

Issue 31 September 2018

CARP CUPS

### Inside This Months Mag -

THE GENERAL MR DAVE LEVY SCOTT GEEZER GRANT MIKE SPUG REDFERN GARY MILKY LOWE, MIKE MADELEY PLUS MUCH MORE



Since we devised 'The Link' concept, countless prototypes have enabled us to 'lock-on' to what REALLY makes this fishmeal bait tick. In its final formula as an active, dedicated bolle. **The Link™** has now proven itself on the World's most demanding venues to the World's most demanding anglers and will be ready to prove itself as what your fishing has been missing. Imminently. **Isn't it time you linked-up with Mainline?** 

### BETTER BAIT THROUGH RESEARCH

### Hello... and welcome

To issue 31! And what a bumper issue we have for you again this month. Jam packed from cover to cover with articles, stories from the bank and insights into some great carp fishing tales.

This month we have special guest **Dave Levy** in for a chat and he talks about his beginnings, his passion and what continues to drive him forward.

Mark Wozencroft comes in with a technical piece from "outside the box" that will really get most of you thinking.... Scott Grant and Gary Lowe continue with their bankside adventures... and this month Scott brings his own special guest

you may recognise in this months article... Corrie Booysen continues his chase for Floppy Tail in h

**Corrie Booysen** continues his chase for Floppy Tail in his South African carp adventures...

We also welcome **Andrew Murray** and **Mike Madeley** this month.

Plus, all the usual suspects found in your favourite online magazine!! We have a great team of writers here who enjoy writing for you as much as you enjoy reading them... well done guys!!

If you wish to become one of those writers email us!! brian.dixon@talkingcarp.co.uk buggy@talkingcarp.co.uk

Winner for this months Rod Hutchinson bait package is **Chris Dodds** and this months Bell Ball cutter winner is **Lee Dunn**. Get in touch guys to claim your prizes.

Team Talking Carp

# Inside This Month -

### This months cover shot - The 'General' Mr Dave Levy

**ARTICLES - from page 6** The Sheriffs in Town - Scott Grant A Chat with .... Dave Levy - Talking Carp Team Welsh Ladies Carp Team - Mark Galli **Travelling Light Helps - Gary Lowe Imitation Baits - Mike Madeley** British Carp Cups - Mick and Belinda Coxon Carping Mad Chapter Five - Mike 'SPUG' Redfern Thinking Outside the Box - Mark Wozencroft Carp chronicles - Brett McPhee Back to France - Andrew Murray Various Fishing Adventures - Andrew Taylor Diaries of a short session carper - Paul Richardson **Chasing Tails - Corrie Booysen** Getting into the angling Industry - Anthony Wood Serious carp socials - Dave Bennion

### FORCES SECTION from page 172

Private venue in Northern France - Cpl Ryan Salisbury

### CATCH REPORTS - from page 182

RH Fisheries, Clear Water Fisheries, White Springs Fisheries, Brooms Cross Fishery, Hillside Fishery

### **Talking Foreign**

Barringtons, Lake Chantebeouf, Carp 19, Crystal Waters Freezer Fresh for optimum quality

## Atlantic Salmon & Japanese Spider Crab

GALAN

BAITS

This bait has a fantastic amino profile due to the different fishmeals and liquid foods used in its production. The Name suggests it to be a right stinker, but, has the quality, smell and taste, of a restaurant served dinner, so very acceptable to leave in the bivvy.

We searched the globe for Japanese Spider Crab Extract for years and found just what we were looking for 3 years ago and began testing instantly, catching carp to 57.12lb. The bait contains many top attractors including a pure source of GLM, not the usually available product on the shelf, but sourced from a Dutch Animal pharmaceutical company. There is also Oyster shell added for a natural crunch (water snail imitation) and extra source of calcium, to help the fishes bone structure grow, to house the muscle increase gained quickly and healthily from our MC.

This bait, has come into its own in the last year, creating dream catches for some of our testing team, hence why we as a company, agreed to its release in 2018. Its mainly designed for warmer water, but had shocking results with some stunning colder water captures, probably due to the inclusion of our exclusive Medi-Chlorian health booster, which is proving hard for big carp to ignore, on waters seeing regular application !





The Sheriffs in Town by Scott Geezer Grant

### Scott Grant

After a successful trip to Cottington Lake Christine and being in much better shape I decided to fish a couple of nights over on my syndicate water. It's not the easiest water but the prizes are there to be had. I spoke to "Buggy" the bailiff to see if anything had been out and in general how the lake was fishing, he said Darrell had been down all week with a camera crew hoping to catch a few of the residents. Now I know that zigs are dominant on there and I was hoping the fish would be up for a switch to bottom baits, so I was already preparing myself to fish zigless

I arrived early on the Thursday morning, as I pulled into the car park there were only 2 cars present, so I knew it wasn't busy, I grabbed my water

container and went through the gate, as I did a fish came right out the water in front of me, the nearest swim that covers this corner is swim 3. I stood there watching the water and I must have seen at least 4 fish popping their heads out. Great start this is where I will be fishing, I went to the car loaded my gear (well the first barrow load) then made my way to the swim, I kept everything to a minimum whilst setting the rods up, Darrell was now in swim 2 and

the camera man was in swim 1, Darrell said he has fished every swim over the week but caught nothing, zigs were his preference.

I got 2 rods set up quickly and cast the first with just a lead to a hard area I had fished previously in 16ft of water, it went down with a lovely crack, I gave a little drag back and the area was still clean, I checked the lead when I wound in and was pleasantly surprised to see bloodworm stuck



TalkingCarp

### Scott Grant

to it, this was a great find and the first rod would be going out to this area. Rigwise was simple just a Ronnie rig with a nutjob wafter which was exactly the same rig I used over at Cottington. I quickly checked my notes in my phone, so I knew exactly how many wraps it was, as I had clipped the rod up with the bare lead it would be interesting to see how far off or over the wraps I was. I checked the wraps and my rod was about 8 inches over my original notes, so nothing to worry about. With the rod wrapped up the lead was dipped, and the rod cast out and it went down with a lovely donk, I used the stick and put out roughly a kilo of boilies.

8

It was now time for the second rod which I was going to fish straight out again on a hard





### The Sheriffs in Town



area I had noted previously, this was fished with the same rig and bait the same as the previous rod, with 2 rods out I went about setting a 3rd up when all of a sudden the first rod was away, I couldn't believe my luck the fish put up a great fight and I was very relieved when I slid the net under a lovely plump mirror. My swim was now carnage with gear all over the place, I unhooked the fish and put it in my floatation sling whilst

I sorted the camera. Just at that moment Darrell came walking along and said "what you had then" to which I replied Im not sure what fish it is, I've just put it in the floatation sling whilst I sort my camera... well Darrell looked horrified as he was joking, but I was serious, he then said you are joking to which I replied no mate its in sling look!! Well Darrell just could not believe it he said I might as well of gone up and punched him on the chin lol.

He was well happy for me and done the honours with the camera and took some great shots.

The camera man also got in on the act with his equipment which was way above my station.

With the photos done the fish was weighed and the scales went around to 33lb happy as a sand boy the fish was returned, and I spent the next couple of hours setting the rest of my gear up and tidying the swim.

I put the final rods out to areas I have fished before and they were all on the bottom with wafters.

Being the machine that Darrell is he wasted no time and changed all his rods over and fished them with pop ups with a solid bag.

The man is an exceptional angler and not up his own

TalkingCarp

### Scott Grant



backside, with all the media that surrounds him he always keeps his feet firmly on the ground which is nice to see.

10

As the day wore on the fish that were present in my corner had moved out and there was only the odd fish showing but further down the lake in front of swim 4. The night was soon upon us and with only the three of us on the lake could there be more surprises in store.

We all sat chatting and watching for any signs of fish until it was time to retire to my pit for some much-needed sleep. I had text Jim earlier asking him if he recognised the fish I had caught earlier, and he said it was a fish called "The Sheriff" and that it was a good weight for it. Another one ticked off the list. I was up early the next morning and without another bite I was eager to find out if Darrell had managed to snare one. A quick text and the reply was "all quiet mate"!!

Not what I wanted to hear but there's still another 24hrs to go and I was sure a man of his calibre would catch.

As the sun came up it



### The Sheriffs in Town

was lovely just sitting watching the water another angler "Fonze" turned up and went into swim 4, just as he was setting up a fish crashed out towards the island in front of him.

The fish were still active and every now and then a fish would show but now towards the other end of the lake.

As the morning wore on fish started to show out in front of myself and Darrell, he said he had seen a fish show only 40 yards out and had put a bag out to that range. A couple more anglers turned up Twinny went into swim 8 and the Guru that is Jimbo went into one of his favourite haunts swim 9 the snags.

Both Mark and Jim are exceptional anglers but really nice blokes at the same time. It's so nice to fish a lake where everyone is equal and treated like normal human beings. The lake is not full of superstars but

simply anglers who love a laugh and love catching a few along the way, oh and that are also there for you when you do catch one. After a walk round the lake Fonze, Mark and Jim said they had all seen fish in their areas, maybe I should have moved after catching the fish, but I was sure after catching one so quickly more would follow. Anyway, I was happy with what I had caught.



TalkingCarp

### Scott Grant

Darrell then had one of the stockies which was a great start. Most of his gear was packed up and ready to go with just his rods out, mat, net etc.

12

As we sat there chatting his rod was away and what happened next was truly breathtaking. Darrell was playing the fish for some 5 minutes before he got a glimpse

of what was attached to the end of his line. and when he shouted "it's the Coconut" "It's the Coconut" I just stood there hoping and praying the hook stayed buried, after another few hairy moments a huge common hit the surface and Darrell slid the net under her. He was ecstatic and lost for words its not every day you get to catch a

50lb plus English PB common.

He was shaking so he took a few moments to gather himself, all the lads came around which made it even more special for him, and to catch it all on video by a professional camera man was epic.

The mat was doused with water the scales were checked and





### The Sheriffs in Town

and zeroed then the fish was lifted onto the mat. With the hook removed she was hoisted up on the scales and a weight of 52lb was read out. Darrell was beside himself and who could blame him as he had just had a PB English common, we were all really happy for him. Darrell gave everyone a beer to celebrate. even me and I don't even drink!!! but on this occasion, it seemed fitting so we all stood there drinking and laughing whilst Darrell was king of the pond.

It wasn't long after that he packed the rest of his gear up and went home we were all left in awe of what just happened. Jim wasted no time and moved from swim 9 to swim 2 he asked if anyone wanted to move and we all said no go for it mate. That evening we really went for it and had a take away courtesy of Mark. It went down a treat, thanks mate. We all sat chatting until the gnats were just too much to deal with. That night Jim somehow managed to foul hook a 40lb plus common known as Pinscale, of which he simply treated her and retuned her straight back.

13



TalkingCarp

### Scott Grant



Things were looking up, my rods stayed motionless as did everyone else's. Come Saturday morning and after another glorious sunrise the fish went on the rampage "Fonze" caught a fish known as "The Hawaiian" at 36lb odd, Mark chipped in with a fish known as "Pigeon

14

Chest" at 35lb 4oz, what was even more interesting as that one was caught on a zig and the other off the bottom!!!

Once back at my swim I sat there and there were fish swimming literally under my rod tips, it seemed really strange, but they were on the cusp of spawning so maybe



that was the answer.

One thing was for sure if the fish start to spawn the rods will be wound in and I will be going home as will everyone else fishing the lake!!

I wound the rods in and just sat up in the bay to my right watching the fish coming in close

### The Sheriffs in Town



clay ledges it was great to watch. I left the rods out for the rest of the day as this has benefitted me in the past.

I sat with Jim for a while putting the world to rights and drinking lots of tea.

Mark had moved from swim 8 to swim 1, the fish were going in and out the snags to the left of the swim and Mark had put baits at the entrance hoping to snare a lump or two. That night we did had a laugh and all we keep on talking about was the Coconut Common and just what an immense fish it is. Jim wants to catch her desperately as he has now had most of the residents, I'm sure he will catch her soon and I hope I am here to witness it and share the moment with him that would be special.

5

Before I knew it, Sunday morning was upon us and it was time to pack the gear up and head home. Just as we were sitting having breakfast Mark got a take from the rod in the entrance to the bay and what was attached gave him a proper fight, in all it must of took him at least 10 minutes before the fish was laying in



### The Sheriffs in Town

in the bottom of the net, and it was a lovely common of 31lb 4oz called "The Deputy" my god the boy was on fire.

16

We took some pukka shots for him then the fish was returned. It was a fitting end to a great weekend spent doing we what we love doing and great company to boot you

can't ask for much more then that.

For me its back to work and back to reality.

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

Www.galaxybaits.co.uk All the best

Www.sharptackle.co.uk

Www.kudostackle. co.uk

Www.hookedonbaits. co.uk

If you're out on the bank stay safe and remember its only fishing.





TalkingCarp.



# **#PARTICLEPERFECTION**



## SEE OUR FULL RANGE AT HOOKEDONBAITS.COM

# THE GENERAL

### A Chat With.... Mr. Dave Levy.

19

Ladies and gentlemen, this month we bring you a man who needs absolutely no introduction to the carping world. A highly accomplished carp angler, former carp angler of the year, a published author, captor of some of the UKs finest carp, all round good guy and family man.... Mr. Dave Levy.

Dave, thanks for joining us for a chat...let's find out a little about you, what makes you tick and what keeps that passion alive.

### Q1) Tell us a little about yourself? Who is Dave Levy? When did you start out fishing and when did the carp bug really bite you?

Who am I, LOL I'm your average man like most reading this. I've fished from a very young age to be honest fishing is more like a way of life to me now, especially as it pays the bills. I started to fish for carp in the early 80s, I'd caught a few while match fishing but back then they were mythical and most of the lakes around me were very low stock, I was about 13/14 when I got my first set of carp rods, I'm now 45 and still as keen as I was then.

# Q2) "Carp Talk/ Mainline Car Angler of the Year" is quite a prestigious title to hold.... How did it come about? Give us a quick insight into that phenomenal season on Horton Church Pool.

Horton was always one of them waters I wanted to fish, although relatively young history it had engraved its place.

I joined with no preconceived ideas. A few mates had fished there but I didn't ask for any tips, I wanted to turn up and fish it like no one else was because at this time I was still working on an oil refinery and my fishing was limited to one night a week.



### A Chat With.....

I knew that I couldn't afford to sit and wait it out like some of the full timers on there.

20

The season went really well, and I ended up catching a good few fish including II carp over 40lb and a 50lb 20z mirror.

Horton is a lovely lake but the rules and some of the so-called anglers that grace its bank have a cheek to even call themselves carp anglers. In the real world on a truly hard water they wouldn't know their bums from their elbows, let alone how to act respectfully. Winning the Carp angler of the year was very nice but to be fair it was partly down to the bait which is by far the best I've ever used.



Hortons Wood Carving

Q3) Carp angling and social media... how do you feel about it? Do you think it has opened up a Pandoras box and changed carp angling forever, or can it be a good thing and changed things for the better?



### Dave Levy

Look, it is what it is. Times change you move with them or get left behind, as we see the magazines disappear from our shops because the news in them is now old news, that is no bad mark on them it's just a changing time. Blogging has added a whole new aspect to media and I quite like not only doing them but watching them. It also gives anyone a chance to make their own platform.

21

On the down side, I used to think freedom of speech was a good thing, but some of these people who think its ok to troll pages and be bullies because they are sat behind a keyboard. In reality most of them are weak little people with no lives, sounds harsh I know.

Last year I had a guy ripping in to a product he didn't even own and when I looked at he's page (as you do when you want to kick someone to death) He had three young children and a wife, and he was unemployed!

Instead of wasting his time on me maybe he should put a little more effort in to providing for his family.

I don't know why but there's a lot of very negative people on social media who opinions mean very little to me. There is a lot of good that can come from it, like getting in touch

with friends you lost contact with.

There's a lot of charities doing really good stuff like the ACA that Mick D does. (We agree wholeheartedly here.... Mick is an absolute angel)

These days I don't bother with low life's and find the delete button a great tool.



### A Chat With.....



22

The One Kingsmead

Q4) You released your own successful book "Fallen Kings" which became a very popular read and sits on the shelves of most carp book collectors.... do you have plans to follow that up with another book any time soon?

Yes, It's something I always wanted to do and I'm really proud of doing the book, I've been a bit overwhelmed by the feedback from anglers who have read it, I included a bit of my life story and I think anglers can connect with me in the pages.

I may do another one in the future but have no immediate plans.

Q5) We recently saw you on season 2 of Carp Wars.... A carp angling series we thoroughly enjoyed, but was it a situation that took you out of your comfort zone? As an angler who normally adopts the full-on specimen hunter ethos, did you find the carp match angling aspect an easy transition and would you do it again?



### Dave Levy

You know there was some anglers on there saying this isn't what I normally do, well I don't mean to seem harsh but who goes fishing with a film crew ever! Lol. I like all aspects of carp fishing and because Carp Wars was tongue-in-cheek it was a good laugh and I really did make some good mates while doing it. I didn't catch every time, who does! but I held my own and enjoyed the experience.

23

Now give me a choice and say what kind of carp angling do you like to do then It's the single minded totally obsessed type, that's the angler I am. I want to catch carp that are special to me, so outside of that TV program you won't find me fishing busy day tickets in the summer... I'd rather rub sand paper in my eyes! Lol.



Kings Mead 46lb 4oz



### A Chat With.....

Q6) Can you share with our readers one very special carp angling memory that will always stand out in your mind?

24

There have been loads. I'm very close to a man called Gerry Chandler. Gerry took me under his wing when I was younger and has been more like a dad to me than anything. We have spent many hours fishing together on some really tough venues. One day I got Gerry a guest session on the syndicate I was fishing, and I'd been targeting this big carp all year right through the winter and summer.

We'd only been set up half hour when the rod went, and I caught this carp, at 46.4 it was my first 40 some 20 years ago but having Gerry there made that day special. Gerry is in his 70s now and very unwell with cancer so memories are very dear to me.



First 40 at 46lb 4oz



### Dave Levy

Q7) What has been your biggest challenge to date in your carp angling career?

25

That's a hard one. I'm not one to shy away from a challenge, some of the waters I've fished have been hard for different reasons. In most recent times was a 485-acre reservoir. I won't go in too much detail as the story is in my book, but it did test me to the point where I actually questions my sanity. I caught what I dream of catching and that was the uncaught in the form of a 41lb mirror.



Previously uncaught 411b 4oz

Q8) Is there anywhere on your radar that you would dearly love to fish but really haven't found the time to do so?





A few waters I'm not allowed to mention, they contain some really special carp of huge proportions.

Q9) Who would you consider to be your biggest influences in your carp angling career?

Gerry Chandler in my younger years but without doubt these days my mates, I'm very lucky to be good friends with some exceptional anglers and I'll often be fired up by their success



Wraysbury 37lb 8oz still obsessed!

Q10) Lastly, but not least, what does the future hold for you? Where do you see yourself heading? With a steady mix of working full time, a full family life, your fishing and catch rates are as strong as ever,



### Dave Levy

consultancy roles with major tackle and bait companies, and appearing in the angling media... where would you like to see yourself in say, 10 years?

27



sometimes its just about the laugh

I often joke with my mates and say I'm in my prime, but it's true, I'm fit and healthy and have 35 years of carp angling behind me with the desire to catch big carp as strong as ever. Carp and fishing for them is only second to my family.

Working for RidgeMonkey has been a really steep learning curve for me and I've had to take on new skills but I'm loving it.



### A Chat With.....



The Rise Half Linear 42lb 12oz

Ridgemonkey is a brave outfit with a lot of fresh and new ideas, we are all anglers so ideas are often born out of problems we come across while fishing. I tend to mostly be the angler while floating between media and design, I am a consultant to the company and it's something I really like being a part of.

In the next ten years' time I'd like to be doing the same as I am now, but on twice the money! I hope your reading this boss! Lol.

Thank you so much for your time and giving our readers an insight into your life. We wish you all the best in your future endeavors.

Team Talking Carp

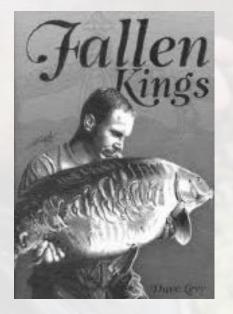
28







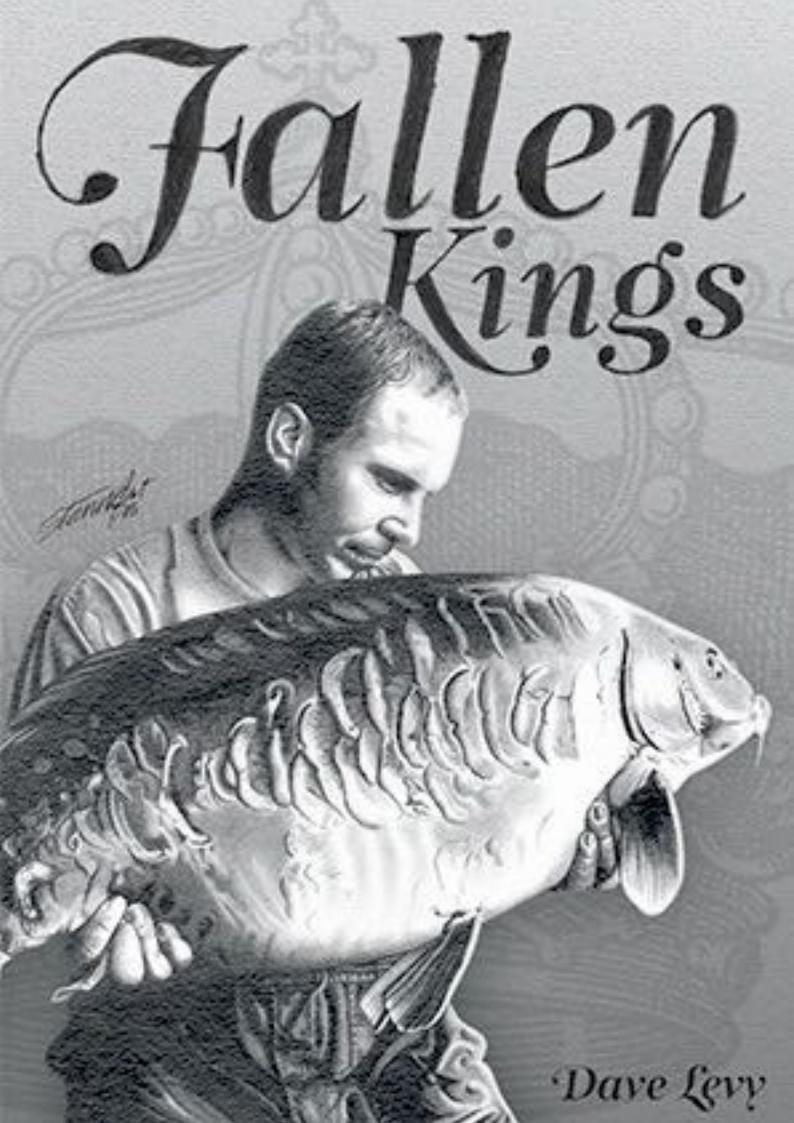
Dream Big 88lb 2oz





TEAM MAINLINE

TalkingCarp.





Now at a sale price of £20 plus £3 p&p

A story that follows Dave from boy to man on some of the most well known waters in the U.K. and some never spoken of.....

> For your personal sígned copy pay vía Paypal at

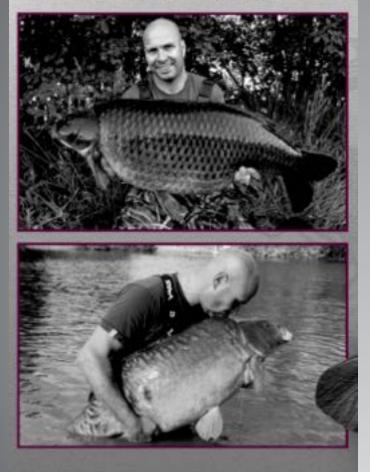
> > dave.levy1@btinternet. com

> > Waterstones : <u>https://</u> <u>www.waterstones.com/</u> <u>book/fallen-kings/dave-</u> <u>levy/9781871700930</u>

Amazon click : <u>https://</u> <u>www.amazon.co.uk/</u> <u>Fallen-Kings-Dave-Levy/</u> <u>dp/1871700930</u>



Fellen Kings insi't just another story about cutp fiching. It's an autobiography of a cutp angles, Dave Levy, who, blue most of us, fits kis observing inter-every day life, surving dreams into realizy. After he first read it Tim Paisley communited to Dave: "This is one of the most homous cutp stories Fre-ever read."







# RM-Tec Terminal Tackle

'Split up' with your current metalware & make ruined sleeves a thing of the past!!

#### FEATURES

Unique levelled GC arris Anti-glare finish Super high quality components Sized to fit all common lead systems.

AVAILABLE FROM ALL RM-TEC DEALERSIII









### RM-TEC SPOD & MARKER BRAID

COMING SOON!



### RM-TEC SPOD & MARKER BRAID:

**COMING SOON!** 

We're pleased to announce that following an extensive testing period, the RidgeMonkey Spod & Marker Braid is now ready for pre-order!!

A super tough braided mainline developed specifically for spod and marker work featuring a low diameter, zero stretch and excellent casting qualities, the RM-Tec Spod & Marker Braid is perfect for dealing with the abuse of repeated casts with fully loaded spods and enthusiastic feature finding. The lack of any stretch transmits all the humps & bumps that could otherwise be missed with a monofilament marker set-up, while the high buoyancy ensures an almost instant pick up and easy retrieval, vital when introducing large quantities of bait at range.

#### SPECIFICATION

- 0.23mm diameter
- 20lb / 9.1kg breaking strain

S Ridgento

- 300m spool
- RidgeMonkey Hi-Vis

#### PRICE

rrp: **£24.99** 

#### EXPECTED AVAILABILITY

### August 2018

Pre-order at your local RidgeMonkey stockist now to avoid disappointment!







### LEAD FREE LEADER **& HOOKLINK MATERIALS**

COMING SOON!



# LEAD FREE LEADER & HOOKLINK:

COMING SOON!

Following a short delay on the initially expected release date, we're pleased to say the much anticipated RM-Tec Lead Free Leader and Hooklink materials will soon be available to purchase nationwide!!

Tested, tweaked and developed by Dave Levy, Jay Cater, Max Cottis and the RidgeMonkey Pro anglers, the Lead Free materials have already assisted in the capture of some of the world's largest carp and are sure to become a firm favourite in the tackle boxes of anglers throughout Europe and beyond.

#### EXPECTED AVAILABILITY

#### **July 2018**

Pre-order at your local RidgeMonkey stockist now to avoid disappointment!!

#### LEAD FREE HOOKLINK

Extra tough, spliceable woven braid hooklink material, ideal when abrasion resistance is a critical factor. Can be spliced around a swivel or hook eye while retaining the suppleness needed to effortlessly hug any terrain. Mottled low-vis finish.

#### AVAILABLE IN

- Weed Green, Organic Brown and Camo
- 25lb breaking strain
- 10 metre spool

#### PRICE

RRP: £12.99

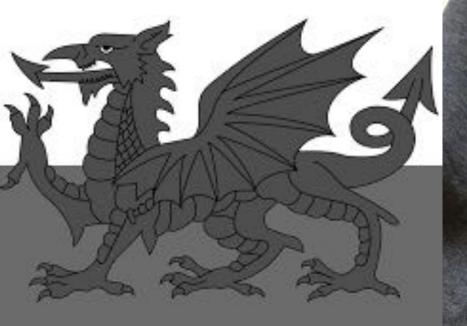
#### LEAD FREE HOOKLINK

Extra supple, spliceable woven braid leader material, ideal when abrasion resistance is a critical factor. Can be spliced like leadcore while retaining the suppleness needed to effortlessly hug any terrain. Perfect for venues where the use of leadcore leaders is restricted, can also be used as a super-tough hooklink material. Mottled low-vis finish.

#### AVAILABLE IN

- Weed Green, Organic Brown and Camo
- 50lb breaking strain
- 10 metre spool

PRICE



Introducing the Welsh Ladies Carp Team.... with Mark Galli (Mark Carper)



#### Mark Galli

Introducing the Welsh Ladies Carp Team..... with Mark Gallí (Mark Carper)

After last month's insight to the Welsh Ladies Carp Team and how they came about, this month we bring you an insight to the individual team members

Name: Sioned Weeks (Captain) Occupation: Secondary School Teacher (Maths, Computer Science and ICT) Age: 51



39

I have been carp fishing for 5 years, having been introduced to the sport by my husband who had been a keen angler from a very early age, first starting an interest and keen competitive career in fly fishing, before accidentally stumbling on a lake filled with carp back in the 1980's when carp fishing was in its infancy. He was fascinated by the huge dark shadows that swam just below the surface, after that – he never looked back – he never caught another trout. The first time I put a rod in my hands, it felt natural (perhaps a throwback from my father – another fly fisherman). It turned out I had a talent for it, along with careful coaching from my husband, it quickly developed into a love for the sport. The anticipation of hearing the bite alarms ringing out in the early hours was just such a buzz and soon became too much to resist. I found a local syndicate near to where we lived in Cardiff called the Birch Syndicate, Peterstone. Re-calling the first fish I caught from that lake still gives me a warm,



#### Welsh Ladies Carp Team

dark shape roll into my net on sunny late February afternoon was something I will never forget. Setting myself a target of capturing 20 carp over 20lb from The Birch became my goal for the next year. At every opportunity and free weekend, I was there, in rain, gales, snow and hot summer days. During this quest to capture my 20 x 20's I was noticed by the local representative for Fox International, they offered me a sponsorship deal. In return for this, I wrote regular articles for their on-line blog, detailing my captures and quest to catch 20 large carp.

My personal best is currently 31lb 4oz named Mirror – CTC from White Springs, Pontarddulais, caught on a pink pop up on a Ronnie Rig over a tight scatter of boilies over the spot. When I looked into my net last August, I realised that I had caught one of the Fisheries 'A Team' carp, I couldn't have been any happier when I phoned my husband to tell him I had my first 30lb+ carp in the net – and a Welsh 30lb'er at that. Now my goal is to catch an English 40lb'r and to continue as the Welsh Ladies Team Captain and look forward to taking the team to France next year.

Name: Natalie May Occupation: Trainer for Lloyds Bank Age: 26

40



I have been fishing for 6 years, I originally got into the sport by going with a friend for a day session and was instantly hooked by the thrill of the alarms screaming and the fight, not to mention the relaxation in between! There is nothing better than clearing your mind bank side!



#### Mark Galli

I am always adapting my fishing style and technique- but you can't beat a bright pop up on the bottom!

41

One of my most memorable captures must be Fishing in France-44lb 9oz mirror! Absolute monster of a fish! Seeing the fish plod across the lake and ripping my clutch right under the tip, and to top it off being slapped across the face by its immense tail! I'll never forget the feeling of achievement!

I've been fishing for the Welsh Ladies Team since it was established, having the pleasure of being Captain and leading the team to victory at the first Tri nation event at the legendary venue that is Wraysbury was an immensely proud moment – I've never been so delighted, and to represent my country is an immeasurable feeling. We destroyed England at this competition and caught the largest amount of fish in the 72-hour match – it was non-stop!

At the 2018 Tri Nation earlier in June, after a year out of the fishing reality came back with a clout, along with my match partner Amy Jenkins we won our section. Our enthusiasm was sky high from the start, I was just so glad to be back into competitive fishing, I enjoyed every second!

My ultimate aspiration is to become recognised as a capable angler, not only in Wales but in the UK, my passion for fishing is limitless, I won't stop until I am an ambassador for Women's fishing and will continue to promote and support any female looking to join the world of carp fishing!

As with any sport there is always room for improvement and that's something any angler will understand, you can should always be open to advice and support. without the help and support of Sioned and her husband Steve - I would not be the anger I am today, I strive to become one of the top female anglers in Wales.

Not only does Fishing for my country give my such pride, I would go as far as saying it has changed my life! The energy and excitement take me to another planet - no matter what's happing



in this world, sitting back and listening to the sound of my alarms going off and seeing a bend in my rod cannot be beaten!

Name: Samantha Roberts Occupation: Mother of 5 Children Age: 27

42



Fishing was never something I had never entertained would be of interest to me, 'rather watch paint dry 'as they say. That is until I met my partner Stewart Jones, a keen carp and all-round angler. We had only been together for a few months when he said he was going fishing, and would I like to join him. I went along to Cefn Mabley, situated East of Cardiff, we stayed in a lodge at the lakeside, my expectations were pretty low and didn't think I would enjoy any of it, how wrong could I be?

When Stewart's alarms went off during the night, I jumped a mile – it frightened the life out of me! I watched as he struck his rod and played the fish, he asked if I'd like to net it, which tentatively I did. While watching Stew play the fish and being involved with netting and dealing with the un-hooking process, it was like a revelation, it had been an incredibly exhilarating experience from start to finish. Every time he went fishing after that, I was by his side, and eventually said I wanted to try it for myself. A day licence in my pocket we took off to a day ticket runs water. We started floater fishing, missing the first few fish, I soon got the hang of it and struck into my first fish. As I became used to playing fish and getting them to the net, it was time for us to move to another lake on



on the complex which had bigger carp. I was delighted when I finally hooked into my first double figure carp, a lovely 13lb perfect linear – I was smitten! This was 2013 and since then I've never looked back.

I went onto being a little more independent with my fishing as my confidence grew. Stewart encouraged me to join a ladies group of anglers, where I went on to meet some amazing people at a ladies social fishing event held in Linch Hill Fishery, including being introduced to Miranda Brown. I was a little nervous as this was the first time I had gone away for a whole weekend to fish alone on English waters. My anxiety soon disappeared as I bagged the first fish of the ladies social at 34.12 mirror. I was ecstatic! In 2015 Miranda Brown approached me at another social ladies' event with the idea of setting up a Welsh Ladies Team. I was apprehensive, as I had not come across many lady anglers in Wales, and I wasn't sure if it would be possible at first, but with the help of Cardiff Angling Centre Staff we approached ladies they knew who fished regularly in the area, and that was the start of it all. We are now a tight group of fantastic ladies, most of whom have been there from the beginning. We are only a small team, but mighty in enthusiasm and passion. Our goal is of course to be world champions, and we will work very hard towards achieving that goal and bring it home for Wales.

Name: Natalie Chapman Occupation: Rehabilitation Practitioner Age: 35



43

TalkingCarp

I started sea fishing as a girl with my grandad and then carp fishing a few years ago. My favourite method of fishing is using a solid bag system, or a zig. I joined the team when it was originally put together in 2015. Sam Roberts contacted me on Facebook and asked if I was interested in being part of the first Welsh Ladies Carp Fishing Team. I jumped at the chance as I was desperate to meet other women who fished and had the same interest as me, and it went from there.

44

I have several memorable moments since I have been fishing, the first was in the competition when we won the Tri-Nations International last year at Wraysbury. My team partner Amy and I cried our eyes out when the final whistle went and realised we had won. We were so tired after a 72-hour match which had so many ups and downs, but it was all worth it. Wraysbury was such a beautiful place to fish and I was honoured to have been able to fish in such an historical venue.

The second highlight for me was landing Bruno at 40lb at the 2nd Anglo-Welsh Clifford Cup at White Springs. Catching him, one of the biggest fish in the lake in the dying minutes of the competition before the final bell went was a totally mind blowing. I was thrilled at catching a new PB, this capture equalled the scores for the match meaning that the competition winner had to be decided on weight, unfortunately it was not quite enough to beat England as they caught more fish on the day.

For my bio I have picked the photo of me with Bruno as it reminds me never to give up! Keep going and trust in yourself. If you try hard enough and have patience, you'll always get results – even at the last minute!

I hope that the team goes from strength to strength and that we all keep learning from each other. Hopefully our progress and success will encourage more women to come and enjoy the sport as much as we do.



## Mark Galli

Name: Amy Jenkins Occupation: Customer Hosts Supervisor, Arriva Trains Wales Age: 22



45

I have been fishing for about 5 years and started when my partner introduced me to the sport, I immediately fell in love with it. Since then, my partner and I have fished many venues, not only in Wales, but also in England and France, where we have fished Crete Lakes several times.

My most memorable capture is a 62lb mirror which I caught on a recent trip to Crete Lakes, France. However, probably one of the nicest venues would be RK Leisure Wraysbury which I had the pleasure to fish last year for the Ladies Tri-Nations. I hope to one day be able to fish there again.

I have been with the Welsh Ladies Carp Team since we first formed in 2015 and have fished all matches from Barston to our most recent Tri-Nations International at Thorpe-lea. I was extremely proud to have fished alongside the girls last year when we brought home the gold medal from the first ever Ladies Tri-Nations event with a win of 3 sections out of 4. As a team we recently had a long distance casting coaching session with Terry Edmonds – Long Range Angler, and we were all hitting distances of well over 100 yards, I hope to



### Welsh Ladies Carp Team

build on this and be able to cast longer distances and fish venues where a longer cast is required.

I hope that we can bring more females into the sport and one day possibly building their confidence to bring them on board with us ladies in the Welsh team.

Name: Jackie Potts Occupation: Specialist Falls Physiotherapist & Clinical Lead for the Newport Falls Team. Based at St Woolos Hospital Newport. Age: 49

46



I Sea fished for many years pre-children and then stopped fishing as they grew up, mainly concentrating on my Career alongside being a single mum.

Started Carp fishing 2 ½ years ago, mainly to encourage partner back into the sport and to be able to spend more time together. Got the bug and proceeded to fish more than him. Like Sioned I was approached by Kieran and attending some training sessions winter 2017. Then fished for the first time with the team at Cardiff over 24 hours on a freezing weekend in February 2018.

First comp was Drayton this year, this was a daunting experience being the first comp and getting used to being observed, also pitted against two of the strongest and most experienced English



#### Mark Galli

ladies is something I will not forget, it was terrifying and hard work, but also gave me a huge learning curve as to what to expect from competitions on a national and international basis.

In the recent Tri-Nations Europe Ladies Carp competition, the date clashed with a fishing holiday in Spain, so I became a sub at Thorpe Lea. This allowed me to see the comp from another angle and watch all teams perform.

I love to try all different methods of fishing depending on the venue. Never zig fished until recently and following Drayton this has become an essential tool in the rig box. I prefer to fish large waters as opposed to established fisheries so tend to travel to try out different venues. PB so far 30 lb. My favourite venues: Thorpe lea (as of a few weeks ago), Shearwater, and The River Ebro, Caspe in Spain that I visit annually.

Being taught to Carp Fish by my Partner has given me a basic knowledge of Carp fishing, but fishing with the team and being introduced to different techniques I feel I am learning more each time I go out on bank. My casting is improving immensely, and I am now reaching good distances of over 100 yards, with an aim to improve this even more over this next year.

Name: Emma Dyer Age: 23 Occupation: Nursery Practitioner



47

TalkingCarp

I have been a member of the Welsh Ladies Carp Team for a year. I was approached about joining the team by Kieran Harvey (manager) after seeing me fish at Cefn Mabley with my partner. I was very nervous about the thought of fishing for my country but after some coaxing I decided to go along to a social to get to know the girls, after about 10 minutes I felt like I'd known them my whole life. I was welcomed in with open arms and less than 24 hours after meeting them I found myself planning a session at a local runs water for the following weekend with some of the girls. After that, my confidence just grew and grew, as well as my love for fishing.

48

When I met my partner, who is a keen all-round angler and fab teacher, I started off sea fishing with him and a short time later I found myself getting more and more interested in carp fishing. I watched many programmes on TV and walked around several lakes with Dave, I became fascinated with carp behaviour and watching them feed.

I went along for a 24-hour session with Dave, and that's where my carp fishing apprenticeship began. My first job was tying mesh bags which, followed by rig preparation, then helping Dave net fish, and it wasn't long before I had my very own fish in the net. Purchasing my own gear and tackle I became more independent, my most memorable capture to date is capturing my PB of 21lb at Cefn Mably lakes.

Fishing for the team in my first match at Drayton took me out of my comfort zone, as I had not done much spodding and zig fishing in the venues I had fished. It was an exhausting 48-hour match, but an amazing experience and I learned a lot from it. I suppose that's the beauty of fishing, you never stop learning no matter how long you have been involved in the sport, and never tire of hearing your alarms go off and seeing a bend in your rod. Looking to the future I would like to try a few different types of fishing and become and all-round angler.



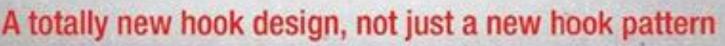
There's barbed, there's barbless,

# **NOW THERE'S**

PALLATRAX (atchingre fish

Developed to allow for high penetration and a firm hook-hold, GRIPZ alleviate slippage as the flesh of the fish's mouth grips in to the grooves under pressure but is easily removed on release, lessening any mouth damage.

- Unique, patented grooves
- Uniquely designed point, resulting in a seriously sharp hook
- Made from the highest quality Japanese wire
- Teflon coating for dull finish
- Available in sizes 6, 8 and 10



To buy our range of innovative products visit your local stockist www.pallatrax.co.uk 01409 240042

# **ANGLERS CHARITY AUCTIONS**



# THE ROSE APPEAL

Anglers Charity Auctions ACA









#### ACA Bank Buddy ONLY £27.99

The ACA Bank Buddy is a waterproof wireless speaker that has been designed and built with outdoor adventures in mind

#### A GREAT ADDITION TO YOUR KIT !!!!!!!!!!!

PRODUCT FEATURES INCLUDE :

Blue Tooth Connectivity Hands Free Call Facility Two Way Control AUX Input to play DVD'S etc Built In FM Radio Shock and Waterproof

Get Yours Now at http://acaproducts.co.uk/?product=aca-bank-buddy 100% of all profits from the detailed and Buddy goes to Charity.



#### ACA Thermal Trousers

100% Waterproof Wind-proof & Breathable Fleece-lined. Super stylish and very comfortable outdoor waterproofs.

This modern Peachskin fabric is essentially a hi-tech, synthetic version



of traditional moleskin clothing. It is beautifully soft to the touch and ACA have combined it with a complimentary, lightweight Taslan-type synthetic shell on the seat & knees to produce a very elegant outdoor set.

Ideal for: Fishing, Shooting, Hunting, Walking, Working, Spectating, and loads of other outdoor activities.

Overtrouser features: with..

Elasticated Waistband & Press-stud Fastener.Velcro Adjuster to fit bottoms snug around boots.Reinforced Taslan to Knees and Seat.2x Side Hand Pockets.2x External Patch Pockets.

#### Available in Sizes: Large, XL, 2XL, 3XL



## Now available In assosiation with NAVITAS !!!!!!!!

#### check the ACA website for more information







## TRAVELLING LIGHT HELPS BY GARY MILKY LOWE



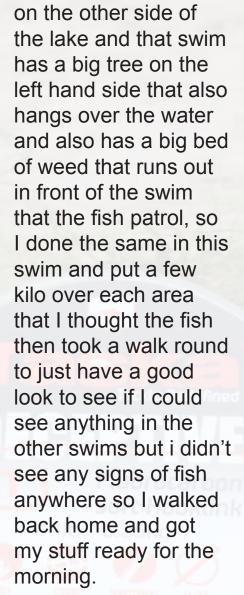
#### Gary Lowe

With work really hectic now with me taking on the role of media manager at Let's Get Fishing and Phatfish Clothing I've not had much time to get out to my syndicates so l've stayed close to home and the park lake is perfect for that as its just five minutes from my house, I've had some good results on there over the last few months so as its close I could just get over there for a few house when i could as I new that there was a spot that I could try and stalk a few carp from, I knew that I would have a few hours free on the Friday so i was going to go over the Thursday night and bait a few spots with a mixture of bait some pellets and corn and a few crushed up homemade boilies. I took a walk over the pond just on dark as it should be a less people walking around

as it's a country park and its always busy with people and the other plus is that most of the ducks should be in hiding as its ducks and birds galore which makes it a nightmare to bait up in the day.

I came up to one of my favourite stalking swims swim 12, it's a tiny little swim with small pads in front of it with the odd hole in them and to the right there is a tree that over hangs the bank and the fish love to hang around it so I put in a few kilos around that and then a few over the back of the pads for the second

rod if I do manage to fish here too, after that I move round to another swim which was swim 3



55



TalkingCarp



I set the alarm for five in the morning, so I could get to the lake for when it gets light. It only felt like I had been in bed five minutes when the alarm when of at 4.30 a quick wash and a hot brew I was off to the lake. The barrow was loaded. and I set of to my first swim that was swim 3 I gently took my gear down to the swim, so I didn't scare any fish off if there was any in the area. The rigs I was going to use were my favourite rig and that was the spinner rig with one of my

home-made white pop ups and that was all put on a helicopter rig and then that was all pinned down with the taska evolve shurelink fluoro carbon splicable leader braid that will keep everything hidden. I tied a few pva bags of pellets one was attracted to the hook then the first rod was cast under the tree to my left and the other rod was cast close in just up against the weed. I didn't put any loose bait around each rod as I had baited up last night. The pva bag was just to keep the hooklink from

tangling, once the two rods were done I sat at the back of the swim out the way just so if I did make any noise it might not spook the fish if they came in. I was sitting there watching the sun come out drinking a nice hot cuppa when fish started showing about 30 yards out over the back of the swim.... now do I move my rod and cast to them or leave it were it was I knew from other times that the fish will move in close in this swim in the mornings, so I think I'll leave it for now.

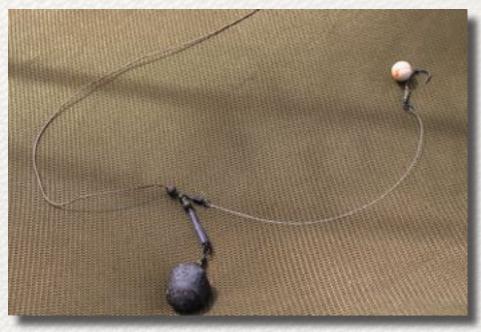
Well it must have been about two hours before I see the first fish in close, by now the sun was up and beaming down on this side of the lake warming the margins so the fish are now looking like they are moving in to the edge as I could see quite a few fish now



TalkingCarp

## **Travelling Light Helps**

#### Gary Lowe



around the weed and I had seen a few cruise under the tree.... it was just a waiting game now to see if they would feed, they had been feeding in the area as there was only a bit of bait left that I had put in. I still didn't want to put any more in, if I did it would cut my chances down, soon the park would start to wake up people walking their dogs, kids running around and people just being noisy so I would have to make the most of the quite times as it was hot there was more

people than what there normally is and the fish drifted off just over the weed and wouldn't come in any closer so I thought it was time to try the other swim over the other side so I loaded the barrow and off I went to swim 12. Now this swim was a bit different to the other one I would be fishing a lot closer in one rod would only be a few feet of the bank tucked under the tree and the other is going to be placed in a hole in the pads. I was going to keep the rigs the same as in the other

swim the water was a bit greener on this side so i couldn't see the bottom to see if there was any bait left there so i was just going to put the hookbait out for the time being then see what happens, the rods were placed on the floor with the tips set right back on the swim so it was just the line fulling over the edge of the swim so it didn't spook anything in the edge, well after a good few hours of seeing nothing around I got up and walked down the edge of the swim to see if anything was under the tree off in the edge and I could see a couple of fish swimming around the tree and under it. I stood there for a while just watching then and seeing what they were doing .and i could see there were not going down were may bait was but i could see that they would go

57

TalkingCarp

#### **Travelling Light Helps**

under the tree and out the other side to where we can't get a bait and feed on the bottom now i had tried everything under this tree over the last few months and still had not had a sniff it was time to sit back down and work out what i could do next to try and outwit one.

58

Well I sat there for ages thinking about what to do. I thought of everything then the one thing that I didn't just came to me use a baiting spoon and push it under the tree to the other side where they were confident in feeding, the only problem with that was i didn't have the spoon with me so I couldn't use that so I was just going to have to try and make the best of what I have and just get as far under the tree as possible with just the rod. I sat there

for a few hours more and yes all I did was watch fish cruising over my bait but not picking it up, so I packed up and threw the rest of my bait in as I was going to come back the following day for another go with the spoon and off I went.

At home I done some more bait which was pellet, sweet corn and a few broken boilie... that should keep them interested and that night I respooled with the taska deceptive fluorocarbon mainline in 20lb... now this line is super heavy so it would be flat along the bottom and out of sight of the fish when it is lying on the bottom through the tree and into their feeding area, I was going to keep the same rigs as I have total confidence in it so new rigs were tied ready for the morning, well I was up early again and on my way

TalkingCarp

to the lake before it got light was going to start in swim 12 this time as i think that's were i would have the best chance of a fish ,well i got everything ready for when i could see to get my baiting spoon under the tree and out the other side to the area that i no they would feed, I didn't have to worry about the fish snagging me up in the trees as all the branches under water had been taken away so it was snag free I just had to worry about the pads but if I got a take I would keep my line tight and it should cut through the pads.

Well it was just light enough for me to see now so I loaded the baiting spoon with the rig and a pva bag then a few handfuls of corn and started to ship it out and slowly made its way through the trees

#### Gary Lowe

and out the other side i twisted the pole and everything slid out and down with a donk onto clean bottom I placed the rod on the rest facing the tree and tightened the clutch so it could just about take line and couldn't speed of and bury in the pads then I placed the other rod on the back of the pads in front there was a little gap in the pads to bring a fish through if I hooked one, well i sat there having a nice brew when I saw the pads twitching in front of me so I knew that there was fish or a fish in close the sun was now getting up and a few more fish started to show out in open water in the weed i just need them to move in close i found from around 8 in the morning onwards the fish move in close and start moving around the pads and under the tree, I crept up to the edge to see

if there was anything moving around near the tree and there wasn't anything i could see so I sat back down and made a few new rigs for the falling day as I was coming back for a few hours as that's all i can get at the moment while u was sorting the rigs out a good fish showed on the edge of the pads witch spooked the coots that were milling around which was good that will keep them away for a bit, as the time pasted the more fish I see moving

in close and the fish were in and around the tree so it was a matter of time till I got a take I thought to myself well the park had got busy now with a lot of people walking round and kids on their bikes so I really thought that I had missed my chance as the fish would be on edge with all the commotion so time was running out I sat back down and put the kettle on for another brew and something to eat when I had a bleep on the rod that was on

59



TalkingCarp.

#### **Travelling Light Helps**

the edge of the pads then the rod melted off and I dropped my brew and grabbed the rod the fish tore off away and out into open water were the weed is and head first straight into it. I kept the line tight and soon the fish was on the move nice and slow because it had weed round its head which I thought was a result then the fish had a burst of energy and tore off again towards the weed I thought i would apply a bit of pressure to stop it and then the bloody hook pulled. I was gutted as I had done all the hard work by getting the take I reeled the rod in and sat down gutted but thought i get the rod back on the spot incase I get a chance of another take. Well I didn't see any more fish in open water or around the weed I must have spooked

60

them out of the area so I walked up the steps of the swim to have a look behind the tree through the bushes to see if the fish were behind the tree and yes there they were sitting in the weed behind the tree so I still had a chance of a fish on the tree rod so I walked back and sat down and made myself a new brew and a few people came round for a chat about the lake and then went I would say about an hour later I saw the line twitch on the tree rod then it slowly started to move I picked up the rod and kept the rod low to keep the line out the trees but tightened up at the same time and as I did this fish tore of away from the tree through the pads and out into open water well it was going mad out there taking loads of line then every time I gained some line it when of on another run

TalkingCarp

and this happened a few time which made me think i had foul hook it, well after a few minutes it got weeded now I kept the line tight as it was a barbless hook as that's the rules on here and after a while I felt a kick and it started to come free with a big ball of weed round its head so slowly I gained line on it and I could see a big head coming towards me then it kicked and the weed came free giving it space to go on another run but this time I managed to stop it and started to bring it towards me now I had to try and guide it through the gap in the pads which I did quite easily and it was soon in the net. I looked down and there was a nice dark old mirror in my net. I was over the moon to finally have from the tree it's taken a few months to find out how they wanted

#### Gary Lowe

to feed and get a rig there and its paid of, I had to move everything out the way in the swim to do the self-take photos as don't trust any walker to get the shot, so the shurecare mat was down the camera on the tripod and then snap away a few snaps and a quick video and then i weighed her on the scales she went 26lb I was happy with that and I then slipped her back, now I know what I have to do to get a bite from that swim I'll do it until it stops producing it was getting on abit now so it was time to go home and do some work, I'll leave this there until next time just remember if it's not happening in your swim and you think it should be sit back

and think about what you can do to turn a blank into a successful session so tight lines and see you next month.

61

Milky





Wafter/Hook Ratio:12mm/Sz8 15mm/Sz6 18mm/Sz4. We advise that you check rigs prior to fishing. Add counterbalance where necessary as hook weights will vary. MAINLINE BALANCED WAFTERS are available to complement our HIGH IMPACT range of complete food source boilies in Aromatic Fish, Banoffee, Essential B 15mm, Spicy Crab, Salty Squid & Peaches n Cream in 15mm. PLUS they are available to match or Dedicated Freezer Boilies in CELL & HYBRID in 12, 15 & 18mm options.

THERE Y

mainliné

BETTER BAIT



www.mainline-baits.com

# IMITATION BAITS BY MIKE MADELEY

#### **Imitation Baits**

The use of imitation baits has been in the anglers armoury for many years, and now to the present day they have just got better and really do resemble the real thing, not just in the shape but the colours and smells that can be added can give you a great edge. Before I go further into these little bits of plastic there is now a situation where by, the use of immitations has been banned on a few lakes. I don't know the percentage, but I feel it's becoming wide spread. The reason is a straight forward one "In the event of snapped tackle or a crack off, a rig baited up with a plastic immitation hook bait will be live and constantly fishing". I get that and totally understand however on the flip side you would like to think that rigs and how they are

64



set up are done so in a safe way so in the event of a breakage the hooklink will be able to free up and not leave a fish trailing line, regardless of what bait is used.

Anyway, let's take a closer look at these baits. A lot of company's now have a range of imitation baits in one form or another, however the one company who specializes in



this area is of course Enterprise tackle, it is Enterprise who started to make the imitations and others have simply followed. Enterprise tackle was formed as a company in 2003, but actually started producing a range of products as early as 1998, I'm actually a field tester for Enterprise and I get sent various items to actually test which makes the term "Field tester" as

#### Mike Madeley

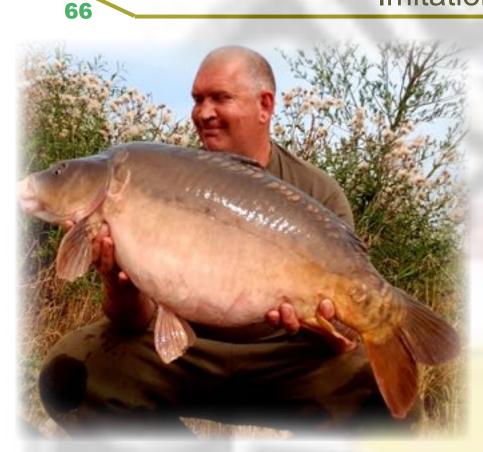
it should be, now Enterprise is a company that doesn't stand still, the most recent prototype I have tested to great success are the Giant maggots, there is more testing to do before they go into production but without doubt these are a winner.

Having an edge or doing something different with your bait can certainly pay off, especially on pressured venues were generally anglers are using the same tactics. Regardless of the rig wether it's a bottom bait or a pop up there's always something that can be added to give you an edge from Enterprise. A favourite of mine is stacking 4 mini pop up tigers onto the chod section of a stiff hinge rig, great to use where nuts are banned as these come



TalkingCarp.

#### **Imitation Baits**



soaked in Tiger nut essence. Washed out looking Corn is another winner that I use especially on a multi rig, again these come in all sorts of flavours and sizes.

This time of year, Zigs can be devastating, and I use the Enterprise surface foam because it will pop up a long zig. I've had zigs up to 14ft and confident it's popped up and stays there, also there is a great range of colours that can be used and take on flavour easily. As I'm writing this the endless list of immitation bait available is just mind blowing. Even particles have been produced including hemp, maple, chick pea, get a few of them onto your hair rig and fish over a spread of particle, mix

TalkingCarp

in some maggots and casters what's not to like, they really do look like the real thing.

Enterprise tackle imitation baits seriously look fantastic, I've only scratched the surface but if you need a little edge it's worth a look at the website or YouTube.

My next article will be called "Beat the Ban" were i will look at a fantastic alternative to Leadcore leaders... Good luck

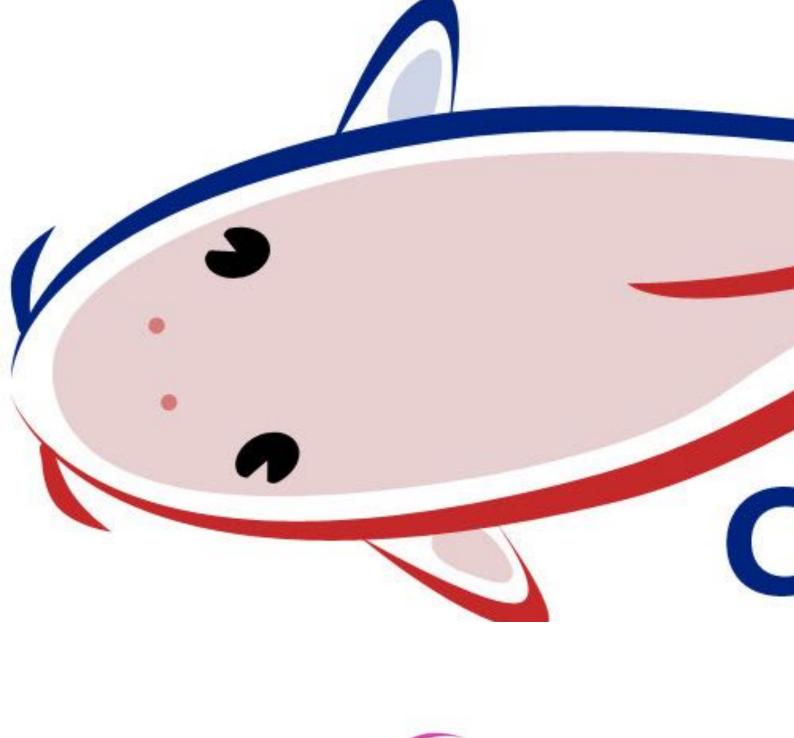
Míke Madeley



# Mike Madeley









TalkingCarp

# BRITISH ARP CUPS



TalkingCarp

I started marshalling for the British Carp Angling Championships around 2007 when Carp Team England Manager Rob Hughes was the owner.

I first met him whilst fishing the events with my angling partner. Rob eventually sold to Simon Bennie and I stayed on as a head marshal running both singles and pairs events.

I continued in that role until the end of 2013 when myself and my wife Belinda started British Carp Cups Ltd. We pride ourselves on forward thinking and started Ladies singles and pairs events along with the very popular Mixed Carp Cup, which is usually our end of year closer. This year all three of those events sold out and have competitors on waiting lists.

I have marshalled in Europe for the European Carp Angling Championships at Abbey Lakes and Ross Honey's Worlds Carp Classic at Madine. This year is the 20th Anniversary of the WCC which I will be fishing myself on the mighty Madine.

Myself and my wife are keen carp anglers but also enjoy fishing for other species as well.

Last year I was very proud to be asked to marshal the Home Nations between England, Scotland and Wales on Linear Fisheries and I must of done something right as I have been asked to continue into the future.

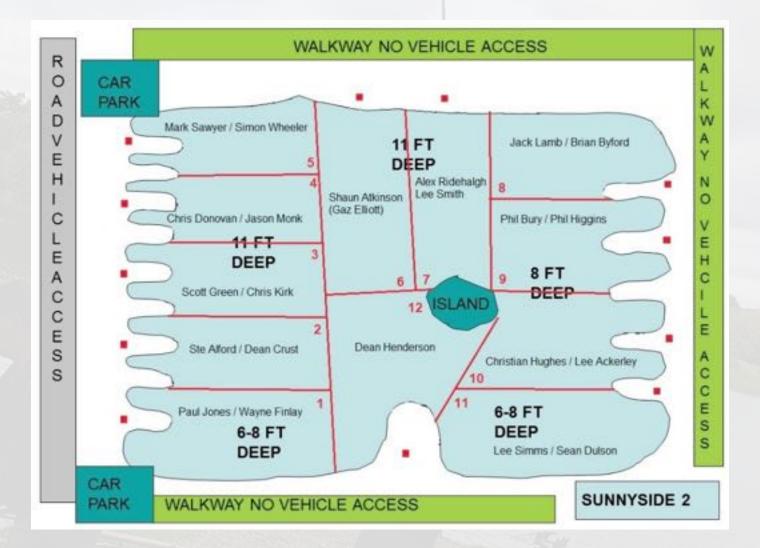
We have revamped our British Carp Cup with a new look final at Barston Lake in October.

Anybody is welcome to enter our competitions, Check our website for more information and current availability. There are still places available on most of the qualifiers.

Mick Coxon British Carp Cups www.britishcarpcups.co.uk







Wyreside Sunny 2

#### The British Carp Cups

For the second time

in a row we had to replace a venue. This time it was moved from Clear Water Fisheries, Carnforth, a short distance down the M6 to Wyreside **Fisheries on Sunny** 2. This is a venue we used a couple of year's ago for out televised Northern Carp Cup Final. After a long year of events, we have arrived at gualifier 10 which will give us the last three pairs for our **British Carp Cup Final** at Barston, the first weekend of October.

Out of the 12 teams of competitors only three did not register fish. There were 30 carp caught for a combined weight of over 455lb which equates to an average of just short of 16lb per fish.

Ten of those fish were banked by Mark Sawyer and Simon Wheeler, who despite coming out 8th in the watercraft draw managed to take the victory from end peg 5 on the road bank. Amongst their fish was a nice 28lb 11oz mirror which was the biggest of the match.

Runners up spot was taken by Shaun Atkinson in peg 6. He came out of the draw bag in 4th place and selected his peg. By 6am Sunday Shaun had not caught and looked out of it, but in a late flurry it all came good as he managed to land 6 fish in less than three hours. Considering he was a lone angler due to partner Gary Elliott being on holiday it made it even more of an achievement.

The third place was taken by Lee Simms and Sean Dulson in peg 11 who were the first pair to catch at 11:35 pm on Friday night. Approaching this point I was slightly concerned that almost a quarter of the



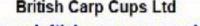
#### The British Carp Caps

REUBENHEATON Welghing solutions

Est 1857



Position	Competitors Wyreside Sunny 2	Peg No	Number of Fish	Total Weight
1	Mark Sawyer / Simon Wheeler	5	10	164lb 1oz
2	Shaun Alkinson / (Gaz Ellioti)	6	8	79b 9oz
3	Lee Simms / Sean Dulson	11	4	58b 6oz
4	Ste Alford / Dean Crust	2	3	39lb 10oz
6	Phil Bury / Phil Higgins	9	2	38lb 15oz
6	Scott Green / Chris Kirk	3	2	30b 3oz
7	Chris Donovan / Jason Monk	4	1	16b 1oz
8	Christian Hughes / Lee Ackerley	10	1	15b 9oz
9	Jack Lamb / Brian Byford	8	1	12lb 12oz
10				
11		2	8	8
12			1	



www.britishcarpcups.co.uk

match had gone and I had not weighed a fish. I needn't have worried though because following the first one the flood gates opened and I was kept busy for the remainder of the contest. Lee and Sean added three more fish to finish with 58lb 6oz.

ADJES MATES

Ste Alford and Dean Crust also had a good Sunday morning putting three fish on the scales for 39lb 10oz. Phil Bury and Phil Higgins were next with 2 fish for 38lb 15oz followed by Scott Green and Chris Kirk who also had 2 fish which weighed 30lb 3oz.

It was a tight affair Sunday morning with fish being lost here and there.Just one more fish from a variety of pegs around the lake would have changed the whole complexion of the leader board significantly. However as there was no more action after 9:15 am the result stood and we had our complete 30 pair line up for the new look British Carp Cup Final at Barston Lakes in the west Midlands.

I for one cannot wait to see how that pans out.

Belínda







Keep watch for details of next years dates and venues, and remember to book early to secure your place in the number one carp competition.

Contact Mick or Belinda Coxon at www.britishcarpcups.co.uk for more informaion





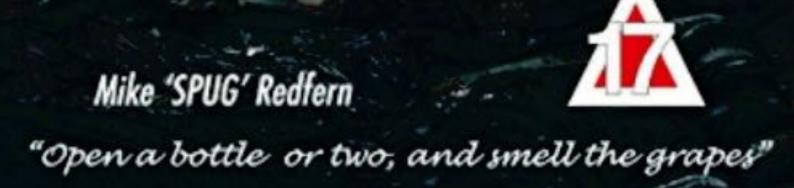
www.hazystackle.com

- Swivels
- Imitation Baits
- Carp Hooks
- Ready Made Rigs

- Boa Rigs
- Tools
- Terminal Tackle
- Clothing

# 10% Off Enter Code: HAZYS10





RPIN

Chapter

5

### ~New York, New York~

New Years Eve 1999; now there's a night I won't forget. We had been wondering what to do and where to go. Ticket prices were stupid everywhere, at least £100 just to get into a club and we had a choice to make; should we blank the Millennium celebrations altogether, or should we have it as 'large' as we possibly could? There was only one answer and that would be to go on one massive bender! I popped home to spend the Christmas with my mum and dad and the time seemed to fly by. So much so that I didn't get the chance to see Andy, who I always made the point of seeing every time I was home as I knew his disease was crippling him. I didn't want to leave him there sitting in that wheelchair without me bounding round for at least an hour's abuse, so I rang him and told him of our plans. "Oh Mike go for it," he said.

"No problems. I'll see you in the New Year!" I replied, and go for it we most certainly did.

It started with a quick beer round Lockey's and then we joined about a million people on the side of the river Thames and watched the most incredible firework display you have ever seen. It was brilliant and the atmosphere was just out of this world. Next stop was a nightclub called Turnmills where some friends were deejaying. I did my usual and chucked a few odd shapes on the dance floor and wiggled my groin near any lucky ladies who happened to be around. As usual that drew a blank, but it didn't matter because when we left the club around 4am it was straight round the motorway to Heathrow to book in for a flight to New York. A full 13 of us arrived at the airport and Lockey was just praying that no one had already overdone it, as we all needed to get on the plane. There was of course some tomfoolery in the airport but it wasn't that bad and only resulted in the whole lot of us getting an instant alcohol ban when we got on the plane. The flight over was great, as there had been so much rubbish in the papers about all the computers crashing when the clocks went to midnight and stories of planes falling out of the sky. The plane was nearly empty and all of us had five seats to ourselves. We managed to get through customs without anyone being arrested and it was just a case of booking into the hotel in Manhattan.

After one hour's kip, it was a quick shower and change of clothes and then we jumped into cabs, heading west on 27th Street, as that was the home of Twilos, which was at the time the nightclub to go to anywhere on planet Earth. This night especially, as the two biggest deejays at the time (Sasha and John Digweed) were



Twilos.

going to be playing an 11-hour set, seeing us through until 11 in the morning on the 2nd of January. It all started well and we had made it, well all bar one who was ill in the hotel. So with the pressure off it was time for us all to enjoy ourselves, which in true Solar disco style we did.

However, you can get too much of a good thing and around three in the morning I was starting to feel trashed and needed to sit down. There weren't a lot of empty seats, but I managed to squeeze in next to some pretty fit-looking bird that had great big knockers and I thought that would do nicely. It wasn't long before she started talking to me and it soon became apparent that I was in with a chance, even though I could barely string a sentence together. Lockey and some of the others came over to see if I was okay, and I just told them I was trashed and needed to sit down. "Don't leave here with her. We are a long way from home and we stick together," Lockey told me. 'Fair enough,' I thought. We had been chatting for about ten minutes when, out of the blue she said, "Do you know what? I really love and swallowing the WHAT! At first I was quite impressed with that statement, but there had to be something wrong about this situation. In all my (failed) attempts at chatting birds up in nightclubs, nothing even came close to a guaranteed success like this.

"What's your name?" I asked, still hardly daring to believe my luck.

"It's Shamola," came the reply. The penny dropped.

"What was it before that?"

"Oh, I don't know, Vincent or something!" Oh no!

"What, are you a transsexual?" I despairingly asked.

"Look, I'm not a transsexual, I'm a trans-gender. That means you get a bit of both." He, she, or they, replied.

"I had better go and see my mates. They're a bit worried about me," came my reply, as I ran to the dance floor to meet up with everybody else.

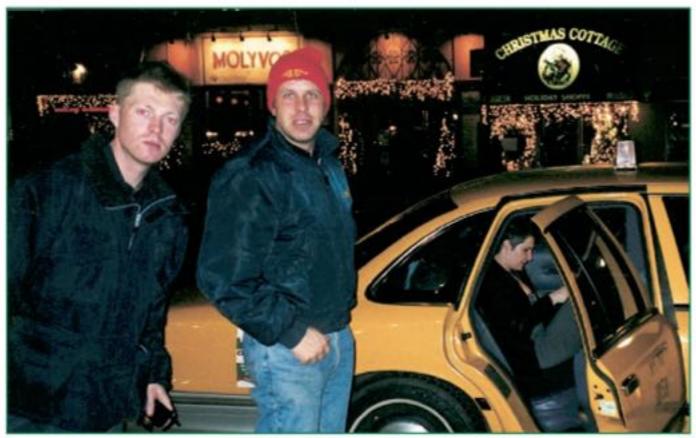
"How did you get on with that bird?" asked Lockey.

I just stood there and blurted out, "I didn't. It was a GEEZER!" The look on Lockey's face mimicked how I felt. He burst out laughing.

"NO WAY!" Yes way, I'm afraid. Now, if there is an ounce of a get-out on



World Trade Centre.



Me and Nick in New York.

that one, then quite clearly it's the fact that no one else had realised, but I did of course receive a torrent of abuse over it. Luckily, the rest of the night passed without any further 'misunderstandings'.

We came out at 11 in the morning, on the tail end of a 56-hour bender and headed back to the hotel to grab some well-needed kip. That afternoon we were up again and we went and had a look at the World Trade Centre. It was the most amazing couple of buildings you have ever seen. The view from the bottom was just incredible and those twin towers just went up forever. If we thought the view from the bottom was good, then the view from the top was something else altogether. It was just incredible. I made the suggestion that we dropped our trousers in order to win the world's highest moonie competition. I don't know if we did because I haven't heard back from the Guinness Book of Records yet. We finished off the trip that evening by jumping in a yellow cab and hitting the Irish bars till about 4am. We all managed to get home safely and spent weeks talking about that crazy trip.

Back in England, I had two or three weekends off as I had to move house again. Andy C had come across a new girlfriend and she had moved in complete with two kids, a snake and a spider. I bought a copy of the Yellow ads. 'Room for rent, £50 a week all-in, buy your own food, in a quiet house Vigo village.' That



would do nicely. I could have stayed at Andy's, but I felt in the way so I went for a meeting with the landlady. I knocked on the door and she let me in. There was a slightly younger girl sitting on the couch and a kiddie around six years old playing with Lego on the floor by the TV. She took me upstairs and showed me around and the room was fine, so I agreed to move in. "There's something I need to tell you," she said. "Me and \*\*\*\*\* are lesbians, is that a problem to you?" It was another Extras moment, you know, 'are you having a laugh?' I moved in the next weekend with dreams of imminent three- in-a-beds, or least listening against the wall with a glass to my ear. This was a great thing to happen in my silly world! I couldn't wait to tell them at work and the news was warmly received by Lockey and Nick, and I was set a task of having to get in bed with them before June 1 st. The challenge was on.

I freely admit that I can come up with some, 'off the wall' plans at the best of times, but with an imminent return to Les (pardon the pun) just around the corner, I came up with an idea which I thought would help me meet this somewhat challenging task. I wrote a letter to myself, but pretended that it was written to me by some former girlfriend. In that letter I spoke about how much love there was in the relationship, and what a nice genuine geezer I was and how, as a girl, she didn't think that she would ever find a man who could make love as well as I could and indeed one who knew exactly how to keep a girlfriend pleasured in the bedroom! What a plan! I hope you could follow that because I nearly got lost myself there. Anyway, I left the letter in my sock drawer thinking they would have to have a rummage around when I wasn't there, so that on my return they would clearly want to invite me into their room every Saturday night and the task would be complete with flying colours.

With the trap in place I sped off to Tob's, loaded up and headed for France. We had a few tasks to perform to get the lodge ready for the forthcoming season. As usual we had a right giggle and the highlights of the trip were a 25lb common for me and an evening in the lodge where we turned our headtorches into spotlights and a put on a 'laser show' on the ceiling of the lodge, with the music on full blast. Bloody good angling!

On returning to England, I was met by some smiling faces and just for a nanosecond I thought my plan had worked, but the hair which was carefully stuck across my folded love letter (a trick we learned at school) showed me it hadn't. Oh well, the fishing would start soon and the Brook was calling already. Hopefully they were the sort of tasks I had at least half a chance with!



We had a right giggle.

I had been waiting for a flat to come up in Gravesend for months but it never seemed ready, and that was why I moved in with the 'todger dodgers'. I hadn't been there long, only a few weeks, and all of a sudden I was on the move again as the flat had been finished and was ready to rent. So I never did complete the task. The Gravesend flat was above a curry house with a pub/club thing about 50 yards away, where it was free drinks for girls on a Thursday night. This was a better place to be surely! So I said my goodbyes and moved to Gravesend.

It was great to start off with. I used to ring up the curry house from upstairs and say, "Hi it's me upstairs, TABLE FOR ONE!" and they used to laugh. I used to sit there in my work clothes reading the paper, happily eating my food just like a builder would in a café, when all around were happy couples all dressed up in their best clobber and looking at me as if I were some sort of weirdo! Anyway, it was a disastrous move. I hated Gravesend, and nearly every night there was a fight, sometimes a really big one involving loads of really nasty people, right outside my window! It felt quite sinister. I didn't have satellite in the flat, so I guess watching the fighting was cheaper than pay-per-view boxing, but it wasn't the entertainment I really wanted to see, so I was looking for a new flat after only a few weeks.

#### ~13th Star~

Things happen when you least expect them, as I found out at the end of March. I received a phone call at work and it was one of the old managers from the factory at Norfolk where I had previously worked. "I thought you should know, Andy Faulds died last week," he said. I could not believe it. Apparently he had gone downhill really badly after January and passed away just like that.

Instantly, I felt extremely cold and just stood there without knowing what to do. My eyes welled up with tears and I had to leave work. It's all right being 'Jack the lad' but in times like this when you are by yourself, you feel extremely lonely and lost. It didn't help the situation that I had missed him at Christmas, either. I had to do something, so I sat down and wrote a letter to his wife. In that letter I recounted all the things about me and him which made us special, and him special to me, in particular. I then posted it off First Class that night. The next week we buried him and during the church bit, his son Nick read my letter out and I just lost it, standing there at the back, shaking and gasping for air, it was just awful. Even though this was not the first time something like this had happened to me, it was one of the worst things I had ever been through. One little thing happened, though, which gave me some solace. As I was standing by myself outside the church, Kevin (who used to work with us) said that he had been to see Andy around late February and Andy had said to him, "Do me a favour. Tell Mike I made it!" We are pretty sure that meant the new Millennium and I guess he knew that his time was just around the corner. At least it put an end to his suffering.

No doubt some people will think 'what has this got to do with anything in a fishing book?' Well let me tell you, it means everything in this one, because if it hadn't have been for his advice and support, I probably wouldn't have jacked the job in and gone to Kent to follow my dreams.

#### ~Sanctuary On The Brook~

The lake is my sanctuary when things go wrong and a week into April, I was heading back to the Brook, looking forward to a new season and of course getting my head round recent events. I set up where I had finished off the previous year on Joe's Point, and Browny was laughing at me because my food stocks for the weekend consisted of six bottles of Bad Tempered Cyril, three bottles of ale, a pound of sausages and two tinned curries. He said I was a heathen. I would like to point out though, that it didn't stop him from tucking into anything that was offered. Having Browny around cheered me up no-end. A new member called Mark Lawson popped a mid-20 common out and this was the only carp caught that weekend. Because of the speed that the weed had come up the previous year, I wanted to get as many nights in as quickly as I could when the fishing would be 'easier'. By the time the first weekend in May had come, I had managed to slip in eight fruitless, enjoyable and soul-cleansing nights.

The first weekend of May meant that it was now the yearly trip to the homelands dance festival with the Solar disco crew and friends. They danced, and I wiggled the night away. Rob Maylin and his girlfriend (now wife) also turned up and it really was a good weekend.

Somewhere quieter to live also turned up and a week later I managed to secure a flat to rent in Sutton at Hone, and I moved in the following weekend. Hopefully, I could now settle down and concentrate on the fishing as the time was flying by and I had not really caught anything that year. To that end, I also made the decision to stop the clubbing, as it was costing a fortune and I was just getting thinner by the day.

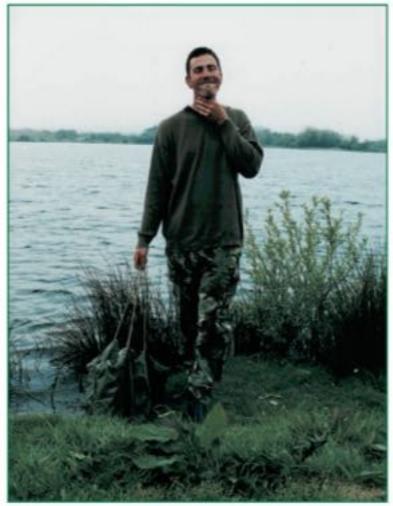
With my life somewhat more settled, I returned to the lake for a nice chill-out weekend. We were moving into the time of year that Two Tone liked to come out, mid-May early June, and I found myself set up in the bay where Silly Lee had caught her the previous year. And chill-out I did. It was nice to be back, but all of a sudden it was over and without even so much as line bite I was soon returning to work on the Monday morning. Silly Lee was in his element now, though, as this was his time of year. This is where his very mobile approach meant he could chase them all round the lake and he wouldn't have to sit there scratching his chin working out how to catch them. He would simply watch them and chase them round. 'Sure as eggs, is eggs', as we say in Norfolk, it didn't take long for him to get among them and very quickly he had two or three under his belt, one of them being the stunning Scaley, one of the really old originals. As the

enigmatic Mr F put it, 'top carp'. Of course I wasn't faring as well, I was blanking my off! The only contribution I made to the whole Brook story, was to show Jacko how to use a wok for cooking chillis in! Jacko returned the favour by (with her permission) giving me his sister Mandy's mobile number and we arranged to meet on a blind date.

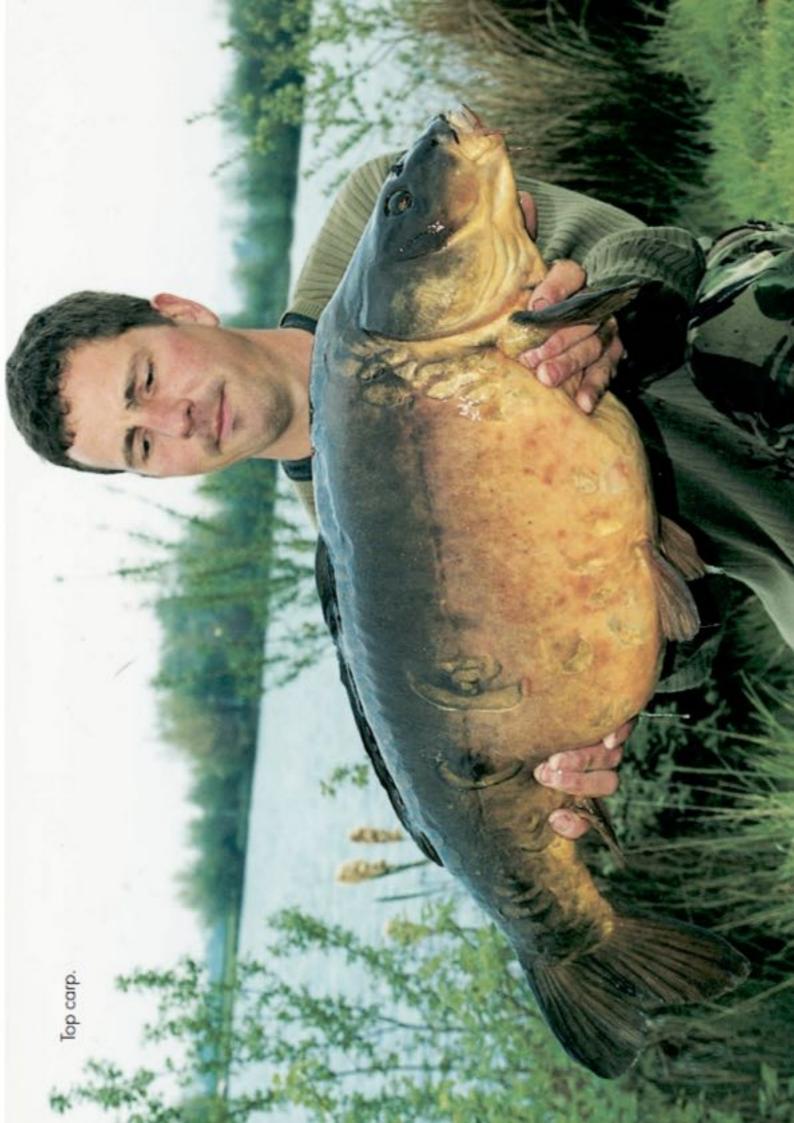
I was expecting someone tall, thin, and bald and was very surprised to see a very attractive petite blonde walk in with a full set of hair! We got on like a house on fire and we started 'going out' as they say.



Homelands.



lee was in his element.



## ~The Exiles 2000~

I was lucky enough to be invited back to the Exiles charity fundraiser in the third week of May and after fluking a win the year before I couldn't wait to get back.

This time it was held at a fishery called West Stow and myself and Lockey made our way up the motorway to Suffolk. The usual suspects were there although this time there was Andy Little, Laney and Mike Kavanagh to name a few. Lockey and I set up next to each other along the left-hand side. I was behind an island, Jacko was opposite me and Andy Little was across the other side to my left. The lake is quite big and everyone else set up all round it. I didn't know anything about the place and a quick feel about with the lead showed me that the lake bottom was fairly even. The margin to my left shallowed up quite a bit. With no obvious signs of ducks or bird life to be seen, I flicked one up the margin and then dumped about 50 boilies on it. The other two rods were cast straight out, with one of them being tight up against the island, the other, just into no-man's land.

Andy Little was very quickly catching them and it didn't take too long before he landed a 33lb mirror off the top. Jacko was up to his old tricks again, landing a 24 and a 26, if my memory serves me correctly. The organisers laid on a barbecue for us that night and after we had eaten, it was back to Lockey's plot for a drink-up. There were quite a few people round his swim and he held court admirably. Roger Smith and Kerry Barringer were, as usual, very entertaining and with Jacko and a few others there, we had a right old laugh. As always there comes a time to stop and one of the things that always made me laugh with Lee, (not at him), was the fact the his long legs gave up before the rest of him. I don't know if that's because he is so tall, but the amount of times we sat there of an evening, just chatting away drinking wine and he spoke as eloquently and as sober as a politician. Then he would stand up to walk to his swim, only to fall over with two legs that seemed to be devoid of any bones! Hence my nickname for him, 'rubber legs' In fairness, he would also be laughing his head off, (bloody fine angling in my opinion). Well tonight was to be no exception and at bedtime o'clock, he stood up and said his goodbyes, and then fell, just missing Lockey's



brolly. "MAN DOWN!" shouted Roger and we all burst out laughing. "I think I will escort him back to his brolly," Roger continued. So imagine the scene; it's dark, those two are drunk, one has rubber legs and they walk off into the night, with only each other for help. Now one of Roger's little sayings is, 'You must always drink as much as you can, then have another one, just to be sure.' That 'another one' had been more than surpassed without any doubt. The two of them had only been gone about a minute when we heard, "MAN DOWN!" shouted again, and we were all falling about uncontrollably on the floor. Over the next 10 or so minutes, we kept hearing the shout and as they went round the lake the shout became quieter and then louder again, until Lee was back in his brolly.

The hassle didn't end there for our adventurer, and he woke up the following morning knelt beside the bedchair with just his head on it! This wasn't the first time this had happened to Lee, but it was unusual for him not to get back to his swim by himself. It turned out that Lee's real downfall had started in the afternoon. Roger had set up beside him and they were sitting there having a chat in the sun, when Lee said to Roger, "I've got a bottle of wine in my rucksack, shall we open it now?"

"Be silly not to!" Roger replied.

Well it didn't take long for those two to polish that off and Lee then said, "I have another bottle of wine in my rucksack. Shall we open that too?"

"Be silly not to!" came the reply, although this time Roger added, "There's no point worrying about it, once it's gone, it's gone." By the time they arrived at the barbecue, they were already both bottles to the good. As the lake was surrounded by trees and Lee had never been there before, you can see why he needed a hand getting back. It also transpired that Roger didn't actually give him too much of a hand as he walked 10 paces behind him, then when Lee fell over he just shouted "MAN DOWN!" It was really funny. No one should have ever let those two set up next to each other.

After the final cry went up, it wasn't long before we crashed out, still with aching sides. At six the next morning my margin rod ripped off, and with a sore head and heavy legs I made my way to the rods and tried to control a fish which was hell bent on not going into my net. After its initial run, the fish was charging round the corner to my right in a clever move as there were overhanging trees sitting there, just waiting to shred my mono. There was only one solution to it if I didn't want to lose the fish, and that was quite simply, I had to jump in and hang on for dear life. With the water just above the old love spuds and the clutch tightened right up, I managed to turn the fish and eventually bundled it into the



second place.

net. It was an old warrior called Pele I believe, and with a weight of 28lbs it was my 20th English 20 and it elevated me to second place. What a tickle!

I was now only one fish away from achieving my little carping ambition and that was that elusive English 30.

### ~And Then There Were Three~

I arrived back in Kent and recounted the story to Mandy. She thought it was great, (she is a Jackson after all) and as we were sitting there laughing about it we also went around the business of arranging a trip with her 13 year-old son Ben, who was a keen fisherman. The following weekend was a return to the Brook and in the usual style I didn't receive even a bleep. Although Jacko did cook a chilli on the Sunday night which made the experience a whole lot more enjoyable, we did make the decision not to indulge ourselves quite as much as we had at the Exiles do though.

I took my eye off the Conningbrook ball for a while. It was nice to have a girlfriend, and I was more than happy to be spending time with her. Something quite interesting came to light when Matt Lawrence caught the big girl at 56.4, a weight which really shook the record. This time he caught her in the edge off Joe's Point. It wasn't unusual to be caught off Joe's, but in the edge, now that was something a little different. Then, as in the previous year, she got caught again within a fortnight this time by Ricky Blakelock, again last week in May/first week in June (roughly) and again Ricky also caught her close-in. It was definitely food for thought. Maybe her feeding habits had changed to a small degree.

With a ticket for Mid-Kent purchased for Mandy's son, Ben, the three of us made our way to Chilham Mill and set up for a weekend's fishing a few weeks later near the end of June. The lake was fairly busy but we managed to get a couple of swims next to each other in the dugouts near the entrance. Although quite weedy, we could see fish moving about and showing all over the place, and it was a good enough starting point. I quickly cast out three rods with a nugget of foam to protect the hook on each, and popped round to see if Ben needed a hand. He didn't. He knew what to do, that was quite clear even at such a young age. I guess it was in his genes.

It didn't take long before my rod was away and I landed a 21.8 common. The rest of the lake remained fairly quiet and the next morning when I landed a 17lb mirror, a few leads started flying in my direction, as is the norm on a busy lake.



It didn't take long.

We were sitting there having a cup of tea in the afternoon, when I noticed the gulls on the far side were spooking carp just below the surface. The swim in front of them was free, so we all decided to quickly pack down and grab the surface fishing rods. It was like a military operation, and within half an hour we had put everything in the motor and mixers were flying in from all directions. The carp responded straight away and with big swirls and gulps going on Ben's controller was quickly cast right among the action. I waited for about 20 minutes, as I really wanted him to catch one, but the fish were cagey and kept getting away with it.

I eventually cast my controller to the back of the group of mixers and slowly retrieved it, until it reached the fish. It had only just settled when it was hit at a hundred miles an hour by a very aggravated fish. I didn't expect that to happen one little bit, especially after the cagey bites Ben was receiving. The fish tore around like a loony and my 1.75lbs test curve rod was bent over flat nearly the whole time. The reason became obvious when after a shrewd bit of netting by Ben, an angry grass carp of 22lb was slapping me about all over the bank. I had heard that these fish were a bit manic on the bank so we very quickly got it returned



I didn't expect that.

safely to the lake. I had forgotten all about those grass carp being in there and it was also only a pound under the lake record at the time. All in all it was a good weekend's fishing.

Friday the 7th of July came and I was back on the Brook. It was now my 12th night on there and although life was really good for once, the desire to get down there and try to nobble 'that' 30, was never far away. I had planned to be down there more, but obviously there were more people to consider now and to be fair fishing with those two new-found friends was a good laugh anyway, so I didn't feel that bad about my absence. I set up in the Lifebuoy swim and looked forward to a three-night session.

By this point I had bought some camo waders and I thought I looked the in them, so at every possible opportunity I put them on, much to everyone else's amusement, who had made it perfectly clear on more than one occasion that I looked a nerd. Whatever! One of the ways that people used to fish the Lifebuoy swim, was to walk a rod out to the right where it was shallow and gently place a baited rig in a clear patch among the weed. You were safe to do this as long as you took a landing net handle to feel your way along. With another excuse to put my waders on and with Silly Lee taking the figure off I went into the lake and set about laying a trap to fool one of the prestigious fish. After placing a handful of



I looked the

hemp over the rig, I wound the line back carefully round the weedbeds and back to the rod rests. Top angling! I then fired the other two out long. Silly was set up next to me on the end of the wind and we were all convinced that someone would get a bite. We had a bite all right, but it was courtesy of a portable barbecue and it was in the shape of spare ribs. Obviously the carp weren't impressed with my attempt at catching them, which was just typical of the Brook. The Sunday night came all too quickly and we ordered an Indian. Silly Lee had gone home and Jacko was there to be silly with instead. It pains me to say that silly I was. It wasn't my fault (it never is) but when Cyril and an Indian are about at the same time, there must be some sort of chemical reaction or something. Whatever it was, it turned out to be my turn to be 'man down', so to speak. I still can't quite remember what happened, but a pair of boxers hanging from a tree to dry out gave me a fair idea of how it all ended.

Mandy and I booked the following Friday off work as we had arranged to meet up with her big brother and Browny on the Thursday night for a social and a chicken stir-fry. It was also a good opportunity for her to come down and find out what all the fuss was about. It was also a classic opportunity for them to spend the evening winding me up and taking the out of me, or so it seemed. Lee went to work early Friday morning and we popped to Tesco for some more tucker as we had been cleared out the night before. Friday night was chilli night and as Mandy prepared the grub, I got the rods out. We were set up on Joe's Point and I put a pop-up on one rod 20 yards out in a small clear area, and a method ball about 60 yards out wherever it landed. The last rod went roughly into the area where I had caught the 17lb common from the previous year. That evening we had a laugh especially when Mandy got about three Haribo sweets stuck in her throat. With her face turning decidedly blue, I whacked her on the back and they flew out of her mouth and straight back in the packet! Lee Watson was heartily impressed. She then 'cleared her throat' by drinking a glass or two of red wine. I guess it was in her genes. Either way it impressed Lee and that was fine by me.

I was reminded what the reason for actually going fishing was, when early the next afternoon the close-in rod tore off. I bumbled my way down to the rod and without too much effort and with shaky knees, I was the proud captor of my third Conningbrook carp and I was bloody pleased about it! It was a lovely dark fish which I think they call the Tesco Common and it looked a magnificent creature, all old and regal. Yeah, this was what it was all about. Just for the record and although irrelevant really, this dark-coloured gentleman weighed in at 27.10 and I was cock-a-hoop about it. Three Brook fish in 45 nights and to be honest, unless your name was Jacko, Silly Lee, Mr F or Browny (who were all catching between three and six a year) then that is not bad going, especially for a semi-professional buffoon like me. I did of course chuck my waders on for the photos, just to gain a little more attention (as if it were needed) and I went into the lake as I returned my prize. The look on Silly Lee's face told me what to expect next. "Well done son, better have a beer then."

"Yeah, make you right," I replied. I mean rules were rules after all!

I was well on my way to sillyville by 9pm that evening and I decided that I was now a deejay and spent about 30 minutes with the radio in one hand, flicking the volume up and down, up and down. I would love to tell you why, but in truth I can't. I just thought I was a deejay and that's all there is to it. Yet again the whole thing was captured on video and it seemed to impress Lee and Mandy no-end. I don't think I will be sending it with an application to Mensa though.

With the school holidays just round the corner we booked a week off each, so that we could take Ben on a week's fishing holiday. The holiday was booked



right at the end of July going into early August. The holiday was basically geared up so that hopefully he could catch his first 20-pounder. We started on the Walthamstow reservoirs and he caught one first bloody cast! I think it weighed 21lbs and it kicked the holiday off nicely. I of course blanked.

After that we ended up going to Stour Lake and Chilham Mill, but in true August style we struggled, only catching the odd double here and there as we went along. However, me and Ben didn't struggle when it came to farting. I mean, after all that tinned food, something has to give now doesn't it? We were quite proud of ourselves because we had made up a system for honouring any juicy 'colon coughs'. Let me explain; if you just did a little one then quite simply it was a '50cc', but if you blasted out a really big one, now that was a '1000cc' and would be called a superfart (not a superbike). That was good enough for us. Mandy wasn't over-impressed though, but I think she was just jealous because birds can't fart, or not as well as we can anyway. Well it was something to do while we waited for a bite.

A return to Heartsmere saved the week, really. We met up with my old Gauntlet mucker, Fish Magnet, Jim Foster, Hogg and a family friend called Steve. I caught one within 10 minutes of being set up, all 10lb of it. Within an hour Magnet had a 14-pounder, and both of the fish were commons. With a line up like that I guess you know what went on that night. Post barbecue and in the early hours of the morning Mandy got a run and just as she landed some great big goldfish thing, I was the proud producer of a 1000cc classic, which was all well and good until immediately after when I received a telegram for Mr explaining that I was about to be in a severely bad predicament. Come on, that must have happened to you at some point! Anyway, I just made it to a bush and saved myself from a nasty bankside episode. Obviously, I then cursed myself for over indulging on carcass and red wine the night before. The next morning Mandy went and caught herself an 18lb common and then a 20lb mirror. Although I didn't fare so well and only managed a few low doubles. Those two had now both caught 20s and it seemed that the week was indeed a success.

The 15th of August was the next outing and we planned a trip to the Lower Maynard reservoir over on the Walthamstow complex. Lockey had previously had a good hit on the West Warwick whilst spodding out a load of particle and I thought it was about time that I bought a spod rod and tried this style of fishing. I was only about five years behind everybody else, but sooner or later I guess you have to try these things. With Ben and Mandy keen to get out for the day, we set

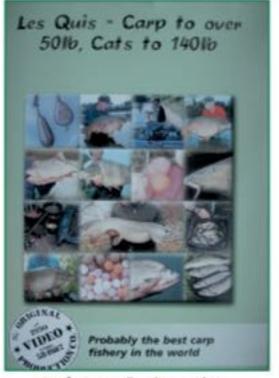


At 2pm my rod ripped off.

off in the old Nissan Sunny around six that morning. On arrival there was nobody else fishing the Lower Maynard and we set up in the middle of the reservoir. I popped out the marker and then started to spod. It was about half an hour later that I finished, and I was absolutely knackered! I had probably expended more energy into that last half-hour than I had in the previous year. I have to say I was a little unsure if this suited my style of fishing. However, any doubts as to its effectiveness were soon pushed to one side, when at 2pm my rod ripped off and I caught a 20lb mirror. It wasn't the prettiest fish I had ever seen but by the same token I probably wasn't the prettiest angler it had ever seen. That was the only action we received that day.

### ~The Gauntlet Challenge ~ Part 3. Welcome To Videoland

Tob had always wanted a professionally shot video of the Les Quis complex. The Gauntlet Challenge, now in its third year, just had to be the right trip to do it. We came up with two teams which were nearly North and South, although I nicked a couple of Southerners for my team and Lockey had a couple of Northerners on his. Jacko was also going to fish for the Southerners and would be hosting the whole thing, with Len Gurd behind the camera. The trip was booked at prime time in the middle of September and of course the banter between everyone was reaching fever pitch before the event.



Professionally shot video.

Lee had said he would pick me up from the

flat where by now Mandy and I were living together. Mandy decided to cook us a chilli before we went, so she went about getting all the necessary ingredients. Well, except for the chilli powder that is. It wasn't until Lee turned up and the mince went on that she realised what she'd forgotten. "Don't worry," said Lee, "I've got some crushed chillis in my rucksack. We'll use them." So he popped out to his van and returned with the bag of crushed chillis.

"How many of those do I put in?" said Mandy.

"Dunno," we replied, so she put a tablespoon's worth in. "Nah, Mandy, you want more than that in there," piped up Lee. So she put another couple in and left the whole thing to cook. For those of you who know Lee, you'll know that if something incredibly good, bad, surprising, outrageous or out of the blue happens, he nearly always says, "Blimey!" and his eyebrows reach for the sky. This is exactly what happened when he put that first spoonful of chilli in his mouth.





41lb common.

It was the spiciest food that you could ever imagine! Way past a vindaloo (which I ate nearly every week at the time) it was like putting a hot coal in your mouth. We ate it anyway and to be honest I felt sick nearly all the way to Les. You would have thought that we would have known better really. I mean, with a nickname of 'Wacko Jacko' how could you possibly expect him to get a thing like that right? Got to say though, Lee didn't seem too affected by it.

The whole story unfolds on film, which you can still buy from The Tackle Box, so I won't go into detail about it, but there were a couple of bits from my angle that could do with mentioning. We played a better team game, no doubt about it. We positioned our bodies well around the lakes and everyone was happy to go where they were asked to, even though there was the odd lad who hadn't been out there before. WE WON! And we would have absolutely thrashed the southern pansies if it weren't for two catfish, one of which was 140lb, which caught us all by surprise, as the biggest cat landed out there previously was 70lb. Did I say WE WON?

I managed 40 out of the 205 fish landed, which consisted of five doubles, 27 over 20, six 30s and two 40s, including a 45lb mirror and a 41lb common. Off camera we had a really good time and it was special to be a part of that. Also off camera on the Thursday night when the points were neck and neck, Lockey offered me the chance to call it a draw, no matter what happened the next day when the match finished on the dinner bell. I thought about it for literally a second and turned the offer down. There was no way I would sell my lot down the river, not after the two previous thrashings and all the taking we had to endure because of them. No way! With our first possible chance of a victory I was not going to call it a draw, especially just to save face and to not lose on film.

On the Friday Lee was filmed singing, "It's coming home, it's coming, the Gauntlet's coming home." Well it did. It came home to where it belongs and where it still resides because this was to be the last Gauntlet. I hope to resurrect it one day, hopefully out at Les Quis, and I'll let those Southern softies have another go. Hairdressers!Just Gauntlet talk, nothing more! The video was really well received and one review even said it was possibly one of the best videos that had been made at the time. I was extremely proud of it then, and still am today.

### ~Shot Down In Flames~

September seemed to come and go very quickly. I returned to the Brook to continue the hunt for that elusive 30 and after a good few nights, I was no nearer catching anything at all. Or that's certainly how it made me feel. October is normally just about last knockings for the Brook and a few more blank nights ended my time on there for the year. The end of October came and Ben, Mandy, and I all headed up to Catch 22 Big Lake for a catch up with Magnet and Lee was going to come and join us. He had come up with the idea of getting his van covered in camo stickers and the company that did it was near Ipswich, so I had to pop and pick him up when he dropped it off. As usual with the Jackson clan all gathered we had a good laugh, drank a lot and tucked away an enormous amount of food. Good solid angling.

The highlight of the weekend was that Ben, Mandy and I made our own version of the 'Blair Witch Project' on the video and the result was really funny,



Just about last knockings.

although we did rename it the 'Blair Large Project'. The fish didn't see the funny side of our antics though, and we only caught a few small ones. I also managed to sleep through a run because my buzzer packed up, probably because it rained and rained the whole time. To cap off the whole weekend, the biggest thing I landed was a pike. I don't know what it weighed but it looked quite scary to me and I only just managed to pick it up for the photos!

Back in Kent, I had heard that Chilham Mill was fishing its socks off. Loads of 30s were coming out and with November having gone by in the blink of an eye, Mandy and I booked a Thursday afternoon and a Friday off work so we could get down there before the crowds did in early December. I made a few calls to find out where the fish were coming from. Lee Watson gave me Rob Marsh's number and he told me that the fish were coming out in the middle of the lake, either from the One Pole swim, or Transformer, but if these swims were taken the other side of the lake would be as good. The only problem with fishing the other side would be that it needed a good 120 yard chuck to get to the same water. This wasn't going to be a problem though, as I now had some Diawa Amorphous rods which I had bought second-hand. These, coupled with some fairly new Diawa Tournament reels loaded with 10lb mainline and 30lb leaders, meant at least I could have fun trying to cast that far, even if I couldn't actually do it.



It looked quite scary.

We arrived on the Thursday afternoon to find One Pole and Transformer had gone, but The Swanney opposite was empty. This was quite a big swim and we would have no problems getting our camo detached residence set up there so it worked a treat. The bivvy was also a reasonably new purchase and the Advantage camo designs were going mad in the fishing world by now and I thought it was great. Once set up in the swim, I then had to learn how to launch a lead as it was



#### Detached residence.

something I had never really done before. Now I am quite a fair lump at six feet tall and at that point about 14 stone and my simple idea was to just leather it as hard as possible. None of that fancy stuff was needed, not for this old boy. I mean you didn't have to be as good-looking as Frank Warwick to chuck a lead, now did you?

I put a four-ounce lead on, lowered the rod as far as I could and then absolutely launched it! As far as we could tell it cleared the whole of the lake, as we didn't see it splash into the water! WOW! How good was that? Well not so good really, as the lead wasn't connected to the mainline because I had cracked off. What a disaster! I was going to have to go through the whole process of setting up again. Rubbish, proper rubbish! Once I had re-tackled, I tried again, only this time I gently pushed it further and further on each cast. I don't think I quite reached the 120 mark, but it wasn't far off.

With the rods out and the fishing done, we popped the grub on and turned

on the TV. A little while later we were eating dinner in our respective sleeping bags. Ahh, the joys of fishing in the cold in the middle of December, eh?

Friday morning came and the lake hadn't produced a fish. It was cold and horrible so most of the day was spent in the sleeping bag. When I wasn't in the bag I looked at the lake, and with the binoculars I could just see small bubbles hitting the surface just behind my baited rigs. It was no use, I was going to have to get them out further. It took a while but eventually I had two right on the money and felt really confident of getting my string tugged. Yet, Saturday morning came and still we were all in stalemate. The lake was now full up and we were all blanking. I left the rods in position as I knew the bait would still be on. I mean what was the point of going through all that casting again, only to put them in the same spot with the same bait on?

It was just starting to get dark when the inevitable happened. My left-hand rod tightened up, the line then went straight as a bowstring and the clip cracked signalling a run. WOO HOO! Check me out! I ran to the rods to land what must have been my dreamed-of English 30, only to see probably the smallest fish in the lake, in the shape of a 12lb common. Oh well, nobody else had caught anything so I couldn't really complain. I just stood there in my bright red sweatshirt all proud of myself. I managed to get the rod back out before dark and fancied a cuppa so I asked Mandy if she too fancied a cup of tea. She did, so I filled the kettle and grabbed the single burner. The burner was empty, so I grabbed the petrol container and the funnel and began to fill it up. WHOOSH! There was a massive white/blue flash. "What the [\_\_\_\_\_\_" (Or "Blimey!" as Lee would say.) The next thing I knew the burner was on fire, the floor in front of our new bivvy was on fire and more importantly, I was standing there with a whole gallon of petrol in my hand with a flame coming out of the top!

Believe it or not, I am trying not to use too many swear words in this book. However the only thing that came from my mouth right then was,

" I am telling you that we were really in bother this time! Mandy came flying out of the tent and proceeded to jump up and down on the fire, although strangely I think she was laughing while I was just waiting for the gallon container to explode, so I placed it on the floor away from the bivvy and ran back to grab the burner which had flames coming out of the small filler cap bit. I threw it on the floor away from the tent, which turned out to be a pretty stupid thing to do because as the petrol poured out through the filler hole it ignited. The flames grew and we were starting to light the swim up. In utter desperation I started clawing at the mud to throw it over the burner and suffocate the flames. Eventually I had a steaming pile of mud and Mandy had now extinguished the fire by the door. All that remained was the gallon container, which I couldn't believe had not exploded. I stared at it with its small flame coming out of the filler and, fearing the imminent explosion, I realised that there was only one solution here. I ran over to the container, picked it up and then threw it into the lake as far as I could.

If the earlier episode with the burner was pretty stupid then this could only be classed as Premiership level stupid. It wasn't my fault (as you know by now, it never is) but I didn't know that petrol settles on top of water. I certainly didn't know that it could also burn on top of water in flames about four feet high. Bloody hell, now the lake was on fire! And with some petrol still escaping from the container the flames were spreading. This was not good, not good at all.

To compound the situation, there was a breeze blowing from left to right, which is normally not a problem, but this time there was a petrol container bobbing its way along to the right, spilling fuel and the whole lot was heading for my rods. I managed to get the first long rod in and then just as the lead swung into my hand, the middle rod signalled a drop back as the line melted. The right-hand rod, which was in closer, was retrieved fairly quickly and we stood there watching the flames slowly die out as the petrol container sank from view.

I know now that all I should have done was to chuck a towel over the burner and the petrol container and that would have stopped the flames by choking them but therein lies the problem with my life and that is quite simply, 99 times out of a hundred, if something out of the norm happens, then I make the wrong decision.

Chilham is surrounded by tall dark trees and in the depths of winter it's normally pitch dark. It appeared that we (okay I) had managed to illuminate half the lake and just about everyone had witnessed the whole thing. Two lads came round as I sat there rather subdued in my bivvy. One said, "Alright mate? You're Spug from Solar aren't you?"

"Yes, that's right," I almost whispered.

hell, mate. We went clubbing last night and had come here to chill out for the weekend," he continued. "We had crashed out, next thing I knew it was daylight again! You all right?"

"We are, thanks, yeah," I replied. "I couldn't borrow your burner could I? Ours is underneath that mud."

I reported the whole thing to Chris Logsdon first thing the next morning. As there was no alcohol involved and it was a genuine accident, he was okay about



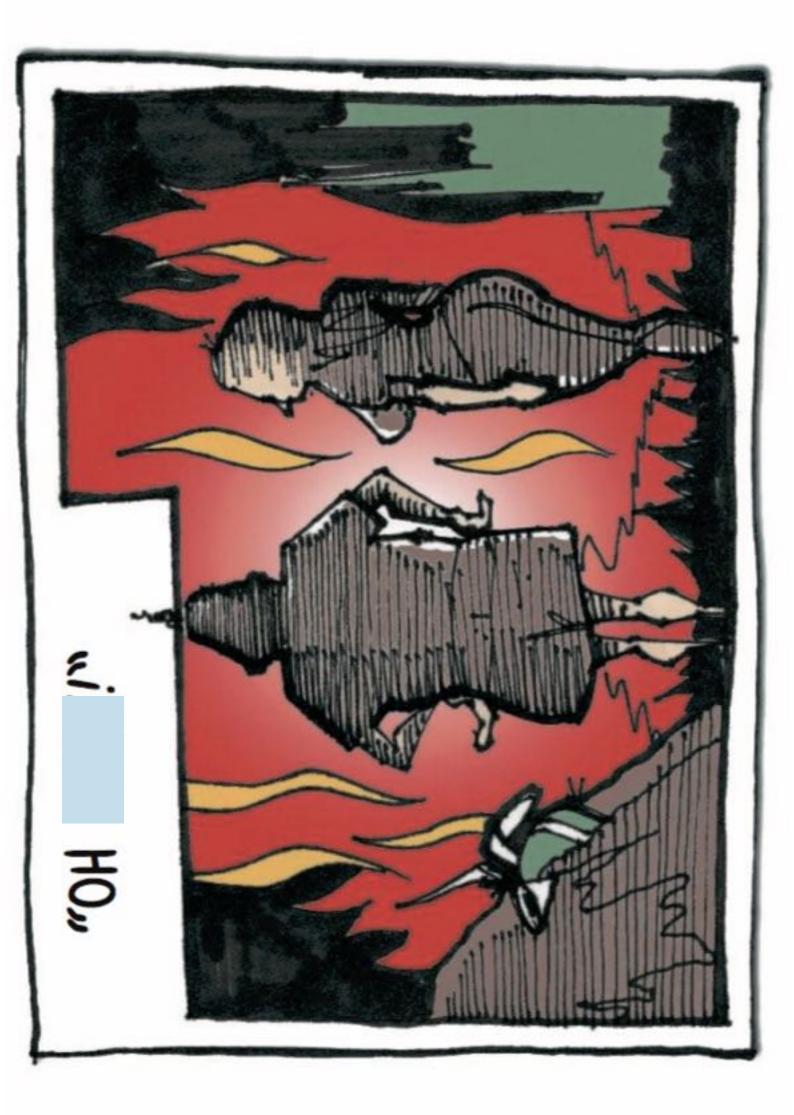
It wasn't my fault.

the incident and all that remained was to work out how to retrieve the line and to find out what had actually caused the fire.

It turned out that the fire was caused by a small tea light candle, which although it was well away from where I filled the burner up, was not far enough away from the fumes. Because in the front of the bivvy and out of the wind, the fumes made this big ball of disaster just waiting to happen and the naked flame was more than willing to join in the party. We were lucky that was for sure.

All that remained now was the line trailing out 120 yards into the lake. I was sitting there pondering this when the phone rang. It was the Tackle Box. "Do you need a boat? We've heard you need to go out in the lake to get something." Now I thought this was a wind-up, but for once it wasn't. Mandy had told her mum what had happened and she had phoned the Tackle Box to try and help. However, the wind-ups did start there, big-time. I even received a letter from the Kent Fire Brigade, written by a fisherman, I found out later.

I guess that would be a good place to leave that year as Christmas was just round the corner and our attentions turned to that.





### AVAILABLE 11TH MARCH 2017 CARPING ON SHOW - ESSEX 5 LAKES

AND AT WWW.MIKESPUGREDFERN.COM

### Chapter 6 only in next months Talking Carpill you can buy Spug's latest book Carping mad 3 by clicking the link below

www.mikespugredfern.com/carping-mad-books

Mike 'SPUG' Redfern

"A story of sunsets, steaks and silly underpants"

Thinking Outside the Box by Mark Wozencroft

-

### Mark Wozencroft

Over the years I have read a number of articles and blogs that point anglers in the direction of matching your hook size to the size of the hook bait that you are using. Theoretically this is correct and stems back to the very basics of good angling practice and presentation.

However, let's take a moment to think outside the box. At times we often give carp far too much credit to our quarry. They are simple creatures of habit and will primarily have basic survival needs on their minds - you know the important things like feeding, comfort, spawning etc. I'm sure that many of you have seen footage of carp feeding on social media platforms.

Really, the only way for a carp to inspect food items is for them to

enter the fish's mouth. With the huge amount of debris on the bottom of most lakebeds, carp have necessarily sift through twigs, leaves, weed etc to find items of food, so with this in mind do you think the size of the hook (in comparison to the hookbait) really matters? Do you really think that when a carp comes across a hook bait that they will consider not sucking it in because it's a hook? What if your hook is too small and it affects the mechanics of the rig because it is too small to grab hold?

With the constant sucking and blowing action that carp use to feed, combined with the amount of rubbish entering and leaving the fishes mouth, I personally think that the chance of a hook leaving the fishes mouth without taking hold can be quite high.

Many moons ago I fished a water where I was able to watch carp feed at close quarters, and at the time I was of the same mindset, that the size of the hook was determined by the size of the hook bait , creating a balanced setup. To be fair I



TalkingCarp

### Thinking Outside the Box

caught my fair share whilst fishing the venue, but after watching the carp feed at close quarters (and continually getting away with it) I knew I had to change something. At one point I saw a carp pick my bait up with the hook in its mouth and freeze on the spot and started to spin like a corkscrew until the hook popped out of its mouth!

116

At this point the 360 rig was in its early stages of development. However, after observing the way the carp were dealing with rigs, it seemed a presentation that would serve a purpose as it didn't matter how much the carp twisted, the swivel would always be moving with the carp thus eliminating the chance of it spinning out of the carps' mouth. Being fussy I still wasn't one hundred

percent happy with the hooking potential, so I played around with larger long-shank curved patterns of hooks and kept the hookbait the same size.

It certainly helped as more fish were being nailed, but I still felt the weight and size of the bait (a 15mm pop up) was still hindering the hooking process. I decided to be bold and use super buoyant 10mm hookbaits on a size 6 long shank (which were a big hook for at the time) and after tying one up and lowering it in the edge it sat perfectly. Due to the size of the pop up it only just lifted the hook, but not the swivel, which produced a low lying pop up which was perfect for my type of fishing over 'bits' like corn, hemp and 10mm bottom bait.



### Mark Wozencroft



In fact I tried this set up for the first time on Orchid Lake in the winter and I was rewarded with fifteen carp in 48 hours!

My confidence was high and I knew the rig was spot on and working exactly how I wanted it to. Not long after I was privy to a new rig that I knew would be "the one" for me and that was the now infamous "Ronnie rig". It works on similar principals as the 360 rig, but I feel it is a lot more refined. The Ronne Rig also avoids any concerns on the hook eye catching in the net and causing potential mouth damage, as the swivels is encased in a small piece of Shrink Tube.

The angle that the hook sits at is very aggressive, due to the combination of the shrink tube sheathing the size Covert XT

TalkingCarp

Flexi Ring Swivel but I felt using a long shank style of hook might go against me, so I opted for a tried and trusted Covert Dark Mugga hook. With their long sharp point, aggressive curve and slightly inturned eye I knew these were perfect for what i wanted.

Initially i was using a size 6 or a 4 with it but still wasn't happy with the gape of the hook, as i wanted to have it as wide as i could, so i took the plunge and started using a size 2 Mugga hooks - and although it looked big initially it's pretty much all i use now.

I was really happy using this with a 10mm pop up and I've now caught loads of carp on it; with some from really tough circuit venues, but such is the way my brain works i was sure i could make



### Thinking Outside the Box

#### it better!

I was using a small swivel on the shank of the hook, which added a bit of weight and therefore took away from the buoyancy of the pop up and i felt there must be an alternative/better way of mounting the bait without this on there. Naturally I thought 'what if i used a hair rig'? Which soon became 'how would i use one?' without affecting the core mechanics of the rig....

Then it came to me! Eureka...

How about I whip a hair onto the shank of the hook, which would then be covered with the shrink tubing that the rig used over the XT swivel? That was it - problem solved. So now i had retained the free movement of the hook, due to the swivel mounted on the eye, and also reduced the weight of the hooking arrangement so the tiny pop up hook bait held the rig up a bit better.

Using the really small hookbaits with this size of the hook certainly creates its own problems – mainly due to the lack of buoyancy in most small pop up



TalkingCarp.

### Mark Wozencroft

hook baits. It was ok if i wanted a bottom/ wafter rig, but i really wanted the hook to sit slightly off the deck ready for action, so had no choice but to either use two 10mm pop ups or add a piece of fake corn or a small slither of foam to give the extra lift I wanted.

Using foam it gives me an added advantage as it absorbs flavouring/ attractors really well and I would boost the hookbaits before casting out. Normally I have some already cut up and soaking in a tub days or weeks before i go fishing, i know this is probably getting technical but it's just the way i think and my own findings to get to the place i am at the moment...

The hook length material or boom section is necessarily adapted to suit whatever bottom i am fishing over. Realistically, you can't expect a stiff boom to be fishing as effectively as a softer one over choddy bottoms or weed, can you? So, it's critical that you need to find out what type of lake bed you have in front of you and fish the correct type of material for vour hookbait to be presented cleanly

119



TalkingCarp.

### Thinking Outside the Box

and unimpaired. On the other hand when it comes to fishing on clear gravel or smooth clay then i would have no problems fishing a really stiff material like 'Trip Wire' for my boom section, but when I'm fishing over debris then a soft coated hooklink like Ultra Skin or even an uncoated braid offers distinct

120

advantages. This year my carp fishing has taken me to the RK Leisure venues - and the Church Lake (Horton) venue has certainly given up some of its prizes to this set up. I have super confidence in this rig and I'm sure that it will put a few extra carp on the bank for you as well. When you know your rigs are good you can focus on your watercraft, making sure that you're in the right area and have applied the correct baiting strategy. As a complete package I'm sure you will see your catch rates go up.

Be lucky and tight lines

Mark.





## RESIZED FOR 2018 SEE WEBSITE FOR FULL DETAILS





COMMANNE.



# Carp Chronicles by Brett McPhee

16 1

So, the summer has started to now fade into the best time of the year for me early autumn, cold evenings and misty mornings make for spectacular pictures and hopefully fat fish.

Before that creeps in though and to catch up with my angling I had headed over to the local club water for a night at the end of July, I had taken quite a bit of particle mix with me as most people had been using bollies and I figured maybe the change in approach would get me some bonus fish. I had arrived around 5pm and set about getting the bait out on a couple of spots I had fished on previous sessions. It didn't take too long and soon enough the bait was in and the rigs where sitting pretty and I waited for the action to start. I must have dosed off as it was 01.30 before the red Delk let out a whale and

get me from my slumber to a fish which can only be described as a 'character' otherwise known as an ugly brute. A quick picture was taken anyway as I want to document as many fish as possible I get from this water and it was slipped back. I got the rod wrapped up and back out there followed by some spods of bait and I got back into bed, the air was thick due to the warm temperatures we where having. Around 5.30am I woke from my slumber to relieve myself, I decided to get some fresh baited rigs on the spot and some extra bait out in hope that it would stop anything in its tracks. I lay back on the bed and chilled out. I saw a fish bosh out over the spot at about 07.00 as was not shocked by the alarm scream out 15 minutes later. I bent into a solid fish that held itself well and used every weed bed it could to keep me in battle mode. It took a good few minutes but eventually the it subdued and come into meet me and gets its photo taken. It was an absolute pearler of a fish it had a lovely row of apple sliced scales down the middle on both sides so much so that I got pictures of both sides, it's strange holding



TalkingCarp



the fish in the wrongs hands as such. Nothing else came that morning and I was soon packing up and heading home.

The week later I was back again in the same swim complete with particles and planning on the same approach, sometimes though we get a kick that makes us realise we haven't sussed it out and I had a frustrating 24-hour session with not even a bleep to show for my efforts. Back to the drawing board. A day later I met a good mate to

have 24 hours on the syndicate water which due to the weather

### **Brett McPhee**

was so low, it must have been maybe 6ft down on its usual level so setting up on the bank with the rods a good 30 yards in front of you was needed. I opted again for the particle approach but also as this was 3 rods venue hinged a bet on a multi rig with a spread of bollies. The particle rods where off a few hours later as I started to catch and get among some of them. By evening I had caught 4 carp all coming to the particle approach, was it then something I hadn't done right at the club water? Dawn brought even more fish to me and by mid-morning I was ready to head



TalkingCarp

### off home

The following week I was again back at the club water armed with the particle but had placed a lot more bollies and pellets in the mix to see if that helped me snare the carp, my thinking being as the club water was alive with small fish they had maybe cleared me out the week before and I was effectively fishing singles. Arriving again about 5pm I got a few spots found and baited them with the mix, I kept the rigs simple just a multi rig on each with a yellow and a white fruit special as hookbaits. It was a quite evening as has been the case on here recently with the first take coming just after 11pm a slow take on the left rod signalling something



had picked up the hook, as I got to the rod it was bent round I had locked my reels solid so as to not allow the fish a chance to get to the lilies. I picked up the rod and started to do battle, you know the feeling when it's a better fish as it plodded going exactly where it wanted to determination rather than erratically. I steadily applied the pressure making sure to steer the fish away from the lilies and keeping it on a tight line. The fish gave in and slid into the folds of the net. I stuck the headtorch on and peered into the bottom and could see it was a good one. I got the sling wetted scales zeroed and lifted it into the cradle. The head on the fish was massive with huge shoulders but it slimmed right down towards the back end

> obviously from a good spawning a few months before and was pleasantly surprised when the scales settled on 20.4lb. Pictures done and fish returned and got the rod back out and come back to straighten the sling and cradle up and could see that the fish had passed a lot of my mix in the folds of it a good

TalkingCarp

### **Brett McPhee**

sign they were eating, with that I got the spod rod out again and stuck another 2kg over the spots and settled back in for some sleep or the next one.

126

I was strangely surprised that the next one came at 05.30am as I was sure I would have had more but again the same rod had me doing battle as the sun rose over the trees in the distance. This fish was fighting differently lunging as it tried to get sanctuary in the pads but with steady pressure it was soon done and came in on its side towards the waiting net, the side I could see looked amazing and once it was in I took a good look another absolute stunning zip liner lay ready for its morning photo call. Again, as the weeks previous it was too good not to take a picture on both sides. Once all back and done I got the rod back out and some bait over for good measure. Nothing more came but I was happy that the tactics had paid off this time and packed up a happy man indeed. As the club water is only 24 hours max the following week I had decided to get out on the first day off and my last so as to try and maximise my recent run of good fortune. The first night I got to the lake at about 6pm to be greeted by a lot of cars in the car park and a pretty packed lake. Not great but that's weekends for you, I settled on

the car park peg as the best



TalkingCarp

option of the limited I had. Again, I applied the particle approach loaded with the bollie and pellet and once out sat back in the bivvy to watch the water. At 8pm the rod was away which I startled me as I had been seeing fish show out of my water at the back and was frustrated as the angler in that peg had already zipped up his bivvy and was watching the TV!! Anyway, after a short but spirited battle a lovely dark fish was in the net which had a strange dropped tail shape to it. Pictures where done I went to bed that night confident of a few more. It was weird then to wake at 7am with nothing to report and with missing the early morning display I had nothing further to go on so decided to quit while ahead and get off home returning a day later. Different story a day later arriving at 5pm to an empty lake and a choice of swims, both the ruler and double tree had been good to me over the last few weeks so they were the obvious choices, so I headed off for a walk with my bucket. I arrived in the ruler and stood for a few moments watching out, then splooooosh one to my right, I got to the next peg that was unfishable due to the sheer number of pads and could just make out the rings

of a fish still, I was sure it was in front of the double tree peg. I got into it and sat on the bucket hoping it would give itself away again but after half an hour it didn't but with no other sightings I was happy to plot there for the night. With the gear in the swim and set up I set about finding some spots to present a bait. I found a few likely looking spots and set about it with the spod rod putting in a good 5kg over 2 spots. With everything set I chilled on the bed chair hoping it wouldn't be long. At 11pm the rod was off, and I bent into guite a powerful fish that immediately wedged itself in the pads, I applied the pressure and gingerly walked back in my swim hoping it would free it up, it worked like a dream and soon enough it was in the folds of the net. Once the light was on I could see again it was







a mint stunningly scaled fish, I am beginning to like this lakes stock!! It weighed in at a respectable 17.4lb and I was happy how the self takes tuned out. I was sure it was the first of many as fish where in the area but amazingly I woke at dawn to motionless bobbins. A scratch of the head had I got it wrong again or was it just the one fish that was there. I packed up and heading home with things to think about. My last session of the month came the week later arriving again at the club lake earlier this time at around 12.30pm, I had been down the night before and seen fish down the margin of the ruler peg, but someone was plotted up there a guick chat revealed he was leaving at 1pm so that's why I was there for 12.30. A quick chat revealed nothing had been caught with the guy reporting to me that the weed and pads where too much and the

club needed to do something about it. I agreed as you do and wished him well, rod out and a few quick casts I thought to myself what weed!!

Sometimes either I am lucky and find the clear patch first cast or its used as an excuse but who am I to judge. I got a couple of spots sorted and started off with just 10 spods over each spot, simple multi rigs again with small pop ups was the order of the day. All set up and chilled again I decided to get some fresh rigs tied up as I had some time before bite time I thought. 4pm came and with it the first fish a screamer on the left rod thankfully being so close to the rods meant it never got chance to get anywhere the pads. I steered it perfectly through the gap in the pads in front to the waiting net. The guy in the peg 2 down had seen me playing it and come down to have a nosey



TalkingCarp

### **Carp Chronicles**

which was perfect as now I had a photographer. With the shots done and the fished weighted in at 16lb I was happy to get off the mark. I got the fish back and the rod out and dispatched another 5 spods over the top of both spots. Half an hour later it was off again and this time a lovely dark long original mirror was posing for a photo. I was very happy by now that was 2 in less than 3 hours and not a spot of weed in sight. With everything set again i finished off the rig tying and hoped I would be getting through them all tonight.

My mukka Paul had said he was going to come and do a night next to me before heading to Baden the next morning so we could have a catch up. He arrived not long after just in time for him to help take the pictures of my third fish a long dark common. He had come prepared with maggots and had said he wanted to perfect the rig before Baden and the club water was the perfect place to do that. With his rods out, we put the world to rights as you do when you're on the bank with good mates. As night crept in I retired to my bed and wished Paul good luck. I woke up to a run at 1am and started to do battle with a hard fighting fish, luckily Paul had heard my alarm and was

stood next to me with the net which meant I could concentrate on the fish playing. It all went swimmingly and soon a mint 17lb common was held aloft for the pictures. As it was all clipped up and wraps measured it was easy to get the rod back on the spot followed by some more bait. I settled in for a few hours' sleep hoping myself or Paul would bag some more before the early departure. It was not to be, and we wound in just after 7am me heading home and Paul heading off to Baden armed with his rigs. That next morning it was great to get a 06.30am text complete with a picture of Paul holding up a bar of gold common at 41lb!! Great angling mate and I hope your success continues.

129

Until next time good luck and keep enjoying it

Brett

https://monsterparticles.com/

https://www.mainline-baits.com/

https://pbproductsuk.co.uk/

http://www.stinkystuff.fishing/



# Looking for an Edge in Your Carp Fishing?



# A diary to track, analyse and share your carp fishing adventures





Back to France by Andrew Murray

### Carp Fishing on the Vienne

132

It had been a while since I fished in France, some 13 years to be precise, during which my most of my foreign fishing had been on the Ebro and Segre in Spain.

I had decided it was time to renew my relationship with fishing in France again. Where to go and what to do? That was the question? We had fished on a number of different types of waters in France in the past, from the smaller commercials to the larger inland type seas.

Over the previous winter I had started to speak with Simon Stuart of Guided Fishing Holidays. Simon has lived over in France for a number of years and

### Andrew Murray

something that would be both different and enjoyable. Whilst we like to fish wherever we go, we also like to sample the local food and drink!

We chose to fly out to Limoges, as opposed to the long drive. Simon will accommodate both, but we have got used to flying I guess and fishing with someone else's tackle, taking Buzzers, reels and terminal tackle, Simon was to supply the rest of the tackle. Although Simon does supply perfectly good bait which have caught plenty of carp, I always like to fish over my own bait where possible, so two weeks prior I had 20k of Mainline Spicy Crab High Impact boilies shipped over to Simon. Simon had said we needed to fish with at least 20mm boilies due to the Chub and Barbel that were present and can be more than a nuisance!

decided to startup a guiding company, fishing on the River Vienne and surrounding lakes around Poitiers and Limoges. Anyway, Keith and I decided to get a week booked for September and have a go, looking for



TalkingCarp

We arrived at Limoges on a bright and sunny midday, Simon picked us up from the airport and we had a general chat on the way to the Vienne, we unpacked at the cottage we were stopping, which was really well equipped and a great base to operate from (even had a UK viewing!). Then Simon went through the tackle we were to use that was in the Jeep which he let us use while we were there. We got sorted and headed down for the river for our first evening session. Simon had baited up a couple of areas ahead of our arrival so that's where we started. Simon had said we may probably have to fish into dark to get some action, we decided that first night to leave early and go for a pint or two, after all we were on holiday! Before we left I scattered a couple of kilos of boilies in a couple of areas separate to where Simon had baited up as well as the area he had baited. I wanted to give the carp a good taste of bait as soon as possible. As it turned out, wherever we baited, the carp were on it the following day. Also as the river was not really wide, it was easy to do with the throwing stick.

133

We felt very comfortable with our presentation as we had river fished for so many years, albeit in a different country! I fished double baits on a long hair, with a good sized-size four Fox Arma point Hook. Hook link was ESP Two Tone in 25lb in 10-12 inch lengths. I always feel the river carp need a bit more movement because of how they feed i.e. on the move, so longer hairs and longer hooklinks. A lot of these carp have not been hooked before, they have great big hard mouths and they



are hugely powerful and built for speed. No space for fine or wimpy rigs! 18lb mainline, and 50lb leaders along with five ounce leads complete the set-up. As I wasn't fishing tubing, I opted for the lead core leaders as well. Even though we are fishing in France I want the



### Andrew Murray

lead to get dumped if I have a breakage. So that's how the rigs were set up.

The following day, we were on the bank before first light, I put one rod on the baited area down the middle and one towards the trees. Within an hour the far rod was away, the carp fought like a demon on steroids but eventually it was netted, it was only then I realized how big it was, a mirror and it went 44lbs, a good weight for a river carp and I was pleased to have such a good result so early. Nothing more that morning, Simon was keen to show us another spot for the evening, so we upped sticks and moved. Keith had a twenty at last knockings there. Now that left us with a bit of a dilemma! Where to fish tomorrow?

First light saw us in the swim I had the 44 from. The plan was to fish there until the afternoon and then move for the evening...that was the plan anyway! Within half an hour I had a 32 common that was about four-foot-long, the fight was mental? I was convinced I had hooked a cat, not for the last time either. Keith had a couple of runs late morning, banking one. I was now convinced we should sit it out where we were as I felt that the carp were visiting our baited area now and would continue to do so all the time, especially

as we put more bait in. Simon had said he felt the carp dipped in and out of the baited areas-as river carp tend to keep on the move. Keith wanted to go and get some supplies and have a bit of time out of the heat-as it was very hot. I stayed on the rods, Simon came down for an hour for a chat. He was saying it was very rare to have runs in the midafternoon sun, just as he said it, we had a screamer on Keith's rods, which resulted in a low twenty common. Ten minutes later a run on one of my rods resulted in another common about the same size. So much for not feeding in the days. I had thought I had seen fish moving around on a few occasions that afternoon. Keith had another just as we were packing up. Anyway, we were definitely not moving! I put another couple of kilos of bait out with the stick before we left.

The following morning, we arrived early to be greeted by violent storms and thunder and lightning overhead, I had a smallish common within half an hour of casting out. Keith's turn today, he had a good sized mirror, just not quite thirty. That afternoon Simon took me to another part of the river to have a look at some different swims, Keith had three runs while we were away, so they definitely do feed during the day! We decided to wind in at 6pm and go out

TalkingCarp

for a group meal and drink, which didn't get too out of hand, apart from a bit of mickey taking with Simon, I cut Mainline logos from the bags and put them all over his beer and wine glasses, menus, Table etc. every time he went out. Which he took in good heart!

Keith had some bad news on Sunday morning that meant he had to book a flight for Monday and head for home, the river was hard to fish that day due to the rising water levels and the weed it was carrying, so we headed up to a new swim Simon had showed me the day before. This was literally somebody's garden! The river here was still hard to fish but we stuck at it, Keith had a small carp, but it was quiet. When we packed

up I left a good spread of bait about. Keith's last morning we spent fishing in the going swim. I lost a good fish at first light, Keith had two more. Now, do I stay where we catching from or move to try the different area? I decided to opt for the new spot, I headed up to the swim I had baited the day before, within an hour I had a thirty pound mirror in the net, which gave me the hardest fight I had all week, if not for years! I actually thought I had hooked a big cat at first! A few of the carp we hooked were so powerful on that first run we were convinced they were big cats we were hitting, they were unstoppable! Simon had said he would keep me company for the last day and he turned up as I had a mid-twenty common in the net, it was immaculate,

135



TalkingCarp

### 136

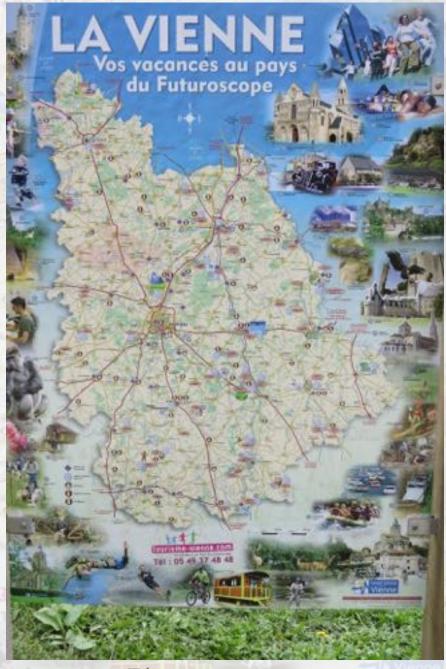
### Andrew Murray

and its fins and mouth were just typical of a wild river carp. I had one more small carp later on, along with some Chub and Barbel!

We had over twenty carp for 6 days fishing, carp of all shapes and sizes, singles, doubles, twenties, thirties, a

forty, and a few lost fish. We dint even night fish as a lot of anglers do when they go out there, we got enough action during the day. The carp not monsters by some French standards, but we had a great weeks fishing in extremely quiet and unspoilt surroundings, no people for miles, let along anglers, catching carp that others hadnt. I don't think this will be for everyone but if you want something a bit different from your fishing holiday, give this a go, you won't be disappointed. We will definitely be back in the future as it's such a beautiful place, as well as producing some cracking carp.

Andrew Murray



TalkingCarp



Suppliers Of Fully Prepared Particle Nuts Pulses & Much More!

# Cheshire Particle 01928 775402---07482232252

10% Of All Proceeds Donated To Dementia UK

### PROVEN PARTICLE WITH PULLING POWER www.cheshireparticle.com

## Various Fishing Adventures and a Future Gem...

by Andrew Taylor

I'm going to keep this article short and sweet and just tell you about a few trips to a couple of different venues that I've been on over the last few months and future gem of a venue which I'm yet to fish...

So firstly was Brookfield Fishery, near Bedworth, I came across the venue by a friend mentioning it to me, so I got the address and I headed over for a look around and as soon as I arrived I was greeted by one of the bailiffs, Damien. He kindly showed me around and all I wanted to do was go home and get my gear, it looked amazing... so I arrange to go the following weekend.

There is 5 pools, 4 of which are a mixed bag of fish and then there is the main specimen lake, which was covered in weed, with a small island the one end of the lake. Damien told me it is a very hard water that isn't fished much these days, and a lot of the fish are a mystery as in size and weight, so as I like a challenge... this was the pool for me.

So I arrived the following weekend for a few hours fishing, and as soon as I got out the car the heavens opened up and it hammered down, luckily enough I'd come prepared and as it was only a quick day session, I set my JRC Extreme Brolly up and proceeded to set up underneath that.

I chose my spots and sent the first rod out with a little crushed up Mainline Link boilie in a small PVA bag, and chose a pop-up over the top, my second rod was my favoured Mainline Cell Wafter with a scattering of boilies, and my third rod I fished a glugged Link pop-up topped off with a 8mm Cell pop-up with a mixed **PVA** mesh offering of crushed Cell and crushed Link boilies with three whole Link boilies as pictured here



TalkingCarp

### **Andrew Taylor**

140

to the corner of the island.

I was only there an hour or so and my first rod ripped off and I struck... but it was as if nothing was there... so I reset it on the same spot... and waited... Then about half hour later my rod on the corner of the island screamed off... I struck and this time I was into a very hard fighting fish, happy days. This ended up being my only fish, but I was delighted with this 18lb 7oz Common Carp. It's always nice going to a new venue for the first time and catching, I will definitely be returning again soon.

After that session I've not had the best of fishing adventures, as I've been on a four-session blanking run on my syndicate, Hams Hall. I lost a big carp the last time I was there, and I was gutted... but that's fishing for you, you don't catch all the time... if you did it would be called catching, not fishing... But I don't actually call it blanking... it's a learning game for me and it's about the adventure, the experience and the connection you gain... so with that said roll on the next session on Hams Hall... watch this space...

I then done a quick overnighter on a local water, and was



### Various Fishing Adventures

rewarded with this gorgeous 16lb 4oz Mirror, which put a huge smile on my face after breaking my bad run which I had been on as of late. This little beauty was caught using RM-Tec Soft Coated Hooklink and a RM-Tec Size 6 Curved Hook on my favoured Mainline Cell Wafter over a bed of Mainline Cell Activated Pellets presented in a 25mm Castaway PVA mesh bait parcel.

Now onto a future gem in my opinion...

I was searching through Facebook and the internet for local fisheries. and up popped a gorgeous looking venue not too far away from me called... Millride Fishery, located in Essington, Wolverhampton. So, after having a browse through the page I found out they had 6 lakes and they have not long opened a 7th pool, being a specimen.

I decide to get in touch with the bailiff who runs it, Lee Harding, and asked a few questions regarding the venue, facilities and fish stock... he kindly told me about each pool individually.

141

First was Oak Pool. which is around 1.2 acres in size. The pool is known for its lily pads and its distinctive shape of a horseshoe. Other features on this pool include its irises, reeds and the old oak tree on the walkway from where the pool gets its name from. The depths vary from three foot in the margins to an average of six to seven foot at its deepest. This pool is stocked with mainly Carp, with a mixture of mirrors, commons, crucians and a few leathers up to 20lb, then there's Bream to 5lb, Perch to 3 1/2lb and some silvers from 11b+.



TalkingCarp

### Andrew Taylor

Then comes The Manor, which is a Carp, coarse and pleasure pool with large Bream & Tench. Known for its three islands , this lake is around 1.35 acres. Other stocks along with the Bream and Tench are Carp to 15lb, Roach and Rudd to 2lb+, Perch to 3lb+ & some gorgeous Gudgeon.

142

Then they have Long Pool which is one of the match waters. At 0.8 acre this long and narrow pool is often refers to as the canal. With no island this pool has good coverage from the surrounding trees. This is stocked with some carp up to 12lb Bream to 4lb. Roach to 2lb, Perch to 3lb, Rudd to 1/2lb & Gudgeon. Long Pool has also recently been restocked with 10-12" carp.

Another match pool

is the Hill Pool, this is around 1 acre with a small island to the one end. This pool is stocked with Carp to 12lb+, Bream to 3lb, Perch to 2lb, Roach to 1lb, and small Rudd and Gudgeon. Depths on this lake vary between three foot and fifteen foot, with the deepest part being by the island. This lake has also been recently restocked with 10-12" carp.

Millride Fishery also has two Trout lakes in Tower Pool and Willow Pool, they are both stocked regularly with Rainbow Trout up to 5lb. They have a catch and release process as well as a catch and keep process, with reasonable prices.





Then comes the final one and the lake that I'm interested in the most... Vernon Pool, the Specimen Lake... which I'm due to fish very soon...

Vernon Pool is only around 1.5 acres, with four swims available. It varies in depths from 9ft towards the central area of the lake in front of peg one to gradually shallowing to around 3ft towards peg four. Lee the bailiff also told me that peg three and four tend to get most hits during warmer spells because of the shallower areas. with peg one and two usually producing better later in the afternoons towards the far margin, as well as in the winter months. During a netting that took place in October 2017, all fish where removed and stock into the other lakes except for 15 original Carp from 12lb to

19lb where put back in along with... in the exact words of Lee... "65 super freaks from RH Fisheries averaging from 14lb to 20lb, where stocked, along with a handful of C3s up to 9lb". Since that stocking the fish have averaged around a 3lb weight gain which is amazing in just over nine or ten months. Many of the fish have still vet to see the bank since stocking.

Lee has also redone all the pegs and pathways around the lake making it look amazing. There is also a café on site which is open 7 days a week and can deliver to you peg... quality. Lee supplies the landing nets, slings and unhooking mats for the specimen lake, to stop any diseases being transmitted. I seriously cannot wait to get on this lake and give it a bash! If anyone wants more

TalkingCarp

information, please feel free to give Lee Harding a call on 01902 725165 and he will be happy to help.

143

So, with all that said I am now looking forward to a wellearned holiday with my wife and two children, and I will be back very soon with a bang... and hopefully to complete the final chapter in a story that goes back nearly two years... 'In Search of the Monster Part 3'.

So, until next time, tight lines, stay safe and be on the bank!

Andrew Taylor

www.mainline-baits. com www.castaway-pva. co.uk www.ridgemonkey. co.uk https://en-gb.facebook. com/intelligentangling/ DIARIES OF A SHORT SESSION CARPER PAUL RICHARDSON



castaway-pva.co.uk

### Paul Richardson

### **19 July**

### Peg: Goosesh@t point Bait: Peach and black pepper, DBP bag mix, rehydrate fish

Arrived at the lake after work to find the car park with just a few cars in , car unloaded , net, mat and weigh sling dipped and it was off to find the carp. I soon located a few fish by the island leisurely cruising in the evening sun. I casted out where I saw carp top last week, I used a rehydrate fish bottom bait tip with a pink berry pop up. I then surrounded my rig with about 60 pieces of bait which landed in a tight area around the rig. Once again, I used trusty SWG size 6 hook tied to 20lbs **Decepti-link from** Deception Angling.

With my second rod I

used a solid pva bag which I casted close to the island just off the overhanging tree. My pre-tied castaway solid pva bag consisted of Sharp Baits 12mm pink peach and black pepper pop up packed tightly with the bag mix from DBP. I placed the bait as close I could get under the tress into where the fish had been feeding.

I sat tying pva bags as the hour went past, I saw carp top close to the island margin. Within a few mins I had a few liners, which finally changed to the best sound to a carp angler, the alarm sounded a one toner. The rod tip started to pull round at the same time as the water erupted with the carp tarring off pulling the line from the reel. After a short battle the carp drifted in to the net. Yes... another carp not one of the big ones but a very welcome and rare apple slice mirror at 13lbs 10 oz. Photos done and returned back to the its home I placed another solid bag on the spot to try again, but over the next two hours it was bream

145



TalkingCarp



after bream, the evening session came to an end I baited up the reeds with about half a kilo of rehydrated fish ready for the next time.

### 22 July

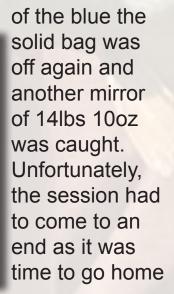
Peg: Island peg Bait: Evolution corn stacks Blue and Pink, DBP bag mix, Iuncheon meat

Evolution team challenge

On the Evo team page Sid Dubey set this month's challenge catch a carp on the blue stack.

Challenge excepted so off to the club water with carp and cats armed with per tied solid bags with two-piece corn stacks one blue the other on pink. I arrived at 7am to find 3 other anglers there off to the corner of the island. Out went the PVA bag to feeding fish. No time to get the other rod out as the bobbin smashed into the rod and the reel started to click as the angry carp peeled off. After a great fight I safely landed a lovely looking linear. Net removed from handle and the zip done up I lifted the carp on to the mat. I took a quick pic of the blue stack in the mouth, the SWG hook was removed and a few more photos taken and short video for my YouTube channel.

I weighed the carp just over 15lbs a good result. I returned the carp safely back to the water. I recasted the bag to the feeding fish, started to tie another bag as I had just finished pulling the cable tie, the rod was off again this time a 8lbs mirror caught on the pink corn. Another bag done and time to set the other trap this time luncheon meat for the catfish, just about to cast and bbeeppp in again this time a 14lbs 10oz common. That was 3 carp landed and it was only 8:30am what a great start to the session. It was all peaceful til 12 and out





### Paul Richardson



for Sunday lunch.

### 29 July

#### Peg: car park peg Bait chicken livers and luncheon meat pink corn stack

Back on the club water for a Cat or carp

I arrived at the lake just after 7am with no cars in the car park. I headed to the peg with a huge overhanging tree. First thing I did was to put the brolly up as some strange wet stuff, which was long past due, was falling from the sky may be this was why I was the only one there. Tactics for the day was chicken liver on one rod and luncheon meat on the other.

The rods went out about 8 once new rigs were made I had a few liners on the liver rod under the tree but nothing else until the rain stopped at 11:30 ish. I swapped the luncheon meat to a solid PVA bag, about 10 mins later the solid bag rod was off after a short fight a nice looking mirror slowly came over the net cord and the fish was mine. After a quick photo and short video clip I

returned the carp back. The liver rod shot off as I was putting the landing net back together after a short fight I landed another nice mirror about 10lbs after that 30 mins of fun it was time to pack up and home.

### **5 August**

Peg: island point Bait, Evolution corn stacks Blue, Pink, green DBP bag mix, chicken liver

I arrived Back down the club water again for 7am. This time I decided to change tactic and fish the corner of the island from a different peg. Both rods out, one on a solid bag to the feeding fish and the other on chicken liver again this time towards the



TalkingCarp

### Diaries of a short session carper

island. Within 10mins the solid bag was off and a super common 14lbs 15 oz caught on the pink corn stack. With another pre-tied solid bag looped onto the line I casted out to the feeding carp. As I set the bobbin I could feel the line being pulled as the carp were picking up the line and dropping it back down. As I was just doing a video diary Entry, I didn't even manage to get through intro when the rod went off again. After another hard and angry fight, I land another common

148



around the same size this time on a blue corn stack. Again, it was not long before I was in again the carp feel to a solid bag presentation this time a lovely 14lbs 8 oz mirror with 4 apple slice scales, fish returned bait back out



TalkingCarp

on the spot. Bbeeeppp the liver rob was away after another good fight I landed a small mirror around 9lbs 9 oz not the cat I was expecting. liver casted out again to the island, I saw a big area of bubbles where my pva bag was placed. First a liner and then bbeeppp I was in again. This time the fish came in quickly which was not good as the 13lbs mirror gave me a good beating on the bank... 6 fish from 7 runs and it was only 11am. I had not had a morning like this for a long time.

### Paul Richardson

2 hrs left would I get any more?? I only had to wait 45 mins. this time I had loads of liners and probably should have changed the bag, but I managed another fish. This time a low double common. it was time to start to pack up... well I say pack up... there is always time for one more cast. I re casted my last solid bag back on the spot, 15 mins later I was in again yep it was on the solid bag again. The session was finished with another low double common, fish safely returned it was time to go home. What a great session went home a happy carper.

I've been back on the other club water after the big common but only bream to report

Until next time tight lines Paul www.deceptionangling. co.uk

www.castawaypva. co.uk

www. evolutioncarptackle. com Www. deepblueparticles.com

149

www.youtube.com/ user/carpvenues







Castaway,

PVA

Mesh

7m Refill

18mm

Corrie Booysen

Castaway

Castaway

PVA

Mesh

7m

Refill

35mm

N N N N

Castaway

PVA

Mesh

7m

Refill

25mm

Costeffective refills designed to save you money!

> RRP £4 (plus only 93p postage)

Available in: 18mm 25mm 35mm

f

### www.castaway-pva.co.uk

info@castaway-pva.co.uk



## Corrie Booy/en

Charing Tails

### CHASING TAILS....

### An Old Scaly Visitor by Corrie Booysen

July had arrived, and with it the next session in my quest to capture Floppy Tail. Winter had now settled in very well. This had been one of the coldest winters we have had in South-Africa in many years, and as a result the fishing had been exceptionally hard. The carp here are not used to these extremely cold temperatures. **Our South-African** winter temperatures in the western parts of Gauteng generally only drop to an average of -4 °C, but this winter had seen temperatures drop as low as -8.5 °C.

Even though it had been freezing cold for the past few weeks, the air pressure seemed to have been working in our favour for our fishing weekend with levels

of around 1020 mBar. The fact that maximum temperatures were forecasted to reach levels of above 20°C for the weekend was vet another verv promising factor, even though it may have taken the lake's water temperature a few days to pick up. These high temperatures were definitely out of the ordinary for July, but they were very welcomed nonetheless.

For our session I had selected to use natural baits, and hook baits as I had done in our previous few sessions as well. I decided that instead of using live maggots as part of my feed, I was going to use brown water snails this time.

I had been soaking the snails in salt water and

hemp

oil for a couple of days and had planned on also using them as hook baits. The idea was to try and set some of my traps out in a match-the-hatch kind of style. I was hoping that this approach could perhaps lure, and tempt, a most probably very wary Floppy Tail into falling victim to one of my traps.

We were booked to fish the deepest swim on the African Gold Syndicate Lake once again. The deepest end of the swim is more or less 170 yards towards the opposite bank and is around 12





breeze blowing in from the North, and towards the bank just off to the right of our booked swim. With our polarised sunglasses we set out on our canoes to find a few good spots to put some Karper Ltd RS Freezer bait boilies and brown water snails out. However, there was no sign of any fish moving about in our swim, so

we decided on some of the old fishing spots we had identified in the past. Our reasons for selecting these spots were that we have had success in them before, and that they were close to the bank off to our right into which the wind had been blowing all afternoon. We were hoping that the wind had forced some carp to move towards the bank, and that they were perhaps only hiding in the reeds for the time being.

**Chasing Tails** 

After determining the areas, we were going to trap, my brother Wynand and I discussed our tactics. For the first night Wynand decided to stick to his original plan, I decided that I was going to use yellow baits as part of my approach. Yellow is well suited for this time of year. Most of the terrain and plantation, which include the reeds. have died due to the frost and as a result are slightly yellow in colour. Another, and probably the main reason I decided on yellow baits, was that I was aware of the fact that the bailiff had been feeding the lake with maize in an attempt to condition the carp and fatten them up for the spawn season, which was around the corner. I took the last of my three rods out shortly after 7 o'clock on that Friday night.



TalkingCarp

### Corrie Booysen

It turned out to be a very eventful evening, however we did not get off to a good start as we lost our first two carp. The first fish picked up my far-right trap I had baited with a snail tipped with some yellow foam, and unfortunately managed to make his way into the reed bank. Wynand got into the canoe hoping to free up my line, but by the time he got to where the fish had gone into the reeds, she had already come off the hook. The second was a screaming take that pulled the rod right off the butt grips, and almost completely off the stage stands. I picked up the rod, felt two or three tugs and then there was nothing. After reeling in and investigating my rig. I found that the semi-stiff fluorocarbon hooklink material had unfortunately snapped off on the loop that I



had crimped to join to the ring of the Quick Change swivel. Early the next morning, shortly before sunrise. I managed to land my first carp for the session. It was a very slow take with the tip of the rod only bending over slightly, and the spool turning down very slowly. I picked up the rod and at first she did not put up much of a fight, however after a few minutes the carp started kiting to my left. I was afraid she might pick up some of the other lines, which fortunately did not happen as we had pinned them down with

TalkingCarp

back leads. The closer to the bank I reeled her in, the harder she fought against it. After a 20 minute battle with a lot of tugging and pulling, I netted an immaculate, hard fighting 30lb common carp. I caught her on a Karper Ltd Ultra-Fluro Coconut pop up tipped with a yellow artificial maize on a Spinner Rig.

155

More than 3 hours prior to my capture, Wynand's bite indicator gave off a few bleeps. The tip of his rod had bent over just a little, after which it remained still and quiet for a



very long period of time. We thought there may have been some debris that had floated into his line. and that may have dragged it little, as there was guite a bit of sludge, and loose weed floating in the lake. When he picked up his rod to reel it in and re-bait, seeing that we thought it had dragged, he realised there was a fish on the other end of his line! He battled about 20 minutes with the carp and eventually netted an absolutely stunning scaly mirror, which we

were both very eager to get on the scale. We recognised the mirror as a carp I captured almost three years earlier at 39lb on the nose. Our curiosity about the new weight of this beautiful bar of African gold was satisfied when we eventually managed to weigh her... 43lb 10oz! She had fallen victim to a new Karper Ltd Sweetcornz pop up www.karper.co.uk.

A very special capture!

Later that Saturday morning, Wynand and



TalkingCarp

### **Chasing Tails**

I discussed our tactics for the remainder of our session. We came to the conclusion that we needed to set all our traps out with vellow hook baits. Of the six rods we had in the water that Friday night we had four runs, all of which came on vellow hook baits. The two rods that did not have any action were the only rods that had not been baited with yellow baits. We also noticed that the fresh water crabs had made their return and had been active once again as some of our hook baits had been left with the evidence thereof. This was not going to change our minds about our tactics, especially since we already had a successful night's fishing behind us. Later that Saturday afternoon when we did our lines again and rebaited our spots, we

NO

### Corrie Booysen

saw quite a few carp moving close to some of the baited areas we had set out. It gave us some hope that we may have been in for a busy night. The next run came during the early hours of that Sunday morning, it was around 2:00 when we were woken up by another screaming take. After a 15-minute battle, I managed to land a beautiful mirror carp which I estimated to weigh somewhere in the margin of 30lb. However, the carp somehow managed to find its way out of the captive retainer during the short few hours that followed until we woke up again a little later that morning. We woke up very early and needless to say I felt gutted to find that the mirror had escaped, as I would have loved to have taken some photos with it. We

landed another small non-weighing fish, not too long after the disappointment the mirror had left us with. After an early morning brew, we slowly started packing up as our session was drawing to a close.

Whilst we were still busy packing up, my left rod took off once more, and again it was a very slow and odd take. She put up a big fight from the moment I picked up the rod. Tugging and pulling, kiting to the left then kiting to the right. She took line, and then gave some back. Every time I thought I had won the battle, she would tug and pull again like she had just gotten her second breath. Eventually, after approximately 30 minutes I won the battle and landed the final fish of our session. a long common that weighed 36lb.



This had been one of the most successful winter sessions we have had, with a total of 7 runs and 5 fish on the bank. Unfortunately, at the end of this session, Floppy Tail still remained a stranger to my net, but that does not mean I am giving up on the chase.

#ChasingTails

Until the next issue... Tight lines, bent rods, and wet nets!

Corrie Booysen

Twitter: @Its\_Carpy / Instagram: corrie\_ booysen







# TEAM PALLATRAX

# JOIN THE REVOLUTION NOW

P MUM COUR

WWW.PALLATRAX.CO.UK/TEAM-PALLATRAX



TEL: 01409 240042 / 241135



# JOIN THE TEAM TODAY

Are you a keen and loyal angler who fishes regularly and want to join the ranks of one of the fastest growing tackle and bait companies in Europe?

### Some our Team benefits:

- Fantastic community of like minded anglers.
- Excellent product discounts.
- Active Facebook Team group.
- Exclusive Team Fish-ins.
- Genuine field testing opportunities.
- Access to products before public launches.
- Monthly newsletter.
- Free competitions.



JOIN THE TEAM TODAY, SIMPLY VISIT WWW.PALLATRAX.CO.UK/TEAM-PALLATRAX Getting Into The Angling Industry by Anthony Wood A question I see asked regularly is "How do I get into the fishing industry and get paid for it?" and unfortunately a lot of the time I see unhelpful, sarcastic and downright rude answers. There are some simple ways to get into working in the industry such as working in a fishing tackle shop or working in a warehouse that produces bait.

In reality it will require dedication and hard work, with you quite often being ridiculed by other anglers as modern society seems to have a fascination with putting other people down who are trying to achieve something to make themselves feel better.

Okay, I haven't really given much information yet so i thought I would go into how I ended up being able to run my own business and make a happy successful living from fishing. I started making my own baits over 30 years ago when I was 9 and my grandad taught me to make my own fishing paste, I then moved on to making groundsbaits and eventually dough balls which would eventually be known as boilies.

However, I only ever used the baits myself and didn't even consider making a career from fishing just being happy to enjoy my hobby and make a few friends along the way. Then in 2011 I created my first Facebook page www.facebook.com/ homemadeboilies little did I know that this was going to be the beginning of an interesting yet trying path that I didn't initially know I was on.



When I created the page. I wanted it to be a place where I could keep a few of my simpler recipes and maybe a photo or two, within a few months though I'd got nearly 400 likes in the page which was totally unexpected. People wanted to know how to make their own fishing bait but without being ridiculed by all the "expert" bait makers out there, I started giving people the instructions on making their own baits and giving them some nice simple recipes.

A year passed, and I suddenly had nearly 5000 likes on the page, but I was starting to get a bit disheartened as I had people saying I didn't know what I was talking about (even though I had at that point 25 plus years' worth of knowledge)





and trying to put me down on social media pages, etc. I very nearly packed it all in, but I was having a conversation with Jan Porter and talking to him about it and he turned around with a smile on his face and what he told me changed my whole outlook and gave me that boost I needed. He said "who are these people slating you? Have I heard of them? No? Well I've heard of you, you're a decent lad and trying to do something nice so ignore the idiots and carry on doing what you're doing!!". We then spent an hour or two talking about **Norwegian Trolls** (something not unusual if you were lucky enough to know Jan lol)

2012 was the year that my fishing career really began if I'm honest, although I've never caught big fish I caught fish 95% of the time I went out and because I was posting on social media I got noticed by a few companies and I became part of Bait-Tech's Street Squad after making my own boilies from their aroundsbaits and other ingredients and stayed with them for two years before parting ways amicably as my path was going a different way.

By 2013 I had nearly 7000 likes on Homemade boilies and had so many people ask if I would write a book that I selfpublished with Lulu and created www. lulu.com/spotlight/ AnthonyWood (to date I've sold over 1000 copies in 15 different countries so it can't be too bad). In June 2013 I had my first guest editorial in Coarse Angling Today, which is

TalkingCarp

### Angling Industry

unfortunately no longer around which I was extremely proud of.

Okay so I was earning a small amount off my book sales, but it certainly wasn't going to be enough to live off and I still wasn't considering it as a career. I'd had people saying why was I writing articles for free and putting hours into helping people make their own baits (I'd even helped a few people who were setting up their own bait companies with recipes and help and advice - they offered me money but for me it was still a hobby and I enjoyed helping people), for me though it wasn't about earning money yet as I didn't think I had enough to offer yet.

I had been doing a few product reviews on my page for bait ingredient companies for a while and my page had by now reached 9000 likes and I was thoroughly enjoying myself. On January 28th, 2014 I wrote my first blog for Haith's Baits (https://www. haiths.com/haithsbaits/whats-antsfavourite-haiths-bait-/) a very well-known ingredient company since 1950!! I was also starting to do product reviews for another of my hobbies which was bush crafting. One thing I will say is if you are lucky enough to get selected to review a product don't think of it as a freebie, a company isn't going to send you a product just because you've asked for it they are going to expect something in return and you will need an audience that is going to appreciate the product. One product I reviewed for example the company saw a 25% increase

in UK sales after my review (make sure you've thoroughly tested the product before you write the review too) went live which obviously covered the cost of the product that they sent to me, after all a company won't use you if it isn't going to get a return on their investment.

2014 also saw me get my first paid job within the Industry as the social media manager for a company I'm still proud to call a client today. I was still working full time though as it wasn't enough to live on. I carried on writing articles for online magazines, working with various companies but a lot of it I still wasn't getting paid for, it was more about getting my name and my work out there.

In 2017 an opportunity



arose where I had the choice to either take a risk and go fully self-employed or carry on doing little bits and staying in a full time paid job. I took the plunge and on the 1st April 2017 **A&J** Connections (www.facebook.com/ aandiconnections) was born. I offered social media management, website content management, material creation, article writing and promotional team management. Since taking the risk I haven't looked back and despite a few stumbling blocks along the way I now have 5 incredible clients who are fantastic.

So that is my journey (and I know I'm very lucky and don't take any of it for granted) but what advice could I offer to someone else wanting to chase their dreams?



### 164

The first thing I would say is don't expect to get something for free, even if you manage to get something free the company is going to expect a return on that "Free" product whether it is by product reviews, getting it mentioned in magazines, plugging it on your page or profile, etc. The better you do the more likely you are to be used again.

To start with don't worry about getting paid, you may see a few paid anglers laughing and taking the mickey out of people who do articles for free, reviews for free, etc. I say ignore them I have a totally different outlook, if you want to get noticed there are that many people out there trying to become part of their favourite pass time that the days of saying I want paying because I'm good or whatever other reason are gone. These days you need to get yourself noticed and how are you going to do this is by doing articles for free and doing free publicity.

Getting a full sponsorship from a fishing company is also very rare (unless you're in the magazines all the time, on tv or some other "celebrity" status), most of the time these days you are going to find that a company will offer you a certain amount of discount off their products in exchange for becoming a team member and promoting that companies products. This is a good way to get into the industry

but make sure you have confidence in the company and their products or it will show a mile off.

Angling Industry

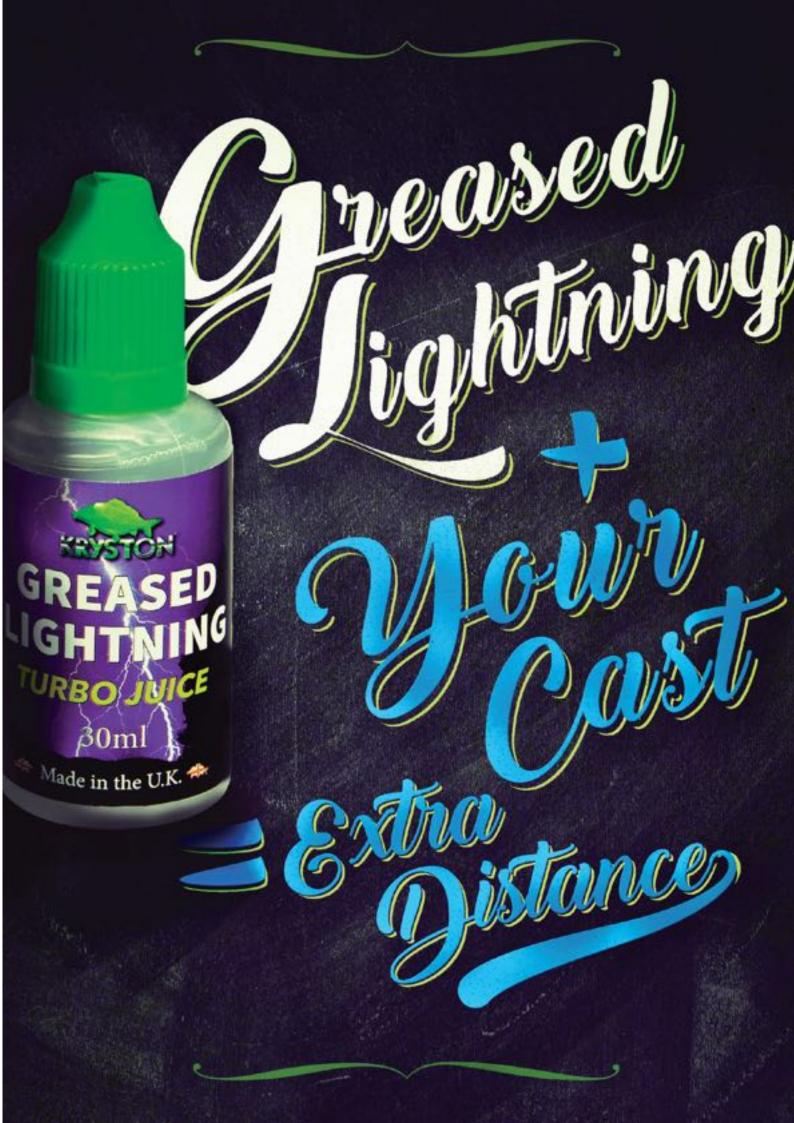
Enjoy what you're doing, what's the point of doing all that hard work if you aren't going to enjoy it at the end? Finally ignore the trolls, the people who are going to try and put you down and stop you achieving your goals.

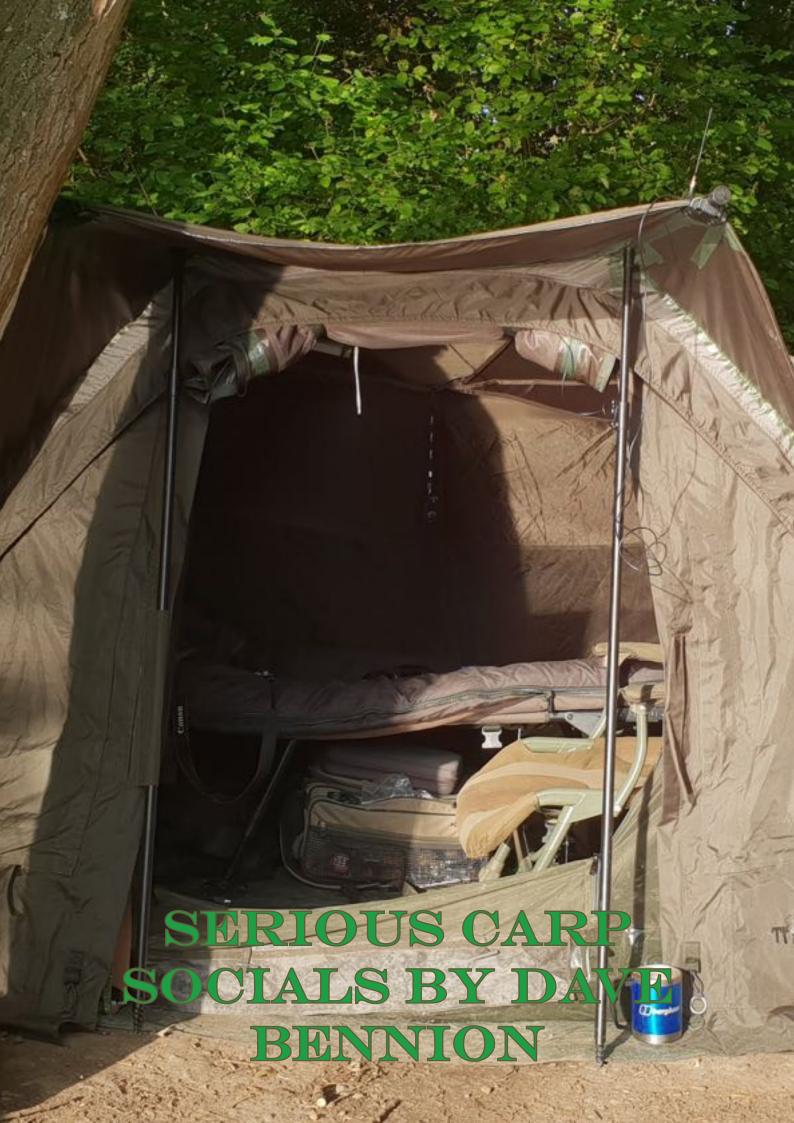
Well I hope you enjoyed reading my article and it has given you some insights and maybe even helped you if you're considering trying to break into the angling industry.

All the best

Ant.







The ninth Serious Carp Social of 2018 was held from 24th – 26th August at The Quarry Lake in Essex. This iconic lake has just been acquired by new owners so is closed to the public until March 2019. We were therefore privileged to be given exclusive access for 48 hours. August is never the easiest time to arrange a social due to many anglers being on vacation however this social still sold out very quickly. We had exclusive use of the lake and its 21 swims but had decided to use only 16 swims thus giving each angler plenty of water to fish. It was an early start for most on the Friday morning, with at least half the anglers having 5-hour drive. Everyone met at a local café for breakfast before making their way to the lake – which is not the easiest place to

find!!!!

We arrived at the lake for 8am and was met by a very friendly bailiff. He took us through the rules – of which there are not many and are focused on fish safety and keeping a clean environment for other anglers. He then took everyone on a walk around the lake and talked us through each swim giving tips and advice if we wanted it.

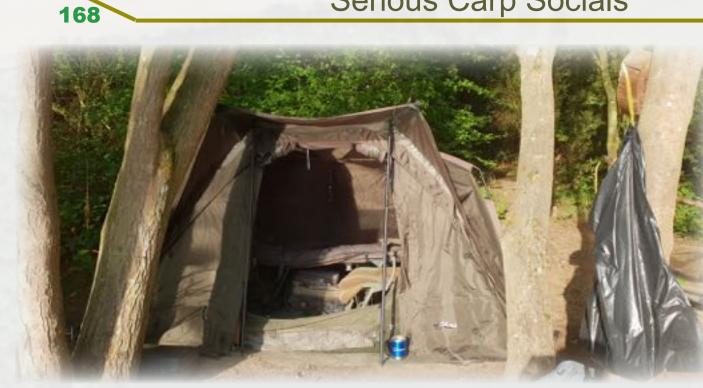
The lake spans some 21 acres and is surrounded by mature trees on all banks, the paths are narrow so not the easiest access to pegs. Down one side of the lake there are 15 swims that allow quite close access by car but still have steep slopes to access the pegs. The other side of the lake there are six swims that need a barrow for access and are quite a walk – but stunning if you can do the trip to these swims.

Lake tour completed we did the usual swim draw at about 9.30. Anglers draw their swim from a bag but after everyone has drawn there is opportunity to swap if people want to.

The lake does contain a lot of weed but if the effort is put in you can find plenty of clear spots. So, everyone made their way to the swims – some of the remote swims taking at least two barrow loads at 20 minutes a trip. Once in the swim plenty of time was spent by the anglers trying to find the best spots so on average the rods were not in and fishing until midday. Each swim has its own unique features but most of them have plenty of tree cover and ability to setup in the woods for shelter.



### Serious Carp Socials



The first fish was landed at about 2.30pm by Dave Bennion from peg No 15 down in a bay called The Shallows - a nice looking mirror weighing 24.14lb.

Dave said: "I was fishing all 3 rods at 16 wraps out into the bay – just the other side of the thick weed. It is only about 4ft deep in the bay and the weed is like a solid wall when you hit it. I'd just spodded out about 30 spods of Cheshire Particle mixed with Pallatrax Jungle Squabs and Urban Nutcracker boilies. Was settling down with a brew and had a couple of bleeps on my right-hand rod. I was fishing locked up tight so any fish could not take much line so there was no way I was going to get a single tone take. I slackened the clutch of slightly and it was obvious there was

a fish on. I now had to get the fish through about 12 wraps of thick weed to get it to the net. At first it just went solid and I could not move it, so I went and stood on high ground at the back of my swim and the fish popped out of the weed. I was so relieved to get it in the net and what a stunning fish.



TalkingCarp

### **Dave Bennion**



There was to be no more fish out that day. A storm also moved in and we had torrential rain all of Friday night.

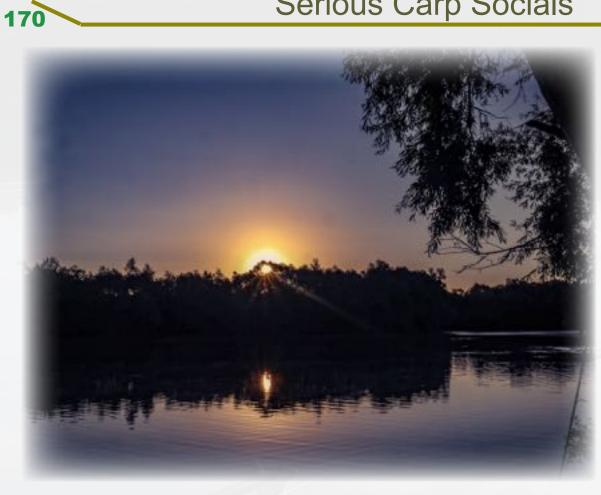
There were a few fish lost during the night but Gav Lambert landed a lovely 20lb mirror from swim No. 1 at about 1.30am.



After all the rain during the night we was greeted with a brilliant sunrise on Saturday morning.

TalkingCarp.

### Serious Carp Socials



At about 8.00am Tremayne Sergent joined in the action landing a 19.8lb common from the swim called "The Building Site". Tremayne had to go out in the boat to free this fish from the weed.



TalkingCarp.

The rest of Saturday morning was quiet and everyone brought their rods in at midday to enjoy the BBQ, which is now an integral part of these socials and something that everyone looks forward to.



By mid afternoon rods were out again but there was to be no more fish landed that day. Some anglers took the opportunity to do a bit of stalking, but to no avail.







Early on Sunday morning the fish came to life on the far bank with 4 fish being landed:

In peg called "Summer Point" Mo Bhana landed a PB common at 29lb.



n peg called "Between the Islands" Mike Preedy had two fish, both mirrors at 27lb mirror and 15lb.



TalkingCarp.

### **Dave Bennion**

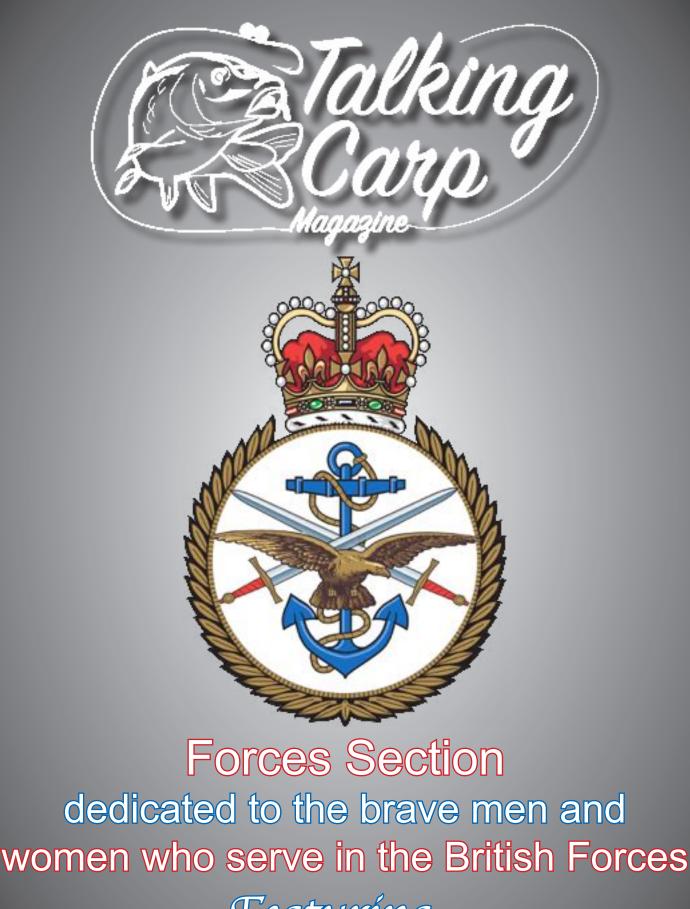


The best fish of the social was landed by Shane Smith - a 39.9lb mirror one of the A team in the lake know as Orion.



So another great social came to an end. It was a privilege to fish this fantastic lake and some very nice fish had been caught. The next social is at Orchard Farm in September.





Featuríng -Cpl Ryan Salísbury

# Private venue in Private venue in Northern France Cpi Ryan Salisbury

### **Private Venue**

### 176

### *Private venue in Northern France*

After returning from France in April and having a fantastic time. The thought of planning the next trip was at the full front of my mind. For those who have never been to France or abroad carp fishing. It's a totally different experience and you are truly spoilt.

I'm no way disgruntled maybe a little but I visited a venue by me and the place was packed. No swims available so I had to go with plan B and drive to another venue. Same situation there. We've all been there. Only a couple of limited swims left on the lake and if your lucky enough to have 50 yards of water in front of you. Also your cut off from every direction. With another

60 plus Anglers on the lake.

Those reading this and thinking why not buy a syndicate ticket. Unfortunately due to my work commitments I can't commit as I'm always deployed away. Enough said on this but as I said you are spoilt.

When you have a venue to yourself there are so many options available to you. I'm not saying there is no venues in UK like this but they are very far and few between.

I am in a very fortunate

I am in a very position and by being in the Armed Forces we are strongly supported by owners like Alan who invites Anglers from the Armed Armed



TalkingCarp

Forces to fish his lakes. We have built up a very strong relationship with Alan and Yacine. To show our appreciation we offered our services to help out at their lakes. Providing work parties as little thank you.

A few weeks after returning from Lake Catherine I get a phone call from Alan. Lake Cathrine is his third venue along with Clay Lakes and has his own private lake. Alan asked if I could get a work party together for August. Now he had Lake

### **Ryan Salisbury**

Catherine up and running he was able to carry out some work on his private lake. Due to being fully committed to Clay Lakes and Lake Cathrine he has never had the time nor the opportunity to finish off those finishing touches on his private lake. So if I could get a work party together. We could come over and do a few jobs for the first couple of days and fish the rest of the week. Two words "I'm in".

After getting off the phone with Alan I began to ringing round. Without very little persuasion I had a work party put together. The ferry was booked and the talk on tactics and approach were in full swing. The count down was on.

The time had arrived and after the freezing cold winter the weather in August had hit record temperatures. With a early morning ferry and even though we were tired we were full of excitement. The talk of approach was the main topic. However I was already set in my mind with my approach.

The Private venue was 4.7 acres in size in a really beautiful location. Varying in depth of 5-9 ft. 5 swims are located down one side of the lake and to be honest it comfortably caters for 4 Anglers. Peg 2 had a cabin that looks out over the lake so as there was only three of us fishing we used

this as our social area. The lake holds carp from low doubles to 50lb. Plenty of pike, perch, tench and silver fish but no bream or cat fish.



On arrival we were greeted by Alan who had us settled in right away. We had a chat over a brew and talked about what repairs the fence needed after it had been damaged through the winter. Through the day we would bring our rods in and do a bit work which allowed us to rest the swims.

As It was early doors we pulled the swims out of a hat and unpacked the car. I was a bit tired from the traveling and once I got settled in I got the rods ready. I found a nice silt spot 16







and half wraps out. My approach was the chod method tied with a Duo Tackle size 8 Wide Gape Hook pinned down with their Gravity Tungsten Putty. I started of with three different coloured pop ups. Theory being the pop up that had the first take I would put all three rods on the same colour.

My bait for the trip was 20 kilo of homemade particle and 10 kilo of Richworth S-Core Original 15 mm boilies. Alan and Jay have done an an amazing job put Richworth Baits back on the map. I also took 20 kilo of maize a Lot you may think but believe me these fish were hungry.

I had just managed to cast 2 rods and while talking to Alan my left rod went roaring off I was into my first grass carp. I hadn't even had a chance to spod and I was into a fish. The Grass carp looked around the 30 lb mark. As Alan went to net the fish It jumped out the net like a Salmon and snapped me off. Even though I lost the fish I knew it was going to be a session of a life time.

Over first 36 hours we had netted 10 carp and 1 tench and lost just as many. My second carp weighed in at just over 40lb and my father had landed a 34 lb mirror to. The rest of the fish were mid 20's with 1 mid double. It became clear it was a really snaggy lake and the fish had us over on so many occasions. As Tuesday and Wednesday came it brought the heat and temperatures of 38 degrees. It was hot to the point I had to swim in the lake to cool off. The fishing seemed to slow right down but we still managed to net a further 3 fish. Thursday approached and to be honest it was hard going but We kept plucking away.

Then on Thursday evening I decided to change my approach. I decided to change to the Ronnie rig with bright yellow pop ups. In the evening and night times I was getting bites but



### **Private Venue**

### **Ryan Salisbury**

nothing coming of it. I believed the hook wasn't setting. So with the rig closer to the weight and with direct contact it would set the hook quicker. On Friday morning in the early hours I had take. To be honest when I began reeling it in it didn't feel that big. Then as I got in closer in the fish sprung into life pulling line of the reel. As it had been a few days since I had some action my heart was in mouth. In the pitch black trying your hardest to make sure you keep the fish away from the snags. In all honesty you can't even see where your line is and your just praying it doesn't get into the snags. Once the battle was won and the fish was finally in the net it was the 2nd thirty of the trip. Coming in just over 34 lb. It looked like a similar fish my father had caught earlier in

the week. But after a closer inspection of the photos it was a totally different fish.

What I didn't realise is how much of big difference the rig change had made. After recasting the rod thirty minuets later the same rod was off again. This time it was a small grass carp. I Re-set the rod again and added a couple of spods over the top and put the kettle on. My dad walked down to my swim and I made him a cuppa. As we were talking the right hand rod roared off again. I Said to my dad you can take this one. After an epic battle we landed a 30lb Grass carp. It had wiped out my other two rods but landing a 2nd thirty with in a couple of

TalkingCarp

hours and

3rd one of the trip I wasn't really bothered.

Re setting all three rods this time Bruce made his way down to see what all of the commotion was. Telling us the cray fish had attacked his hook Baits again. Even the plastic hook Baits looked like it they'd been chewed by dog.

We decided to cook breakfast and as my dad and Bruce had already reeled their rods in I said to Bruce "watch the rods and I'll bring you a brew and bacon roll back". While finishing of the bacon rolls I heard Bruce scream fish on. For some





reason a jack pike took a liking to a bright yellow pop up. While Bruce was playing the pike I took my other two rods of the rod rest and laid them in the water. This was to prevent them getting wiped out again. Once we returned the jack pike. Bruce said don't forget your other 2 rods. As I picked the first rod up it was super tight. I lifted rod and the line wasn't even pointing in the direction where I had casted it then I felt a pull. Bruce fish on mate. I handed the rod over to Bruce as we wanted him to break the 30 lb Mark.

The morning was turning into a right session. To our joy it was a 30 lb common this time giving Bruce his first ever thirty. Third thirty of the day 4 th of the trip. We would of settled for that but no longer after recasting the

rods I couldn't believe it the right hand rod went screaming off again this one was mine. After seeing the the tail show I knew it was another big fish. With my heart in my mouth again my Father salmon swooped the fish into the net. The 4th thirty of the morning a mirror coming in at just over 34 lb. I couldn't believe it we had hit the 30 gold mine. To top it off my father reeled in a common at 22 lb an hour later. My swim was electric.

In the afternoon It seemed settled down and the 30 lb gold rush

had come to an end. To finish off the trip the boys reeled in a small grass carp in the late afternoon. As we were leaving in the morning we

TalkingCarp

### **Private Venue**

reeled our rods in and packed the car and trailer. We had good evening meal and a good sleep to make sure we were fresh for the trip back to the UK.

What a week we had. Even though it went quite during the week we finished off with a bang. Over the trip we caught 21 carp 1 X 40, 5 X 30's, 8 X 20's, 2 mid doubles and 5 small grass carp. This is not including the tench, pike and perch. The young ones enjoyed catching the roach from the cabin during the day. So plenty of rod action to entertain us all.



#### **Ryan Salisbury**

For those looking at going to France I cannot recommend it enough. This is why I'm returning back to France in October. With venues like Lake Catherine and Clay Lakes your always in with a chance of catching some amazing carp of a life time. I'd like to say thank you to Alan for allowing us access to his private venue and supporting the Armed Forces.

You can also check out our session on YouTube with link below.

#### https://youtu.be/ RG0cJT5nDB8

Big thank you Adam and Jay at Richworth for bringing Richworth Baits back onto the map. Can not recommend their Baits enough.

Website: <u>www.</u> richworth.com Facebook: Richworth Baits were quality counts Instagram: Richworth\_ baits

Thank you to the Duo Tackle Team for providing to end and it's of the highest quality. Website: <u>https://</u> <u>duotackle.fwscart.com</u> Facebook: Duo Tackle Instagram: duo tackle

Cpl Ryan Salisbury



TalkingCarp

# It's time

## Stand out from the crowd..... Don't

# to get Serious!!....



EliteTackle









RH Fisheries, Clear Water Fisheries White Springs Fisheries Brooms Cross Fishery Hillside Fishery









#### CHECK OUT OUR TWO

NEW EXCLUSIVE CATCH REPORT

SPONSORS!! SEND IN YOUR CATCH

#### **REPORTS TO US VIA**

BRIAN.DIXON@TALKINGCARP.CO.UK

#### AND MARK THE SUBJECT

**"CATCH REPORT" FOR A** 



BELL BALL CUTTER

CHANCE TO WIN GREAT PRIZES Talking Carp Magazine would like to Congratulate to Rob Hales on his capture of "TARKA"

The Biggest Common Carp in the U.K.





RH FISHERIES C01952 463 141

RH FISHERIES C01952 463 141 RH FISHERIES





Nice wake up call this morning this lovely old 14lb 15 warrior. The ever faithful Ronnie rig, size 8 curved shank hook and a scattering of 15mm Ballistic B bottom baits and 15mm Ballistic B pop ups doing the damage.





Ash Geden with a HUGE 42 lb 10 oz river Thames carp!!

Caught on a Complex T Fluro popup on the back of a 2month on going heavy baiting campaign. It's a target I set myself a few years ago to catch a carp over 40 Ib from the river but could never have imagined a dream becoming a reality. It smashed my original PB from the Thames by over 8lb.









#### Jim Ewart

First trip to my syndicate this year and got this beauty. 38lb 4oz on a lazy snowman rig of Retro Baits crazy nuts over a 5kg of 18mm CN free offerings. The rig was a converted Korda IQ fluoro D rig with size 6 Gamakatsu Specialist. Caught just a light was fading a few hours after arriving at the lake.



**Rich Bevan at Millfield**....Millfield on fire. Spent a cracking 3 nights on Millfield pool at Horbury with Ste Hart Jonny Bonny Scarce and Bri Bevan. Weather started off sunny and warm and the fish where enjoying it. Not really that interested. The odd fish mouthing at bits on the surface but nothing with any conviction. We'd booked the whole lake so we left peg 8 out and took turns having a go on top where there's usually a good shout. Ste managed a nice low double on the centre pin followed by Jonny landing a cracking common. Went quiet until dark when I was lucky enough to land the big linear at 26lb after a 15-minute battle through the weed. Had a couple more stockies that night all hard fighting fish in the deep water.

Next day there where dozens of fish cruising the margin in peg 5 but again very uninterested. Ste chucked out a 3ft black foam zig in 8 ft of water and was rewarded with a stunning common. Weather changed and started to rain wind changed and the fish moved. It seemed to trigger them off and I was able to cast to showing fish lucky enough to land 12 in total with a 20-10 and a 19-8. All in all, great weekend Jack Millfield cheers class venue.





193

#### A big hit for Lee Dunn.

A recent 72 hr session on my Syndicate Dorset Springs turned into a red letter day, that I will never forget, I amounted 8 runs producing 7 fish!

A 33 lb 8 oz PB Common, 30 lb Oz Mirror, 4 mid 20 lb commons to 24 lb 12 oz and a mid-double

All fish came from a heavily baited area at 40 yards just at the bottom of an island slope, I introduced a mix of whole and half baits, maize, tigers whole and crushed , chopped mussel and fresh water snails , hookbaits presented on my take on the ever popular Spinner Rig ,

Kind Regards Lee



TalkingCarp.



Andrew Shorthouse 30lb 4oz Midland syndicate

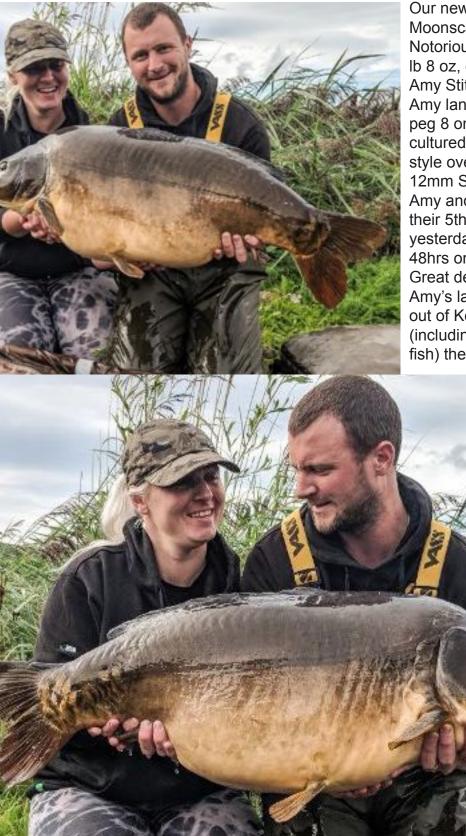




Above : Adrian Smith 29lb from a Midlands syndicate Below : Martin Dyball 30lb 9oz Midlands syndicate



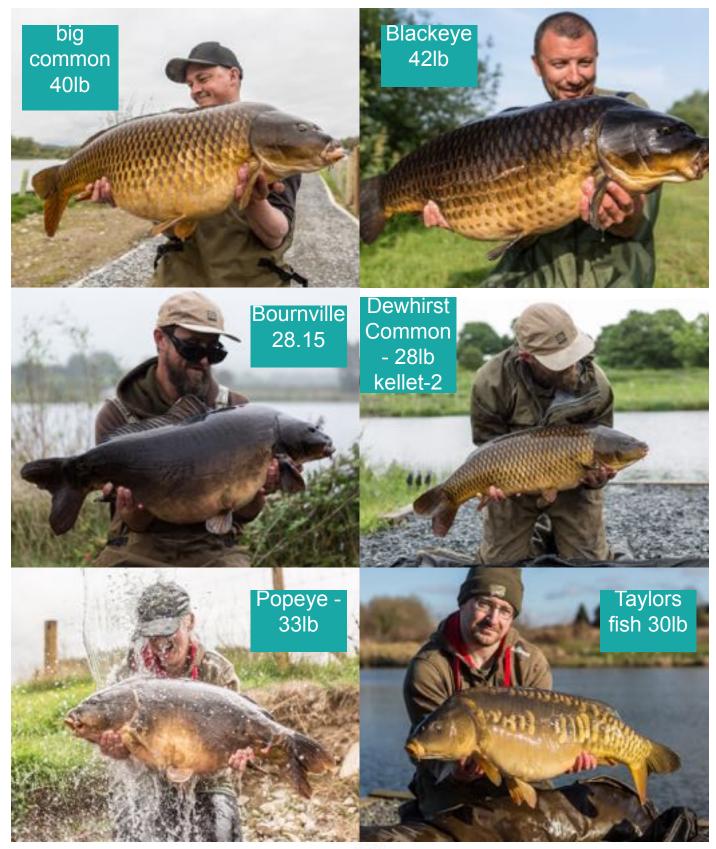
### **Clear Water Fisheries**



Our new complex record, Moonscale, AKA Moonpig AKA The Notorious P.I.G... At a whopping 49 Ib 8 oz, caught by venue first timer Amy Stitt this afternoon. Amy landed the absolute unit from peg 8 on a Nashbait Scopex squid cultured hookbait, presented slip D style over 10kg of pellet and 3kg of 12mm Scopex squid freezer baits. Amy and husband Jamie reached their 5th wedding anniversary yesterday and decided to spend 48hrs on the bank to celebrate... Great decision guys! Amy's last 3 sessions - 9 fish out of Kellet, 6 fish out of Kellet (including Popeye, the lake record fish) then this... Girls got skills



#### Telephone Enquiries 01524 745848



TalkingCarp

## **Clear Water Fisheries**







#### Link to fishery video

https://www.facebook.com/clearwaterfisheries/ videos/1201588969974946/

Intro to fishery

Clearwater fisheries is the North Wests premier specimen carp fishery, offering a mix of day ticket and syndicate fishing across 3 mature, otter protected gravel pits as well as a stunning fully licensed Bistro, offering food delivery's to your peg.

Kellet lake is our premier day ticket water with 13 comfortable pegs around 5.5 acres of crystal clear water. The lake holds around 180 top quality carp from the UKs best suppliers and has a current lake record in excess of 33lb.

24hour fishing tickets are 3 rods - £25.00

Kents Bank is currently a mixed course and carp venue with fish into the 20s, Kent's bank will be transformed into a prolific carp runs water in the next 6-8 months, stocked with the finest fast growing carp around.

24hour fishing tickets are 3 rods - £25.00

Day fishing on kents bank only:

Full day – 1 rod - £8, 2 rods - £10, 3 rods - £12 Half day – 1 rod - £6, 2 rods - £8, 3 rods - £10

Keer Lake is our 21 acre syndicate water. Unrivalled stock of fish anywhere in the north of England. The lake holds carp to in excess of 46lb, has at least 15 fish over 30lb and has recently been stocked with hundreds of top quality fish from a carefully selected number of UK stockists. The syndicate is currently full but as places come available they will be offered to regulars from our day ticket waters. Opening times

1st April until 30th September - 7.30 until 19.00 1st October until 31st march – 8.30 until 17.00



GARNSWLLT RD PONTARDULAIS SWANSEA SA4 8QG TEL: (01792) 885699

White Springs

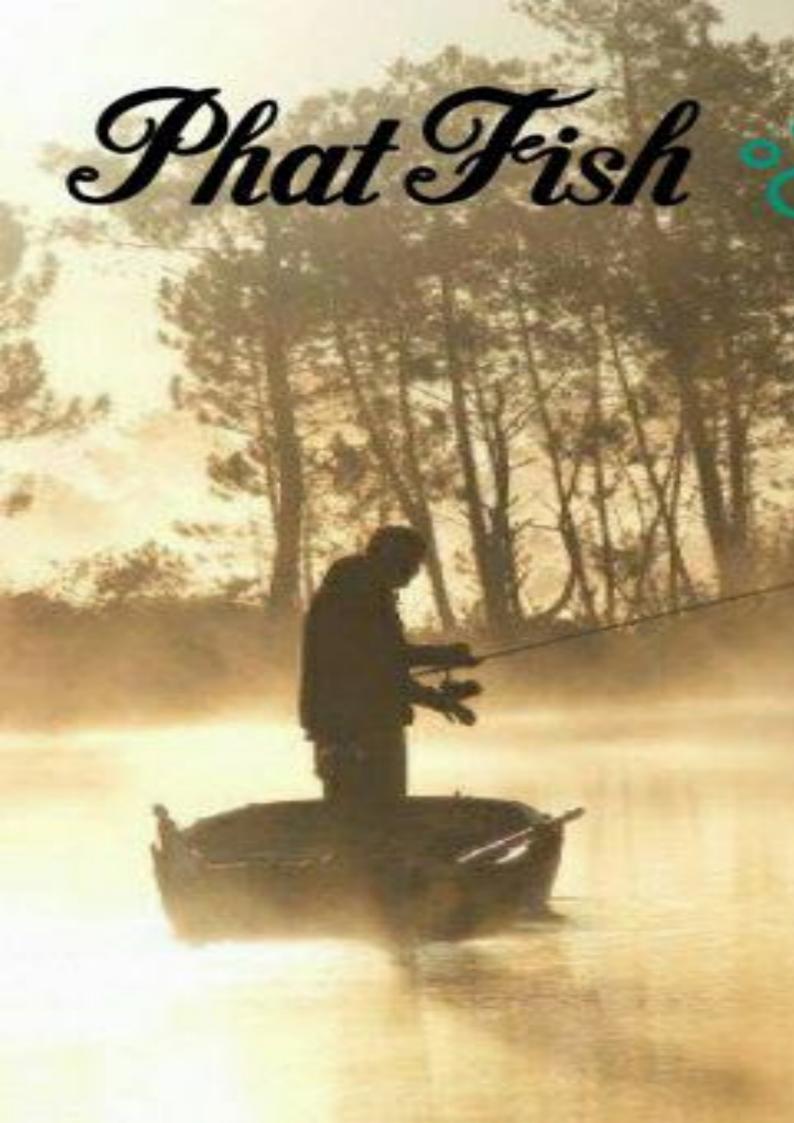
Neil Say 18lb 4oz Graeme Andrews 24lb 8oz

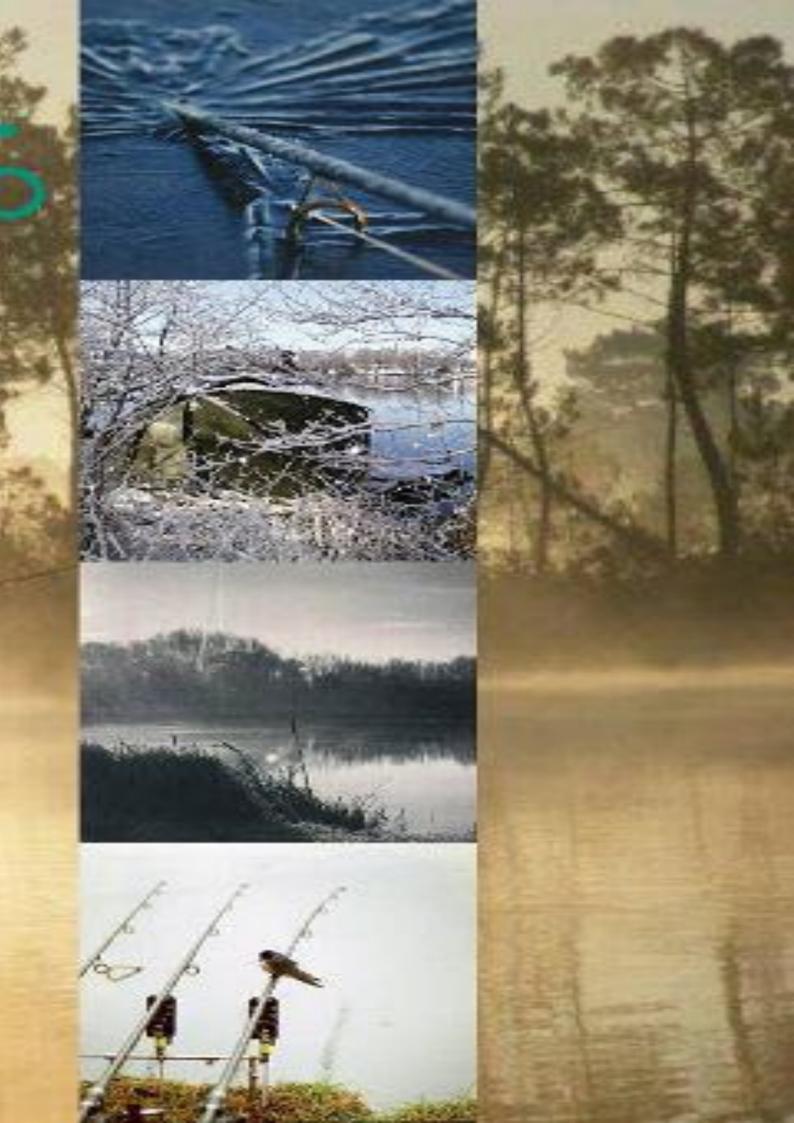
Liam Connor 37lb 1oz



Jonny Walker 30lb 2oz

Eleen Beedham 34lb 12oz









James Demomme 25lb 14oz

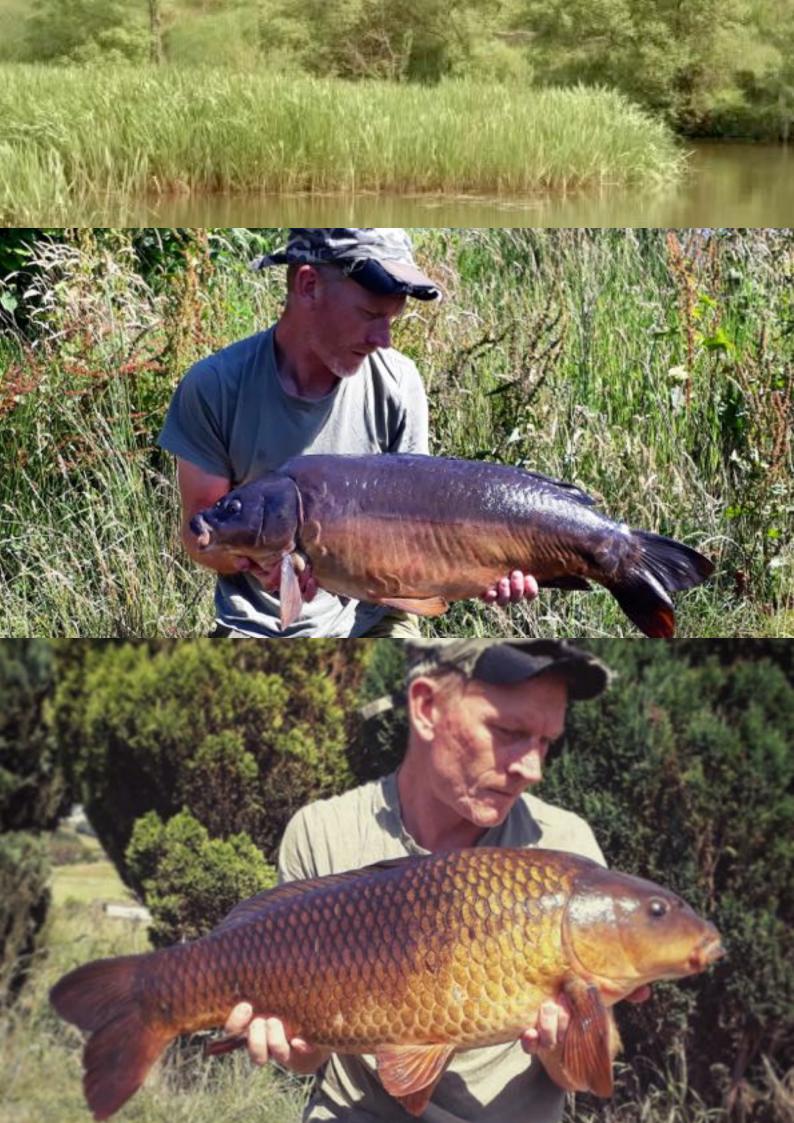
Simon Powell with Jimmy at 28lb 6oz winning a social on the weekend with the biggest carp of the match





Jonny 28lb on the nose. jpg

> Jonny 25lb 6 oz





Dan Scranage has been fishing on Hillside fishery recently, and finding great success with his DNA S7 baits, with the fish getting on it instantly... well done Dan. Keep them coming.



Barringtons Lake Chantebeouf Carp 19 Crystal Waters

#### Barringtons



#### **Barrington's lake France**

209

'Summer holidays bring young anglers to the lake with their families. It's great to see Dad's teaching lad's how to fish. This summer, most of the fish have come out during the night as the day's have been oppressively hot here.

Our first young visitor was Oscar with his dad, our friend Bob, who came just for Oscar to catch fish and learn more about the sport. They fished swim 2 and Oscar landed 6 carp to 33lb. One night Bob couldn't wake Oscar so he had a 26lb12oz common too.

Robbe, from Belgium came with his family from Belgium and also fished swim 2 with his Dad Erik. Robbe had 5 fish to 33lb including a grass carp. His father Erik had a new personal best of 37lb6oz and their friend Patrick in swim 3 had the new lake record of a 46lb4oz mirror. During the daytime the family visited Lac du Der to swim and keep cool.

Alfie came with his Mum, Louise and step dad Adam. He fished for roach, tench and perch on a float rod and had great fun. Adam taught him to tie rigs and to help out with the carp that were caught by Adam in swim 1. Adam landed 5 carp to 40lb.'

Sorry that most of the photos are night ones, but that was when they were caught. We are really pleased that our fish are getting bigger with the new lake record of 46lb4oz.



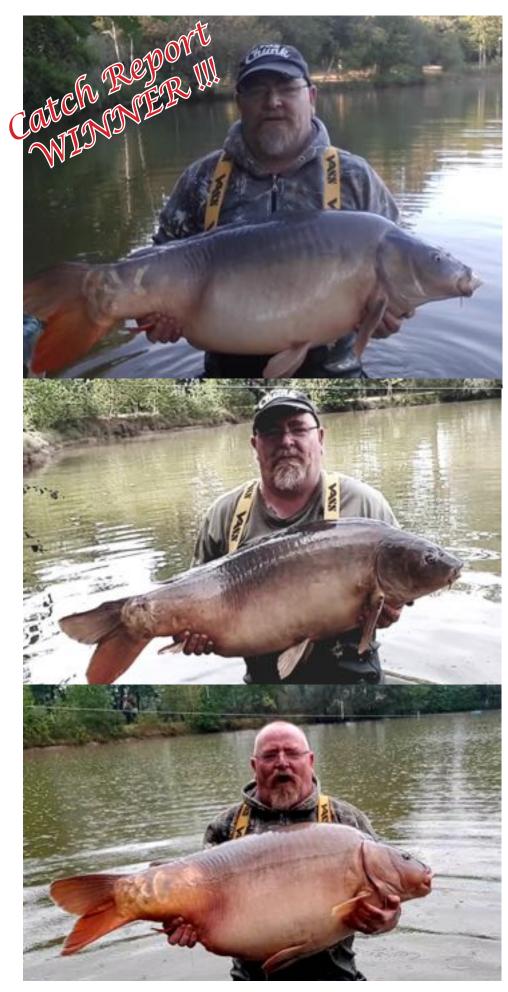
## Barringtons 210 Robbe 33lb Oct YOUR PA RING) Patrick 46lb4oz Per Your PAS

#### Barringtons



#### 212

#### Lake Chantebeouf



A fantastic result for Chris "Carpy" Dodds whilst out in France... Here is Chris "Lake Chantaboufe, France. It's been a hard week watching the carp ripping up the bottom in search for bloodworm and naturals ,so frustrating ,even placing baits on the spots just spooks them, so a move of swims down the far end of lake paid off with 2 x 41 lb carp and the joint lake record carp of 74 lb 4 oz all carp have been caught on the lake special boilies Nash, twister size 6 Nash, combi link 25 lb kd style. Nash weed clip, 3 oz lead, Nash rig tubing, 15 lb esp synchro line, Nash entity 2,75 test rods. I cast to the side of the aerator and threw a handful of boilies around the rig and sat bk after hrs. it rattled off after a 30-minute battle in the net she went 74 lb 4oz. I was a bit excited as you can imagine!! All carp have fallen to the same method."

#### Carp 19



#### Charlie55.1lbs



213



TalkingCarp

# Carp 19 214



Damien with a PB of 40lb 5 oz

TalkingCarp

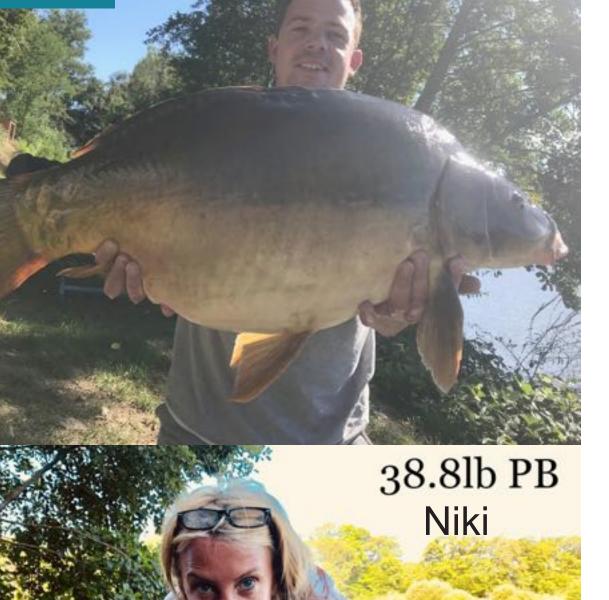


TalkingCarp.



Lee 30lb 6 oz

#### Carp 19



of th

### Carp 19



As promised in last months issue of Talking Carp where you will recall I reviewed the fantastic venue Carp19, a lake I gave the adulation of the future of carp fishing holidays. Not only did I have the pleasure of fishing for a few days, but I also manage to interview Nathan and Tammy the owners of Carp19 on the trials and tribulations of owning and running a carp lake in France.

#### So guys can you tell me why you decided to purchase a lake in France?

Ok, as we already lived and worked in France in the Limoges area and love the region of Corezze we decided that we wanted a change of direction in our lives from the hard back breaking work of renovating, building and maintaining property. I'm not getting any younger Tony and I cannot see myself working in this business up to retirement age. Whilst we were looking around, we came across a fabulous home, not to far from our existing property with a nice piece of land with of course the lake. We couldn't resist the beautiful situation and the possibilities of making a fishery. So basically decided why not, nothing ventured nothing gained. We believe fate had a lot to do with it.

#### So how long have you owned the lake for?

We have owned the lake for just over a year now.

#### So what have you had to do during this time?

Well Tony, I have had to basically start from the beginning as the lake had not been commercially fished for many years. Everything had become a bit wild and overgrown. Trees and bushes had to be cleared even before we could start the working on rebuilding the swims. Initially it was so overgrown that we could not even see the sluice gates that flow down into the neighbouring lakes. These had to be cleared and rebuilt.

#### Wow, a lot of work had to be done then?

That was just the start of it. Once we had cleared away the overgrowth we then had the bad news that we had to drain the lake and de-silt the entire lake. This was a massive blow time wise and added financial pressures. It took hundreds of tonnes of lorry loads of weed and silt that firstly had to be dug out, left to dry and then carried away in the big muck trucks. Then the authorities said we could not re-fill the lake until September as we were now approaching the dry season. We also had to ensure that the two streams that feed the lake were diverted to maintain the other lakes below.



I would imagine with everything that was going on work had to stop until the lake was full?

Far from it, with hindsight it was a good thing that the lake hand to be drained. This gave us the time to take our time putting the swims in the correct positions and time to build them professionally and to a high standard. It also had the added benefit that we had a little extra time to build the anglers cabin next to the lake and put the finishing touches to the kitchen and shower room.

# We move on a few months, swims positioned and built, anglers cabin and showers completed and the lake is filling up nicely, where do you turn your attentions to now?

Tony, this was the part that I was looking forward to most the actual stocking of the lake. Although this was still a little stressful as we had to do a lot of research , ensuring we had the right provider with a good reputation to meet our needs. After meeting several fish farmers we made a decision that we thought was right for us.

#### What are the stock levels now?

The stock levels currently sit at around 130 carp. We selected a good mix between, Mirrors, Common and a few Grass Carp. We stocked a good head of carp including a nice balance of 30's, 40's, 50's and the one everyone wants to catch is "Big Dave" now weighing in at over 60 lb.

#### On the subject of stock what are your future plans for the stocking?

Well, working closely with the authorities we are looking into the possibility of building our own stock pond, but that is still at the early stages. If the stock pond goes ahead this would be great for the future health of the lake. For now we feel we have a great head of strong healthy carp, that are feeding well and growing nicely putting on a decent amount of weight. We are going to add around 30 more carp to the existing stock but we are unsure exactly when this will be. We are hoping towards the end of the season or towards the beginning of next season. When we can be certain that the conditions are right.

## You stated that you have been working closely with the authorities, who are they and what are they like to work with?

Before we even bought the lake, we made contact the Police de L'eau (water authorities). They visited the lake to make sure all our paperwork was in order and that the lake was still meeting all of its regulations. They were very amenable and



### Carp 19

help guide us where necessary. For instance we had to make the silt trap larger. As long you are clear with them they are here to help.

It did help that we can speak French, as they did not speak English.

I mentioned in last months review that the swims are AstroTurfed, what made you do this and why?

Well I was speaking with a friend, admiring what we had achieved with the lake, asked for his opinion about his view on the comfort of the swims and he said why not Astro Turf them. So I did just that, hopefully adding a little extra luxury to the anglers carping holiday.

#### Where did the name Carp19 come from?

Where we live and where the lake is situated is in the department of Correze 19. We felt it was relevant to the location. We named the lake L'étang Cache meaning The Hidden Lake, however thought it was too long for a logo/business name. We wanted it to look more like a brand than just another lake name. We feel name Carp19 is a strong choice.

#### The swim names where did they come from?

Well the names came from the heritage of the local area. Corezze and other local villages were part of the resistance in WWII. So we thought it would be apt to name them after that fighting spirit. Just a mark of respect really. Before there was a lake it was all fields and farmland, this is the area that the paratroopers landed.

#### Tell us about Big Dave, the carp that everyone wants to catch!

He certainly is the trophy carp. A massive carp, named after the previous owner who was a towering figure of a man standing over six foot tall. So you can see where that name came from.

#### What's next for Carp19?

We are always striving to improve the lake and the anglers facilities. We have just completed the installation of the solar panels in the lakeside anglers cabin. This will now allow our clients to charge their mobile phones etc. Soon we will be starting work on a small tackle shop, just in case people need extra bits and pieces or have left something behind. In addition to this we have also nearly completed the bait storage and preparation room .





What do you want you customers to take away from your venue?

Tammy and I want it to be a holiday venue with a little extra added luxury. A holiday where people enjoy themselves, have fun, make great memories and catch some monster carp. It would be great if our clients went away feeling all of these things and talked about Carp19 as the venue they would want to come back to.

#### Nathan, how can people get in touch with you at Carp19?

Whether people want their questions answered, book a trip, check out prices and remaining dates they can find us on Facebook, Instagram or visit our website. All of the contact details are on there.

To win a fabulous weeks fishing for up to 4 people at Carp19 see their Facebook page or visit their website for full details.

Check out Carp19 for a Carp fishing holiday with added luxury

https://www.facebook.com/carp19.

http://carp19.com/



Tony Lewis





# **The Little Egret Press**

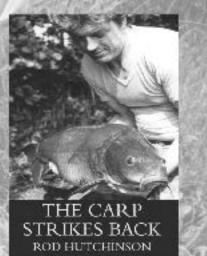
Publisher of limited edition fishing books in luxury leather bound, hardback and paperback formats. Superb quality books at great value.

### Email: booksales@l-e-p.com Phone: 07909 090 983

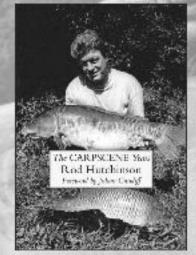


C A R P NOW AND THEN ROD HUTCHINSON

Carp Now and Then By Rod Hutchinson E29.95 Hardback Edition

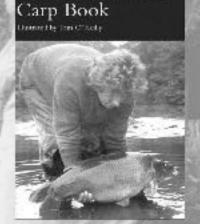


The Carp Strikes Back By Rod Hutchinson 814.95 Paperback Edition

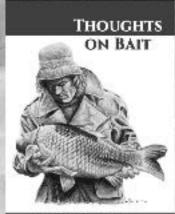


The Carpscene Years By Rod Hutchinson £24.95 Hardback Edition

Rod Hutchinson's



Rod Hutchinson's Carp Book £12.95 Paperback Edition



ROD HUTCHINSON

Thoughts On Bait By Rod Hutchinson E22.95 Hardback Edition

'The Rod Hutchinson Collection'

Available directly from the publishers at www.l-e-p.com

To see our full range please visit our website: www.l-e-p.com















#### info@crystalwatersfishery.com



Jamie Taylor-card checks in with a great haul from Crystal Waters.

Having fished the venue 2 years ago while the lake was in flood I didn't really get the see the potential Crystal waters had to offer. But I did learn a lot and I came back with a game plan! And boy did it work this time round, landing 42 carp to 63 lb.

My tactics this time was to feed little and often from start to finish!! As I fish a lot of matches i wanted to feed 5 spombs every hour or 2, or 5 each fish.

Once I'd figured out my bite times I knew when I could rest my spots but carry on the feed going in while the rods were out the water! I think this really helped.

My bait approach was to feed chopped and hole boilies. I was using a new bait I'm testing from A2baits, it was the first time it had entered any water home and abroad. Being a consultant for A2baits I was lucky to work with bait genius Craig Outram on the design of the bait and on the results I had I don't think it will need to change too much.

It took a little while for me to get the spots going both being over 100 yards plus. But I kept too my tactics of little and often, and when I got my first bite Sunday morning I never really looked back!! All my carp came to my favourite D-rig on size 2 curves from j precision hooks, there the best hooks I've ever used and only losing 5 fish out of 47 bites proved how good they are.

I was very fortunate with the stamp of fish I had 1x60 8x50's 17x40's and a few 30's and 20's. It much have been the 1 euro I paid the lake with!

The week went far better than I could have expected as I set my target of 7 for the week so to land 42 was amazing, and I'll definitely be heading back there in the future. Hopefully we can take the cameras with us next time and get another film on you tube for you all to see!

Jamie Taylor-card

# This months advertisers -

**ACA - Anglers Charity Auctions** 

**Castaway PVA** 

**Chashire Particles** 

**Carping Mad 3** 

**Elite Tackle** 

Finygo

**Galaxy Baits** 

Hazy's Tackle

**Hooked On Baits** 

**Kryston** 

**Mainline Baits** 

Pallatrax

Phat fish

RidgeMonkey

**The Little Egret Press** 

Mainline Balts continue to prove thermalives on the herdest of waters, against the hardest of fish and against other balts.

e

10

C

0

1000



Why? Arduous testing, constant development, improvement, refining and perfecting have bred balts and additives with incredible pulling power and longevity that have continued to astonish our consultants; the best rods in the business. So if you're not considering Mainline Balts this season, maybe you should see the men in white costs?



www.mainline-baits.com

1

f

0

Thankyou for reading and as always your continued support

Please send your articles and catch reports by the 28th September 2018 for next months magazine brian.dixon@talking carp.co.uk buggy@talkingcarp.co.uk talkingcarpinfo@gmail.com



# The Carp magazine for Carp anglers written by YOU !!!!!!!

"The Talking Carp Team"

Brian Dixon Mark Faulkner Mark Galli Dave Harnick Snr