

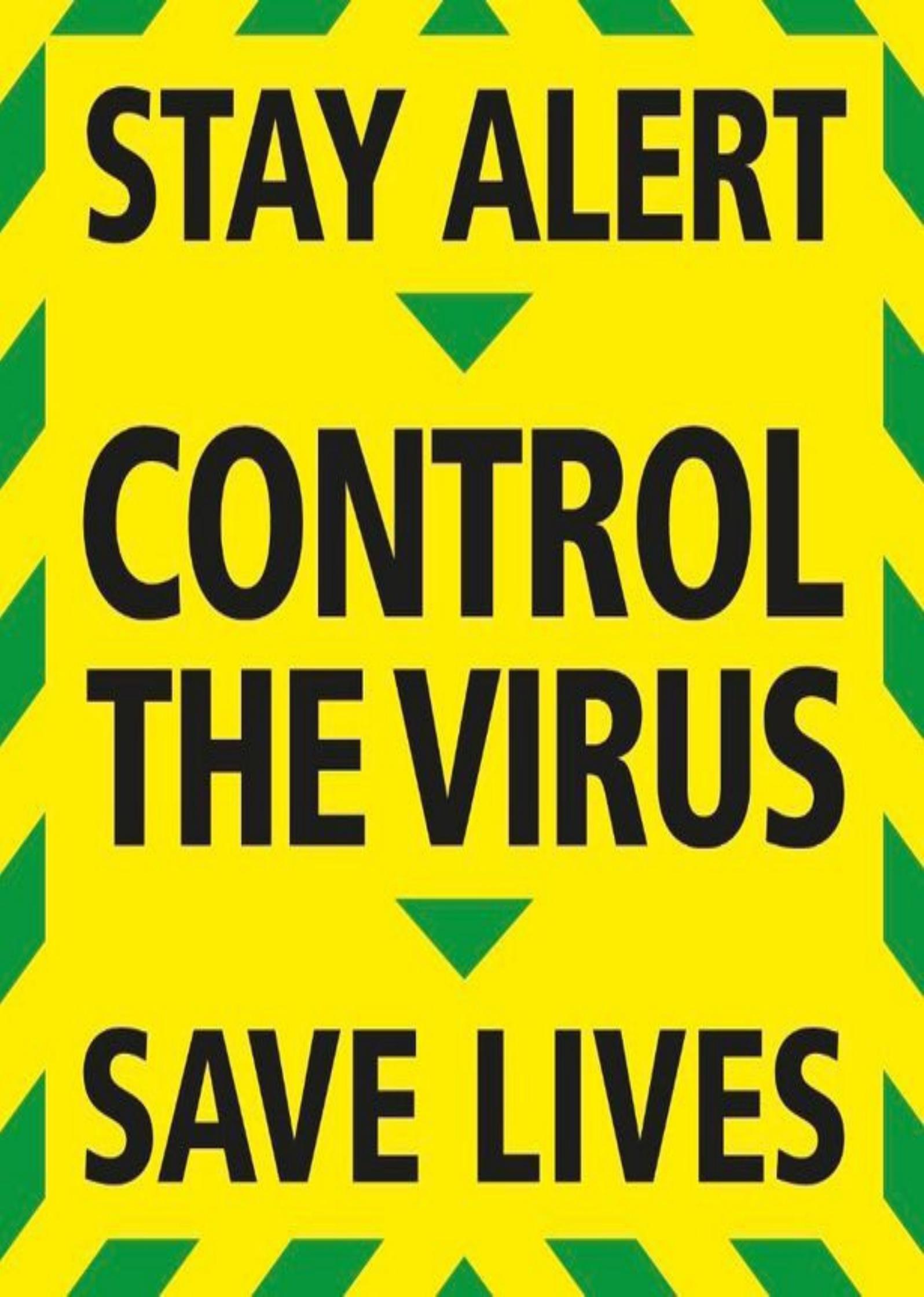


**Talking
Carp**
Magazine

Issue 54
August 2020

Inside this Month..

**Andrew Murray, Matthew Allen,
Karl Brandreth, Reviews & Catch reports**



STAY ALERT

**CONTROL
THE VIRUS**

SAVE LIVES

Hello...and welcome

And here we are, back with issue 54. Is it me or is the year suddenly slipping by quite fast? Suddenly we are in August... how did that happen?

Anyway, in this issue we bring you more great tales from the bank, as our writers recall tales of days gone by, red letter sessions and a host of hints and tips as they share the tactics that bring them success on the bank.

We have more reviews for you so you can read first-hand reports of the items we bring you every month before you go and spend your hard earned cash.

Our catch report section is bulging with YOUR catches... and there are some belters in there!!
All in all, another fantastic FREE carp magazine made by anglers, for anglers, and for your carp reading pleasure.

Enjoy!!

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plus all of your catches !!!!!!!!

THE CATCH

CARP & COARSE

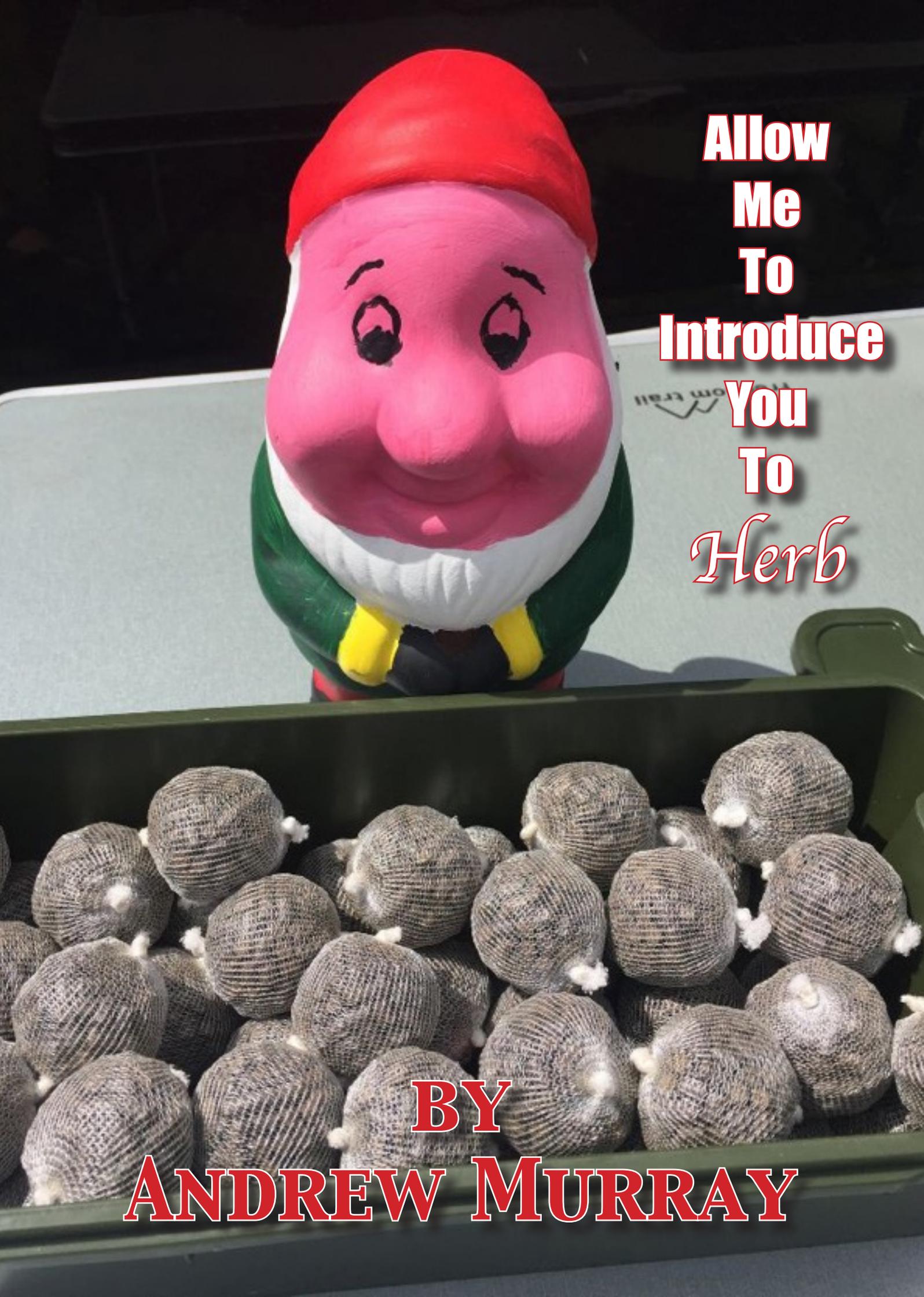


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**Allow
Me
To
Introduce
You
To
*Herb***

**BY
ANDREW MURRAY**

My other trip this month was a trip down to the Pits, my regular haunt being Pit 6. It has been busy since the lockdown ended, to my surprise it wasn't full this time, a sure sign that anglers were not catching on here, as Pit 5 was still busy. Due to the lake been so busy in the past I have been struggling to get in a swim that I fancy on most trips. I did manage to get on a swim I fancied on Pit 6 this time and in one I know quite well, so I was fairly confident of catching, then again I am always optimistic about catching when going fishing... I have attached a picture of a common that I caught on another trip from this swim, as you can see, it's a minter. Usually by this time of year the carp are in the shallower part of the lake quite a lot, so I know that I should expect a couple of chances during my session over these bars, even if they are not there in numbers.

As I have said before this pit hasn't fished well at all since it flooded earlier in the year, the water has a brown tinge to it, whereas normally it is really clear. Due to the colour in the water there seems to have a real absence of weed growth over most of the lake, and normally the carp would be mooching around the weedy areas looking for food.

The lake is definitely fishing slower than I would normally expect it to. Although it is a tough lake normally due to its size, it's not normally this hard. I was pretty confident in my approach as I had caught a few the trip



before at the Trent View trip, so armed with plenty of little bags and short rigs pre-tied, I was perhaps a bit too gung-ho. The plan was to fish Zigs if needed, little bag rigs and my old favourite, the Stiff Hinged rig with a pop-up on if needed at range, which I'll come back to. I have shown a picture of plenty of little bags pre-tied along with a pic of my new fishing buddy who is called Herb, I have been having a bit of banter with some of my other friends as to the imaginary conversations I have with him while fishing, a couple of them have even joined in and put pics of him on FB doing other things. It's nice to have a bit of banter and not take things too seriously sometimes, and Herb is becoming famous.

I was fishing a swim that was known for the features in front of it. There were three bars that run across the split bank and run most of the way down this side, one at twenty yards, one at 120 yards and the last at 140 yards. Which if the weather is not bad, are all reachable without too much trouble.

Normally one can wade onto the first bar, which makes the other bars much more easily reachable as well. Though I wasn't so sure as this year if that would be possible as the water level was still up, and there is a definite trough before that first bar. Normally it comes to just above waist level in the trough then back up to

knee level on the bar. I thought I would give it a go, The 3 pictures opposite show me going down into the trough and it was a bit hair raising as the water came up to my chest and was just an inch short of the top of my chest waders. That next step would be a leap of faith I can tell you, much to my relief it started to shallow as I then walked up the side of the bar. Once in position I used the marker rod to refresh my memory of the spots I was looking for.

When I was happy, I had found the edge of the second bar, I walked the marker rod back to the bank, then proceeded to clip my rods accordingly. I was going to fish one rod with a little bag rig to the left in



the crease at the back of the first bar at 20 yards, the carp do mooch along here. I wanted to put some bait on the second bar and fish one rod on it to start with.



The third rod was on a known spot at 90 yards, a small gravel plateau, then I will see how it goes as to whether I change things round. I have talked before about the right bait, in the right place at the right time. Even when I think I'm in the right swim, I am always concerned about fishing the correct spot within that swim, the larger the swim, the more problematic that can be. The carp can pass through without encountering your hookbaits at all. If they don't show themselves, I have to keep searching.



The first night was quiet

and very few signs of any carp in the area, what was annoying was that I was up early as normal and the other swim I had looked at the previous day, had carp showing in numbers 80 yards from that bank... marvellous! Now, should I stay or move? I have found it doesn't do to chase them on here, as I had put bait down, I decided to stay put.

As the day wore on, I started to see one or two carp in front of me at range, which started to increase

the confidence a bit, so I topped the baited swim with some more chops. Again, nothing the second night but at first light good sized carp started to show at the back of the third bar which was 140 yards plus. I wound a rod in, waded out to the first bar and gave it the big un', I was still short of where the carp were showing, so it was a bit further than I had thought, that's sometimes the problem looking out over a large expanse of water, distances can seem deceptive. I also





noticed that standing on top of the bar on the gravel, it wasn't so easy to get a firm foothold, it was a bit harder to get the grip needed with my feet for a big cast, so I was just dropping a bit short of where they were showing. Over the next few hours, I saw several big carp show at that range.

Even though I had baited the spot on the second bar regularly it remained untouched, which was annoying to say the least. I had

thought the carp might come in a bit. So, the bobbins remained motionless and I started the slow pack up, the carp were still there but seemed to have dropped even further back.

This is the problem with this big pit, there is an area out there that the carp are safe, no one can reach them. I had that brief window of opportunity and couldn't capitalise on it. Whilst I consider myself a fair caster, I think

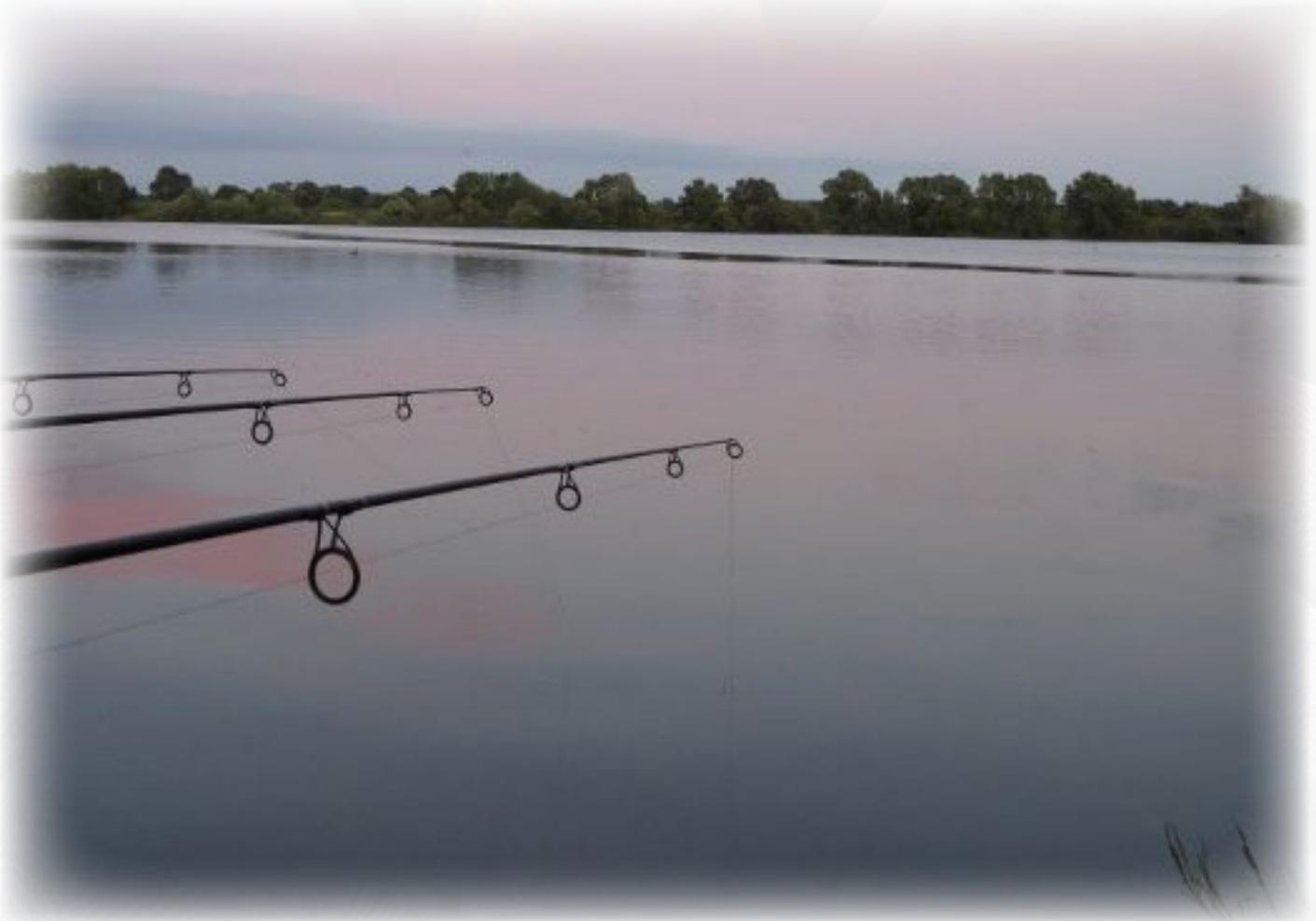
I am going to have to work on this area a bit more. Maybe a change of rods is needed to hit those spots further out, which I'm looking at, it may also be that I need a few lessons on real distance casting. I'll keep you posted.

So that's it for this month, limited fishing time due to personal circumstances, but trying to make the best of the time I have, it won't be long before I am out again. Sometimes you catch and

sometimes you don't, that's why it's called fishing, not catching. I'll just have to make sure I do better next time...given that August is one of my favourite times of year to fish as the carp are starting to feed as the daylight times reduce.

Catch you then.

Andy





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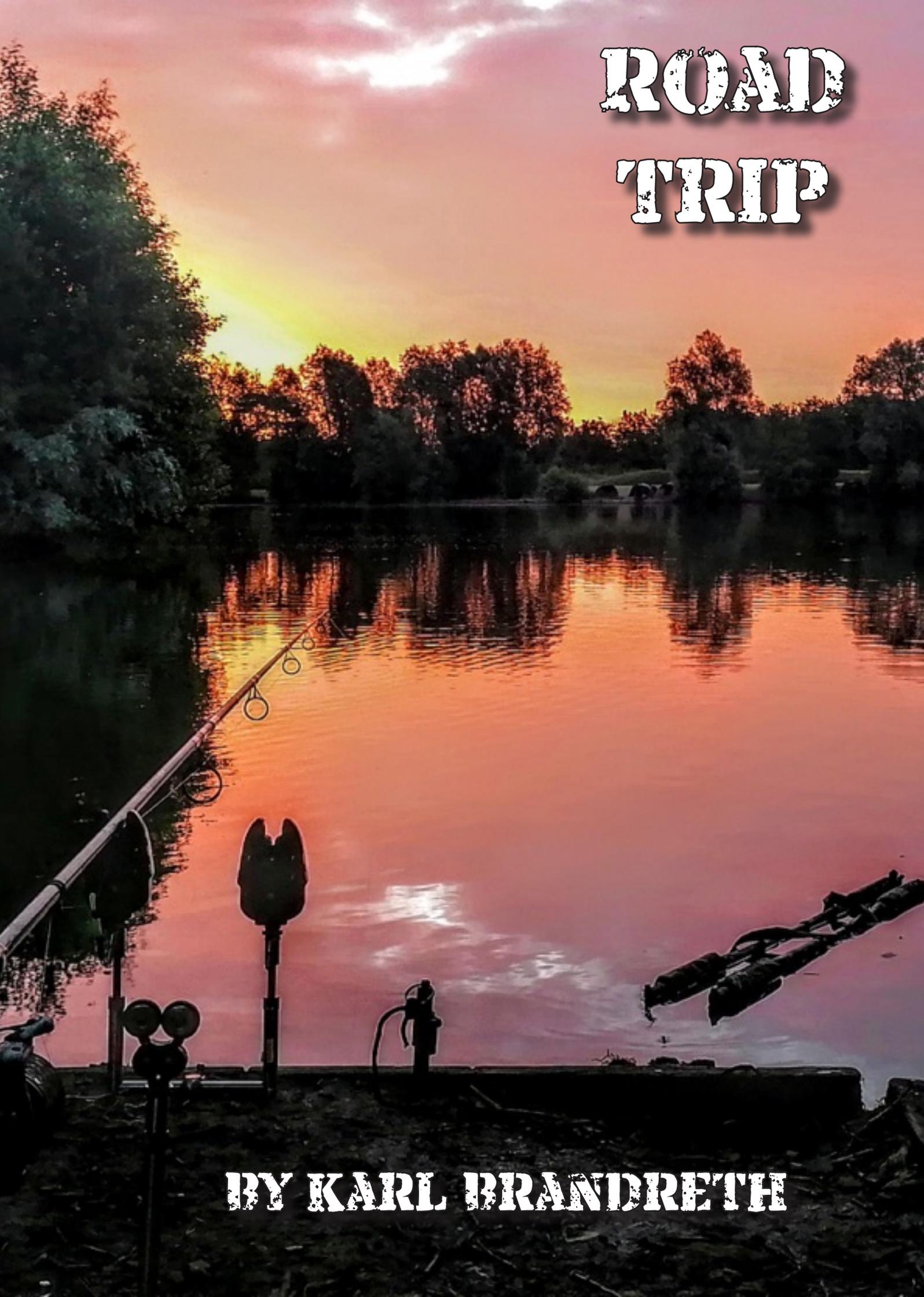
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A scenic sunset over a lake. The sky is a mix of orange, pink, and purple, with the sun low on the horizon. The water is calm, reflecting the colors of the sky. In the foreground, there is a dark silhouette of a fishing boat or dock. On the left, a fishing rod is mounted on a stand. In the center, there is a small, dark, bird-like object on a stand. On the right, there are some logs or branches floating in the water. The overall mood is peaceful and serene.

ROAD TRIP

BY KARL BRANDRETH

If you remember my last session on my local lake, I managed to catch a couple of carp when it was red hot, but a few weeks after that I was on a road trip.

But still in between sessions I was still working on the lake doing my bailiff duties and strimming banks etc, the day came to get ready to go to Thorpe lea to do some filming with Wolf int and the Wolf team. I had set off from my house at 10am on the Sunday, I arrived at Thorpe Lea gates and had to call them to open the gates, they were locked due to Covid guidelines in place, you have to book on the lake as there is limited pegs for distance reasons.

After being let in, I made my way over to the shop to see Gary the fishery owner to

sort out which pegs we are on. I had been put on peg 49 with the other guys next to me, and you have to dip your nets and unhooking mats to reduce fish infection.

I started to make my way round to my peg with a few bits of tackle and have a look at my area. There is an island to my left, and it is very weedy. I could see carp boshing out halfway between my bank and the opposite bank so that was a good sign. I went to get the rest of my gear and started to set up my bivvy and get sorted, then Gary 'milky' Lowe arrived and we chatted about where to cast to and catch up.

Once my stall was set, I got my rods wrapped at 19 and 22 wraps. I put a Retro Baits squid

and octopus bottom bait with a pink topper on a Ronnie rig and then a pink fake corn on a d-rig both with mesh pva bags of pellet i got them cast out ready for the carp to trip up.

So, the first day was warm, the lads and myself just sat chatting over brews and biscuits, really having a bit of a laugh, Nothing happened for me the first day and it was soon time to go to bed



to catch up on some sleep after a 3 hr drive in warm weather. The next morning, I was up at 4am sat watching the water with a coffee. I had no interest that first night but then Milky shouted over to me, he was fighting a carp so I went over to help him net it, then his other rod just ripped off so I grab the rod and played a carp and the cameraman had to net that one as we had no more hands left. Milky told me he was using solid bags, so I went over to my peg and re cast my rods both in solid bags same again 19 and 22 wraps. 45 mins later I was playing my first

carp... it was a lovely mid double common, then 45mins later again the same rod ripped off resulting in a mid-double mirror, and again another 45mins later another mid double mirror, then it all went quiet.

The pressure was off for me but as I found later on that day that

my peg was one of those pegs you only catch at night so my days were quiet, but then I was netting carp for Milky up to about dinner when the carp moved out of our area just out of reach. So that left us time to do the filming for Wolf throughout the daytime. It was funny trying not to laugh





out over the lake with a coffee and a sausage buttie when I received another take resulting in another mid double mirror. I had to strip some line and start again with my rod because of the weed it had really damaged my line.

I made a solid bag of pellets and slung it out back on the spot, then I was netting carp again for Milky... he managed to net two 20lbbers, so it was nice to see a few bigger fish.

That day the fish moved out of our area again and gave us time to do some more filming and photo shoots, a couple of guys came down from Wolf for a brew and meet a few of the lads, we all had a laugh together and then got

during shoots, but we got on with it. Teatime came on the 2nd day and I got my rods ready on the spots where I caught from, we settled down to have some food and watch the sun go down and carp jumping all over the lake.

That 2nd night I was fast asleep when my rod went into meltdown at 11.30pm. I was up fast grabbed my rod

and was playing a hard fighting fish, it ran me all over the area, eventually I netted a lovely ghost/common. It was really nice and in top condition, it was around 15lb but it's one of the sought after carp. I went back to sleep and was woken up with another take at 4am, it was a mirror carp at 19lb 12oz. I got some photos done and recast my rod, I sat there looking



I've got a 3hr drive ahead of me. I kind of started early but the weather had other ideas, it started raining so my bivvy was last to go down, but everything was getting soaked because it a long walk to the car, we packed up and get to the carpark, filled the car then before we left we sat and had a brew and a chinwag with the owner, we said our goodbyes and set off home.

down to some talking about Wolf products. That day I had also done a quick video about Retrobaits on what I'm catching on there and up north as I live in Manchester the lakes up here are completely different. The 3rd night kind of went the same getting woken up with 3 more takes but nothing there, I spoke to Gary the owner he said that

there's a few trailers in there towing lines etc. Wednesday morning soon came round, and it was time to start getting things ready to go home knowing

It took me a bit longer to get home due to traffic, but I made it. I had to dry everything of ready for my next session.





A week later it was another road trip.

I arrived at **RH Fisheries**, paid my day ticket and made my way around to monument 2 peg 2.

I have never fished m2 before, so I had to do some homework on that lake, the weather

was spot on overcast a bit of rain and warm. I got my gear set up and again made solid bags with Retro Baits hook baits on the d-rig inside Them. The hook baits were tangy orange wafers on both rods to start then see what happens later if people start catching, I can then find out what

there catching on. I started talking to the guy in the next peg and he was saying I was casting in the right place... 12 wraps towards the island and the other at 15-16 wraps straight out. It rained on and off all Day, perfect conditions, the guy next door had caught two that day up to 26lb.

He was catching on snowman style, so I thought I would change over to that. I then cast out a single bait and put a few spods out with the x-spod at 15 wraps. It was a squid and octopus bottom bait with a yellow topper on a d-rig I then crossed my fingers and prayed for a take.

That night I had my tea late then decided to go to bed at around 10:30pm. I checked my receiver by pulling the line going through the

alarms, I turned around walk to my bivvy door and my left hand rod melted into life. I picked up the rod and was met with a hard fighting fish, the guy next door netted it for me. I was really chuffed... my first carp out of there on my first session on there. The scales went round to 20lb 5oz, a lovely mirror. I know it's not massive but they all count.

I woke up the next day and it was completely different weather, it went really hot and sunny. I did net a 22lber for the guy next door so at least we were catching,

All day I sat in the sun watching the water, but the carp had gone... it really switched of, so I stayed till last knockings hoping for one last take but it didn't happen. Oh well

maybe next time.

So that was me on my way home and very tanned and a 20lber for my efforts, I was happy with that,

So, until next month, Tight lines everyone.

Karl



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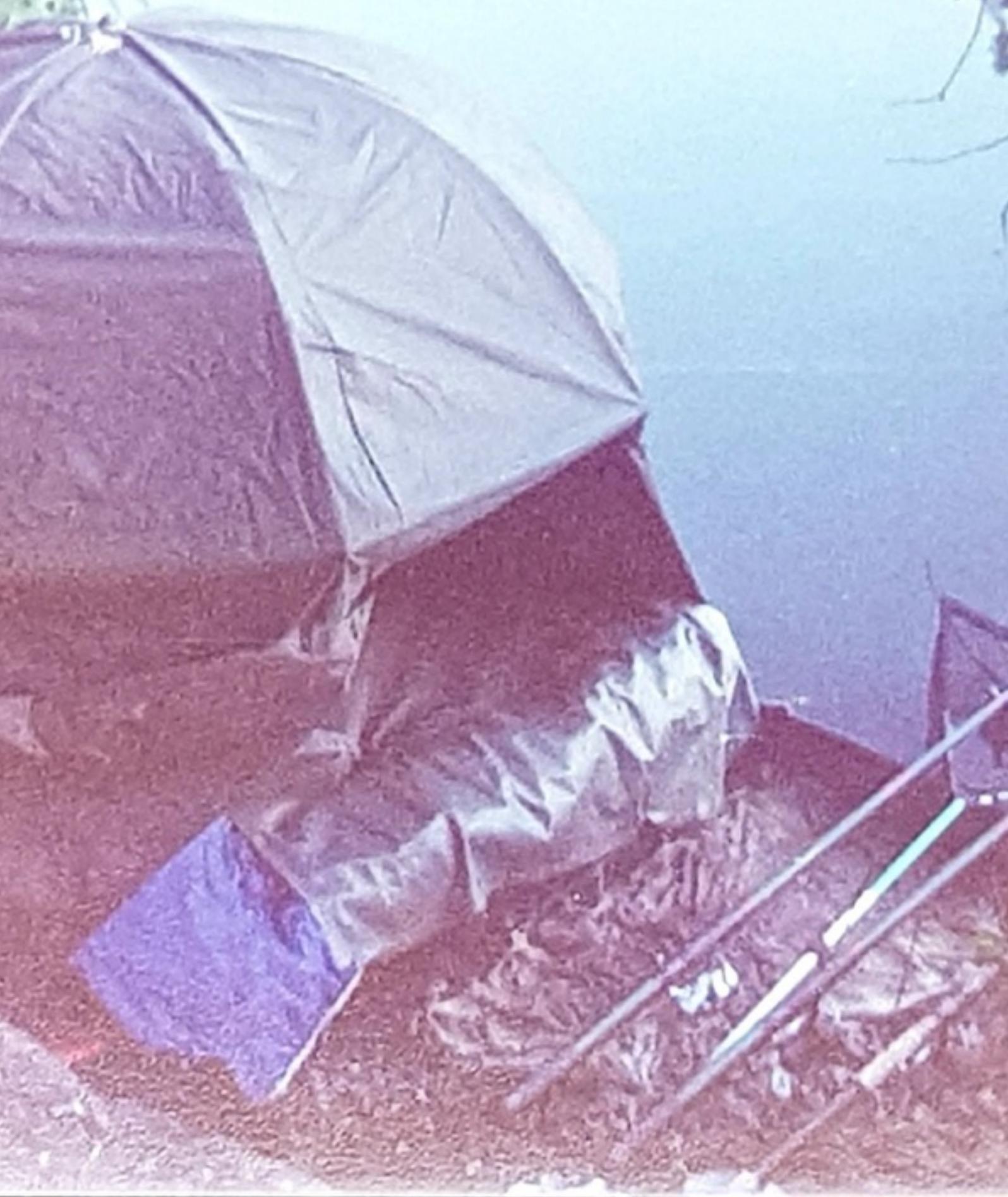


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Memories of an old fisherman
by Richard Handel



As there isn't a lot to write about at the moment and I don't feel like posting future plans (as we just don't really know when we are going to be released from lockdown at the moment).

After posting lots of photographs on Instagram and Facebook, I thought it would be nice to break them down into 10 parts and add a few words to explain my adventures over the past 39 years of fishing. In doing this, I have discovered that unfortunately, I have lost or misplaced a large proportion of my carp captures.

In The Beginning... This was my very first landed carp. I had hooked a few before but was ill-equipped to land them; between myself and the tackle!

Back then, I was happy to catch anything that came along, if memory serves me correctly, I had had a nice pike on that day as well. I had been fishing the river which was close by and riding there on my pushbike, I then progressed to doing nights on the lakes and have never stopped since 1981. Then I moved on to Weybread Middle Pit for a year or two.

Then back to Barham Pits for a year, until they, unfortunately, had a fish kill over the closed season and that

was it.

It was then I ended up on Weybread again and stuck there until I moved down south in 1996.

I did fish the odd place in between for a short period of time but it never gave me the searching for the 'unknown' feeling, I'd become accustomed to.

***Bexford Lake
Thorpeness Mere
Brightlingsea***

My old setups and how far we have moved on since the 80's.

This was in the 90's on Weybread Bottle Pit with a wave lock broly and a nash overwrap.



It also had a full-on double burner and grill, wooden bivvy table (not a modern invention!), the bedchair was one of the first comfortable adjustable Fox ones and the small screen in the middle is my TV. Even back then I would pass the time away by watching stuff and reading books.

KJB rod pod and Shimano bait runners, optonics and Fox Swingers, which had made so they would light upon a take

(again, not a modern invention). Winter fishing was fun.

Wave lock broly, Nash canvas bivvy, which was an awesome bit of kit.

If you are wondering where the rods are, they are down the bottom as per the photo above and you had to tun for your rods - well walk.

If you fished any swims along the high bank opposite (unless it was

the two with a walkway out into the lake), you bivvy up at the top and needed 20m extension leads for your sounder box.

Way back in the beginning - 1984 Weybread Pits, before I couldn't afford much, I would sleep on the floor in a sail bag and a sheet over, the plastic held down by whatever I could find I used.

Luckily no photographs of them. I never used a broly unless it rained and you had to put a bin bag over the end, to stop yourself getting wet.

You will note the non-matching rods, which was the norm for the first few years. Getting a bit more modern, matching rods, buzzer, and reels camped out for a week on Barham D pit - somethings never change.





**Nutsey
Embley
Awbridge
Broadlands
Hatchets Pond
Butlocks
Peewit
Rookesbury**

This was back in 1997 when DSLR 's where not available to me and would have clearly cost too much.

It was always excellent to take the film into Boots and wait a few days before you could look at them. Hopefully, they turned out good but not always as I was still learning, practice makes perfect and in the end, I got there.

Peewit Lake.

I fished this lake twice over the years - with a large gap in between. I've no photos of the

I even did week seasons; once I had a carp and I was Tench fishing! I've come to the conclusion that I love being outside as much as possible. And my up to date set up Aqua M3 Compact, Fox flatline Bedchair, and a 5 season sleeping bag, out in all weather over the Winter months. I must say, I have noticed that there are less times

where the lakes freeze up. We have certainly moved on and for the better, I personally feel. Then I moved down to the Southampton area and first started on Nutsey lake and then moved on to lots of other over the coming years.

These are a few carp captures from the first lake I fished when I moved down South.

Memories of an old fisherman



first time around, but the lake was absolutely stunning. It still was when I arrived back the second time - until the big cut back, which was quite dramatic and put a lot of anglers off.

But not me!

This was quite fortunate as the carp didn't know any different, it was great fishing there. You could walk around, place your bait on the perfect spot and walk back to your rods.

The vegetation started to grow back, and the anglers returned. I moved on to Kingham

next door. Unfortunately, it got a bit silly with one angler arrive early and stick their bucket and chairs in swim to reserve swims for his mate's, who would arrive 3 or 4 hrs later.

This was the time that I headed off to fish a lovely syndicate on the Hampshire Avon for 6 years, where I hardly ever came across another angler.

The Ressay.

I first joined here about 1999 and stayed a member until last year. I only ever fished it properly over a winter in between the interim syndicate

starting and the full-on syndicate where I'm currently a member of. I only ever fished there as a place to get away from the crowds.

It was situated up a 1/2 mile path through a wood, which could get very muddy, this put anglers off. It was very easy in the beginning but unfortunately, it had a fish kill and the restocked carp behaved completely differently.

It was full of lilly pads and a large reed bed at one end with a dam wall and was just so



Richard Handel

peaceful and tranquil fishing there.

Petersfield Heath Lake.

This lake is situated on the edge of the town and is also a boating lake. It's 4 ft deep most of the way out, in the middle on the depths of winter and as the levels drop, you have to stick your rod tips down and into the slit to completely avoid the boats and the swimmers, ducks, etc picking up your line as they go by. Unfortunately, I don't have a single photograph of any carp that I had, I've lost

them.

When I fished here, there was a good head of carp to the upper 30's and plenty of bream to keep occupied. You could sit on the park benches and watch the world go by, get yourself an ice cream from the shop. Unfortunately, there was a fish kill some years ago, but I believe it's getting back to its former glory.



and separates a golf course from the seashore.

At night you can fall asleep listening to the waves crashing on the shore. It became very hard going each Summer, the water level drops, and numerous bars start to pop out the water. Range fishing becomes impossible. The Winter's where rock hard, so this only left you a small opportunity



Sinah Warren.

This lake is situated by the seaside

Memories of an old fisherman

to bag yourself a lump. It was open over the old closed season which drew anglers to the lake. It became extremely busy in this period, but I enjoyed my time a lot.

Westhampnet Lake.

I had to wait a fair few years to get on this syndicate, the wait was good for me as I was fishing another lake whilst waiting.

However, the years waiting was not good for the old syndicate as it was closed down when RMC took the lake back.

It was a odd lake to fish, it's situated next to the A27. It has a long supporting wall, which had a few swims that were just about big enough for a broly and your rods In the last few years I've been on a wonderful syndicate been Ringwood, with only 100 members

and 3 carp lakes and 8 miles of the Hampshire Avon to fish.

So I thought I would nice to share some pictures of a few lumps I've caught over the past 5 years on these waters, and there are a



Richard Handel

few repeats captures. I don't worry about these, these days, as I just love being on the bank and catching carp regardless.

I've gone back to the reason why I started fishing, just to catch, have fun and be on the bank in the fresh air, which is very potent at the moment. At the back end of 2019, I started to fish the original club I joined back in 1997 and one of their lakes is about 10 mins away from my house and it's brilliant fun over the Winter months. I'm looking forward to going after some carp with a float rod and a worm, just dropping off the pads. I feel I've come full circle now and am a lot happier in my fishing. There was a period of time where I only fished a section of the River Avon on a private syndicate for 7 years.

This was because anglers were just not thoughtful towards each other anymore, but I can safely say that I was very lucky in finding my current water and will be there for as long as possible

Until Next Time

Richard

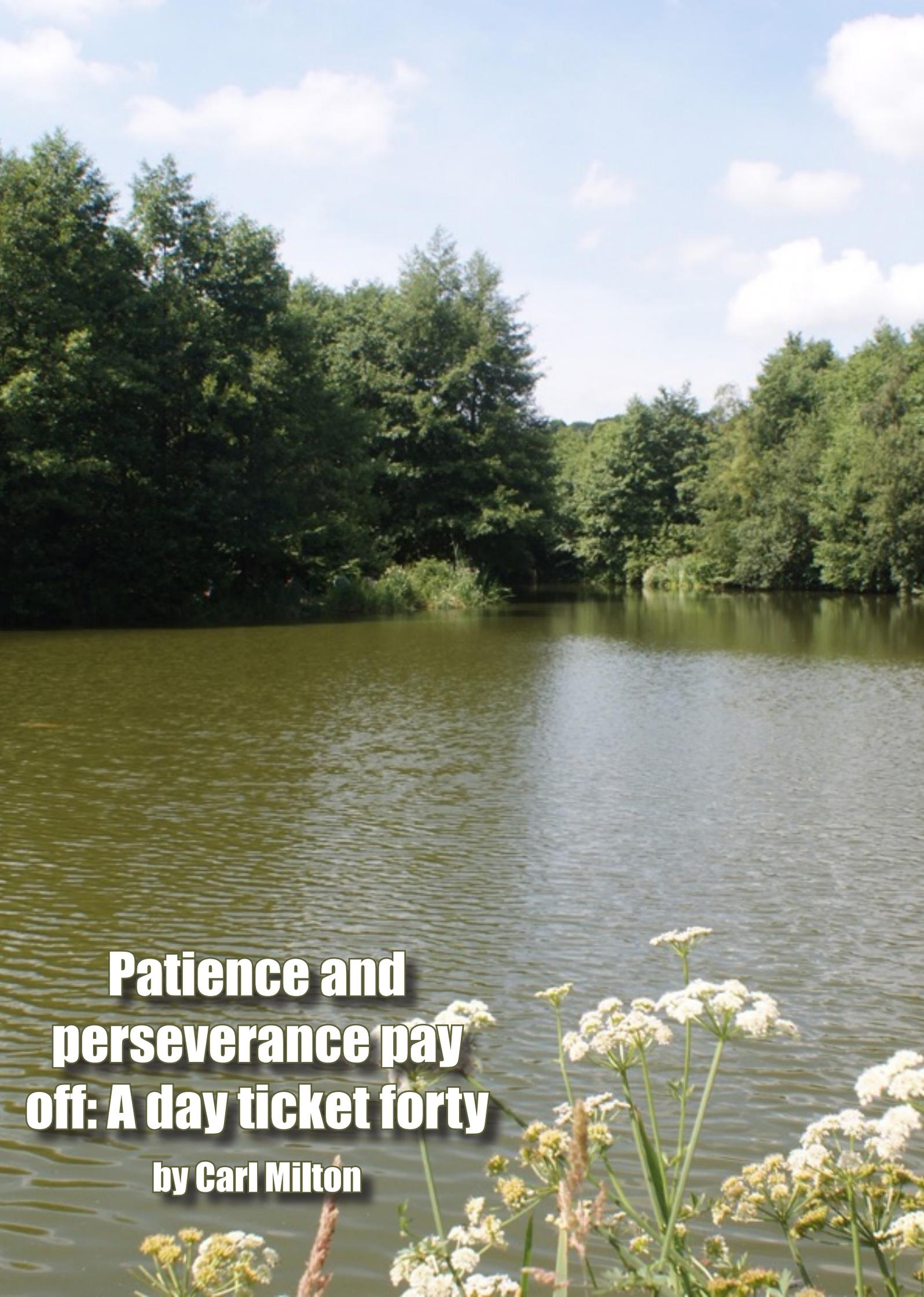


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**Patience and
perseverance pay
off: A day ticket forty**

by Carl Milton

I like to set myself targets in my angling. So, a few years ago I decided in my infinite wisdom to set myself the target of catching a day ticket forty pounder.

The first part of the task was to find a water that contained such a fish. I selected a water that was local to me with good head of known forties, to give myself a chance of achieving my goal. With the water being local, this also meant I could keep in fairly regular touch with the place and get some bait going in. Despite all this the water was known to be on the tricky side at the best of times, so I knew it wasn't going to be easy. Nevertheless, I like a challenge.

I started my campaign in October as I had managed to bag my target fish from my previous venue. In hindsight October may not have been the best time to start a campaign and learn about a new lake with the impending winter. Especially given the fact this water was a difficult one, and being a day ticket venue even in winter it sees a fair

bit of angling pressure. Given all this and also my work and family commitments I didn't really get to grips with the water until the spring. I started to get amongst the fish once the spring came round, albeit the smaller ones. A run of small fish was encouraging in some respects as at least I knew my rigs, baits and location were relatively effective. However, the bigger fish continued to elude me. It became clear that a change of approach was needed to target the bigger fish. I went back to the drawing board. I had now learnt a little about the lake and its resident's habits. I decided to target the areas of the lake, feeding times, as well as climatic conditions associated with the bigger fish. This meant my catch rate went down.





I consoled myself with the fact I hadn't gone on to the lake to catch the smaller ones, although I must say there are some stunning smaller fish coming through the ranks.

That year I knew my fishing efforts on the lake would be curtailed in June for a while as a result of the impending birth of my first child. In my penultimate session in June that year my plan came together, well almost. I was fishing one of the known big fish areas and hooked and lost one of the lakes monsters. To say I was gutted was a massive understatement after all the work I had put in, and I knew it was likely to be my last chance for a while. It took me several weeks to get the loss out of my head. I went over

the moment in my head many times. But I'm a glass half full kind of bloke and on reflection realised hooking one of the biggies meant I was on the right track. I recognised that my new approach to focus on the bigger fish was working.

The following spring arrived and with my new baby daughter settled into a routine, it was time to get the rods out again and put my plan into action again. It had been a cold winter and early spring, so the lake was slower than usual to wake up. My first few sessions were not hugely productive. I only had a couple of smaller fish to show for my efforts, but I kept plodding away.

Then in April I booked a Monday off from work and planned a 2 night session to include the Saturday and Sunday nights. As luck would have it, I managed to get away from work on the Friday a sensible time and cleared it with my wife to fish the Friday night also. Most of my fishing is quick overnights, so 3 nights was a big luxury. However, I don't

normally fish Friday nights and hadn't anticipated it being as busy as it was. So, on arrival at the lake all the known big fish spots I had been trickling bait into and targeting were gone. I dropped into the only available swim. As always, I always try to get the rods out first. As after all we are there to catch fish and hopefully not to just camp. However, on this occasion it may not have been the greatest decision I had ever made! In my excitement to get to the lake and get the rods out, I had not fully taken heed of the gathering rain clouds. The heavens opened before I had put my shelter up and I got drenched. To compound the situation, it was getting dark at this stage. So, I struggled to put my shelter up in the rain and darkness. Once I had got all my soggy gear finally sorted, I realised I was shattered. That week at work had been especially busy. So, it was no surprise that I was soon sound asleep. At midnight I was woken by a screaming run. After a solid fight I was rewarded with a pretty small mirror. The next morning,

I pulled my rods in and went for a walk around the lake. I discovered one of the known big fish swims was becoming free at lunch time. So, I considered a move. I went back to my swim and had a think. Although I had bagged a fish from the initial swim, I remembered back to the promise I had made myself to try to target the known big fish areas. Also, the conditions were ideal for the swim that was being vacated. My mind was made up to move. So, I gradually pack my gear onto the barrow and sat in my swim and waited patiently. I'm not one for setting up behind someone and breathing down their





the swim a rest from my lines for some of the day as some friends came that day to help the owner with some work around the site. After catching up with them for a chat and a cuppa I returned to my swim. I got the rods back out by mid- afternoon.

necks while they pack up. I always try to treat others as I would like to be treated. Just before lunchtime the chap in the swim I fancied had a take and managed to land one of the lakes 'A' team forty pounders. He called me round to take the photos. The fish was immaculate and looked enormous. The omens and conditions looked good for another of the 'A' team to show up fairly soon.

By lunchtime I saw the chap leaving and so wheeled my gear round, cursing myself at the same time for bringing so much gear. I got settled into the new swim and managed to bag another stunning small fish. The Sunday arrived which was the last leg of my session. I gave

Having been quite confident of a biggie at the start of the session, I began to wonder at this stage if it would happen. At around 6 pm I was sat having yet another cuppa with the owner in my swim, when my right hand alarm signalled a steady run. I gently bent into the fish and met was steady resistance.

Every fish hooked from this venue makes you think could this be the one. I quickly pushed the thought from my mind and focused on playing the fish. I noticed the owner had retreated to another swim. The fight lasted thirty minutes. I did not see the fish at all until it was ready for netting. I managed to net it first time. . It's a cliché but I went to lift the net out of the water but

physically couldn't do it. I gathered my strength and tried again and was greeted by a monster. I had finally done it! At this point the owner and a couple of the other anglers had arrived in my swim to help with the photos and weighing. The fish was one of the known forties and swung the scales round to 48lb 8oz. A new personal best to boot at the time. I returned the fish safely and savoured the moment. On reflection the fight had been slow and steady with the fish staying deep, this was very much like the fish I had lost the year before. The owner said to me that he had left my swim as he had realised as an accomplished and experienced angler himself that I was attached to a big fish. He said he didn't want to be breathing down my neck while playing the fish.

He knew I had lost a big fish the previous year and how gutted I had been.

I had achieved my goal. I'm a great believer in life if you work hard and stick at a task normally you get your rewards eventually.

My life motto is effort equals rewards. There is a lot to be said in life and fishing for patience and perseverance. There was a lot of graft that went into this capture, but that made it all the more rewarding. I learnt to truly target the biggest fish a particular mindset is needed, and this stood me a great stead for the future.

All the best until next time

Carl



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In search of the Monster...



Part 3 -
Mission Accomplished!

by Andrew Taylor

Right just a little refresher, the last time I landed this Monster was in March 2017, and at the time it weighed 77lb 8oz.

Ever since then I wanted it at a heavier weight, but it's been avoiding me ever since.

In the last 3 years, I've hooked into it twice and lost it twice, once after playing it for nearly 30 minutes... which I was absolutely devastated about. I won't go into much detail as you can check out all my previous articles 'In search of the Monster' Part 1 in issue 26 and Part 2 in issue 30 in previous Talking Carp Magazine editions.

It's been a lot harder fishing at Mineral Lakes over the last couple of years due to the fact the owner has stopped anyone from fishing through the night.

This is down to the safety and protection and the sheer size of the

fish that reside in Mineral Lakes, and basically people not wanting to listen and follow the rules to be brutally honest, which isn't hard to follow as it's just to get in the water with every Sturgeon... to me I don't understand what the problem is as it's so much easier to unhook and check them over. But as always there are some people not wanting to follow rules and wreck it for others, but moving on from that.

So now you can fish from 7am until around 9pm depending on the time of year, you can then either leave after a day session or stop the night so you're ready to go again the next morning. At least you can get your head down without worrying that your rods are going to rip off.



So, with that being said I decided that after Part 2 of my article I would only do one more article and that would be 'In search of the Monster' Part 3 - Mission Accomplished! That would be the ending of this amazing journey for me, so I saw out the remaining part of 2018 and went into 2019 with a few new goals and to have sort of a break from fully concentrating on catching the lake 'Monster'. This was because to be honest it started to stress me out big time, I was asking myself things like...

'Was I doing something wrong?'

'Was I over thinking it?'

I basically just needed a break from Mineral Lakes.

So I had a few weeks off from fishing over the Christmas period of 2018 and I wrote a list of venues that I wanted to fish into 2019 that I hadn't got round to fish before and I said to myself, 'I don't want a blank at any of these venues I'd not been before if I can help it'... So,

I started ticking them off one by one, week in, week out... to name a few there was Townsend Fishery, Angel's Lake, Hollyhurst Lakes, Home Farm Fishery, Lavender Hall, to walking for miles along the canal after Pike and Zander... I started falling in love with fishing again... I'd gone from being stressed out at trying to target one fish to just going out and just loving it with a different challenge at every different venue. Coming towards the end of 2019 I started thinking about Mineral Lakes... so I decided to have a 2 day session...

I landed a few smaller Sturgeon up to 37lb and a couple of nice carp up to low 20's. Then I banked one of the larger residents as the last fish





of the session... this went 76lb on the nose... happy days.

Upon returning home I instantly wanted to go back to Mineral Lakes, I'd missed it a lot... but realised I needed that break to rethink and recharge my batteries.

Throughout 2019 I had heard off a few friends that had been to Mineral Lakes and some had landed the 'Monster' and I had heard rumours that it had come out at various weights throughout the year... 96lb at the start of 2019 going to 115lb towards the close of 2019... Wow! It had gained a lot of weight in quite a short amount of time...

Welcome 2020... My plan was to smash Mineral Lakes and land the

'Monster' that had dodged me for way too long! So, when it came to Mineral Lakes opening up it was around March time and we all know what happened don't we, Coronavirus... Lockdown... Great! I won't go into that as I think we all lost a lot of friends and family and I'll just say God Bless to you all and stay safe.

So now skip forward, I think it was Wednesday 13th May, fishing is allowed! Happy days... but not too happy as Mineral Lakes decide to stay shut until 1st June...

I eventually managed to get on there for my 1st session of the year on 4th June for 2 days, I landed 2 Sturgeon going 32lb and 41lb. I returned 1st July for another 2 day

session and landed a new personal best of 80lb on the nose! I was overjoyed with breaking my personal best and this session I also landed a 25lb Catfish and 2 mid double Carp, amazing session, but the Monster of the lake was still avoiding me...

So, I planned another session for a week later on the 7th July for 2 days...

Upon returning home... I tied new rigs... I prepared my bait, which I don't usually do until I'm there on the bank... I had a 10ltr bucket full of Luncheon Meat, 6kgs to be exact

on weight! Anyone that knows me personally know I never heavy bait in anywhere I fish, for any species, I fish for a bite... but I decided I'm going to feed one spot constantly and keep my bait on that same spot throughout.

You see what I've noticed over the years is it's not as if you've got to find the Sturgeon, you have to attract the Sturgeon, so I thought bait constantly going into my spot, with the right flavours it's only a matter of time before it comes past and rips my rod of the pod!

The night before I was due to come,





just before my children went to bed, my son came up to me and said, "Dad, you know when your fishing tomorrow, you are going to catch the big one because you've been after it for so long so I think you're going to get it... and you're going to catch the one you had last week again too... and loads of others..." I laughed as he was so excited telling me his thoughts and I replied, 'I hope so son'... and gave him a massive hug!

So, I set my alarm for 5am... and decided to get to bed around midnight... yeah right, I saw 1am... 2am... 3am... I just couldn't get to sleep... I was like a kid at Christmas. I was just so excited, but before I knew it, it was 5am! I got

up, got washed and dressed, filled up my water canister and got my food out of the fridge... loaded them into the car and away I went.

I arrived at Mineral Lakes at around 6:30am... and for the first time ever I wasn't first at the gate ready for it opening at 7am.

The person who was first at the gate I recognised from fishing there before, so we were having a chat etc and I asked him where he was thinking of fishing and he told me where he was going which was the opposite side of the lake to where I had planned which I was chuffed about as I had planned where I wanted to fish before I got there... this is something I only do when

targeting Sturgeon as I do believe, you don't have to find Sturgeon like you do Carp... I honestly believe you can attract a weary Sturgeon to come on to your swim if you follow the 4 rights... as my good friend Mr Stretton Honor follows... you have to have the 'right presentation', using the 'right bait' in the 'right place' at the 'right time'!

Talking of Stretton Honor, he decided to turn up just on time... he must of had a lie in. We went around to our pegs at 7am and proceeded to set up camp for our 2 days of fishing.

Once set up it was around 8:15am and I put my first rod out... a piece of Luncheon Meat soaked in Red Lobster Profile Plus from Mainline Baits, this was presented on a Size 2 RM-Tec Straight Point Hook, tied on to a 6 inch piece of 25lb RM-Tec Soft Coated Camo Hooklink, also using 18lb RM-Tec Mono throughout.

Hhhmmmm... 3 minutes... maybe 4 minutes tops... and a complete one toner on my Nash R3 Alarm... I was into my first fish and I instantly knew... it was a Sturgeon... it then broke the surface... and it was a white one... which means it one of

the big ones... happy days!

After about a 10/15 minute fight I had a gorgeous White Sturgeon in my XXL Nash Air Cradle... after checking it over and getting a weight I realised it was the same one from the week previous which was my new personal best at 80lb, what a great recapture and what a start.

So I rebaited my rig and back on the same spot it went... hopefully I can get my other rod out now... Oh how wrong was my thinking... as I slid a Cell Wafer onto my baiting needle... the sound of a one toner echoed around the lake! I was into another Sturgeon... this instantly felt more powerful than my last one... and withinseconds this huge White Sturgeon flew out of the water and flipped and twisted in mid-air... holy hell... I knew which one it was!!! It was the monster of the lake!!! I knew this as this one had a habit of jumping and jumping until it spat the hook out... I wasn't letting this Monster do me again! I kept my line as taught as possible, but it could still take line if it needed with ease... my legs where turning to jelly... I was getting flash backs of losing it from when I lost it before after a

half hour battle... it just kept going and going, it seemed ages before it started to tire... I would say around 20 minutes or so... it then started to feel like I was just dragging a dead weight from the lake... then it would go on a sudden burst... then I managed to bring it up to where it rolled and I was able to drag it over the surface into the arms of Mr Stretton Honor and into the floating cradle..

After 3 long years... I'd done it!

I had finally landed the Monster of the lake, 'In search of the Monster' can be completed! Wow... I just

stared at this amazing creature for a few seconds just to take it all in... I'd done it... I'd really done it! Get in! I slid my arms underneath it and lifted this Monster up and smiled for some snaps... I didn't want to let it go... I'd been after it for so long and it somehow escaped me twice and evaded me every other time... I was completely made up! I had to just sit there and make myself a cup of tea... I was ecstatic, it was amazing... a huge weight had been lifted off my shoulders...

After my cup of tea and a chat with my mate Stretton I reset my rod and finally cast out my other rod which was loaded with a Mainline Cell Wafter, and this was placed over a



bed of scattered Cell boilies, and presented on a D-Rig consisting of a 6 inch piece of 25lb RM-Tec Soft Coated Camo Hooklink with a Size 6 Curve Shank Hook.

The rest of my session is described best by how Stretton described it, I had a red letter session! I couldn't of dreamt of a better session and I will probably never have a session like it again!

Throughout the 2 days I landed the following, I had 7 Carp with the biggest Mirror going 20lb 7oz and the biggest Common going 16lb 2oz, I had a gorgeous surprise in the shape of a Catfish which was just shy of breaking my personal best, this went to 38lb 7oz, and I landed 5 Sturgeon, I had a Siberian Sturgeon at 37lb and 3 White Sturgeon which where all 80lb+ and as you know to top it off I finally landed the biggest fish in the lake... this absolute beauty spun my scales around and gave me a new personal

best of 130lb! That's right 130lb, I couldn't believe it myself... Wow!

To top the session off, my good friend Stretton Honor landed his new personal best White Sturgeon at a whopping 95lb, I was just as happy for him as he was as he'd worked his socks off the whole 2 days we fished, he done everything right to hit into one, but unfortunately for most of the session they just wasn't playing ball in his swim. But well done my friend for persevering and having your new personal best... oh yes and for being the best camera man around, I will look forward to many more fishing adventures with you mate.



I would like to thank the follow companies for the continued support you give me on my fishing adventures, it's an honour and privilege to represent you.

Mainline Baits

www.mainline-baits.com

RidgeMonkey

www.ridgemonkey.co.uk

Harrings' Bio-Weights

www.harrings-bio-weights.co.uk

Thank you for following me on this incredible journey... 'In search of the Monster', it took longer than planned, but now I can officially say, Mission Accomplished!

I will now continue with new targets and goals on my fishing adventures, so keep following me over on my personal fishing page and on my YouTube Channel, I will leave the links below...

Tight lines everyone, be safe, be on the bank!

Andrew Taylor

www.facebook.com/fishingadventureswithandrewtaylor

www.youtube.com/channel/UCsxnILrDcLZmFmgWpQj_wdw



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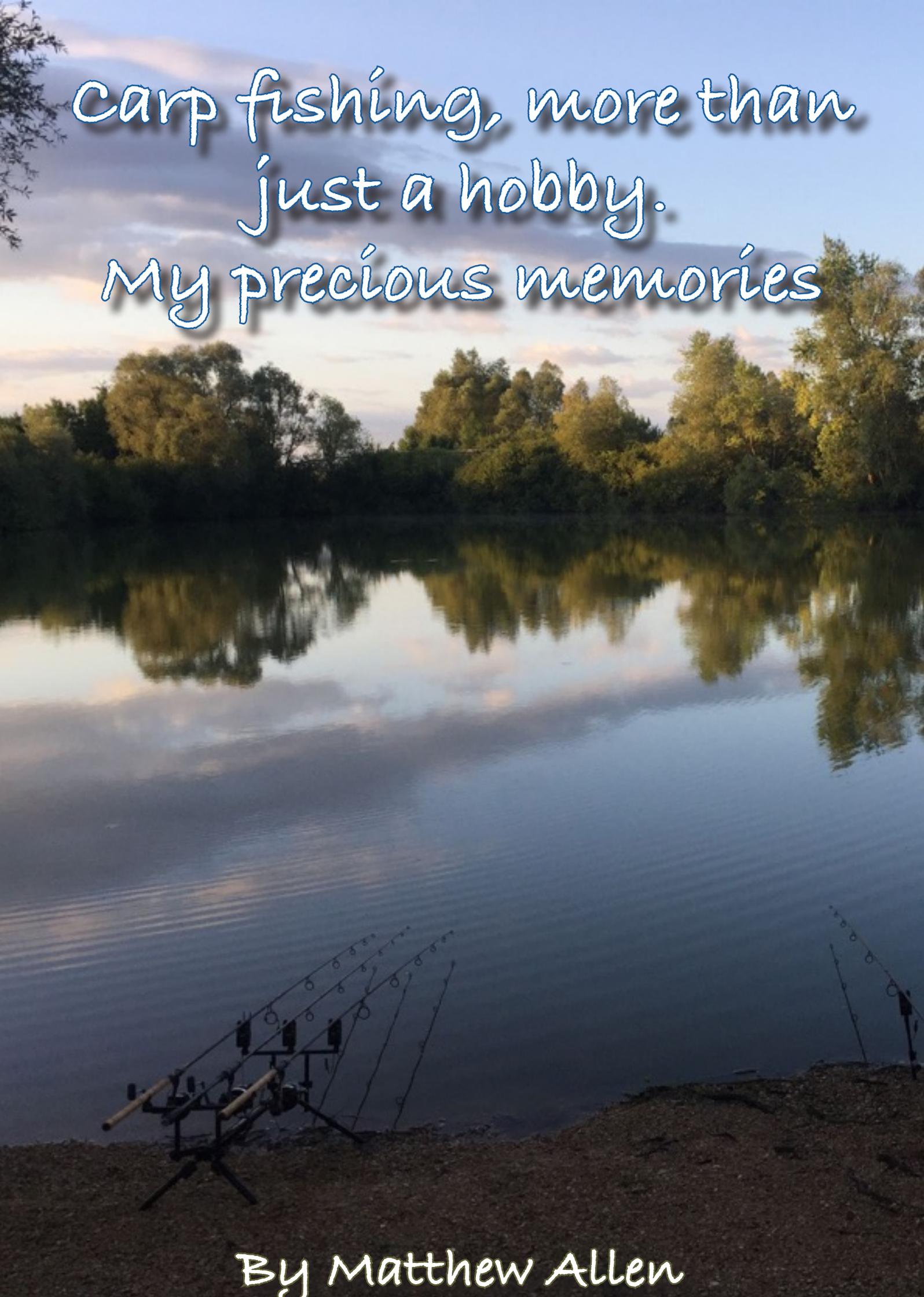
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A serene landscape of a river or lake at dusk. The water is calm, reflecting the sky and the surrounding trees. In the foreground, several fishing rods are set up on the bank, ready for use. The sky is a mix of blue and orange, suggesting the time is either early morning or late evening. The overall mood is peaceful and nostalgic.

carp fishing, more than
just a hobby.
My precious memories

By Matthew Allen

I would like to start by thanking you all for your lovely comments and feedback regarding my last article. It is very humbling to know that carp anglers of all ages and levels find your mutterings to be enjoyable and inspirational. Your feedback has galvanized me into thinking about another article and what your about to read is my next attempt.

This article is dedicated to Ian Jackson and Martin Hogsden. As you read on you will understand why but as I write this paragraph, I feel myself welling up, in a good way from the memories triggered.

The premise of this article is another attempt by me to share my thoughts and memories that for me demonstrate why carp fishing is more than just a hobby, carp fishing is about coming together with friends, family and making memories or remembering friends and loved ones dearly departed.

I have a few stories I want to share so I best get to the point or the Talking Carp guys will accuse me of hogging the magazine.

FRIDAY NIGHT MADNESS IN FRANCE

All carp anglers have either been to France or dream of going to France. In late September 2005 my friends Zac, Kevin and I had a trip, and it was one to remember!

Zac, Kevin and my other friend Ben had visited this French lake the year before and I was mega excited as they had had a week to remember. I came out first in the draw and selected a swim that gave me a lot of water to play with. I had been in carp fishing hell recently, not fishing much and when I did, I was blanking! My confidence was so shot to pieces that Kevin was enlisted to help me tie some rigs pre trip as I just

Anyway, to set up the story for the magical moment, I was having a blinder. I'd had loads of carp so far, including 2 x 40 lb commons. Common pb... tick. Zac, too was having an amazing session and catching a lot but no sizes. Kev was having a stinker. He had lost 2 carp, a massive albino catfish that he desired to catch so badly and had banked 1 small 20lb. He was to say the least not enjoying his trip and he had worked his soles of his trainers off. Leading, stalking, baiting, rigs, etc. I felt awful as my awesome session was down to Kev. He had fished my swim the year before and emptied the lake. He had had a roller coaster of emotions, but we were entering into Friday night. Kev hoping for another carp, Zac for the lump and me hoping both the boys got their wishes as my trip was done, I was happy with my catch report.

The evening traps were set, a bit of packing and tidying had reluctantly been carried out, dinner eaten, and we were having a few beers and a boy's chat. Perfect. Just as it was getting dark, one of my rods ripped off with a one toner and I was away again. A long battle later and I had in my net a low 40lb mirror, a new pb mirror carp. What a trip, I was buzzing, walking on air, but Zac and Kev needed to have a memorable trip too.



Photos done, fish returned, rod re positioned, we were back having a beer. Minutes later, Zac's Delkins roared into life and he bent into a fish. He started playing the carp and was very quiet. 'how does it feel Zac'? No response. Kev and I shared a look as to say, this sounds promising. Kev's receiver then pounded into life, he looked at me in disbelief and I shouted at him 'its not mine mate' to which he turned on his heels and bolted the short distance into the darkness. 'Zac you want me to stay and help you?' I knew he had something special on. **NO MATE**, help Kev, so off I bolted to help Kev. 'How it feeling Kev?' No response. Within seconds I heard another alarm, I joked with Kev, that looks like Zac is getting beaten up, to which my childish comment was over shadowed with a shout from the darkness, MATT!!!!. Kev told me that I should go make sure Zac is ok, i then ran up the bank back to Zac's swim to find his other rod locked up tight. 'You crossed your lines mate?' 'No mate I'm know where near it!' I struck into Zac's rod and was met instantly with a slow-moving chunk. 'Zac you want to take this mate, feels like a good fish.' 'No, you're ok mate' was the blunt response. What did Zac know that I didn't, because I am attached to a great feeling fish. Then under the moon light and clear starry night, Zac and I Criss crossed, twisted between each other and folded around each other, not touching lines or crossing once, an amazing achievement. I put the net under the carp I was playing, then with my spare hand grabbed Zac's second net. Shortly later I was following an absolute unit around under the mixture of moon light and head torch light. Suddenly a massive carp laid up on the surface and I slipped the net under it. What a double run! Just as Zac and I were trying to decide what to do next as we were pumped with adrenaline waist deep in water, we heard a massive loud penetrating scream. 'S*%t, hope Kev is ok, please no, not another lost fish' Please let him not have lost another carp, we

got to share a van with him in the morning. With that Zac said to me, to go see if Kev is ok as he was stood in the water with the carp safely retained and calm in the nets.

I trotted down to Kev (wishing I was wearing a pedometer), praying to the Carp gods, please let that have been a scream of joy. As I arrived at the swim, my head torch caught a bald man, stood in the water, rod and net in hand with a grin the Cheshire cat would have illuminated wonderland with. 'You get it Kev?

'Yes, mate and it's a massive common.' I had a quick look and it made the 40lb commons I had caught look small.

I helped Kev safely lift the carp out, weigh it and do some photos. **53lb common**. Unreal. Amazing. Biggest carp any of us had seen on the bank.

Kev said to me that he was going to release it go and see if Zac's ok.



I returned to Zac to find him in a magical picture I will never forget. Stood in the water, with a picturesque back drop of stars and moon light, looking like the happiest bloke on the planet. 'Matty, you are not going to believe what's in here.' After weighing both, I had played in on Zac's rod a 39.8lb mirror. Zac's other fish was a 49.15lb common. What is going on?

This was amazing. Pictures and recasts later, the 3 of us sat down and thought about what had just happened in the last 2 hours. I had a 44lb mirror, Zac a double run of 39.8 and 49.15 and Kev a 53lb. Wow, just wow.

The running to the varying swims. Being waist deep with your best mates under this most picturesque back drop, criss crossing lines with Zac, bobbing and weaving, seeing the look on Zac and Kev's face, what a memory. We talk about it all the time and reminisce regularly about this once and a lifetime moment I shared with my friends, carp fishing transcending the happiness memory bank for our eternity.

GEORGES PB

Last year my son George and I were fishing on a small 4-acre lake near my house. George was 6 at the time and at Christmas



had got a new rod and reel from my dad. He was desperate to use his new carp gear and was and is carp fishing mad. We went down the local lake as the weather improved. We got into a good swim but was told the lake is fishing slow. I cast Georges rod to an over hanging willow tree and positioned my rods.

My morning was blighted with calls from work. I was desperately frustrated as I wanted to focus on my fishing and spending time with my son. It was late morning and my mum popped down to sit with us, bringing me a lovely coffee that rhymes with car mucks. In a strange twist of fortune, my wife also turned up at the same time with my daughter Imogen and my youngest son Louis.

We were just catching up and thinking about having a picnic when one of my rods roared into life. Was my wife, daughter, son and mother lucky charms?

I started playing the carp in and Imogen and George got ready with the net. As the fish approached, I could see it was one of the lakes A team. George and Imy did a perfect job with the net and the carp was mine. 27lb of fully scaled chunky mirror, lovely and I had a photo with 2 of my children as well, happy memories. I slid the carp back with Georges help and quickly got the rod back out. As I was setting the alarm and my Wychwood slug bobbin I saw in my peripheral vision Georges rod tip bend round and the sweet sound of his reel screaming to life simultaneously with his alarm. I struck into the fish and George quickly positioned himself in between my arms playing the carp. I was aware we were near a snag and his 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ tc rod may not have enough to steer the fish away. George expertly held on for dear life while we side strained the carp away from the willow tree. The carp new that it was an important capture with a captive audience and very kindly put up

a minimal fuss as Imogen netted her brothers capture. George was buzzing. My wife's camera was in overdrive. What a moment.

We weighed the fish in at 18lb. Bigger than Georges previous pb of 10lb. What a great moment and to share it with family was.....my Delkims off again, what is going on. 13lb mirror carp. Thank you carpy gods, you are most kind. In 45 minutes, my family had witnessed 3 captures, all of equalling beauty and awe and seen the look on a happy 6-year olds face and his dads' immense pride.

To add to this wonderful family memory, there was 2 young lads in the swim to my right. They came in to chat to me and enquired as to my tactics as they were struggling for a bite. I offered to help them and have a look at their swim, approach, etc. I popped next door, tinkered with their rigs, offered them a little of my hook baits and gave them a quick rundown of the topography of the swim as I was very familiar with it. By the end of the session, they had both banked respectable double figure





carp each.

Magical memory and one that always makes me smile when I remember back to this day and look at some of the photos.

PRECIOUS MEMORIES IN FRANCE

I hope the words I'm about to put down on this memory do it justice. I really hope you read this and absorb the memory that is so fond and loved in Zac and my memory.

At the beginning of this article I dedicated these writings to the memory of 2 men. The first of these, Martin Hogsden, is Zac's dad, and someone I knew well through Zac and Snooker. I had a few memorable battles with Martin on the snooker table.

In 2017, Zac, Kevin, Ben and I were booked on in France again. Same complex as I chatted about earlier, different lake. In the build up to the trip we were all struggling a little for motivation. Work, money, the usual fun blockers. But Zac was facing a different challenge. Leading up to the trip, his dad had died of cancer. Martin was a lovely man who is greatly missed by many. Zac was also exceptionally challenged at work and to top it all off, his van had broken down and was not going to be ready for the

France trip. The poor lad was being significantly challenged by life and I'm sure he won't mind me saying, came seriously close to jacking the trip in, which was not an easy option for him as Zac loves France trips, time with his mates on the bank and carp fishing. This allure and the fact there were a couple of 60's in the lake persuaded him to come.

When we got to the lake, we all new that peg 1 was the peg to be in. We did the draw and I came out first. Guess where I went! Typically, Zac came out 4th. Poor bloke is his luck going to change!!! Ben and Kev choose swims further down the lake so Zac set up in the swim next to me, which I thought was a great option as if my swim was the go-to peg, then Zac may pick up some fish by being in the vicinity.

Anyway, fast forward to Friday.

I was having the session of my life, 5 40's and a load more 30's and 20's. Zac was having a good session too. He had had a few by Friday, including an upper 40 common. Ben and Kev were struggling.

Both Zac and I were motivated though to try and join the 50 club, a club Ben and Kev were in and made sure Zac and I knew that we weren't members.

Friday early evening was approaching, and I had made sure I was baited and in place early as most of my bites were coming from onset of darkness to first light. Zac was just finishing his 3rd rod. This rod was on a H block Zac had placed mid water between our swims on gravel patch he had found. I sat with Zac, fresh clothed, refreshed and excited for the night, watching him

place his last rod, enjoying a ciggie and a French stumpy lager. Ben and Kev were doing there rods too. Zac's bait boat, meticulously packed with bait, snowman rig (yellow bottom, white topper) was driven out to the desired spot that had done him a few bites and the trap with entrées was deposited.

Line slowly sunk, rod on pod, alarm, bobbin, done.

While driving the boat back (I'm not kidding here people) his Delkims bobbin tightened up. 'that's weird' Zac looked down; the line shouldn't still be tightening off. BEEP. 'Zaccy I would hit that mate, chuck me the bait boat remote.' Amazing what catching carp does for your confidence as all of a sudden, I'm an expert. BEEP. Strike! Bent Rod. Bugger... I'm snagged. 'Really mate? You're on gravel and explored the area in massive detail.' 'Hold on, its moving!!!' I could tell that Zac may need a change of pants shortly. He started playing the fish. 'Feel good?' No comment from Zac, just concentration and red cheeks, the blood pressure was up, the adrenaline had been released. Ben and Kev came over. Ben, 'any good Zaccy?' 'it's just a grassy' Zac said with unusual authority, almost trying to convince himself that the pressure is off, it's nothing massive. Yeah right!!! We are not silly Zac!!!!

I grabbed the net, made my way down the slight bank incline and stood poised, shitting myself that I may cock up a potentially dream fish. Shortly after, an absolute whale breached the surface, just far enough away I couldn't reach it. I was in. Fresh clothing was a memory at this point, although regrettable later.

I lifted the net up to a Zaccy sounding cry of 'get in there
Matty'

It was massive. We all knew it. 61lb. Stick your 50 club, I will go straight to 60 club says Zac.



Then came the photos. We all shared the moment and were all incredibly happy for Zac. When the carp was safely released, Kev and Ben went to finish getting their rods out. I went up to the communal area behind our swims and sat taking in what had happened. Zac came up, 'celebratory ciggie and beer Matty?'

'Bloody right Zac' So we both sat there in silence, in awe of what had happened. 'I wish I could phone my dad and tell him what I have just caught' Zac said both us feeling deeply thoughtful and Zac's words ripping at my normally alpha cave man emotions.

With that, before I could answer, the clouds opened, and the sun pierced a small spotlight on Zac. Just Zac. The rest of the lake still in shade.

‘He’s watching Zac, I think he’s just told you he saw that carp buddy’ With that we were both in bits. Tearful, happy, amazed and walking on air of the amazing moment we had just shared. Reading this, please believe me when I say, I have not over dramatized the above. If anything, I haven’t done it justice. Zac and I talk about this moment often and it always make us smile and shows how carp fishing can transcend and bring together people, memories and water down the pressures, emotions and stresses of life.

Thank you, Zac, for sharing this moment with me.

IAN'S COAT

The second of the 2 names I dedicated this article too is my stepfather Ian Jackson, who sadly died a couple of years ago due to cancer.

Ian was an all-round angler, with a passion for angling in general, often found with John Bailey pulling out varying species at impressive weights all-round the country.

After Ian died, I inherited some of his fishing gear as the only angler in the family.

A short while after Ian’s death I went carp fishing with Zac and Kev (Kev sadly didn’t make it). I was in a carp fishing rut.

Couldn't buy a bite from anywhere and I desperately wanted to christen Ian's gear.

Zac and I were sitting on the bank and Zac was hauling, he was up to 3 or 4 quickly, no bigger than about 16lb. What am I doing wrong?

Night came, dinner was eaten, stars admired, couple of beers and cups of tea enjoyed (responsibly). We started to think about bed, and I said that I thought the temp was dropping, getting cold. I got a coat out my bivvy and Zac commented that it was a lovely coat. I poignantly replied that it was Ian's and Zac shared a knowing warm look with me and then said, 'that will bring you luck tonight mate, you watch, your bagging up!'

Appreciate the thought Zac, but I can't catch a balloon at the moment even with all the luck in the world.

Anyway, I crawled in my bivvy, sat on the edge of my bed chair and, can you guess what happened readers???? Yep. Within minutes of putting on my recently deceased stepfathers coat, I had a one toner. 20lb! Get in there. Thank you, lady luck, or should I say Ian!

That night I didn't sleep much and bagged 8 more carp. Blank dealt with, but the memory of putting that coat on, hearing Zac's words and minutes later getting the one toner to my disbelieving friends blurted out words 'no way Matty' will live on forever in my mind, and I will never get rid of that coat!!

THE IMPOSSIBLE, TEAMWORK ENGLISH 30 POUNDER

This next memory is not one of the biggest carp I have ever caught, if I'm honest I can't even remember the exact weight, I'm a moments man, a memory man and that's why I adore carp fishing as, I hope I have articulated, it gives you these magical moments and memories.

This particular memory doesn't come close to the other moment I shared with Ben on this particular fishery when many years ago, he and I both caught a massive amount of carp including 3 upper 30's, including Ben and my the joint pbs of exactly 39.8lb. But this is another session I will attempt to share with you in the future. Ben and I attempted to fish the hardest lake to that date we ever encountered.

I have spoken of Ben, Zac and Kevin through this piece. I would put all of us in Julian Cundiff's 70% bracket for carp fishing acumen. We all have our strengths and weaknesses but as a four, I would bet we could get a bite from anywhere. Many years ago, when we could dedicate the time to lakes and carp fishing, I would have put us all at over 70% ability. Bens strength for me was his tenacity. I would like to talk in more depth about our strengths and weaknesses but I'm going to save that for another article, hopefully!

Anyway, Bens tenacity and drive to catch can be a real pain. He is constantly on the go, moving etc. I'm a thinker, a patience worker outer. But our strengths aligned on this session.

We got on this lake for a 48 hour and it was more a field then a lake. Weed everywhere. To say that we both felt a bit out of our depth was an understatement, but we were young and had a small amount of arrogance that we still fancied our chances. We settled on a couple of swims furthest away around the lake with what we hoped gave us the most water options. We spent hours tinkering with rigs, trying to find spots, etc. The first 24 hours flew by without even a liner and in the morning over a brew

and a bacon sarnie we stood and strategized. We spoke for what seemed like hours. If I try this at this depth, this bait, this position, if they by pass me here you have a chance of intercepting, I will go short on that spot, you go long, I will take that part of the channel, you take that part, leads, you name it we tried to plan for it. We fished to a plan. We tried to anticipate every eventuality in the swim, and we fished to that plan. 2 guys, 6 rods, 6 spots, all carp passages considered, all lake bottoms explored, all rigs and bait different. We gave it so much thought that we were actually mentally destroyed. First light on the last day my rod leapt into action. We got weeded. Ben on hand for reassurance. I had weed around my line. Ben cleared it. I saw the fish early and the world fell from my bum, Ben calmed me down. The best bit of netting I have ever witnessed and boom, 31lb common in the net.

Like I said, not the biggest I have ever caught. But it was a team effort. We had together figured out how to catch a big carp on this near impossible to fish lake, together. It didn't matter to either of us who caught. We had done it together and celebrated by drinking a small, warm, tin of beer at 06:00 in the morning, sitting in saturated clothes, on top of the world and for me, one of my favourite captures of all time because of the team effort we had put in.

I hope this article goes some way to sharing with you all the passion for carp fishing and memories that can be generated from sharing those moments with friends. Carp fishing is an amazing leveller and can make your worries and troubles evaporate. Our shared memories, my friends and I have stories that we can chat about regularly and help us remember things that have happened in the past fondly.

Take these memories and go and create some of your own.

Matt

TalkingCarp





ARMOURY TACKLEBOX

What's in your armoury?

There is no doubt that being well organised is paramount in any pursuit and fishing is no exception. With a limited time and area needed to cover most of your essential fishing kit, the RidgeMonkey Armoury Tacklebox is essential gear. It provides deep storage for the RidgeMonkey 5mm fishing tackle box. It is fully adjustable with two lockers. It has a set of 20 trays that can be safely stored in one of three sizes and the end tackle you will ever need with a massive 20 compartments on each side, three separating boards and an efficiently spaced design. The design of the RidgeMonkey Armoury Tacklebox is perfect for anyone that wishes to store, store and organise their valuable and tackle, tackle and gear in a high quality box that is made from heavy-duty, 100% recycled, durable and ready to be used.

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A scenic view of a lake with a fishing rod in the foreground, surrounded by lush greenery and a large tree in the background. The water is calm, reflecting the sky and the surrounding trees. A large, leafy tree stands prominently on the right bank, with a small building visible behind it. The sky is blue with some clouds.

A year on the Estate Lake
(Part 1)

by Viktor Tzikas

Opening Session

I had picked up a ticket on a beautiful mature estate lake, stocked well over 30 years ago, during the summer of 2017. I had fished it previously as a guest a couple of times and become obsessed with the place. 5 acres of water, lined with lilies and guarded by beautiful ancient trees, all overlooked by the estate house. The stock of fish was nothing special size wise, having never produced a 30lber but with a good head of 20s, they made up for it in the looks department though! A mix of sloping heads, rough sandpaper like skin, big apple slice scales. Some of them were really ancient looking. A majority of the carp were mirrors with only 4-5 commons of the approximate 90-100 carp that resided in the lake.

I was set to miss opening day (16th June) due to being on a family holiday, but thankfully it earned me some brownie points and I was due to fish the 18th – 20th. This meant I'd miss the opening weekend rush and hopefully be able to secure myself a decent swim and have the lake to myself from the Sunday night.

Rocking around mid-morning with the sun already beating down and over 30oc, I hastily unloaded the van and set off down the track in search of a swim. A few other cars were parked up so I knew I would have to slot in where I could for the time being, but it wasn't packed so I knew I'd have room. Luckily as I got view of the lake, I could instantly see there was no-one fishing the shallow bay on the far side. Result! In these conditions, hot, sunny and calm, I knew they would be in numbers up there, so why no-one was fishing it was beyond me!

On my way round I gathered that a few fish had been caught over the weekend and that it was due to the conditions. As a new member the old guard also insisted on pointing out the shallow end never produces the bigger fish, hence the reason it was being ignored. **“Rarely does it do a 20” – remember that.**

I arrived in the swim after a sweaty walk around the lake with the barrow to be greeted by fish everywhere! I didn't see anything sizeable, but I was here to have a good two night session and size was not important at this point, I just wanted a few fish under my belt on my first official session as a member.



I spent a little time stealthily flicking a bare lead over to the far margin where there was a lot of fish and managed to find a nice firm spot which was presentable on and big enough for two rods. My third rod was to be cast over to some snags to my right where I had taken a fish from on a guest session in 2016. After spending an age setting up in the midday heat, I was ready to go. I slipped round the lake, hopping the fence, to quietly bait up the snaggy margin and far margin spots. In doing so I saw near on 30 fish all at the same time in and around my spots. Perfect! I hurriedly got back round to my rods and flicked the two out to the far margin on Responsive Baits Code pop-ups. I'd put around 40 Code freebies on the spot, just to nick a bite. My snag rod then went out which was fished over the same amount of boilies.

The Code from Responsive Baits is a true HNV bait, a combination of quality fishmeals, ground kelp and seaweed, proteins, cereal & vegetable meals and spices are amongst the 13 dry ingredients which is then finished with a unique Tuna & Krill concentrate and salmon oil. A pungent fishy attraction comes from the natural ingredients of this highly digestible boilie. I had every confidence this bait would see me have a good season.

It was only around 45 minutes of getting the rods in that the middle rod to the far margin arched over and I was stuck in to my first carp of the season! After a powerful battle which involved me halfway in the lily bed in my near margin in my waders, I had a fish in the net. After carefully getting back on the bank I realised the fish was a real good size for the lake and although I was excited to get the photos and weighing done I opted to sling it up quickly whilst I got the rod back out and another 40 or so baits out to the far margin. I excitedly retrieved the fish and got it on the mat. Although not the nicest looking fish in the lake, with a snub

nose and some historical mouth damage (a sadly common theme with some of the fish due to it being a pressured small fish water when it was originally stocked as 2-3lbbers) she did weigh in at 26.02lb! An incredible start to the season and ironically, I found out, the biggest fish caught so far, from the 'small fish end' too.



Stupidly I didn't charge my camera battery and it ran out after photographing the fish! Rookie error and it meant I required someone else to be present to take pics on my phone. To be honest after this was a bit of a blur due to tiredness and

the heat. I managed to another two fish before dark, a 21lb mirror from the far margin followed by a scraper double from the snaggy margin to my right. Just as darkness fell, I hooked in to my fourth fish of the trip, a plump 19.12lb mirror from the far margin again, however after this it all fell quiet. Come 4am the sun was intent on melting me and I was in shorts and a vest from



4:30am! I decided to put a good kilo of bait on to the far margin spot as there was very little fish activity and the following hour or so slipped by until I had screaming take around 7am, resulting in another fish of 19.09lb.

This is where it started to get a bit hectic as from then on until 10am I hooked and landed another 6 carp including another two 20s! They were really responding to the bait I had put out that morning and I was kept busy in and out the waders and ripping up lily pads to net the fish. I was exhausted by midday and quickly running out of bait. I'd only bought 4kg of the Code with me, thinking it might be slow going due to the weather, but I only had a couple of handfuls left, and no way of getting anymore. I decided that I wouldn't stay the second night and instead try and nab a few more fish before heading home that evening.



The afternoon slowed right down, and I only managed one more fish of 17lb between midday and 6pm. Most likely because the area had seen so much action in the morning, they had become a bit on edge. I had packed my kit up by 6:30 and decided to head over to the far margin to try and stalk a fish off the top. It took a while to get a chance but after half an hour I managed to nab one on floating crust which went 15lb on the scales. A friend had popped up with an ice cold beer for me which went down beautifully whilst my sling and net dried out and I made the slog around the lake with my barrow.



Overall, I was on the bank for 32hrs in total. I landed 13 fish and lost 3. The far margin spot accounted for 10 fish, 10 fish came within a 24hr window over the 2 spots fished, with only one not

falling to the Code pop-ups and being caught on bread crust. Of the 13 fish landed 4 of them went 20lb+, with 3 hitting 19lb. It was a truly epic red letter session for me, and on my first official session on the estate lake too, and even though I knew this was a one off I was excited to return the following weekend.

A quick list of all of the fish caught on this session: 26.08lb, 21lb, 10lb, 19.12lb, 19.09lb, 13.10lb, 23.08lb, 20lb, 19.10lb, 16lb, 15lb, 17lb, and 15lb.

Summer Daze

On a massive high after the red letter session it was 10 days before I was back at the Estate Lake and fishing for the night. I had done a little groundwork in the meantime and explored the bulk of the open water, managing to find a small gravel area amongst the silt. I baited up with a few kg of particle mix and a kilo of boilies in the hope I had found a feeding area and could get a result from it fairly quickly. However as is the way the carp had other ideas and I was soon crashing back down to earth with a blank trip. I decided there and then to largely ignore the open water and stick to the snags and lilies in order to at least get the bites!

July quickly came round, and I started off the month with a day session trying to nab a few fish off the surface. I had a friend with me for this session and together we really struggled. We got the fish hammering floaters in a few swims but as soon as the hook baits went out, they disappeared, instantly coming back up for more when we reeled in! I snuck off to the overgrown swim I caught one off the top at the end of the opening session and managed to nab a fish on floating crust fished amongst the lily pads.



I started walking the lake early morning before work or at dusk to try and learn as much as possible about where the fish were feeding and their habits. There was always a lot of bubbling and fizzing in the deeper bay, so I decided to focus my efforts in there and started to introduce a bit of bait in a couple of spots. I did a total three

nights over the month in the deep bay and had 4 fish from this swim to 21.06lb. I had however lost 7/8 fish over the month and was getting very frustrated!! My faithful stiff multi rig had worked perfectly on other venues, so I was puzzled as to why I was losing fish.

The bay was lily lined, with a large overhanging willow with plenty of submerged branches so I was applying a lot of pressure to keep the fish in the open water which was contributing but I had just finished up on an extremely weedy lake and not encountered any loses at all!

Racking my brains, I remembered something that I noticed on the opening session, a majority of the fish had a very hard, bony bottom lip. My hook holds were either behind it in the soft flesh or in the scissors. Some fish also had some bad mouth damage.

Overall, it started adding up. Regardless of how sharp the hook was, the hard bottom lip didn't allow it to penetrate enough, the hook needed to hook elsewhere in the mouth but the mouth damage on some fish meant hooks were pinging out or just not hooking well. Combine the physiology of the fish with the lake being laden with snags and it was a recipe for continued losses unless I changed something. I decided to change the feeding situation and stopped fishing over smaller pellet and particle and limit freebies to whole and halved boilies. I would still pre-bait with smaller items to clean the bottom, but only larger food items would see the fish feed differently and need to suck with more power to ingest the bait. I coupled this change with fishing my pop ups higher up. I had been fishing then very low, around hook height only, so I increased this to a minimum of an inch before

the hook. Doing so would mean the hook would end up hooking behind the hard, bony bottom lip and a much more secure hook hold.



August quickly came around and I was fairly happy with my results so far but was set to miss the first weekend of the month due to other

commitments. My first session of August I bought my cousin along for a guest session, the weather was hot and calm, so I was like a rat up a drainpipe when I saw the shallow swim empty that Friday afternoon! We opted to fish two rods only and fish from the same swim as it was quite large with a big set of pads in the margin to separate us. I fished the left side over to the far margin as I had done on the opening session, whilst my cousin fished the right hand side snaggy margin. The trip did not go to plan however as my cousin blanked and I managed to lose two of the four runs I had. The two fish I landed included a low double and a stunning fish of 20.01lb, which looked like one of the older fish in the lake.



I was back the following week to find out that two large trees that had fallen into the lake from the island had finally removed from the lake that day. The disturbance likely spooked the fish a bit so I wasn't sure of a bite but decided to fish to the island as the silt would have been disturbed and hopefully uncovered some

lovely larders of naturals to get the fish really feeding. I wasn't surprised to not get much action, losing a fish just on dark, after this nothing else occurred on that trip and it concluded the first few months fishing on the estate lake.

Overall a good summer's fishing in my eyes. A total of 7 overnight sessions and 1 day on the estate lake resulted in 20 fish landed. I'd come on to the estate lake as an almost new face and quickly got my feet firmly under the table. The fish were clearly loving the Code boilies from Responsive Baits and I had adjusted my tactics to minimise losses. I'd somehow managed to mainly avoid the fish over 25lb which was disappointing.

September is one of my favourite months of the year to fish so keep an eye out for the next part of this series.





CARBON BAIT

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Reviews

GCTgroup bivvy light - Brian Dixon

Fishguard review - Mark Galli

Roddy Clips review - Mark Galli

nash barrow - scott grant

The Bivvy Light from the GCTgroup.



Recently I have been looking for a multipurpose light for my fishing. This light has to be up to a multitude of tasks as I will need it to be a part time bivvy light when session fishing, a bankside light under a brolly on the rivers and a light that can aid in the taking of night time photography.

So a quick chat with Garry Turner at the GCTgroup and I have one posted to my door a day later. Excellent service!!
What you get for your money...



The light comes as a complete package, with no after purchases necessary. You get the hard case with full length zip, you get the light, the metal plate for the magnetic fixing, a metal flexi arm with a strong magnet at one end and a threaded end to screw into your bankstick, the charging lead and remote control. All in one package. This light can be fixed just about anywhere!

Added bonus!

As well as being waterproof too... this light also brags a USB outlet port below the charging port making it a fantastic powerbank to recharge your phone from it.



The lighting.

You have 6 lighting options available, a white, a red and a green, and all 3 can be either Hi or low visibility.

On the bank testing.

The only way to test this out is bankside testing of course, and so far I have had it on the river a few nights where it is starting to prove invaluable for me. I find a low green light helps me see everything I need to see without disturbing my surroundings. I have also had it on a long session carping where I used it as a bivvy light, a peg light at night (so I didn't fall down the banking) and a perfect aid to taking some shots for my mate next door (Brian: yes, he caught and I blanked this time!). I happily left it out overnight during a couple of proper Cheshire downpours too and it did not affect the light one little bit. Waterproof indeed. All in all... this light has passed every test with thumbs up!

You can get one of these by either contacting Garry Turner on the GCTgroup Facebook page here:-

<https://www.facebook.com/gctgrp/>

or visit the link below:-

<https://www.ebay.co.uk/itm/Sunblesa-bivvy-light-2600mah-5000mah-with-extras/193559658505?page=76016491-4fa1-4bb1-9968-0f241e77e932>



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Fishguard FX Security System – By Mark Carper



Product Review

Fishguard FX Security System – By Mark Carper

A while back I saw the original and first review of this system and it raised a bit of interest with me which was based on two things, firstly, I fish numerous Public Waters in France and secondly, I have 26 years' experience in the 'Electronic Security' industry.

Now, I have never had any issues on the bank with gear going missing, either in the UK or Abroad but I have had 'concerns' at times, due to the nature and places I fish (in France) and just the fact they are open to the Public twenty-four, seven.

That said, I was still 'interested' to learn about the system as the gear sat on my Rod Pod alone is worth upwards of £3500 and I can be up to 20m from the rods at times....but....

...having spent many years in the Electronic Security industry and spent time designing and installing some high-tech kit for both the Military and the Police, including all manner of detection and transmission gear, much of which is still used today, I was sceptical of how reliable the 'Fishgard' would be, or more specifically, how un-reliable it would be by triggering at the wrong times, giving 'False Alarms' or as we liked to call them, "unwanted activations"..!!

I read about the system and watched the limited information online and decided to give the company a call. I spoke with Dan and fired a few poignant and technical questions at him about Passive Infra-Red and Active Beam Technology etc. and he certainly knew his stuff.

We then arranged for me to have the use of a 'Demo Kit' for a week or two and that was promptly sent out..!



I was sent the 'Full Kit' which comprises of the Fx Control Unit (Receiver), Three Fx Sensors and the Fx Floodlight, all contained in a nice compact and well-padded case.

Initial Thoughts

The packaging, the bit you throw away, reminded me of the fancy modern packaging that high-end products come in currently, from Phones to Ear Phones etc. the packaging was well designed and well made....I know you just 'bin it' normally, but it made me think that if the packaging was this good, how good was the actual product..?!

On opening the case, I wasn't disappointed, and the units 'looked' robust and well made, before even touching them.

The look instantly reminded me of the kit I had used in the past for numerous external installations of detection equipment to secure perimeters from airfields to car sales forecourts and for both Civvy and Military sites...a good start..!

A clear and detailed set of instructions were included, along with a few small ancillary bits, which included a strange looking round bit of plastic, some rectangular bits of plastic and some 'rubber bands'..!

Being a 'man' I skipped the instruction manual and proceeded to attempt to open one of the Fx Sensors...To my delight this was extremely easy to figure out and I soon had the two 'AA' batteries installed (No Batteries are supplied with the units, so for the full set up you will require fourteen good quality 'Alkaline' batteries. I used Duracell Ultra).

The battery compartment was simple to remove from the unit, in fact, they are simple to remove from all the units and are extremely 'well fitting' and secure once back in the units.

They have an excellent 'Rubber Seal' and you can instantly tell that the 'weatherproofing' is of the highest quality. Note I said 'Weatherproof' and not 'Waterproof'...there is a difference....Do not Submerge them...!

Each Fx Sensor requires two 'AA' Batteries and the Fx Control unit and Fx Floodlight require four each.

The battery compartment for the Fx Sensors and the Fx Floodlight open in the same way, which is via a 'Twist-Lock' on the bottom of the unit that is easy to do by hand.



The Fx Control Unit differs in that it has a 'Quarter Turn' screw lock in its' base, which a large flat-blade screwdriver or indeed a 20p coin will remove nicely, however, that is where the 'small round piece of plastic' comes in to play...it is for loosening and tightening the screw to get at the battery holder...Clever..!!

The batteries all fit very tightly and you can feel they are a good solid connection, which again, gives no doubt as to the overall quality of the products.

Getting Going

With all the batteries installed, and still refusing to look at the instructions, I switched the Fx Control Unit on...Turned on one of the Fx Sensors and....nothing...nothing at all..!

Time to read the instructions...which, if I had done that first, I would have known that there was a slight delay, as the Fx Sensor adjusted itself to the environment...denoted by the flashing and then 'steady' LED light on the Controller..

A few seconds later and I was greeted with the sound of a very serious sounding and annoyed "Growling Dog" sound emitting from the Fx Controller..Brilliant..!!

On normal 'switch-on' you do not get this but I had the Fx Sensor facing me.

I promptly went through the 'sound outputs' available from the Controller and after each change, I simply walked in front of the Sensor.... each activation gave me either a;

'Door Bell Chime'

'Dog Growl'

'Dog Bark'

'Owl Hoot'

All the sounds are volume adjustable and each activation also illuminates the corresponding Sensor LED on the Controller. Initially the LED will rapidly Flash for about five seconds and then goes 'solid' for a further seven seconds, giving plenty of time to note which Sensor triggered if you are using more than one.

That as they say, "was that", the system was up and running. I quickly positioned the other two Sensors around my garden and proceeded to walk-test them one by one. Each one triggered as expected and the Controller did its thing...excellent...!

Fx Floodlight

Once I had the units all deployed, I turned on the Floodlight and was surprised just how bright it was (I did this initially in daylight) and was pleased to see it could actually be 'dimmed' if required.

On triggering one of the Sensors, the Floodlight activation is instant. When you first turn it on, it does light up for two seconds to show it is working, so be mindful not to looking directly at it, or you will have numerous spots before your eyes for a good while afterwards...!

When triggered by a Sensor, the Floodlight remains on for approximately fifteen seconds, which is plenty of time to spook any would be 'trespasser'. Just don't position the Floodlight facing your Bivvy as it will simply 'blind you'...!!



The other feature on the Floodlight, and a very nice touch is the inclusion of some 'Courtesy' or 'Ambient' lights situated underneath the Floodlight unit, so as to only illuminate the ground.

These are not activated by the Fx Sensors, they actually have their own Detection units. Four in total positioned on each side of the Floodlight and facing outwards, not downwards.

These are designed to detect you moving around in your swim area and give a nice light to safely move about the area. Again, these have dimmable adjustment but are by no means as powerful as the Floodlight. I normally carry a 'Swim Light' that sits outside my bivvy and turns on as I walk out towards my rods, but this unit will do that role perfectly, even without the security side being operational.

Staying on for around thirty seconds after an activation and with a detection range of approximately three metres, it works perfectly.

My initial thought was that it was a nice touch, and worked very well but I only needed detection on two sides and not four..?!!

Fishgard have thought of that and cue the 'Elastic Bands and Bits of Plastic' I mentioned at the start...

The 'Elastic Band' is actually a heavy duty piece of rubber that can be placed over and around the Floodlight, below the level of the 'Sensors' and the 'Plastic Rectangles' are then trapped between the Unit and the Rubber and are used to 'Blank Off' the Detectors that you do not require.

The band can be left in place and the plastics can be moved accordingly to either cover or expose the Sensors on all four sides and even the bands have been purposely designed with a 'cut out' or 'thinner edge' so as not to block the sensor inadvertently with the band left on. Another indication that the product is very well thought out.

Testing

As I have already said, I have an extensive background in both the design and implementation of detection devices and, me being me, I was determined to get 'Unwanted Activations' from the units...and I did...!!

Admittedly, I had to position an Fx Sensor looking directly at moving foliage at a range of 45cm, which, obviously, you would not do in a 'live' situation and you are warned about in the instructions too. At one point, when the foliage stopped moving and I walked behind it, the Sensor actually detected me and triggered the Alarm...Impressive...!!

Having satisfied myself that the units were sufficiently developed so as not to trigger at the slightest thing, I went about positioning them so that my Cockapoo, could walk past without triggering the units but my GSD couldn't...It lead to a very interesting few hours in the garden as I had the dogs racing up and down and the GSD getting rather agitated at a Growling Dog he could not find...!!

The upshot, not one unwanted activation...Very Impressive..!

I then left the Units in situ for the rest of the day and overnight and I was not woken once during the night, even though we had a slight rain shower and my garden does have numerous plant tubs and shrubs that were in-view of the Fx Sensors. The closest being at about three metres. With the Sensor range of just over six metres (although as is standard for any detection units employing this type of Infra-Red technology, the range can be affected by both extreme brightness and temperature, but that is why they are very efficient at night).

My final test, in the garden was to subject one of the Fx Sensors to the 'Rain Test'..! For this I simply put the garden hose on 'Shower' and positioned it above the sensor at about two metres. I then left it for thirty minutes and again...not one single 'Unwanted Activation' but it triggered each time I, or the GSD (which was soaking wet at this stage, walked past...Very, Very Impressive..! (I did get it to

trigger a few times if I pointed the hose head closer and more 'towards' the unit as opposed to on top of it, but that is not a fair representation of rain fall...unless you are in Wales..?!!

The other point to note, was after drying the unit off, I opened the Battery Compartment and it was perfectly dry, as should be expected.

In terms of Battery Life, mine is still running on the same batteries I installed from new with no issues and each unit gives early warning of a 'Low Battery' by the intermittent flashing of the LED.

Approximate Battery Life

Fx Controller – 70 hours
Fx Floodlight – 80 hours
Fx Sensor – 500 hours

The Battery life would see me through a full weeks fishing without the need to change the batteries.

In Use

Unfortunately, I have not had the chance to use it 'in anger' so to speak, as the recent Belgium trip I did was not to fish but to explore places and fishing spots. That said, I did deploy the unit for a couple of nights both outside the chalet we were staying in and in front of the car. With the Floodlight deployed on the deck at the front and Fx Controller inside with me, I was not woken once but the unit activated perfectly each morning as we walked outside, with first the 'Ambient' Light coming on and then the alarm as we moved forward away from the front door.

I have used it on the bank of a small local pool during the day, but mainly to check out the battery life, and as such, I have not been disappointed.

Conclusion

In all the tests I have done, which included some pretty unfair ones, the whole setup has performed extremely well.

I would be very confident to deploy the system in a live situation and would definitely rest easy knowing that 'Any' visitors would be announced and/or deterred and at least I would be fore warned of their presence. I am also confident that only 'Human' visitors would be announced and not the usual vermin we encounter on the bank and by that, I mean rats, mice and such like as the height of the units is set to avoid these. In fact, you can set the Sensors high enough so that if you have a 'Carp Dog' with you, your pal can wonder around your swim area freely and not activate the units if positioned correctly....!

I know this is not going to be for everyone and the cost will put people off or it will be dismissed as a gimmick or another useless 'Carp Product' full of 'Carp Tax' and designed to "Catch the Angler" Blah, Blah, Blah....and then those that have "my Hammer and Machete ready" etc. etc.



...but, for me, it means if someone is sniffing around my 3.5k of gear at the waters edge, at least I won't sleep while they make off with it, while I am bivvied on a Public Lake or Canal or even if I am on one of the many waters in the UK that have seen their fair share of tackle theft over the years...and during the day, it will simply let me know if I need to pretend to be asleep so as not to have to engage with those that 'want to chat about bait and rigs'....

In my opinion, the light is a bigger deterrent than the actual noises the unit makes but both combined will certainly take any would be 'No Gooder' (is that even a word..?) by surprise and hopefully make them think twice.... even if they are hell bent on nicking some gear, I would guess they will just try the next swim along...!

A quality designed and made product that does exactly what it was designed to do.

On the basis of this test and trial, instead of sending the Demo-Kit back, I purchased it for my own use.

Obviously, aside from the units themselves, you also need to carry some suitable 'Bank Sticks' to put them on and they need to have suitable height adjustment so as to avoid any 'unwanted activations' (false-alarms is such a nasty word..)

Improvements

Not much really to improve on for me. In a perfect



world, I would have all the devices with In-Built Rechargeable Batteries that could be charged via a USB. With almost everything now like this it would save the hassle of remembering to change the batteries or carry spares. Be warned, you cannot use 'AA' rechargeable batteries in the units due to the voltage difference, so they will not power the units correctly.

Although you get a 'Rubber Band' for each Fx Sensor to place over the Visible LED on the rear, which is to stop it being 'obvious' in the dark, I can't help but think it would have been better if the LED went out, say, 10 seconds after the unit was turned on...

..and, the Fx Controller gives a 'Visual Signal' if you or someone else, turns off one of the Fx Sensors while the Fx Controller is switched on and although it is highly unlikely that someone could actually get 'behind' the sensor to turn it off without it triggering in the first instance, (provided you have positioned them effectively), it would be good to have an 'Audible' Warning too....an Anti-Theft for the Anti-Theft system, so to speak...!

...and my final thought, the 'Owl Hoot'; it only does one "Hoot"...it should be at least two "Hoots" or a good old "Twit-Twoo"...!

For full details and latest prices visit:

<https://fishguard.fishing/>

or find them on Facebook at - Fishguard Fishing

This was an independent and non-paid review of the product with no collaboration with the manufacturer.



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Roddy Clips

Gear Review

Roddy Clips – by Mark
Carper



Roddy Clips

See you on the bank



 www.rodyclips.co.uk

 RoddyClips

 roddy_clips

“Founded in 2020, Roddy Clips are innovative designers and producers of fishing accessories for anglers of all ages and abilities...” is what it says on their website...but what exactly is a ‘Roddy Clip’..?!!

Finding them by pure accident on either Instagram or Facebook, I forget which now, I just knew immediately that I had to have some....well, eight sets to be exact...!

Being an avid lover of “Toy Rods” otherwise known as, short telescopic style Carp Rods, and in my case those are four of the Nash Tackle ‘Black Ops’ 9ft Rods in 3.5tc and also four of their Black Ops ‘Sawn-Offs’ too, these little plastic 3D Printed Clips looked perfect...!

I messaged the company and got a quick reply, eager to tell me about the product and that they could be made to fit the ‘Black Ops’ Rods I had. At this point, they were just being developed for that particular Rod Range, but they are now fully available as a stock item.

Not being one to ‘sit on the fence’ I promptly discussed cost and placed an order for eight sets, four sets for both types of rods.

After a week or so and few exchanges of messages about Butt Diameters amongst other things, they arrived along with a few free samples of some of their other products, namely a mixture of sizes and colours of the ‘O’ Rings.



Looking at the 'Clips' it was clear to see that they had indeed been 'Printed' and at a good quality too. I had opted for all Black for everything, which I now regret, especially if I have a mixture of rods out as sorting them for each rod is a pain but a simple colour change for one set of rods would have solved this problem..!

So, what did I have...? I had full sets of the 'Roddy & Seat Clip' Bundle designed specifically for both types of my rods and along with those, I also ordered the 'Rattle Diffuser' for each rod too.

Four components per rod and each component is designed to fit a specific part of the rod.

When you order, you are presented with numerous options such as;



Rod Type – Scope – Dwarf – Black Ops

Handle Type - Abbreviated – Cork – Shrink – Black Ops – Power Cord

Size – This is either Tip to Butt or Joint to Butt -You also choose the Rod Length of 6ft – 9ft – 10ft

Colour – Green – Blue – Black

There are other options and also a ‘Custom’ option too but you can find all the info if you go to their website of www.rodyclips.co.uk

The idea behind the clips is to stop the rods ‘rubbing’ together when packed away and being transported, by a simple idea of separating the two sections along the length of the packed rod.

The ‘Rattle Diffuser’ is exactly that...it seats neatly around the telescopic part of the Butt Section and stops the inner section rubbing on the outer section where the two meet...and it works very well, in fact, it is such a simple idea, it all works very well and the ‘Seat Clip’ creates a nice gap and keeps the tip section from arching over around the seat as it does with conventional ‘Rod Bands’ or ‘Tip-Tops’ etc.



Extremely easy to clip on and off and very effective at doing exactly what they were designed for.

At the time of me placing my order, the company were looking at having the clips manufactured via an 'Injection Moulding' process but this was only in early stages. The clips they actually printed designed and printed by themselves and they are made from a soft Thermoplastic Polyurethane which in turn, makes the clip soft and flexible but keeps it strong and resistant to the elements and chemicals.

The clip itself does not leave any marks on the rod or on the Paracord wrapped handles on the Black Ops rods and I would presume it does not leave marks on a shrink wrapped handle either..?!

Not much else I can add really except to say that they do work, they work well and should last me a lifetime...or the way I change my gear a few weeks at least...!!!

'O' Rings

The 'O' rings are exactly that, various Diameter



Rings in various Colours, ten colours to be precise and sold in packs 32 and in sizes that will fit, Buzz Bars, Indicators, Bite Alarms, Bivvy Pegs etc. etc. you know the sort of thing...designed to colour match and 'Bling' your set up as a replacement for the boring old black 'O' Rings that are normally supplied and each pack contains enough rings to do a three rod setup...!!

Latest Products

Their most recent addition is coloured Snag Ears specifically for the Nash Tackle R3 Siren Alarm and some rather fancy 'Zip' Pullers...I have also seen a sample (only in a picture) of some 'Clear' Rod Clips that look Injection Moulded and I already have my order on standby...anyone want to buy some second hand Roddy Clips..??!! HaHaHa

As I said, they are well made, they work and they work well and it's a small price to pay to protect what is a very expensive item of tackle (or eight)..!!!

For a full look at the range of products, head over to www.rodyclips.co.uk

Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/RoddyClips/>

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Nash TraX
Evo Power
Barrow

review by Scott
'Geezer' Grant



Review by Scott Grant

For years I have been barrowing my gear to swims just like every other session carp angler.

Getting old is no joke and these days I seem to take more gear than ever!! It was time for me to take a look at the electric barrows currently available on the market. I looked at the Prestige one, and it did have a lot going for it, but then I came across the Nash Trax Evo Power Barrow.

They were both in the same price bracket so it was a matter of what one had the best benefits. For me it's about practicality and the Nash barrow ticked all the boxes. I had made my mind up so I went and made the purchase, it was the summer of 2019.

So, after using the barrow for just over a year I thought I would write a review on my findings.

It folds flat enough to go straight in the boot of my car, and takes minutes to put together. Like any product there is always positives and negatives, firstly the barrow when fully loaded and I mean fully loaded flies along to the point it nearly pulled me over!! I have to do 2 full barrow loads, and this barrow made it a breeze. A massive positive, another thing I like is that when you have

unloaded the barrow and making your way back to the car for the rest of your gear, you simply push the power button to off and you can then push the barrow without the need to use the power. Another plus is that you don't have to disengage the front wheel to do this you simply push the barrow without the power on. I used the barrow and logged how many trips I made in power mode and the total was 14 trips before the light on the variable speed trigger control turned from green to amber!! This is quite remarkable, the barrow still had plenty of life left in it before the light would have turned red.

Charging the batteries is easy and the barrow comes supplied with 2 x 12volt batteries and the charger.

The barrow is well made and sturdy, the motor is housed within the front wheel so there's no motor hanging off the front. The batteries are housed



small compartment in the centre of the barrow, (centralising the weight) again you can't even see them. The barrow is 24volt and takes 2 x 12volt batteries, which connect together in the compartment I just mentioned. The barrow comes supplied with a large under barrow bag, which has access from the top and zipped sides, plus another 2 x storage bags again with side zipped access, which fit within the barrow either side of the front wheel. The barrow also comes supplied with a pair of puncture proof back wheels, and another plus is that you adjust the height you want them at and pull a large thumb screw out and the wheels lock in place (no matter how much weight you load onto the barrow the wheels stay at the same height, another massive thumbs up. Now for the negatives, there's no brake on the barrow, so if your loading the barrow on a bit of an incline you'll need to put something under the back wheels otherwise the barrow will simply roll away from you, (I use a door wedge). I would have also liked to of seen some sort of bracing system on the handle bars to the frame of the barrow, making it completely solid. The thumb screws of the handles do come loose which



can be annoying and something you need to check on a regular basis. Also, the Velcro tabs that hold the large under barrow bag to the legs need to be longer, as when you load the bag up if there's too much weight in it the tabs come un done, or the bag comes completely off!! (so, don't put too many heavy items in there).

Other than that, I cannot find any other faults, this barrow has simply transformed my fishing and moving swims now for me is a breeze it really is.

The barrow isn't cheap but, in my eyes, and from my experience well worth the money.

Now for the dimensions:

Load area: 110cm L x 71cm W extending to 132cm x 100cm

Large drop in under storage bag: 31cm H x 41cm W x 33cm D

Twin under barrow storage bags: 31cm H x 12cm W x 34cm D

The RRP is £849:99 but if you look about you might find one cheaper.

All the best

Scott
"Geezer"
Grant

NASH
TRAX
EVO POWER BARROW



Catch Reports

Featuring -

Vader Baits
And all of your catches !!!



Brian Fisher

Fishing margin spot on his Kent syndicate with DNA Baits Nutta - s over particles 48 Hour session 2 Bites resulted in 49lb 12oz Common and 45lb 14 oz mirror Hook link fluorocarbon 20lb size 4 fox curve shank hook



Henry Redding



I spotted this young lad on his dad's Instagram page... This is five-year-old Henry Redding from Preston, with a stunning little Carp from River Lake on the Wyreside Fisheries complex. Henry tripped this one up by presenting two pieces of Plastic Corn and a little PVA Bag of Pellet...He had two Carp and one Bream and his cheeky grin says it all....both he a the Carp look like ones to watch for the future..!

Carl Hartley

**Les Etangs De L'Ecurie –
French Commercial**

**This is Carl Hartley or
'Carlos' as he is better
known...**

**During a recent first trip
to L'Ecurie he managed
to catch a few nice carp
and set himself a new
French Common PB...he
also managed to land the
smallest and a completely
unknown Common too...**

**After soaring
temperatures for two
weeks prior to the trip, the
weather took a massive
downturn and so did the
Carp...he caught a total of
six all in the space of just
twelve hours...!**

**Ranging from 11lb to 30lb,
none of the 'Big Girls'
wanted to play and with
a high head of 40's and
at least two known 50's
in the lake, it was a tough
week to take...**

**All caught on Dynamite
'Complex T' with a helping
of the lake Particle and
Pellet mix and a yellow
'topper' on the hook bait.**

**Well Done Mate....it was a
great 'Social Week'...and
yes, I did Blank...!!!**





Andrew Taylor



Well this was my only fish of my 24 hour session at Charlie's Lake. The 'RD Common' at 24lb 4oz, proper beauty. This gem fell to a Mainline Baits Essential IB Wafer over a bed of crushed and chopped Essential IB boilies just off the far bank on a shallow gravel shelf presented on a blow back rig consisting of a RM-Tec Size 6 Curve Shank Hook attached to a 7 inch length of 20lb Soft Coated Camo Hooklink, get in, tight lines everyone!

Gary Standish



I was down fishing my syndicate in a very clear and weedy water about 40 yards out into a clear spot about 6ft deep on a stiff hinge rig with a size 4 long shank I b hooks with a single yellow pop up on resulting in 2 low doubles and a mirror carp weighing in at 25lb and been my pb

Glenn Broeckx

Belgium

Big warrior from 36,6lb (16,6kg)

Insta: carpangler_g_b



Ivan Harrison



Duster Baits field tester
TPC Wafer was this
commons downfall
mounted to a Ronnie
rig fished just under
my rod tip just singled
out over a clear patch
that I had recently been
prebaiting

Tipping the scales over
to 20lb 13oz

You've heard of
the saying in & out
business well that
was just that with only
having my rod out 20
minutes and it was
away

Peter Craig



My 8 year old son Logan Craig caught this stunning fish, was 20lb on the nose so at 8 years old is in the 20lb club

Robert Nicolson - Holme Fen



Fish caught on Alpha wafter over Alpha and Bloodworm boilies, pellet and particle resulting in two pb over a 5 day session

Karl Brandreth



Got to the fisheries on the Saturday and the weather was perfect. I managed to catch this 20lb 5oz mirror just before bed on a retro baits squid and octopus hard hook bait topped with yellow as a snowman on a d-rig, the next day was absolutely red hot and killed the fishing.

Stuart McWilliams



Lovely dark, scaley old warrior I caught on a trip to one of my local club waters. After losing a fish early hours in the morning I had a change in strategy changing from a simple hair rig fished tight against the snags and about 2/3ft of weed to a naked choddy. A couple of hours later my swinger slammed up and I was in, Landing this beauty of a mirror. It was caught on an XS cream pop up and a scattering Of MSC freebies all by Munga baits

Jamie Bacon



Manor, linear fishery

I arrived at linear fisheries as usual after work all week on the Friday, after settling into the muddy on manor Farm on Friday, I had my sites on setting on moving into the browns peg Saturday afternoon once the peg was available. I lost a fish in the weed that morning and also managed 4 tench! I moved into the browns peg Saturday I only had 24hrs hours ahead of me. I fished to a spot at 120 yards which was a hard gravel spot, around 7ft deep.

I tied a few combi rigs as usual using a size 4 Korda wide gape Kamakuras, Korda supernatural braid on the soft end, with a 15lb IQ combined together. A small piece of shrink tube behind the hook to set the hook aggressively. And a small piece of putty over the knot to tidy things all up! Korda lead core and clips to present the lead. 50 lb korda armour cord as a shock leader! I made a spod mix of sticky krill Krusha and malted to crumb and 6 mm krill pellet's and plenty I mean plenty of the old faithful corn ! A few added extras as usual thrown in for good measure!! The rigs cracked down and the spod work was done time to relax! The weather for cast looked spot on 20 degrees ; s/w winds , with a thundery showers all afternoon

Low pressure creeping in! The heavens opened up and the fish reacted well with multiple fishes boshing out all over the place things looked good for a bite ! The rain finally settled, and the fish were certainly up for it as the shows continued

5:30pm the alarm had a few beeps, I noticed the line tightened up and the super tight clutch burst into life!!! Initially the fish headed into the weed but firm constant pressure with big hooks and strong 0.35mm line the fish was out , I landed the fish after 20 min's and called my neighbour for pics and the weigh in .

After taring the sling the scales span round once and nearly twice ... lol settling at 51.02 lb ... we settled for 51lb on the nose. 12 years of fishing the complex with over 30 fish over 30lb and many upper 30s the queen of the complex is mine at an all-time weight of 51lb ... and new lake record.

Jamie





Tom Simcox,
the founder of
the Facebook
Group 'Nash
Tackle Fanbase'
and an
Ambassador for
all things Nash
Tackle and Bait
had a dream
session recently
when he visited
one of Nash
lakes most
famous venues,
'Church Lake'.
He 'warmed-
up' with one of

Church Lakes big Commons...!!!

Falling for the Multi-Rig tied using the new Nash Tackle - Chod Claw Hook, Tom presented a 12mm Scopex Squid boilie and a mix of Hemp and Sweetcorn with some added Squid Flake for good measure...

Weighing in at 52lb 4oz and setting his new UK PB, he told me the fish put an "outrageous battle" and "I can't quite believe it..!"

...he then went on to land a stunning Mirror of 34lb 6oz that fell for his tried and tested Multi-Rig with a 12mm Scopex Squid boilie and some more free-offerings..!

Great angling Tom and what a session, but you've set yourself a real challenge to beat that PB..!!



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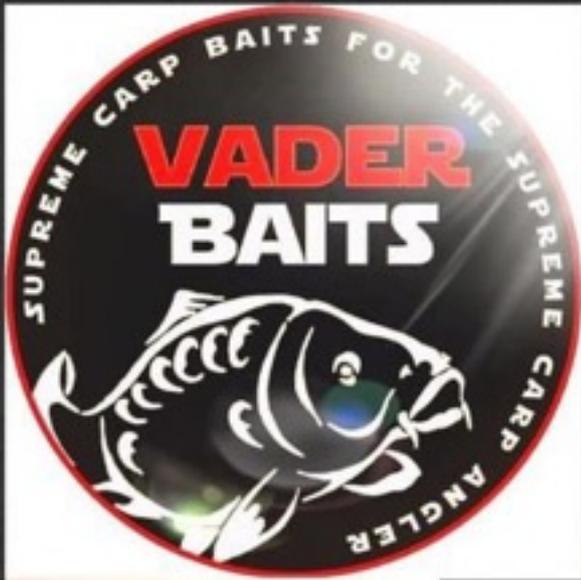
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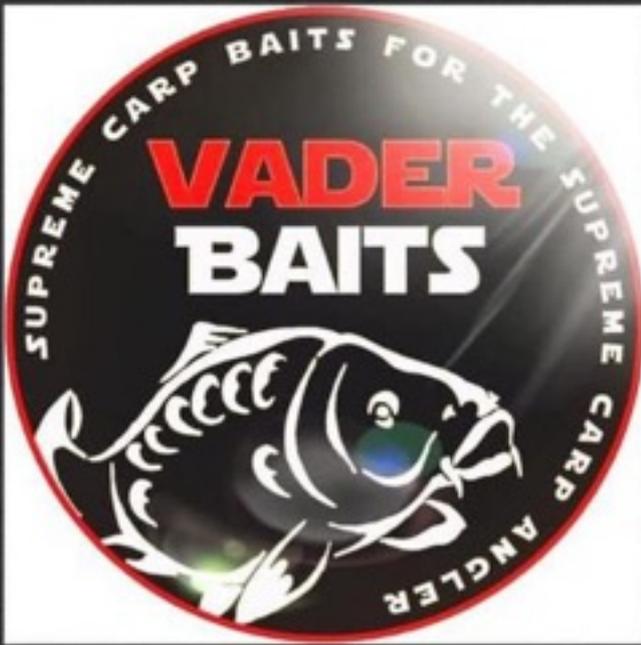
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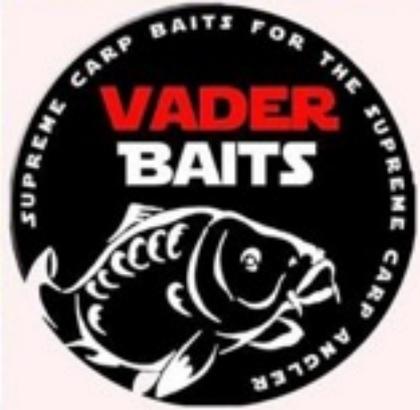




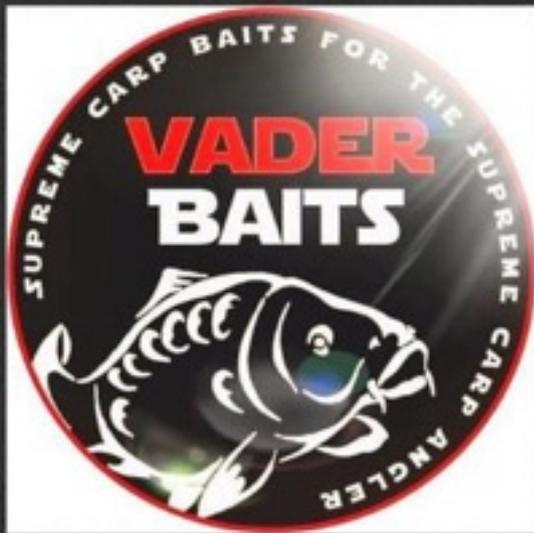
Team member Adrian fished our Vader Baits social at Stafford Moor Fishery! He drew a peg called Albert square the first 24hrs was very quiet with no action. After seeing some fish move he reposition his rods for the last 24hrs to an overhanging tree and baits it up with 1kg of pellet and 1kg of Le Nutz boilies this resulted in landing 2 carp that night firstly a 18lb mirror followed up by a 25lb 9oz mirror in the early hours of the morning. The fish where tempted by a white Le Nutz pop up teamed up with a solid PVA bag of pellet! Well done Adrian on retaining the Vader Baits carp cup trophy and great angling!



**Team member Chris headed to Hogsbrook Fishery for a short 8 hour session where he landed a lovely 25lb 2oz carp and a new P.B for his efforts. He caught the fish using a Le Nutz pop up over a bed of pellets and party mix!
Great angling Chris**



What a superb catch report from our best young Vader elite angler Taya Baker!!! Well done young lady some absolutely fantastic fishing skills used to land these wonderful common carp while fishing out with her dad Luke Baker!!! Really well done, you're the future of our wonderful sport!!! Keep it up little lady awesome job!!!!



Team member Tim fished our Vader Baits social at Stafford Moor Fishery! With a fishless first day and night it was time to freshen up the bait and check the hook sharpness and after seeing a few fish show on the far margin Tim took no time getting a rod to them at around 7pm the alarm started to twitch and it was not long until that twitch turned into a run and after a nice fight the fish was on the bank a lovely 21lb 3oz new P.B for Tim. The fish was tempted by a 14mm Grafter boilie tipped with a white Tutti Fruiti tuna pop up. After a soaking for his P.B he got the rod back out to the spot. The next bit of action came at 3am on Sunday morning. He landed a 10lb 8oz carp and was tempted by a 14mm Grafter boilie tipped with a white Tutti Fruiti Tuna boilie.

Great angling Tim and congratulations on you're P.B from all the Vader Baits team!

Le Lees Carp Fishery

Welcome everyone to LE LEES Carp Fishery.

We are a new venue officially opened in 2018. It is a family run venue, by myself, Matt, Tracie my partner and my son Thai.

Its been tough and we have been working hard to get the place ready for fishing this year. We purchased the place 3 yrs ago in a small rural village in brittany called Le Croisty.

With limited stock from a few pounds to 36lb. It is a 2 and a half acre lake, set in 6 acres of wood surrounded by fields. island in one corner with lilies in 2 corners,

The depths range from 7/8 feet around island gradually shallowing to around 2ft. We had the lake netted in 2016 and removed all the small roach, rudd and carp under 10lb. We put back over 80 carp from the netting in november that year and by february 2017 we introduced the new stock which ranged from 28lb to 48lb.

Our carp now go over 50lb. We estimate the lake has 150+ carp. We did not start this adventure to earn a ton of money, we started this for the love we have of fishing and to bring pleasure to others like minded.

We are a drive and survive venue for this year, with plans to introduce 5 small cabins as the venue grows. There is a caravan with cooker, water and toilet. We understand that fishing here in France can be very expensive, which is why we have priced our place to help make fishing here more affordable.

Le Lees Carp Fishery

Our price over the winter months (november 1st to march 31st) is 130 euros PPPW. 1st april to 31st october 150 euros. We also do an evening meal at 70 euros pppw.

Lake exclusive for upto 5 carpers with an evening meal is 750 euros pw.

Book a weekend from friday to sunday for 70 euros PP, or ask us for days to suite you and we will give you a great price.

At the moment we are doing a deal for any week this year (if booked before the end of February 2020 you will ge your fishing plus an evening meal for £150 per person).

A 50 euro PP deposit (non refundable) secures your booking.

Anymore info required, ferries, directions, reviews and more pics please visit our FB page.

Thank you for reading and we hope to see some of you on the bank landing some of our fantastic carp here in france.

Tight lines and may the carp gods bless you all. Best wishes

Find us on Facebook for further information.

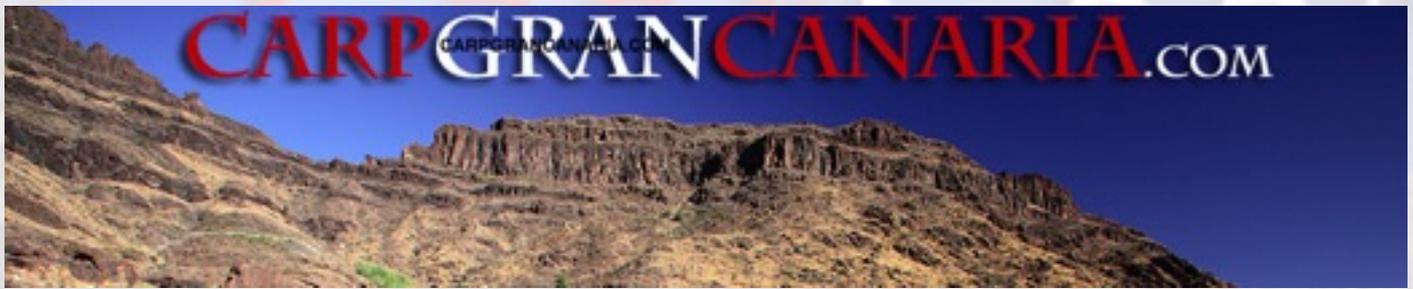
Matt, Tracie and Thai.



Le Lees Ca



rp Fishery



Well, we are now 8 months into 2019 and what a fantastic few months it has been. The biggest out of Lake Chira this year so far is a 47lb along with many other 40s, 43 and 45 many upper 30s and 30s, the fish have definitely got bigger and still as beautiful as ever and the great fight of the Canary Carp as always is truly amazing!!

Many holidays with the guys either staying on the bank 24hrs a day or having one of our accommodations, either apartments or a beautiful Canary House with pool that can sleep up to 6 persons, great for fishing the days, cooling off in the pool with a few cold ones and bbq!!! something for everyone, either with the lads or bring the family.

You can also book any duration short break on the bank or with accommodation.

If you are coming to Gran Canaria on a holiday, we offer day excursions either carp or bass fishing and we have a separate day trip area where we offer an all inclusive day including your pick up and drop off from your hotel or meeting point, a guided mountain drive, 2 rod Nash set up with all relevant tackle and equipment, bait, end tackle, license, light lunch and refreshments and you are fully guided, 8 hours of fishing in the beautiful mountains, peace and tranquil and some of those stunning Chira carp!!

We do have the odd weeks left for 2019 and we are already booking for 2020. We do have our offer on for a minimum of 4 anglers we offer a free apartment for the duration of your holiday.

So if you want to turn your dreams into reality and see what everyone is talking about and catch some of the famous Lake Chira carp, look no further and contact Ali or Dave at Carpgrancanaria.com, info@costadelcarping.com or 0034637939680 Facebook, Instagram, message or Whatsapp.

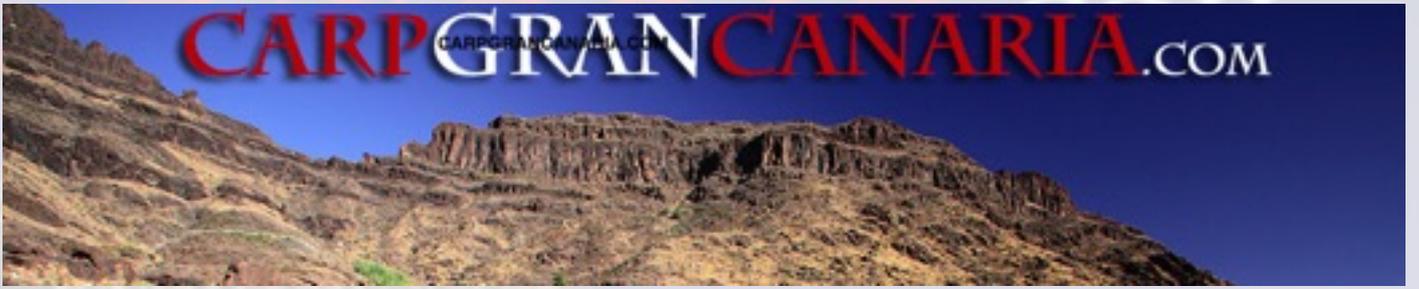
We also offer tailor made holidays for you, maybe a weeks fishing and a week on the beach!!!

Non fishing partners are catered for and groups are welcome.
Tight lines

Dave, Ali, Joe and the team at carpgrancanaria.com.



BOOK WITH US FOR THE HOLIDAYS



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**STAY AT HOME, STAY SAFE &
LOOK AFTER YOUR FAMILY.**

**Please send your articles and catch reports
by the 28th August 2020 for next months
magazine**

**brian.dixon@talkingcarp.co.uk
mark@talkingcarp.co.uk
m.galli@talkingcarp.co.uk**



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'The Talking Carp Team'

**Brian Dixon
Mark Faulkner
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