come up through the ranks and avoided capture, he asked me to name the fish and jokingly I said the "Nutjob," we all started laughing then he looked at me and said "Nutjob" it is then.

Alfie is a great kid and while all the banter and laughter was taking place he sat quietly on my bed chair playing his game







console happy as a pig in the proverbial. As the owners were getting ready to leave Steve had a take on his right-hand rod & the fish wasn't giving up easy and took him straight into the pads. Steve kept the pressure on and managed to turn the fish and he swam straight out and into the waiting net, he had bagged a better fish this time... a nice double figured common. Ian and Catherine were pleased we had both caught and all the

fish were clean with no ripped/damaged mouths etc. Ian done the honours with the photos, then the fish was returned, and they



left as Alfie wanted his dinner... so did Ian.

Time was really getting on and by the time they left it was around 8pm. That's the trouble when you're in good company time just seems to fly, both of us didn't really feel hungry enough to cook a dinner and with the rain back it was now an impossibility!!... so, we made do with biscuits and crisps, with our bellies topped up we retired to bed around 10pm and hoped



one of us would be doing the honours with the net for the other. Unfortunately, it wasn't to be but boy did I enjoy my first ever session on the Black Lagoon, a lake steeped in history and the fish don't give themselves up easy, so when you catch one it's something special.

Myself and Steve would like to thank both Ian and Catherine for inviting us down and for the hospitality they showed us, we will definitely be back!!





This was the last time I used Galaxy Baits, and I would just like to thank Michael Baker the owner for his generosity over the last 2 years. Galaxy will always be dear to my heart, and Micky will always remain a good friend.

I have moved onto pastures new, after a lengthy meeting I have joined the ever-growing team over at

UK Bait Company and I am extremely excited of what the future brings and where this company is heading.

For more information on lake rules etc visit The Black Lagoon Facebook page.

I would like to thank the following companies for their products of which I use in my fishing.

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All the best  
Geezer



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# BACK TO THE PARK LAKE

by  
Gary Milky Lowe

Well after the result at the park lake, I was keen to get back to the syndicate to try and get one of its gems. Well things didnt really go to plan, it was a Sunday afternoon, I was getting my gear ready for an early start Monday morning when I had a call from work saying there was a few urgent things that needed to be done. This was going to take a few days so that was the syndicate out of the question!

As the local park lake is not even five minutes down the road, i could get a few overnights in, so that was plan two. I still carried on getting my gear ready but there was a few diffrent things that i would be using that I wouldn't use on the syndicate; the main thing is that i would be using a lot of particle and chopped boilie. So the

jars of mainline power particles were pulled from the shed, I was also going to use some sweetcorn just to mix things up a bit, I would also take a few killos of mainlines finest the cell. Once this was all done i could sit down and relax for the evening before work.

Come the morning i was up early and started on what i had to do, well i managed to get most of it done, and by two o'clock I was out the back getting my gear out the shed and loading the car. Once the car was loaded I said my goodbyes to the wife and I was off to the lake. I had an idea where I wanted to be and it was the same swim that I had a fish from the week before.

Just of the spit, where there is a big weed bed, this is where the fish had been holding

up. So as soon as i got to the left hand side car park i was happy that the swim was free. There was some one in the peg next door, but they were packing up, so I grabbed my rod bag and quickly ran to the swim so no one else could claim it. Once this was done i could slowly get the rest of the gear to the swim. As it looked like it was going to rain , I started with the broolly, once that was up and the other bits were set I could then concentrate on the rods .

Just as I started to sort the rods the heavens opened!! So I forgot that idea, put the kettle on, made a brew and waited for it to stop. In the mean time I tied up 3 new rigs, all 3 rigs were going to be the same as I used last time. It was going to be a kd rig using ; 15lb merlin with no tangle gel, a size 8 fang twister and a few





baseline bits to keep it all on the lake bed. After about half an hour the rain started to ease so i could now get the rods on the spots. The spit of land to the left of me had a few overhanging trees, that's where the left hand rod was going to go. Although i was not going to go tight to the spit, as it was quite weedy there, I found a spot that was about two rod lengths off. Just between two weed beds it was very clean, as I pulled the lead on the marker rod back, it glided like it

was on glass. I popped the marker float up it was 11ft. i placed the marker rod on the floor, picked up my rod and baited it with a cell dumbbell topped with a yellow cell corn topper. I then casted it spot on!! right next to the marker!! It was time to put some bait out, 10 spombs of chopped cell was fired out with another 20 spombs of power particle and corn.

The other two rods were going to be casted into open water to my right. About

40yards out, just in front of a very big weed bed where I had the fish from before. The marker rod was casted out just to find the front of the weed. Then both rods were baited with the same as the rod near the spit and then cast ether side of the marker rod. Then once again I spombed more chopped cell and mixed particle over the top.

I then left all three rods on the floor so the `12lb krystonite line would sink and lay on the lake bed.

After about 5mins i was sure the line was tight to the bottom, I then placed the rods on the rests and sat back in the bivvy with a nice brew.

It was about four o'clock when I saw my first fish and yes it was no where near my rods. Infact it was over the bar to my left. in another swims water but atleast I had seen one. I had a few people come down for a chat but there was quite a few people walking around the park

making it relatively noisy. So I was quite happy when it started to get dark, most of the people in the park drifted off home and the lake became quiet therefore I could relax for the evening. As it got darker the fish became very active, which they had done over the last few weeks and they were closer to me as well. This filled

me with confidence as I sat there drinking tea. I continued to hear fish crashing out all over the pond, I thought if they are this active they must be feeding! A lot of the fish that I had caught had been between 10pm and 4am in the morning.

At about nine o'clock I started to get liners on the two rods that were out in open water. I sat on my hands ready for a take, as this is how all the other bites had first started. The liners were becoming

very fierce and most of them were where the bobbing was hitting the rod, I was up and down like a yo yo!! well as the time passed the linnners got less and less until they stopped. I had either been done or they had just feed and gone. Now do I put more bait out or not?

I decided to just put another 10 spods out, just so I new there was bait there over the two rods.

Now it was gone 10 and this is the time that the bites were coming. So I sat up for





another hour and in that time I heard a few fish just behind my two right hand rods in the weed. All they had to do was come out and there is a meal waiting for them....

Well I fell asleep and the next thing I knew I was woken by a few bleeps on the left hand rod, which was away from where I had seen and heard the fish. So I sat up and thought I would have a brew and just watch. I looked at my watch and it was 4.00 bang on. I sat there hearing fish rolling to the left hand side of the swim, so the fish that were on the right had moved. While drinking my cuppa I had a few more bleeps then suddenly the rod burst into life. The fish took a bit of line and stopped. So then I picked up the rod, it was solid, the fish had gone into the weed bed behind my spot!! I kept gentle pressure

on the rod and line and I felt a kick and it slowly started to move. I kept the rod high and slowly began to gain some line on the fish. After a while it came free and shot to my right and found another weed bed and had to go through the same as before!! Slow pressure and it was moving and getting closer, eventually a big ball of weed was in front of me, not having felt it kick for a good 5 mins I didn't know if the fish was still on. I scooped the whole weed bed up then put the rod on the floor, with my head torch on I started

to rip the weed out of the net, I felt the back of a fish so it was still on thank god! After I got most of the weed out the net I could see that there was a very dumpy mirror in the net it wasn't massive about mid double but I was happy with that. I got the Shure care oval mat ready, the sling and scales and weighed her. On the scales she went 18lb bigger than I thought. A few pictures and I returned her back.

The left hand rod was re-done on the distance sticks, rebaited and cast back



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on the spot. I then put out another 10 spombs over the top, while I was doing this, the fish had seemed to have moved again. They were back on the right this time! They were showing over the top of the two rods, I started to get liners on both rods again. As it was getting light by now I decided to stay up and have a brew while watching the water and fish. But as soon as I had lit the stove the bobbin on the right hand rod hit the blank and took a bit of line. It couldn't take to much as I had the clutch fairly tight to stop them from hitting the weed, but even so it found a weed bed and was solid once more. Gentle pressure and she slowly started to move, in the low light I could see a big weed bed moving towards me. Well I kept the rod high and reeled slowly till finally the big weed

bed was in front of the swim. I had no fight from the fish at all and still don't know if it's on or not, so I turned on the head torch, looked down at the weed bed and I could see the leader and the top of the hook length. The lead had done its job and come off. When I started to pull the weed off around the leader, I felt the back of what felt like a good fish so now I started to panic! How was I going to get the weed and the fish in the net? Well I sank the net, pushed it as far as I could, out under the weed and lifted it up. I then dropped the rod and tried to pull it towards me. At the same time I must have touched the fish with the net as the water exploded and all I saw was the net going forward. The fish was in the net so I lifted it as much as I could and yes there she was! Lying in the

weed in the net, I had broken the cord on my net, but I wasn't bothered about that. I started to pull all of the weed out of the net so I could lift it and the more the weed I took out the bigger the fish got. It looked like one of the big commons in the lake, I didn't know which one it was yet, but as they are all tagged I would see when I scanned it later. Eventually I had just the fish in there and it was indeed one of the big commons! Once I had got everything ready mat, scales sling etc.,

**I lifted her up on the scales and the needle swung round to 30lb 6oz!.....**

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I was well chuffed, so I slipped it into the retainer and placed her in the edge, I text mike who normally walks round the lake early in the mornings. He said he would be here in a min and as I put the phone down nutty Luke turned up, with a 30 you have to have it verified by three

people so i was glad he came too. Well I zeroed my spare sling and up she went on the scales they said it went 31lb!! Bigger than when I weighed her. Now I was well chuffed, I scanned the side of her and it had been chipped. A quick look showed she was last out in march at

29lb 14.

As it was over 30lb i got to name her and I decided to name her after the wife's mother who is no longer with us. So a few snaps and nora was sent on her way, as it was a quick overnigher it wasn't long before I had to pack up, but while I

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over 30lb!!

That's not bad for north wales! I packed up and drove home one happy chap.

Next month i will be doing a little write up on Brasenose 2 as we are going down for a 48hr session to do some filming from taska/kryston.

was sitting there i made one last brew. Just thinking that this little park lake is going to be one hell of a

water soon. As some of the fish are packing the weight on in a few years time there will be more than a dozen fish

so untill then tight lines.

*Milky*



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## Hello Talking Carp readers!

I hope everyone out there is well. As the hands of time have gone back it's without further ado a brilliant question has landed on my desk! **Mr. John Dixon** has a quandary, he fishes a well-stocked local water. He wants a few hints and tips to keep the winter bites coming.

Well thank you John, I hope with all your season of knowledge so far it will help with your fishing this winter. A good tip and well worth the effort is to keep a log even if you just jot down other anglers catches or if and when you see a fish show, it is always vital to keep your eyes and ears open. This will pay dividends in the coming months. Sometime a carp will even reveal themselves in these long dark nights. I would fish for a bite at a time and build your swim and if you have to move, move.

Feeding spells can be small so to nick a quick bite with high attract and visual baits. These are always a good armour. Don't ignore zigs and don't ignore the sunny side of the bank. Even the smallest change in water temperature can make all the difference.

Keep your end tackle to what you know works and is reliable. Bites are hard enough to get in the winter and it's not the best time to start trying new rigs, use what you know and trust.

Keep yourself warm and dry, a good set of boots is a must, even though that's not going to buy you a bite! Winter fishing is a lot easier if you are a 'happy carper'.

Until next time be lucky and keep your questions and catch reports coming in.

*Paul*



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## What a Month by Alby Smith

Well I'd like to start this month's write up by saying it's been a very eventful month in and out of fishing, with not too much bank time. Firstly, I'd like to get on to my birthday treat, which saw me and my missus travel down to Essex to fish a lake called 'The Quarry'; a very low stocked (250) pit the size of 25 acres. Taking around 5 hours to reach, which seems like a lot for a 2-hour journey, but we had a few pit stops and hit 20 mph traffic for the best part of 2 hours!! Finally arriving at the quarry gates after a few days prepping bait, kit and also one hell of a drive, we wasted no time in getting out the car and jackets on to scope the place out. Along our walk we discovered not many fish had been out in the few weeks before us. We also checked out a few free swims along the way, one

kept coming into mind, the swim known as "Deep Bay". Now I had a tough call to make as I had also liked a swim known as "Weedy Bay 2", this area consisted of an island cut through and some open water. Although it looked very inviting and seemed like the 'CARPPYIST' swim by far it also had a lot of other angling traffic in and around this area, so it was back to my original choice "Deep Bay". After a few leds about I began to map out the lake bed and found some nice hard spots amongst abundance of weed beds....

I looked back at the missus and said, "this isn't going to be easy at all". We set about getting some bait to the spots around the 50-60 yard range, out went just over 3kg (Hinders NUT 365 10mm, Chops, hemp) over 2 spots that were

in close proximity to each other. Now to the rigs, one being a waffer rig with a plastic Korda dumbbell, dipped in Hinders betalin and Plum. The other a simple blowback boilie rig, with a 16mm NUT 365 hardened hookbait and a small stocking, glugged to match the spod mix.

After a few hours, just before dark I began to see fish boshing just off the right-hand spot. With a slow retrieve and refresh of both rigs it was back onto the spots. With a little trickle of bait over the top delivered by a throwing stick, as they continued to bosh into darkness I was confident and believed I had a good chance for a night time bite. 9pm rolled round by the time they stopped boshing out and the liners began to light up the ground below the rest, with me and the





missus sitting up to have a quick peek it stopped, at this point we were puzzled as to what exactly had stopped it. After having a brew and some time to think about what could be going on out there and know tomorrow was another day if it didn't rattle off, we settled down for the night into the bags and go some well needed rest. Early morning rolled round

and with only a couple more beeps to go by I set about resetting the rods. Moving the left hand one to the snags which were to my diagonal left, the right rod was done in quick time with bait put back over so the next job to find a clear spot just off the snags. It wasn't long before I found a clear hard spot that fish had definitely been feeding on before, it was around

1ft off the snags with a length of 6ft and width of 3-4ft, a depth from 2-3 ft to 7-9ft (just off the marginal shelf). Time to get my rig out on the new spot and some bait over both rods. With me and the missus not seeing or hearing any fish and the rigs all back out we put the breakfast on and had a brew. Throughout the day we had seen a few fish crash out just

off an island which was well over 180 yards away and all the swims around were occupied by other anglers, so a move wasn't on the cards. Returning to the swim late afternoon and noticing boshing fish just off my right-hand spot, I wrapped up and casted out, with a 'tink', I hit the clip and set the rod down on the alarm, time to sit back. After a few hours had passed, the sun began to disappear below the tree line, having still only received single beeps. I made the decision to refresh everything up for my last night. Ahead of me was around 12 hours as I had to be off the lake by 9am I set the alarm for sunrise and hit the hay. Throughout the night it remained quiet, yet very eventful with our new pet zoo joining us for warmth, keeping us awake till late trying to clear them out!! Our

zoo consisted of many different insects but mainly earwigs and a mouse that seemed to enjoy being too close for comfort. Yet again only single beeps, and no true runs I began to reset rods just after sunrise. Coming to terms that this session could become a blank we began to pack away.... all of a sudden, the delk screamed into action and with no thought I approached the rods, lifted in but in the distance, I could see Mr Swan kiting with my line. After getting him close enough to untangle and reset the rig, he then came back and repeated his obviously enjoyable move twice. He was very much a reality that I would blank this session although we now had a new attraction at our zoo, and let's say the last half hour was feeding time!! With this

we made our way back to the car and set off home.

I hadn't been out for a while until I got a call from my buddies Aaron and Ryan, they were doing a day session on a club water. As I had a few hours to spare, with only a few solid bags and a kg of boilie, we made our way down to calne 'Sabre Lakes'. This lake isn't known for big fish but does have a few secrets kept close to the chest. I hadn't seen the boys for a while so I thought why not. I set up on a peg next to a big tree snag, with another tree opposite, so the rods went out. One on a solid bag filled with hinders pellets and a piece of corn dipped in betalin. The other a stiff hinge with a squid pop up. I fed hinders spicy squid boilies on both spots and it wasn't long before the right hand



far tree spot rattled off. A nice looking mirror just over double figures decided to greet me. I tried on a fresh pva bag and sent it out again. After a few minutes i began noticing fish crashing away over to my right. I went to investigate to see that they were mouthing bits of leaves, so i rushed back to my peg and set up a free line pop up rig (have to take the chance). With a few chopped up pop ups in a mesh stocking i cast at the fish, my friends thought i was crazy due to the wind howling and rain coming down. After a few recasts I heard my delk scream into action, I got back to my peg double time to see my rod bent in half and reel screaming. I lifted into the fish and immediately felt it was one of the lakes bigger residents. After a gruelling battle at

the treeline he finally slipped over the cord weighing around 15lb, I was most certainly chuffed!! I decided to feed and leave the tree snag and get back to the top feeding fish.... After two recasts I managed to tempt a common around 9lb, after a short battle on the top i slipped him back and got to my original tree snag spot to the left. I re baited my rig and plopped a few halves in and sat back.

I only had around 30 mins till i had to go, after a short time i

began to receive liner after liner, thinking it wouldn't be very long until it would steam off. With 5 mins left till i had to go and nothing producing from the beeps i reeled in and set off home. I really did enjoy this session as i got to see my pals and even catch a few. Since these two sessions I was finding it hard to get out on the bank as prep had started for me, my partner and my two girls to finally move to our new home. With everything in boxes and limited stuff easy to hand and only



an hour to spare, I chose to visit a very close day ticket water 'specimen lake'. I had a quick look around and spoke to another angler who had been fishing for the day, he had not seen nor had any carp. After another look i found a few fish feeding in the deepest part of the lake shown by an abundance of feeding bubbles. I got the rods out, grabbed a pva bag filled with pellets, a piece of corn dipped in hinders betalin and flicked it straight into the middle of the bubbles. I then led the rod on the ground, sat back and watched the water, only 5 minutes had passed before the reel kicked into action. With a small strike into the fish.... I was in, he gave me a good hard fight and gave in after about 7 minutes. A lovely looking carp weighing 15lb on the nose, I applied fish

care products and slipped him back. With a few fish now crashing in front of a different peg i moved round with time in mind i had a few casts but didn't manage anything else. With no other sessions planned and moving day only 2 days away, I hung up the gear and looked to plan a session after the first week in our new home. That's not quite the end between moving and my next session I've been in contact with a few different bait

and tackle companies and have had an offer I can't refuse. The company that I had the offer from sells and supplies everything from head to toe. All will be revealed in the next issue where I would have hopefully been out with the company's products and I can let you all know how i find them, until next issue tight lines and wet nets.

Alby.





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# It's a Mystery By Simon pomeroy

It has always been a mystery to me that so many people within carp fishing, anglers and trade alike, simply don't appear to acknowledge what the carps diet is really made up from! They are happy to believe in the illusion that the carp's food intake revolves around man-made baits e.g. boilies, pellets and so forth, when in fact that is so far from the truth.

As anglers, I appreciate that we are influenced by the modern trends, especially with the media hype that surrounds the launch of the next best 'wonder' boilie – but to ignore the carps core food intake, the natural food sources which provide the rich and life supporting proteins needed to survive healthily, could be classed as somewhat naïve!

In my humble estimation, which particularly applies to the carp industry, so many are way off the mark and fail to appreciate that carp feed on what nature provides all year round, and far above the paltry offerings from anglers. In actual fact, and if you study it closely, you will see that the media emphasis on man-made baits versus natural food sources is back to front, with only a tiny percentage covering the natural elements and the vast majority being focused on angler baits, which relates to only a small proportion of what a carp really eats – confused? I am!!

In fact, carp fishing appears to stand alone within angling in ignoring the facts whilst other areas within fishing fully acknowledge that to catch more fish you need to understand your quarry and look to replicate what they are actually eating e.g. fly fishing, lure fishing etc. Why this is the case is a matter for conjecture though I have my suspicions that the bait industry has taken an easier, and cheaper, route than facing facts along with the 'humanising' of carp which subsequently impacts on how they are viewed by humans, which then further



impacts on how many anglers will view their targets and especially what they eat!

Come on, you tell me, how is it possible that such an imbalance can exist and this imbalance makes our sport a poorer place as if embraced more fish on the bank – and we all love to catch!

If you strip everything back to the basics, and acknowledge the above, the evidence is all around us from scientific research through to what we see whilst on the bank to support that nature has provided, throughout evolution, foods that life needs to support a healthy lifestyle. These food sources are not man-made in a factory and do not contain any man-made ingredients – they are 'Naturals' and come in thousands of different species, seemingly insignificant due to their average sizes, and some are out of sight and therefore out of mind, but when combined they provide a vast and almost unbelievable tonnage of the actual food that the carp needs to feed on, must feed on and certainly not what YOU want it to feed on!

I believe that the main sticking point for many carp anglers is that it appears impossible that nature can support fish of such size, and therefore question how seemingly insignificant natural life forms can possibly play any part in the carp's potential heavy weights. Again, we can reference evolution and the fact that carp have been found to have hit massive weights with no angler baits at all within their diet. We also have a number of parallels within nature that reinforce these facts with a favourite being the Basking Shark, a fish that has been recorded over 19 tons and forty feet in length that attain these huge sizes purely by feeding on the tiny, and in many cases microscopic, life forms that fall within the Plankton category. No man-made feed forms can have the same effect as such vast quantities of high protein food that these incredible fish filter feed from the water they live within.

You also only have to look at carp that are caught from the vast European lakes and rivers that regularly exceed weights of over 25kg where angler baits make only a tiny, if any, part of their diet. What I am highlighting is but the tip of the iceberg and even only a brief look at entomology will open your eyes to what species are available all year round that, even in the coldest months of winter, are able to fulfil the nutritional wants of our quarry.

At the same time, don't get me wrong, especially within the UK, we have many small commercial fisheries that are massively stocked where the biomass use anglers baits as a supplementary part of their diet but in reality the boilies and pellets that tend to be fished with, across the whole of carping, make up for a tiny amount of the food sources eaten, and needed, by the fish we seek to catch.

From an early age, I have loved fly fishing and it was obvious that I needed to appreciate and then seek to emulate what the trout I sought to catch were feeding on at the specific time I was fishing and by quickly identifying, or more commonly known as 'matching the hatch', your odds to catch were quickly increased. Tiny tweaks certainly had the ability to go from blanking to catching and this fact stands within carp fishing as well and failure to appreciate is at your own peril!

I learnt that there is a plethora of different naturals which the trout would target and in many cases, they would be feasting on the emerging fly hatches of which there are in the UK over 4,000 different species - no that's not a typing error! Transfer back to the UK's carp population and thousands of these hatches are also very relevant to their food intake and though as anglers we quickly identify with such single species as the Bloodworm/ Black Midge, the thousands of others are simply overlooked and therefore under appreciated.



Bloodworm has that knee jerk reaction within fishing in general terms but in recent years has been promoted as the be all and end all within certain media driven circles. Though there has been nothing wrong with this focus it has had the effect of diverting attention away from the vast array of other species that could as easily be focused upon and that in itself is one of the contributing factors as to why the true value of naturals has been all too quickly overlooked or, dare I say, ignored?

Putting the incredible amount of water borne fly to one side then you must consider the other elements of natural fodder that the carp may feast upon. The list seems never ending when you appreciate the sub species - but what all of these do is accumulate to become massive tonnage of feed that nature year-round offers up. Just think, Daphnia, Shrimp, Worms, Maggots, Beetles, Molluscs, Spiders, Moths, Snails, Crabs, Larvae, Spawn, Tadpoles, Fry, Leeches, Cray Fish and so on – but then don't forget that in most cases the sub species list becomes just as expansive with a good example being the UK's resident freshwater beetles of which there is 350 different species alone!

Let's be honest with ourselves and admit that as there is so little focus within angling put on this topic thus resulting in very little being understood or even appreciated. It really is foolish to on one hand admit that the facts are there to be seen and researched, whilst on the other the majority of the facts are totally ignored! Personally, I cannot get my head around the imbalance of focus which then has a knock on effect of affecting how many anglers will approach a situation. This is even further compounded when the angler should be considering a more natural approach but actually ends up blanking as they can only offer baits that will just not compete with what the fish will be occupied in feeding on.

Throughout my fishing history how many times have I seen fish so preoccupied on feeding on the Daphnia bloom, Fly hatch or

spawn that they are more than happy to ignore my therefore flawed and faulty offering? I hate to humanise nature but would you be pulled away from a highly nutritional and protein packed meal to feed on an unnatural offering? The fact that this is further complicated in the carp's world by being attached to obtrusive and unnatural terminal tackle set ups can do nothing to help the situation and does nothing to deter the carp's wary and massively heightened instincts and senses. If you feel this would not be the case and can factually prove, without assumption, then please let me know – every day should be a learning day but to be able to pull fish off natural food and replace it with some of the poorly manufactured modern baits would be an eye opener for me to say the least!

Swimming amongst fish and seeing what is going on beneath the water is a real advantage especially when I have taken what I have learnt from my diving experiences and integrated them within my approach to fishing, the tactics, the presentation and the baits (the key factor!). A great example this year was snorkelling in a vast Dutch waterway of over 2,000 hectares of Gin clear water and so quickly was I able to see how the fishery would affect my angling approach. What I learnt especially was that the bottom was a carpet of Zebra Mussels – millions upon millions disappearing to the horizon and no wonder why this infrequently fished water held carp more than 30 kilos. That fishery has immense potential and with the Zebra Mussels filtering water on an industrial scale the quality of the water, and therefore the naturals, is unbelievable.

Floating around this fantastic venue and being able to see so much underwater just reinforced my appreciation of 'out of sight out of mind' where too many anglers are so quick to assume what is going on without appreciating that their assumption could be wrong. In essence within the majority of situations we, being unable to see, are purely guessing and get it wrong far too often. Digressing somewhat, with what I have researched



and proven with bite indication I do struggle how so many anglers will have a beep on their alarm and state as if it is a fact that it was a 'liner'. I have caught so many fish on line tightening, tip movement, indicator drop or lift with no sound from my alarm but those who make the 'liner' statement are without a shadow of doubt, in my humble opinion, missing fish.

Business has greatly impacted my ability to get out on the bank recently; all work and no play – and I'm told I'm living the dream! On the flip side, I do get the opportunity to fish some great venues and a couple of months ago, I squeezed in a 36 hour session on a stunning lake in the shape of Advanced Angling's Gold Lake which lies next to one of best known waters in UK carp fishing; Blue Pool. It was love at first sight, off the beaten track, full of weed (and therefore full of naturals!), tap water clear and carp showing. Fishing a new water is always a personal challenge with fish that had never seen my tactics and baits and with an approach that ALWAYS incorporates an element from my 'Naturals' range.

As alluded to above this lake was wall to wall naturals and with an array of hatches around me, dragon flies a plenty, the next step was out with the white bucket and down to the water's edge – inspection time! The white bucket allows me to get a good look at some of the water's tiny inhabitants and is always of interest especially in this case where the Daphnia (water fleas) were plain to see against the white background – a soup of pure protein and, like the Plankton are to the Basking Shark, the Daphnia are to the carp!

Next stage was to have a look in the actual water's edge and as you can see from the Coke can the venue was stuffed with Zebra Mussels and thoughts drifted back to the massive venue in Holland and that Zebra Mussels, like all molluscs, will only settle in high quality water and then further improve through particle filtration. Zebra Mussels, in fact any Mussels presence

will always fill me with confidence as in numbers their existence is more than just a healthy supplement to the carp's diet.

With no arrogance intended, I was happy that my approach gave me some good odds and not long after setting my traps the first carp was on the bank. The lakes residents are some real stunners and over the next day the fish kept on coming and again, with baits and tactics that don't fit in with modern trends, the system proved its worth.

I always try to write thought provoking pieces that especially feature what some may view as controversial. Life for me in general, which obviously includes all styles of angling, equates to every day has the potential to be a learning day and within Entomology and similar subjects you can be assured that is the case. With a naturally inquisitive mind and a 'question everything' mentality, just scratching the surface of naturals has without doubt helped me catch a lot more carp and I honestly believe if to date you haven't considered an approach which includes naturals, or just the appreciation of their presence, it can have a definite and positive impact to your catch rate and to ignore will then have the potential of the opposite, i.e. less carp!

I genuinely hope that you have enjoyed this piece and somewhere within the lines may lie a little gem which will help bag a few more carp – if that's the case then I will be more than happy!

Catch big and enjoy and please feel free to contact me if you have any thoughts or questions at [simon@pallatrax.co.uk](mailto:simon@pallatrax.co.uk).

*Simon*



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**FISHING FOR DISABLED KIDS**

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## Here is the story of FFDKids... Stewart Game

What are we about? Why are we doing this? How are we doing this? Simple really; why should a disability hold anyone back? Everywhere we look things are being made to make things easier for us. Technology is giving us “smart” this and “smart” that for doing things like turning on the heating or switching on the lights at home, but there are things that aren’t easy for people with disabilities where there is no “smart” technology currently available. Fishing is one of these; from using tackle, to getting to the lake side, things can get difficult. For example, there are some lakes that try to accommodate wheelchairs but many that don’t. My son has Right Hemiplegic Cerebral Palsy, allowing him very little movement on his right side, and he has no fine motor skills at all, so using a rod and reel are pretty much out of the question; as is tying a hook, baiting up, landing the fish when caught, etc.

What can we do about this?

Work towards fixing it of course; but how? It’s easier said than done no doubt, but I’m sure by putting our heads together we can discover ways around these obstacles.

While we work towards solutions, we can help those worse off than ourselves by tying the hook, baiting up, and then (hopefully) landing a fish for them.

We have had a fair few trips out over the past year, we have braved all the weathers from getting sun burnt to buckling down the hatches during Storm Angus last year. Still all the kids enjoy themselves and to date we have not had a day when the kids have blanked!

From silver fishing to carping we help the kids catch their first fish ever to trying to beat a personal best. All the while trying to make them feel like part of a big family by making new friends and showing them that THEY CAN do what others do.

It’s not just disabled children we teach to fish either, young carers too. By young carers we mean children who are related

to a disabled person, a sibling or parent who they look after. Often they are forgotten about because the disabled family member gets the most attention (which is understandable...) but we aim to give them a break from the hard work they do at home. Often their parents come with them and find that fishing helps them too, win win there then!

One great success we have had is with Harry, he came fishing with us on the first ever trip, he was very quiet and didn’t want to interact much with anyone, his mum said this was usual, he spent most of his time playing on his consoles and didn’t really want to see people, well, after hooking into a (just over) 10lb sturgeon and having the fight of his life with everyone watching and cheering him on he came out of his shell and hasn’t looked back, he has been on every trip out, bought some of his own gear and now has a full set up to come night fishing with us due to the donations of some amazing people out there that have donated their old stuff or money to help us. We couldn’t do what we do without their help, as we can’t do what we do without the help from Sean Kemsley of LSP Syndicate lake that lets us have use of his lake for free or Ian Vallentine and the guys from Colne Valley Tackle & Bait who sponsor us. And not forgetting Paul, Tracey and Stuart at Absolute Tackle who have helped hugely... We thank you guys so much for your help, this would be so much harder if not for you guys!

We are heading to Les Webber’s Angling Projects (<http://www.angling-projects.org.uk/>) from 23rd to 27th October with a group of children and carers hoping to break some PB’s while giving them (we hope) a fishing holiday to remember, we have started a crowd funding page to raise £500







to pay for all the food for the kids so that it will be a completely free trip for them and their carers, if anyone could donate that would be amazing, if you can't donate then don't worry, just share it and our facebook page [facebook.com/FFDKids](https://facebook.com/FFDKids) for us, you would be surprised how far a few shares can go! I can't sign off without saying some big thank you's to Nigel Honour, my partner in crime with this who has been volunteering his time



not just on the bank but behind the scenes arranging things and picking up donations and to my wife Dawn and my boys Natty and Lawrence for their understanding and help setting this all up. Also to the MANY MANY people who have donated time, money and their knowledge over the past year. there are so many of you and I wish I could name you all and shake your hands for your help

so do the children who benefit from your generosity... You all make a difference to these children's lives... you are all hero's! Keep watching our Facebook page for more photo's and reports from our trips and thank you's to those people that help us out! If you think that you can help in any way with time on the bank, sponsorship or even a packet of hooks and an old float then please contact us!

Hope that's ok Brian, if you need more photo's or information just shut or take from our FB page. thank's for this and speak soon, photo's are here in this cloud [https://1drv.ms/f/s!AkfN0mnnncSGmmFcuF9\\_tAZwq6gl](https://1drv.ms/f/s!AkfN0mnnncSGmmFcuF9_tAZwq6gl)

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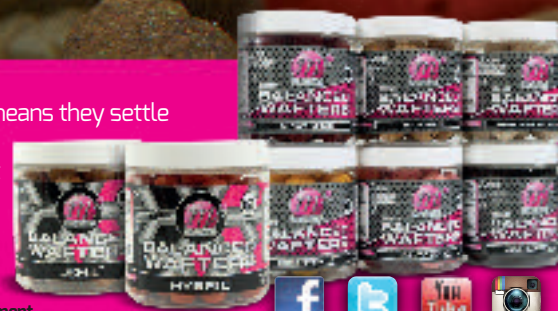


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## One for the future



## by Andrew Taylor



Well, well, well... where do i start... 8 weeks ago i joined UberBaits as a consultant, a brand new up and coming bait company, since then I've been out on four separate times to three different venues to try out this bait...

My first session was on Friday 8th September over a 48-hour session at Mineral Lakes in Bedworth, is a venue I've fished for a while and a place I'm after my target fish... a 90+ lb white sturgeon! After arriving at the venue i chose my peg, scattered a few freebies and proceeded to set up camp for the weekend. It wasn't long into my session i was into my first fish, a 18lb Common Carp which fell to a single 15mm boilie over a bed of crushed boilies. My second fish was a 12lb Mirror Carp which

fell to the same method except was on the Uberkrab range, quality a fish to each flavour, amazing!

Then came the record breaker... the biggest fish to be caught on the range... a 49lb Siberian Sturgeon on a triple 15mm boilie, i was over the moon with this one!

That was followed by my final fish a 27lb Diamond Sturgeon on a triple 15mm boilie once again, all my hookbait boilies was glugged in there matching glugs, this was a awesome first

session on their range even though i never caught my target fish, i know with this bait it will soon be on the bank!

My 2nd outing was a visit to my local syndicate Hams Hall, where i had this lovely mirror at 22lb 8oz, i landed this brute on a multi-rig with a UberNutz wafter over a bed of pellet and crushed boilies.



So over the last 8 weeks I've visited three different venues, with different varieties of fish and i managed four great sessions, it just proves how incredible this bait is and is going to become!

See you in the next issue people... tight lines!



I then revisited Mineral Lakes in Bedworth where i had an epic six Sturgeon haul amassing over 230lb in a recent session on the boilie range!

The biggest of the bunch being a 49lb Siberian sturgeon.

I then made the trip to my Eve sham Syndicate where i managed two lovely carp, one in particular is going to be a very special fish in the future. The Ghost Zip! I fished a wafter over

a bed of crushed and chopped freebies. I also landed a 6lb Pike on a boilie while reeling in.







**LIE MORRIS**

PROFILE

AKA	MOZZA
HEIGHT	6FT 1IN
AGE	33
UKPB	51LB 40Z
PLACE LAST SERIES	NA

**CARP WARS 2** A STORM IS BREWING!

**IAN RUSSELL**

PROFILE

AKA	CHEMO
HIEGHT	5FT 10IN
AGE	56
UKPB	57LB 80Z
PLACE LAST SERIES	3RD

**CARP WARS 2** A STORM IS BREWING!

Here are the final 2 contenders  
Announced exclusively by Talkning  
Carp Magazine

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# TALKING - REVIEWS

**KRYSTON Greased Lightning**

**KRYSTON Klin-ik**

**TASKA Chod Bead**

**The all new Distance Keeper**



## KRYSTON GREASED LIGHTNING

greased lightning is so easy to use for all pre loaded line already on the spool you only have to apply a few drops on to the spool then cast out the line then i apply a few more drops just so its all sunk into all the line then reel it in and leave it for a few minutes then you can use it, following the applications you will immediately notice a positive increase in your casting distance ,the greased lightning produces a long silent and smooth cast and prevents line clatter through the rings and it also eliminates wind knots ,it also increases abrasion resistance and also repels algae ,it acts as an anti freeze so during the winter months your line will not freeze to your rings and prevents ice from forming on your line







It's not too often that a genuine improvement comes along in such an innovative and competitive market and when that item is designed to for the well being of our precious fish, it makes the product even more special.

The guys at Kryston have always been serious about the welfare of our quarry and their original Klinik antiseptic has been a market leader for a very long time, inspiring many other companies to follow suit and create their own versions which can only have been of massive benefit to the fish and indeed the sport we all love.

The new Medi-Skin builds on the original product by taking the original

concept of an easy to apply antiseptic and improving to ensure that once applied, it actually stays where has been put, ensuring the fish benefits not only from the instant cleansing but also from the longer term sealing of the area where the Medi-Skin acts like an underwater plaster!



Every angler needs this in their fishing gear – it is as important as an unhooking mat! Help care for the fish we love and respect and make sure you have some Medi-Skin in your bag



Sinking a chod rig has just become simple, no more moulding putty around swivels and wondering whether it's still on in colder temperatures. Taska's new Tungsten Swivel Chod Bead has been developed to sit snug over the knot and swivel ring of the chod link, weighting it perfectly to critically sink buoyant pop-ups and can be fine-tuned even further by shaving them with a blade if necessary







## The Distance Keeper by Mark Carper

What is a 'Distance Keeper'?

I just happened across this device on a Facebook page and thought I would have a read about it. Since then, it has appeared on numerous 'Group Pages' and has brought out some varied comments, mostly from people that had no clue what it was, or admitted they had no interest in it anyway...!

I think the most used words were "technology is taking the art out of fishing" or "it's for lazy anglers"... neither of which I happen to agree with. These same words have also been used for Bait Boats, 'Deeper' devices, Underwater Camera devices etc. etc. To me, it's just about 'progress'. No one has to buy this kit do they..!

What is the purpose of Distance Keeper

If we look at what the device is designed to do, it is incredibly basic. It simply 'counts' the number of times the rotation of the handle rotates the yellow drum... Yes, that's it. It is that simple. You turn a handle and via a manual mechanism, the drum, to which your line is attached, rotates and therefore it winds your line from your reel on to the drum... Taking the Art out of Fishing... HaHaHa.

Why would you want to wind the line from your reel on to such a device..?

So that once you have found your chosen spot, you can accurately 'Clip Up' before each re-cast.

But surely, Bank Sticks or specifically made

'Distance Sticks', do the same job..?

Of course they do and you can even use some form of 'marker' on the line and not even bother with sticks (That's how I started when clipping up)... but...the Distance Keeper does it quicker and it remembers the distance for up to three spots instantly at the press of a button. You do not need to have space to put out the Distance Sticks and your line does not need to come in contact with the ground at any point. But the benefits don't stop there....

The display on the unit lights up, so clipping up in the dark is easier, you can sit under the cover of your brolly or bivvy and use the unit, so in poor weather, you don't need to get wet unnecessarily. Now, I know that getting wet is something that you



probably expect when your fishing and most of us have the gear to deal with it but would you not avoid it if at all possible...I mean, do you purposely make yourself cold when fishing...? Imagine the scene, it's 02:30 and you've just had a fish (or you may have just missed it etc.) it is pitch black and you want to get back on the spot and it's just started raining. If you could sit under cover, in the dry, with your reel resting next to you and clip back up would you prefer to do that or stand in the rain, counting wraps..?

You can get clipped up, rebait and spend seconds out of the shelter casting back to your spot or not.... the choice is yours and that is all this bit of kit gives you, a choice, buy it or don't buy it, use it or don't use it, it's your choice. All I

would add is don't just dismiss this as 'tech' or making you lazy. When the first 'Bait Runner' Reels were introduced, they got dismissed by many but people could soon see the benefit and look what happened with those..!!

The company's website ([www.distancekeeper.com](http://www.distancekeeper.com)) has all the information you need on how to use the device but this review is based on the one I purchased and how it performed over six days use for three rods. I purchased this unit as I thought it would be of use to me and I have no affiliation with the Company whatsoever. In fact, I paid £135.00 for mine and since then, they have reduced the price..!!

The unit feels solid and well-made and assembles and breaks down very easily as

you only have to screw on the handle and clip the line guide in place. Distance Keeper advise you to remove the winding handle when winding back on to your reel, but I leave mine with that handle permanently attached as I found it gives a little more resistance when winding back from the device to my reel and saves me having to tension the line, which makes it even quicker to get the line back on the reel. The Distance Keeper comes with a padded, zipped case that everything fits nicely in to and packed away, it measures approximately 21cm x 19cm x 8cm.

You get a 'handle' to hold the unit when in use and a 'bank stick' adaptor to use it mounted on a bank stick (would you believe).

I tested the unit both in-hand and on a bank stick but prefer to have it mounted on the stick as this leaves my other hand free to guide the line on to the device, to help give an even line lay across the drum. Without this guidance, I found that although the line did 'spread' across the drum it did tend to gather at one side or the other. It tried it like this and it had no detrimental effect on the line as far as I could see in terms of adding 'line-twist' but I felt more comfortable having the line lay on the drum more evenly.

### Line Twist

With regards to line twist, as with doing wraps, I used the device with an open bail-arm and at no point did I try to load the Distance Keeper using the Drag of my reel. I would never do that when using sticks

so felt no need to do it with the Distance Keeper. After using the device approximately four times per day per rod for six days, I had no noticeable 'extra' line twist than normal. I was fishing at anywhere between 10 and 27 wraps. I use Synapse 'Wild Carp' line in 15.5lb (0.328mm) from Mosquito Angling, loaded on to the new 2017 Daiwa Windcast 5500QDA reels, so I cannot comment with regards how other lines and/or reels would fair in terms of line twist. (Note: At the end of every session, I always use a twist buster lead and tend to change my line every 6 months or sooner if I have been on 'snaggy' waters. The line used during the testing of the Distance Keeper was brand new.)

**Using the Distance Keeper on the Bank**

As I have already stated, the Distance Keeper is used simply to count the number of revolutions of the drum. It just so happens that one full revolution of the 'Handle' winds on approximately 1 metre of line to the drum. However, the accuracy of the measurement is not important, it is the number that is important. Don't forget, you clip up to the spot you have found first and then measure the line off to the clip, you then 'save' that number in one of the three memory locations.

During testing the unit was consistent with the readings and 21 wraps (sticks 12 feet apart) equated to a reading of 74.7. Now, if you convert feet to metres, you will see that 1 foot = 0.30 meters (12 x 0.30=3.6m). Therefore 3.6m x 21 wraps = 75.6m



so, the distance shown on the display is fairly close to the 'actual' distance. I am not trying to give a mathematical comparison here just simply trying to show that if someone said to me how far out am I fishing, my response of 21 wraps or 75 metres would be pretty close...!

Don't let the numbers bog you down though. You are simply taking a count to the clip so you can clip it back up when needed. It would make no odds of it said 1000 or 10 on the display. Providing you clipped back up at the same reading, you will be back on the spot you found. For all those that do count wraps and clip up, you will also know that not recasting from the same spot and hitting the clip and minimising 'bounce' etc. all make for errors in accuracy.

Once assembled and placed in your chosen location, or simply held in your hand, the only important thing to do is be consistent with where you place your rod and reel. I found that having the reel next to the Distance Keeper was the easiest and most consistent way to use it. It meant that I could wind the line on to the drum and ensure there were no issues as the line left the reel and it was easy to clip up, without having to move. Once clipped up on my spool, I simply picked up the rod and wound the line off the drum, following the instructions on the easy to read Digital Display on the Distance Keeper. (Just to mention, I use the Ridge Monkey 'Line Control Arm' when using a Bait Boat on my own and I found this was perfect for

helping keep the line controlled when using the Distance Keeper too.)

For convenience, when you start winding on to the drum to set the memory you can stop winding and the unit waits asking you to either "Select Location" or "Wind On" and providing you do not stop for longer than 5 minutes it remembers where you were, so you cannot lose count. The same when you are winding back to the reel, it counts down and then once you are at 0.0 it switches itself off automatically, which helps preserve the life of the four AA Batteries. Once the memory location is set, it remains until you reset it, even after the unit is turned off. If the device is switched on but not used for 5 minutes it again switches itself off to prolong battery life.

I found the distance Keeper to be very easy to use and consistent. I found that I could wind 100m of line on to the drum in 45 seconds, although, I would not normally be in such a hurry and the line lay on the drum was not great but on average, 27 wraps could be measured out, clipped and back on the reel in around 90 to 100 seconds, which was plenty quick enough for me.

#### **Would I use it all the time...?**

Without a doubt. I preferred it to using my Distance Sticks and in some places I fish, the only place to put distance sticks is behind or in front of the bivvy on the footpath, which is a pain.

#### **Did it help me cast further...?**

No, but then it wasn't

designed to.

#### **Did it put more fish on the bank...?**

See above answer.

#### **Did I feel like my Angling Skills had diminished...?**

Absolutely not. It just helped me clip-up.

#### **Did I feel Lazy...?**

Seriously? I mean, I was actually being bothered to clip up wasn't I...how can that be lazy?

#### **Is 'Tech' Ruining Carp Fishing...?**

I will leave that one for you to debate. All those still using Cane Rods and Centre Pin Reels, I salute you and your resistance to technological advances in the sport...!!!

As I have said, I have no allegiance to

Distance Keeper or the people that run/ own the business. This review is based on my own personal experience of using the unit whilst actually fishing in France. I purchased it on a whim, used it and feel it helps me to be more efficient on the bank. It hasn't improved my fishing ability, casting range or catch rate but then neither has my Rod Pod and that cost considerably more..!!!

To see a tutorial video go to; <https://www.distancekeeper.com/video-links>

Mark G





# CATCH REPORTS

Featuring -

Brooms Cross Fishery  
&  
Wyreside Fishery



71

Here's our very own Rob... Finally having a go behind the rods and landing Gillie at a great weight of 28lb 8oz from Upper Alt lake...

Well done Rob...nice to see you that side of the camera!!  
Ring the fishery on **07740082025** for all day ticket and booking enquiries.



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# Wyreside Lakes Fishery

73



## \*\*\*Attention all anglers – Mini catch report\*\*\*

Despite the torrential rain and horrific winds from storm Brian, this did not put our northern boys off ;) All the lakes produced fish with a respectful 31 Carp caught across the property, including 5 x 20s up to 25lbs from Sunny 2. The top bite time at the moment is first light until around about midday. The winning tactic at the seems to be single hi-vis high attract pop ups/wafters cast towards showing fish. Steve Greenland sent in a pic of a cracking 20lbs from S1 and member Mark Swift fishing Wyre lake Friday night was showing his prowess again, landing three scaley beasts from close range to showing fish from Left of cabin. Well done Mark, top bombing!

Bantons regular Steve Harkness did not disappoint when he landed two stunners from Right of Stella a 21 and a 24, this puts him on a whopping 32 fish this season.

Top dangle lads - total respect





# Wyreside Lakes Fishery

Wyreside Lakes is family run business, situated in over 120 acres of farmland at the foot of the Bowland Fells in Dolphinhall, Lancashire. There are seven fishing lakes ranging from 1.5 acres to 16.5 acres with superb stocking of carp, mixed coarse and pike.

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Pike day tickets start from €9 for one rod up to €20 for four rods. Overnight tickets are also available.

Pike are in all waters except for Fox coarse lake. Pike sizes range from jacks to lake record of 29lb in S2.



Call Sally: 01524 792093

Web: [wyresidelakes.co.uk](http://wyresidelakes.co.uk)

Email: [wyresidelakes@btconnect.com](mailto:wyresidelakes@btconnect.com)

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- Forceps and side cutters (hook cutters) must be used at all times
- 32" min landing net • 15lb min line, braided mainline on spinning rods only

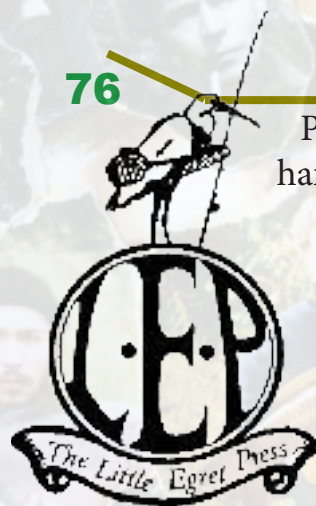
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by Chris Ball

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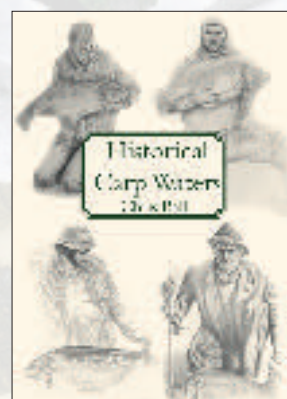
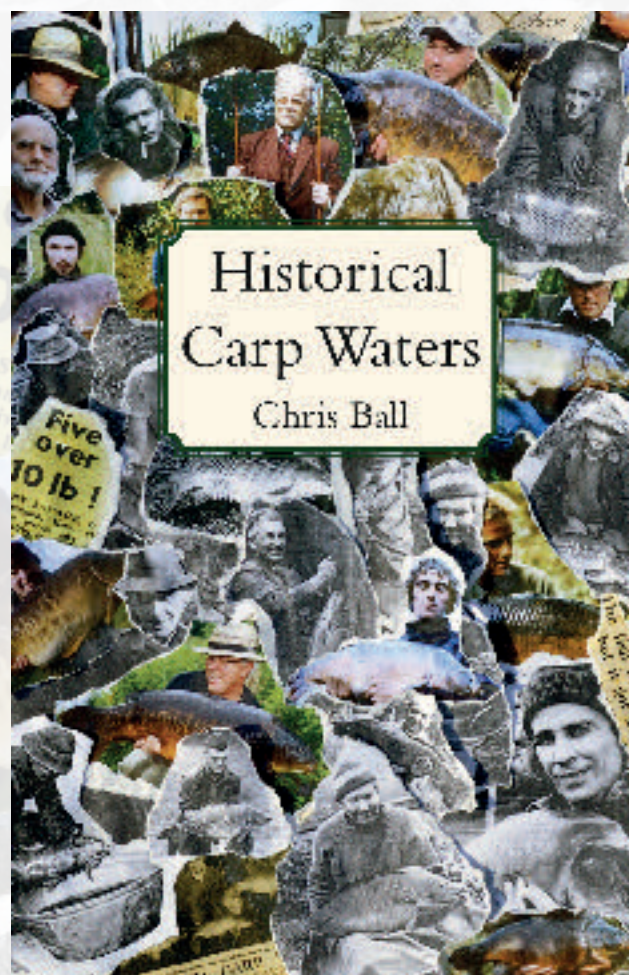
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Featuring artwork from Adam Entwistle, David Blackaller and Tom O'Reilly which beautifully compliments the photography throughout the book.

Publication date: Oct-2017



# Talking - Foreign !!!!

*Inside this month -  
Les Etangs De L'Ecurie -  
France  
Etang St Pierremont -  
France  
Ebro Fishing Dreams - Spain  
CarpGranCanaria - Canarias*





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*Les Etangs De L'Ecurie*



*Les Etangs De L'Ecurie  
and why  
I 'm going back for the  
third time.....*

*Mark & Ethan Carper*



I can't even remember how I came to hear of this wonderful little fishery nestled in the Pays De Loire countryside that is ran by an English couple, Jamie and Natalie. I think it was just a general 'Google' search but I wanted something specific...a small venue where I could get exclusive use of a water and be able to take my then, 13 year old son, Ethan (you may know him from this Magazine as 'Ethan Carper').

However, I did find it and after having a read of their website ([www.laclecurie.com](http://www.laclecurie.com)) and the now obligatory 'Facebook Page', I dropped them an email to ask about the lakes in a little more detail and if indeed, I could take a thirteen year old to fish.

The response was quick and positive

about taking Ethan and I promptly paid the deposit in readiness for the trip, which was in May 2016. This was to be a first for both Ethan and myself. For Ethan, it would be his first fishing trip outside of the UK and the first time he would spend a full seven days 'fishing'. He was an experienced Carp Angler with a UK PB of over 25lb and had done many sessions but nothing more than 48 hours. For me, it would be the first time going to Carp Fish in France on a

'Commercial' water. All my French Fishing had previously been done on Public Waters and big ones at that. The smallest I had fished was 370 acres and the biggest 1200 acres, with many in between, so this was going to be a real change for me as the lake we had booked, known as 'Orchard' was around 2 acres...!! At first, I thought it may be a bit small but then there would only be the two of us on it so that's an acre of water each, which was more than enough and more than



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we get on our syndicate water here in the UK.

Planning was not a problem as I had been to France many times and this time, there would be full facilities, including showers, toilets, drinking water and even an 'Anglers Hut' with electrical outlets, fridge, bait freezer, microwave, toaster, kettle and table and chairs. This was shared facilities for whoever else was on the site on the other two lakes, 'Tall Trees' and 'Oaks'. There was also a fully kitted out static caravan next to Tall Trees that could also be hired for the duration of your stay, which seems to be popular with families etc. who cannot all bivvy up are not actually fishing.

Travel was a simple case of 'Dover to Calais' or 'Newhaven

to Dieppe' or, the one I chose just to make the trip a bit more of an adventure for Ethan on his first 'big' trip, 'Portsmouth to Caen' on an overnight Ferry with a cabin. It cost a bit more but also meant I only had to drive for an hour and half once we reached French soil...this was the first time Ethan had been on a boat too..! From Calais it is a drive of about four hours and just over three hours from Dieppe.

Lake booked, Ferry sorted and kit organised, we set off for a week's fishing in France with the expectation that we could land ourselves a 40+ carp. At the time we went, the lake had produced a 43lb Carp and was stocked with plenty of upper 20's and 30's. The only downside, it was very close to 'spawning time', which I knew would be a risk but as we could only go when Ethan was off school, it was a risk I was prepared to take.



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Now this story, isn't about the 'detail' of the fishing, in terms of rigs and bait etc. but more about why, after that first trip, where we only had a few fish to just over 21lb, which set Ethan's very first French PB, we couldn't wait to get back and returned in August 2017 and we have booked on again for the first week of their opening at the end of March 2018.

The reason we go back, it's natural and it 'feels' right. Yes, there are rules, as there are on every commercial fishery but they are basic and simple ones that are aimed at protecting the fish and not to cause an issue for the angler. You don't need kilos and kilos of bait and you don't even need to 'spod'. You can simply walk around the lake

and drop bait to the far margins and under the trees, where the Carp tend to seek solitude and safety. You can use a Bait Boat and they have one on site you can hire, so no need to go out and buy one. I would recommend using a bait boat though as it allows you to get under the trees and to where the banks are undercut and fish regularly get caught from.

The place opened for carp fishing in 2014 and for the most part, it has been left to grow naturally as it did before it was a commercial Carp Water. It has been well stocked and fed and it closes from the end of October until the beginning of April so the fish are well rested. During this time, Jamie and Natalie feed all three lakes on both pellet and boilie, which can be purchased from them if you so wish, but they never push the issue and do not have any bans except for 'nuts'. You are free to use your own pellet and boilies, however, the boilies must be 'fresh frozen' and not shelf-life. As previously mentioned, they have a Bait freezer on site for you to use so no need to air-dry masses of bait you may not use.

The bit we love is the fact that when we are





on 'Orchard' there is just the two of us. Now this could be because I am a little unsociable but I think it is more to do with I can fully relax and not have to listen to someone's opinion or 'Carpy Tales' or expertise etc. etc. I can just enjoy the surrounding, the tranquillity (apart from 'Eeyore' at two in the morning and the occasional Very Low fly past of a couple of Euro-Fighters). Even when there are anglers on the other lakes, there will only be a maximum of five others there (three on Tall Trees and two on

Oaks) and unless you bump in to them on the way to the showers or in the hut, you wouldn't know they were there. You cannot see anyone on the other lakes from the bivvy spots so you get the feeling of isolation, which we enjoy.

Jamie will have a walk around all the lakes a couple of times a day and say hello but nothing more. He never interferes, (Unless you are being a dick I guess) but is always willing to offer advice and help if you need it. His goal is for you to catch Carp and

he will give you all the help and guidance you need, but only if you want it.

They offer a 'Food Package' too if you fancy it and can cook you breakfast and an evening meal for the week or just on that odd occasion you do not feel like cooking for yourself. There is a dedicated dining area for you to sit in, which gives you the chance to socialise with others that may be in there or to watch a bit of TV if you so wish. This is Natalie's domain and she makes you very welcome and some

awesome food....(she also knows a thing or two about the fish and tactics to get at them, so don't be afraid to ask..!)

Located next to the dining area is the block containing the hand wash basins, the toilets, showers and a drying area for you towels or wet clothing. The facilities are built in to what I can only presume was some form of old Stable Block or Cattel Shed and they are very clean and tidy. The washing facilities are superb and there is always plenty of hot water

available. You can drink the tap water too and we have used it on both trips so far with no issues. There is also a filler tap down by the anglers hut which makes filling your water containers easy. Bins are also provided and all they ask is that you 'recycle' appropriately when disposing of your rubbish.

Swim Access to all the lakes is easy and providing the ground is not too wet, you can drive your car very close to if not next to your swim to unload and load. You then park back by the house

so your care is totally safe.

We are self-sufficient normally and there are a few good local convenience stores about a ten minute drive away that can cater for all your needs. Anything you are not sure about, Jamie and Natalie are glad to help.

Like I said, this was not an article about tactics it was one about how I have found a superb French venue that looks natural, has fish to over 50lb (Tall Trees) and for two or three of you, you have







Is it a 'runs' water..?  
Definitely not.....but then not many French waters are nowadays as some are more pressured than UK waters.

Is it a difficult water?  
Not really, we had seven Carp with two 30's in three days on our most recent trip but then the weather took a massive turn and the fishing literally 'switched off' but then that is the chance you take and happens everywhere.

Is it worth the money..? Absolutely it is, without question..!! If you are a father and son team like me and my lad, this is perfect. If you want to fish with you mate / wife / girlfriend etc. etc. it

is also perfect. It is as natural as some of the Public Waters I have fished but with the convenience of a commercial but nicely understated.

The emphasis is on the fishing and the tranquillity and Jamie and Natalie achieve that with ease. We have returned and booked again for next year as we now want to 'crack' the place. The second trip fished better than our first but we think it was down to our prior knowledge of the place and



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previous experience. Ask Jamie and he will tell you that most of his business is from returning anglers, there is something about the place that makes you want to go back. We were close to booking on Oaks for our third trip but opted for Orchard once again. Oaks is an amazing looking water but we have accepted the challenge of Orchard yet again. The place does not hold 60lb Carp and it doesn't even have loads of 50's or even 40's like dome of the French commercials,

but if that is all you are after, then Les Etangs De L'Ecurie is probably not the place for you. If you want barked swims with power sockets and WiFi, then look elsewhere but if you want a truly natural and authentic place, then go check out the website and get yourself on the place...!!



[www.laclecurie.com](http://www.laclecurie.com)

I would like to add that this is written with no input from the owners and as I have stated at the beginning, I have not fished other 'commercial' French waters as all my French Fishing prior to this place was on 'Public' waters, so this is not a comparison with any other fishery. This is just my honest review and personal opinion of what I think is a great place to spend a week fishing for Carp.

All the best

Mark Carper



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Anglers Accommodation is a lovely 6 berth mobile home with a double bedroom with en suite and 2 x twin rooms with separate toilet & shower room. Open Plan lounge/dining & kitchen area, all fully furnished, with decking veranda overlooking the lake.

We live in the UK and have a local couple & gardener who look after our property when we are not there and they also meet & greet our fisherman guests throughout the season. Our french couple are happy to continue this service if the new owners were interested. The anglers accommodation with exclusive use of lake is currently let out at £995 per week and can generate an income of potentially upto £30-£35k per annum & also the possibility to offer breakfast and evening meals & sell bait for additional income.

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40.04lb



48.03lb



43.11lb



40.02lb



53.10lb



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45.05lb



46.02lb



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Well now into November and we have had another successful month of October.

The weather has still been hot, the fishing has been amazing with many carp captures again. We have met some great new people and had our good old repeat clients, all with fish on the bank, with our day trips having carp to 31lb and our holiday clients having fish to 35lb.

Our clients Colin and Brent had a weeks fishing on the bank with 825lb of carp, 47 fish with carp to 35lb and many 20s and upper 20s, a great week had by all and already booked for their 2nd trip!!

We have Rob Maylin and family with us at the moment doing some fishing and having some holiday fun!!

We still have spaces available for fishing holidays 2018, so if you have not booked yet and fancy somewhere different to fish with tackle and equipment provided and everything you need for your time on the bank or with lakeside accommodation, then do not hesitate to contact us, for all year round sunshine and fishing!!!

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