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Hello And welcome

This month is quite an exciting month as we opened up the doors and offered places for new writers, keeping to our original ethos of being the carp magazine written by the angler, for the angler. And you certainly didn't disappoint!! Our email inbox blew up!! So this month and going forward you will see some more new names as we give the chance for everyday anglers to tell their tales, and we have some great pieces lined up.

Everyone is welcome here at Talking Carp, so if you feel you would like to see your written work in print please don't hesitate to get in touch. We look forward to hearing from you.

Inside this month we also have your regular writers
Scott Geezer Grant and Gary Milky Lowe bringing their
latest exploits from the banks and catch reports from
around the country.

We also have a report from the Wyreside Junior Carp
Camp as another successful event took place.
Anyway, that's all for now.... Keep those emails
coming and enjoy the magazine.
Happy carping....
Email us at

brian.dixon@talkingcarp.co.uk
Or buggy@talkingcarp.co.uk

Team Talking Carp

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Team X Stream,
Carp Company
Vader Bait
Wyreside Fishery

Freezer Fresh for optimum quality



Skunk & Plum Marine & Seed Mix



This bait was an addition to the Skunk range, at Darenth Valley Baits way back in the early 90°S.

It has all the Old school attraction qualities of the Original Skunk Oil bait, but with the addition, of our beautiful Plum flavouring, which of course is from a nature identical background, locking in all the benefits of the vitamins contained in the fruit.

This bait has also been responsible for thousands of captures all over Europe and is still doing the business.

This bait has such a fruity smell, but again is perfectly balanced with the Marine & Seed mix and has the silt busting, quality fruit powders added, to keep the bait attractive, should your fishing require leaving baits submersed for longer periods.

This bait is now available again, after so many years of sitting quietly in the archive of recipes and is no imitation.

In Fact the only change from the DVB recipe is the addition of Galaxy Baits Medi- Chlorian our health booster!

This is an all year mix and will release, all the attraction signals, in freezing cold conditions.

It works fantastic in the summer months, but, we suggest using the Galaxsea Plum in warmer conditions, as the high content of Fishmeal in the Atlantic specimen mix shines like the sun.

Yet another Bait for the 'Great Baits in History' Bible.

BEWARE of cheaper imitations!

Formerly Known as

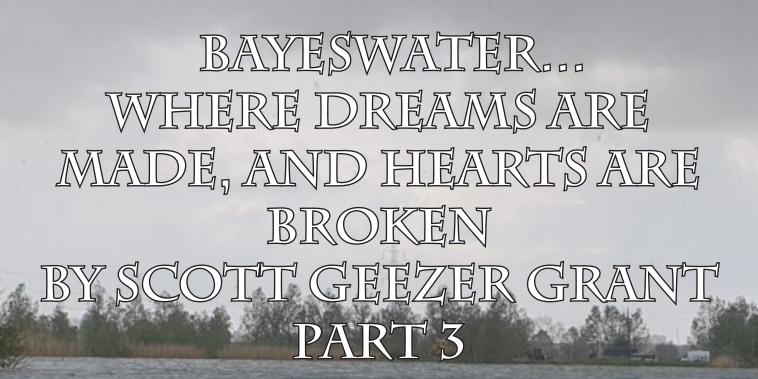


DARENTH VALLEY BAITS

















It was the beginning of May before my next session and I was excited as ever, the weather was now a bit warmer than my April session and I was hoping the weather would really warm up which in turn will get the fish moving about burning energy up and then they will have to eat.

I arrived at the lake early afternoon and there were a few anglers on. I grabbed my brolly and went for a walk round. Swims 1.3. 5. 7 and 8 were taken so I had the choice of swims 2, 4, 6 and 9. Porky was in 5 and I stopped off briefly but he was slipping in and out of consciousness as he had just come off his night shift, so I left him to it and walked round to Jon who was in swim 7. The Legend Gary Bayes was sitting with him chatting as was Charlie. I stayed and chatted for a bit then carried on around the lake. Sam had not long got here, and he was in 8, again I stopped off and had a quick chat.

I then carried on and got to swim 9 the furthest swim from the gate, I stood in the swim just watching the water for any signs of carp. Then Jim came walking down the track with a big grin on his face, I know he loves this swim and the man only needs to catch the Coconut to complete his time on this magical place. I asked him if he wants to go into 9 he can and I will go into either 2 or 4. He said he was only doing the night and that I should go into 9 as I was here first, but that's just not me and I reiterated to him if he wants to go in there its fine with me, I just want everyone to



be happy and catch fish

Jim wouldn't have any of it, so it was swim 9 I was going into. I had a look around the snags and there were fish milling about not loads of them but enough to make me feel confident that I was fishing for them. I made my way back to the car and started the arduous task of barrowing my gear to the swim. It took 2 full barrowloads and when the last one was at the swim: I took a much-needed rest. I have promised myself a new electric barrow this year to make my life a little bit easier.

It took me some 3 hrs before everything was sorted and the rods were out, and the kettle was on. I fished 3 rods on the deck and 1 on a zig, chosen bait was the ever-faithful Nut Job wafter fished over freebies and HOB

chilli/maize/hemp with a handful of tigers purchased from Matt Bewers.

Scattered all over the bottom of the lakebed is stringy fresh grass weed, not dense in any way so the bait is presented and fishing. By the time I had sorted everything out it was just getting dark, so after a quick coffee I laid back for a well-deserved rest. Nick called me and said he would be down tomorrow morning if there were any swims free. I told him Sam

was leaving at 07:00 o'clock for work so if he gets here early and there's no one else waiting for a swim he could fish in 8. I spent the next few hours listening for any signs of fish crashing and retired to bed around midnight.

Come 05:30 the alarm was going off and as I exited the bivvy for a leak Nick was standing there with his thermal cup in hand, he scared the life out of me!!!!

He had put his barrow up in 8 and would







be going in when Sam leaves for work. I put the kettle on and made us both a coffee. Nick was all excited and having 3 nights in front of him, as Monday is the Bank Holiday was a bonus, he was hoping to catch his first Bayeswater Carp. I must admit I am hoping he does catch and to share the moment would be a pleasure. Just as the sun started to rise a few fish started to show but they were out in front of swim 1, and if they moved say 20 yards back towards me

that would make me a happy chappy.

As I looked over at Mike, (who was in swim 1) he was stood at the front of the swim playing a fish, after a few hairy moments he slipped the net under what looked like a good fish, which confirmed it was after he let out an almighty YESSSSSSS!!!!

Porky and Jim were straight round to him, and it was confirmed he had banked "Buggies" at 47lb 12oz and it was his first fish

from the lake.

I was over the moon for him, and he savoured every moment and why not the fish is just breath taking. With the obligatory photo shoot complete Mike was truly stunned as to what had just happened. Later that morning Jon Mac lost a fish up in swim 7, so the fish were definitely spread out and by the looks of it they are feeding but only for short periods. Nick was all set up in swim 8 fishing all his rods on the bottom. A couple of





hours later Mike was in again the same rod produced a fish known as the Italian at 32lb plus, and he followed this up with a stockie of 22lb. The fish were in front of him and he was making the most of it.

It's really weird this year as 99% of the fish have succumbed to bottom baits whereas the last 2 previous seasons 99% of the fish have fell to zigs!!

There are also certain fish that only make a couple of appearances each year but this year "Buggies" has already been out 3 times where previous seasons she only came out twice a year. It's just mad how much the lake has changed this year, I had written all the information down in my little book so I can be in the right place at the right time only for it all to change. Is this

the effects of Global Warming? Who knows but one thing is for sure everything has changed?

I intended to fish until the Saturday afternoon, but the weather had other ideas. With motionless bobbins come Saturday morning I was hoping it wouldn't be another blank session. The weather had taken a turn for the worst and the rain mixed with hailstones came down in torrential fashion, and there was no way I was packing up in it, so I made a call to the Mrs who said stay until Monday if you want, you're not back to work until Tuesday!! I don't need telling twice, so now it was game on surely the fish are in and out of the bay swimming right over my bait. Later in the afternoon the rain had eased off and so had the wind.



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it was like a completely different day.

I reeled in the rods and went for a walk, I stopped off at Nicks for a coffee, then carried on round. It was nice to get out of the swim for a while and to rest the swim, plus gather my thoughts and maybe come back with a new plan. After a couple of hours, I was back in my swim, I had scouted the snags and there were a few good fish milling about. I decided to move my right-hand rod and fish it just off the snags, a nutjob wafter with some crushed boilies and a generous amount of HOB Chilli/hemp/maize and a handful of tiger nuts purchased from Matt Bewers. I was confident in the

drop and knew the rod was fishing. I kept the other 2 rods on the deck but fished them further out, and the fourth rod was the zig rod, this was fished at the bottom of the shelf

off the island. Later in the evening myself and Nick were sitting in my swim having a brew when there was an almighty eruption over in the snags, just behind where my rig and bait were, this gave me even more confidence that the fish were in the area and feeding. I was sitting there with my waders on ready to go straight in the water should the rod go. I sat in my waders until it was time for some shut eye and when I did lay down, I made sure they were at the ready should I get a single bleep.

I drifted off to sleep and the next thing I knew my phone was ringing, it was Nick saying he's caught a fish, I told him to secure the fish in the net or a sack and I would get dressed and be down. When I looked at the time it was nearly 05:00 o'clock in the







morning!!!! I jumped out the bag got dressed and just as I was having a leak my rod hand rod let out a single bleep, I quickly finished my business jumped into the waders and waded out to the rods, I looked at the tip and again there was a single bleep, I lifted the rod and the fish was on, it fought hard from the moment I made contact with it staying deep and taking line whenever it wanted it. Nick appeared from behind me and said "thought you was coming down" I was mate until my rod went, it was lucky he was there as the fish went on a run and I just couldn't stop it, when I did get the fish under

control it
had gone
through
my other
two lines
and this
was now
becoming

a mission. Nick grabbed the net and when the fish was in reach, he slid the net under it. Boy that was a fight and half, when I looked in the net. I knew straight away which fish it was and ves it was one of the A Team. I bit my line and untangled the other rods and whilst I was looking after the fish Nick wound the rods in. With the mat. scales and camera sorted I lifted the fish from the water and laid her in the cradle, as I unveiled her Nick said "my god what a fish" yes it was the "Equals Linear" a fish on everyone's radar and one I really wanted to catch. The hook was buried in the bottom

lip which I was really happy with. Once removed and some antiseptic applied it was time to zero the scales and hoist her up. Charlie who was in swim 3 popped round and as I lifted her up on the tripod, I let the pair of them read the scores out. Nick said "Geeze you've only gone and done it" to which I replied just tell me the weight

Nick. His words were "40lb 1oz mate a massive well done" Charlie

was smiling also congratulating me I was absolutely buzzing my first 40lber from Bayeswater. Nick done the honours with the camera; Charlie took some photos on his phone then she was returned. I was smiling like a kid at Christmas. We then went down to





what fish Nick had caught, once she was out the water and, on the mat, I knew which fish it was "Pawprint" another of the A Team that doesn't come out that much, and this was Nicks first Bayeswater Carp. With the Fox digitals zeroed I lifted her up and the scales settled on 35lb exactly, Nick was so happy, and I was happy to be there and share the moment. this is what fishing is all about. I took some pukka shots for him and a few water shots then he returned her safely. I went back to my swim put the kettle on and then sorted the rod out and got it back out to the same area. Again, I used the same bait and freebies, Nick appeared for his coffee and as we sat there. I could see Jon was into a fish and he banked a fish called "The Sheriff" at 33lb plus.

Mike who was in swim 1 was now packing up and Porky who was in swim 5 moved straight in there and who can blame him, nothing's happened in swim 5 for the past 3 nights and the fish were definitely in the area. Later in the afternoon Porky was all settled in and had a new level of confidence about him, and it wasn't long



before he was into a fish. I quickly wound the snag rod in and went round to him, when I got there the fish had kited to his left and his line was now going under the marginal trees, I grabbed his waders and helped him get in them, he then jumped in the water and managed to steer the fish out, after another 5 minutes or so I slid the net under a lovely mirror, Porky was exhausted poor fella!!! He got all his things together whilst I held the fish in the net to recover, then when everything was ready, he lifted the fish out onto the mat. It was another one of the A Team member in the shape of the "Half Lin" and she looked in mint condition, on the scales she went 34lb 12oz.

The paparazzi was in full flow and Porky was making the most of it



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and why not moments like this are very special especially here at Bayeswater. With the fish returned I went back to my swim and got the snag rod back out and on the money. I spent the rest of the day lazing about and catching up on sleep, well trying to. That evening Nick cooked us both a lovely dinner which went down a treat. No more fished graced the bank and come Sunday morning it did look good for another take: I went down into the snags with my polaroid's on and could see a few good fish still lurking about. But they weren't there in numbers as they were this time last season, which had me a little worried. But I kept the faith and stuck to my guns, I was happy with the areas I was fishing and surely it was only a matter of time, before I got another take. My

food stock was low, as I had stayed longer than expected, so I decided a takeaway from Boss Hogs was in order. As Nick had treated me to dinner the previous evening it was my turn to return the favour. I made the call and ordered 2 half pounders with chips and all the trimmings. Some 30 minutes later Nick was sat in my swim while I drove up to the gate and collected our dinner. I got back to the swim and we both made ourselves comfortable and ate our dinner. When we finished, I put the kettle on, and as we sat there all bloated drinking our

tea the right-hand alarm beeped once, I jumped up jumped in the waders and walked out to the rod. I watched the tip and as it bent round slightly, I lifted the rod and the fish was on. As I was fishing locked up as soon as I lifted the rod the fish came away from the snags and was out in open water, after 10 minutes and with the fish finally under control I slid the net under another scaley mirror.

Nick went and got his waders, and he also brought his digital scales and cradle. Nick waded out to where I was with the cradle



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and with the fish safe in the net. I lifted her into the cradle then made my way back to the bank. When I peeled the net back. I knew which fish it was, another A Team member ticked off the list in the shape of the "Hawaiian Honey". The sling was zeroed, and the fish hoisted up, the scales settled on a weight of 38lb 11oz. I was blown away, as we were losing the light, I wasted no time in getting the photos

completed and the fish returned. Nick done the honours and again I was grinning from ear to ear. Could this session get any better, I had already stayed 1 more night then planned which produced a fish, and the same has happened again, at this rate I will be staying here for a month!!!

The next morning saw me packing up and heading home with a big smile on my face, let's hope the next session is just as good. I would like to thank the following companies for their products of which I use in my fishing.

www.galaxybaits.co.uk

www.sharptackle.co.uk

www.hookedonbaits. co.uk

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

All the best

Geezer



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#PARTICLEPERFECTION



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Having been around fishing all of her life, due her father being a keen Course Fishing Match Angler, it may not be so surprising that Laura is herself a keen angler but with a serious passion for carp. What may be surprising though is how quickly she is establishing herself in the world of carp angling with a Team spot with Kodex Tackle and a UK and French PB that many anglers can only dream of and all this in less than eighteen months of getting the 'Carp Bug' and committing all her spare time to the sport.

I caught up with
Laura at the recent
Carp in the Park
event at Billing Aqua
Drome and asked her
about her passion
and somewhat
obsession of all
things 'Carp'...!!

MG: Laura, welcome to the pages of Talking Carp and thanks for taking the time to speak with me.

Having, been around angling for many years, when and how did carp angling become your focus..?

LM: Only just under 18 months ago. I'd been around fishing all my childhood with my father's involvement in the sport and went a couple of times with him, but the passion never really took hold. Martin took me fishing for our first wedding anniversary and I caught my first carp, I was really excited but still wasn't overly eager to take up fishing immediately. It really wasn't until we went to France in March 2018 that it hit me.

We were fishing Robin Lake on the Domaine de Goncourt complex and I'd spoken with the owners Pascal and Phil, and they said I could fish the stock pond behind our end of the lake, (thought this might be a better idea based on my ability at the time!!!). I had 6 fish over the week, biggest being about 16lb but the first one I caught was an absolutely stunning dark and bronze mirror and the minute I saw her I completely fell in love with angling and knew I wanted to do it more...

MG: What gear did you start off with and how if at all has that changed as you got more and more involved with...?



LM: I started with a couple of hand me down bits from Martin, I had 2 ESP rods that he'd had for about 15 years! I also had a couple of Shimano Baitrunners and used some Fox Micron m alarms. I used the ESP's up until I started with Kodex then upgraded to three of their KXi 3.25tc rods paired with Shimano Ultegra Ci4 1400 XTC's and I use a set of ECU bite alarms

MG: Not a bad setup then and transformation in such a short space of time. Would you say you have an obsession with carp fishing, is it more than just a hobby..?

LM: Absolutely! And it's definitely more than just a hobby, I'd

happily work 3 days a week and fish 4 if I could!

MG: How quickly did that obsession grow and what were the driving factors behind it...?

LM: Surprisingly quick actually. As soon as we got back from the France trip, I was starting to look at getting all my own gear, getting out on the bank more and also finding a syndicate water to fish for that year

MG: Although you clearly have 'keenness' and drive, do you feel the need to prove yourself on the bank in such a male dominated sport...?

LM: No, not at all. Most of the people I

know and fish with all have at least 20 years' experience under their belts and they are very aware that I am only a beginner. I don't feel like I have to prove myself as I'm not at the same ability level as them. I really only feel I have to prove myself to me, I'm not doing this to impress anyone but to be the best that I can be in my own angling

MG: What a great attitude to have towards the sport but do you feel that the male anglers feel the need to prove themselves to you...?

LM: Not really, I do get some people that like to hijack my Social Media posts with their own pics but other than that, no, not normally



MG: I think that is a common trait of Social Media to be fair, that people feel the need to post their pics on someone else's post.....You said you started Carp fishing with Martin and I guess he was teaching you as you fished...Has that changed at all now...?

LM: Yes massively.
Martin has been fishing for 15-20 years and has his own goals within his

angling. I have 15 years to catch up on and I realised I have so much to learn so I have started to branch out and seek advice and have lessons with other anglers. Martin brought me a tutorial with Adam Penning for Christmas 2018, and I did this in February this year. Since then I have fished with Dave Levy and Mark Foster and had a casting tutorial with Terry Edmonds. I find it very hard to learn from my

husband as we don't communicate that effectively with what I need to learn and then we get annoyed with each other!! It's much easier to learn from someone who strips it back and starts from scratch not knowing how much or how little you know...

MG: What waters have you fished and what PB's do you currently hold...?



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LM: I predominantly fish Monk Lakes in Kent and Willow Park in Aldershot and so far, have fished a couple of lakes on the Domaine de Goncourt complex and Deux Iles a couple of times in France

UK pb's are 42lb 8oz mirror and 23lb 4oz common French pb's are 40lb 8oz common and 34lb 12oz mirror

MG: So you already have some big targets to push towards then, with such high PB's already and a big well done on those too....How did the connection with Kodex Tackle come about..?

LM: Martin and I had set up a little 'Hubby Vs Wifey' challenge one weekend and

the aim was to fish 3-day tickets over 3-days and see who had the most fish. We wanted to fish Willows Angling Centre on Friday, Monk Lakes on Saturday and then finish at Willow Park on the Sunday. Unfortunately, we got heatstroke on the Friday and couldn't fish on the Saturday so decided to do Monk Lakes at a later date. I had followed Mark Foster, Kodex's Head Consultant, on Facebook for a while and knew that he fished a lot at Monk

Lakes so decided to message him on the Friday before we were due to fish there and ask him

for some advice and tactics.

He replied, gave me some hints and tips about baits and rigs and that was that. We set up on one of the day ticket lakes on the Saturday morning and I uploaded my usual 'Carpy pic' to Facebook and he messaged me saying he would pop over and say hi.... He spent the next few hours with us talking about our fishing and what I wanted to do and where I saw myself going forward, helped me with casting



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accuracy and then left us to it. About two weeks later he called me and told me that he was impressed with my passion and asked if I wanted to be a consultant for Kodex. I did say to him I was concerned as I'm relatively inexperienced and really couldn't believe they wanted me, but he reassured me that I was what they were looking for and I feel completely honoured to have the backing of

them on my journey

MG: Do you feel more pressure to catch now that you are part of a Team...?

LM: Absolutely none whatsoever.

MG: I presume you enjoy the Social Media side of Carp angling, which is all part of the scene now, especially if you are associated with

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a 'Team'...do you get much negativity from other users...?

LM: I actually feel very humbled that, as far as I am aware, I have had no negativity from anyone on social media. I know that there are other female anglers that have had a hard time, but I seem to just get good feedback and lots of encouragement from everyone

MG: What advice would you give to other female anglers out there and is there anything you might do differently if you had the chance...?

LM: Never be afraid to ask for help. Every single person I have ever approached has been so amazing and willing to give me



guidance which I've found invaluable over the last 12 months.

I think the only thing that I would have done differently was to start off with float fishing rather than jumping straight into carp angling. I feel I've missed out on that skill set although I have got some days lined up for different species hunting which I'm really looking forward to

MG: You have a fulltime job, so how do you fit your fishing in and is it always

a family affair...?

LM: Its only me and Martin so I'm in a very privileged position that I can more or less fish when I want. Also, my job is pretty

flexible, and I can work from the bank!

MG: That sounds the perfect setup with work and leisure then, do you have any plans to start your own vlogs/blogs in the future or does that not appeal to you...?

LM: Not at the moment but I wouldn't rule it out as a future possibility





MG: maybe we can tempt you to write for Talking carp then in the future and keep us updated of all your bankside exploits..??!

Social Media is strewn with pictures of female anglers wearing not much at all in some cases, what are your thoughts on this in relation to Carp Angling and the message it sends...?

LM: I personally do not see the need to be scantily clad whilst holding a fish and I question the reason why these girls do it. I'm serious about my angling and would much rather have someone respect me for the fish I've caught than the fact I've got an amazing pair of boobs!!

When we live in a world where woman are constantly banging on about equality, being treated fairly and not having guys letching all over them, I think it seems a little contradictory to then be in a bikini trying to get the most likes you can on social media!

MG: So I take it from

that reply, you do not have any plans to go top-less with tight fitting shorts, as we saw in a recent certain persons YouTube 'Diary' and presume you will just leave that to Mr. Greg Ellis himself...?? (Joke. We love you really Greg)

LM: Haha! No, I think I'll leave that one to Mr Ellis as he does it so well:)



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MG: So, what's next for you now and in the future...?

LM: Just carrying on as I am really. I started the year with two clear goals; I wanted to catch a certain number of fish and also be able to fish independently from Martin and feel confident doing so. I'm halfway there on both so just going to spend the rest of this

year learning and practicing and loving what I'm doing!

MG: Laura, it's been a pleasure to interview you and your passion and commitment, along with your beaming smile in your catch pictures comes shining through. I look forward to watching your progress and maybe even learning a trick or two from you along the way too and hopefully, this is not the last we see or hear from you in the pages of Talking Carp..!!!

'Quick Fire'
Questions.....which
do you prefer...

- Commons or Mirrors..? Mirrors
- Day
 Sessions or
 Overnighters or
 Longer Sessions..?

24-48 hour sessions

- Small or Big Waters..? Small
- Remote
 Locations or Full
 Facilities..? Remote
- UK or
 Outside...(If outside,
 name the country)
 UK but there are tons
 of places in Europe
 that I'm dying to fish!!!
- Spring /
 Summer / Autumn
 / Winter fishing..?
 Spring and Autumn
- Bottom or
 Surface..? Bottom
- Close In or Long Range..? Close in
- If you could only fish one more session, where would it be..? Bayeswater Syndicate Lake



• What was your most memorable Fish you caught and why? I think it has to be the 18lb mirror I had from Wraysbury last August. I'd won an auction for a weekend

fishing with Gary
Bayes at Wraysbury in
aid of Lucy's Bowl for
Martin's 40th Birthday
present. I was invited
along and told to bring
my rods and I had
two runs, one lost and

one landed. She was absolutely beautiful, a new pb and a carp from Wraysbury which was a place I thought I'd never get to fish..!!

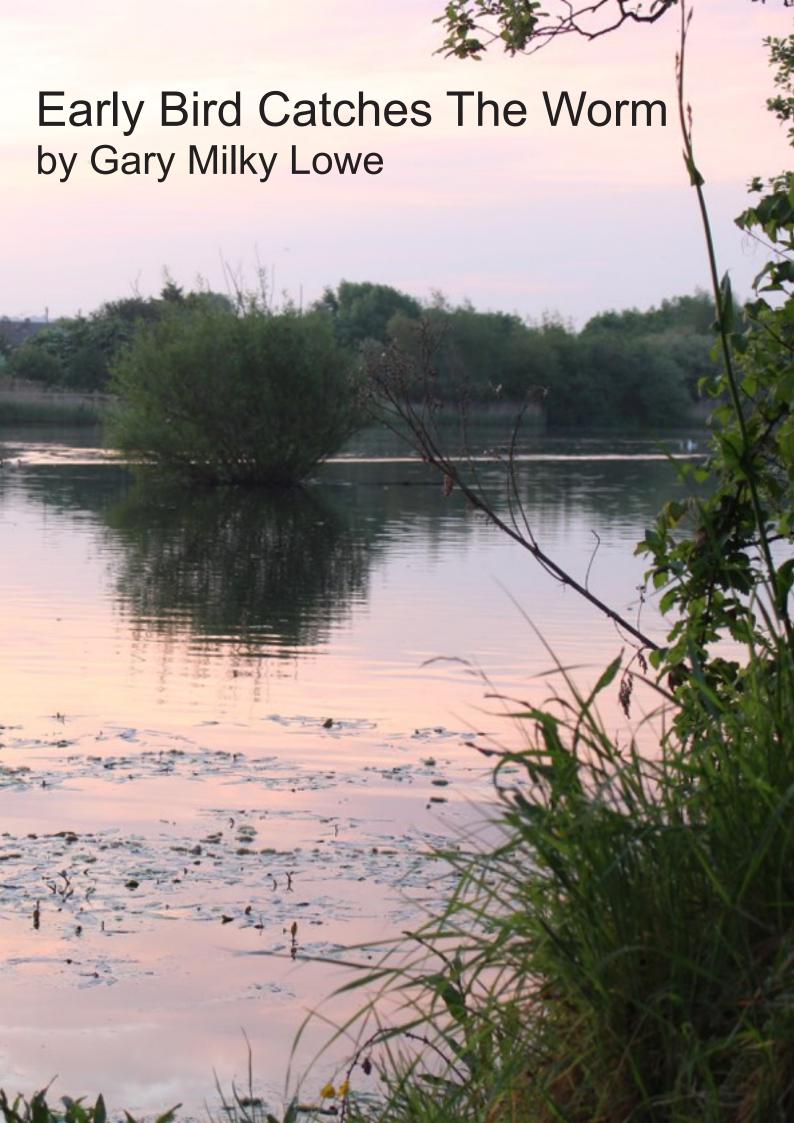
www.kodextacklecom











With work really hectic now and a lot of big changes that are being made, I've not had much time to get out to my syndicates, so I've stayed close to home and the park lake is perfect for that as its just five minutes from my house. I've had some good results on there over the last few months so as its close I could just get over there for a few house when i could as I knew that there was a spot that I could try and stalk a few carp from.

I knew that I would have a few hours free on the Friday, so I was going to go over the Thursday night and bait a few spots with a mixture of bait... some Munch Baits Dead Reds and Bio Marine bottom baits. I took a walk over the pond just on dark as it should be a less people walking around as it's a country park

and its always busy with people and the other plus is that most of the ducks should be in hiding as its ducks and birds galore which makes it a nightmare to bait up in the day. I came up to one of my favourite stalking swims, it's a tiny little swim with small pads in front of it with the odd hole in them and to the right there is a tree that over hangs the bank and the fish love to hang around it so I put in a few kilos of Munch Baits Bio Marine around that and then a few over the back of the pads

for the second rod if I do manage to fish here tomorrow. After that I move round to another swim which was swim 3 on the other side of the lake and that swim has a big tree on the left hand side that also hangs over the water and also has a big bed of weed that runs out in front of the swim that the fish patrol. I done the same in this swim and put a few kilo over each area that I thought the fish then took a walk round to just have a good look to see if I could see anything in the other swims but I didn't



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see any signs of fish anywhere so I walked back home and got my stuff ready for the morning.

I set the alarm for five in the morning so I could get to the lake for when it gets light. Well it only felt like I had been in bed five minutes when the alarm went off at 4.30. A quick wash and a hot brew and I was off to the lake. The barrow was loaded, and I set off to my first swim that was swim 3. I gently took my gear down to the swim, so I didn't

scare any
fish off if
there was
any in the
area. The
rigs I was
going to use
were my
favourite
rig and that
was the
spinner rig
with one of
my home

made white pop ups and that was all put on a helicopter rig and then that was all pinned down with the Taska Evolve Shurelink Fluorocarbon splicable eader braid that will keep everything hidden. I tied a few pva bags of pellets, one was attached to the hook then the first rod was cast under the tree to my left and the other rod was cast close in just up against the weed. I didn't put any loose bait around each rod as I had baited up last night the pva bag was just to

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

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





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

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

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





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

Well I sat there for ages thinking about what to do. I thought of everything then the one thing that I didn't just came to me! Use a baiting spoon and push it under the tree to the other side where they were confident in feeding, the only problem with that was

I didn't have the spoon with me so I couldn't use that so I was just going to have to try and make the best of what I have and just get as far under the tree as possible with just the rod. I sat there for a few hours more and yes all I did was watch fish cruising over my bait but not picking it up so I packed up and threw the rest of my bait in as was going to come back the following day for another go with the spoon and off I went.

I prepared some more bait which was pellet, sweet corn and a few broken boilie that

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should keep them interested, and that night I respooled with the Taska Deceptive Fluorocarbon mainline in 20lb. Now this line is super heavy so it would be flat along the bottom and out of sight of the fish when it is lying on the bottom through the tree and into their feeding area. I was going to keep the same rigs as I have total confidence in it so new rigs were tied ready for the morning. I was up early again and on my way to the ake before it got light was going to start in swim 12 this time as I think that's where I would have the best chance of a fish. I got everything ready for when I could see to get my baiting spoon under the tree and out the other side to the area that I knew they would feed in, I didn't have to worry about the fish snagging me up in the trees as all the

branches under water had been taken away so it was snag free I just had to worry about the pads but if I got a take I would keep my line tight and it should cut through the pads.

Well it was just light enough for me to see now so I loaded the baiting spoon with the rig and a pva bag then a few handfuls of corn and started to ship it out and slowly made its way through the trees and out the other side. I twisted the pole, and everything slid out and down with a donk onto clean bottom. I placed the rod on the rest facing the tree and tightened the clutch so it could just about take line and couldn't speed off and bury in the pads then I placed the other rod on the back of the pads. In front there was a little gap in the pads to bring a fish through if I hooked one. I sat there having

a nice brew when I saw the pads twitching in front of me, so I knew that there was a fish in close. The sun was now getting up and a few more fish started to show out in open water in the weed. I just need them to move in close. I found from around 8 in the morning onwards the fish move in close and start moving around the pads and under the tree, I crept up to the edge to see if there was anything moving around near the tree and there wasn't anything I could see so I sat back down and made a few new rigs for the following day as I was coming back for a few hours as that's all I can get at the moment. Whilst I was sorting the rigs out a good fish showed on the edge of the pads which spooked the coots that were milling around which was good... that will keep them away for a

bit. As the time passed the more fish I could see moving in close. and the fish were in and around the tree. so it was a matter of time till I got a take! I thought to myself well the park had got busy now with a lot of people walking round and kids on their bikes so I really thought that I had missed my chance as the fish would be on edge with all the commotion, so time was running out. I sat back down and put the kettle on for another brew and something to eat when I had a bleep on the rod that was on the edge of the pads then the rod melted off and I dropped my brew and grabbed the rod the fish tore off away and out into open water were the weed is and head first straight into it!! I kept the line tight and soon the fish was on the move... nice and slow because it had weed round its



head which I thought was a result, then the fish had a burst of energy and tore off again towards the weed. I thought I would apply a bit of pressure to stop it and then the bloody hook pulled... I was gutted as I had done all the hard work by getting the take. I reeled the rod in and sat down gutted but thought I better get the rod back on the spot in case I get a chance of another take.

Well I didn't see any more fish in open water or around the weed, I must have spooked them out of the area so I walked up the steps of the swim to have a look behind the tree through the bushes to see if the fish were behind the tree and yes, there they were sitting in the weed behind the tree so I still had a chance of a fish on the tree rod. I walked back and sat

down and made myself a new brew and a few people came around for a chat about the lake and then went I would say about an hour later. I saw the line twitch on the tree rod then it slowly started to move. I picked up the rod and kept the rod low to keep the line out the trees but tightened up

at the same time and as I did this fish tore off away from the tree through the pads and out into open water. It was going mad out there taking loads of line then every time I gained some line it went off on another run and this happened a few times which made me think I had foul hooked it. After a few



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minutes it got weeded, now I kept the line tight as it was a barbless hook as that's the rules on here and after a while I felt a kick and it started to come free with a big ball of weed round its head so slowly I gained line on it and I could see a big head coming towards me then it kicked and the weed came free giving it space to go on another run but this time I managed to stop it and started to bring it towards me now. I had to try and guide

it through the gap in the pads which I did quite easily, and it was soon in the net. I looked down and there was a nice dark old mirror in my net. I was over the moon to finally have one from the tree. It's taken

a few months to find out how they wanted to feed and get a rig there and its paid off. I had to move everything out the way in the swim to do the self-take photos as I don't trust any walker to get the shot, so the Shurecare mat was down, the camera on the tripod and then snap away a few snaps and a quick video. I weighed her on the scales she went 26lb. I was happy with that and I then slipped her back. Now I know what I have to do to

get a bite from that swim. I'll do it until it stops producing... it was getting on a bit now, so it was time to go home and do some work. I'll leave this there until next time just remember if it's not happening in your swim and you think it should be sit back and think about what you can do to turn a blank into a successful session so tight lines and see you next month

Milky



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Tore Zero Lead Free Leaders





 $\mathcal{W}e\mathcal{U}$ where to start

I finished my last article with full intentions of writing every couple of months and hopes of writing about how I caught fish on Gigantica on new year's eve week etc but that was not the case, however Luke and I had a fantastic week as always when you visit these places. So the year started for me with some positives and an opportunity that I never chased or ever expected to come my way tbh, I was speaking to a couple of new Facebook friends with a mutual interest to carp Angling who I was regularly speaking to chewing the fat about life and past captures and waters fishing along with planned trips. Not

thinking to much into it as I treat everyone on face value as person etc. I was speaking to one of these new found friends and we got on to the subject of Bait and what I use and how I use it, un known to me this person was the Mainline bait team Manager who asked me if id like to be apart at first I thought it was a wind up but it turned out to be true and after a brief conversation with the owner with the do's and don'ts fully understood I found myself like a fat kid in a sweet shop with his dads wallet order up bait left right and centre.

In early March I entered the British carp cup singles event On Little Hayes on the Todber Manor complex. I loaded my Land Rover up the night before and aimed to leave my house at 04:30. And

here is where the Bad times started, as I went to pull off the clutch went and I was rendered car less with 4 hours to make the draw and drive 130 miles. After ringing around and speaking to the organisers I was allowed to turn up late and go in to the swim which was left over. With a storm approaching fast I quickly set up and found my spots at the back of the wind it wasn't until the early hours I had my 1 and only fish around 19lb if my memory serves me correct. With the weather becoming un safe the match was ended early with the front 3 clearly out of sight at the front of the wind, so to sum up out of a 48 hour match I ended up fishing around half that. But I must not grumble at one point I was sitting on my bivvi to stop it blowing away. On the



positive side I did enter another qualifier later in the year.

With the Land Rover out of action I had very limited time on the bank and only a few sessions catching pasties etc I even had to cancel a trip to France with was very wounding. Nerveless there is always my syndicate lake which is a 10 acre lake with around 80 fish in it to weights of just short of 60lb to go for. I have fished for 12

nights so far this year which doesn't sound a lot but I can only fish every other weekend due to daddy commitments. As of yet I am still awaiting my first fish, I can assure you that if and when I do catch the likelihood is that it will be a 30+.

I was always told you make you own lucky in carp fishing and if you out time in you will get rewarded. I was chatting to the mainline team manager about tactics and blanking runs ect. and people who know me will tell vou where allowed my favoured bait is fake corn I have torn lakes apart with it over beds of crushed cell. He told me to give cell toppers ago as a hook bait. And this is where it gets interesting a little frustrated with

my over all blanking run of about 18 nights my friend (white Winston) and I choose to do a social at an Oxfordshire complex. I took around 8kg of corn, 5kg of cell crushed. We had around 48 hours on hour chosen lake. I had nothing on the first night and morning I thought stuff, it lets try the topper I spombed out around 30 spombs of corn and crushed cell. I then cast a single topper on a 6mm hair, and



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though nothing of it. Within 20 mins I had a screamer and it was a 29.08 lb I did the same process again and it ripped off an hour later and it was 25lb, nothing occurred during the second night so I repeated the process again and again after an hour or so it ripped of and it was a 24lb it was really unreal tbh so I did it again but used more bait well to be honest my last of it .. and 2 hours later boom it ripped off and when the fish was in the net boom my second rod ripped off and I really could not of believed it a pair of mid 20's, I can only put this down to the small changes. What was clear to see as you can in the pictures is that they are all big fish caught on small baits and small hairs. To say I was and still am buzzing is an understatement. I went back to what I know instead of listening to others in my blanking

run and I broke that circle. This year for me on a personal level has been rubbish and some dark times, however go with what you know listen to certain advice and you will catch. This is a short and sweet article this time as I don't really have much to report. I will update you all soon but until then.

Keep the carbon bent and the lines tight

Daz





Well it seems like such a long time ago I first cast out on my new venture, but I finally have my first fish. I've had 5 since the previous article to tell the truth, and at last the hard work is paying off.

After battling low oxygen levels, multiple spawns, a poor fishing year for the south all round it seems, and of course my limited hours. I've finally started to set a few hooks into a few lips!

Now I will say let's not get too excited. So far, I've only really hit into the stockies with the biggest at 27, but you have to start somewhere. And like I predicted with the use of tigers, they have all been commons!

Fishing tigers has really helped change my fortunes on there. Being able to fish a bait

on a crayfish water, that doesn't or rarely gets eaten by the crays is a big edge. I don't have time to put kilos and kilos day after day out. So, when I bait up, I need to know it is staying where I put it, and the carp are getting it. You hear people speak all the time of small edges and how important the small things are to your catch rate. I can tell you now, do not take that advice lightly. Small tweaks and edges come in all shapes and sizes, and the more you find to help you fish more effectively, the higher your catch rate will be. I know it sounds obvious, but I all too often see anglers sitting behind their Delkims and dozing. Or watching Peaky Blinders on an iPad or their phone, completely oblivious to whats going on around them.

Okay I will admit I do like a bit of YouTube and when conditions aren't favourable for seeing much, I can find myself a little distracted also. It's easily done, but what I will say is this. If you're prepared and pay attention mostly through your session, then a quick doze on the bed doesn't harm anyone's chances.

So, let's talk about these fine margins and edges...

The night I first caught I actually had 3, but it should have been a 1 fish session. What I mean by that is, if I hadn't put the extra effort in, spent time admiring my catch and being lazy, I certainly wouldn't have had the session I did.

The first fish came just a little after 12, a hard fighting mid double common which





absolutely beat me up in the margin. One of the first edges has just come into play in the most unlikely of scenarios, so subtle in fact you probably wouldn't think of it as an edge, and that's back leads. Yes, back leads. Why did back leads give me an advantage?

I'm fishing a gully quite close in, and I'm fishing multiple rods to the same area in fairly close proximity. The gully is a well-known patrol route from one body of water to the next and can gain a lot of traffic in the right conditions. Keeping lines out the way is vitally important in situations such as this. You may be scratching your head and thinking about how you fish slack lines, so whats the big deal?

Anticipating the rod space, I have and a deep margin in front, shelving up before

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dipping into said gully. I knew that netting and playing in the margin would be dangerous with fish gaining deeper water to run. Couple this with tight space and rods fishing in the same direction. it could result in wiping out rods and leaving me with a recasting job in the middle of the night, possibly on to feeding fish. By having the foresight to spot things like this, you can make life a lot easier for yourself. I landed

the fish with confidence and barely a bobbin twitch from the other rods. I don't care what anyone says, planning ahead and making life easy for yourself is an edge. Others would have simply opted for a slack line and felt that was sufficient. but with the margin so deep and then quickly shelving up, I needed to keep my line out of the deep where you could lose yards and yards of line and ultimately your bite indication. The back leads I can slide down to roughly where it shelves up and keep in reasonable contact with the lead, my lines out the way, and give me space to play in the margin.

The next edge is in the unhooking, and I mentioned this earlier with 'admiring your catch' which of course is nice to do. But not when fish are feeding!

The time you can be sure you are most likely to get a bite is straight after a fish. It's the one time you can quarantee fish are feeding because you know, you have one in your net. So don't waste time, unhook the fish in the net. wrap your rods back up, sharpen the hook and replace the bait as quickly as possible. Some will have rigs made and ready to go, that's even better. Get it back out and then deal with the fish.

This is how I ended up with fish number two. I

did exactly that and no sooner had I taken the fish from the net and into a retainer, the rod was back off again, this was the 27 and biggest so far.

So many anglers would be fiddling around with their camera, making a tea, rolling a cigarette and all the time they have fish feeding on their bait. So get it back out! As I said, the time you're most likely to catch, is when you've just caught.

he third fish was a classic an age old edge that has stood



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the test of time, and that of course is... always pack your rods down last! With just the rods left and me tapping my foot nearby, time was up and as I bent down to pick them up, the middle rod was off. Which made a bit of a rush forgetting to work I must say. But if I had packed the rods down first or not hung out the last couple of minutes, I would certainly have not caught that fish.

The point of me talking about these is essential to this article, as I walk and talk you through how to make the most of your time. Now I'm far from some genius, I'm certainly not the hardest working or most dedicated angler around. But I do go to catch, and if you don't put even this level of effort in, then you will struggle with limited hours fishing.

These are just examples of small things I do to help improve my chances and they are something I want to see more of you doing on the bank.

- Pre plan and think ahead, it's not just about how to catch them, think streamline
- You're most likely to catch when you've just caught. Get those rods back out and then worry about photos
- Keep those rods in for as long as possible! To the last second if you have to. For wherever you're going, it can always wait when you have a fish in your net.... Unless it's an emergency and then you probably should go Consistency is key also. Keeping an area working can be very influential in your bid for regular success. When you are looking at the swims on your

newly chosen lake, work out what time you get spare and what swims will be suitable for you to fish effectively. This is quite key when it comes to campaign angling on tough waters with limited time. It is different from day ticket or well stocked venues where angling pressure is high. I'll give you an example of what I mean.

If you're campaigning in a tough water with low to medium stock, you can guarantee you're not far from fish in most swims, but there is a difference from being on them and near them. You have two options, but I fear most of you will only get time for option two.

Option 1 is to take every opportunity, walk the dog, pop in after work or when the Mrs is out. Every chance



you get, go for a stroll and watch the fish, see where they are, where they go. Stay in touch with the lake and where the fish are coming from and take note of the conditions. That way you know where to be on any given day or night to really improve your chances of bagging up on your short sessions. Option 2 is the one I fear most of us are left with. Limited time

means you struggle to do the walks and get the time by the waterside to stay in touch and watch whats going on. So, your only option is to find swims you can drop in and get as much bait in as physically possible in your small window.

For me at the moment I'm utilizing a Tuesday after work. I often pick my son up that day so my partner doesn't

quite know what time I'm home, so I can steal a half hour there. Couple that with a 15 minute early finish from work, ahead of the rush and I've saved another 10-15 there. Which gives me an hour or approx to get my baiting done. Which is slightly hindered by the 20 minuets walking back and forth to the swim, and the parking up and grabbing my rod and bucket etc.





So, let's say a clean run I get 40 minutes to bait up and a bad run around 15-20 minutes. That sounds like decent time, but you'll be surprised how long it takes to spomb out a couple of kilos.

So, to make my life easy, I picked a swim that's not too far away, located with a decent strategical ambush point, and I have a plan b swim further down the bank that fishes roughly in the same water just in case. Also, I am fishing either 2 or all 3 rods to one spot, so I am only baiting one spot. This means I keep bait to one area, localising fish to one place, I can be quick, and if someone is in there. I have a backup plan.

I urge you guys and girls to do the same or similar. Find a swim that lets you bait a margin or somewhere

close to the swim. Find a swim that offers a good strategical standpoint and a good back plan. Again, you've heard me say it, but I'll say it again, streamline your approach. I bait up on a Tuesday, I fish on the Wednesday, and I bait Thursday morning before I leave, even if it's not accurate. Even if I just throw it out near-ish the spot for speed. This way I have had no impact on my normal day to day life, but I manage to make sure the lake see's bait in one area for 3-4 days of the week without me being

there and subject to feeding.
But as always, I'm writing this whilst in the middle of 100 things so I will leave

off here with hope of more stories to bring you next month. I feel like all I do is boil tigers these days as I now have to go take them off the hob in whats becoming somewhat a routine while I write every month.

Remember it's only the end of June as I'm writing this and there's plenty of fishing to be done if you're struggling for motivation. So, get out there and I'll see you in next month's article.

Daniel Winter





A Point to Prove...

by Andrew Taylor



Well, well, well, it's been awhile since I've done an article but I'm back with a cracking session on a venue that is close to my heart as it's a lake where my carp fishing began really, but I will come back to that in a little while...

So, where have I been?

What have I been doing?

Well to be honest not a lot really... the main things are, I've dropped off all my syndicates and the reason for this is if I was to plan to go fishing I felt I had to go to my syndicate... and to be perfectly honest I wasn't enjoying my fishing at the time... So, when I dropped off my syndicate at the start of the year I decided to write a list of fisheries I've wanted

to fish for a while... and trust me when I sav this, this list is the size of my arm, it seems to never end. With that said I am back in love with fishing, I'm fishing where and when I want, catching large and small fish, fat fish and thin fish and sometimes heavy fish and sometimes light fish... but it doesn't matter to me as long as I'm enjoying it! One thing I've come to realise is, never feel pressured into having to catch big carp to please others, it's about having fun and catching what you can so remember that... so go and enjoy it! I don' think I could be enjoying my fishing anymore!

So, I'm slowly but surely ticking off fisheries from my list... I will end on that note, as that is for another article, I'm in the process of planning.

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"No Blanking Allowed"... coming soon!

Right just before I start, I'd just like to mention a company I've become a part of as a Consultant, and that is Harrings' Bio-Weights.

These weights are made from natural materials instead of lead or full metal. with only the swivel and connector being made of metal. These weights have been designed to be biodegrade by some 99.9% over a prolonged period of immersion in water and what is the most amazing thing you can pick the size of the weight you want... but that's not all... isn't that just normal in a 'lead'? Well now you can also pick the shape and the style you want exactly...



Do you want a wood effect bio-weight?
Do you want a leaf looking shape bio-weight?

You choose how you want it to look, what your chosen weight is and whether you want it as an inline or as a drop off, you pick it all. If you would like to find out more about these amazing bio-weights, then I will leave links at the end of this article.

So, I'm back in love with fishing and one of my favourite sessions so far this year was a return to the place my carp fishing started all them years ago... Weston Lawns

Fisheries.
Now Weston
Lawns
Fisheries isn't
many people's
cup of tea... and
over the years
it's been slated
unfortunately
and unfairly in
my opinion as
it seems a lot

of people, so called anglers should I say think you just turn up to Weston Lawn Fisheries and you are guaranteed to catch no matter what... and when they don't end up having anything at all they instantly just jump on to social media and leave a bad review!

"There is no fish in the lake!"

"It's rubbish!"

"I never caught nothing for x amount of Talking Carp

days!"

Seriously it's called 'fishing' not bloody catching!!!

I'm literally sick to death of hearing bad reviews on Weston Lawns Fisheries. you can't turn up to a venue and guarantee to catch, not at Weston Lawns, not anywhere, you have to work for it and being like me, based in the Midlands, you are not quaranteed to find hardly any venues that guarantees you big carp every catch.

With that being said, there are loads of carp in Weston Lawns Fisheries... and as a matter of fact there are some big old carp in there too... and this session for me couldn't have gone any better to prove that...



So, my wife and I planned this session at the start of the year. We arrived Thursday 27th June for 72 hours in Cabin 7, the largest cabin on the venue. As always on arrival we were greeted by Alison at reception and after a little catch up and a chat she handed us our code to get into the cabin and gave us a map of the lake, as there are designated swims for each cabin and they have become really strict on this due

to people crossing them in the past. I was already aware of the designated swims from previous visits and they are pretty straight forward to follow and every swim has plenty of water to fish too. So, we headed to our cabin around 8:30am. Once we arrived, we unloaded the car and my wife sorted out the cabin stuff and I sorted out the main stuff... the fishing haha. Once everything was sorted and set up, I eventually got my rods out around 10 am. Over the years of fishing at Weston Lawns Fisheries I'd never before fished from this cabin as I'd always favour the smaller cabins on the opposite side of the lake.

So this side was quite new to me to be honest, but I felt really confident of a great session as I was fishing opposite my favourite swim which is from Cabin 2 and them two cabins share the same channel in between the island which is only fishable from either Cabin 2 or Cabin 7.

So, I chose to go for the same tactics I'd fish from Cabin 2. My first rod I opted to go for my favoured Mainline Cell tight under an overhanging tree on the left hand island. I crushed up 7 Cell





boilies into my
Waverunner Atom
and placed a single
glugged Cell boilie onto
a standard blow-back
hair rig and put that
into the boat and sent it
out.

My second rod I chose a Mainline Link Wafter over a bed of crush Link boilies, so I crushed up 7 Link boilies, I don't know why but i always choose 7 boilies when sending them out in my boat, 7 is my lucky number I say haha.

Now the best way to

know where I went exactly is to see the swim in person and you will know what I mean, but if not, I've added a picture in this article and if you look at that there is a huge tree coming off the right hand side island and

it hangs over half of the channel between the islands, and is inches off the water's surface where it hangs, so I use this a marker as I drive my boat directly under where it's just off the water and once under it I release the bait and rig from the hopper... job done.

Now my third rod I chose to just play around with and try and steal a bite or two and as it was really hot and the temperature was constantly on the up I would just cast to

showing fish, as there was quite a few carp cruising the surface or just lying basking in the sun.

As the day went on, and by the time it got to around 3/4pm I started to get a little bit frustrated as I must of covered every area of my swim but the fish just didn't seem interested and I'd tried my usual tactics and they just wasn't working. So, I decided I needed to make a change and try something different so I decide to trickle feed a spot which was around 3ft down the margin to my left. I decided to mix up a Mainline Power Particle Hemp in Cell flavour with two tins of sweetcorn and a good few handfuls of Mainline Cell Response Pellets, I then chopped up around 50 Cell boilies and mixed it altogether in a bucket:





I must say the RidgeMonkey boilie Choppa is absolutely amazing with how quick and simple it is to use, making life so much easier. I then proceeded to throw one handful in every half hour onto my chosen spot. As the sun started to fade around 10/10:30pm I decided

it was time to drop a single glugged Mainline Cell Wafter over the spot I'd been feeding down the margin. I decided to leave my other two rods on my chosen spots on the island as I was still

confident something would still happen at some point. After rebaiting and setting the rods for the night, it was now time to hit the sack.

sack

I was awoken to a screaming run... it was 4am Friday 28th June, and my rod in the margin had ripped off! Happy days I was into my first fish,

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my hard work and perseverance had finally paid off. After a short battle I had a gorgeous mirror carp in my net... get in! 15lb 8oz... a nice start to get off the mark. After a few snaps she was away to fight another day. I was buzzing, I'd finally had my first one, and it wasn't long before I was into my second one around the 7am mark, which ended up being a nice little common carp at 7lb... not the biggest, but they all count. I then decided to move that rod off the marginal spot and just fish it at night when the temperature drops. So I changed bait to a Mainline Essential IB pop up and chose to fish it on its own on a two foot deep shelf on the left hand island just along the treeline. I fished it popped up at around one foot off the bottom, so it was sitting perfectly for patrolling



carp.

At around 2pm I had a take on the Essential IB pop up and what a take it was! It nearly ripped the rod off the pod! I was into a huge catfish... but unfortunately it instantly snagged me up on the corner of the island. I couldn't budge it at all... all I saw was a huge tail of a catfish slap the surface and it was over in seconds... I had to ring the owner and tell them what had happened,

so he came over with the boat and freed me without me losing my rig. Unfortunately I lost the cat though, I was gutted... after about half an hour or so the owner came back to me and said he believed I'd hooked into the huge catfish that resides in there and very rarely comes out,... as a matter of fact he said it hadn't been out in over 4 years and it was last caught at 68lb... so who knows what it might of been now... I was gutted even more now knowing this...

After getting over the heartbreak of possibly losing the biggest fish in the lake I was into my 3rd fish just as night started to set in, this was caught on the Essential IB pop up. It was a gorgeous mirror carp at 17lb 6oz. After taking a few pictures she was set free. I then reset all my rods and

TalkingCarp



put one back on the marginal spot which I'd been baiting throughout the day again and was hoping for as much action as I had my first night. It wasn't long before I was into my 4th fish, this being a stunning common carp at 18lb 9oz, this was caught down the marginal again at around 2am in the early hours of Saturday 29th June. It was only an hour or so later when the same rod screamed off again! Now this was taking me all over the place, but I managed to get it under control

and after a hard battle I was able to slip the net under the fish, and this was an absolute unit of a mirror carp. 28lb 7oz... Wow! I was in total shock... I'd only gone and had one of the old Weston Lawns A-team. This was a stunning old warrior. After a fair few snaps this beautiful specimen swam out of my sling to fight another day, I was ecstatic!

I was rewarded again around 7am to my 6th fish and 5th off my baited spot. This little stunner weighed in at 16lb on the nose and this fish could tell a few stories as it had in my opinion the marks around its body as if it had been attacked by a large catfish.

It was around midday when my next fish came along and it was caught on Mainline Link from underneath the right hand island. This was a lovely looking mirror carp at 14lb 9oz, happy days. At around 3/4pm on the afternoon I noticed a few carp show in a shaded area on the island to my left. So, I scattered a few Mainline Cell boilies and then placed a Cell Wafter on to my rig and slowly drove out my boat, I didn't spook one fish as I drove it nice and steady... once in position I dropped it and then returned my boat.

Just as I got the boat to the bank, I went to bend down to lift it



out of the water and that rod ripped straight off and I was into my 8th carp. I was really happy as this was another 20 lber, it weighed 20lb 2oz to be exact... happy days. I decided to hit the same spot again and within another 30 minutes or, so I was in again. This was turning out to be a great session and this time it was a nice little common at 15lb 2oz. Number 9 in the bag... well the net haha. Just as daylight started to fade, I dropped my one rods onto my baited marginal spot... I would say it had been



in the water no more than 5 minutes and it ripped off... I was into my tenth fish of the session, get in another beauty at 16lb 10oz in the shape of a lovely mirror carp, after a few snaps and releasing it I reset the rod again and off to bed I went

> for my last night there unfortunately.

bleeeeeeeeeeeep

I was in again at the same time as the previous nights of around 2am...

it was another gorgeous common, not the biggest but at 15lb on the nose I was happy.

I said to my wife after releasing this one back into the lake...

"You know what time the next one will come, don't you?" she replied, "Yes, bloody 4am haha" ...



Bleep...

bleep...

TalkingCarp

The 1st night was just 4am and last night we'd been woken up at around 2am and 4am haha... Naaaaa.... it won't happen again I was saying to my wife... or could it?

4am...
Bleeeeeeeeeeeep
Just a straight one

toner!

It could happen..... it did happen!
I was into my 12th carp of the session... and what a fish to end it with.

It dragged me one way, then the next and after a long hard battle I lowered my net into the lake... but I had to go even lower... this was a huge beach ball shape of a carp... After it was safely in my net i shouted; Yes!!! Another member of the Weston Lawns A-team... 27lb 10oz of pure... fat haha...

what a fish, a beautiful mirror carp, what a way to end three fantastic nights... this was my last fish and we set off home around 9am on Sunday 30th June.

This turned out to be one of my favourite sessions to date, on one of my favourite venues... and most importantly to me 'a point proven' that Weston Lawns Fisheries isn't about not catching, and bad this and bad that... it's a great venue and always has been... you just need to work for it and

sometimes you have to work harder for it... sometimes it doesn't work... but then other times you have a cracking session... one of my favourite venues has done me proud... Weston Lawns Fisheries.

All fish were caught on RidgeMonkey end tackle consisting of RM-Tec Soft Coated Camo Hooklink in 25lb, a Size 6 Straight Point Hook and Weed Green Anti-Tangle Sleeve. All fish were also caught using a leaf effect bioweight from Harrings' Bio-Weights.



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During every cast I sent out a PVA Stick with matching flavour pellets to the hook bait, all PVA products from Castaway PVA and all fish were caught on Mainline Bait products including Cell, Link and Essential IB.

I would like to take this moment to thank the companies who support me on my fishing adventures and who it's an honour to represent;

Mainline Baits <u>www.</u> <u>mainline-baits.com</u>

RidgeMonkey <u>www.</u> ridgemonkey.co.uk

Castaway PVA www. castaway-pva.co.uk

Harrings' Bio-Weights www.harrings-bio-weights.co.uk

Thank you to you all.

I hope you have enjoyed this article, please give me a like and follow on my official fishing fishing adventure page www.facebook.com/fishingadventureswith-andrewtaylor/

Until next time, tight lines everyone, be safe, be on the bank!

Andrew Taylor





I AM WOMAN, HEAR ME CARP FISH - THE LADIES CARP CLUB, V.S.A

BY CHRIS SAMPSON





The Ladies Carp Club, USA was created and founded by Lynn Newsome (Ohio) in the Spring/Summer of 2019 for the female carp anglers in the United States. Lynn has brought Chris Sampson (Indiana) and Amy Demrovsky (Colorado) on board as part of the club's creators. There are groups

for women in other countries, we feel that we could bring female carp angling to a new height in the states.

Our purpose is to promote carp angling among other women, help other female anglers whether they are new or a seasoned angler, and share our experiences and our expertise. We are a Catch & Release club, with the strong belief that carp are to be treated with the proper carp care and the respect they deserve. Ladies Carp Club, USA does not now or in the future allow any Bow Fishers whatsoever, they are not permitted. We take pride in what we do with our carp angling skills.

As the sport of carp angling continues to grow worldwide, it is still relatively new in the states. There are a few areas that still feel carp should be destroyed as they are caught. It is our goal to help educate the public in this sport. Bringing this club together will not only help other woman learn a new hobby, but it will give them a passion for something new. Something that can not only be fun, but also very rewarding.



Chris Sampson



The Carp Anglers Group has recently voted Lynn in as the Director of Woman's Programs. This is a new addition to the Carp Anglers Group. As female anglers we believe we can help play a big role in this, sport with fish preservation, proper care, tournaments, couples challenges, and much more. You are not required to be a Carp Anglers Group member to be part of Ladies Carp Club, USA. However it is recommended, the rewards could be very beneficial to you.

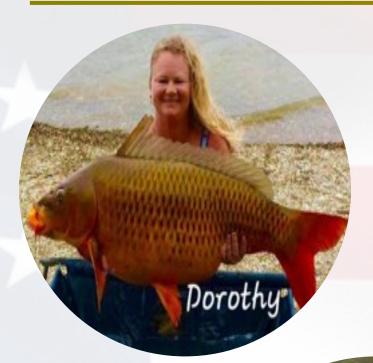
When I spoke with Lynn recently she had this to say "I feel like female anglers have kind of taken a

backseat or stayed in the shadows, but it's time to come forth and join Ladies Carp Club, USA - so we can grow a sport and a tradition to pass onto younger generations". This is one of our main goals as a carp club, to teach, educate, and spread the joys of carp angling.

We have entered what is deemed to be a male dominated sport, but we are here to tell you that this is no longer the case. In some sports or life in general females are not taken as seriously as we should be. As a woman's club we are here to help other women build self confidence in themselves as well as make new friends all across the nation. We are not here to start a movement or take over, we share the same passion for carp with men and







women all over the world. We all have one thing in common..... And that is the passion for carp.

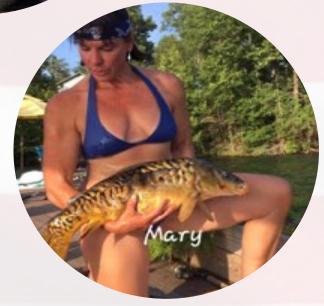
Carp angling started many years, as the times have changed over the years it

has spread to other countries.
Women all over the world slowly started fishing with their spouses.
Most women who fish in this day and age fish for smaller game fish. They have not been introduced to the sport of carp or they have been raised and told that carp are trash fish. There is no such thing as a trash fish in my eyes.

It's not just women who need to be aware of the fun and rush you can get from landing a carp, but men should be aware of this as well. If men are out there fishing for other species of fish, why not try it. That is where we want to help change the way of carp angling. If more women join in with the passion then maybe, just maybe we can get more men to change their views as well. So, as we move forward with getting more women involved

in a great sport and past time we are planning on several different things to take place in the next year.

Starting in the spring of 2020 wel





hristie

will be holding our first Social in Ohio, we plan on holding two socials per year, couples' tournaments, and single tournaments. We will be having learning camps in various locations, this is not just for females we encourage males young and old to attend. From time to time we

may have a guest angler join us as we broaden the horizon on carp angling in the states.

We look forward to spreading our addiction and our passion with others.... As always Tight Lines to you all... Chris.







A quick intro about myself for you, the Talking Carp readers. Hi there, I'm Karl. I'm a consultant for Taska carp.

I've been fishing from the age of 5, roughly 42 yrs. I started out fishing for roach, perch, etc with my grandad. Then, when I was good enough to, he decided to take me to Capesthorne Hall, Cheshire - what a place to fish. (Editor's note... he is not lying!! This is a truly stunning venue!) I was catching small fish and watching the carp anglers catching carp but, back then, the carp were just coming through the ranks in sizes. I remember some guy catching two tone, it must have been around 15lb then but as the years went on it got bigger - what a fish. I met my wife who introduced me to my

mate Keith, who is now on the promo team for Taska. He had just started carp fishing and got me hooked on it. It was a whole new world for me to learn. So, twenty years on, here I am, out every other week in search of the elusive carp. This

weekend I finished
work early to get on
my local Cheshire lake
before the big rush. On
my arrival I spoke to
a couple of anglers in
the car park who told
me they'd not caught.
I let them know that
the past few weeks the
carp have been coming





out down the deep end of the lake.

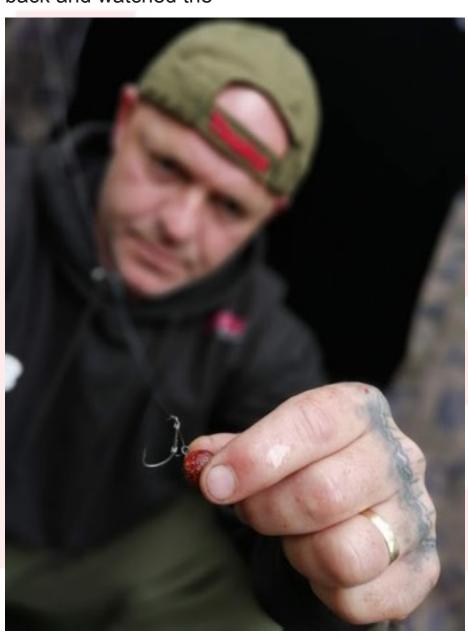
I took my bucket and rod bag out of the car and headed down the bank in search of some carp. I got down the bank, about four pegs, and noticed carp fizzing everywhere and showing themselves all over the place. I went back to the car to fill my barrow and set off down the bank to set my gear up.

I got to my peg and set my stall up. I couldn't believe how many fish there were boshing all over the place. I got my rods out of my bag and made new rigs ready to go. I made a D-rig, with the Taska Deceptive fluorocarbon hook link, which disappears in water with the Baseline sinkers and rubber tails.

Next, I made a Ronnie rig with the same Taska hook link and sinkers. I

put a Smokey Jack and Fruit Zing snowman on the Ronnie rig with a white topper, and the d-rig had a Smokey jack wafter on it from Spotted Fin. I cast out my rods, at 8 wraps, to a spot that was fizzing up like a cauldron. I sat back and watched the

water. I put the kettle on, had a brew, and just chilled out waiting for my son to turn up. The temperature was pretty warm, and the big clouds were moving in. My son, Dean, turned up at around 6.30pm and set





up his gear. He put out the same rig as me but with bottom baits. We relaxed for the night watching the water and chatting over brews. We had our tea - burgers, that were spot on, then settled down for the night. After an early start at work sleep was needed. We woke up Saturday morning for breakfast and recast the rods to

get fresh bait out.
About 10.00am I had to complete my Bailiff duties and go around the lake checking anglers' cards. This took me away from my rods for about an hour, While doing the rounds, I got a call from Dean saying he'd netted a carp!

I ran back round to the pegs and helped

him sort the carp out, it turned out to be a 16lb common in top condition.

Dean had cast one rod short and caught it on a Ronnie rig, with Taska Deceptive Flourocarbon and Baseline gear to pin it down.

We still had another night to go but the rainstorm came and





and just would not stop. That night I had a little skimmer bream. so at least I knew my rigs were working. The next morning, I woke up early and the lake had risen at least 6". The rain was not stopping so we packed up, getting absolutely soaked in the process. I got the gear back to the car and went home to reflect on what could have been.

The whole time
I was there all I
was thinking was
"Are my hooks
working? Is my
bait working?". But
it's not the gear, it
was just the fish.

They had just been through a heat wave of about 38c, so they were confused whether to spawn or not. Then it was too hot, the water temperature was really high.

The water was really warm, like bath water, then the rain we had was cold. The temperature had dropped by 15c, so it just switched the carp off. I guess we

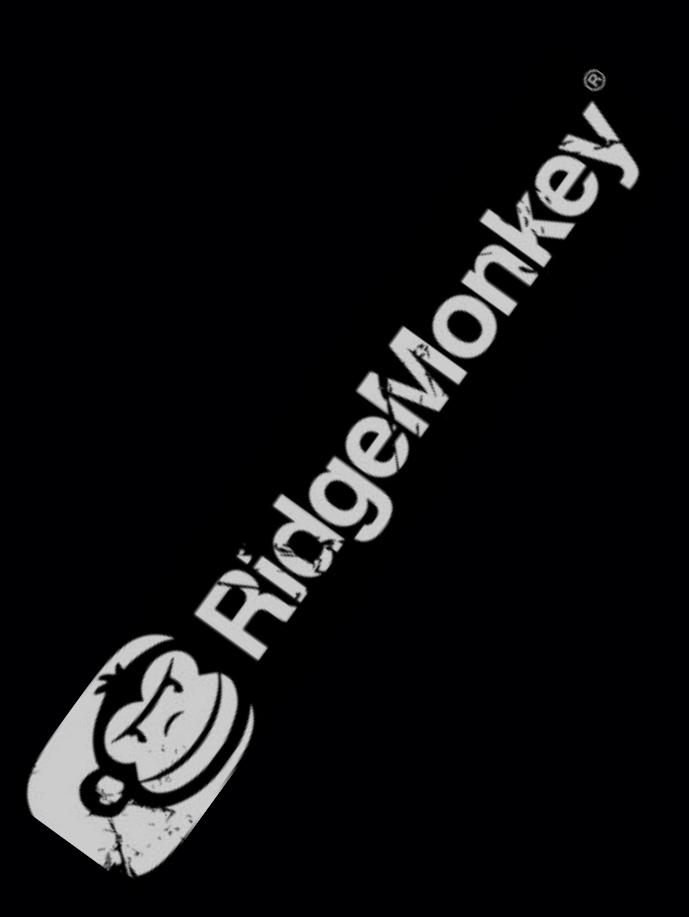
can't catch all the time so, fingers crossed, perhaps I'll catch next time?

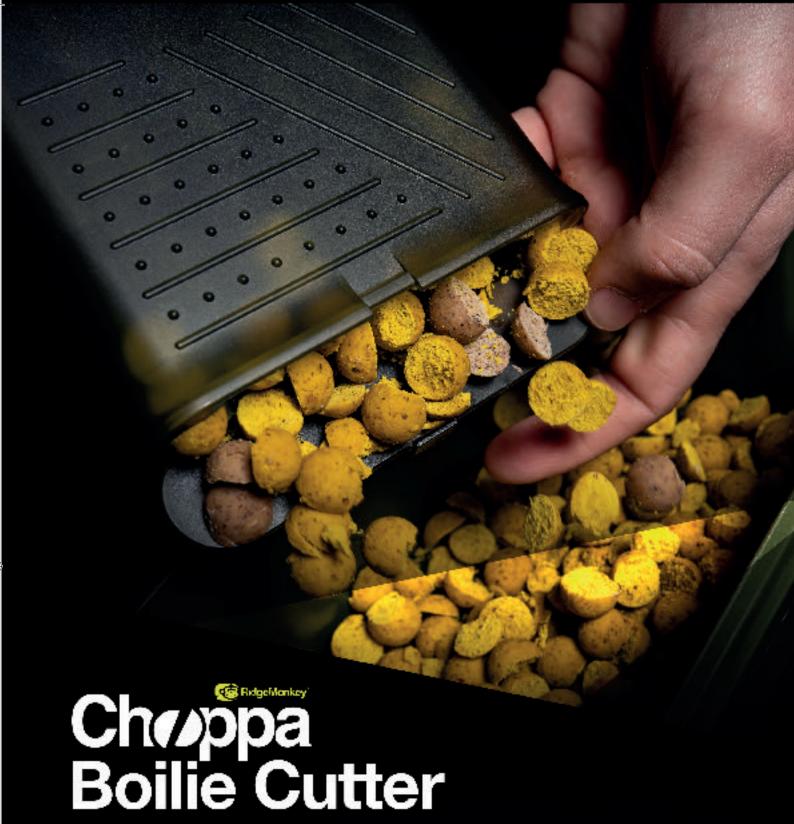
See you next month,

Karl









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- BROWN | 0.35MM | 12LB/5.4KG | 1200M
- BROWN | 0.38MM | 15LB/6.8KG | 1200M
- BROWN | 0.42MM | 18LB/8.2KG | 1200M
- CLEAR | 0.35MM | 12LB/5.4KG | 1200M
- CLEAR | 0.38MM | 15LB/6.8KG | 1200M
- CLEAR | 0.42MM | 18LB/8.2KG | 1200M
- GREEN | 0.35MM | 12LB/5.4KG | 1200M
- GREEN | 0.38MM | 15LB/6.8KG | 1200M
- GREEN | 0.42MM | 18LB/8.2KG | 1200M



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So, to kick start my adventures of many of the day tickets the country has to offer I started close to home and travel to Viaduct Fishery in Somerton, Somerset.

After a 4am wake up and the gear packed it was time to hit the road and grab Jack Brown on the way as he knows his way around a camera very well.

After the journey down the first thing that we noticed was how neat and tidy the fishery was, now in modern day carping this can be quite an issue for some, but we was very pleased. Car parked and polarised glasses on we went in search of carp on the chosen lake of the day, Spring Lake. After a few laps it was apparent the overcast weather was proving to keep the carp down on the deck and not reveal themselves so with

this is mind the plan of attack was to head to a swim that is renowned for having big fish hits.

Now first things first when you start in a swim you're not familiar with.. find the underwater features and mark out the depths and work out what you are fishing over! Now this can be the make or break of your session.. if you fire a 2 1/2oz inline lead into a silt patch with a Ronnie rig on your just going to bury the lead and the rigs not going to present itself correctly so it's always worth having a lead about, finding the spots and then plan your baiting approach.

So, after a good few casts and feeling the lead down one thing was apparent.. the bottom was clay. Now my normal approach to short sessions on day ticket waters

is the 'Solid Bag' approach 90% of the time and this was now going to be difficult. The problem with clay bottoms if the lead is not felt down properly then you end up getting the lead impacted into the clay. This then causes such problems as rigs not being presented properly and also spooking any fish in the area.

The baiting approach for the day had changed from Solids Bags to a bait and wait approach.. After knocking up a nice mix of Corn, Hemp, Tiger Nuts, Bait-Tech Triple-N whole and chopped boilies with a nice soaking of Natural CSL liquid and Nutty Oil.

I tend to use chops and wholes when fishing clay bottoms as the wholes will sink very quickly and settle but the chops with fall



slower in the water creating a lovely column of attraction especially when boosted with liquids. After a 10 minute wait the fizzing began and the carp was on the spot.. the plan had worked! So, with this the rig was next in line

to be fired out. After a well-placed cast and the lead felt down properly the rod was set.. now comes the waiting game.

A good few hours passed and a few bream had decided to grace the bank but no

carp.. so, the plan was to up the hookbaits size. Going from 14mm pop ups to 15mm pop ups. Now this isn't a massive difference I know but nine times out of ten the slightest of changes will almost confuse other fish I've noticed and prevents





this. Another hour passed and just as I was about to bring the rod in the wonderful two-tone sound of the Delkim was heard.. resulting in a lovely 8lb Mirror. Jack took the snaps and the fish safely returned to the water and then the rig

placed back into the same spot.

Another 3 hours passed while fishing the same tactic and nothing else to show for it.. until I noticed a few carp cruising just below the surface. Now this triggered me to go

to my all-time favourite style of fishing.. The Surface Controller!

Now for those who are not familiar or never tried surface fishing.. Get out there and do it! Nothing can beat that feeling of seeing that carps mouth coming up





and sucking down your hook and hookbait. So. a few mixers soaked in Bait-Tech Nutty Oil was chucked out to try and get them confident in feeding and taking them... only took 5 minutes. Hearing the Pac-man like sound always sends shivers down my spine and this had me confident enough to put out my hookbait. Constructed of a Korda Kontroller 35g, 10lb

Rig Morale Floater Line and a Size 8 Hulkz hook from Affordable Angling. Numerous fish coming into contact with the hookbaits but no takes then out of nowhere the controller is away.. Now this really sets the heart racing and you have to focus every single bit of concentration on landing this fish as there is nothing more gut wrenching than looking a fish you've

seen take the hook bait and run..

Thankfully after bit of a run around and a few close encounters to reed beds the fish was safely in the net.. GET IN! What was to be revealed next though was a massive shock and also a massive self-achievement.

Pulling back the cord from the net and what do we have here.



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a lovely dark and chestnut colour common carp.
Honestly one of the best-looking carp I have had the pleasure of catching but not a monster by any means,

but who cares when they look like this?

With the fish safely returned to its home it was time to chase some more of the surface. With many coming close and also losing one at the net it was not meant to be... The end of the session came around and it was time to pack down. Always a horrible time...

All in all, Viaduct Fishery is in my opinion one of the best fisheries I have had the pleasure of

fishing. Well kept, tidy and also fish care is their number one priority.

Anyone who is in the Somerset area is missing out if they do not pay a visit and have a crack at chasing these beautiful carp!

And so, it's onto the next day ticket..

Sam



TalkingCarp



The lake I had been fishing was to be closed for maintenance works on my designated fishing night and I also had a family holiday planned in a couple of weeks which would also impact my baiting campaign. I decided that I would pull off this lake for a few weeks rather than be inconsistent with my baiting and it would also provide me with a chance to regain my sanity (the lake is granite with no night fishing) so time to turn my attention to the Park lake.

Having kept in contact with a few of the regulars I knew that the lake had seen a significant increase in the weed growth from normal, to the point some areas represented football pitches and in 14ft of water! The fish were clearly making full use

of their new sanctuary.

The fish had spawned several times in the previous month (as with most of the country) so I knew that they would be hungry. The plan was simple, give them some bait! Now the carp didn't really need to leave the weed as there was an abundance of naturals and the eggs from spawning for them to feed upon. I was sure everyone else would be filling it in with boilies, so I opted for a slightly different approach.

I decided to start
prepping my bait as
normal ready for my
Monday night session.
I took out 6 kg of my
trusty Carp Company
Icelandic Red and left
it in a bucket (I love
using this bait when it's
got that sticky texture)
A couple of days later
and I ran 3kg through
a blender leaving a

very fine crumb. Next I ran 1kg through but leaving them more chopped and bittier. I then added 2kg of the Icelandic Red ground bait. Next up was some liquids which comprised of 50ml Carp Company Minamino, 50ml of Aminol and 100ml of the matching Caviar and Cranberry glug. Finally, I soaked the remaining 2kg of boilie with 150ml of Carp Company Salmon oil this was kept separate. Perfect what carp could resist?

I loaded my car the night before, like a kid at Christmas Eve knowing that I would soon be escaping day to day life and forgetting all my worries – soon it was going to be fishy thoughts only. I woke up as normal attending to my kids and then set off on the long drive to my office doing battle



on the M25 with all the "interestina" drivers that use our beloved carpark (sometimes it's a wonder I make it to my destinations in one piece) It was an apt time to make some calls to my friends that had spent the weekend at the lake to try and gain some valuable information pertaining to the possible whereabouts of my quarry. After a couple of calls it was soon apparent that there was an area that was clearly favoured by Mr Carp as my friend had caught a few to 43lb. This new found info had my head in a bit of a spin as I needed to get to the lake much earlier than normal to try and secure a decent swim close to the area (nowadays the big challenge is competing with the other anglers rather than the fish) I was aware that another angler had dropped

in behind him for a couple of nights but didn't catch, but it was potentially a good starting point.

Meetings out the way I was soon pulling up in the carpark and loading up the barrow. I headed straight towards the swim my friend had been in. As I caught sight of the lake. I could see the swim and to my astonishment it was free. My pace slowly increased into more of a jog to ensure I could at least secure the swim should I not

see anything else to go on. Success!! I was here, and the weather conditions were replicating what had been seen at the weekend. Now I would like to say I completed numerous laps of the lake to ensure I was on fish etc., but being quite honest I didn't instead it all looked good for a bite, the other benefit was the bay was full of weed. more in fact than I had witnessed in previous years. I was confident that the carp wouldn't have vacated the area – why would they



TalkingCarp



everything was here they wanted!

The next objective was to identify some suitable spots in the vast amount of green stuff out in front that would allow me to present a bait. I decided to focus on an area that historically holds the carp after spawning. I soon set about with the leading rod and 4 casts later found a very small hard spot with weed either side and behind. I was pretty sure that this small spot had been made by Mr Carp and was confident that it

would produce a fish.

Now for the other two

– this is where I will
again be honest and
say my friend put me
onto the spot he had
caught from (thank you
George) He actually
told me to place all
three on the spot but
I was super confident
of the spot I had found
earlier (when you know
you just know)

After wrapping out the distance I was soon spombing out my carpy cocktail in readiness for the evening ahead. I knew the swim had seen a fair amount of angling pressure, so I

decided to just bait the spots and leave them for a few hours to give any carp present a free meal and hopefully build their confidence.

Carp were clearly evident in the area breaking the water intermittently with their backs and subtly popping their heads out. It was a test of willpower not casting out my rods, but I left the area free from lines for about three hours.

It was now time to get the rods out, I opted for two on my faithful stiff hinge rigs which incorporate Rig Marole Hydrolink, CamH20 and bore rings. The other rod would utilise Rig Marole Micro Hydrolink and a bottom bait wrapped in Icelandic Red paste all three rods where positioned exactly where I wanted them and set for the night ahead.



A couple of friends popped down for a catch up and we set about putting the world to rights. I decided to get my head down for the evening around midnight, but a mixture of liners, Canadian Geese and the constant battle with mozzis (why is it Mosquitoes sound like Chinook helicopters circling your head when you are trying to sleep) kept me awake for most of the night. I had clearly dropped off to sleep at some point

as I was awoken to my phone alarm at 05:00. I set about making the morning coffee and scanned the water. I texted my friend who was also fishing at 05:49 saying "fizzing behind the spot" an hour later and my Delkim sounded out its unmistakable battle cry and it was game on!!

This carp decided to play a game of hide and seek between the various weed beds out in front of me whilst I was dancing around

trying to put my waders on as I knew what would happen next. As anticipated the carp headed straight into the weed on the marginal shelf and I was soon wading through the water up to the limit of the waders. After some constant pressure the fish was free and being guided over my net. Mike 1 carp 0

I unhooked Mr Carp in the net and buried my landing net pole in the lake bed whilst I got



TalkingCarp



I got the rod back on the spot (you never know) I got the camera already in front of the unhooking mat and took a couple of shots to ensure minimum stress for the fish when I was ready to take the pics. I was soon taking pics of a lovely mid twenty mirror. After treating some spawning wounds with Propolis I slipped her back ready to fight again someday.

My friend Dan that had also been fishing decided to move into the same bay as the fish were clearly loving

the abundance of weed and he had not seen anything in front of him through the night. He came over for a chat and a cuppa, we commented how we were surprised my left rod hadn't done a bite as yet.

The fish were showing within a couple of rod lengths and sometimes closer.

A few hours later I was on the phone to a friend and was commenting that if it were to happen then it would be within the next hour, but as

normal I was racing against time I had to get packed up and back to work (I may have extended my fishing time slightly like we do when it feels right) about ten seconds later the rod positioned on "the spot" was away. I threw the phone as I launched myself in the direction of my rods and was soon beginning battle with another unknown adversary.

Having picked up the rod I quickly walked backwards to try and stop the beast making the sanctuary of the weed, it was stale mate at first but with steady pressure I coaxed her out and she began to plod solidly in a clearer area of the bay until she charged into another weed bed causing me to pray to the carp gods once more. Whilst I was trying to persuade her out the green stuff





Dan who looks after the media for Rigmarole came over and decided to add to the pressure by starting a live feed on social media!! Once I got her free of that particular weed bed she decided to bury herself in the weed that grows up the marginal shelf - I had tried with as much pressure as I dared to avoid this happening but she made it. I waded out as far as I could to try and obtain a better angle and pump her out from above, it was stale mate again and I tried a few different angles

(thinking great not only have I lost a good fish, I've done it on camera too) A friend threw my landing net over so I could try and disturb her, but to no avail. I had that sickening feeling that she had gone as I couldn't feel

any movement, but this also made me think she may still be on as everything is solid. I tried all the tricks in the book and suddenly I was in contact again, she tried to make another attempt to bury herself deep in the weed, but I managed to gain the upper hand. Again, and again this happened but finally I saw my opportunity and slipped the net under her, along with a rather large ball of weed. I was ecstatic as this had been one hell of a fight.

I peeled back the net in



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the water and recognised her as "The Pretty One" which is one of the A team.

There were plenty of people on hand to assist with the weighing, looking after the fish and take photos etc. She spun the needle around to 37lb 5oz. I Treated all her spawning injuries with Propolis (this is the Rolls Royce of carp

care) and soon slipped her back where she disappeared into the watery depths.

Reality than struck as I had to pack down like a man possessed and get to work.

Bait – Carp Company Icelandic Red Caviar & Cranberry, Icelandic Red ground bait, Salmon Oil, Minamino and Aminol End tackle: Rig Marole Freefall clips, Braided Freefall tubing, Hydrolink, Micro Hydrolink and CamH20.

Mainline: Rig Marole FLX

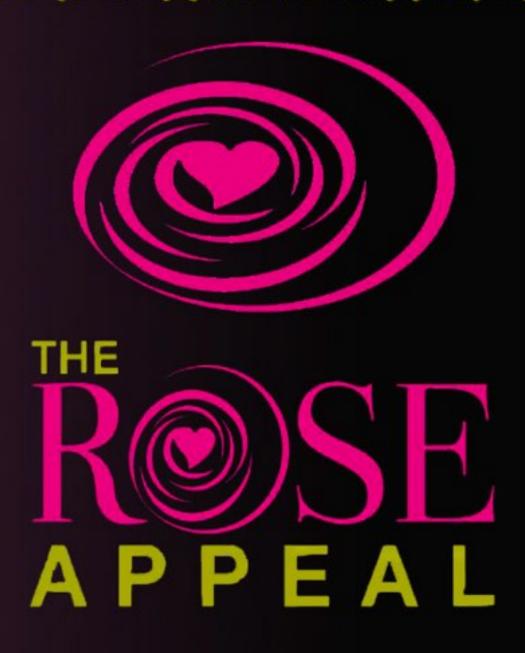
See you on the bank sometime

Mike





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Firstly, let me mention that I am by no means an expert on mental health or any of its related conditions, other than taking 2 tablets myself daily and over 30 years of carp fishing behind me. Please don't read this as a woe is me article as it couldn't be further from that, I'm merely trying to help and pass on few little tips to try and get any like minded struggling anglers back on the bankside

Life, money, work, relationships all suffer from "lows" at different times, in everyone's life! How we handle them and move forward make and break us all at times. Carp fishing is one of those situations as can any passion or hobby be. We all must have experienced times when baiting up, casting to tricky spots, and landing fish and

holding them up for the camera all comes easy, this I feel really is down to our mental state, if life is good and all in order with no worries in your head then your quarry can and do seem to come along, but what happens when its not in balance and we need help.

What I have learned to understand is "the feeling" when things are not right or you're not enjoying it, or quite

simply it all seems too much. People talk about "burn out" and I've experienced this no more so than when a purple patch is happening, the mind simply can not cope with the merest

of blips or even the tiniest of problems and we fold like a pack of cards. Many in our sport, not all of us, are men we are strong, tough, frontrunners in life-wrong most don't see it coming and even more won't admit that times are getting a bit strained.

This brings me to too my experiences this year, "mojo" I've heard it called and yes, I feel this is part of it







although I feel the problem is much deeper rooted. A syndicate place came up for me on a lake I've wanted to fish for a while. 3 known fish over 30lbs and a good head of stunning looking upper doubles and plenty of 20's, with them all piling the weight on and not getting caught too often so nice surprises what weights they are when they do slip up.

An early season fish was what I was after,

lots of prebaiting and plumbing had been done and all was good, but the fish had other ideas and were happy to feed in areas that we couldn't get to and were eating food we weren't giving them, so a change of plan was needed

so firstly I dropped my mainline down to 12lbs, something I never do. Two tiny pimple pops were balanced just to hover off the bottom. First night and light sprinkling of the magnum whites all chopped and glugged along the tree line and simply half a kilo of 10mm rahja spice baits and some pellets in the near margin. 1.30am and the tree lined rod is screaming at me to wake up, I bend into the fish and

immediately feel the grating on a branch I didn't know was there so I pull the fish pulls and the line instantly parts with very little effort, so the first take on a new lake on a new bait and with only 2 fish out so far so I'm one unhappy little bunny, it all happened in seconds with me staring at the limp line in the pitch black with me still half asleep. So as easy as it is that's where it simply started for me it sounds silly, but all of these problems have an ignition point and all systems were go!

The next weekend sees me spending the weekend at home with the good lady and a trip to 2 hospitals at 2am on a Saturday night is not fun and my 12 hr nosebleed a bag of saline in my arm and a cauterised nose and I'm feeling dog rough.....great.



Plenty of sleep later and I'm sort of awake looking at a message of a stunning new 30lber out of the syndicate and then my fishing buddy lets me know that the stretch of river I was going to start targeting for a fish over 25lbs isn't going to work out like we thought

I had well and truly had the wind punched out of me. I stopped fishing as the get up and go had gone from then I made silly excuses not to go fishing I let the work overrun so that I would have to work on Saturday or just wasted my time away, I needed to get a grip.

What do you do?
I love fishing not
just the act of it but
everything that is
associated with it and
all of the groundwork
that is required for
success. I wasn't
interested in fishing so

I threw myself into the organising of a French trip that we had talked of just buying a spool of new line was the start of my return, the spools on the Ultegra were all loaded this was the first of the hundreds of paving slabs that I needed to lay to create my path back to my positive mind and eventually the bankside.

One of the biggest things is acceptance and by that I mean once you understand that you have a problem then that is

the first hurdle out of the way, finding someone to talk to is so important this can be anyone but the people closest to you in your family you wont open up to fully, if you can find someone that's been through a similar experience then that's even better.

Try to have a plan and or a goal and one that is sensible and achievable, don't try to catch the biggest fish in the lake as you are only setting yourself up for a fall as your mind will still be a run, a



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20lber something simple yet very achievable.

Its funny how when you bend your back and put a little effort in that things can so easily fall into place, when things like this start to happen then recovery is well on the way, face everything head on and deal with it and put it to bed, don't stick your head

in the sand and ignore things as things will start to build up again and addressing it will feel far more rewarding and help to clear your mind, keep building on those little victories.

So I'm still taking 2 tablets a day and have yet to catch a carp this year, but a walk down the river yesterday to a new section has opened my eyes wider

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than ever the things I saw in those 2 hours was fantastic, a lake I have not fished for over 25 years has just become available to me so life moves on, exciting times are never far a way but remember we all have to make it happen.

Here's to the buzzers sounding

Mark Catley







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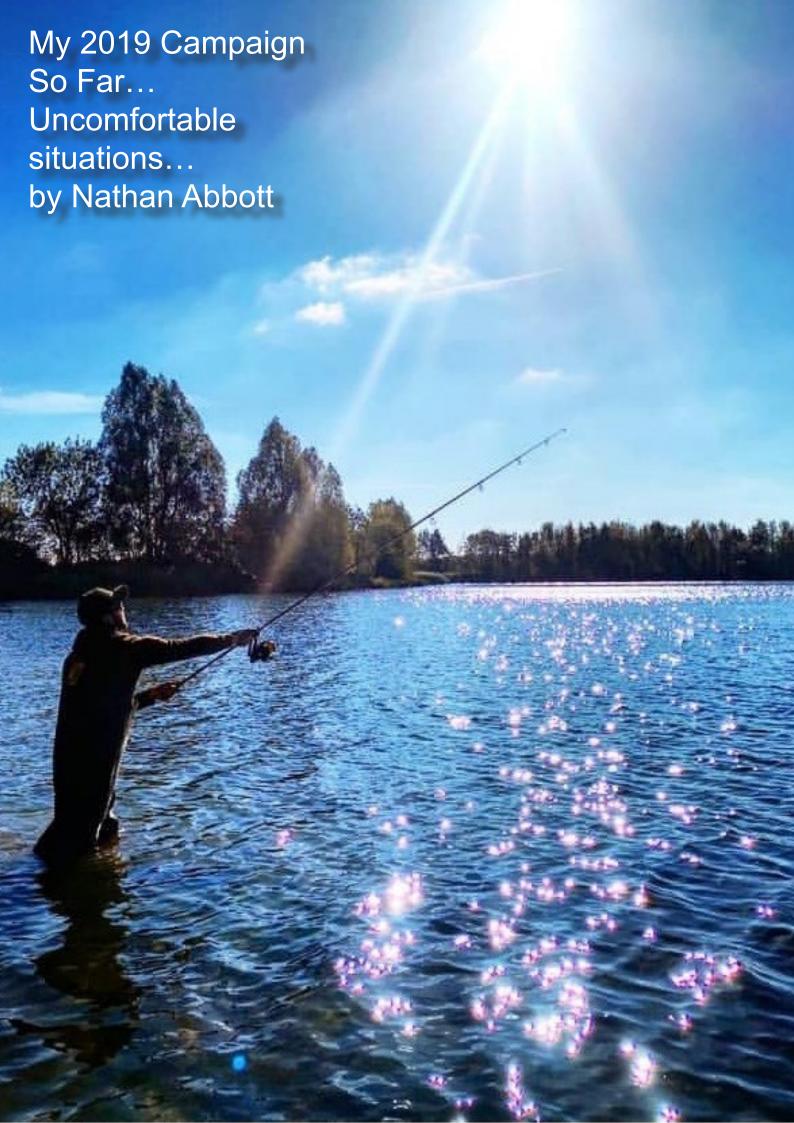












As I begin this writing journey for Talking Carp... I shall begin with a brief summary of my fishing, I began from 11 years old, as a match angler, I've had some great sessions match fishing over the years but, when I hit 20 vears old i felt I wanted to jump ship and target carp only, I got the "bug" after landing a 13lb common which was big for the lake I was fishing at the time and then immediately thought "I want more of that, and bigger". After selling my pole, feeder, Waggler and other items I used the money to buy a basic carp set up and selfteach myself the new tactics I'd need for this technical style of fishing. 6 years on and upgraded gear I now have a UK pb of 21.13 and a French PB of 45lbs! I will be honest before I go any further, breaking my PB is NOT the be all and end all.

just been out fishing is a win win for me, every fish along the way is a bonus. I fish Catterick Complex, I'd say this is my local, but this year I really wanted to test myself and put all my skill and knowledge to practice, I wanted to put myself into some uncomfortable situations and see what I could pull out the bag.

So, I sat at home and scouted social media and Google for new venues to try in the northern area of the UK. The task was

simple, each session has to be a new venue, 48hrs and avoid the blank, (and hopefully get a 20lb+ along the way as at this point my pb was currently

standing at 19lb from bluebell lakes!). The majority of lakes I'm looking at are extremely high pressured lakes that have a pre booking system so have to be planned in advance and fit around work and peg availability at the time, but, this is the challenge, just book onto a peg without knowing if it's a good or bad peg, I have to play with the cards I'm dealt with for 48 hours so to speak.

Challenge 1 Raker Lakes,



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I was booked onto peg 4, judging by the Facebook page this had a good marginal record and been an angler who always dedicated a rod to the margins this was good news to me. Arriving at the lake and was instantly in awe at how well kept the place is, the blue dye in the water and very overgrown nature of it has the setting of a foreign lagoon. So the challenge has now started, my first port of call was to sit and watch the water for half hour to see of any signs, peg 4 here has a good body of

water to go at straight in front with an island far out and then an island to your left it looked absolutely perfect.
After not seeing anything, I went ahead and placed my

marginal rod to the left, a trusty snowman rig to start with and only a few handful of free offerings of my usual 15mm Cell, and matching Cell Response 4pm pellets, I will always start with very little bait on known high pressured waters as I do worry about the type of people that just throw un-used bait straight into the margins, you know the type!. Spod and marker rod set up I began to map the water Infront of me with just a bare led, looking for a dinner table spot, the weed was starting to get

up in areas so I really didn't want to place the second rod out without mapping the swim out best as I could. Once happy, I clipped up to a spot only 7 wraps out heading for the opening between the two Islands and banged out a medium sized solid bag with yellow dumbell wafter as the hookbait. Kettle on and watch the water some more was next in order. Long story short, almost two full days had passed without a sniff of a bite. I couldn't believe it, everything looked perfect, after a chat with the bailiff, he said everything I was doing was right, but the lake had been quiet



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had been quiet over this weekend with only 2 fish out on the other side of the lake so at least I wasn't the only one struggling. Half hour until I begin to pack up and I'm thinking "Christ I can't even pass the first hurdle of my challenge maybe it's back to Catterick I go". My marginal rod was the one that got to me the most, it was without a doubt the most likely looking spot for a bite in the margins on the lake it had everything, overhanging branches, leaves, scum, and a nice warm breeze pushing into it. By this point I had already switched from a

snowman to a Ronnie, white 14mm hi-vis cell. I made a change with 20mins to go, a change I wish I had made sooner. white pop up to pink.... 18mins until pack up time and WHACK!! the bite alarm goes into absolute meltdown. After a 10 minute battle of constant worry and whispering "please please please" to myself I finally slipped my prize into the net, a prize of 20lb on the dot!! I couldn't believe it, pure last minute winner, the last 48 hours of nothing was made totally worth it to see my new UK pb

in my hands
in the dying
minutes before
home time.
So, challenge
1, Raker lakes
was done.
Did what I
had set out to
do, lessons



learned this time was to not only change rigs if you feel it's needed, opt for a change of colour! As it made the difference within literally minutes.

Challenge 2, Welham lake.

Another stunning venue and nice drive there, Gary the bailiff was a top bloke very friendly. I was booked onto a lovely looking double swim, I had it all to myself for 48 hours again, after a quick look around the place I made my way to my swim to ready my gear. Same rules apply, map the place out as best



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as I can, fish with what I'm comfortable with and avoid the blank. Going out to my left was a massive sunken tree which acted as a fish magnet, I was telling myself I could not possibly blank in this peg with that thing there, and I settled on my second rod to a small man-made island 9 wraps out, it was very silty after thorough inspection with my lead, so I increased my hook lengths and used light 2oz leads. Again, long story short, I finished the 48 hours with 2 carp to 14lb 10oz and a very welcome 5lb tench. A guy fishing on the

opposite side of this sunken tree had 9 fish out in 48 hours. Our rigs must have only been about 2 rod lengths apart if that, he was using the same tactics as I was after speaking

to him. So why have I only had 2 carp and he's had 9? So after closer inspection before I left, the carp look as though they are drawn to that side of the sunken snag more due to the leaf debris, dead branches, snapped off Lilly's that have all collected there due to the wind, it all created more cover for them, it looked very obvious why he had the more fish out so I didn't beat myself up too much that he had considerably more, this is a luck of the draw scenario I have no clue what are the good or bad areas remember

I'm making do with whatever peg I get booked onto. If I were fishing that side at that time, I'm sure I'd have had the same result of 9 fish! I actually netted his last fish and took the photos for him and congratulated him on a brilliant session. But for me, although it was frustrating to only have the 2 fish, it was job done again, new venue with very little knowledge of the place and pulled something out the hat. Its all a challenge, and one I am enjoying immensely. Tune in next month to see

Nathan



where I land next....





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The Big Mere by Paul Lowe



The mere was a very special place to fish and very challenging to say the least, even more challenging was how I to come to fish it. The club that ran it also had another mere close to it, I actually set off that morning to fish the other lake but on arrival found it very busy with only one pitch left. So, I headed back to the motor and got the map book out and noticed "The Big Mere" was only a 10minute drive away.

As per usual in my fishing it never ever goes to plan, after a short drive I pulled into the car park and found I was the only one there, this was already becoming more and more inviting. I set off down to the lake, which I won't lie was a bit of walk, 3 gates, 2 styles later I finally got to water's edge. The lake itself was over 20acres and you could only fish one bank! Which made it about 10acres of water unfishable due to the range and the layout of the swims. Stock wise I'd say there is about 50 fish in the lake, topped by and upper 30 common, which had been over 40 a season or so back and that was big enough for me!

That night I pitched myself behind an old church smack in the centre of the lake giving me a good vantage point should anything happen to show itself. Next to this swim, around the corner, was a large Bay and during the night I heard several crashes on the end of the wind in the Bay. I had to be off at 1st light to go to work. Before I left, I had a scout around the bay with the leading rod and found a silty area about 40 yards out where a stream entered the lake from the right. It felt delightful, smooth, like running the lead over a pane of glass! I popped the float up at 12ft, perfect. I deployed 4kilos of bait to left and right of the float and planned my return the following morning.

The night before I got my usual bottom bait rigs all tied up, fresh leaders and my hook-baits soaked. Soaking my hook-baits plays a huge part in my fishing. If I am using a fishmeal, then the hook-bait will go into Minamino and Liver Extract mixed 50/50 the night before the session. With my short session fishing I want that hook-bait to stand out from the rest of the free offerings on the spot.

Driving to the lake I was scheming and plotting, as we all do, on arrival at mid-afternoon again as before



park – Perfect. I loaded up the barrow and trundled down to the lake. However, pushing the barrow was a real struggle turned out I'd pushed the entire walk from the car with a flat tyre – Wonderful. I couldn't wait for the walk back the following morning I can tell you.

There was a huge band of low pressure and southerly winds hacking into the bay that I'd previously baited, it looked bang on for it. Two rods fired out two the marks, lovely "Thud" drops on each, I soon turned my attention on getting the atom up and the

kettle on. I was surprised when nightfall came that I had has any action to the rods, I was beginning think something was wrong with the rigs. But at 1am something strange happened, firstly it started off with a Bream (Nothing Strange about that) but I after I recast the same rod, I sank the line, put the rod on the rest and set the indicator. I walked back to the bed and the Neville let out a single bleep. At this point I thought nothing of it, then another single bleep 2mintues later another, then another!

Back out the bed, I casually walked



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down to the rod thinking it was a bit of weed on the line but on closer inspection the Indicator was jammed right up against the alarm. My rods were positioned off to the right hand side of the swim, facing the spot, so I picked the rod up and wound down next thing the rod was nearly ripped out my hand to the left! A Carp had kited about 30 yards on a tight line round to the left, yet I only had 4 or 5 indications at my end the line hadn't even come out the Clip!

After a hard battle a stunning 22lb mirror rolled into the net, I was over

the moon with it and quickly did some night shots before slipping him back. Before I got back in bed I put about a kilo of fresh bait over the area, nothing to heavy, just in case they crept back in again during the morning feeding spell. I was up at 1st light still over the moon with action from the night before, I always find that 1st capture more of a relief than anything you know you are on the right lines and that you're doing something right. Luckily for me is was on my 2nd session.

Morning bite time passed uneventfully, and I was looking to





pack up to get off home to see the mrs for the afternoon, at 1pm the right hander ripped off out of the blue! Picking up the rod I could clearly tell It was a better fish felt very heavy in the deep water of the mere, led it back to the front of the swim and it rolled on the surface I could see it was a Common, my heart sank is this the big one? It wasn't, turned out to be a lovely 29lb Common, 2 fish in a session was very very rare on this lake, and some anglers do 3-4 a season! Hoisted him up for some self-takes slipped it back and packed my kit up for home.

Unfortunately that was the end of my time on the mere, the following day I got new of a new contract on the other side of Manchester, which put work and travelling firmly in the way of a 1h 30min drive to the lake I was Gutted, but I cannot commit to something half-hearted with my angling So I opted for some local fishing instead, however as I write this, plans are being made for a return and who knows what that might bring!

Thanks

Paul.



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The Morning After The Storm by Ben Ormandy



I recently had a trip to my syndicate which is based in the north west area. The weather was not looking good the air and water temperature was well above 20 degrees and there was a storm front rolling in. Low pressure big winds and heavy rain I was going to be faced with the night ahead. I had a walk around the lake to see for any carp that were milling about on the top as I could see a good floater opportunity.

I landed in a swim called 'suicide' why suicide you may ask? because if you were to fish it you were 'suicidal' because of all the snags the and the lily pads that it had to offer. 'Suicide' always held fish, so I stuck my Polaroid's on and had a look. I see around 8-10 fish that were static, just basking enjoying the hot weather. I knew these

fish were not going to be easy to get them feeding on the floaters, but I tried. After 15 minutes of me flicking a couple of floaters on their head it came apparent that it was just too hot, and they were not interested.

I continued walking around stopping a checking every opening that had a glimpse of water in. I came to a set of lily pads and they were a lot of fish just sat there basking again, I had no chance with the floaters, so I carried on. I came to the first peg again and this time round I was going to be looking for the most fish in the same area so I could set up on them, get abit of bait in and wait until the weather Cools down and the low pressure rolls in later that night. Hopefully they get their heads down then.

I came to the end of my second lap around the lake and I see 10-15 fish that were basking in the pads and a group of 3 swimming along the edge of the lilies, biggest say mid double. I didn't mess around with floaters this time and took no hesitation to set up on the nearest peg to that particular set of lilies.

I got the marker rod out and flicked it out to the pads about 15 feet away from them so I could get to the rod before they would have taken me into the pads. The lead went down with a solid 'donk' I dragged the lead back and it was smooth, so the spot had clearly been a feeding area for the carp in the past as the lakebed was clay. I clipped up and casted again having a dip in the tree as my far margin marker. 'Donk' again. I let the float up

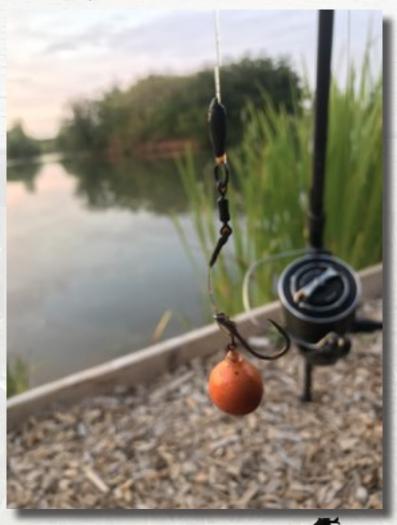


and it surfaced at 7 and a half feet. I wrapped it up and it came to 10 wraps exactly so that's 40 yards. I clipped my spod rod up to nine and a half wraps to allow the swing back on my fishing rod. So, it would be exactly on the baited area and to let the bait flutter down in 7 feet of water. I put that rod on the spot on a stiff hinge rig with a 15mm Orange Technispice pop up. I had a lot of confidence in this rig because it's caught me plenty of fish in the past.

I put 10 spods of hemp and maize over the top to hopefully draw them out of the pads. I only wanted one rod on this spot because the fish were really weary, and I didn't want them to move out the area. I found a nice hard spot amongst the soft clay just off another set of pads towards the island. I clipped it up flicked it out again to have a nice drop not as hard as the first, but I thought I'd give it ago because there were fish in the area, and they use the islands over hanging trees a lot.

I let the marker hit the surface and it came to 9 feet at 11 and a quarter wraps. I chose the stiff hinge rig in conjunction with a 15mm Techni-spice pop up. The same baiting approach was applied 10 spods of hemp and maize to leave a decent sized bed of bait.

I was confident for the night ahead. I set my bivvy up and made myself a nice brew and chilled out watching the sun go down and of course the water. The winds picked up and



the heavens opened. The night was filled with thunder and lightning but not a single bleep from my alarms.

Eventually getting my head down for a couple of hours. I was awoken to my left hand rod alarm screaming and reel absolutely melting off. I jumped out of bed and hit into the fish and walked up the stage to were my net was so I could land it. The fish felt very lively and I got the impression that it wasn't very big. It slipped over the

landing
net cord i
slackened
everything
off and
rolled the
net mesh
to see my
prize. It
was linear
that was
touching

double figures. I unclipped the rig in the net and came to my bivvy and clipped another hinge stiffy on and wrapped my rod up and whacked it out again. It wasn't long before I had my next bite but this time it was



on my right hand rod. A slow but steady take I lifted into it and straight away it felt heavy and slow. The fish took deep lunges and used its weight to try and get away.

I grabbed the net and slid it under the fish. I slacked off and rolled the net to see a gorgeous 20+ linear carp. I was made up. It was the morning after the storm. I put the fish in the retainer whilst I got the camera out and sorted the rod out and got it back on the spot. I lifted the fish out and I had a feeling that this was a new person



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I put it on the mat and weighed it. 24.4 pounds! started jumping up and down i was ecstatic! I got some shots done and the turned out to be great.

I slipped the fish back with pride and got back in my bivvy again and got the kettle on. I rang most of my family to tell them the news and everyone was made with me. All of a sudden, my left hand rod started ticking off again I flew off my bedchair and hit into the fish. After a short fight I slipped another mirror into the net. I rolled the net once again and it looked abit like a leather carp. With only a few scales on his back. I weighed it and the scales said 13 6oz I was delighted. I got the shots done again and they turned out to be superb.



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Getting the rod back out again my right hand rod ripped off I knew by these tales from past experiences these we're likely smaller fish. I came into contact with it and eventually landed it after getting snagged up on the lily pads just off the island. I

weighed it and got the shots done. This time it was a single figure fish weighing just over 8lb.

I was a really happy at this moment. I put a few more spods over both rods but the temperature had risen again, and I had no chance. By this time, it was about 10 o'clock and the pressure was through the roof. This was certainly the best 24 hours I have ever had on the bank.

The morning after the storm.





Wyreside Lakes annual junior carp camp recently took place and this year was another success.

The event was held on Foxes lake, with the hope of seeing a few fish caught as that lake held the best chance for a few runs and a chance to learn some good old fashioned watercraft.... Burt what a session it turned out to be!

It's been an absolutely fantastic event and all 8 students caught -a whopping 21 fish landed with the biggest 28lb... including 5 different 20s and 6 pbs smashed- absolutely fantastic result!

Fishing in extreme conditions from the heat on Monday to torrential downpour and thunderstorms with high winds on the Tuesday!

The juniors' thirst for knowledge was great to see. They learnt everything from watercraft, different methods rigs &



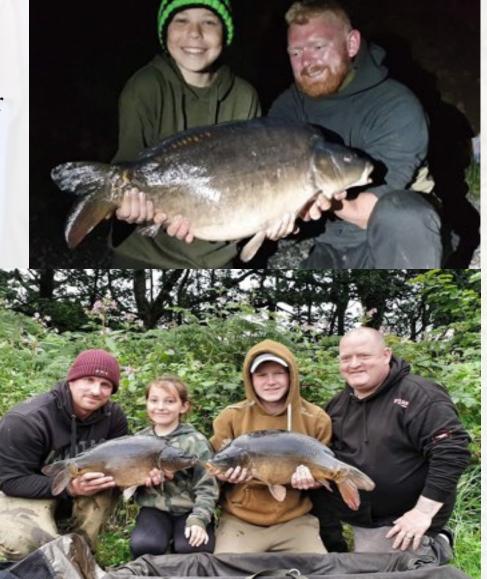
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tying, bait types, fishing in weed, casting and so much more. In the evenings they enjoyed good banter, chilled out, watched the water and have been on call at all times of the night and day without complaint!

Our tutors, Brian Dixon, Callum Reid, Phil Swift, Alex Sheldon and Ian lamb have been absolutely fantastic, and we thank them for their time and knowledge from the

bottom of our hearts.

Names are already down for next year and hopefully we will see this event grow even bigger.



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Catch report:

Harvey - 8 lb, 11lb and 16lb Kieran - 21lb 4oz & 21lb 12oz PB-George -15lb, 16lb and 28lbs 2oz PB Harrison - 15lb 6oz his PB Cole -10lb & 11lb Aaliyah - 12lb &14lb 16oz PB Will - 2 x 13lb, 16lb, 18lb Oscar - 12lb, 15lb, 20lb, 22lb PB



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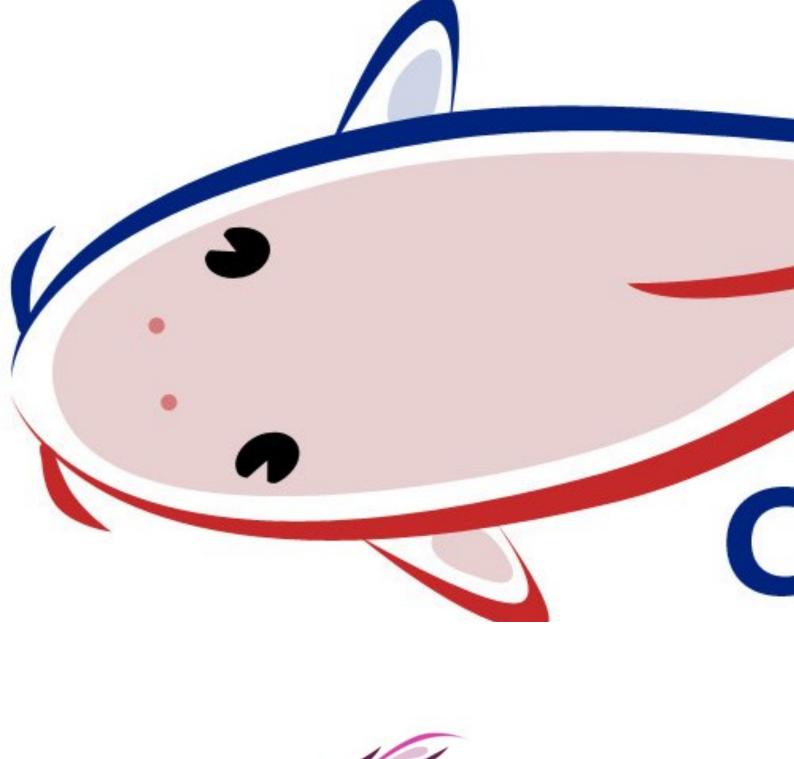
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I started marshalling for the British Carp Angling Championships around 2007 when Carp Team England Manager Rob Hughes was the owner.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

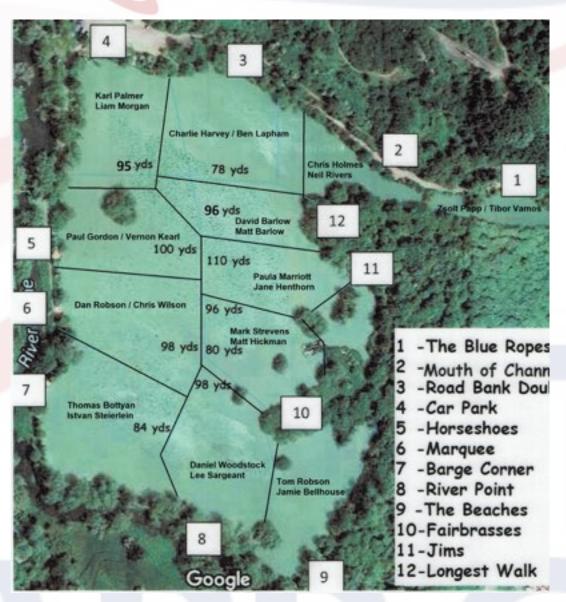
Mick Coxon British Carp Cups www.britishcarpcups.co.uk





Qualifier 10

BRITISH CARP CUPS



Thorney Weir

It was nice to be back at this popular Colne Valley carp water. This ended up being another match where the fish were evenly spread across the lake. The top three pairs had 10 fish between them. The following seven pairs had a single fish each and only 2 pairs blanked.

Chris Holmes and Neil Rivers took the honours in this final qualifier of the pairs competition with five fish for 73lb 6oz. They went into an early lead which they kept for the duration of the match.

Next camr Karl
Palmer and Liam
Morgan with two fish
for 46lb 4oz. Third
place went to Thomas
Bottyan and Istvan
Steierlein with three
fish for 41lb 15oz.
The next seven
pairs all registered

valuable BCC ranking points by catching a single fish apiece. Again another tight competition where it was still wide open going into the Sunday morning, however on this occasion the Sunday morning proved fish-less for all competitors.

The top three go through to the Barston final on August bank holiday weekend.











Singles Qualifier 7 BRITISH

Mike White Dean Darryll Crust Boden Henthorn 5 Steve David Carrie Smith 4 10 3 Kevin Grout 11 Ste 2 1 Colin Hut Steve Blow

> Poolbridge Q Lake

Write up by Kieran McDonnell. Match run by Kieran McDonnell

A month after our pairs qualifier at Pool Bridge Farm, we were soon back for our singles one and after the slow but nail biting match last time, we were excited to see what the lake would have in store for us. With ten people competing, the lake was pegged slightly differently to the previous pairs match - a couple of fishery pegs were left out meaning certain swims commanded more water than they usually would, giving our anglers plenty to ponder going into the draw.

The draw was made particularly intriguing by the fact that the lake had been shut for the previous week due to having work done on the weed and as a result, the fish were

extremely active and showing in absolutely every single peg. The draw came and went and as always it was an interesting affair, but perhaps more unfortunate than interesting was that Steve Carrie who had come last in the draw last month with his partner Nick Davies, came out the bag last yet again! However, seeing as he had still managed to qualify last month despite his bad luck in the draw, he certainly wasn't going to give up just yet.

Once everyone had got their gear round into their pegs, it wasn't long before the baiting

and marking hooter sounded and it proved to be a tactical affair. Lots of people elected

to completely leave their water as all around the lake fish were cruising on the surface, soaking up the late morning sun. The thought process behind this was to try and nick a quick bite at the start of the match to alleviate some of the pressure and get on the scoreboard. Despite the sound logic of the anglers it took a couple of hours for the first fish to be banked and it came in the shape of a double take for Dean Crust in peg 8, who expertly landed both fish to get himself up and running with a combined weight of 24lb 13oz.





It would be a few more hours before the next fish was banked, as the fish seemed to be all but interested in taking the anglers' baits and were more focused on sunbathing instead! It was Steve Blow that was the next person to catch in peg 1 in the shape of a fully scaled 14lb mirror he had managed to snare off the top. An impressive feat considering pretty much all the competitors had been trying all afternoon to get them going on the top but to no avail.

As soon as the scorching temperatures began to drop the fishing started to slowly improve and Steve Carrie in peg 5 banked two quick fish to put him into the lead with 32lb 11oz going into the first night. The night passed by fairly uneventfully with only the odd fish coming out around the lake.

one of those to catch was Ste Alford in peg 3 and at 8am he banked another upper double which would have put him in first with 39lb 1oz. However, his best mate and usual fishing partner Dean Crust denied him the privileges as he picked up his third fish of the match to put him on 44lb 11oz.

It was clear it was going to be another hot day at 8am when it was post twenty degrees and at midday the temperatures had soared even further, making it more of an endurance test than fishing match. In these conditions the majority of the fish were in the upper layers and although they appeared a lot more interested taking surface baits as opposed to the day before, it was still proving very tricky to induce any bites. A

couple of anglers did though and one of those said competitors was Steve Carrie who rather spookily caught his third 16lb fish in a row, putting him into the lead, just under five pounds ahead of second place.

Now excuse the weather related pun, but the match was really starting to heat up with six people now on the scoreboard and no one storming ahead it was anybody's game. Going into the second evening Dean Crust returned to the top after another quick fire two fish put him on 76lb 9oz. Just up from Dean in peg 7 was Mike White who was into another fish after landing a fish earlier in the day to get up and running, but this fish he was attached to would soon become a game changer and shake up the podium places.



It was after great perseverance he managed to slip the net under a 27lb 15oz chunk, spring boarding him into third place with a weight of 45lb 11oz for just two fish!

Not long after Mike's capture, Steve Carrie in peg 5 responded with another fish which put him on 67lb 14oz consolidating his second place for the time being. Steve Blow had banked another in peg 1 to put him one or two fish behind third place and overall the fishing

was starting to become more prolific. That certainly was the case for Mr Blow who after putting his second fish on the bank at around 8pm on Saturday night went on to catch steadily and consistently throughout the

night using a variety of tactics, absolutely running away with the match with a weight of 164lb 14oz for ten fish!

Whilst top spot was almost certainly taken care of, there was a four angler shootout for the remaining two qualifying places which led to a thrilling finale. Before darkness, Mike White in peg 7 caught another twenty which put him into fourth place, an agonising 1lb 13oz off Steve Carrie in second. Darkness soon fell and to add to

the drama Ste Alford in peg 3 caught a couple more fish to put him into third place with 72lb 3oz, only a few pounds behind second.

Aside from Steve Blow in peg 1, only the odd fish was caught in the early Sunday morning which led to a very tense finish, as it was only a one fish swing from fourth to second spot. Then with only an hour or so to go Ste Alford put another fish on the bank to put him into second place, knocking his best mate



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Dean Crust into third, meaning if fourth or fifth place caught one fish in the remaining hour he would most likely be knocked out after being in the top three for the entirety of the match, what drama!

Luckily for Dean,
Mike White and
Steve Carrie's rods
stayed motionless
for the remaining
hour meaning he
had secured the last
qualifying spot and
with that he, along with

Ste Alford and Steve Blow, had secured spots in the first British Carp Cup singles final at Albans Lakes in October!

We would also just like to take the opportunity to thank Pool Bridge Farm, who have been host to two thrilling matches for us this year, out of the two matches there were five different qualifying swims out of a possible six. This is one of the fairest lakes for matches in the country

and it is no surprise we have competitors driving hours and hours to compete here, so if you are contemplating participating in a competition next year this could be the competition for you.







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Singles Qualifier 8



DDAP Brooklands Kent

This was a first time for British Carp Cups at DDAP's in Dartford. Following the initial walk round to peg it you could see it was a special place. Knowing the history of this lake in carp fishing folklore we were especially happy to be here. In the build up to this event we were keeping a keen eye on the catch reports to give us an idea of what we were likely to expect. The fish were spread out through the entire lake for this one and with eight out of the eleven competitors catching this proved the point. The top four competitors go through to the final and right to the end it was a difficult match to predict. Matthew Eden had a good Friday evening when he banked three fish for over 66lb. including the biggest of the weekend at 29lb 7oz. He could only add one more on Saturday

but that proved enough for him to take the victory.

Peg 13 which didn't prove unlucky at all was occupied by Billy Dummer, who did his research and managed a brace on both Saturday and Sunday o take runners up spot. Third place went to Alex Zlampa who had three fish for 63lb 1oz. a nice average in any carp match. The fourth and final qualifying place went to Dragos Vlaican, who also had three fish but for a smaller total weight of 40lb 40z.

Levi Letchford, Mike White and Flavio de Jesus all finished close behind and a fish for any of them would have changed the outcome, that's how close it was up to the midday finish. This was the last qualifier in this year's singles event. The final is on Willows Lake, St Albans on the 4th, 5th and 6th October.

Good Luck to all the qualifiers on your quest to become the first British Carp Cup singles champion.



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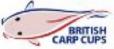




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British Carp Cup Singles

Q8



osition	Competitors DDAPs Brooklands	Peg No	Number of Fish	Total Weight
1	Matthew Eden	8	4	80lb 2oz
2	Billy Dummer	13	4	62lb 4oz
3	Alexandru Zlampa	11	3	60lb 1oz
4	Dragos Vlaican	6	3	40lb 4oz
5	Levi Letchford	2	2	37b 1oz
6	Mike White	5	2	35lb 3oz
7	Flavio de Jesus	9	3	31b 5oz
8	Darren Pearse	1	1	14lb 10oz
9	5.5-4.5-5.4550 - Aside		100	
10				
11	2		8	8
12				
13			8	9





British Carp Cups Ltd www.britishcarpcups.co.uk

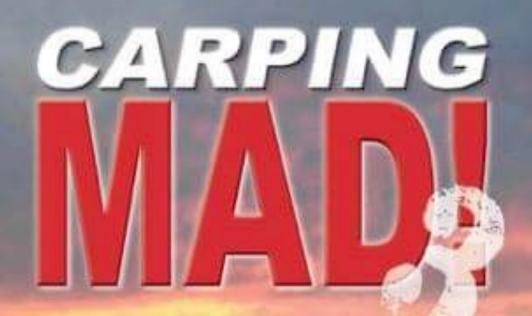




Here is a list of the finalists to comete in the British Carp Cup Pairs final on August Bank Holiday weekend.... Good luck from Talking Carp

Simon Runy / Phil Runy				
Simon Bury / Phil Bury				
Keith Jones / Toby Berry				
Ste Alford / Dean Crust				
Ian Beedell / Paul Poynter				
Tim Swain / Andy Swain				
Lee May / Paul Michael Smith				
Dave Bellew / Steve Lovell				
Chris Purssey / Richard Shenton				
Lee Bruce / Nathan Crowder				
Lee Simms / Sean Dulson				
Tudor Popovici / Alexandru Zlampa				
Mark Sawyer / Simon Wheeler				
Steve Blow / Jack Funnell				
Chesley Boughen / Luke Boughen				
Will O'Flynn / Mark Johnson				
Tim Hickinbottom / Rich Beardmore				
Jon Fern / Dean Winsbury				
Neil Richards / Jamie Standbridge				
Cliff Kemp / Dan Price				
Jaye Carpmail / Colin Scott				
Steve Carrie / Nick Davies				
Jason Adams / Luke Church				
Scott Head / Jerome Brown				
Terry Overend / Kevin Greenwood				
John Bowman				
Jack Lamb / Brian Byford				
Mick Ledger / Dan Moorcroft				
Chris Holmes / Neil Rivers				
Karl Palmer / Liam Morgan				
Thomas Bottyan / Istvan Steierlein				





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Reviews

Featuring -

Carp & Catfish North UK

Bite Light

Alien Carp Clothing



Carp and Catfish-North UK Facebook group

I am the founder of a fantastic popular Facebook group called Carp and Catfish-North UK. We do all sorts on our group. We offer advice to newcomers and experienced anglers, we are all learning new things in a friendly way. We organise social events all over targeting a variety of species depending on the venue. These socials are so popular and rewarding, members who come say they have met friends for life, we have members who only fish on these socials as they aren't confident enough to fish alone.

Our aim has always been to create a happy environment where anyone can ask any question, no matter how silly they think it is, and get real answers without the sarcastic ones. We monitor the group 24hrs a day, so we are able to keep all trolling to a minimum.

This year we have set up a Catfish charity match, for Dougie Mac charity, this is being held on office lakes in September. To run alongside it we are doing a raffle, we expected this to be a small raffle, but due to the generosity of fisheries and tackle shops this raffle has become huge. We have a huge range of prizes on offer from 72hrs sessions on lake more, day sessions on old Hough, tackle vouchers, tackle and bait packages, simply loads I can't mention them all here. The tickets will be on sale at just £1 each, they will be able to buy by joining our group on Facebook you will see a post with instructions and the full list of prizes

up for grabs. Any support would be massively appreciated in this, all the proceeds are going to a fantastic cause. The group can be found here https://www.facebook.com/groups/1261590950626905/

Going forward we will aim to bring you catch reports and news from the catfishing world with writes ups on venues up and down the country.







The Birth of 'Bitelight' - By Philip Lane

If you are like me, you have probably spent fortunes and thousands of hours appealing to or hiding from the senses of carp. In the early days we focused on taste offering the fish custom made baits which over the years have evolved into hundreds of products focussed on appealing to the carp's

taste buds.

As the 'taste' industry flourished, a potentially bigger industry was also born with a multitude of new tackle. Expensive leaders, soft braids and weighted mainlines were developed to elude the carps sensitive touch.

With the introduction of trout pellet into carp fishing for the first time the 'smell' of the bait could draw in fish from afar. In recent years a huge range of liquids, powders and 'goo' have made appealing to smell an art form.

We all know that carp are sensitive to sound and that is why you





will never hear a 'seasoned carp angler' making any more noise than they need to and trying hard to limit loud noises to swearing at the angler on the far bank knocking his pegs in with a lump hammer....!!

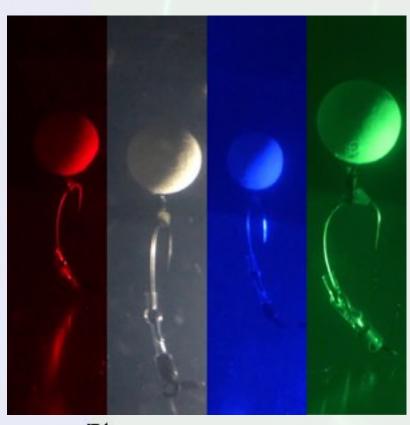
On a bright day in shallow or very clear water there is a lot we can do to appeal to, or fool the carp's sight. However, when the sun drops past the horizon the 'sight' options reduce dramatically.

Over the years many attempts have been made to solve this puzzle, from chemical additives that faintly glow to corn you need to charge up on your head-torch or even a little UV Light but nothing had really hit the mark..... At least not in the carp fishing industry...!

As an angler myself, I split my time primarily

between carp and predators, and 'Bitelight' was born as a product to appeal directly to predator anglers.

In the commercial fishing industry, the spend on underwater lights runs into tens of millions each year. These are guys who have to catch or their family won't eat and they are spending millions every year on light based products with modern



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technology and surely, something could be made to bring this commercial 'edge' to freshwater angling..? I spent time studying all the options from the huge Blue Lights that Bluefin Tuna fishermen lower beneath their boats to the pen-sized LED lights used by Sword fishermen, to glow sticks, and I determined that there really wasn't anything out there already that was small enough or indeed bright enough to use in my predator fishing.

My initial conversations with some well-respected anglers made it clear that it would have to be tiny and would ideally be able to attach to a rig sleeve or swivel without hindering casting or presentation, so I set about attempting to make the World's smallest 3 volt completely waterproof

light....!

After a mere 15 months and 140 prototypes later, I had a product that worked in fresh water or salt, a lithium battery that stayed lit for a minimum of 100 hours and a range of colours that not only caught fish, but had produced Personal Bests for pretty much every angler who had used them.

My early testing was

focussed around Pike. Catfish and Sturgeon which is where I anticipated the market for this product to be and ilt fast became clear that for all these species, using a **Bitelight**

was not just an 'edge', on its day it could be totally devastating.....
What did surprise me was the number of specimen sized 'carp' that were picking up on fish baits when I used Red a

nd Blue Bitelights. It was only when I started illuminating 'Pop-Ups' that I realised just how effective a Bitelight could be for the carp.





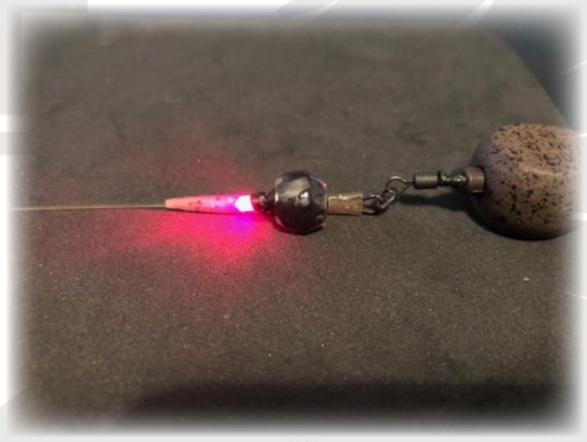
As much of the testing was during the winter, I was reluctant to put much bait in to the swims and along with my 'Test Team', our first winter with illuminated popups were producing consistent success.

During those dark winter months, the Bitelight rig's ability to be cast onto a sixpence in the dead of night was not lost on us. On those stormy

winter's nights when the carp are most likely to feed fishing the illuminated pop-ups made it easy to get your rig back on the right spot every time.

With the testing and production of the lure range taking up much of my time during the winter it was late in the spring before my focus turned back to Cyprinids. By this time the weather had warmed up significantly

and how the best success with Bitelight needed to be looked at again. The team were still doing very nicely on the illuminated pop-ups but often the fish were up in the water and a surface approach or a zig might be a better option. The downside to both these techniques is that their success rates at night drop drastically, encouraging many anglers, myself included, to bang



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out a couple of 'Ronnies' at night and switch back to surface layers at first light.

During our lure fishing development, we discovered a range of LEDs that were not only much brighter than anything we had previously used, but also lasted the 100 hours we set as our benchmark. I had recently returned from a week testing this new range of super-bright Bitelights in the sea,

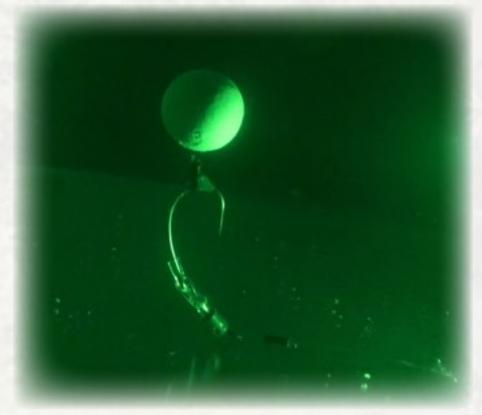
where I discovered not only did the green and blue versions catch a lot of fish, they lit up an area bigger than the average bivvy.

My next overnighter was on Brasenose 1 at Linear Fisheries and I attached blue and green Bitelight 'Nanos' to the sleeves on my rigs as it was getting dark and I cast the zigs back out. My intention was to flood the bottom with green and blue light which occur

naturally underwater, allowing passing fish to make out the silhouette of my zig.

I continued to spod out regularly as I wanted the fish to associate the light with food and within an hour had my first fish. I had fished Linear Fisheries on and off for the last 20 years, but I was about to have more fish in 10 hours than I'd ever caught in a whole session. By 10:30 the next morning, I had landed fifteen fish to 31lb 8oz...and all on 'zigs' through the night...!!

I was back the next week and had a further eleven carp. One of the other big advantages of fishing Bitelights is the sheer quantity of underwater life they draw in, which must be at least partly responsible for some of these amazing results



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as your swim is constantly being baited with naturals.

Through word of mouth we were now selling Bitelights into four continents and to date, they have caught almost everything that swims. In the last few weeks I've had reports of huge Perch, massive hauls of Cats and destroying marks at sea along with countless accounts of success with British

fish, from one angler breaking his PB by 26lbs on his first cast to another who landed one of Britain's largest fish on his first Bitelight session after targeting it for two years and we feel that there is something in the range to give every angler that 'edge'.

A few weeks ago, a small group of carp angler's turned up at Linear Fisheries, Oxlease Lake. Oxlease

has a reputation for producing the majority of its bites in the night and this group of anglers are aware of this and it was their intention to fish as actively as possible well into darkness. With a stiff breeze

blowing across the lake, baiting accurately would be the biggest challenge. The only additions to their normal kit were a small box of high visibility lights which they fitted to their Spods. Over the next 48 hours they experienced wind and rain and pea soup fog, yet even during the worst of it they were hitting their spots again and again watching the light down on every cast. By the end of the weekend six anglers doubled up on three swims landed almost 80 carp and over 20 tench! A number of PB's were also landed and numerous carp over 30lbs.

The 'Flight Lights' are out now and with 'Bitelights' costing less than 4p for an hour's use, no doubt you are already considering where they might fit into your fishing. The illuminated pop-ups are





tough to match if you want to try and tempt a wary big fish, but if you want to really 'take apart' a big fish venue then pairing up 'Flight Light' Spod lights and under-lit zigs is a tough combination to compete with.

If you fish for Catfish or Sturgeon or Pike or anything in the sea then you should absolutely give Bitelights a try, day or night they are a massive edge. If carp are your quarry a little more finesse may be required but the end result can be as equally devastating.

At bitelight we are learning every day and we know that Perch and Zander love red lights but never take green, we know that Pike and Catfish will go for anything the brighter the better and we know that red and blue work best for

popups and blue has the best results on zigs.

With new products launching almost every month we will soon have the perfect product for every situation. If you see me or one of the team casting what looks like a firework in the night go and have a nose, we are always happy to show them off.

If you're an active angler who would be happy to provide feedback on their experiences with

Bitelight we have an excellent new tester programme through which you will be able to purchase all products at a substantial discount in return for your feedback.

Check out our website at www.bitelight.
www.bitelight.co.uk
<a href="https://www

All the best,

Philip Lane



TalkingCarp

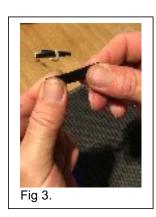
How to use a Bitelight.....

















- Fig 1. Pinch Bitelight firmly and pull out isolation strip
- Fig 2. Bitelight illuminates
- Fig 3. Take a piece of vulcanised rubber tape and remove backing
- Fig 4. Stretch vulcanised rubber tape to approx. twice its length to activate
- Fig 5. Wrap the end of the rubber tape once around the Bitelight and it can now be attached to rig sleeves with a firm rubber grip
- Fig 6. A completed spinner rig with Blue Nano Super Bright 'Bitelight'
- Fig 7. White vulcanised rubber being used to attach a Flight Light to a bait rocket
- Fig 8. Completed Flight Light set up ready to fly!

For more information and to order your Bitelight, visit: www.bitelight.co.uk or you can find us on Facebook



Carp Clothing Brands....
Bankside Essentials or Fashion
Statements..??
by Mark Carper

A new surge in up and coming 'Carp' Clothing companies is sweeping across all Social Media platforms. Not linked to any form of tackle or association, they are all trying to get a piece of the Carp Anglers precious budget..!!

Alongside well-known brands from 'Tackle' companies, such as Nash, Fox, Trakker, ESP. Korda etc. etc. we also have the likes of Wofte, Navitas, Carp Clothes and now, a new wave of brands such as Quarry Clothing Co, Busky Clothing, Jungle Warfare Clothing to name a few and the one thing these new companies have in common, they do not produce or sell any 'Tackle' items at all, so are they simply a Carp Angling Fashion Label that will fade away in time or are they a serious contender for our hard earned

cash and a bankside statement that is here to stay.....?

One such newcomer to the 'Carp Fashion World' is 'Alien Carp', and here is their story...

Alien Carp is a newly established clothing company fuelled by a love of carp fishing. Formed in the North West of England by Carl and James (both 28), our aim is to provide anglers with comfortable and affordable clothing without compromising quality.

As fishermen ourselves we at the Alien Carp Team know you anglers out there want to stay warm and look good at the same time. All the clothing you see on the website has been designed, developed and extensively tested by Carp Anglers and

the Alien Carp Team on the bank.

Staying true to our roots we are dedicated to providing top products to those of you who share our love for fishing and the great outdoors. So, whether you are a short-day session, overnight, or week long session angler, we've got you covered...!

We have known each other for as long as we can remember. Playing as kids together and going all through school together. Now that we have grown up, moved out, had our own kids and still remained good friends, it made perfect sense to go into business together too. Over a pint in mid 2017 the idea was born to enter into the fishing clothing market. We saw a gap and we went for it. We went through hundreds of potential names and



logos for the business and none of them jumped out at us... that was until 'Alien Carp'. Something about that name just stuck with us both instantly and we knew that was the one and a few months of hard work later, we launched the business in December 2017.

One of the questions we get asked over and over again is "why the name"? Pretty simple really, there are two things that we love, one of them being fishing, the other being sci-fi. Geeky we know, but we thought why not? It's a name that stands out from the crowd and imitates no other company. The name also paved the way for that unique 'kick-ass' logo that is being received extremely well by all anglers.

It's always daunting starting a business

and not knowing how it is going to be received or how it is going to turn out. We are overwhelmed with how fast the brand has grown over the last 18 months, with thousands of followers on Social Media and a tonne of 5* reviews. it was the fuel we needed to keep going and pushing harder to grow the business to be one of the biggest and best in the industry.

We have collaborated with some of the

biggest
names in
the industry
and met
some great
people along
the way. So
far, we have
stocked
three tackle
shops in the
North West of
England but
this year we
are aiming to

push the brand out into all of the well-known tackle shops. Starting with only a few items of clothing we have now expanded our range to include a full range of summer and winter headwear, tracksuits, shorts, t-shirts, hoodies and joggers.

Our next aim is to expand the range into winter/waterproof clothing. A full range of Alien Carp warm bib and brace suits and waterproof coats will be coming soon.





The brand is constantly moving, and we are releasing new products all the time. We have an email subscribe list which enables the subscribers to receive discount vouchers, sneak peeks at new products coming out and blogs from our fishing sessions. We also have a YouTube channel where we are growing our knowledge in video editing and filming to bring you some great content to watch and hopefully learn from and alongside us, we have a team of dedicated anglers that we work closely with in order to give our customers the best information and customer service that we can.

Our main achievement for this year so far is our attendance at the Carp in the Park social event ran by Total Carp. The weekend



event was a great chance for us to meet existing customers and to start relationships with new ones as we are known for our personal customer service style. The weekend was a great success and we were welcomed with open arms by everyone at the event. We received a lot of positive



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feedback about the brand, we got to meet some great people and we have already got our sights set on the next shows to continue growing our name and providing the angling community with the best clothing that money can buy.

We are just two passionate lads doing what we love to do and we are so grateful to everyone for all the support we have been shown over the last 18 months.

To see what it is all about and follow our journey you can visit us on any of our Social Media platforms or directly on





our website. We are available to contact via direct messages or emails and one of the team will be able to assist with any questions you may have.

Facebook - @ aliencarp

Twitter - @alien_carp

Instagram @ aliencarp

Website - <u>www.</u> <u>aliencarp.com</u>

E-mail - sales@ aliencarp.com



James & Carl Alíen Carp





Catch Reports

Featuring -

Team X Stream
Vader Baits
Carp Company
Wyreside Fishery
Plus much more



Dave Tozer has reported in with a stunning mirror!! I fished my club water last weekend I've only fished it once before on a short (4hr session) but this time I had a 24hrs pass and managed the biggest fish in the lake at a top weight of 34lb!! Luckily for me in all that rain was the club chairman to supply scales to weigh her and take photographs.

As always, I was fishing with a 16mm wafter on an IQ2 D rig with a size 6 curve from Viper Tackle.

The bait is the ever faithful Banoffee from Burton Bait Rollers.

Name Dean Dimmock Type of fish Mirror Carp location of catch Trent View Info about catch

Caught on a 12 ft zig at the bottom of the marginal shelf on a Rod Hutchinson 15mm Ballistic B pop up. Tamed using 12 ft Hutchy 12 ft 3.5tc DMX rods in scorching conditions.





Jordan Burnie



Jordan has reported in this week after smashing his personal bests and then landing a stunning looking mirror from Ladywood in Yorkshire...

His final tally consisted of a common at 21lb 8oz, a mirror of 18lb and a stunning Apple slice mirror "Apple Mac" 24lb 5oz

All were caught using Mainline cookies and cream 15mm white trimmed pop up with a scattering of around 10-15 freebies of Mainline Cell and Essential Cell boilies



TalkingCarp



Name Steve Cartwright

Type of fish various

location of catch

Northants Syndicate

Info about catch

A few fish from last 2 weeks, all taken on Key Bait solutions ASM and Carp Tackle Online end tackle



TalkingCarp



TalkingCarp



Carl Hartley of the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (REME) spent a few days on a newly opened French water last week. With temperatures and air pressure all over the place but mainly sky high, fishing was tough on this water that had not been fished in it's nineteen year history, but he stuck to his plan of fishing a spot in between two large sets of Lilly Pads and tempted this 'never caught before' lovely Mirror Carp with an RG Baits 'Currant & Spice' Pop-Up attached to a

Rig-It Tackle R3 size 6 Hook fished 'Ronnie' style and loose feeding a mix of RG 'Prime' and 'Formula Red + Plum' Freezer Baits. The fishery is open for business and can be contacted via their Facebook page or web site 'Etang Des Petits Chiens', yep, that's right, the Pond of the Small Dogs..!!

Check out talking Carp next month for a full review of the fishery by Carl and Mark Carper...also, don't miss the RG baits review in the same issue and their Like and Share Competition to win yourself some boilies..!!!







19lb 10oz ghostie caught at the Catterick complex North Yorkshire.

The last week or so had seen me housebound due to recent knee surgery I was starting to develop cabin fever. As my birthday was just around the corner I decided to pop down my local lake for a cheeky 24hrs or so. The first day I had plenty of fish showing and cruising in front of me however nothing I tried produced a run. I woke up the next morning to motionless rods so I decided a move was on the cards for the last couple of hours. I found another group of 10 or so fish in one of the bays. I positioned two rods on the route I had watch them patrolling and within 30 minutes the left hand rod sprung to life the result was this stunning 19lb 10oz ghostie which fell to a DSTR Baits Criller-X wafter fished on an IQ D rig with a scattering of freebies. The perfect start to my birthday.





Callum Reid

Callum has been putting his limited time to good use...
A cheeky overnight session straight after work on Bantons Lake, Wyreside Lakes fishery was all that was needed to bank these 2 beauties.



Catch Reports



Alan Beacher

Another session on the local canal. During this session I had a couple of Bream which fell to the Rod Hutchinson Coconut Crunch 15mm popup. Just as I was coming to the last couple of hours of the session, one of my rods burst into action resulting in this lovely canal warrior weighing 13lb 2oz caught on my version of the multi-rig using Deception Angling size 6 curved shank hooks and end tackle and caught on Rod Hutchinson KMG fluoro popups soaked in spicy krill glug with a scattering of a few KMG 15mm boilies also soaked in Rod Hutchinson's Spicy Krill glug around the popup. Put the time and effort in and learn your waters as it will reward you on a regular basis. Tight lines everyone



Size never matters when your catching old canal warriors like this beauty at 12 lb 3 oz, caught on my version of the multi-rig using Deception Angling size 6 curved shank hooks and end tackle and caught on Rod Hutchinson's spicy krill popups glugged in the spicy krill glug, with a scattering of Rod Hutchinson KMG boilies which had also been glugged in the spicy krill.

This is what fishings all about. You only get one life - enjoy it!



The carp God's are still looking down on me with this double bubble carp and bream within seconds of each other on the local canal. This fish weighed in at 16lb 4oz caught using Rod Hutchinsons Tutti Frutti popup on a size 6 curved shank Deception Angling hooks & end tackle doing the business. Don't rule out your urban waters which have quality fish in them, put in the effort to reap the rewards. Tight Lines and enjoy your fishing





Adam Walker

Type of fish

Mirror carp

location of catch required

Grand union canal in the west midlands

The night before going, I was debating where to go. So I set the alarm before bed ready for my next session .

The next morning at 4am the alarm was quick to wake me up so I soon packed the car ready to go, I had a change of mind last minute, and decided to go and see one of my spots I had been pre baiting on the canal. I saw 1 carp spook away from the area. So, I was quick to go and grab the gear out the car, and got set up, after 20 minutes I had a bite only to produce a bream. A quick rechange of bait and straight back out on the spot. 20 minutes or so had passed and the same rod ripped off again, this time producing a mint 12lb mirror carp.

The carp falling to a 12mm popup socked in krill and bloodworm goo, on a Ronnie rig, fished over corn and pellets

Sadly no more carp on this session, but it was another carp for me on my canal carp journey this year.





Name
Aaron & Joseph Team X Stream

Type of fish Common carp

location of catch

Sefton park, Liverpool

Info about catch
Catch report Team X Stream
Joseph & Aaron

I knew it was going to be a busy weekend for me. I have to organising the X Stream fishing event, so I like to always go out the night before, so I can wet my lines and grab a quick catch before everyone arrives if am lucky.

I am always grateful for any help and Joseph said he'd join me to help set things up the night before he enters the match. So, once all was set we wet the lines and to a nice surprise 2 rods went running off with the magic, A Force bollie by Perfected particles making it a double catch for Team X Stream.

Thank you, Alan Elliott, for taking the photo.

Name
Jamie Evans
Type of fish
Ghost carp
location of catch
Sefton park, Liverpool
Info about catch

Catch report Team X Stream Jamie Evans landed this beauty of a Ghostie at the X stream fishing social match. It was his first time on the lake, so he was pleased to land this 14 and half pound beauty, stopping him having a blank, which no one likes on a new lake.

This was caught using Perfected particles A force on a single bollie with a fake corn. Well done Jamie great angling.







Name Joseph Lee Type of fish Common carp location of catch Sefton park, Liverpool Info about catch Catch report Team X Stream Joseph Lee is always taking challenges and becoming a winner, when it comes to landing fish after fish place after place. There is no stopping him when the perfected particles A force bollie hits the water the fish start coming out.

This beauty helped Joseph come 2nd place in the X Stream Fishing social match. You can see by the smiles he enjoyed catching this beauty weighing 20lb on the nose.

Name
Marc Flynn
Type of fish
Common carp
location of catch
Sefton park, Liverpool
Info about catch

Catch report Team X Stream Marc Flynn had a nice session bringing a smile to his face after landing this beauty of a fighter. Perfected particles A force is bring fish on the banks of Liverpool and many place quality bait bring many fish..

It's always nice to see so many great lads from the Liverpool community and other locations all coming together making great fishing social matches happen on the parks.







Name Mark Mc Don Type of fish Common carp location of catch Sefton park, Liverpool Info about catch Fishing Sefton park social event. Catch report Team X Stream Mark became a winner of the match after landing this beauty of a common as well as 4 others during a 24hrs session but this beauty helped him win a great match. It was weighing 19lb 5oz and was caught using @ Perfected particles, a single A force red bollie. He landed a few nice carp with a total weight of 48lb but not long after the match ended, he landed another 3 carp. Making it a great session.

Mick Kearns
Type of fish
Mirror carp
Info about catch

Catch report Team X Stream Mick Kearns loves a challenge. So, he set off for 10 days fishing in wales on a big lake which isn't easy. 5 days passed and Mick decided to have a move, because nothing was happening. So off he went in search for a catch in a new spot for the last few days of his trip,



after a tiring switch to a new location on the lake, it was time to wet that net with this beauty of a Mirror making it a trip worthwhile.







Name
Rhys Simpson
Type of fish
Mirror carp
location of catch
Corby lake
Info about catch

Catch report Team X Stream Rhys Simpson is having great session on the bank in his free time catching many nice beauties like this Mirror, he is showing some nice angling skills.

Rhys and his brother love the magazine and want to share their happy memories with everyone and hope it can encourage more young anglers to get out on the parks and lakes and rivers, enjoying fishing and not sat at home on their Xboxes & PlayStations.



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Team member Adrian headed to the Islands Fishery for the Vader Baits team social at the weekend. Adrian fished out of peg 6 which had a nice bay at the back of the swim he decided to fish tight to the tree line on the harder bottom and had 6 fish to low doubles all of them coming from this spot! All the fish were landed using the same tactic a pink SaTaN pop up teamed with a solid pva bag of SaTaN pellet and glug with putting out a 3kg bed of SaTaN bait over the weekend.

Great angling Adrian



New to fishing and Vader Baits Crystal Hargrave took to Wadmill at Todber with partner Luke. Crystal choose to use a single 18mm SaTaN boilie in a pva bag filled with SaTaN crumb pellet and SaTaN glug. Crystal's rod had only been out 10 minutes and boom she was into a carp!! After a nice little fight, the carp was in the net and Crystal was setting her new PB at 15lb 4oz!!! Well done with your new PB some great skills shown!! Well done Crystal!



Team member Lee headed to the Island Fishery for the Vader Baits social. After a slow start Lee finally hit into a fish at around 7am on Sunday morning, after a short battle which felt like with a good fish it was in the net a nice 31lb mirror and a new PB for Lee! The fish fell to a single Krilla boilie with a good helping of matching freebies scattered over the top of a spot close to the island!

Nice angling Lee and congratulations on your PB



So Matthew and the Vader Baits Elite where raring to go to Islands Fishery, the weekend had finally come and the 2nd social on the calendar had started...!

Matt had drawn peg 10 for the social and after setting up home for the weekend the 4pm starting whistle blew.

the weather was great to start with, so he chose to spod an area in his swim. He didn't put too much in and he's glad he hadn't as the weather changed and so did his tactics!! A terrible Friday led into a mixed Saturday and it wasn't until dusk on Saturday eve he saw fish moving and feeding in his swim. He repositioned his rods onto spots he had seen fish on and waited!

About 5am Matt's left hand rod took off and after battling the fish close to the bank he felt the hook pull and the fish was gone...!

Hoping his one and only chance for a fish wasn't gone around 10 am his right hand rod fired into life! This also felt like a good fish and he was praying there wasn't going to be a repeat of his last run.

Carefully heart in mouth he played the fish into the net! Seeing the fish at 1st he knew it was a very good fish and felt blessed to bank a fish named 'Puffer' at 30lb exactly! He was using a single 18mm SaTaN boilie with a few offerings scattered over the top!!

Even though only banking 1 fish Matt had a super social and is look forward to the next 1...!!



Team member Tyler headed to his local today for a short day session. He set up both his rods with the same tactic both on snowman setups using a Krilla boilie tipped with a Grafter pop up. He casted his left hand rod to some showing fish and within minutes it ripped off landing his first fish weighing in at 13lb 6oz! Not long after his right hand rod sprung into life snagging him tight into the lily's putting up a fight but the result being a nice fish weighing in at 18lb 12oz



Team member Adam has been in touch with his latest captured from a recent trip.

I got to the lake late afternoon thinking what the full moon would bring, I plotted up in a spot which has produced bigguns in the past, and armed with black squid with a twist I cast out helicopter rigs. Gardner hydro tuff 20lb straight through with trick link booms and size 4 muggas on my spots. Around 6 o'clock one rod was away with a 23lb common then shortly after a 19lb 2oz mirror. All went quite so I put out 2kilo of black squid... I was confident of another, then around witching hour I was awoke by a slow take. As I ran out to the rods the full moon was beaming over me with a eerie but nice feeling, the rod arched over to my right I turned it and the fish plodded to my left after a few hairy lunges it was in the Net. I looked in the net under that beaming full moon there it was a 31lb 6oz common ...over the moon big up the black squid.





Team member Chad has been struggling to get out on the bank of late, but my word he's glad he got out when he bagged this stunner.

I have been fishing a park lake on and off for the last year or two as I was after a couple of rather special fish that don't come out too often. I had one at the start of my first year there, a lovely scaly one of 30lb, so I was only after 4 more. I had a look at the weather on the Sunday and it looked bang on for a bite. I chucked my gear in the car, done a quick lap of the lake and found the big ones feeding in one corner so I trickled some O.P.M boilies in from Carp Company. I sat back for a minute, the big one came straight in and started having it. I quickly got my rig in place consisting of rigmarole 15lb Skinfull hooklink with a prototype hook that I've been messing around with, I also used a linkteQ leader to finish it off.

3 of the big ones were all over my hook bait so I was sitting there biting my nails when all of a sudden the water erupted and I was in to a very angry common. A short little fight and she was in the net. Up on the scales she went 32lb happy days!

Anyway until next time Keep smiling Chad





Chewy is back with a bang

God it feels great to be back at Carp Company

After getting on a low stock tricky Surrey pit in April I've been led a merry dance by the fish.

Consistently watching and changing spots something finally gave, although this is my third fish from the venue it was a welcome character too say the least falling for the OPM 16mm over a bed off hemp and crushed nut.

The Reubens settled at 41lb 2 Its great to be back



TalkingCarp



Not content with recently banking a Uk 50 Consultant James hit the banks again and bagged himself a 40!!

Back from another session and managed to land 4 fish biggest being this brute at 41lb 5oz

The session started really slow going 30 odd hours without as

beep, then midday on the 2nd day the middle rod was off.

By the time i picked my rod up the fish had dumped me in a big weed bed so out in the boat i got over the fish an noticed it was a big common after getting beat through weed bed after weed bed she made One last gasp for freedom and she got her wish as she dived down and the line totally snapped! Most probably on the zebra mussels that are abundant in the silk weed. Gutted!!

Finally back to land and just as i was walking back to the bivvy i could hear my alarm this time being the right hander melting off I managed to land this one but it was only a stocky but kind of made a bad time that little bit better having lost a kipper of a common 5 minutes before hand.

Another stocky throughout the day but not much was really happening until early the next morning around 6:30am when i was away again on the middle rod, but this time mr carp wasn't up for playing any games after taking me for a good spin in the boat pulling me all the way over the other side of the lake.

Luckily the guy in peg 2 was very understanding and i was able to pull the cord over him after a good 20 minute boat battle.

The needle spun round to 41lb 5oz

Totally made up with this one,

Looks like a right character and put up a very good account for itself.

All fish was caught using 12mm nut mix bottom baits corn hemp and snails doused in Carp Companys hemp oil salmon oil and aminol plus

Chuffed to bits





Team member Joss took some time out from playing golf and dropped into his local Lake - my word is he glad he did with a new PB for his reward

Icelandic Red tripping up yet another chunk

Having fished this shallow 30 acre club water for 2 seasons, I had caught most of what I wanted except a few pretty ones and the biggun. My mate fishing the same lake was lucky enough to catch the biggun the previous

year. I turned up for my first night of the season on a cloudy afternoon, and set up in a swim I had caught from before and my target fish had come out from previously.

I baited heavily at medium range with particle covered in carp company hemp oil and spod syrup to the least silty area I could find and then fished a boilie approach on the other road fished out long. After having a few tench unfortunately, the night passed and I woke up expecting to see a few fish showing but hadn't seen a great deal. My mate packed up and went to work late morning, just as I started to see one or two fish at range. I was using 20lb heavy sinking braid which limited my distance but I waded out and wacked a single white 14mm C&C pop up as far as I could and spread matching freebies around it.

It was now midday and I hadn't seen any more fish. I was having a slow pack down as the temperature rose when another member and I began chatting. After some time the bailiff turned up and also joined the conversation leading me to stay for longer than expected, but it was just as well. The rod cast close to the showing fish pulled tight and began to take line gradually. I thought it was going to be another tench as I lifted into the fish but quickly realised that I wasn't when the rod actually bent into a something decent.

This was the first fish I had played on the braid which was extremely nerve racking. I played the fish in gingerly and after a few minutes of plodding, a big set of shoulders broke the surface and I knew immediately it wasn't 'a stocky' and had to be one of

a handful of fish as there are only a few that are bigger than 30lbs. I slipped the net under the fish and thought that's a chunk. I pulled the net out the water to see my prize and it could have only been one fish as the second biggest in the lake is around 32 ish as far as I am aware. We got it on the bank and gave it a quick weigh and did some photos to confirm it was in fact the biggun. 43.6lb





Friend of Carp Company
Loz has been out on the
bank again and banked this
stunning common.

The bite came at midday when he thought his chance had long gone!

Icelandic Red proving to temping for this 33lb chunk of gold.

Here's Nathan King with a very sought after Yateley carp that resides in the Match lake.

Nathan fished to a clear spot in the weed using the ever faithful Iceland Red with matching pop up to tempt this chunk that spun the needles around to 49lb 2 - not bad for his first carp from the water!!



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Wyreside



This past week all the lakes have been on form deexperiencing with torrential rain, thunderstorms big places this time with a whopping 46 fish being land First up this week is Sunnyside one. The lakes hav the top or from the margins in pegs 2,3,5,7,8 and 1 Egan had a fantastic afternoon fishing in peg 2 ma fish were caught on krill floats with match free offer Cocker who managed 6 bites from Peg 8, landing 3 margin and 3 bites came from a spot in the open w Next up we will jump over the bund to Sunnyside 2 28lb. The fish seem to be very mobile at the mome with multiple hits of fish being landed from pegs 1,9 is Connor Ingham who did 48 hours in the point an &14lb were caught on a cell snowman tipped with f 23lb was caught on a pink cell pop up on a KD rig. mixed particles, hemp, corn and chopped cell boilie Campbell who landed a stunning 16lb Common fro Peg 1 fishing over a small bed of bait with bright po scales to 19lbs.

Now over to Wyre it seems to be switching back or Gary Park who landing a stunning 25 lber from swahill makes a return after taking a few weeks off and biggest being Linford's fish at 32lb and a backup of caught at around 15 wraps over heavily baited area fished over the top.

Last but not least we will go to Bantons and first up fish both caught on pop ups over a bed of mixed part of good sessions is resident poster boy Pikey Pete Rowlands and his second session landing 3 from Fups on a simple combi rig with large scatterings of night in right of Stella and landed a stunning 25 lbe who had a good 48 hour session in Peg 16 where I caught fishing tight to the island on bright pop ups Tight lines for now guys – hope to see you on the base Carpy.

Fisheries



spite the changeable weather we have been warm temperature and big winds. Foxes is in first ed.

e produced 27 fish most fish have been caught off 1 on small patches of bait. Our very own Thomas nging 7 bites off the top landing 3 fish to 22lb all ing. Also getting amongst the action was Joel 3 fish 3 of the bites came from a nice spot from the ater all fish caught over a mixed size boilies. where there have been 29 fish landed up to nt and are visiting most parts of the lake daily 2,12,16,18 and the point to name a few. First up d managed to land 4 fish. The first 2 weighing 13 take sweetcorn and the other 2 weighing 14lb & All 4 fish were caught over a large bed of bait of es. Also getting amongst the action was Richie m Peg 16 and Alex gill who had 3 mid double from the pups over the top the biggest one tipping the

after its dry spell starting proceedings off was an bay fishing a solid bag and next up Harry does 48 Hours in bench landing 6 fish with the 29lb and the rest being in there 20s, all fish were a of cell boilies and sweetcorn with little wafters

on Bantons Paul managed 2 low 20s from mugarticles and Manilla boilies also having a couple landing 2 fish the 1st session both low 20s from Peg 15 up to 25lb all fish caught on pink krill pop krill boilies over the top. Dan Blanchard did a quick r. Also getting amongst the action was Anthony he had 5 runs which resulted in 2 fish 23 & 24lbs over the mainline particle and cell boilies.









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Thankyou for reading and as always your continued support

Please send your articles and catch reports by the 28th August 2019 for next months

magazine

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"The Talking Carp Team"

Brian Dixon Mark Faulkner Dave Harnick Snr Mark Galli



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