



POWER UP YOUR FISHING THE CARP ARE OUT THERE. GO CATCH THEM.

THE DEEPER SMART SONAR PROFINS ALL THE TOOLS TO HELP YOU FIND THE PERFECT CARP SPOT IN SECONDS:

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- CASTING RANGE OF 100M / 330FT
- DETAILED DISPLAY ON YOUR SMARTPHONE SHOWING BOTTOM HARDNESS AND VEGETATION

FIND YOUR PERFECT CARP WITH THE DEEPER PRO-







Hello And welcome.

Issue 43... woooohooo

Well, it looks like Summer has come and gone and we can start looking forward to a change of season. Some of the trees are already starting to take on their autumn colours, the conkers are falling in the local woods and squirrels are getting more active in their hunt for food...which can only mean one thing... The carp should be starting to leave that awkward time of the year when they get super finnicky and start contemplating their build up to winter.

Time to plan your winter campaigns, start getting some bait back into the lakes again, and time to start catching those carp at their biggest weights before the winter really kicks in.

Its also time to start packing an extra hoodie, checking those batteries on your electricals and top up your stoves.

All in all, it's a great time of the year, and a favourite for the photographer within you as there will be some magical shots to be had.... And we want to see them!!

So send them in!!

Until next month... keep reading, and have fun!
Contact us at :-

<u>brian.dixon@talkingcarp.co.uk</u> <u>Or buggy@talkingcarp.co.uk</u>

Team Talking Carp

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White Springs
plus all your catches !!!!!!!

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

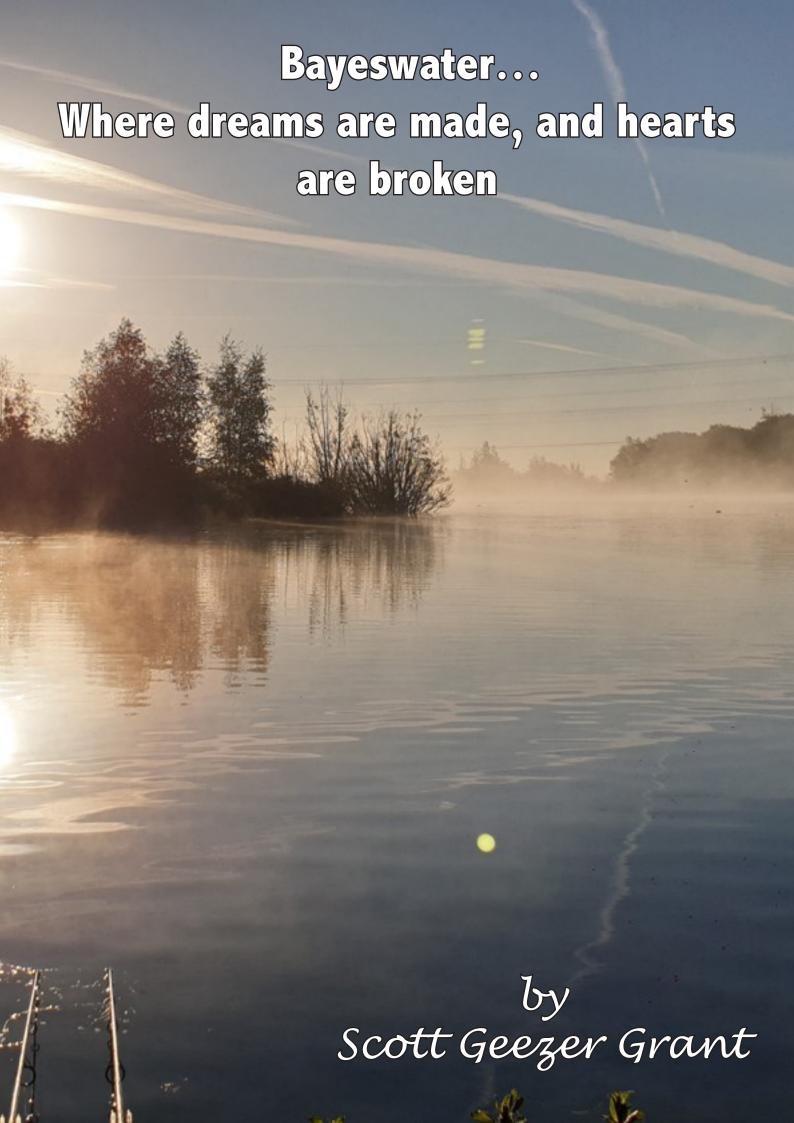


DARENTH VALLEY BAITS









Scott Grant

/7

As I mentioned previously, I had written everything down in my notebook over the past 2 seasons, what fish came from where time. date etc. What the fish were doing leading up to spawning, where the fish were most concentrated etc. Armed with this information I decided to book 2 weeks off of work and concentrate on the areas I needed to. A week after my last session and my leave started. I got over the lake on the Sunday afternoon after the boot sale had finished. I know from experience that the anglers that would be there were staying for a few days, as the weekend anglers would normally have departed.

There were only 2 anglers still fishing, one of them my good mate Porky was in swim 9 and was almost packed up, I stopped

off for a chat then carried on round the lake to see where the fish were. After an hour I was back at swim 1 where I started. I hadn't seen anything of any significance and referring to my book swim 1 is where I want to be, hopefully the plan will all fall into place and I can have a few. I had a look up in the snags that were on my side and didn't see a single fish, but that doesn't mean they are not there.

I went back to the car and loaded the barrow

and got my gear to the swim, it's not as far as swim 9 so it wasn't that bad, but I know when I get my electric barrow it will be so much easier. I took my time getting everything sorted there was no rush I was here for the next 5 days at least. With the bivvy up and my gear put away nice and neat it was time to sort the rods.

I decided to fish 1 rod towards the snags, then fish my other 3 rods in the main swim. The snag rod was fished with a Skunk



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Scott Grant



wafter with a kilo of freebies scattered over the top. Once back in the main swim my lefthand rod was fished to a lovely area I had fished on a previous session. I fished a nutiob wafter with a few spombs of particle and crushed boilies over the top. My middle rod was fished again to a lovely area just off the island and the right-hand rod was fished off the corner of the island with a 4ft zig.

With everything sorted it was time to relax and enjoy my time on the bank. Sunday night

crept up pretty quick and before I knew it, I was getting into the bag for the night. The lake seemed really quiet and I didn't hear a single fish crash when darkness fell. I was still confident that the fish were in the area and that it was just a matter of time. It did get really cold and come Monday morning the frost was everywhere. I was up early watching the water drinking a coffee, the mist danced across the water and when the sun made an appearance it was

simply breath taking.

As the morning wore on, I could see fish cruising just under the surface a couple of rod lengths out from the bank. I checked the snags and there were a few fish milling about, which is always a good sign. As the day got warmer and the sun got higher in the sky more fish became visible in the snags. I decided to change the snag rod and fish a zig down amongst them, it worked for me this time last year so there's no reason it shouldn't



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Bayeswater

work again. I tied up a 3ft zig, donned the waders and waded out so I could cast down into the snags. With the zig in place the rod was put on the bank sticks I had out in the water and the bobbin clipped on.

As I sat there on the bank anticipating when a take would come my old mate Nick came trundling down the bank. He had knocked off work a tad early and popped in on his way home. We had a chat and a few cups of coffee, Twinny aka (The Sheriff) turned up with Wayne they were going to fish the night and go to work in the morning. Twinny steamed straight round to swim 9 but fish the snags and Wayne settled in to swim 2 next to me. It must of only been an hour or so later and as we were talking the zig rod was away, I jumped up

and was straight onto it, the fish gave a good account of itself and when you're playing a fish with water up to your chest it's hard to tell if it's a lump or not, after 5 minutes or so I slid the net under a lovely mirror. I knew it wasn't one of the A Team and it turned out to be one of the stockies at 24lb 8oz and was nailed in the bottom lip. It's a fish and anything out of here is a

My old mate
Nick took some
cracking photos,
the fish was
treated with my
carp care kit then
returned to her
humble abode.
My confidence
now was right
up there and
being the start of
my week, I was
excited to say

bonus irrelevant

of size.

the least. Later that evening Twinny had the Hawaiin Honey at 39lb 4oz, which was good news. I could see Nick really wanted to be fishing but he had work all week but would be back over fishing on Friday. Nick departed around 18:00, I recast the zig rod off the island then went





about sorting some dinner out before it got too late.

That night the fish were active and showing but Infront of swim 2 and 3 which was to my right, Wayne had Sparkles in the early hours he said he secured the fish in the net while he sorted his camera etc, then he heard an almighty crash and when he looked in the net she had done the off, I honestly couldn't stop laughing as he

was telling me. That was the only action of the night, Wayne and Mark went off to work I was undecided as to move or not, swim 2 was going to be my choice if I did move but for some reason. I was adamant the fish would turn up in front of me and feed. Again, the day seemed to go so quick and before I knew it Sam turned up and went straight into swim 2, so it was the next day I found myself debating again whether to move. Sam didn't catch so there was nothing for me to move onto, well that was my excuse if there was one. Wednesday and with still no more action Mark and Wayne were back and again they went into the same swims as they did previously.

Well the night came and went and again the pair of them were off to work. The weather was somewhat atrocious with a biting easterly



wind which it had been since the start of the week, as the day wore on the wind got stronger to the point where I could not sit in front of my bivvy. The wind was really starting to get on my nerves and was getting me down, but onwards and upwards as I always say. Jonny Mac turned up in the afternoon and dropped into swim 2, the fish seemed to be back in there and it wasn't long before

he had a lovely mid 30 mirror in the net, Jon is an exceptional angler and ranks up there with the best of them, he makes it look easy he really does. But one thing he is not is secretive or obnoxious, he is one of the nicest blokes you could wish to meet and a great mate. Scott Farmer and Phil turned up just after Jon did, Phil went into swim 4 and Scott went into swim 3. The lake was

starting to get busy which means more pressure for the fish. For me the week was coming to an end and to be perfectly honest I was looking forward to going home and having a bit of normality, and where I haven't got a cold easterly wind constantly in my face. So, come Friday morning I was packing up and heading home.

The lake has fished so different to the previous



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two seasons, I always enjoy my time on here but felt like it was a wasted 5 days, at least I didn't blank so that is a positive if there is one. Hindsight is a wonderful thing and if I knew then what I know now I would have moved into swim 2 and stayed there. I have the following week booked off work so I will be coming back in a couple of days with a fresh outlook and hopefully get a few

more of the A Team members under my belt.

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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So here I am again with my fingers planted firmly on the keys and I think I'll continue with my pro active stance on becoming consistent at catching fish. Ok so fish swim. no way?! Yep and they actually come to you if you sit there for long enough, But, most of us don't have the time to wait around. I've said it before but if the mountain won't go to Mohammed and all that well you have to get yourself to it. The majority of us plan to take the barrow to the swim and unload it all, before the rods are even anywhere near any water. Then once you've got the tackle box out and decided what rig you're going to use and then what hook bait, an hour has flown past. Finally your head is thinking, I'll have to get that kettle on in a second as I'm parched and I can't wait to tuck into

that bag of Haribo or the Chocolate biscuits I've nicked form the cupboard without the Mrs seeing! Basically you're miles behind catching any fish and before you know it, you trundle off with your tail between your legs having smashed a packet of biscuits, a large bag of Haribo both your sandwhiches and anything else that was in the goodie

bag your brought wth you. To make it worse. you've used all your bait and now you're going to have to brave the Mrs by telling her you blanked again and then for the final nail in the coffin. wait for the onslaught of her ridicule.

At this point you feel like giving up on angling or maybe conceding to the fact that its all too difficult catching lots of fish so if you still go, you'll enjoy the time there and maybe just maybe you'll catch something. Either way, at least you get to eat all the biscuits and enjoy a day doing nothing but





sitting in th fresh air buts that's not why we really go is it? Nope, you know it's not so heres the plan, get yourself organised and by this I mean split things down into sections and disguard anything that you don't really need. Lighten up the load by taking out leads you dont need, remove stuff from the tackle box that's hardly used. All the things you see in your gear that never gets used but is in there because "you might need that" DITCH IT!

I have one large bag which holds everything I need which includes, binoculars, scales, alarms, tackle and rig box, spombs, marker floats and camera. Then I have two small bags which holds tea making gear and bait and lastly I have one medium food bag and that is it other than my water bottle but

the main thing here is that I'm organised and I know where everyhthing is. Once you find a method that allows you to be able to grab something without looking for it you'll find yourselve in a kind of flow and your angling will follow. I often get my rigs ready weeks before I go and by that I don't mean I sit there for hours tying the same rigs. I probably have three or four rigs maxium which is a lot compared to some of my good angling friends of which I only use two of those most of the time. What I'm getting at is that these rigs are

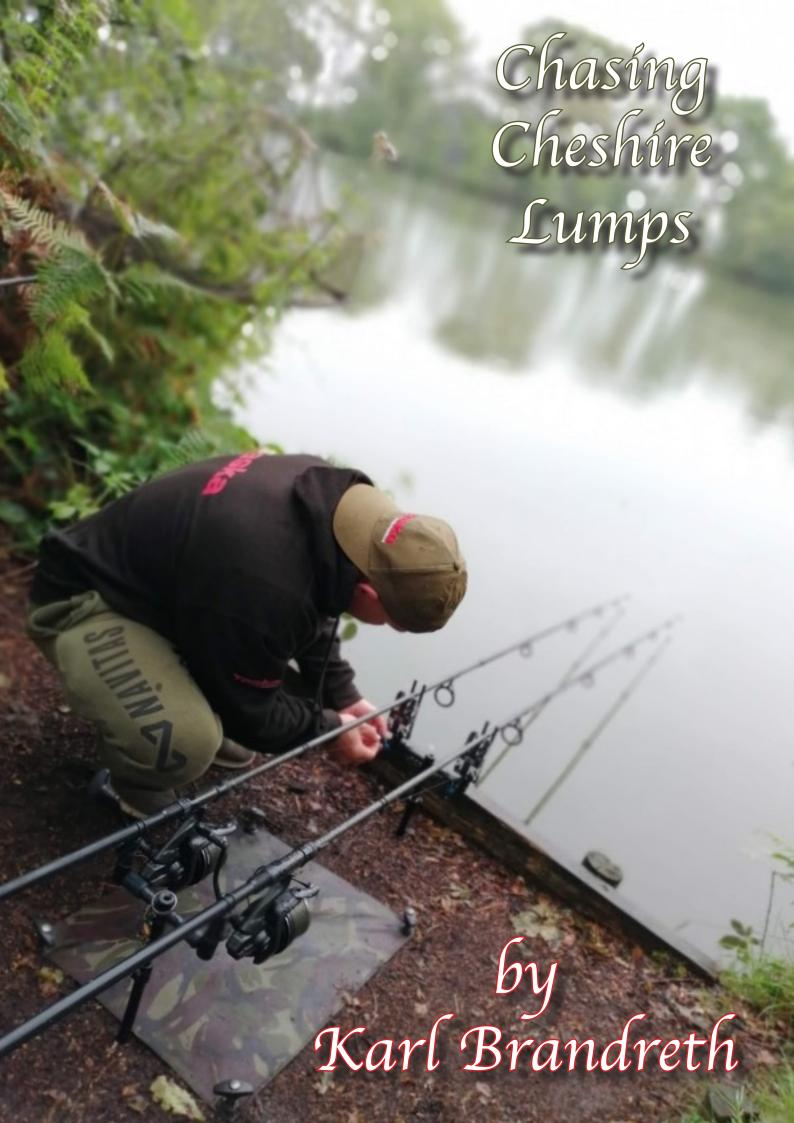
my confidence in that I know they will catch me fish everywhere but I only change a rig depending on what I'm fishing over and not what the fish might prefer or what everyone uses on a particular venue. The main thing is that I have that section of my angling sorted forever and I never have to turn up and think about what rig. Above all else, never give up and never let anyone make you think you can't become better.

Until next time.....Get organised.

JT



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last session turned out to be a wet one. The weather was horrendous with big rainstorms on and off, but it all fell in my favour - I think someone up there was helping me.

It started while I was at work, looking out at the weather and wondering if the lake is going to be full or the fish aren't going to be on the feed.

My phone rang. It was the hospital asking me to go in and give blood prior to a scan I was going to have. This gave me a chance to get off work early, get down the hospital to have my blood taken, then I was off, thinking this is cool. I made my way to the lake and before long I was there.

I grabbed a bucket and bivvy and made my

way down the bank. I couldn't believe it, there were only two other anglers there. I found a peg with a few fish showing themselves and fizzing. I stood and watched for about 30mins and thought yes, this will do. So, I got my bivvy set up and went back to the car, filled my trolley and set off back down the bank.

I got to the peg I had chosen to fish, and the carp where still there fizzing and jumping. I got my rods ready to go with one on

d-rig and one on a Ronnie rig made up with the Taska Tackle End tackle, and both with Smokey Jack snowman baits on them from Spotted Fin baits. Over a spread of 30 Smokey Jack freebies, I made up the rigs with Taska deceptive fluorocarbon hook link, which disappears in water, and the baseline sinkers plus Taska lead clips and lead free core - brilliant stuff. Then I wrapped them up at ten and half wraps and cast out into open water.



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I'm sat there watching the water waiting for the kettle to boil. While I had a brew, I spoke to my wife and sat back chilling out.

Two hours later a guy turned up to fish and jumped in the peg next to me, on my right. Out of the blue my Delkim went into melt down, my left rod was away. I grabbed the rod and lifted into a decent fight with a carp. In no time it went across the cord of the net. I punched the sky in celebration, got the carp safely on

the cradle, unhooked it then weighed it. The carp was a mid-double common and in good condition.

The pictures were taken, and the fish returned safely. I re-baited my rod, wrapped it back up at ten wraps, and got it back on the spot. Time for another brew, I thought, and sat back with a smile on my face. I was off the mark, the pressure was off.

The next hour or so was spent sat with the lad in the next peg,

putting the world to rights and having a laugh and more brews, Then next thing my receiver let out a few bleeps and, as I got back in my peg, the left hand rod ripped off.

I was playing another carp that ran me a merry dance. I got the fish up to the spreader block and it was mine. Before I lifted the carp. I made sure the fins were fine and folded the right way, so as not to harm my quarry. I sorted the carp out, unhooking it on the cradle. After weighing the fish and offering some fish care treatment. I returned it back to its watery home.

FISH CARE IS PARAMOUNT.

It turned out to be another mid double cricket bat common. I baited up the rod and





wrapped up again, then flicked it out back on the spot.

That night ended up being an early one to bed due to getting up early for work.

The next morning, I woke up to rain, rain and more rain, plus my floor in my bivvy was flooded.

After bailing my bivvy out, I went for a walk around the lake checking members cards.

After chatting with a few anglers, I found out that not many carp had

come out.

I got back to my peg reset my rods to ten wraps and re-baited them with a snowman on each rod - Smokey Jack 16mm bottom bait with a 10 mm pineapple on top. With both rods back on the spot, I spent the rest of the day netting carp for the guy next door.

The fish seemed to have moved over to the right and away from my area.
This gave me a chance

to make up more rigs ready for the day and night ahead,
Sitting there I watched the water with not much showing or fizzing. Weird thing is that they were so active the night before but, still they kept coming out in the peg next door.

They had definitely moved out. I was considering moving pegs, but the rain was that bad I decided to stay put and stick it out. I was chatting to the guy next door when, around 6pm, out of the blue my right hand rod burst into life. It was a long day without catching, but then I was playing my 3rd carp to the net. I managed to get the carp under control, because it was trying to dump the hook in the tree to my right, then again got it over the cord and she's in.





I checked the fins then lifted the carp on to the cradle, unhooked it, a bit of fish care and weighed the fish. It was another mid double common, but it was

a wood carving - she

was beautiful and in

brilliant condition.

I got the pictures done and then it was rods back on the spot. I netted another carp, for the guy next door, and set about cooking my tea - steak in ale and cheesy mash. LOVELY. I stayed up late

watching fishing videos on Youtube until, eventually, I fell asleep. The next morning, at 5.30am, I was woken up with a screaming take on my left rod. I jumped up and lifted into what felt like a bigger size fish. I played it for around 10 mins, but it had other ideas and went into turbo mode. It shot off left around a snag then my hook pulled, and it got away.

I was gutted. I got the rod back out and

sat down with a brew puzzling over why my hook pulled.

Time came to start packing up. I got my gear together, rods on the floor and another quick brew then I was ready for the off. I finished up with 3 carp and lost one, but I was more than happy with that result.

My next session will be on monument 1 with Keith, his son Tom and my son Dean.

Hopefully I will bag a lump, or two.

Until next time, good luck out there on the bank.

Karl







Approaching Swan was a very daunting prospect to begin with given it's reputation of being such a hard water, having seen off many of good anglers on a daily basis without so much as a sniff, however with the fish that reside in there it's enough to get anybody's blood pumping and put any anxiety aside for the rewards that can be had if you get it right.

I started fishing Swan late spring and as I write this I've currently done 7 sessions and never in a million years did I think that I would have had the success that I have! I have had 22 fish now and with 11 of them been over 30lb it's totally blown any expectations I had right out of proportion. Three of the fish have been over 40lb breaking my common PB twice in my last two sessions. The 1st been The Upfront Common at 42lb 6oz and the 2nd being a massive 46lb 2oz known as Live Bait. The other 40lb fish was a mirror known as The Parrot at 41lb 10oz wow just wow is all I can really say.

Now in my mind before I started fishing Swan I knew it was a very busy lake that seen a lot of bait week in and week out, so on my first session I was just trying to nick a bite on a solid bag approach, which did not quite go to plan for me as I had trouble from the

catfish, I should have known really given the bags were filled with 2mm fishmeal pellets, however you learn and move on. I knew that I needed to just fish for a bite but I wanted to be a bit more creative with the hook bait choice and what I was putting out. The changes I made in the end were common sense and in hindsight I should have done this from the get go but still I did not know just how devastating it was going to be.

Now given that I have full support from



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needed to be using the LM94 Liver, it's such a great big fish bait. So here's the method I settled on - firstly I ditched the pellets and cooked up some fresh pigeon conditioner to this I added good old sweetcorn, LM94 Boilies "but not whole" crumbed/crushed/ broken so it was just bits and pieces. The key to the whole mix was the addition of the LM94 food syrup,

I am talking liberal amounts of this stuff. Now here's the thinking behind my mix, no big food items to hold the catfish over the spot, lots of attraction to help combat the deep silt and sediment, but the most import thing I wanted to achieve from this mix was the fact there were no whole boilies in there, why? Because I wanted to be different with the hook bait. All I could

think about is how other people would be tackling a silty lake with big carp in and to me it seemed most people would be on a helicopter setup fishing pop up's something I am sure the carp would have seen and been caught on so many times before. I opted to critically balance a LM94 wafter by only fishing a size 6 hook and trimming it down to match the broken





in my mix, making it less conspicuous to what everyone else is using and blending nicely with the free offerings I was putting out, not only that it was sitting on the deck.

Now as I mentioned
I wanted to fish for
a bite at a time and
not fill it in, the way I
went about this was
to just sit on a handful
of bait on each rod,
the aid of a bait boat

really helped me do
this and I think it's
been a massive edge.
I owe a lot to my good
friend Nick Dell Colle
who has put up with
me borrowing his boat
every time I go.

Each session down there has gone from strength to strength with my method working again and again, if anything it took a lot of pressure off me not worrying about what I was doing and spending time working out where I needed to be to catch them. The place has overwhelmed me and it just keeps on giving me it's gems I really do feel privileged that swan has been so kind to me.

We all as anglers are looking for an edge and to be slightly different to everyone else.





So when a plan comes together and you start reaping the rewards there's no better feeling.

Although I'm still editing my last two sessions as I write this, you can watch how each session unfolded

and how it progressed over on my youtube channel Cast-A-Line Heseltine here's the link:

https://www.youtube. com/channel/ UCZVSzb3VjFifsyoMNtaHxg/videos?view_ as=subscriber

Thanks for reading and

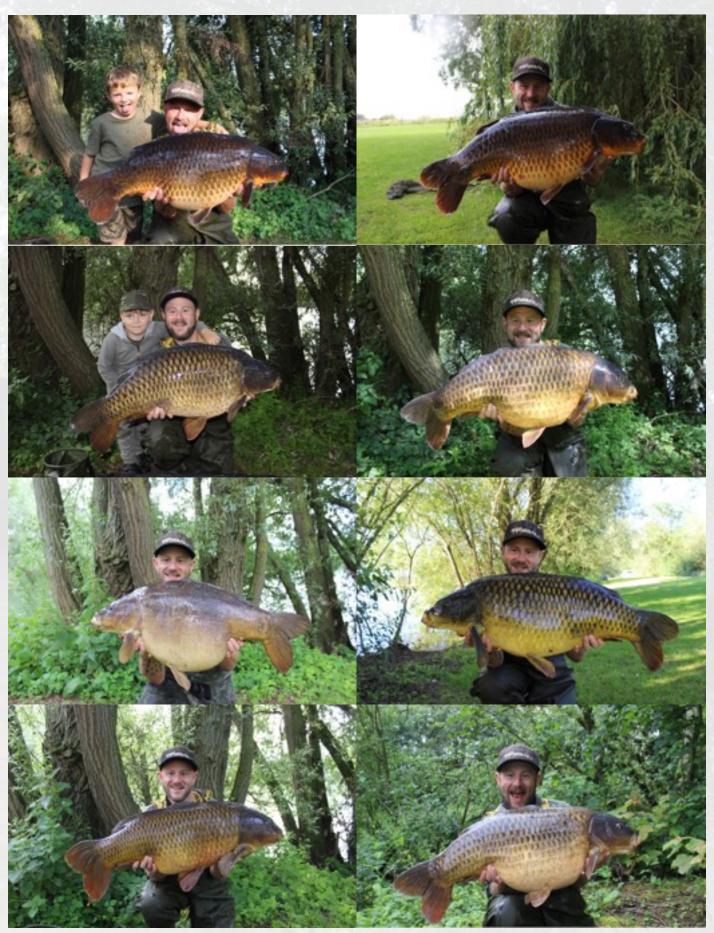
good luck in your own angling,

Paul Heseltine







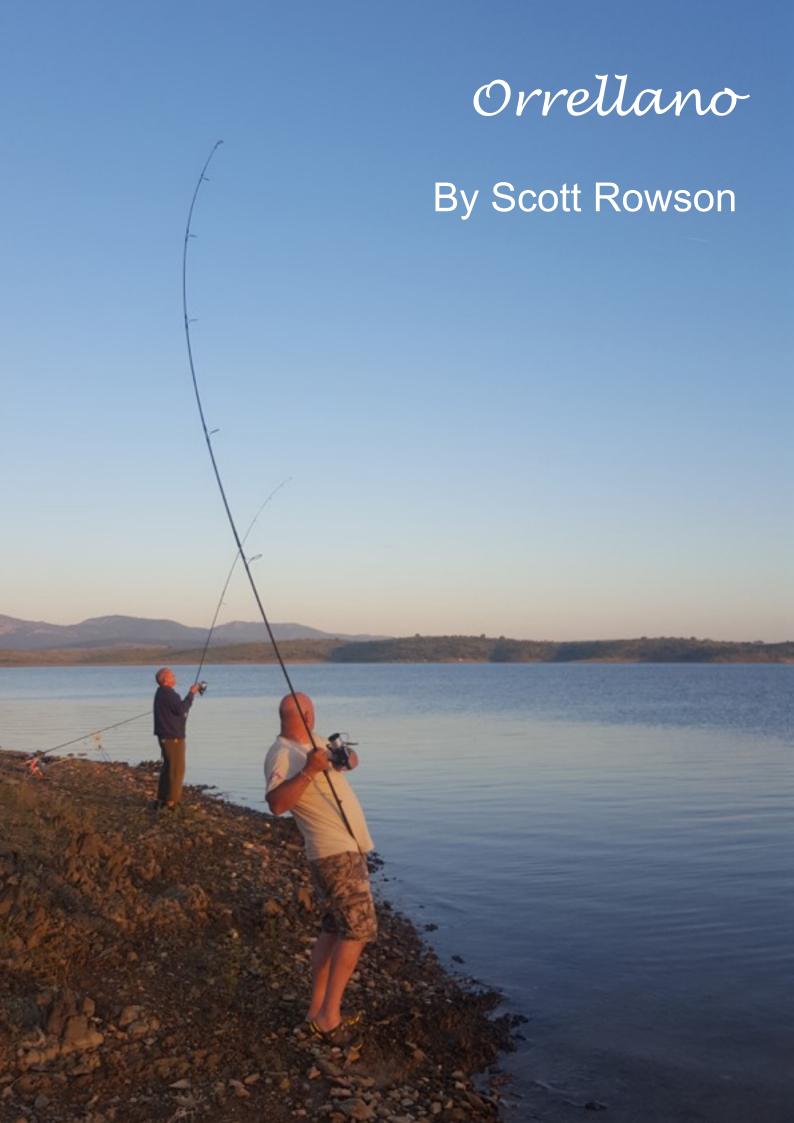


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Tore Zero Lead Free Leaders





For years now I've been going fishing on the Ebro simply because I love the solitude and the wildness of the place but a place I've always been interested in is lake Orrellano in the west of Spain and this year I had the chance to go. Myself and my brother decided to drive it along with my uncle simply because the nearest airport is 150 miles away so we would have to hire a car and fishing gear so if I was going that far I wanted my own gear! We sorted the trip so that we would meet up with **Paul Fagan from Ebro Fishing Dreams** who was taking a boat out there so we didn't have to squeeze one in the van!

I think the drive took us about 26 hours through France over the Pyrenees and into Spain off towards Madrid, just under 1800 miles. First thing I thought of when we arrived was the sheer size and beauty of the place, crystal clear water and not even a cigarette end on the banks (Orrellano is 23 miles long). We soon split up into 2 groups, fishing different bays to maximise our chances, but when I say bays you are talking the size of 20 football pitches. We started off fishing boilies in about 30ft of

water 100yds out but even though we were wrapping the baits up the crayfish were simply destroying us chewing the rigs to bits within an hour of them being in the water so we had to swap over to tigers and plastic baits and just feed particles. We fished there for 3 nights only seeing 2 fish roll in the distance so Orrellano was living up to it's reputation of being known as the bitch of Europe LOL.

Luckily I managed to get in touch with a local guide there named Edwin Wout who I arranged to meet and have a chat about our options and how to improve our chances. We only wanted 1 fish each just to tick it off the bucket list. After speaking to Edwin, we decided on a move but the place he suggested was only accessible by boat so he was talked into ferrying 3 of us a couple of miles away onto a spit that dropped off sharply with 40ft of water 50 yards from the bank. We started baiting up with a mixture of pellets and boilies and got the rods out just before dark and settled back having a chat and a few beers and before long we could hear fish crashing out in the darkness out infront of us so we were confident!



Unfortunately, the night passed without any action but first light we could all see there were fish all over us a real head scratcher? After a chat about what we were doing wrong we decided to try baiting up heavy with maize and tigers which went straight into the swim. We also adjusted the rigs a little bit deciding to use a size 4 curved hook from ridge monkey and 251B flouro straight through to a D rig with tigers and maize tied onto a hook swivel to try and stop the crayfish chewing the hairs off!

Again in the night I could hear them crashing but couldn't get a bite but finally on first light I had a slow take

which turned out to be a tench I was gutted! We decided to persevere with the maize and tigers approach so another 20kilos or so went out into the swim in the afternoon but by this time we were starting to wonder if we would go home with our tails between our legs blanking after travelling all that way!

Finally within 36 hours of the trip left one of my rods roared off and I can honestly say it was the hardest fighting carp I had ever landed even though it was only a 20lber. I wasn't bothered, it was an Orellano carp and I had ticked it off my bucket list!

Finally, we have switched the fish





on with heavy baiting and perseverance!
Over the next 24 hours we has 19 carp between us including a triple take for me on 1st light nothing big only 30's but these fish are truly wild and in mint condition also they really pull your strings!



It just goes to show if you're not happy where you are and how you are fishing make the changes, too many anglers go abroad pick a swim fill it in with boilies and sit on their hands with no plan B – the best rigs in the world won't work unless you can get the fish to get

their heads down!

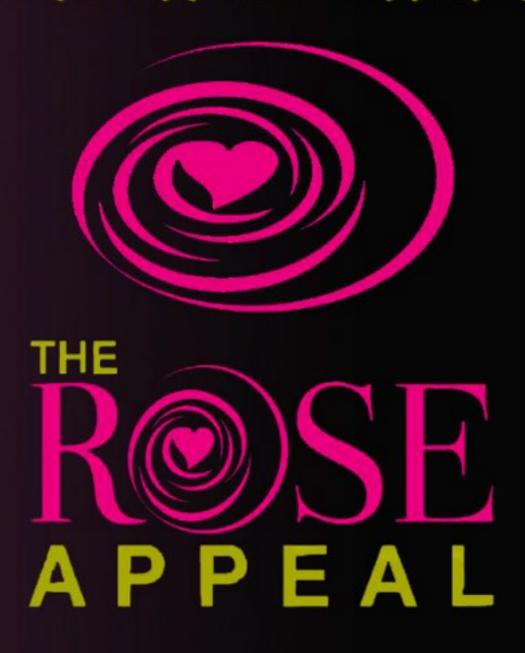
See you on the bank soon,

Scott Rowson



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Anglers Charity Auctions ACA









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

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Work had picked up so I knew I would not be able to get to the syndicate next week, I had just joined Wolf International so I was really busy, so I thought I would do a few overnighters on the local park lake that is within walking distance of my house and easy to bait up and keep an eye on. I was going to do Monday Tuesday and Wednesday night, I would have to pack up by 9 in the morning has had a lot to do in the day, so about midday Sunday I loaded the car and set off to the lake. As the lake was a park lake that was surrounded by factory units on one side and a collage on the other side its always going to be noisy and busy with people walking round all day and into the night. I parked the car in the college carpark and went for a walk round the lake

there is only 18 swims, so it won't take long to walk the whole lake. Well after a few laps I settled for swim that was in the far corner of the lake which had loads of water that no one else could fish to, it had a big split running down the left hand side and there was trees all the way down the left hand side, right the way down to where they feed the ducks which was about 180 yards away,

Most people use a boats on this swim and boat it right down to the end. I was going to fish the swim different than most and I was going to fish just over the weed bed about 50 yards out and bait it heavily and see what happened. I set up and a couple of other members came down and said they were going fish, one was going to set up

next to me, but that swim fished the other side of the spit and into the main body of the lake. At least I had some company for the night. I carried on setting up, and I soon had everything ready just needed to tie some new rigs. I was going to start off with my normal Ronnie rig which consisted of a size 4 prototype hook from Taska which were super sharp and the Taska Deception as the boom section. The hookbait I was using was one I had caught loads of fish on this year and that was Munch Baits sweet stim pop up, and my free offering would be a mixture of chopped up Munch Baits.... Bio Marine, Cream Seed and Sweet Stim, this should keep them grubbing around and in the area longer and confuse them with all the different size baits.



Once all three rigs were done and ready to go out it was time to get them in the water I knew where two of the rods were going... that was about 50 yards out in the middle just over the back of the weed. so I was going to do them first as I didn't know where the third rod will go yet ,so the first rod was cast to the left with just the lead on to find the back of the weed then clipped up then reeled back in and then measured out on the distance sticks so I could spod to the spots after the rods were out, once this was done I clipped the rig on and cast it out to the spot, then the rod was left so the line could sink while this was happening. I started to spod out the bait I was going to give them, I was going to give them a bit of bait to begin with as I knew

I was going to be doing a few overnighters this week so after about 25 spods of chopped boilie over the area, I was going to cast the second rod quite close to rod one about 15 ft to the right and then left on the ground so the line could sink the same as the first rod.

Now what do I do with the third rod? Well on the right there is trees overhanging all the way down that side with gaps in them which makes baiting up easy, the only problem with these gaps is that the public walk along that bank and stop and look out from there so vou don't really want to be putting baits in the open spots, so I sat there looking and thinking what to do when I see a fish jump near a willow that was about 120-130 yards down so that was the third rod sorted .but the only problem was getting bait there so I thought I would get one of the lads to look after my rods as didn't want to leave them on their own and I would walk round and bait up through the trees. On this rod I would be using the same hook



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bait and free offerings as the other two rods, so after a little chat I was of round there to bait up 15 mins later I was back and ready to sort that rod out, well after few casts the rig finally clipped the branches of the willow and into the hole and I was happy.

Now all three rods were on the spots and the baiting up was done I could finally sit back and relax. I put the kettle on and watched the water for any signs of fish, I didn't see anything for a good few hours

when I finally see one about 10 yards behind the two rods that were behind the weed bed which filled me with confidence, while watching the water I also was watching all the people down where they feed the birds. I couldn't believe how much bread that gets thrown in... at least a loaf of bread per person and it would all be thrown in no wonder a lot of fish get caught down there. A few members came down that evening for a chat and we see quite a few fish that evening, so I was happy that I

was in the right place. It was soon dark, and I had not eaten anything yet, so I done a quick toastie and got in the bag ready for the night.

During the night all I got was ducks flying through two lines so I was not happy as I had to keep doing them two rods behind the weed in the night so that was them rods knackered. so I sat there in the morning thinking that the night had been messed up when I see a fish over the two rods that were behind the weed so I might still be in with a chance! While I was drinking a nice warm cup of tea and talking to the lad in the next swim I had a fast take on one of the rods, and yes it was a duck again. That's enough now! I started to pack up as I had a lot of stuff to do today and left. I knew I would be back that night. I said goodbye to the



guy next door and said I would see him later. All that day all I could think about is getting back in that swim and as soon as I had finished what I had to do I would be back.

I managed to get everything done and get down earlier than I thought. I didn't have to load the car as everything was still in it from that morning. I pulled up in the car park and shot down the far end with a bucket and hoped that no one was in the swim, as I got to the entrance to the swim

it was empty so I put the bucket down in the swim then went back and loaded the barrow and walked back to the swim. I unloaded my gear and got the rods ready. Two rods were cast back on the same spot behind the weed and the rod tips were low and into the water out the way of the ducks, that was them two rods down now it was the third rod. Do I still put it near the willow or somewhere else? I decided that the third rod was going back near the willow. and again a few casts later it was there, and

I was happy with the cast. I wasn't going to put any more bait out because I had put loads in the night before and nothing happened. After all the rods were set up I sat back and sorted all the rest of the gear out. Once that's done I put the kettle on and sat at the front of the swim watching the water. Tonight, seemed to be the night that every man and his dog was out and running into my swim but that's park life... you just have to get on with it. I was sitting there, and I was thinking "shall I put some more bait out?" in case they have been feeding today and it was all gone. I got the Wolf XK1 spod and marker rod out as this rod will get me where I need to with ease. I filled the spider spod up and gave them about two kilo of chopped munch baits over all three rods and



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I sat down happy.

That evening I had a lot of visitors to the swim asking how I was getting on, and just talking about anything carpy so there was a lot of tea drunk and it was a good social. After everyone had gone, it was time to do something to eat I had my Taska grill pan on me, so I done some bacon sandwiches and settled down for the evening listening to the radio and watching the water. As the sun started to go down I saw my first fish and it was near the willow. Over a period of an hour I saw fish all over my swim so they must have turned up in numbers, they seem to be getting closer to me as they started off down near the willow and are now showing near the two rods that are over the back of the weed. I was well confident for that



evening and night. I climbed into the bag about 11 o'clock. I was still hearing fish jumping but I think they had moved back down the lake towards the willow. The first bite came not long after I had fallen asleep and it was the middle rod that was over the back of the weed. I was up and on the rod as I didn't want it to get in any of the big weed beds. As I picked the rod up all went solid, I kept the pressure on it was a barbless hook and if I eased of it could slip the hook, well after a few minutes the fish started moving and then shot off to my right and was really

scrapping and trying to get its head down in the weed, but all went solid again so steady pressure with the Wolf X 13 ft 3.5 test was no match and it was soon moving again now I was gaining line I just had the big weed bed that was in front of my swim luckily the fish stayed high as it came over the top of the weed and was going from left to right, this fish was really fighting and went on a run straight into the big weedbed. I kept steady pressure on again and I could see the weedbed moving slowly towards me. I was hoping that the fish was still on as it



had been awhile since I had felt it. Slowly the weed came towards me all I had to do was scoop the weed up in the net.... easier said than done.

After what seemed like ages I finally scooped the weed up and it filled the net. All I had to do now was see if there was a fish in amongst the weed. Well after a few minutes and a lot of weed being thrown about I could see the rig and there was no fish it was gone. I was gutted. Let's hope I have another chance in the night. I tied another rig, sharpened the hook and put it back on the spot and went back to my bed and sulked, thinking of what could have been. I soon fell asleep and when I woke up it was getting light, and the sun was coming up over the trees. I was thinking had I missed my chance of a fish.

I decided to put the kettle on and have a brew and watched the sun come up. I saw a couple of fish show down were they feed the ducks, so it looked like they have moved back down there were they get feed by the people feeding the ducks. Time was going quick and nothing still hadn't happened and it was soon time to pack up and go home I knew I couldn't get back down the lake now till Thursday night so I was going to put some more bait out ready for when and if I could get back in the same swim. As I was leaving the lad in the next swim said he was going to move into my swim after me for one more night. I had baited up anyway and I couldn't stay. I didn't care so off I went wished him luck and headed home.

Well that evening I



went for a walk down the lake so I could see what was going on and it was busy. As I was talking to the lad who moved into where I was we could see fish jumping right over where I had baited and the he said he had his rods on them. After a while I left him and went home thinking to myself that I hope the fish were still there tomorrow. He said he would be gone by mid-day, so I thought I am going to be there for when he leaves. I knew that a few of the other lads were coming down and that they would go on swim 1 as that's where they had been concentrating on and baiting. At least I had someone to do my photos if I get one. The following day I was there at mid-day and true to their words they were packing up. I had a chat and found out that he had had a 18lb common in the night

so they were definitely down here still. After they had gone I set up, the weather was totally different to the other two nights I had done. There was a big wind and very overcast so really good conditions for this lake. The rods were placed in the same spots as the other nights and a scattering of Munch Baits chopped Bio Marine, Cream Seed. and Sweet Stim over all three rods. I sat down, made myself a brew. I was just drinking my nice hot brew when another member turned up and was going in the next swim, so a quick chat and he was off to set up the two mates had set up in swim one, so it was going to be another busy night. As the evening went on the weather looked better and better... it had started to rain so I was sat in the Sneeka bivvy watching the

water and drinking loads of tea. I had seen the odd fish jump but way down by were they feed the ducks, but they seem to stay there in the day and move up during the night and I don't use a boat so can't get to them.

It was dark and getting late when I finally got in the bag, and again the same as before I was woken not long later by a screamer. I was on it really quick this time. It didn't weed me up, it fought hard but stayed high in the water so after a few mins or so I netted a lovely scaly mirror. Not a massive fish but they are all welcome.

On the scales she went **15lb 4 oz** a quick scan of the fish as they are all tagged, and it was confirmed it had a tag so a quick jog down of the number and i slipped her back.

I was happy that what I had done was working so a new rig and a sharp hook and the rod was back on the spot and I was soon back into the bag and back into a deep sleep. Just before light the rod was away again but this time it was a totally different fight, the fish stayed low and weeded me up but like the one I lost. I kept the pressure on and she slowly came out the but I had the big weed bed in front of me where I had lost the fish the night before and yes, it found it so slow pressure with the

Wolf X rod and it was on its move again and now she was up and down in front of me and as it reached the surface I could see it was a decent common for here and in the net she went.

As I looked into the net it was indeed a good



one, so I left her in the net and went into the next swim to get the other angler to do some pics and weigh her.

We weighed her and on the scales she went **29***lb!*

That will do and she was also chipped. A

few photos and she was slipped back, the rod was put back out and kettle on we sat there talking about the lake and the fish in it.

The weather that turned up definitely turned them on. A few hours passed and it was soon time to make my way home. I went home with a smile on my face, but I was thinking to myself that I really need to get back to the syndicate.

Tight lines

Milky







TIME TO CHANGE

WOLF" WE'RE COMING TO GET YOU



Hi to all the Talking
Carp readers really
excited to be putting
fingers to the keyboard
for this fantastic online
magazine. With it
being my first offering
I do hope you enjoy
what I share, I'm the
guy that "wears his
heart on his sleeve"
and Carp fishing is
very much a part of
that.

It's coming up to just over 5 years now that I have been visiting the banks of various waters fishing for Carp. With the explosion of interest in this type of fishing you may be immediately thinking that I have entered the sport via the huge commercialization of it. In part your thinking is correct, but my story has more depth to it in that I was an avid angler when I was 14 years of age. My school years was one of the best periods of my life and I regularly reminisce about that period as it was my best friend from school that introduced me to float fishing at a local park lake in Essex.

I clearly remember standing by a treeline which overlooked a small channel around an island that sat right in the middle of this small majestic water. It was teeming with Roach and Perch and had me sitting for hours just watching them swim back and forward. My dad purchased my first ever fishing rod from a local tackle shop, a bargain bucket type

of deal, rod, reel, line, net, bucket a small handbook about Coarse Fishing.

I must have read that book thousands of times it just seemed like Fishing and me had connected and we were ideal for each other. In school holidays my Dad took the family on trips to Wales, Devon and overseas and I would be stirred by the natural beauty in these places whether it be the clear skies at night, the smell of the sea or the various animals that we share our world with. So, loving the outdoors at a young age and being introduced to the mystery of the underwater kingdom was like an electric charge to my soul that has stayed with me to





this very day, some 25 years later!

Arcades, cricket, football, nightclubs and of course the opposite sex manoeuvred into my upper teens and fishing was parked but never forgotten. Fast forward to today and the obsession has progressed to Carp fishing after initially re-starting out with the same setup up I began with and now joined by my two sons. The promotion

of Carp fishing genre is intense and whichever tackle shop one visits big or small, Carp products dominate the aisles with mesmerising colours of baits, themes of rods,

bank life living, and the lure seek big fish.

It was just a matter of time before a small Carp was caught, netted, held and then returned and it was game over for fishing for silvers anymore. I have vague memories of seeing Carp show at the park lake when I was young, huge explosions in the water of these creatures leaping out. Back then I had no interest in carp they were too big for me and out of my

league! However, now
I regularly scroll the
gallery of my phone
not just of the wife and
kids but of my catches
and reflect on those
sessions when it went
right.

So, with a snapshot of how I set on this path I would like to centre the remaining half of this piece about the much mentioned phrase "Cracking the Code". This was recently said to me from a friend jokingly as I have done really well in my angling over the last year and half. In no way I took this as a serious compliment or that he actually meant it, but the term has stuck with me and opened a window into further understanding why Carping is so unbelievably addictive.



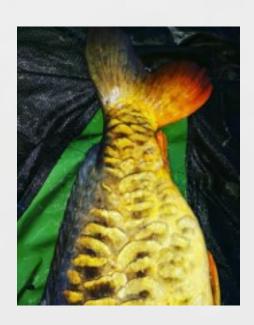
From catching small day ticket F1 commons to then wanting to dabble in bigger ponds with doubles, upper doubles to then wanting to tackle waters with twenties and beyond. The acceleration of appetite is down to the challenge level experienced when moving up the weighing scale so to speak. My fishing has mainly been centred around a couple of park lakes and a small variation of day tickets with Farlow Lake complex a regular destination for me.

Each water has a distinct history and character that has shaped the way the underwater world lives breathes and prevents itself from being extracted to our domain. The Carp on one water follow South Westerlies religiously whereas on another it's a delayed or opposite response, deeper sections in winter on one water whereas in the shallows throughout on another. The biggest lesson I'm slowly digesting is that each venue has its own "Code" and the key to it is a profound affinity with a concept called Watercraft.

I was introduced to this labyrinth of a concept by a very good angling friend of mine that has also somewhat become a mentor for me. An exceptional Carper in his own right and like many out there does it for himself

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and purely the love of hatching a plan and then picking the fruits. His repeated words to me were, "it's all about the Watercraft mate". There wasn't a search engine out there I left alone scouring the web for what this was and how to get it. With modern day access to any type of information available I was able to find a few nuggets of real watercraft talk in forums, magazines, blogs and of course a couple Youtube videos.





However, as much as I could absorb and take with me to every trip it became quite apparent that this is not something that can be gained overnight, a couple of sessions or even years. My observation to date is to give the analogy of a human starting out as a baby fresh with bags of energy ahead but no idea that grows into an adult with multiple experiences, setbacks, wins, sacrifices and of course bundles of bank

time.

This journey that I have set out on has certainly presented me with plenty of setbacks in the form of blanks. thinking I'm on fish when I might as well have put the rods in the bath at home or actually having fish show on my spot but still going home with no new pics. But just as hard as it has been at times tiny sections of the code do start to unravel themselves

through persistence and I have been able to learn and adapt and encounter some beautiful carp.

Two examples I would like to share with you is one from a park lake and the other from a recent session at Farlows. I spent pretty much the entire first season on this park lake with 2 fish to my belt and fished it almost 4 times every month. It was very tough going at times but my desire to win had no depth I just knew in time and a lot of it I would get it right and be holding one of the A-Team one day. The summer of 2017 was my time and on this particular water I went against the grain of what the majority of anglers were doing and solely used 20 mm





hookbaits and as a 20 mm boiles as feed. Colours were to also play a major part of this particular plan as only one produced consistent results and then there was the location and timing of where they would like to reside and when they got hungry.

The training ground of blanking regularly, long travel, assessing each and every session, talking with a handful of anglers I trusted, reading and

applying all this to the water I was fishing eventually came good with three members of the A-Team in my album. 2 caught in the summer of 2017 and then the third caught in May 2018 with quite a few of the general stock finding my net along the way. I was working out the code to this particular lake and gained a huge amount of confidence in my fishing. Bring forward 2019 and the code appears to have changed in certain aspects and although I am still

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confident on the hunt for further members of the A-Team I am still waiting for my first bite since season opened at the venue.

The second example is of my current experiences at Farlows Lake one. I have fished lake 2 but for my angling to take those steps of development my eyes and focus has been firmly set on the twenty five acre water. With a decent stretch of casting to 70 yards at the park lake, feeling the lead down, learning accuracy with the stick, tying my own rigs and experimenting of different baiting applications I believed I was in a positive position to at least attempt this venue.

My total number of sessions to date at the complex is 8 trips since 2018 mostly for 24 hours as that's all I have been practically

practically able to do due to life's responsibilities. My first few trips were in the summer of 2018 and each one was an upper cut blank, but my chin is not of the same glass as the one who hid from Kell Brook, First blood came Boxing day when I gave a mighty roar across the lake and bagged a beautiful mirror fishing to a silty area around 70 yards in depths of 10 foot. A small solid bag

approach sealing the deal and delivering a 25lb pristine winter Farlows mirror. Arriving at gates opening and walking the lake for 2 hours before deciding where to spend the precious 24 hours. It really was a great sense of achievement and a roar that I'm sure the wife and kids heard from home!

The new year brought fresh challenges at

> work which reduced my fishing time in general and a halt to my Farlows trips until July just gone. My last trip I was afforded 48 hours

and was able to find an empty swim right in the middle of open water where strong SW had been blowing across for a couple days. This swim also held decent silty areas and was 100% a semi holding and passing route. My approach this time consisted of a much heavier baiting plan than before, pre-soaked boilies whole and crushed of two different complementing types and hemp. Accuracy in using the spod was a challenge with the heavy crosswind but I managed to payload roughly 25 spombs out during the afternoon of day one and left it clear of lines until early afternoon of day two.

This tried and tested practise worked also







blessed with 3 bites a 15lb, 27lb and my first Farlows 30lb 06 oz beautiful mirror. Two Ronnie rigs and a small Stiff Hinge this time working the magic.

Confidence being sky high I returned in August but this time just for 24 hours and with very different weather conditions and swims lined with bivvies' the task looked

both positive and negative at the same time. After walking the lake as per practice for up to 2 hours as I always arrive at opening to give myself time to actually look, think and ask a couple questions to the bailiff. My cousin and I and managed to settle in a decent swim which afforded each of us our own bit of water and had just been vacated. Being efficient with time on this outing

was key so finding spots with the marker fairly quickly was the aim. I know I could not search all of the swim but focused on two areas that would most likely have a possible underwater feature.

I love fishing to islands but for me it's the last option if I cannot find anything under the surface that may be worth placing a rig on. I assumed the island would have been fished to death over the summer, so I didn't want to do a copy and paste job with my session. Fortunately, I was able to locate a bar and then a drop into a lovely silty landing on the front side of it. With lower pressure in the atmosphere, warm weather and some rain due I liked the idea of



placing a rig in this area with a handful of boilies scattered over and around it.

The approach worked as I was luckily visited by another Farlows 30 and a new pb mirror of 31 lbs. The take was interesting as initially it tightened up and then a hefty backdrop which made me think I had lost it but, in the end, I caught up with it and won the battle. Totally ecstatic and super confident I felt another fish would be on the cards. The following morning before packing up I landed a small common from the same spot which really had me chuffed that maybe I "cracked a bit of the code" these last two sessions.

Whatever is the case for these two examples shared I in no way see it as code unlocking whatsoever but rather content to look at it as the strategy and what we call fate came through on those sessions. I think it really is about taking each water on its own merits and bringing the best out of all that you have in terms of watercraft experience, technical skill set and that gut feeling.

In terms "Cracking the Code" I am very content in accepting that it certainly won't be done by me and equally very happy to sit by and applaud, respect those that have and are doing it today.

Tight Lines! Jay.







Where has the time gone. Since the recent success from last year's trip I decided to arrange another trip to Lac Bernard. This time inviting more fellow soldiers from 21 Airborne battery RA to experience carp fishing abroad. I headed up a training camp for those who wanted to widen their experience and technical skills. Keeping an eye on the latest catch reports through spring the big girls were being landed on the bank by anglers. The biggest coming out was a 56 lb mirror. Knowing the possibility was there and after catching my 2nd forty in my lifetime at this venue I knew this was the venue for us.

After all the preparation the journey for us began to Lac Bernard. The nice thing about Lac Bernard is it is only a 2 hour and 30 minute drive from

Calais. It's a straight simple drive down the A26 and coming off at junction 13 for the city of Loan. However, the journey for us was during record temperatures and arriving at the venue with temperature hitting 44 degrees. The only way to describe it is when we opened the car windows it was like sitting in hairdryer set to maximum.

Once we arrived, we took our time to set up and in the late evening managed to

get our rods out. We decided our approach would be the Ronnie Rig with size 6 OS Krank hook from Duo Tackle. Tipped off with a yellow pop up any flavour of our choice. From pineapple to banoffee whatever flavour tickled our fancy. We went with yellow as this once the game changer from our previous trip to the venue. Then once the rigs were placed a few nice handfuls of boilies and crushed maize spread over the top to draw the fish in.



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Bdr Tucker lost a big fish early hours in the morning. He described it as reeling in a shopping trolley. However, he redeemed himself by catching his personal best a 36 lb Grass carp. The largest Grass carp in the lake and he was buzzing. He could have easily packed his kit away and sun braved for the rest of the week. After this catch though the heat took its toll and the fish were not showing. The temperature of the lake was like a warm bath and we needed the weather to change to change our luck.

Saturday the long overdue rain came in all day. Even though it was uncomfortable for us it refreshed the lake and the lake burst into life. It certainly made a difference as we landed our second fish another Grass carp. Sunday the

carp were on show boshing all over the lake and we managed to land another 3 fish on Sunday the biggest being a 28lb common. One major thing we noticed the bites were coming between the hours of midnight and 8 in the morning. Monday, I landed our biggest fish

weighing just 38 lb another stunning common. I saw fish showing 100 yards out in the middle of the lake. I was fishing a pineapple pop up but as was I using a light brown boilies as freebies. I decided to match the hatch. I changed over to a brown pop up on a Ronnie

Rig. It paid off as the newly positioned rod land this stunning common. Tuesday was slow but early hours Wednesday morning we Managed to land another two stunners and our third thirty of the trip just coming over 31 lb.

We were slowly





chipping away at the carp but the quite periods were not all doom and gloom. The most impressive part about Lac Bernard is the lakeside cabin which we called the social area. With a shower, toilet and kitchen facilities it was the perfect place to escape the sun. It was the perfect opportunity to enjoy time with friends escaping the normalities of life and the fishing was just a bonus.

During Thursday early



hours again, we landed another common and grass carp at 27 lb.
Going into Friday and the last 24 hrs of our trip during the midday
Sun I landed another stunning 32 lb common the 4th thirty of the trip.

As the day was during to a close, we packed our kit away apart from ours rods and bed chairs. As the weather was still beautiful. we choose to sleep under stars. The plan was to get up at 5 am pack the last of the kit away and have a quick wash and coffee and be on our way home. However, Lac Bernard had one more treat for us.

My left hand rod was 145 yards out to the far left hand corner where I had seen fish showing. The rod had been sat there for 36 hours. My mind started



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However, I convinced myself to leave the rod and it paid off in the end. During the last final hours before we had to get up my left hand went into melt down. Reeling in complete darkness was this the fish of the trip. As it came in closer and I slipped the net underneath. It was another 22 lb common. Even though the big ones had not graced the bank on this trip we were very happy with the weeks result. Landing 14 carp and lost a couple along the way. It also still gives me the hunger for the next trip. Overall trip was a success and introducing Bdr Tucker to specimen carp fishing clearly left its mark. Being able to help a fellow angler hit his PB and widen his

still on or has the

cravfish had it away.

critically balanced?

Was the hook bait still

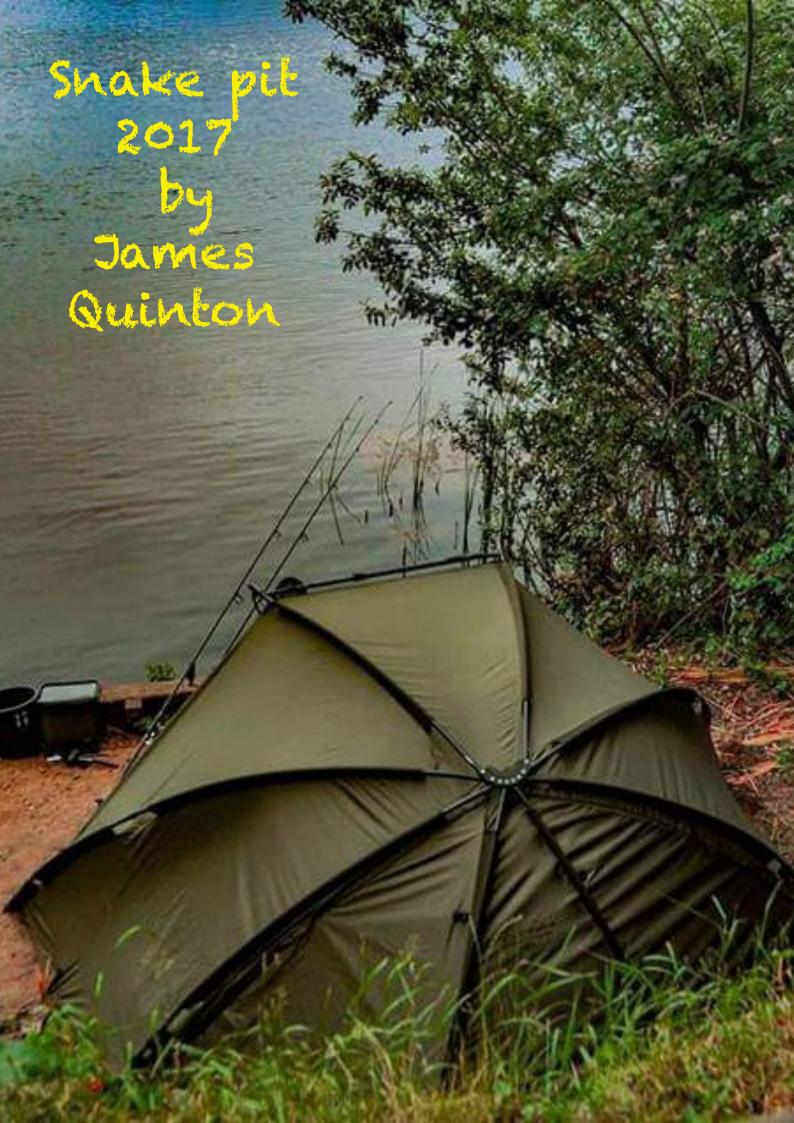
knowledge was the highlight of the trip for me. So, for next time the search for that magical fifty is still on the cards.

Tight lines

Bdr Salísbury



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For those that don't know, snake pit has been fished by many of the country's top anglers, including Terry Hearn, Kevin Nash, Jim Shelley and Damien Clark. As many have, I read about Snake Pit in Terry's book and also Jim's book, and loved the look and sound of the pit, big snags, deep water and stunning looking old carp! Ticket bought it was time to start!

My first walk around was quite exciting, and nerve racking! Walking the same paths as the country's top anglers! At the time of me starting, the Snake Pit Common sadly passed, the common was a known 50 and its passing was a very sad time indeed. As is the same with most waters there was plenty of back up fish, including a stunning linear called 'Stompers', a

common called 'the long common', 'little lin' and 'floppy tail' and a stunning mirror called 'pop eye'.

The pit was devoid of anglers, hardly surprising with the loss, it was the 1st of April, my ticket was now valid, and I had a 3 night session planned with my good friend Sam. After a walk around we decided on a swim called 'metal point', a spacious swim that controlled a lot of water in front and a lovely little bay to the side as well, after a chat it was decided that I fished the front and Sam fished into the bay. That first cast into such a water was an exciting one! With spots found and plenty of bait in it was time to just soak up the atmosphere. The session ended as a blank, hardly surprising but Sam did manage a tench from the

bay. Plenty of fish were seen showing themselves so we left feeling positive!

I returned the following week for another couple of nights, but this time in a swim called 'the car park'. this is situated at the top end of the pit as you come in the gates. The decision was based on a clear area I found whilst walking and leading around one evening. It wasn't far out, around 11 wraps and was to the left of the swim. I arrived and got spodding. Bait in rods prepped and two stiff hinges went out, both with a Madbaits wicked white pop up, over the spod mix which included sweetcorn, hemp, Madbaits wicked whites and nutz. The idea of using a sweeter bait instead of a fish meal base is that I was informed by a friend that they



love nuts, and as you weren't allowed to use nuts the next best thing was the nutz and wicked whites combo. First night was quiet but I was confident of a bite. The following morning the alarm sounded! It was a visit from a lovely dark tench! This was to be the theme for the following sessions. I didn't mind so much as quite like tench but after about 30 of them in around 12 nights fishing something had to change! I carried on in the car park swim, but on this session, I decided to use a snowman set up, the lakebed was clean so knew presentation wasn't going to be an issue. Bait of choice was a **Madbaits nutz bottom** bait with a wicked whites pop up. This was presented on

a blow back set up. I remember that night it was chucking it down with rain and my mate Alick popped down for a chat. As we were sitting on the bedchair out of the rain, my left hand rod gave a few bleeps then hopped round, fish on! After a good scrap a common laid in the bottom of the net.

YES!!!! First fish from 'Snake'! the common weighed 22lb, pics were done in the rain and we let him slide back to his watery home. YES!! I carried on doing sessions in the car park swim and managed a couple of the stockies that were put in the previous October, confidence was high, the switch to snowman was a good one. I had no more tench and was starting to pick of

the carp. One Friday night I was down for the night and same spots as before, the rods went out and I was feeling good! 07:30 the Saturday morning my right hand rod ripped off! After a good fight another common was in the net, this time though it was the long common!

Get in there!! She was weighed at 30lb 8oz, a new PB! Proper chuffed with that! I couldn't believe how it was going! Two originals plus a couple of stockies, I couldn't have been any happier.

After this the area I was fishing went a bit stale, fish stopped showing over the area and I wasn't even getting any tench, so I moved around and started

fishing some of the other swims, gauging ideas on little areas in each swim. I also started switching up my baiting pattern. A tip off got me feeding a few days before my session. Which now when I think back on it, makes sense? Fresh bait would cause the fish to be nervous, meaning it would take a couple of days for them to move on to it and start feeding. So I was baiting up a few nights before I was due down, I then topped up the area with around six spombs, then got the rods out. This was really working well along with my new swim called 'Gregs'. I was fishing around 14 wraps out in front in a nice clear area. I was starting to catch most trips! Starting with a few stockies then I had a stunning common

called 'Radox', he was super clean and my best common I've caught to date, he went 26lb. I then went on to catch one of the rarer mirrors that don't come out often at all, I believe it may have seen the bank around 8/10 times, so I've been told, she went 29lb and one of the best looking mirrors I've had!

Then came that night! Late august, back in Gregs. Still using snowman presentation and the nutz and wicked white combo. I remember it was 02:30 in the morning and my right hand rod had a few bleeps, then screamed into life! Rushing to the rod I didn't even get my trainers on. I had to be careful as to the left of the swim there was a huge snag that contained concrete slabs and I had

lost one previously that evening on it. The fish was kiting towards the snag but luckily, I was able to steer him away from them. The fish felt heavy and was wallowing around under the tip. Suddenly my leader came into view, and then this huge linear came into view, it can't be surely?? The net went out and in he went! Head torch on and I peered into the fold of the net, YES!! Stompers was mine, I let out a cheer and, in the excitement, shouted out his name! my mate Mark was up the bank so after securing Stompers woke him up to let him know. He came around at first light and he got some stunning shots including some water shots. I will always be grateful for Marks photography skills



and wish one day to be able to return the favour! Cheers Mark! Stompers weighed 38lb 8oz, and a new PB for me, I was so happy that it took a while to sink in! At this point I should have come off, but I was now a bailiff for the water and still had a couple more I really wanted. There were only a few people still fishing at this point too.

I carried on in Gregs but found a new area around 15 wraps out as I was seeing some shows out there. A few sessions passed and I was catching a couple of stockies and repeat captures including a stunning little linear called 'little lin' around 20lb but a stunning old carp. I also caught a really old mirror called 'the root fish', she was old and gnarly, she

weighed around 19lb I think. At this point we were middle of October and the Autumn was looking stunning down there. I had a night planned and a friend of mine Jamie was also fishing. He was in a swim called 'Als bar' and I was in Gregs again. The rods went out perfect and it was time to just chill. At 03:30 in the morning my right hand rod





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ripped off, the fish kitted towards the left, yep that snag again! Steering it away the fish was thumping under the rod tip and again felt heavy. I missed the first chance of netting and was getting worried that I'd messed it up. But up he came again, the net went out and in he went!! Head torch on and I couldn't believe it, it was Stompers again! I sacked him up and went and got Jamie to help with the weighing. We got him on my mat and got everything set up and zeroed, we lifted him up and the needle swung round to 40lb! No way we thought, he's never done 40 before. Jamie ran around to his swim and got his scales. They went around to 40lb 8oz too! We reweighed on mine and went around to 40lb 10oz. we settled on 40lb 80z and a new PB and my

first English 40 too! Ecstatic wasn't close to how I was feeling! And made it more special to share the moment with a good friend! Jamie was behind the lens and he got some awesome pics! Back he went and said goodbye and thank you Stompers! What a fish and what a water!! If you had told me before I started how the season was going to

go, I would never have believed it!

I still visit Snake every week for walk arounds and one day will wet a line in there again, but for now a huge reservoir is calling my name!

James Q.

Huge thanks goes too

Mark Baker

Jamie Avery

Leigh Hemsley

Rob Gurney

Chris Southernwood

Madbaits

Taylors leadlounge







Margin fishing is one of my favourite parts of carp fishing and in this modern day of carp fishing it appears to have been forgotten. This does surprise me, as it can be one of the most effective ways of gaining a lot of knowledge by observing the fish in such close quarters. Over the years, I have spent way too many hours watching fish. The best place to do this is up high, trees are the best for this. Obviously, you need to be very careful as it can be very dangerous, however the rewards for just spending hours up there can be very rewarding. The carp can reveal all their carpy secrets. For example; their patrol routes around the edge of the lake. In the past, I have been known to take a flask, cup, a few biscuits and sit up in a tree, on the perfect branch for hours, come

down, flick a bait in the right spot at the right time and bag the fish I am after. There is nothing better to watch your quarry move around the margins and work out the best spot to place your bait - within the hour (if not sooner) you will have a fish on the bank.

I am very lucky with the Syndicate I am a member of, there are parts of the lake set aside for this type of fishing and there is only a small percentage of anglers who take up this opportunity and fish these margin swims. Obviously, there is a bigger proportion who don't, I am amazed about this as during the past year I have learnt a lot about the lake in general and there are some big fish in this lake.

Over the past two years, I have spent

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quite a lot of time using one rod and fishing tight intermediate swims (most modernday anglers would never consider doing this). I think there could be a couple of reasons (that I can think of); firstly - they don't want to fish with one rod only, as carp fishing has turned into a sitting behind the rod game and secondly - most swims of this type are too small and uncomfortable to set up in. This may of course not be the case, swims be large or small and can offer the opportunity for a spot of margin fishing. And why would you not stick one rod out with a bait under the overhanging trees? It looks just perfect to me. I generally like to fish in the smaller swims only. As it doesn't interfere with the night anglers. I only do short 4/5 hour trips where this is the

perfect spot for me.

You do need to do some homework before hand with a lead. to check for snags and other obstructions. you need to consider the fishes welfare and safety. This can't be done on the day as stealth is the name of the game. You are sitting on top of the fish and the lake is slap bang in the middle of their little sanctuary. I used to move up and down the bank

looking for fish. I found out however, you were just as likely to spook them off down the bank, so in the end I choose two perfect swims and just baited them both.

The lake which I have targeted has one bank that only has day swims. This

bank is amongst all the overhanging trees. I was able to fish and bait up these swims, each time I was there (which is normally 3 to 4 times a week). I opted to only bait up the swims on my way home after fishing, as not to disturb their safe haven. I use a kilo of boilies and a mixture of their ground bait with pellets soaked in oil.

On arrival, I would put a small handful

of chopped up Catalyst boilies out, with a small PVA mesh bag filled with micro pellets (soaked in oil), as a way of masking the hook. This would be lowered down onto the spot and I would sit back a wait. At first, I was not using a bank stick or an alarm, however, I found I needed to be on the fish instantly and a buzzer gave me this extra edge over the fish.



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It would shock me into action, which was needed in these tiny swims, as they have no room for any give on my part, otherwise the fish would win the fight.

The tackle I was using was a cut down black widow rod (now 10 feet long), with a Big Pit reels loaded with Bullet proof fishing line and a single stick, CAMO up with real tree tape. I like to be able to get the bank stick into the ground quite a way down, to give the holding power on the take. As I dip the rod under water instantly and hold the fish there. until it turns away from the underwater snags. At this point you are in control and can give some line out and play the fish out under the rod tip. It's an amazing adrenaline rush that you get with this type of close quarters fishing.

I like to use a Ronnie

rig with a Spotted Fin Natural pop up on, as there can be the possibility of some Chod on the bottom and I use a 3oz lead to make sure the hook is set. As I lower the bait down there will be no big plop to disturb the fish. If I need to flick the bait out, under a branch I will use a 1oz lead, as I would rather not disturb them. I still carry the everyday essentials - unhooking mat,

weight sling & pole,

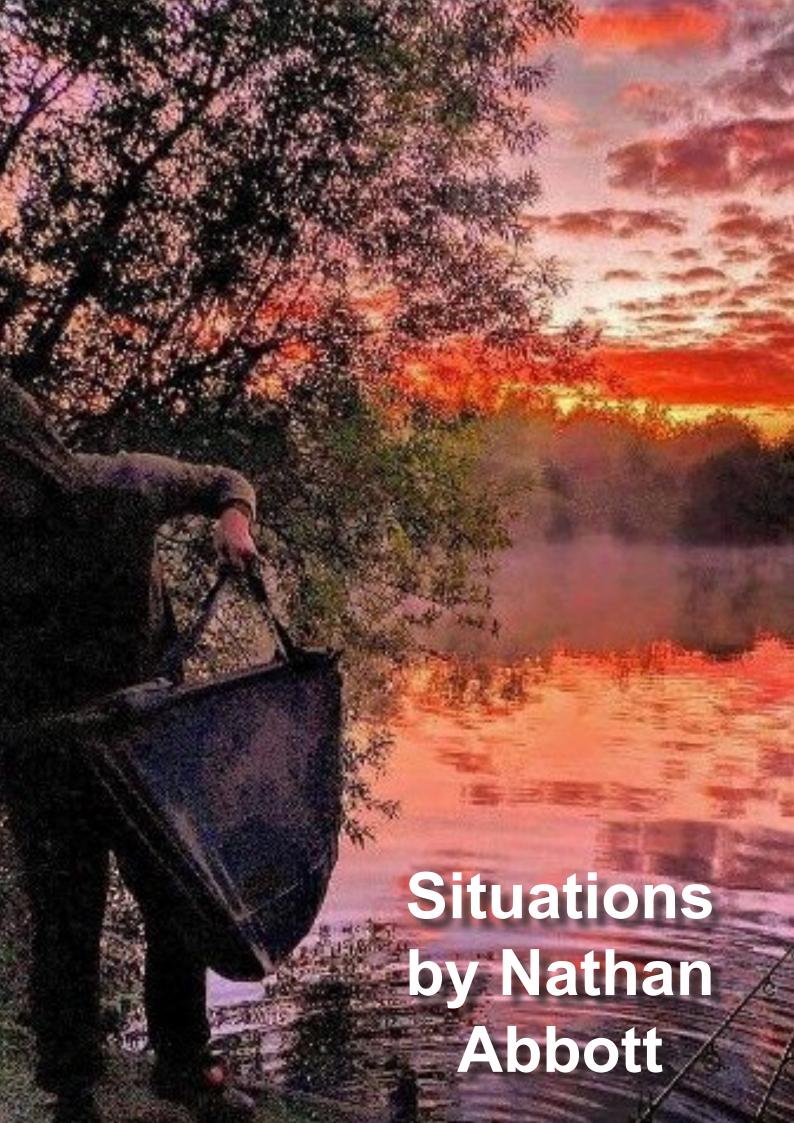
camera & tripod, wet weather gear as there is no room for a brolly. However, I cut down on other things, I will have rigs and pva bags made up, as once I have had a fish, I will bait that swim and move onto the next one as I am only there for 5 hour's max, you don't need that much extra kit.

Until Next Time

Richard







Challenge 3 Rising Sun.

So, bait all prepped, rigs tied (fresh spinner rigs, size 6 wide gape Kamakuras from Korda so far they have proved to be excellent, after using them in France earlier in the year and didn't lose any of the 11 fish I had on) and the new venue nerves were kicking in the night before, but just kept telling myself stick to what I know. It's only the 3rd part of my challenge buts it's easy to overthink things when your worrying what might work and what won't but this is why I'm taking the challenge it's about sticking to what you already know, and if things don't work out try something new, test yourself. This time was a little different, it was pre book system again, but it was arrive and take whatever peg is free. I wasn't in a set swim which could be a good or bad peg. And luckily, I only work half days on a Friday so in my head I was going to be one of the first there and be able to have a walk around and locate fish as most

would still be at work surely?? Not the case however, I arrived about half 1 in the afternoon, and the carpark was already full, so being able to locate the fish looked out of question at this time, but.... This is the challenge, play with the cards I'm dealt with I keep reminding myself. Two of my friends were also fishing the lake, they were set up along a long stretch with the island Infront, I got pitched up next to them and this one became a bit of a social as well. This trip ended with 2 carp to 13lb both coming each morning between 8 am and 9am, fishing tight up to the single island that's on the lake. Again, not fishing tight up to the single



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island that's on the lake. Again, not a big fish haul but with others on the lake blanking over the full weekend it was something to come away with and another venue ticked off, after looking back on the session the anglers that had caught, on average 3/4 fish each, had put a lot more bait than I had after speaking to them, something I will look at doing if I ever return and the conditions are the same.

I did change colours of baits and also went onto bottom baits, hoping for an instant reaction like at Raker Lakes, but on this occasion, it appeared only the morning was prime for a nibble, maybe more bait than what I had used would have made the difference? Before leaving I spoke to a guy at bottom of the lake as well who had had 2 fish

himself up to 23lb, he mentioned it was his first time there also and he just fished open water with nothing but whole 18mm boiles as free bait and hook bait, something I will keep in mind if I ever return to Rising Sun, maybe the application of small 4mm pellets along with 15mm boiles brought me the smaller carp?.

One of my friends managed 3 carp to 14lb and my other mate managed 1 fish to 13lb. At least we all caught and had a laugh doing it.



Challenge 4, Selby 3 Lakes.

After the usual information digging on the lake itself, it was immediately apparent this was going to be my toughest test so far. I know a few people who have fished here and have all said it can be a very unforgiving and difficult water, even the comments on social media sounded a bit daunting, but photos of some of the fish that have slipped up were stunning, very dark looking fish, so anything out of here was going to be an absolute jewel. I arrived Friday evening after a 1 hour 40 minute drive to sweltering conditions, I was on

a pre booked peg called the old gate, apparently this swim had not been fished all week so that was good to hear it won't have had any line pressure at all. I zig fished for around 5/6 hours at different depths, black and yellow foam glugged, but to no avail. Zig fishing is not a strength of mine, it has been something I've often ignored but have tried it more this year as it is undoubtedly a proven method, but try I did, as the conditions did look well for it. So, as it cooled into late evening, I picked my spots, clipped up 14 wraps to within an inch of the lilies at the back that looked absolutely prime. I stuck to bailiff's advice, no more than roughly 5/6 spombs. After a dead night, I wasn't feeling it at all, I just felt I needed to be doing something different so I absolutely bombarded my swim with 20/30 spombs the next afternoon,



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I could see other anglers looking over and probably thinking "kid doesn't have a clue, he's ruined his chances" but to be totally honest, I enjoy spombing (obviously only when it's necessary) it's always improving your accuracy I believe, and I've never been a total believer that spombs totally scare fish off, on high pressure waters this is as many say, the dinner bell, the fish know it's a big helping of free food. Granted, they may enter the area with extra caution because they WILL know what this noise is, but at the end of the day they must and will feed, so to compensate them been extra cautious I just make sure my rig is 100% concealed, sitting perfect, hook as sharp as can be (never much worry with the Kamakuras they are stupidly sharp). Then, within half hour of my bait blitz, my alarm went 0-100 mph, and I slipped the net under a 13lb 10oz dark common. A quick fight, deep water with nothing much between me and my spot like snags or anything, easy sailing from hooking to netting. it's not big but it's without a doubt one of the nicest looking carp I've

caught. Then, an hour later, on a small white pop up on a Ronnie, a pike! Screaming run again, bobbin slamming against the alarm, I thought this is carp no.2 for sure, but when it broke the surface, I couldn't believe my eyes. Safely in the net and the hook falling out as well, I took my pictures with it and looked in awe at the most random of catches and my first ever pike. Not what I'm here for but very welcome indeed! That finished it for Selby but left with a huge sense of accomplishment after pulling two fish out of what's been made out to be a difficult water. And going against the grain of bailiff and local advice to keep bait to a





minimum, I will just state though, I am a very big believer that bailiff and local knowledge is absolute key, but sometimes if your simply not feeling it just use your loaf, try something different and it certainly worked for me this time. Challenge 4 complete.

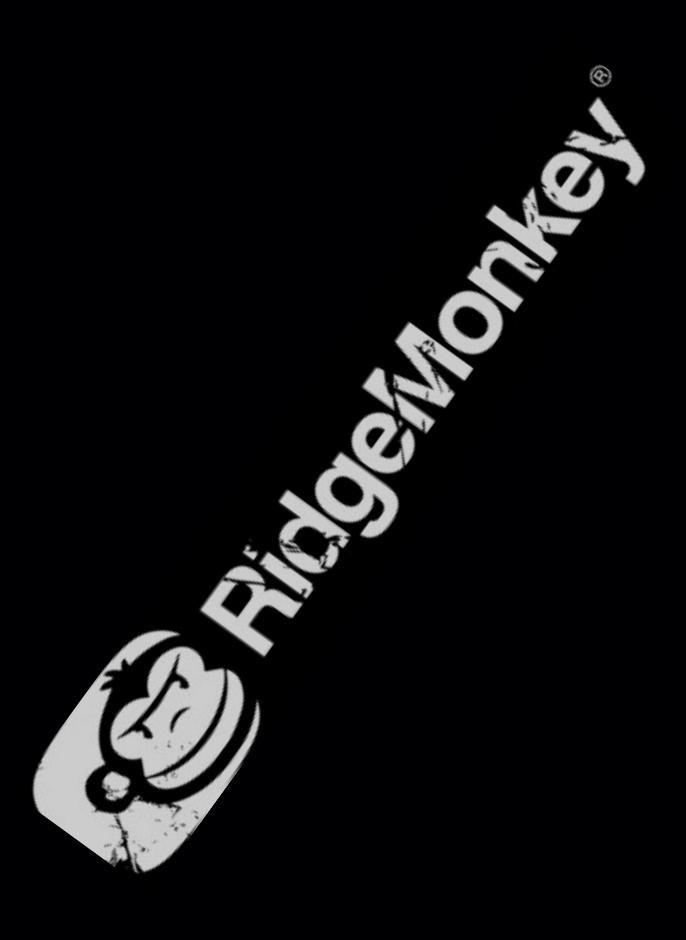
So, thus far I'd say I'm doing what I've set out to do, new surroundings each session and stick to my guns and prove to myself I can pull something out the bag each time. I've learned new things in just these 4 sessions by just putting myself into uncomfortable situations. In my opinion, it's a great way sharpen your skills, your dealt with different scenarios each time, deeper waters, weedy waters, fish that like a lot of bait and fish that don't the list goes on.

I'm going to continue this trend for the rest of this year as I'm on abit of a roll! Next up is Majestic Pool In August for challenge 5. Same rules apply.











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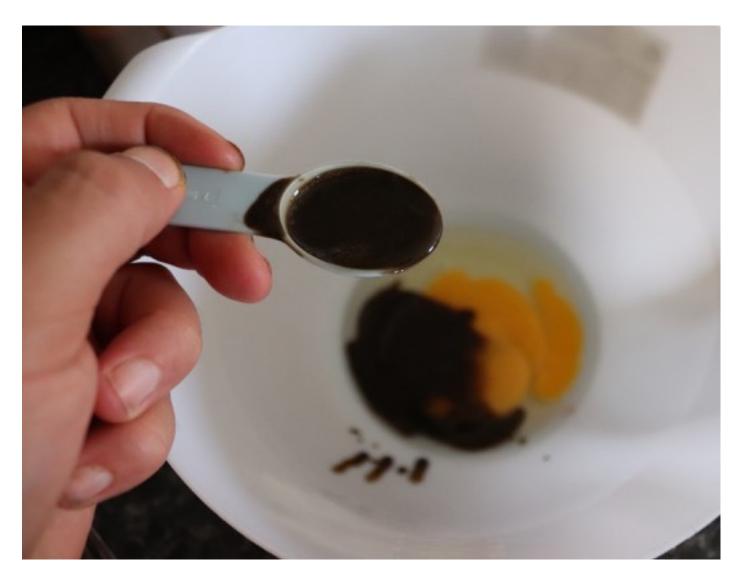
items needed

- mixing bowl
- measuring spoons/syringe
- spoons/fork/mixing device
- saucepan
- bait gun and rolling table
- British aqua feeds plain pop up mix
- British aqua feeds crayfish and thermidor flavour
- British aqua feeds intense b sweetener
- hydrolysed fish liquid
- hydrolysed liver powder
- betaine hcl
- Monosodium glutamate aka MSG
- bait preservative (a few companys do this. Including british aqua feeds)
- fluro pink bait dye



step 1.

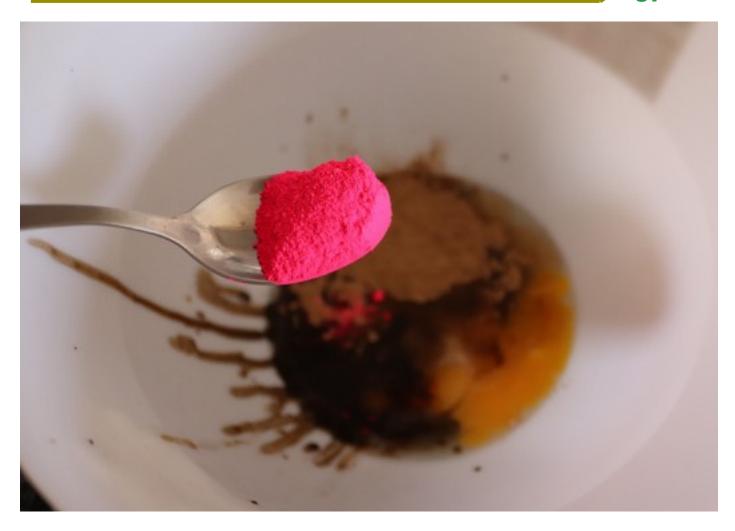
crack 1 egg into a mixing bowl then add 10ml hydrolysed fish liquid, 10ml crayfish and thermidor flavour, 2ml intense b sweetener,15ml bait preservative, 2g betaine hcl, 2g monosodim glutamate, 5g hydrolysed liver powder.



Step 2.

add half a tea spoon of fluro pink dye to the liquids and mix well until all the lumps have gone, add more bait dye if needed.





Step 3.

slowly add the british aqua feeds plain pop up mix use a fork to mix this until it starts to bind then use your hands.



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Step 4.

mix until the consistency of a none sticky play dough, this is the best way to describe the way you want the mix.



open your bait gun and fill it with the now made pop up mix, put your finger over the end of the nozzle and squeeze the trigger until the mix hits your finger you are now ready to gun out the sausages.



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Step 6.

get your rolling table and now filled bait gun ready, gun 1 sausage out across your rolling table width ways and steadily slide the top of the table over it, take the top piece of boom there you go freshly rolled pop ups, repeat until all the paste is gone.



Step 7.

bring some water to the boil, add 10-20 freshly rolled pop ups to the now boiling water and then turn it down to simmer, let the pop ups simmer for up to 2 minutes and stir every 30 seconds, repeat this until all pop ups are boiled.



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Step 8.

once boiling/simmering has been done, leave the now boiled pop ups out on a tray or tea towel for atleast 24 hours, personally I leave mine for 5-7 days to make sure all the moisture has dried out.



You are now all finished making your pop ups!, I hope they do you well!.





Winter can be a dreadful time for carp fishing, a lot of the lads I know call it a day come November and retreat indoors with the Pipe and Slippers. To me, however, it becomes an opportunity one that see's less anglers on the banks and to me more of a reward when you managed to bag a whacker.

Choice of venue is always important, personally I like to find one with a little bit more "to go at" rather than the low stocked venues I like to fish in the warmer months. That's not to say I haven't fished those types of venues in the winter before, but these days I prefer to be in with more of a chance of bagging one every few sessions.

I few years back I was a member of a lovely little syndicate down in darkest Shropshire, it was Rob Hughes Birchwood. This place was a true gem of a place which at the time I joined held some lovely fish to 30lb, but it had a lot of back up 20's making it an ideal venue for the winter. Being around 1 hour and 10 mins from my front door meant I could take a hit one evening after work during the week and do some baiting up ready my usual Friday night sessions. Now, the fish in Birchwood loved the bait so during the autumn months, once a week, I deployed

a 5k bucket of boilie, hemp and sweetcorn spread over an open water spot which was a smooth clean area and a set of snags which held the sun throughout the day. A lot of my fishing revolves around baiting up, I just like that feeling knowing I have a spot going should I see nothing on arrival, something to fall back on.

So, my first session, me and the side kick Bertie (French bulldog) set off into Shropshire. It was the mid November and



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I'd manged to negotiate a Saturday night session, so we got there for first light, it was one of dark and gloomy days where it feels like it's never going to get light, drizzle and cloudy. Straight away I headed to the baited area and as expected one lobbed out right over the open water rod. No time to lose... I was soon in the swim with a trusty bottom bait tipped with a piece of maize out to the mark. Atom up, kettle on, Bert Dog in the sleeping bag and we were all set. Bite time

at this place was in the morning, 6am-11 am is prime time so it was no surprise when at 9am the open water rod pulled up tight and I was into a fish. Now, for people who don't know Birchwood it's a tight lake, the overhanging marginal tree's and the islands are all very close. So, playing them is fun to say the least, but after a lively battle a lovely breeze block, rock hard 24lb 4oz common rolled into the net, so he was retained whilst I got another rig back out there with another kilo of bait.

During the afternoon the sun finally poked its head out the sky, about 3pm, the snag rod was away.

On contact with the fish I could see it was holding its ground under the branches. I gave nothing eventually it came out the snags to the right hand side of the swim powering up and down the margins it shot past me and I could see it was a nice fish, soon I had it ready for netting. It was a lovely 25lb mirror, one that was known as "The Long Fish". Pictures done and slipped back. Nothing occurred during the night or the next morning. Small water carp seem to know when they are being fished for and quickly do the off. So before leaving I gave it another load of bait and planned my return the following week.



That session proved to be a non-starter as someone was in the plot, fair game really, he'd got there before me seen the fish showing and acted on it, which is what it's about. I spent that session in the point next door. It wasn't a wasted session I simply fished right over to the far bank where the sun shined the longest throughout the day, turned out to be a

good move, I had 2 commons at 14lb and 19lb. Still I was itching to get back to the plot next door, so much so I planned a mid-week over nighter to coincided with my usual baiting trip. I got there after work and it was again rods fired out to the clip, a few baits over the top and we were in business. 5am the rod to the snags let out a few bleeps, I got down on to the rod

and the line was tight
I stood there holding
the line and it began
to pull tight again in
my hand, wound down
and struck into the fish!
On instant contact I
knew it was a much
bigger fish than the
previous battles, it just
felt so powerful and felt
heavier.

Eventually it was in the net on closer inspection I knew which fish it was straight away it was



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"Split Tail" at 30lb 9oz. One that I caught few times in the summer months a few season back. Photo's done, slipped back. Just as I was putting the fish back the open water rod was away, again it was a nervy battle with the fish trying to get around the back of the island, a load of side strain and I had it back coming towards me soon ready for netting. A 24lb common, one that was a rare visitor to the bank. I was over the moon as you can imagine 6 fish in 3

sessions.

I missed a few weeks after that due to work and Christmas coming up, but I kept the bait in that area when I could. I hindsight the game was up because I saw less and less activity in that swim, I only had one more bite middle of December, a mirror of 22lb falling to the snag rod. Christmas came and went, with having my first born it was a time I spent at home with him and the mrs. I did get out on New Year's

Day though and fished a snaggy corner after seeing some bubbling going on. I fished singles and managed one at 15lb, which brought the New Year in very nicely.

Returning to the Syndicate in the spring, wasn't something I was planning to do. But with the success of the winter trips I had I thought it would be worth my time for a few more sessions. Now unlike the winter where I fished over beds of bait, I wasn't going



and chose more to flit about the lake fishing with singles or little bait. I find early Spring carp aren't overly keen on mashing their heads into bait as soon as they wake up from a Winter layup. I have found it's much more productive to fish singles or small amounts for a bite.

As we all know, the sun plays a massive part in the early spring months too, so I tend to choose a "sunnier" bank and on the Syndicate the 3 swims along one particular bank got my interest. Stalkers, Middles and the Pads. Early March me and Bertie arrived at 1st light I got the brew kit and unhooking mat out the back of the motor and make my way round to that area of the lake. Me and the Dog sat on the grass watching the area infront of the Middles

and one boshed out to the left of the swim. perfect. I went back to the motor and got the rest of the kit, at this time I was only fishing the days so no need for all the usual clutter of the night trips. Rucksack, brolly, chair and water bottle and I was round to the swim. The left hand rod was a single dropped over close to bubblers and the right hander was cast into a deeper gully between to islands and a catty of bait over the top. We sat back in the morning

sun for a coffee and a

bacon sarnie which our

Bert liked a lot! The temps that day where lovely if I remember rightly, they were up in the low teens, so I sat there quite confident that something was going to happen. At mid-day the indicator on the left hander slammed up against the rod blank and I was in, it was one of those hit and hold situations where vou're holding on for dear life waiting for the carp to make the next move, luckily for me I came out of the reeds and shot out into open water. After a bit of charging up and down



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a 20lb common sloshed over the net cord.

The next take came as I as loading up the barrow for the trip home. It was the left hander that went again, fish kited out to the right side of the swim holding its ground against the margin on an island out in front. I was convinced it was rubbing its mouth along the deck to shed the hook, the amount of debris it was sending up was incredible, huge great blooms of it. Soon I had it out in front of me and a chunk of a mirror was mine. It was one of the character fish this lake holds, been in here since Rob first stocked it – Lumpy and at 25lb 7oz he was at a nice weight too. Pictures were done, fish slipped back, and I packed up the remainder of my gear and headed for home. I sprinkled about a kilo of bait around the



area just to keep them busy whilst I was away for a few weeks. The Syndicate ticket came to a close in May. But I was already focused on a mega low stocked Quarry local to home, so I decided to do one final night at the Syndicate and call it a day until the following winter.

That night came in Mid-April, it was a work over nighter, and I'd only gone down to retrieve my Brolly from the storage on site. That's the great thing about this intimate little syndicate it had

a static caravan with full hot and cold water, electrical ports etc., which allowed you to leave some gear there if you wished. Also, all the members down on this lake were all really good to chat too as were to two bailiffs who didn't mind a stroke or two being pulled, something I find is missing in today's carp angling. Everyone was happy about the other bloke catching, always on hand to photograph or help with a fish and having fished the lake for a number of years I was always keen to see what was in the



bottom of someone's landing net.

So, we arrived at 6pm and quickly got my gear round to the Middles part of the lake, same swim as before, got my rods out into position for the night. Luckily that night I didn't have Bertie with me, he is a pain in the sleeping bag. Gets in and out of it all night when he is too hot! Drives me mad! So, I slept well until about 2am

with the right hander in the gully melted off. On first contact I thought I'd hooked a fifty pounder it went charging off across the lake. I couldn't do anything but hold on for dear life. After a few tense moments I gradually started to get the upper hand and swing it back towards me, got it close in and it got snarled up in the other line, eventually I slid the net under an animal of a mirror

known as The Ferret. 26lb 9oz. I was mega happy and went to bed on a high that at least my last session wasn't a blank.

So that was that, my time came to an end on the little syndicate and I set off for pastures new, so until next time.

Tight Lines.

Paul







Firstly welcome, this is my first instalment of a monthly piece that as I'm sure you can guess is based all around bait! Each month my aim is to answer 2/3 questions put forward by you guys reading this article, on my social media or reoccurring questions I pick up on via groups on I am part of on Facebook. I want this Bait Corner to be all about tips, tricks, edges, preparation guides, how to's etc etc. you get the idea! If you have a burning question, a bait you are unsure how to get the best out of or generally would like my thoughts on a bait related topic then please get in touch over on my Facebook page: MARTYNS **ANGLING** ADVENTURES and

we can get chatting! But for now, here are my thoughts on the first questions submitted...

Q. When using Solid Bags what is your preferred rig/hookbait combination?

So, something I have started to use more and more over the last couple of years is solid PVA bags. This allows me to be more effective, versatile and mobile in my approach

to ultimately
wanting to put
extra fish on
the mat. The rig
doesn't come
much simpler
than a sharp
Size 8 Wide
Gape hook tied
knotless knot but
increasing the
hooking potential

by using a small piece of steamed down shrink tubing just over the eye to help it flip over and grip the carp's mouth. It is extremely important to use a rig that is short in length 3-4" max as it needs to fit neatly into the solid bag as you certainly don't want coils of hooklength inside. Using this simple but versatile rig means it's a great all-rounder for wafters or popups which leads me on nicely to hookbait choice.



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I always like to keep them on the smaller side and use nothing bigger than a 10mm bait as it must fit snugly into the corner of the bag. I don't tend to choose bright hookbaits over dull or one colour over another as I usually find myself chopping and changing throughout a session trying to figure out what the carp are favouring. Something that I very much recommend when bites are hard to come by or start slowing down, don't be afraid to change it up! 9 times out of 10 I will start off and reach for a Wafter such as Bait-Tech's The Juice in 10mm. Being dumbbell in shape they fit neatly into the bag, balance critically against the hook and

sit pretty amongst the pellet content of the bag – Picture it as the pellets are the cake and the hookbait is the cherry! Once the bag has melted, the slightly larger visual stand out hookbait gives the carp something to home in on and ensures that when they hoover up the contents of the bag that the hookbait goes in with it. Job done!

Pop-Ups again pretty much work in the same manner but with the increased buoyancy in the pop-up you can determine how high or low you wish it to suspend by adding a pinch of putty to the hooklength and again chop and change where necessary to keep the bites coming!

Q. What's your go to bag mix? Do you have any favourite Oils, Dips, Liquids?

As like most of my fishing I like to keep





things simple and this is no different for the content of my PVA bag mixes. So, let's take Solid Bags for example, I like to use an 90% combination of pellets such as the NEW Bait-Tech Bloodworm Spod & PVA Micro Pellet Mix because as the name suggests these are the perfect blend of sizes for PVA bag use, 2mm Krill Pellets and then the remaining 10% of a groundbait such as the Big Carp Method Mix ADF Fishmeal. I opt for this ratio as I want the contents of my bag to reach the lakebed and stay in that mouthful sized pile rather than using other bag mixes that could float up and disappear. The BCMM is also great for absorbing any PVA friendly oil I choose to squirt into

the bag. Using such small sized pellets allow you to compact the bag down nice and tight when it comes to sealing the bag. Working the contents into all the little nooks and crannies means it will leave you with

a bag that is solid and uniformed in shape, more aerodynamic so being able to add extra yards and most importantly allowing you to be very accurate with your cast.

One little edge I like to



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use just before casting out is giving the Solid Bags an injection of Oil with a syringe and more often than not I'm reaching for the Hot Chilli Oil! Doing this will draw any passing carp down through the layers as the oil plumes to the surface making that mouthful of bait too hard to resist.

In most circumstances my fishing tends to be short sessions, so liquids play a massive part in my bait preparation. Heavily glugged boilies such as the Triple-N are my go to baits for a number of reasons. Firstly, because they are super absorbent meaning the liquid, I soak them in prior to my sessions disperses over the short time I am fishing leaking

maximum attraction. They are easily digested by the carp due to the background ingredients meaning they are quickly on the lookout for more and being shelf-life baits it's also a massive advantage, as a bag or two can easily be prepared and stored for any last-minute visits to the lake.

Talking of preparation, it really couldn't be

any simpler, the week before I add into a bucket 1kg of 10mm Triple-N Boilies, 1kg of 15mm of Triple-N Boilies. I give this a good shake, then I grab my crusher and make a few

rounds of chops to also add to the mix which is great for creating a bit of a cloud/blanket to the mix, but I don't want this to become dust, more chopped bits and pieces. Next up grab I grab some Nutty Oil and Triple-N Stick Mix Liquid and give the contents of the bucket a generous squirt of both and again not forgetting a good stir. The oil and stickiness of the Stick





Mix liquid will soak into the boilies leaving them softened but oozing with attraction. I've found with fishing cleaner areas in weedy waters with the boosted boilies it. really helps pull the carp down and zone into those holes with all the signals being leaked off. The best bit is, any left overs you have from your session can keep until the next time you are out, give them a shake every so often, if it looks like they have soaked up all the liquid give them another squirt, shake and they will keep for weeks to come!

Q. Match the hatch or Hi-Viz hookbaits? What's the best for certain times of year?

This question will really divide opinions and to be quite honest there is no written rule of a right or wrong answer but here are my thoughts!

Firstly, I will always carry my hookbait pouch regardless! It allows me to have several pots of hookbaits all different colours, shapes and sizes at my disposal for obvious reasons! With this I would say more often than not in late spring, through summer and into mid-Autumn normally I am match the hatch as I look to introduce/use a food based Boilie as it is going to be sought after by the carp and by this I mean in a sense of late spring, its starting to warm up, they are on the look out for some grub after

a winter slumber and looking to get on the feed. The warmth of Summer it's all about food food for the carp as they are far more active, looking to replenish after rounds of spawning and always wanting a beneficial meal. Autumn is the same for as long as I can get away with before the temps really start to drop off and the feeding spells start to slow down. This isn't to say I wouldn't put out a washed-out bait amongst the mix as sometimes this can nick a bonus bite as this does still offer that stand out appeal, give off the same food signals but it is just not as in your face like a Hi-Viz hookbait. For me in those warmer months its all about the find them feed

TalkingCarp

them when they are looking for it the most. So now we move into the temps of a late Autumn, Winter and very early spring where generally a carp's appetite has decreased which can leave bites a little harder to come by. This is where I normally reach for a hookbait that has far more visual pulling power like a Super

Fruit Hi Viz Pop-Up. Now a Hi-Viz hookbait can be used across numerous rig options such as a Hinge Stiff Rig, in a Solid Bag and topping off a Snowman rig which are all perfect for fishing amongst a very small scattering of bait and or just as singles alone. Recently I have used the 18mm Hardened Triple-N Dumbells with half a

15mm Super Fruit Hi
Viz Pop-Up blobbed
to the end when
incorporated with a
PVA stick of matching
Triple-N Stick Mix
this is just enough to
tempt just that one bite
in which can be very
short feeding spells.

Until next month...

Martyn.



TalkingCarp







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Let's Make Some Bait!!! U.S.A Style...Part One... by Chris Sampson

Carp are not picky eaters however, they do have some nutritional requirements that are essential to their everyday survival and health needs. First, we will begin talking about what they need and how to provide them with the best of nutrients in part one, followed by some of my favourite recipes in part two. But first we need to understand why these ingredients are important when making bait.

Carp need to eat approximately 12g of protein for every kg of their body weight. In turn this is equal to 30-35% of the protein in their diet. The fat content of their diet consists of a level between 5-15%. When we break this down even further, we also need to think of nitrogen for growth, amino acids during the different growing stages, and the proper sweet and salty attractants.

Carp need minerals just as we do to survive and remain healthy. Such minerals they require are cobalt, copper, iron, magnesium, manganese, phosphorus and zinc. Carp do best with a diet that is high in copper, manganese, magnesium and zinc. Many of the everyday ingredients we add to our bait as the sufficient amounts required.

Let's not forget about the vitamins they need as well. To maintain the natural microflora within the intestines they need to have a balance of vitamins B12, D and K. The vitamin requirements are based on size of the carp, water temperature, and diet composition. Vitamin E can increase or decrease depending on the level of polyunsaturated fatty acids within their diet.

Carp are omnivorous fish, meaning they feed on a food source of both plant and animal origin. They love mussels, worms,



maggots, and yes, they will gladly swallow a carp fingerling. When we combine the proper number of nutritional requirements, we can be proud to say we landed our prize catch on a bait we created.

Looking at each protein, mineral and vitamin you will see a pattern within the ingredients we use. Creating a good nutritional bait is actually quite simple. Some of the ingredients need to be processed before using, the most common methods are boiling for up to two hours or using a pressure cooker. The ingredients you want to process include: all nuts, field corn, all seeds, chickpeas, beans, and lentils.

I for one prefer to soak the above ingredients overnight before I cook them. The only ingredient I use my pressure cooker for is the field corn. When cooking any seeds, you only need to boil them until they split open exposing the meat inside. Chickpeas, beans, and lentils I simmer on low for up to two hours, or until tender.

Minerals:

Cobalt which is the key component of vitamin B12 - mussels, nuts, oats, calf milk replacer, eggs, fruits, and corn.

Copper - oyster shell (crushed or placed in a blender/grinder to make into a near powder form), nuts, seeds, fruits, chickpeas, and calf milk replacer.

Iron - oyster shell (crushed or placed in a blender/grinder to make into a near powder form), legumes (beans, peas), nuts, lentils, and oats.

Magnesium - nuts, legumes (beans, peas), fruits, and chickpeas.

Manganese - nuts, legumes (beans, peas), oats, rice, and fruits.

Phosphorous - nuts, seeds, calf milk replacer, oats, legumes (beans, peas), and lentils.



Zinc - oyster shells (crushed or placed in a blender/grinder to make into a near powder form), eggs, mussels, and oats.

Amino acids which are the building block of proteins - eggs, legumes (beans, peas_, nuts, and seeds.

Vitamins:

Vitamin B12 - oyster shells (crushed or placed in a blender/grinder to make into a near powder form), oats, calf milk replacer, eggs, and brewer's yeast.

Vitamin D - eggs, calf milk replacer, and oats.

Vitamin K - legumes (beans, peas, fruit, eggs, calf milk replacer, berries, and nuts.

Vitamin E - seeds, nuts, fruit, and berries.

Polyunsaturated fatty acids - nuts and seeds.

Using these ingredients in your bait making you will have a very nutritional start to your pack bait, PVA mix, stick mix, particles, and boilies. In the part two you will see how I use these ingredients to build my favourite baits I have used for the last 6 years of carp angling. We all know that carp are attracted to some spice, salt (Himalayan Pink Salt is the best to use, I prefer the fine grain), and of course sugar.

The recipes I will be sharing include how to make and flavour panko, Mulberry Pack bait/PVA mix, Pineapple Infused Hemp Seed, Sweet Hemp Boilies, Boilie Base Mix, Glugs and Dips. All of my recipes are absolutely delicious and completely safe for human consumption, I always make a little extra when I hit the banks for a good healthy snack.

Tight lines and wet nets to you all...



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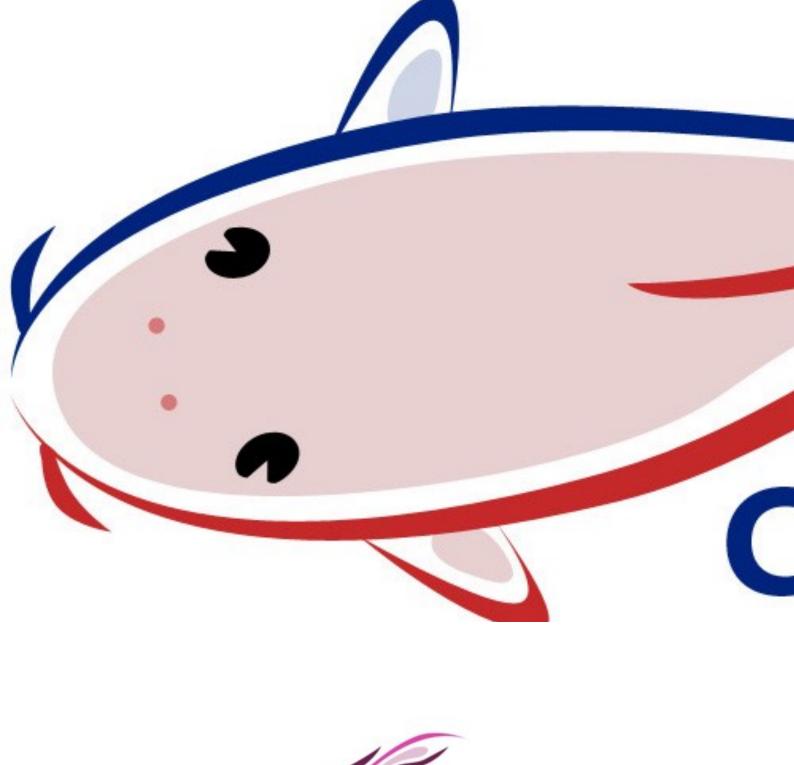
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I started marshalling for the British Carp Angling Championships around 2007 when Carp Team England Manager Rob Hughes was the owner.

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





BCC Final 2019 Barston Pegs Ste Alford / Dean Crust Lee Simms / Sean Dulson Thomas Bottyan / Istvan Steierlein Terry Overend / Kevin Greenwood Tim Swain / Andy Swain Chesley Boughen / Luke Boughen Ian Beedell / Paul Poynter Mick Ledger / Dan Moorcroft Lee Bruce / Nathan Crowder John Bowman Jason Adams / Luke Church Scott Head / Jerome Brown Keith Jones / Toby Berry 14 Jon Fern / Dean Winsbury Tudor Popovici / Alexandru Zlampa Jack Lamb / Brian Byford Neil Richards / Jamie Standbridge 17 18 Chris Purssey / Richard Shenton 19 Will O'Flynn / Mark Johnson 20 Cliff Kemp / Dan Price Steve Carrie / Nick Davies Lee May / Paul Michael Smith Steve Blow / Jack Funnell Dave Bellew / Steve Lovell Tim Hickinbottom / Rich Beardmore Jaye Carpmail / Colin Scott Chris Holmes / Neil Rivers Mark Sawyer / Simon Wheeler Karl Palmer / Liam Morgan Simon Bury / Phil Bury BCC Barston Pegs Pegs Fountain 122/124 3 4 5 120/121 116/117 113/114 109/110 106/107 8 101/102 9 99/100 10 96/97 93/94 11 90/91 12 13 86/87 81/82 15 76/77 16 63/64 17 61 59/60 18 19 56/57 54/55 20 52 22 49/50 23 46/47 24 25 43/44 40/41 26 27 28/29 Access Track 23/24 28 29 20/21 15/16 (Anglers only, no dropping 4/5 off or picking up) Clubhouse

This year's final took place earlier than last year, as it was moved to the August bank holiday weekend. The proceedings got under way on the Thursday evening with a sit down meal for all the competitors and match officials. which took place in the restaurant at Barston. This was followed by the out of the bag draw on stage. The order of the draw was decided by the position you finished in and the qualifier you fished. ie the winners of Q1 drew first followed by the winners of Q2, Q3 and so on. Then came all the second place pairs and finally the third places until every pair had their pegs.

Fishing was from 8am Friday until

8am Sunday, when everyone went all in on the hooter. There was no prebaiting and marking allowed for this event. The format of this tear's final was the weight of each pair's 5 best fish. So the marshals weighed and recorded every teams first five fish. then only returned to the pegs when bigger fish were landed. This process carried on through the 48 hour period until on Sunday morning the scoreboard was filled with everybody's five biggest carp.

Just like last year, there were no updated scores after Saturday night so it was left until after the presentation for the top four podium places. Again just like the previous

year's encounter it was close but this time we were weighing in kilograms instead of pounds and ounces. As you would expect with a contest of this format the positions were changing constantly throughout the match. Yet again Sunday morning produced the drama with several of Barston's bigger residents putting in an appearance. At 9:30pm Saturday Mick Ledger and Dan Moorcroft had a healthy lead of 2+kg over second place Ste Alford and Dean Crust. Jaye Carpmail and Colin Scott occupied third place with Karl Palmer and Liam Morgan in fourth. By the time the hooter sounded at 8am Sunday, Ste Alford and Dean Crust had moved into



The British Carp Cups



top spot on 41kg 13g with the help of a 10.225kg fish which was the biggest of the match. Mick and Dan couldn't add to their tally but took runners up. In third place came Terry Overend and Kevin Greenwod, who moved up from 20th overnight by adding around 9kg to their score. Fourth place was taken by Ian Beedell and Paul Poynter who

unbelievably shot up from 29th over night by adding over 17kg to their score, what a finale!

Our new 2019 BCC pairs champions, Ste Alford and Dean Crust took home prize money of £15,000 plus personalised Reuben Heaton scales and trophies. Mick and Dan, our runners up took home £5,000 prize money plus

trophies, 3rd place
Terry and Kevin, £2,00
plus trophies and 4th
place Ian and Paul
£1,000 plus trophies.
Again, after another
exciting contest the
format proved to be
as popular as ever.
Keep a look out to
watch the action unfold
yourselves when it
appears on BT Sport
and then later on our
YouTube channel.

	-	CARP CUPS British Carp Cup	Pairs	FINA	L 2019
	Position	Competitors Barston	Peg No	Number of Fish	Total Weight Kg
TRO: KAR.	1	Ste Alford / Deen Crust	1	5	41kg 13g
	2	Mick Ledger / Dan Moorcroft	8	5	40kg 03g
	3	Terry Overend / Keyin Greenwood	- 4	5	30kg 43g
	4	lan Beedell / Paul Poynter	7	5	37kg 55g
	5	Steve Blow / Jack Funnell	23	5	38kg 48g
	6	Jave Carpmail / Colin Scott	28	5	36kg 30g
	7	Scott Head / Jerome Brown	12	1	3/80 68g
	8	Mark Sawyer / Simon Wheeler	28	5	35kg 65g
	9	Karl Palmer / Liam Morgan	29	5	34kg 73g
	10	Jason Adams / Luke Church	11	5	34kg 33g
	11	Steve Carrie / Nick Davies	21	5	34kg 08g
	12	Tim Hickinbottom / Rich Beardmore	25	5	33kg 80g
	13	Dave Bellew / Steve Lovell	24	5	Xikn /8a
	14	Cliff Kemp / Dan Price	20	5	33kg 63g
	15	Simon Bury / Phil Bury	30	5	33kg 45g
	16	Neil Richards / Jamie Standbridge	17	5	33kg 15g
	17	Lee Bruce / Nathen Crowder	9	5	32kg 93g
	18	Jon Fem / Dean Winsbury	14	5	32kg 90g
	19	Jack Lamb / Brian Byford	16	5	32kg 80g
	20	Chesley Houghen / Luke Houghen	- 6	b b	32kn 58g
	21	Lee May / Paul Michael Smith	22	5	32kg
	22	Will O'Flynn / Mark Johnson	19	5	30kg 93g
	23	John Howman	10	5	30kg 83g
	24	Lee Simms / Sean Dulson	2	5	30kg 73g
	25	Chris Purssey / Richard Shenton	18	5	30kg 68g
	26	Chris Holmes / Net Rivers	27	5	25kg 90g
	27	Thomas Bottyan / Istvan Stelerlein	3	5	29kg 75g
	28	Tim Swain / Andy Swain	- 5	5	28kg 78g
	29	Tudor Popovici / Alexandru Zlampa	15	5	24kg 18g
-00	30	Keith Jones / Toby Herry	13	5	19kg 88g







Mixed Pairs FINAL Willows Lake





This event was originally organised to be fun with a slight competitive edge and was intended to be our end of year curtain closer which could be enjoyed by any mix of male and female competitors. This is why it is so popular and in demand. We have a break on Saturday afternoon for a food and drink social. which everybody attends and gives the lake a breather. The home of this match

is Willows Lake, part of the Albans Lakes trio of waters. This year we dropped the rod limit to three per pair maximum due to the lower than normal water levels occurring on the complex. We also bought the format into line with our other finals by allowing it to be decided by each pairs three best fish. These changes along with the pre-existing out of the bag draw make it as fair as possible for every

competitor. Unlike our other finals we decided to weight this one in pounds and ounces.

We went all in at 11:30 am Friday with no pre-baiting or marking before hand. On Saturday afternoon, between 1 and 4 pm we broke for the 3 hour social which was attended by all competitors and match officials. The match resumed prior to prime bite time and with the water being line





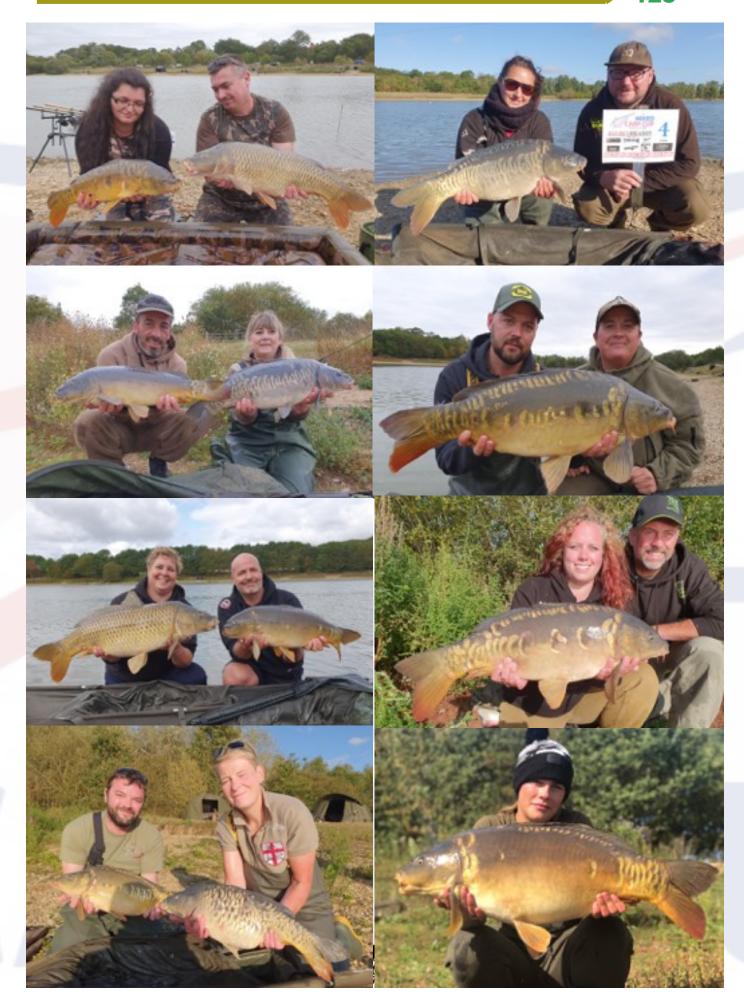
free during the social. This made a huge difference, allowing the fish to move and feed freely prior to the restart. As expected, the fish started to come from all area's of the lake as each pair were trying to build a healthy three fish total. Seventeen pairs took part this year, thirteen of them recorded three fish catches, two pairs caught two fish each with only the final two pairs blanking. Again, just like at Barston a couple of weeks ago, the scoreboard changed on a regular basis throughout the 48 hours. Come Sunday late morning we had three pairs on 60lbs+ for three fish, giving an average of 20lb+ per fish. Even the fourth placed pair of Linzi and Terry Overend (father and daughter) finished with a 19lb+ average and that was despite them having to pack

up early to get taken home by the AA due to their car breaking down at the start of the match. This Mixed event was exciting till the end with fish being lost to pairs who were in the running on Sunday morning. In the end there was less than 2lb separating the top three. The 2019 Mixed champions are Kellie Margerrison and Jamie Taylor-Card with a three fish total of 62lb 1oz. They received £600 prize money, personalised Reuben Heaton scales and trophies. Second

place was taken by Madison Hubbard and Chris Perssev with 60lb 14oz. They took home £300 prize money and trophies. In third place on 60lb 4oz were Jennifer Garrett and Craig Hook (who also finished third last year). Jen and Craig got £220 prize money and trophies. Congratulations to the top three and a very well done to all the other competitors who gave it their best shot. The scoreboard clearly shows just how close it was between them all.

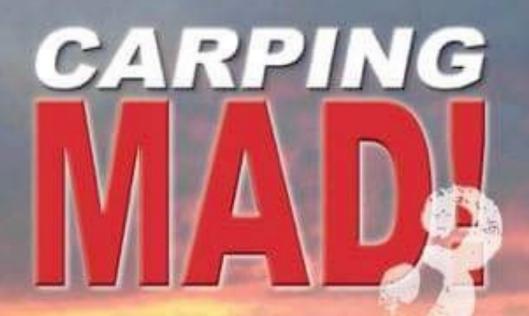


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Reviews

Featuring -

Harringtons Bio-Weights

Sanofan polarised sunglasses

Talking Carp looks at Harrings Bio-Weights

With much discussion going on regarding the banning of lead in fishing weights, and the dropping of leads is an ongoing topic that seems to be splitting the country right now, one man has taken it upon himself to come up with a viable, environmentally friendly alternative.

Harrings Bio-Weights are a man-made product, and the first natural product, biodegradable fishing weight. They are designed to be 99% biodegradable when immersed in water for a lengthy period of time, leaving nothing but the swivel behind. So, should you drop the weight, or the weight clip does its job and ejects the weight in a snagged up situation, you can be rest assured the weight will not be lingering in our waters forever more.



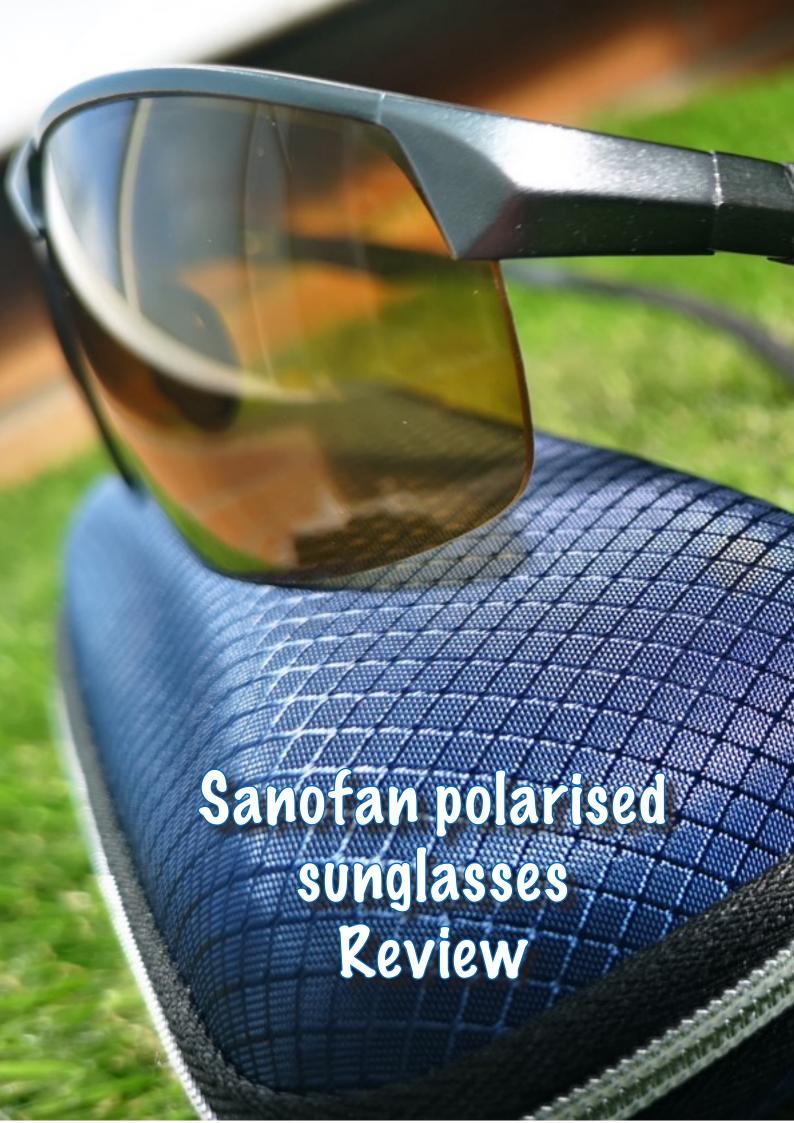
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They are available in a variety of shapes, colours and textures to match your exact requirements, and they even do a hollow version that comes with a sponge insert and a little bottle of Tor Baits liquids for added attraction to your swim. I can see that one getting a lot of use in the winter!!

Over the next few weeks we will take these out onto the lakes and give you a full rundown of how they perform but for now take a look at www.harrings-bio-weights.co.uk and see for yourself.



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Talking Carp looks at sunglasses from Sanofan.com

During that little bit of summer we had, the one thing that really stood out to me was the need for some new sunglasses. And the search was on....

Now, the one thing that really pulls my chain when it comes to this bit of kit is quality, and pricing. Like most of you I am fed up of paying good money for cheap plastic frames with 2 lenses slotted in... and just about every company does it... so I decided to search further afield and hit the internet. It didn't take long to discover the American market and the glasses used by the bass tournament boys... and they are deadly serious about their gear. So, a few emails and messages were sent back and forth and before long I was the owner of the Sanofan.com colour changing polarized glasses.



And what a difference!! The first thing I noticed upon opening the hardcase was the build quality. It far exceeds most others out there, with a proper hard frame, proper hinges for the arms, and a comfortable grip on the nose and sides of the head. Utilising their own patented FluidTint technology the lenses change colour in the sun from an amber to a copper, depending on the severity of the suns rays. The lenses offer fantastic polarised viewing when worn, and to be honest, these are the best glasses I personally have tried. The fish will have nowhere to hide now!!

From me it is 2 thumbs up... and a second spare pair are on their way!

Take a look at the website www.sanofan.com and see for yourself the videos online of the quality and the amount of abuse those lenses can take!!



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Karl Brandreth

14lb common carp

After a hard session in a Cheshire water I managed to get one out to save me a blank.

The common fell to Taska end tackle and Spotted Fin Smokey Jack bait

This lovely 18lb
15oz common
carp fell to Taska
end tackle and
Spotted Fin
Smokey Jack
This is the start
of the storm
the weather
is getting bad
but I think the
switched on







Emma Rimmer

Just came back from
Brasenose 2 at linear
fisheries from doing a
5 day session. I had 6
carp in total. I was using
hinders bait beta'nana.
My spod mix consisted
of Sweetcorn, hemp
and beta'nana. I used
blowback rigs which
consisted of Fox Camotex

15lb semi soft coated braid, with Korda shrink tube, rig ring, anti-tangle sleeve and an ESP Cryogen curve shank hook size 4. I used 10lb ESP Synchro xt line with a shock leader. I was out 70 yards on a gravel spot with both rods and baited regular with my spod mix. I was rewarded on Thursday morning the day before leaving with 2 30s one being a new pb of 34lb 8oz and the other a, stunning Scaley mirror of 30lb 8oz. This was all new to me fishing such a big lake due to being used to only fishing 8 acre lakes usually, so this really tested my angling skills.





Kandice Lewis

Type of fish **Common carp**

location of catch **France**

Info about catch
GOLDEN COMMON
CAUGHT IN FRANCE,
My second ever carp
and what a buzz it was.
36lb on the nose.
Well chuffed.

Stuart Abbott

After squeezing in an overnighter on my syndicate I settled on an area I had previous success on and baited heavily with Spotted Fin Smokey Jack boilies and pellets. Resulted in a morning take from a new PB of 41lb 5oz. Rig was a simple wafter rig with a Smokey Jack glugged wafter.





Matt England

So with a session planned me and my friend made the journey over to France to Vallee Lake 1.

Arriving Mid-Morning on the Monday, we were dropped to our designated swims, the lake was fairly empty with 4 additional people on and not many fish had been out, considering the good weather, warm winds and low pressure.

The swim I had was mega weedy. Thick beds of Canadian weed, lots of snags & over hanging trees with a varying depth range between 4 to 10 ft

I set out with my marker rod for a few hours, picking spots I liked the look and feel of.

Once I found my spots, I weed raked them, spodded out some bait and then for the remainder of the day I set up home in the swim.
At 7pm the evening, I got all rods



on the chosen spots. Two rods were close to each other 80 yards away in 8ft of water tight up to a dense weed bed and the 3rd on a clear spot about 65 yards to my right in between 2 patches of weed and close to an overhanging tree.

At 01.00am my left rod was away, it was a very ginger take but I weren't complaining. Unfortunately, what felt like a good fish weeded me up straight away. After 10mins the hook pulled, and it was 1-0 to the carp. I left the rod in that night as my middle rod was close to the original spot and would re group in the morning.

With the rest of the night quiet, I brought all my rods in at 10 am and changed my plan of attack.

I liked the spots, but I wanted a better line lay, went for a bigger hook and chose a rig I felt confident with that's caught me some good fish in the past.

So without hesitation, I tied up 3 Slip D rigs from PB Products Skinless in 25lb, size 4 Curved KD Hook, added a shrimp aligner and a simple figure of 8 loop knot with a size 8 swivel attached.

I fished an 18mm Mainline Link boilie with a cell topper just so it had a perfect amount of movement.





Now the rigs were ready, I put out some more bait on the spot, 15mm and 18mm Link, with some Essential cell chops, then glugged them in link stick mix liquid and mainlines new fish smart liquid. With about 4-5kg on the left hand spot where I was fishing 2 rods and 2.5kg on the far margin right hand rod.

I left it all day again and put the rods out about 6pm hopefully giving them the confidence to feed.
Within 2 hours my middle rod was away, it gave a good scrap, dragged me through all the weed but after 20mins something was in my net amongst all that weed.
When the weed was cleared, it appeared to be a decent size fish in there. I Weighed her up and she went 31lb 06 oz, not a bad way to start and was over the

moon.

I slipped her back tied another rig. I was back on the spot within 20 mins and now brimming with confidence.

No later than 3 hours later we were away again. This one decided to take its time, staying deep, looking for weed and with so much weed about it was long before

she was in there. But I patiently waited kept the pressure on and out she popped. When she finally surfaced my heart raced. She was a good fish! Possibly a new French PB, with another nervy 5 mins of it darting away, bouncing its head, she gave up and slipped over the cord to huge relief. Looking down into the net I could stop smiling. It was a unit and knew it would be





close to my PB.

She spun the scales round to 44lb and 4oz, not a new PB but god I was a happy boy.

With fish clearly in the area, again I left that rod in with the other very close to the spot.

So now back in the sleeping bag it was time to get some shut eye. That didn't last long as 2 hours later the right hand rod was away. This was a much clearer route in and within 10 minutes another valley carp was in the bottom of the net. 28lb mirror and a good night's work completed.

Simple tactical changes, good bait and good terminal tackle proving its worth and I awoke with a big smile. Unfortunately that's where it all ended for me, the weather changed, temps dropped then came a day and half rain.

Nevertheless, I had banked over 100 lb in carp on a tricky water. No doubt I shall be returning for one of the big girls in the future.



TalkingCarp



William Tabern

location of catch required
Monument 2

Info about catch

Fished monument 2 at the weekend. For the second time and happy to say. Landed this nice 26-10 lb mirror on a DNA baits Nutta wafter. Fished over the fisheries own bait.





location of catch
Sefton park, Liverpool
Info about catch
Catch report Team X Stream
Garry had a few beauty after a
long waits on the bank, but he
is making the long waits well
worthwhile, stopping the blank.
Well done Garry top angling well
done mate.



Catch Reports



Ben Blackham

Team X Stream @carper_liverpool, Ben Blackham had a great session when he was last out, caught on a scopex squid bottom bait boilie on a standard hair rig.

He was blessed to wet his net with this beauty showing some nice angling skills, well done mate top photo and lovely catch.



Liam Higgs

location of catch
Sefton park, Liverpool
Info about catch
Catch report Team X Stream
Joseph Lee went out with Liam
Higgs so he could have a good
session on the bank catching
some lovely beauties and it
was a good session has he



had a few nice beauties like these being shown. Well done Liam nice to post your first catch report with the top man Joseph Lee enjoying a good session.





Darren Kemp

location of catch
Old mill fishery,Lincolnshire.

Info about catch

Team X Stream Darren kemp has had a great session landing this beautiful full scaled mirror weighing in a nice 32lb 4oz caught using @stickybaitsofficial krill bottom bait with a PVA bag with 6 free baits, location old mill fishery Lincolnshire.

Well done mate great angling





James O'Donoghue

location of catch Manchester

Info about catch
Team X Stream James
O'donoghue has had a few good
days out fishing in Manchester the
last 2 days and was blessed with
a 18 lb 14lb 12lb carp Making it a
good session.

Well done James great angling

Joseph Lee

location of catch Sefton park, Liverpool

Info about catch
Catch report Team X
Stream Joseph Lee, had
this beauty a few days
ago, I had to this beauty,
its 1 to remember as
its a real beauty and a
great fight.

Top angling Joseph







Team member Andrew headed to Sandhurst for a week's long trip. On arrival he found a nice spot at 37 yards out and got to work. After landing 2 tench Thursday morning his rod screamed into life landing this cracker of a 35lb 7oz mirror! The fish was tempted by a 18mm Crabalicious boilie inside a pva bag with a few full boilies and crushed boilies with matching Crabalicious pellet and glug!!

Great angling Andrew!



Team member Crystal got a session in on Little Hayes at the weekend!

Friday night Crystal had only has the rods out for 20mins when she caught this 14lb beauty using our SaTaN boilie..! Then early hours Saturday morning her rods screamed off again and this time Crystal landed this 20lb cat after about a 20 minute battle. This cat was tempted by again our SaTaN boilie. To top the trip off Crystal later landed this beauty at 20lb giving her a new pb!

Great work Crystal..! Congratulations on your new pb!



Team member Kris headed to his local water to do a 48 hour session. On arriving at the lake the swim that he has been wanting to fish for a while was free so he got to work setting up and decided to fish one rod in the margin to his left and the other fired out into open water. With the day drawing to an end he decided to refresh his baits ready for the night ahead and just after midnight the left hand rod came to life and after a good fight the fish was in the back of the net and he could see it was a good size the fish fell to a snowman setup of SaTaN boilie tipped with a Crabalicious pop up teamed with Grafter pellets and SaTaN boilies for freebies. Fish on the banks lovely mirror carp weighing in at 26lb 3oz and a new PB Good angling Adrian and congratulations on the new PB



Team member Kym managed to do a 48 hour session at his local pond Sommerhaze at the weekend. At the start it was a little slow but come Saturday he managed to bank himself 2 carp. The first one was a small common but not long after that one he landed a 20lb 7oz mirror! Both fish were tempted by a single 18mm SaTaN with solid pva bag of crushed bolie and matching pellet.

Great work Kym





Callum Robb with jimmy from upper at 29lb 12oz



Half price for Loui of his



Freddy Dowdall with Big Deal this time at 31lb 14oz from upper



Gary Doran with the this time Stark





s Lyons and the first fish brace at 25lb



Louis Lyons second fish with The Mean Eyed Mirror at 29lb 15oz



second half of his brace, burst at 32lb 12oz



Gary Doran with The Vessel at 28lb 10 oz





Phil Jump with a new P.B. from Upper Alt and Paw Print at 28lb



Mark ONiel with a new.P.B. at 27lb from Upper Alt



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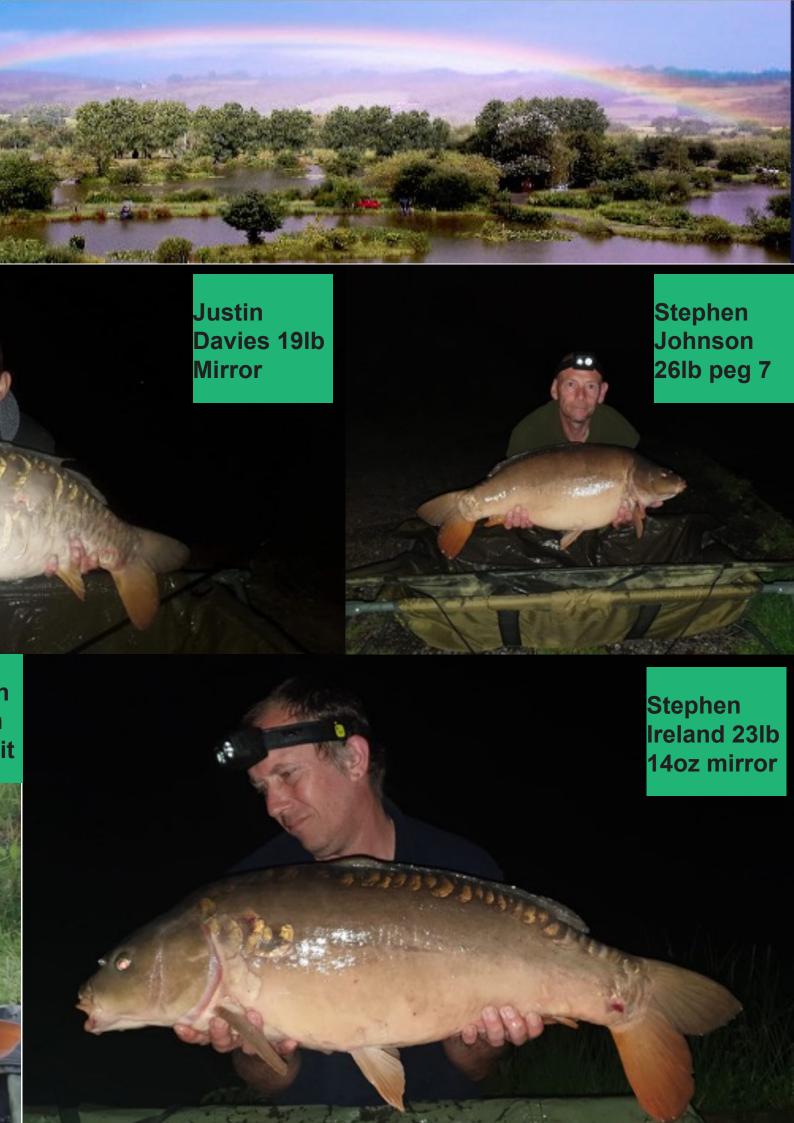


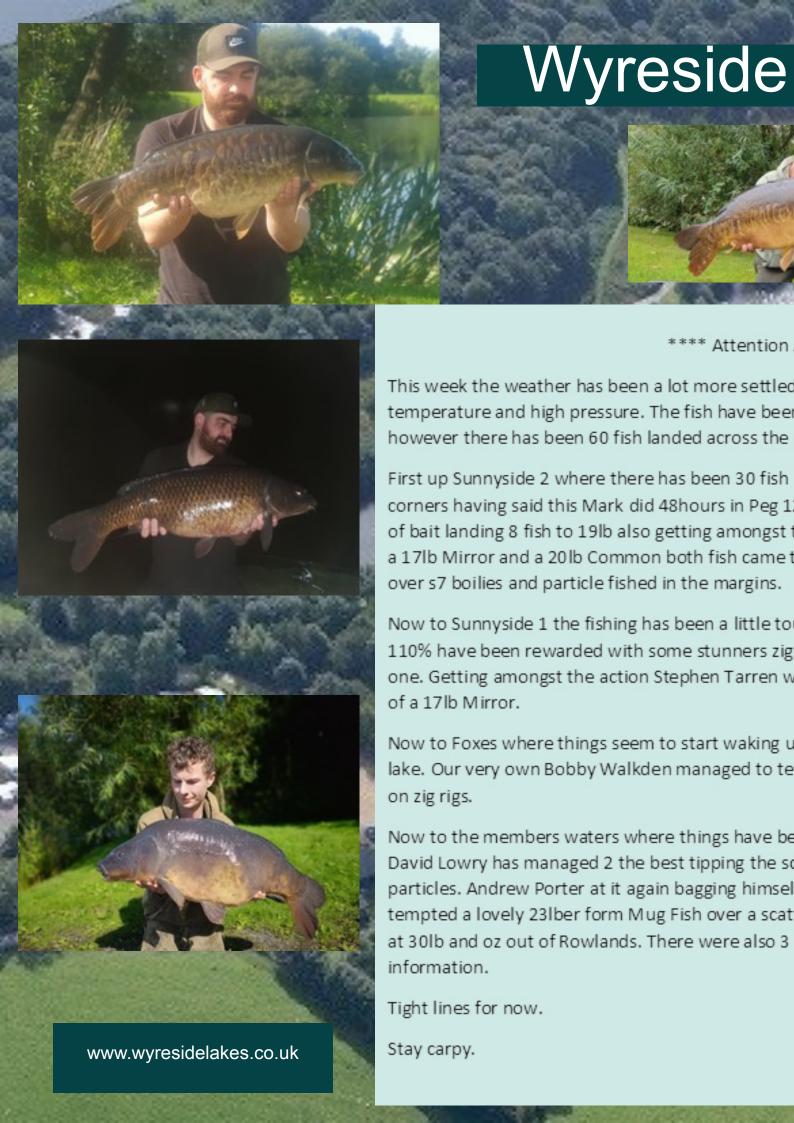












Fisheries





All Anglers ****

I however not for the favourable with high n spending a lot of time in the upper layers property.

landed the majority of which coming from the 2 fishing to the centre of the lake over a large bed the action in Peg 9 was Cameron Gore who landed to Impulse baits yellow mk2 pop ups on a multirig

ugher on their however the anglers that put in s and surface fishing seemed to have been the tho managed to bag himself a banger in the shape

p with 20 fish being landed from all around the mpt 2 bites resulting in a lovely 16 lber from peg 7

en tough due to unfavourable weather conditions cales to 22lbs from Back 2 Back over a bed of f a lovely 24lb stockie. Over on Bantons Rae Dixon ting of Cell boilies. Dan Blanchard had 'Mc Queen' fish out of Point up to 29lb waiting on more





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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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







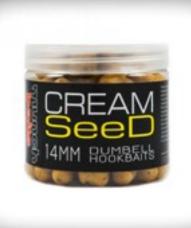
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These ultra tough Dumbell Hookbaits
are the perfect tool for tricky situations,
fishing at range, nuisance species
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using the same key ingredients used
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few twists to make them naturally tough.
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Cream Seed Liquid Food
Manufactured entirely from natural
nutritious liquids, soluble sweeteners
and our exclusive milk taste-enhancer,
this completely PVA friendly liquid boasts
an endless list of applications. It can
be used in all conditions and due to the
dense, soluble ingredients it will 'hug' the
bottom, releasing a stream of attraction.
Available in 250ml bottles
RRP £5.99







Cream Seed Pop-Ups
Utilising a buoyancy aid that's not
normally used within the bait industry
due to its higher cost we have managed
to incorporate the same nutritional and
attractive groups of ingredients that
make the Cream Seed range so effective
without compromising on buoyancy.
Super buoyant, needle friendly Pop-Ups
that will stay popped up indefinitely.
Available in 200ml tubs – 14mm/18mm
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Cream Seed Wafters

Providing an uncomplicated method for critically balancing your rig, these have been carefully calculated to remove the weight of the hook, thus simplifying the way to create a balanced presentation. Including the same fundamental groups of nutritional and attractive ingredients that make the Cream Seed range so effective.

Available in 200ml tubs – 14mm/18mm RRP £5.99





Cream Seed Washed Out Pop-Ups
A mix of 3 subtle colours all boosted with the unique Cream Seed additives. Utilising the key ingredients of the range in conjunction with our premium buoyancy aid that will keep each bait popped up indefinitely.

Available in 200ml tubs – 14mm/18mm
RRP £5.99

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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

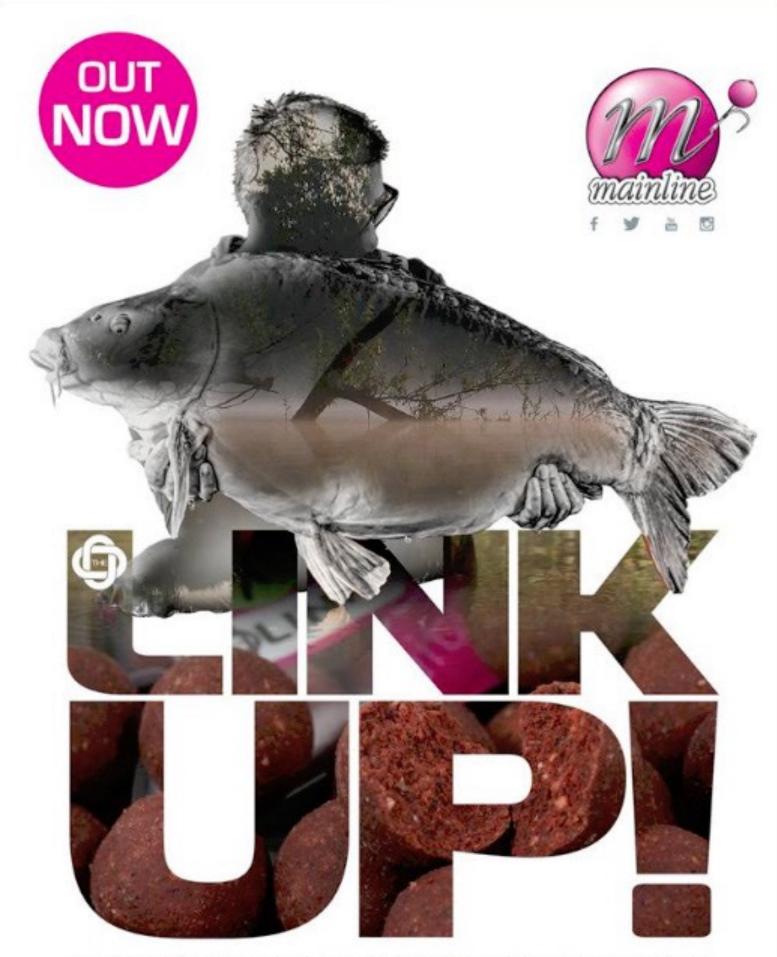
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