



Issue 19 September 2017

Inside this month

Dan Winter  
Gary Lowe  
Keith Moors  
Ethan Carper

Plus  
Catch Reports  
Reviews  
and  
Foreign section

This months Running order -

## ARTICLES -

Don't Let Them Grind You Down by Dan Winter

The Quest, The Challenge, The Goal by Albie Smith

Woods Lakes by Gary milky Lowe

The Long Awaited Return by Ethan Carper

France! You Must Try It by Paula Marriot

Living The Dream by Keith Moors

New Beginnings by Andrew Taylor

## REVIEWS -

Ridge Monkey control arm and Ridge Monkey RM-Tec Line by Scott Grant

Merlin Braid and Shure care mat by Gary 'Milky' Lowe  
Finygo App part 2 - Brian Dixon

## Catch Reports -

Anthony & Lindsay, Brooms Cross Fishery, Northern Banx, Rich Austin, Rich Bullen, Sion Jones, Wyreside Lakes

## Talking Foreign -

Etang St. Pierremont, , Abbey Lakes, Moorlands Fisheries, Ebro Fishing Dreams



Talking Carp would like to  
thank our sponsors Brooms  
Cross Fishery and Mersey  
Bait & Tackle



## *Hello...and welcome...*

To the next issue of Talking Carp... Your monthly, and FREE to read carp magazine, written by you, the readers!!

Whilst we go from strength to strength each and every month, it's down to you to keep us going... so keep sending in your catches, your stories, your pictures and your articles for the world to enjoy... and we will keep on publishing them for you. And keep those likes, those shares and those retweets going too guys. We appreciate every single one.

Autumn is almost upon us and whilst we have enjoyed a fairly warm summer of sleeping under the brollies or under the stars... the nights are starting to dip a bit in temperature so don't go getting caught out...

On the plus side, it's that time of year when we see our carp coming out at some great weights so get yourselves on the bank and go catch a cover shot for the next issue!!!

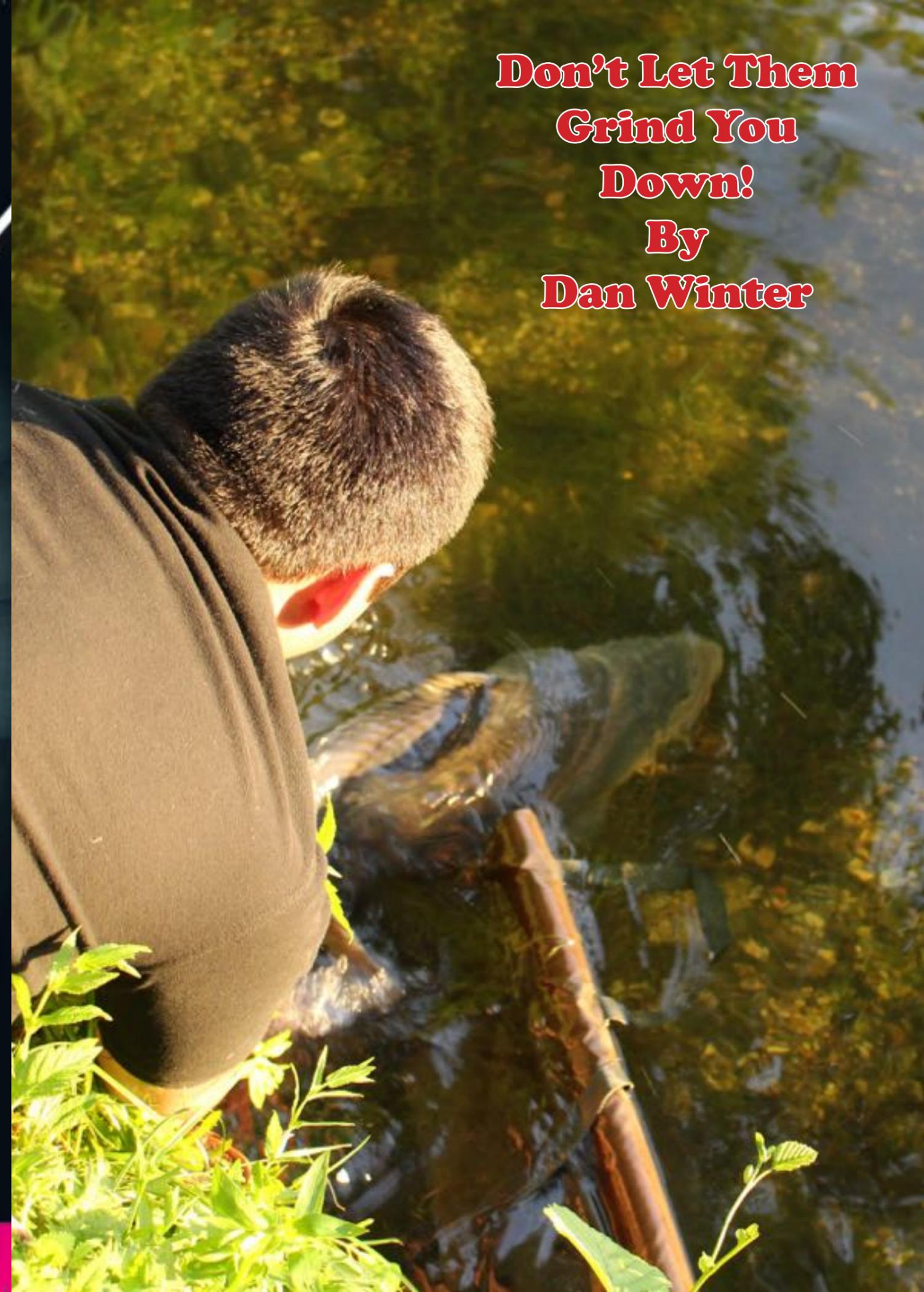
Until next month...

## *Team Talking Carp*

Email [brian.dixon@talkingcarp.co.uk](mailto:brian.dixon@talkingcarp.co.uk)

Email [buggy@talkingcarp.co.uk](mailto:buggy@talkingcarp.co.uk)



A man with short brown hair, wearing a brown jacket, is leaning over a pond. He is looking down at a large, dark-colored fish, possibly a carp, which is partially submerged in the water. The water is dark and reflects the surrounding greenery. In the foreground, there are some green plants. The text "Don't Let Them Grind You Down!" is written in a large, bold, red font with a black outline, and "By Dan Winter" is written in a smaller, bold, red font with a black outline, both in the upper right corner of the image.

See why Mainline bait is 'better', just click  
[www.mainline-baits.com](http://www.mainline-baits.com)



## Don't Let Them Grind You Down!

First of all I would like to say a big thank you to Brian the editor and everyone involved at Talking Carp for holding my space for the past 8 months. I have been a little preoccupied with the birth of my first child only a few weeks away. Right now it feels like the calm before the storm, so while things are seemingly quiet for a week or two, I decided to finally get behind the keyboard and get back into the swing of things.

Now despite what many of you are thinking with the baby on the way, what could I possibly have to write about this season? Surely he hasn't been fishing?

Well I have literally risked life and limb to be here today to tell the tale! I have been fishing probably more than ever with the rods inevitably being hung up for the next 6 months as the night feeds will be swapped from midnight carp, to a crying baby.

Getting down to business, have you ever found yourself on a water where you're not liked or frowned upon simply because you're the new guy? I think we've all been there at least once.

That was what I was presented with this season at around April after I finished the show season. For those of you who have read my articles before or follow me on social media, will know I'm one half of the ownership to BankBUG and Baitcraft (sorry for the name drop but it's relevant I promise). This somehow worked against me before I had even met any of my new comrades on my

newly selected Lea Valley park lake. I had 3 nights under my belt banking a 32lb mirror and a smaller 13lb mirror in the early spring. To which I was greeted with an angler walking up to my fishing 'partner in crime' Josh Jackson, to suggest that I've already "angered members" and that "I shouldn't be expecting to do well on the lake simply because I have a bait company!" This has been under my skin all season long. I wouldn't mind but I only use 4-8 mini-spombs per rod! Hardly giving it the full Jim Shelley, my bucket is probably lighter than my food bag!

This brings me to my title, 'Don't let them grind you down' which I must confess to replacing a word in there to something more printable.

There's one thing this sport has in abundance and that's negativity. It's almost like you can't post a thing on social media without our fellow anglers having to look down at you. You can't catch a fish without someone complaining about how you caught it. It's almost like looking the part is more important than it is living it.

Now I love a bit of banter as much as the next angler and I'm not exempt from the odd joke at someone's expense if it's harmless. This does not excuse some of the anglers out there bringing the sport into disrepute and ruining it for others. Have no fear if you find yourself in this scenario on a new water, the best way to get your own back is to catch fish! If they don't like that then they're only jealous, trust me..

Thankfully the water I'm on has a number of very nice anglers, but it didn't stop me getting a bee in my bonnet. I have used every opportunity I have at great risk to my personal health, with an angry pregnant and yet very understanding woman at home, to get on top of as many fish as possible! Overnights, weekends, even stalking sessions after work, anything I can do to hook into a fish.

I won't say how many I've had this season as I'm not actually finished as of yet. I still have a little more to do over the next few weeks, and I'm hoping to get a few overnights in before the frosts set in and I won't be able to use the nice weather as an excuse to be



out anymore. But as far as I'm aware I'm currently top rod, at least until Josh overtakes me, which once the baby is here I expect he will. A very competent angler indeed and considering his late start this year, he's had some wonderful sessions this summer.

Let's get to the nitty gritty and go into depth a bit about how I've done it.

The lake I'm fishing is fairly weedy and one of my ways around it is with a well-balanced super long rig. I'm not shy of a long hooklink, in fact I will fish as long

which is perfect for the long rig as it doesn't need steaming to straighten it out. Just holding the two ends of your rig and a steady pull are all that's needed and it's straighter than any steamed rig. The fluorocarbon doesn't naturally like to kink or fold so every little strand of weed holds it up, and with the putty in the right places, the rig will drift down and lightly rest itself on top of the weed. Perfectly matching the presentation of the loose baits you've fired out.

To have the ability to use this at the moment I think is a good edge to have in your arsenal of rigs and presentations. In an age of hinge stiff rigs, 360 rigs (or Ronnie's as we're calling them now) chod rigs and all alike, fish are becoming all too wise to the pop up rig.

Especially when accompanied by 15mm baits and the hookbait being a completely different colour, it's all getting a bit predictable, and I'm positive the fish on certain waters are starting to notice.

Keep it low and keep it matching and I promise you more runs, and quicker runs of that! I would go into why, but that's an article for another day.

I'm going to leave things short this month and leave few options for me to return to over the next few months. It's been good to get the juices flowing again with

as it's needed to present. In this case I'm fishing my rigs at around 18-24 inches, but I'm doing so with wafers and 20lb fluorocarbon. Now if I was sat in front of you all after mentioning fluorocarbon bottom baits fished in the weed, I bet some of you would be ready to question me or call me mad. I've actually written an article about this exact rig last year for Talking Carp when on my previous water.

The principle is simple, fluorocarbon will always kick out straight, or fairly straight, depending on the company or brand you use. I use Rig Maroles CamH2O



a fairly short article for me. I'm sure there are friends reading this wondering how I can keep an article short, but in person I don't stop talking.

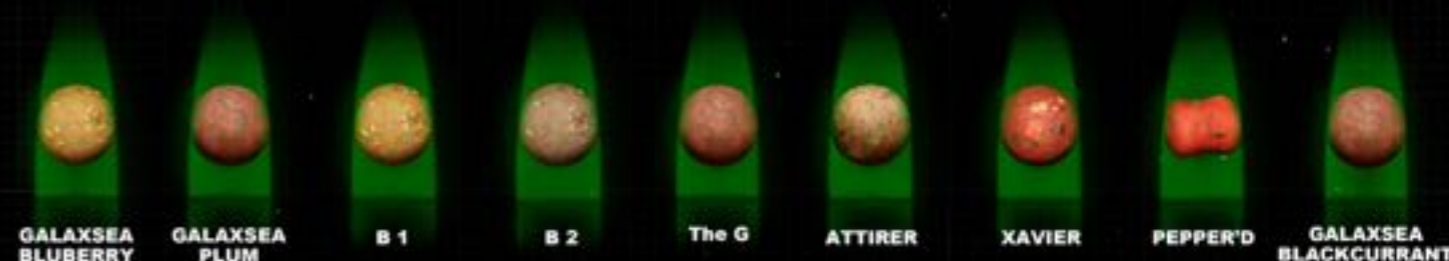
I'm sure I'll make up for it as coming soon from me will be articles on bait, a few catch reports, and I'll even look into how to pick the tackle that suits you.

*'Gone fishing'*

Dan

*TalkingCarp*

# ***GALAXY BAITS***



16 - 22mm £7.00 per Kilo  
14mm £7.50 per Kilo

minimum order 5kg one size / one Flavour

Popups	: Matching / Fluoro /	£7.00 per pot
Wafers	: Matching / Fluoro /	£7.00 per pot
Dips	: 150ml	£7.00 per pot
Glugs	: 150ml	£6.00 per pot
Food Dip / Soak	: 150ml	£8.00 per pot
Stick Mix	: 500g	£5.00

P&P - upto 2kg £5.00 2kg - 30kg £10.00

All baits can be made in Barrells, Dumbells or Traditional rounds.

All baits are steamed, keeping all important attracters in the skin of our finished product.



See website for more detailed info on all our range  
[www.galaxybaits.com](http://www.galaxybaits.com)



A photograph of a fishing spot. In the foreground, a dark, gravelly bank is visible. Two fishing rods are set up on the left, and a fishing net is on the right. The background features a calm pond reflecting the surrounding dense forest of green trees. The sky is overcast and grey.

**The Quest,  
The Challenge,  
The Goal  
by Alby Smith.**

## The Quest, The Challenge, The Goal

Welcome back to the second part of my time spent on Franklins Lake. I haven't been out too many times since my last capture yet I have a tall tale to tell.

My first session back I started in a swim known as the 'Cattle Drink'. After a late setup, me and the missus got to work getting the rods put out over two separate spots, one being gravel where I fished an inline Stonze set up, using a small handful of Hinders ready prepared tigers and presented a critically balanced Tiger hook bait. Over the other spot I fished a solid bag filled with Hinders pellet combo, using the Hinders Mystic Plum boilies; I fired out 20 – 30 freebies. As 10pm crept round it was time for a brew and to settle down for the night. I was woken by an absolute screaming take around 5:30am from the gravel patch I had found the night before. After waking up and climbing

over the missus not having time I reached the rods shoeless. I lifted into the rod and immediately the fish began to strip line from the spool, I managed to gain a few yards back before he weeded me up. After a few minutes, he began to come towards me, with every yard I could feel the line scraping along a tree snag which was just off the spot. I knew this was going to be tough, the fish was just over netting distance when suddenly, he rolled... that was the first and last time I would see a fish this session. After a few hours had passed by with only the loss of a fish and a few liners I knew it was time to pack up.

It was several weeks before I managed to get down to the lake again, this time me and Keyboard set off down in pursuit of one of the big girls. We set up late in the evening as normal, this time I fished a swim known as the 'rats' with Keyboard choosing the swim next door. After getting the rods out we both had a brew and got straight to bed. After being woken up by crashing fish at 1am and again at 3am, I knew it was time to move. After packing up and moving round to a swim known as 'Iris' both rods were quickly out on spots I had previously fished. I applied the same methods using solid bags filled



with Hinders pellets and a piece of corn dipped in betalin on both rods. It has only been around 20 minutes before the right rod rattled off and I was greeted by a beautiful full lin weighing just less than 20lb, I was made up.

After resetting with another solid bag, I recast back to the same spot. A few hours passed with fish boshing in the area but not close enough, I then reset both rods using Mystic Plum boilies scattered around for attraction. Within 20 minutes of the

recast, the left rod kicked into action and after a short fight this pearl of a mirror tipped the scales to just over 10lb. Shortly after me and Keyboard made our way back home, due to the fish starting to move away from us.

Just before our holiday to Norway I managed to squeeze in a 3rd short session. I found myself fishing a peg that was free, any time I had walked past this there had never been anyone sat there so I started to wonder why? With no

previous fishing time spent here I made the most of it and got the marker led out. I managed to find a hole in the thick weed which was only about 1ft by 3ft wide. After preparing both rods I cast the first over the hole in the weed presenting a Northern special pop up. The second rod was set over a silty/ fine gravel area once again using a solid bag filled with pellets and plastic dipped baits. The bird life seemed to leave me be in this area which has been a massive problems on previous

sessions. The night passed and with only a few liners I reset the road and began to tie a few rigs. A tail caught my eye over the hole in the weed... several anxious minutes passed and he was still there. I turned away for a second and my rod was away. It was by far one of the weediest swims I had fished to date. It wasn't long before I got to the rod and I stuck into the fish, not allowing any line to be taken I quickly started to gain yards on the fish. While trying to play the fish on top of the weed he darted down and weeded me up, I had to think quick and with no hesitation to ensure fish safety, I got into the shallows and freed the

fish I luckily managed to slip the cord over of a bulk of weed and a cracking mid common which tipped the scales to a heathy 15lb. Time to leave was quickly approaching so I applied fish care products and slipped him back and made my way home.

### Review on Stonze Vs everyday leads.

I first came in to contact with Stonze at Horseshoe Lake in Lechlade where I became fascinated but skeptical at the same time having so many questions. I then had a chance to have a cast with these large yet very discreet Stonze. After a few casts,

I managed to put one just over 31 wraps using the equipment supplied by the guys, which placed me 3rd in the competition they had running.

A couple of days passed and I had done very little in the way of testing so I set aside an afternoon and got to work. My first thoughts on the Stonze was a strange one, but as I played around with them at home, looking at presentation and efficient delivery of these weights I began to really understand the importance of dropping a stone compared to a standard led, which is unnatural and could potentially cause a few problems within the lake. My confidence in using them was at an all-time



TalkingCarp

high so I began using what I had learnt at home and put this in to practice at the lake side.

I believe they most certainly have a massive impact on how the fish have been approaching the baited area and had several takes while using them. They will remain a part of my tool kit,

unfortunately having run

low I will be putting in an order to continue this short review and compare these to normal leads.

Tight lines all

**Albie**



TalkingCarp

There's barbed, there's barbless,

# NOW THERE'S

# GRIPZ



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

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

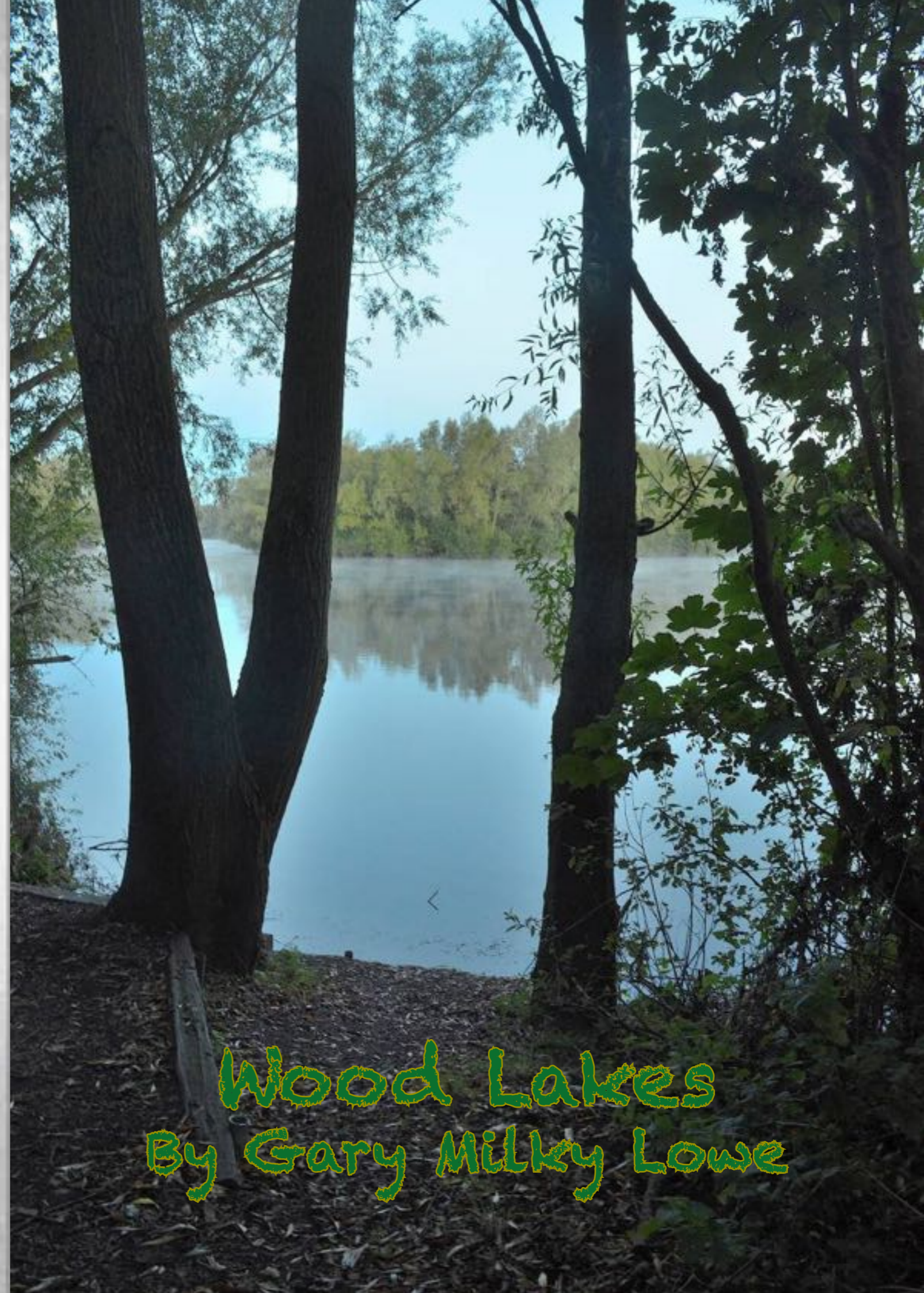


**A totally new hook design, not just a new hook pattern**

To buy our range of innovative products visit your local stockist

[www.pallatrax.co.uk](http://www.pallatrax.co.uk)

01409 240042



Wood Lakes  
By Gary Milky Lowe

As my main syndicate is still shit, it has a two-month shut down from the day the carp start to spawn to really give them and the banks a rest which I think is a good thing nowadays as not many lakes give their fish a good rest from angling pressure, and with this in mind all I've been doing of late is moving from one lake to the next but I've really been enjoying my angling of late and I've caught some cracking carp as well. My next session I had decided to do a few trips to wood lakes, this lake is about 110 miles from my house so it's a fair trip so overnights were out of question. I had planned to do a 3-night session next week so the days before was spent sorting tackle and getting bait ready. Wood Lakes is a big lake of about 170 acres so there will be a lot of long range fishing as most of the time the fish sit out in the middle of the lake, you can see them most mornings jumping well out of range enjoying themselves probably knowing that they are safe out there.

I was up early on the day I was going to the lake as I wanted to get there as it was getting light, which meant I was up at half two in the morning, the car was loaded and I set off on the long journey to the lake, the roads were kind to me that morning so I made it there in good time just as the sun was rising. I parked the car and walked down the track through the woods to the main part of the lake from here you can see most of the lake, but as it's been really warm the last few days I thought the fish would be down in the shallowest part of the lake so I set off on a long walk down the far end of the lake which was around six to eight feet deep the only thing is with this area is it's the widest part of the lake so if they are in the middle of this area then I would struggle to reach them. As I reached the far end I sat in a swim called Teds after about half an hour I see the first fish and yep, you guessed it, it was about 200 yards out which was well out of my reach and you can't use boats so it was all casting.

I sat there for a while longer and I see a few more shows some were closer so I had to make a decision of what to do, do I set up in Teds or do I go down the other end which is a lot closer to the car and you can cast to most of the spots. As I was thinking what to do I see another fish this was a lot closer and was a definite chunk, well that's it, my mind was

made up, Teds it is! I would have to do the long walk back with all my gear which would take at least half an hour to barrow it there. Well with all the gear and bait on the barrow I set off, on days like this I wish I had an electric carp porter. I finally made it to my swim and the sweat was pouring off me so I sat down in the woods to try and cool down after about 10 minutes I was ok to start to set up.

I decided to set up my brolly as far back and as close to the trees to try and keep cool as it was supposed to be sunny and hot for the next few days, brolly was up, rods set up so I decided to put the kettle on and watch the water for a bit I see one more fish while I was having a brew which gave the spot away for one rod the other two was going to be cast as far as I could towards where the fish was showing earlier this morning, it was time to tie some new rigs up. I was going to use my faithful kryston brown Merlin in 15lb as this was a supple braid and would be no good for long range fishing, I coated it in kryston no tangle gel, this is a gel that hardens but once in water it will dissolve then leaves the braid in its supple state, and to help get them extra yards I also coated my mainline with greased lightning which reduces line friction, I was going to use the braid on all three rods, I was going to use mainline pineapple pop ups on all rods.

Once all three rods were baited I cast the first two rods as far as I could towards the area of the fish then used the venda carbon throwing stick to get some mainline cell out to the area the carbon stick made it a lot easier to get baits out there as it's very light, the third rod was cast to where I see the last fish show then I repeated the process of putting a scattering of bait over the top of this rod, by the time I had finished setting up and baiting the rods it was about ten o'clock and I was feeling peckish so



I got the ridgemonkey out and made myself a toastie and sat in the woods out of the sun watching the water it was going to be easy to see if anything moves as the water was flat calm, a long way out you could see a few backs out the water just milling around with it being warm I don't think the fish would move out of the shallow water, I sat there most of the day watching the water and the fish didn't really move far so I was hopeful that when the sun went down that they would drop down on to my bait but we would have to wait and see.



That evening I didn't redo my rods as I didn't want to scare any fish that was there, I knew that my bait would still be sitting well as the mainline pop ups are very buoyant, that evening as the sun was going down the fish that was on the top started to disappear and a few fish showed out to my left I just hoped they hadn't moved, well after a few cups of tea and a look on Facebook to see what had been going on it was time to hit the



sack for some sleep. It wasn't till the early hours I got up to answer the call of nature, and as I was climbing back into the sack I heard a big fish out in the area I was fishing so I thought I would sit up and have a brew and listen, as I was just taking the first sip the middle rod that was cast out at long distance to where the fish were burst into life and the spool was in melt down. I slipped my crocs on and grabbed the rod and the fish was kiting right at speed, I had to try and stop it but after a few minutes I started to gain some line but the fish was way down to my right so I had to make sure it didn't get into the marginal reeds, after what felt like ages the fish was in front of me and going from left to right but staying deep, so I was thinking it could be a good fish, as soon as I said that the bloody hook pulled. I was gutted !!

Well after that I was not happy all I could think is that was a good fish, so after sitting there for a good few minutes I decided to get the rod back out in the zone, I walked to the back of the swim where I had my yard sticks and re wrapped my rods, retied a new rig and new pop up was tied

on, then it was cast back out to the spot, then I got the venda throwing stick out and set about putting some more bait out. I sat back down and thought that might have been my chance as one take a session is good going for this lake. I got back in my bag and tried to get some sleep. I soon drifted off into a deep sleep, As I woke up, just as the sun was coming up over the trees, straight away I could see that fish were on the surface, I was thinking if only I could get a zig out that far but I wasn't sure if I did that it would tangle, and i didn't want to spook them by casting all the time.

Well the second day was even hotter than the first so I spent most of the day in the trees trying to keep cool and all the fish did was cruise around on top they didn't look interested in feeding wat so ever, I couldn't wait for the night time to see if another one would get its head down and feed. well that evening I made myself a nice chicken sandwich as I didn't want to cook anything as it was too hot and sat there watching the water and I gradually watched the fish disappear down into the depths of the lake hopefully on to my bait. As the sun disappeared the temperature dropped and it got quite chilly so I climbed into my bag for the night, I was listening to the radio when I heard a fish jump right over my baited spot which gave me some confidence for the night. I turned the radio off so I could hear if any more fish jumped.

I must have drifted off as the next thing I knew I woke up to a screaming Neville... I grabbed the rod and as I woke myself up properly I could see it was the same rod as the night before and this fish was an angry one. It was powering off to my left not like the other that went right, now this fish was really going for it, it must have took at least 20 yards of line of me before I managed to gain control, I started to slowly bring her towards me but this fish was staying deep hugging the bottom after about 10 minutes the fish was in front of me going from left to right it had still not hit the surface so I had no idea of what or how big it was then it decided to go on one final run and I could feel the line grinding on something then it all went solid, now I thought I didn't want to have two runs and lose them both so I was going to play this easy so I kept a tight line on the fish and just waited five minutes went by and nothing had moved so I put

the rod down on the buzzer and just waited.

Well it seemed like ages to the line started to move so I picked up the rod and lent into it I could feel the fish kicking it must have be caught up in a weed bed I kept the pressure on and she came free now the fight was on a few minutes later she swirled in front of me I could see it was a good mirror and quite long. Not long later I lifted the net up over her and she was mine. When you have a fish from here you have to let the owner Rob know that you have one and he comes down to do the photos and see that the fish is ok, I looked at my watch at it was about five so I knew it would be light soon so I was going to put her in the floatation sling and made sure she was safe till then. I text Rob to let him know that I had a good fish in the net and could he come down when he can. Five minutes later I had a text saying he would be down in about ten minutes.

I got all the equipment ready... sling, scales and camera so it's all ready for when it gets light, after everything was ready I sat back down and put the kettle on ready for when Rob got here, it wasn't long and I could hear him coming down the path, He said his congratulations then sat down to drink his tea. He asked if I knew what fish it was, I didn't so he said he'll look once he had drunk his tea and it got light. After a few cups of tea, the sun was coming up over the trees and it looked like it was going to be another nice day. I thought the light would be good enough for the photos so I gently pulled her to the bank and lifted her out onto the mat, Rob came over and opened the sling to have a look at her to see what fish it was ,it was one they call James fish, it normally goes 35 plus but this fish had spawned and looked a bit down in weight but I didn't care it was good to have one on the bank well on the scales she went 30lb 6oz that will do for me! Rob done a few shots and I slipped her back to her home, and then put the kettle back on for Rob who wanted one more before he went back home, While the kettle was on I redone the rod and put a new rig on and then punched it back out onto the spot where I had the two takes from.

Well the morning soon went the sun was up and it was another hot day and I was thinking whether to reel my rods in as not a lot was happening

during the days, it was all going off at night but there was not a lot I could do elsewhere so I left them out there, during the day the fish did what they had done for the last few day and barks in the sun. I had a few visitors during the day, all of them had come down to fish and wanted to know what's going on. I was lucky that the swim I was in was well away from the other swims so no one could cast near me as they had all noticed the fish in front of me. All day I was wishing it would get to evening to see if the fish did the same as the other two nights and get their heads down, as I watched the sun go down the fish did too so I was we confident of another take, I was off in the morning so I was going to pack up before it got to warm as it was a long way back to the car and in the heat, I would be knackered.

I fell asleep I but didn't sleep too well as I was on edge on night waiting for a take but that didn't happen, the fish had other ideas as when it got light and the sun came up I could not see any fish out there the fish had definitely done the off, so having two takes and the pressure of me on them for two days had paid its toll. I gave it till eight o'clock then made the long way back to the car on the way back I stopped with a few people to see what had been going on. Not a lot by the sounds of it as no one had seen anything so looks like the fish had done one to the other end of the lake, back at the car and knackered I loaded the car and set off on the long journey home. One happy man as I had one, and all I could think about is getting back next week.

tight lines

milky.



TalkingCarp



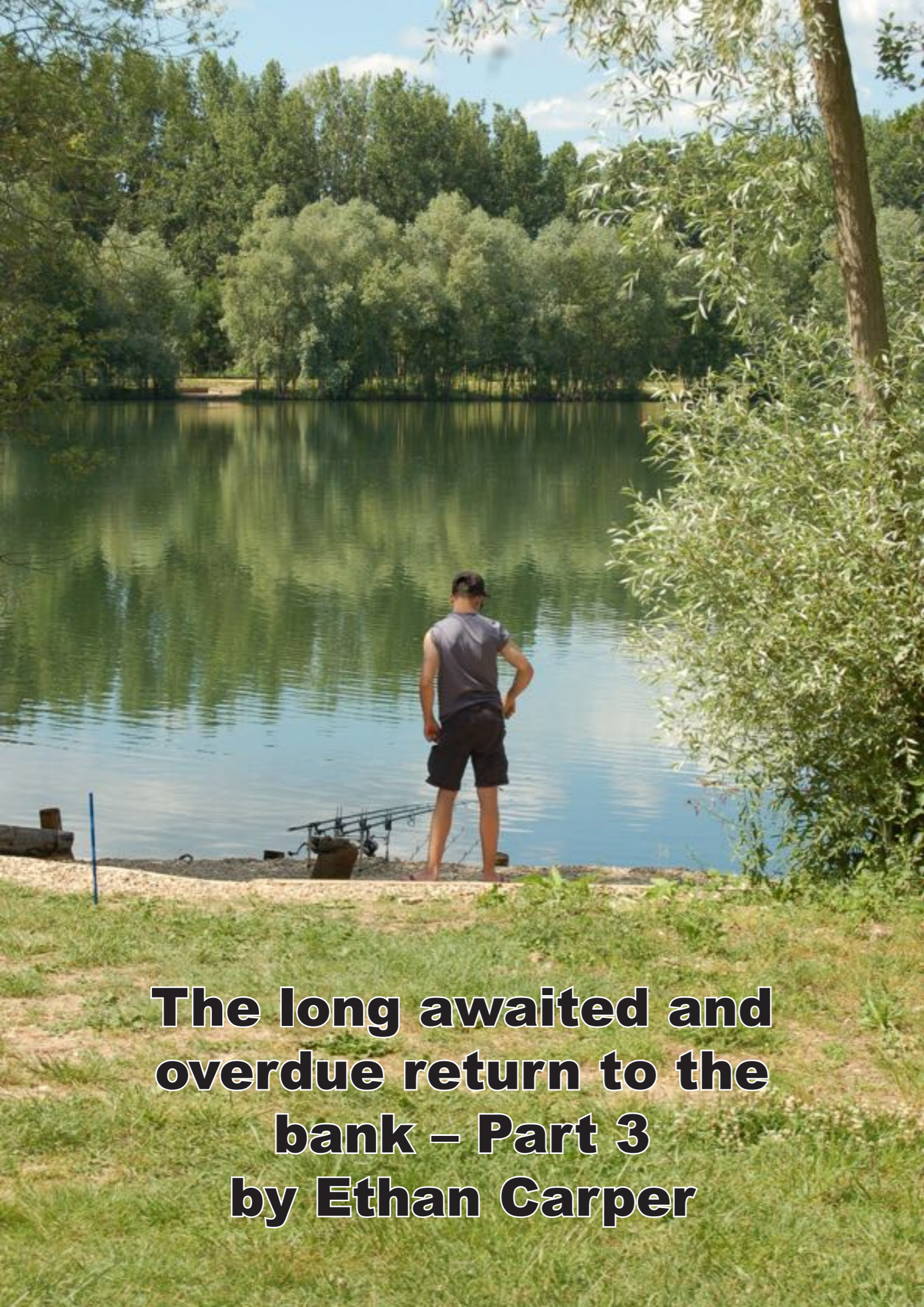
*The only limitation is your imagination*



PAYMENT OPTIONS NOW  
AVAILABLE

KXX TACKLE Bespoke®





# The long awaited and overdue return to the bank – Part 3

by Ethan Carper

## The long awaited and overdue return

29

After being awake for over 34 hours, we were glad to get on the Bedchairs and finally relax after what had been a pretty eventful trip so far. We knew we were taking a chance by having the car there, when it should not have been and we had seen a few 'Park Wardens' drive round in the day but pay no attention to us so we were not too concerned and the truth was, we had no choice. We could not unload everything from the car in to the bivvies' as we simply did not have the room as we thought the car would be next to us for the length of the trip and we could not leave the kit in the car unattended either in the park or on the street.

We finally finished chatting about midnight, and decided to get some sleep. I have never slept outside without a bivvy but we sprayed plenty of bug spray on us and the sleeping bags and it was a very warm night with no forecast of any rain so we settled in.

I must have fallen asleep almost the instant my eyes shut but was woken suddenly after what felt like only 5 minutes by the voice of my dad and a French voice.....

As I pulled the sleeping bag from over my head, I could see torch light flashing about and then it was shining directly at me and I could hear my dad's voice getting louder. I have to admit I was a bit scared at this point as I had no idea what was going on but just felt it was not good. The next thing I knew, my dad was telling me to "get up mate, we've got a problem"..!!

As I sat up and got my focus, I could see the headlights of a car pointing towards us and two men stood close to my dad.. "the Police are telling us we cannot stay here mate and we have to go....get in the car and I will sort the gear".....could this really be happening to us..!!

Without going in to all the details, the Police or the 'Police Nationale' as they are called in France, had driven in to the park at 02:15 to do a routine check, or so we gathered and had seen the car. As they approached they then saw us on the Bedchairs although my dad was already awake when he heard their car enter the park. Basically, they were enforcing the rule of no night parking, even

though my dad was trying to explain that it was only until the afternoon and then the car would be moved but they were having none of it and my dad was too tired and angry to carry on and try to reason with them.

At 02:50, we were sat in the car on the road that lead to the park and my dad was trying to work out a plan.... how much more could go wrong on this trip and it was still only the early hours of the second day..!

The plan was 'Food & Sleep' so we headed to the nearest motorway services as we knew we could do both there and they would have toilet and washing facilities too.

After 20 minutes, we arrived at a suitable location and went and bought a complete load of junk food, which we promptly ate sat in the car in a deserted car park at 03:30 on the Thursday morning... at this point we had only managed about two hours sleep in the last 38 hours, so we reclined the car seats as much as possible, which wasn't a lot as the gear was piled up behind them and tried to sleep as best we could



I woke up at about 06:30 after a fairly restless few hours' sleep but at least I had had some. My dad was on 'google' on his phone and as I opened my eyes, he said "right, I have a plan so let's go and get cleaned up and get going". He was much happier than earlier and seemed to be pleased with his idea, which he explained to me whilst we got washed in the toilets of the service station, which I have to say were spotlessly clean. We headed along the motorway for about 15 minutes to one of the 'rest stops' that are dotted along all the French motorways. These are not like a full-service stations but some do have a little café type shop but the majority consist of a toilet with wash basin, a washing area for pots and pans and a park like seating area with picnic tables. Here we got out the kettle and 'Ridge Monkey' and had a cup of tea and some sausage batches... everything seems better with a cuppa and sausage batch made outdoors...!!

My dad explained that he had found a 'commercial' fishery close by that looked perfect and that is where we were heading. We would then let Laurent and Denis know

where we were and would stay there for the remainder of the trip. Both of us felt happy and relieved that we were out of the park and that all the drama was over and done with and we were looking forward to finally settling down to do some fishing.

We drove about 20 minutes down the road and arrived at a very nice looking fishery just on the edge of a small village.

Pulling up at the gate, which was closed, there was a sign with a mobile phone number on and instruction to call it on arrival. My dad dialled the number and a French voice answered "Bonjour, puis-je vous aider?". "Bonjour, Do you speak English..?" was my dad's reply. "ah yes, a little" said the other guy. A conversation then took place in both broken English and French and my dad explained that we were looking for somewhere to fish starting today but the guy, who we later found out was called William, did not seem to understand that we wanted to fish 'today' and kept saying 'next week'. My dad tried his best to explain and then William said "ok, you wait"

and the phone went dead...!!

We just looked at each other and said nothing. After a couple of minutes, we could hear the engine noise of a motorbike or quad and a guy turned up on the other side of the gate on a quad bike, jumped off, opened the gate and waved us in. He then locked the gate, spoke on his phone and my dad's phone then rang...it was William again. He had called the onsite Bailiff and told him to come and let us in..result..!

William then proceeded to explain to my dad that the whole lake, all seventeen swims, had been 'booked out' for the week, starting tomorrow...no way, how could this be, could things really get any worse for us..??!!

After some further conversation and William getting to understand what had happened to us in the past 48 hours we think he took pity on us and offered us 24 hours in a Chalet on a double swim for a discounted rate of just a few Euro's... we snapped his hand off and followed the bailiff, who could speak some English, to the reception area of the site and what a site it was. This fishery looked awesome. Our first view of the lake was stunning and as we looked at the pictures in the reception, we could not help but feel excited. Within thirty minutes, we were at our swim and unloading the car, filling the fridge with water and the freezer with bait and deciding who was getting in the shower first. For the first



time on the trip and over 48 hours after we had left home, we could finally settle but only for the next 24 hours but we would take that for now.

Once we were all sorted and fishing and remember this was the first time my dad had got his rods out since we arrived, we sat down in the shade of the chalet and looked out over an amazing water. It was then, as we spoke to the bailiff, we found out that the reason the lake was booked out was due to the Belgian International Carp Team having a qualifier for their final pairs entry in to the World Carp Masters which was taking place at the end of August. We were told

that some of them would be arriving that evening but not to fish and the others would arrive on Friday morning. They asked us to be packed up by 12:00 on Friday, which was not an issue.

The fishing had been slow due to the very high temperatures that parts of France had been having and that day, the temperature peaked at 37 degrees C... it was hot, very hot but we were happy and making the most of it. We contacted Denis and it was agreed that he would meet us here on the Friday when he arrived and we would then decide the next plan of action to see us through until Monday and

the Ferry home.

I'm not going to go in to too much detail about the 24 hours fishing as it was pretty uneventful other than me battling a four-foot-long Sturgeon at two in the morning for 45 minutes, only to lose it as we were getting it out of the water. William estimated it to be around the average size of 75lb. The lake record was well over 100lb but to be honest, I don't like them and although a picture would have been nice, I enjoyed the experience of playing it but was not too bothered about losing it.



That was the only action we had but on the Friday morning, it was great to meet the guys from the Belgian Carp Team and have a chat with them. They were well impressed with my set up and thought I was a lucky lad to have such great gear at my age. We also got to meet William, one of the owners and he explained that we were the first English Anglers on the place and could not believe how we had come to

be there but let's face it, you could not make this up..!

Denis and Laurent arrived to meet us at about 09:00 and the plan was, we would be heading back to the park lake we had been evicted from, but this time, Laurent would park the cars off the site and we could leave some of the kit we could not get in the bivvies' at his place.

By 14:00 on the Friday, we

were finally set up and fishing back on the lake but this time Denis and Laurent were there too and the car was gone so no hassle from the Police. Laurent also had two of his friends turn up to fish with us. One of them was the lad on the 'push bike' my dad had followed to get to this lake in the first place and they fished a few hundred yards away from us. Denis set up in the swim I had fished

on the Wednesday evening and me and da set up a little further along next to each other. The rest of the fishing was pretty uneventful for us, Denis had a few mid doubles and a twenty, Laurent had a few low doubles and mid doubles, his mates caught, killed and cooked Pike and me and dad 'blanked' but buy this time, we did not care.

The weather then turned bad and we had 28 hours of seriously heavy rain and storms with strong winds and lighting but I think we just slept through most of it. My dad's snoring was like a 4 stroke 'crosser engine...!! The Sonik XTi bivvies' performed excellently in the bad weather with not one drop of water getting in and

no condensation either.

The rest of the trip was uneventful in comparison to the start and I did not have any more fish. Laurent and Denis had a few carp over the next two days and the weather picked up on the Sunday afternoon and Monday morning was back to 28 degrees. This gave us the opportunity to get all the gear dry and pack the cars up ready for the journey home.

With a quick stop, on the way back to Dunkirk to see Bill Moore of 'Bills Lakes' we made good time to get the ferry back to Dover. We docked at just after 21:00 and by midnight we were back home.

All in all, it was not the trip we had planned and we were gutted we did not get to fish the public water we went there for as it looked amazing and the perfect venue for my first public water excursion. I did manage a few Carp from the Park Lake, which was a first and the trip was far from boring, even if the fishing was minimal and slow. It was great to meet up with the French guys and see how they set-up and fish as it is very different from my set up and the French Commercial lake was stunning.

We are returning in October this year and hopefully there will be no 'Enduro' (actually, we know there isn't because my dad has found the French Club



TalkingCarp

that run the competitions and they have confirmed the lake will not be closed to the public). We plan to spend four days on that water and four on the French Commercial water.

Fishing Public Waters brings many challenges and is completely different from a Commercial venue but not in terms of the actual fishing. The whole experience has just made me want to go back and have a proper go at the lake and as for the rest of it, I think they call it 'Life Experience'.

My dad has recovered from all the 'outbursts' and I think his blood pressure is finally back to normal and we are looking forward to October.

Since I started this three-part account of my 'Return to Fishing', I have also fished my Syndicate water and had a few upper doubles, been back to France in August but to a commercial fishery I fished last year for the first time and I have beaten my French PB by nine pounds with a Common weighing in at 30.2lb.

I will be doing a review of this venue, Les Etangs De L'Ecurie, in next month's

Talking Carp as it is the perfect place if you want a smaller water with exclusive lake access and a chance of a fifty, with full facilities and ran by a great couple, Jamie and Natalie, who once again, made us feel very welcome and were as helpful as ever.

I have also had my first trip to Brooms Cross Fishery in Thornton, Liverpool, where I landed my first Carp from the place at 02:00 on my 15th birthday at 18.8lb. Brooms Cross is an amazing venue and one to watch for the future as the Carp are gaining weight each month. The place is owned and managed by a guy called Rob, who is passionate about the fish and the way they are fished and cared for. The venue is very well ran and everyone there is really helpful and friendly. I also got to meet for the first time and fish with Talking Carps very own Brain Dixon who is a top man and good friend and I also had the chance to meet Rich Shaw and Simon Pomeroy from Pallatrax and talk about their Hydrated Baits and the 'Stonze' weights and 'Gripz' Hooks and I got a few 'freebies' from them too, so thanks guys, I will be giving them a go in the very near

future and no doubt tell the tale in here.

A quick thanks to RG Baits, Hooked on Particles, Pallatrax, Mosquito Angling products and Sharp Tackle as all of these companies have supplied either the bait, end tackle, line and hooks that have landed me some nice fish recently and my new French P.B. am looking to smash my U.K. P.B before I return to France...!

**Tight Lines everyone.**

**Ethan Carper**

*(I am definitely 'back')*

TalkingCarp



# #PARTICLEPERFECTION



SEE OUR FULL RANGE AT  
**HOOKEDONBAITS.COM**



**France! You  
Must Try It. By  
Paula Marriot**

Mid-March had arrived and it was that time again, I called my club Secretary (Roy) to arrange an appointment to process my 2017/18 membership, it would be my third consecutive year and I was feeling excited about the start of a new season. My Winter campaign had never really taken off and I was keen to draw a line under it and start a clean sheet.

As the club Secretary was cutting around my passport photograph, which of course was typically terrible and made me look like an escaped convict with an overly large forehead, he happened to mention that he was in the process of sourcing a ferry booking for his upcoming annual trip to France, he and a friend were off to the Continent to capture a few monsters. I couldn't help but mention that I would love to go to France one day, and of course, being the nice guy he is, he invited me along. He told me the dates and I knew right away that I had a prior engagement. However, it

took me just a few hours to cancel that and I passed my deposit across just a few days later. That was it, I was going to France! I had not yet got anywhere near achieving my goals for fishing in the UK, but that seemed to have slipped my mind momentarily.

We were booked onto a lovely little lake called Wintons. I was told it used to be owed by the same people who owned Wintons in Burgess Hill but had been sold off approximately ten years prior. I checked out the website and tried to find out as much as I could



*TalkingCarp*



out for our quarries location, and deciding what swims we wanted. There was no need for a draw, we all had different ideas and it worked out perfectly. I would be next to the club secretary for the week, a man of thirty plus years' experience of carp fishing, and a golden opportunity for me to learn the secret to his success.

about the lake before I went. The swims looked great, the facilities looked perfectly adequate and there were no Crayfish or Poisson Chats to speak of. It had the makings of a great trip, and so the countdown began.

The week before we went I hardly slept, I was like a child at Christmas. Everything was packed and we were on our way! The overnight ferry was a little emotional, we all slept on the sofas of the restaurant and I spent most of the night shivering. Note to myself, next time I would grab the pillow and Big Snooze bed cover from my bed-chair! As we pulled up to the

venue, I rang the bell and waited patiently for the gates to open. As they did, I felt my stomach do a somersault and I couldn't wait to get started. There were four of us now, with another fishing friend having joined our party a while after I had. We all walked around, looking

I am relatively new to carp fishing, having lost interested whilst I disappeared to sea for ten years. When I returned to the sport it had all changed, sweetcorn and luncheon meat had almost become outdated, although a lot of people



*TalkingCarp*



still have great success with them, and there were things called Marker rods and Spod rods that I hadn't quite got to grips with.

This week was my opportunity to hone my skills, and I would need to, as my chosen spots were up tight to an Island. All my friends were using bait boats and although I had borrowed one for the week, I was adamant that I wasn't going to use it. So, I'm there, and I'm fishing. The first afternoon and evening came and went, nothing remarkable happened and I turned-in to my new Trakker bed chair expecting to stay there the whole night.

How wrong I could be! At approximately 03:45 those glorious bells rang, not in that single tone way that we all dream of, just the odd bleep here and there. I jumped up out of my bed chair, stumbled and fell down two steps before finally picking up my rod. At first it felt like

thin air, then I felt a slight bit of resistance and thought it was a bream. I was playing it in by moonlight only and so it wasn't until it had slipped over the cord that I realised it was big. The biggest I had ever caught anyway. At

this point, Roy was stood in my swim and it's a good job because I was now up to my knees in water.

The water level was low due to a dry spell and I had to wade out into the shallows to ensure that my fish was safe. Roy threw me a sling and I carried it up the bank and placed it in our cradle. I said "Roy, that has gotta be a forty hasn't it?\_I could



barely utter a word, for my grin had stretched my mouth so far, I could have swallowed the moon. His reply was contained, and burst my bubble immediately, "Nah, upper thirty I reckon mate." It didn't matter, I'd never caught a thirty before, either way I was going to smash my UK P.B by a country mile! Roy held the crook and I lifted the sling up...I couldn't believe it. That needle swung around so far that my eyeballs nearly burst out of my head and I was right, 42lb and 4oz. After a victory celebration, and possibly having lost a tiny bit of wee through excitement, Roy took some photos and we returned that chunk safely to the water. My holiday aspirations had already been met, and the next day was relaxed knowing that I wasn't going to go home having

blanked. My success that week continued, landing another ten carp up to 33lb. I also caught my first ever Zander, it took my boilie on its retreat and a Personal Best Muskrat, although it was dead so I'm not sure it counts? I went on to catch eleven carp in total, and an absolute corker of a week had come to an end.

I arrived in France wondering what all the fuss was about, I caught the biggest fish of the week, left wanting to re-book immediately and recommend that everyone gives it a go!

Until next time, be lucky.

Paula.





TRADE  
ACCOUNTS  
WELCOME

# Castaway PVA

**Cost-  
effective  
refills  
designed  
to save  
you  
money!**

**RRP £4**  
(plus only  
93p postage)

Available in:  
18mm  
25mm  
35mm



**[www.castaway-pva.co.uk](http://www.castaway-pva.co.uk)**

[info@castaway-pva.co.uk](mailto:info@castaway-pva.co.uk)



# *Keith moors*

## *‘Living The Dream’*

### *Chapter 13- Changing goalposts mid-stream*

As you can tell from the title I try to avoid idioms like the plague (lol) but the combination seemed to fit the situation.

Anyway, as I type this, it is now late November 2015 and two years have passed since my last addition to this book. I would like to think, without getting morbid, that, sometime in the future, my children and grandchildren will be able to read this and remember/learn of all the effort that went into creating Moorland Fisheries.

It is also very important to underline that none of this would have been achieved without the equal effort and encouragement from my wonderful wife, Jan. In a similar vein, seeing Sharon develop into a top quality chef while being a single parent to her four kids is amazing and her knowledge of the lake and of the best way to fish it is overlooked.

Right that's the family chest beating done now on with the detail.

The winter of early 2014 was another mild one and I do feel that a short, very hard winter is beneficial to reduce the number of bugs and rodents, but also to reduce some of the sub surface insects which can provide the carp with so much natural food that they can be slow to get on to the boilies.

Just to make the start of the 2014 season even harder, we went from a relatively mild February and then March saw the wind swing round to the north and the temperatures plummet. Luckily the weather settled and by early April we saw the first two sixties banked. They hadn't put on as much weight as I had hoped for but were in superb condition so it still looked promising.

Unfortunately they were spawning before the month was out so any chance of new records seemed to have passed us by. Luckily, out of the blue, Kevin Hague managed to pull a rabbit out of a hat and banked Cut Tail for the second time in two weeks and she had put on 1lb 7oz to set a new lake record of 63lbs 1oz.

Spawning continued on and off for several weeks and the captures proved that not all of the fish are involved in the melee at the same time. It also showed that

the extended, and therefore more gentle spawning period seemed to benefit the condition of the carp and we started seeing new forties and new fifties very regularly.

We had kept a quiet week in July to host a 40th birthday party for Sharon. The marquee was erected and an evening of live rock and roll, good food and far too much alcohol took place. The biggest surprise to everyone was when Sharon joined us on stage to sing a couple of Shania Twain songs. It is an understatement when I say that her voice blew everyone away and, as I write this, she is being pestered to sing for a local but well known rock band. Can't wait to see how she gets on.

After our annual holiday in early august, the second part of our season started with some of the fish being almost back up to their "pre spawn" weights already. Cut Tail was back to 62lbs and Half Lin at 62lbs 12oz so the record was already under threat.

During September we started to pump out the stock pond so as to sell on the 800 or so small carp which we had removed from the main lake. We continued with our policy of removing the carp from the 2012 spawning but were seeing fish of 18lb at just two years old. Just to underline the fact that we know they can only be from spring 2012 as we emptied the lake in November 2011 and ALL of the carp below 20lb were removed.

We will continue with this policy plus removing all of the catfish as they are caught so that we control the biomass and allow the big carp to pile on the weight. However, we will also monitor the weights of these small fish because it is possible that some of them have the potential to become very big in the near future. It is also very possible that the inclusion of a few more twenties could provide feeding competition with the big girls. The theory is that this could encourage them to feed more heavily and thereby get caught more often. Only time will tell. It certainly seemed that our biomass reduction, by removing the poisson chats and big catfish, had helped to improve the growth rates and condition and the end

of September 2014 was a session that i shall never forget. The following is taken from the record that I wrote at the time :-

## “Right, this is the full story of the capture of my new PB and new lake record.

About a month ago I had a call from my good friend Steve Cowell. He phoned to tell me that Nick Clayton couldn't make the late September trip so there would be a space if I would like to join their party. As I hadn't fished since 1st July and wouldn't get another chance until November, I accepted with glee but then found that another lad wanted to come so I stepped down.

The lads wanted to take Jan, Sharon and I out for dinner so would be arriving on the Thursday and wanted to sample French cuisine in Burgundy. We booked Jan's favourite restaurant "Au Coeur Fidele" and to say that we had a fantastic night out would be an understatement. Good food, good wine, great company and another surprise that the lad who should have been replacing Nick, couldn't get the time off so I would be fishing after all.

Friday was spent putting reels on rods and tying rigs. Then the draw, which I had insisted that I wouldn't take part in. I fancied "Dog-leg" because I didn't want to be in Pampas or 1st Pontoon as there seemed to be a lot of fish present. I have done the "numbers game" in the past and prefer to let my customers have the going swims while I content myself with trying to tempt a couple of the bigger fish. I have long considered that the big carp might move away from the "shoal" and pick off items of food in the quieter areas of the lake. Dog-leg seemed to be offering one of those quieter areas.

Anyway, as the draw took place the swims were chosen, 1st Pontoon, Pampas, Mistletoe, Boneyard, Oaks. This left just two anglers to choose. Stu chose Leaning Tree and Andy chose Royal Box. I had ended with my first choice without getting involved in the choosing.

Saturday lunch time I baited up for everyone from the boat and also tipped 25kg of pellet and 5kg of Eclipse, Moorland Mix boilies on my RH spot. My intention was to fish this right through the week but to use my other two rods over a scattering of boilies from the throwing stick. I spent most of the afternoon watching for clues before deciding where to cast. Both rods then had about half a kilo scattered over them.

Sunday morning I topped up the patches with another hand full of bait and the afternoon produced my first take in the shape of a 37lb 5oz common.

Monday passed without any signs in front of me but the late afternoon was spent setting up the amps, guitars etc for a small gig for the lads. My very good friend Pierre Signol, agreed to come over and (he truly is a fantastic guitarist) we played until about 1.30am when everyone staggered back to their bivvies and slept. I didn't get to bed until gone 3 am and planned to cast out at first light. That didn't happen lol. and with mist on the water I decided that breakfast would be soon enough.

Tuesday morning was fairly quiet but around lunch time I started to see slight signs of bubbles and mud patches. Within a couple of hours my middle rod ripped off and a common of 41lb 10oz was the culprit.

With the baits back in place I was stood in Boneyard with Andy when I noticed a fish bubbling along a line just short of my initial heavy baiting patch. I spent the afternoon checking the area with binoculars and it appeared that the fish was returning to the spot again and again. I didn't want to disturb it but when we returned from dinner there were no bubbles so I decided to place my RH rod on the spot for the night. After the lack of sleep the previous night I must have been in bed before 8pm I was fast asleep when the alarm let out a few bleeps and the bobbin hit the rod. I shot (well crawled at my age) out of bed to find the line tight and the bobbin held against the rod. As I bent to check it I heard the ping as the line came out of the clip and then a few clicks of the spool. "That's hooked" I thought as I lifted the rod and sure enough the response was a steady plod from a good fish. Unfortunately there also came that horrible grating feeling but after several minutes of gently playing the fish while also watching my other rods, the grating stopped. "Must have just been

weed" I thought but we found out the following day that it was actually a long length of broken mono so I count myself lucky that it came free.

Anyway, standing out in the lake, without a clue what time it was, and believe me, it was pitch black darkness, I was enjoying the solitude of being the only person aware of this battle. Eventually the fish did a "fly past" and I could see it was a proper lump in the dim filtered light of my headtorch. I began to shake as she powered off back to the middle of the lake before giving me another tantalising glimpse of what lay ahead, if my luck held. This time I tried to convince myself that it wasn't as big as I had originally thought and that it was middle of the night hallucinations playing tricks on me. Off she went again before coming back past, but this time from right to left so that I could see the unmistakable left flank and the short row of scales that told me all I needed to know. "Jesus, that looks like The Half Lin" left my lips in a whisper and it finally sank in, this was followed by several "please don't come offs."

On the fourth visit she went in the net and I peered in on my prize. Sure enough it was Half Lin, a fish that I first caught at 12lb in 2002/3 but now just a tad bigger.

As I looked down on this massive unit I must have uttered a gentle "Jesus" and a voice from Andy Don, on the opposite bank, said "it's a goodun then?" I replied with a "What on earth are you doing awake at this time of night?" Andy then informed me that it was only 9pm. Amazing!

I jammed the net handle in the reeds, climbed out and got one of my slings. I jumped back into the water, unhooked her, broke down the net and zipped her up in the sling. With that pegged in place I removed my rod, got out the scales and tripod and zeroed the other sling. With the "weigh sling" hanging from the scales to keep them switched on, I got back in and began to lift her out. I didn't want to excite anyone yet including myself but I was confident she would be a sixty but would have looked a bit of a mug if she had been 59.12 or something short of my expectations.

I slid her onto the cradle and then out of the net. I then placed the zeroed sling behind her and gently eased her up and into it. I moved the tripod over the cradle and lifted the sling and its contents. After a bit of a struggle I managed to lift her onto the hook of the scales. For a moment the scales

continued to read minus 3lb 2oz and during that short time I was thinking 62 or 63 would be likely. When the scales changed and the reading was 66lb 8oz I couldn't believe my eyes. I lifted her off, the scales went back to minus 3.02, I lifted her back on and again it read 66.08. That was it then, a new PB by 7lb 8oz.

I placed her back in the water, tried, unsuccessfully, to recover my composure and called Andy from Boneyard and Steve Cowell from Pampas. Photos done, fish released, a couple of "yes!!!. and "oii oii's!!!!". Then came the realisation and reality began to set in. Without the invitation from these lads I wouldn't even have been fishing. Also with the blessing from my gorgeous wife and daughter, it meant I was relieved of cooking duties and other chores for the week, this meant I would be able to concentrate on my fishing in the way I have. So a massive thank you to all of them plus a massive thanks for all the kind wishes from everyone.

Bait was Eclipse Moorland Mix, single 15mm bottom bait.

Hook was size 2 Solar 101 tied to a "D" with the shank whipped.

The hook was attached to Rig Marole Camo H2O fluoro in 15lb BS and the method was a 1.5 ounce lead on an Enterprise Snag Safe Run ring on Gardner Mirage main line fished very slack."

October continued to produce new, unknown fifties at 55lbs plus and Steve "Bingo" House had decided that this would be his last year as our bailiff. Luckily, within a couple of weeks of his decision, my good friend Alan Brown informed me that he was retiring and looking to move to France. It all tied together very nicely and Alan agreed to be our new bailiff for 2015. Perfick!!

On a personal note, Jan and I became Great Grandparents for the first time on 13th November when our eldest granddaughter, Sheree, gave birth to her daughter Evie.

During December we began the annual work of cutting the reeds again. The winter had its expected cold snaps but was generally another mild one. Having already sited his caravan in the field, Alan arrived during January and was keen to get started on the work around the lake.

On 20th January 2015 I had this really strong feeling that there could be some fish feeding so decided to put my rods out from the dam wall for the day.

In what turned out to be, my shortest ever winter session, (20 mins to be precise) I had hooked and was playing my second biggest ever carp in the shape of "Minty" at 64lbs 7oz. Unbelievable!

February had the expected cold northerly winds but we still saw plenty of signs of feeding fish and then a brief spell of thin ice across the lake. Other than that short spell it was, generally, another mild winter.

One short pleasant part of the winter was when a pair of Garganey ducks (the first I have ever seen) arrived and spent a couple of weeks with us.

With the reeds cut we stripped all of the piled up dead sticks and branches out of the hedgerow and burn them on the braziers. While Alan finished off the southern arm hedgerow I busied myself with the construction of a new, customer, freezer shed as well as ripping out the old shower and fitting a new one. Late March saw the temperature plummet and this certainly stopped the fish for a while.

At this point I will add a copy of my blog from 30th March 2015 which gives a sort of "look back" at our cock-ups over our time at Etang du Roivre:-

#### "LAKE DEVELOPMENTS"

I mentioned a short while ago that I had heard people pay us massive compliments by saying that they had never heard a bad word spoken about Moorlands. That is fantastic but a little unjustified because we have made plenty of cock-ups along the way:-

2002. The lake was stuffed with every fish you could imagine, roach, rudd, tench, bream, chub, perch, pike, crucians, about 1000 carp and those wonderful little poisson chats (thousands of them). We asked the local fish farmer to show us how to empty the lake and to take away the fish that we didn't want to keep. He emptied the lake but simply couldn't cope with the sheer numbers of fish present. We tipped at least 5 tonnes of poisson chats on our field but in the panic to keep the carp alive we didn't sort out the other species properly.

2003. The hottest driest summer on record resulted in extremely low water levels and a ban on any drain downs. We were stuck with far too many carp plus some rudd and crucians. Following general advice we added silure catfish as we were told that they would eat the poisson chats. We were also told that the poisson chats could never be eradicated as they would “burrow” into the mud to survive.

2004. Far too many small carp and, after just two years, the poisson chats were back. We drained the lake again and removed the chats and sorted out some of the small male commons.

2005. Very rapidly it became obvious that we had not been severe enough with our sorting plus we suddenly were aware of thousands of small rudd again. We had only left in a few in order to make sure the cats had some food. What we hadn't researched properly was how fast rudd can breed. We also bought fifty American wide-mouth bass in an attempt to gain a bigger predator base.

2006. A much better year and growth rates were improving. Perhaps we could relax?

2007. Wrong!!! The poisson chats were back already. We drained the lake again and were thorough with our attempts to remove every chat possible.

2008. Another impressive year with some special carp being caught and the catfish were breeding and piling on the weight.

2009. Yet again the poisson chats were back in numbers. Perhaps the early advice was right and they couldn't be controlled? We drained the lake again and left it dry for two weeks to make sure that there were no chats missed.

2010. Numbers of forty and fifty pound carp were now being caught but there were also a lot of catfish being hooked. It looked as if we may need to reduce the numbers of cats and that could mess up the predator numbers.

2011. Some thorough research indicated that the large catfish were not the efficient predators that we had been told they were. They got lazier as they got bigger and would opt for the static bed of boilies rather than expending energy chasing moving prey.

The poisson chats were back in force so the cats obviously were not doing the job. The key appeared to be the bass as we were now being told that they were being used successfully in the small rivers to control the chats.

Another drain down was organised in an attempt to remove the poisson chats and the cats. The cats were not too much of a problem but, foolishly, we put back the three biggest as we thought they were all female, wrong again!!

During the drain down process we discovered a coypu burrow through the dam wall which the chats were using to swim through and gain access, from the river Grosne, back into the lake. They were simply following the gentle flow of water up the small stream which runs through our garden and then into and through the burrow.

The burrow was sealed with 13 tonnes of road base, the lake was left dry for six weeks and we walked the mud that was left every day to remove, even the smallest poisson chats. By the time we were ready for the water to refill the lake, the lake bed looked like a field and there was definitely no unwanted life left in it.

2012. The change in the quality of the angling was incredible. The big carp were piling on the weight and the scraper fifties were now mid fifties. We also were beginning to see quite a bit of weed growth which needed controlling. No chemicals allowed so hard work was needed.

2013. This was the year that we waited with baited breath to see if the chats would return. NOT ONE was seen but the carp spawned very successfully and we now had several single figure carp fry. We began a process of removing each small carp as it was caught.

The big carp continued to pile on the weight and our first ever sixty was banked. We also started to see small catfish being caught again so the decision was taken to remove every catfish as it was caught.

The weed continued to develop and we set aside time to manually cut it and this would need to be done every year now. However, I think the weed growth is part of the reason that the carp are growing so well because it teems with life.

2014. The processes of removing the catfish and small carp continued but the most impressive thing was that we had still not seen a single poisson chat so maybe, just maybe, we had managed to eradicate them after all. We now had 4 different sixty plus carp with as many again at 58lbs plus so, as we pull into 2015, we are potentially on the verge of several new sixties, new fifties, and maybe, we could soon be on the verge of our first ever seventy.

We have decided to begin cutting some of the weed very early in 2015 and will try to cut and remove as much as we can in order to slow down it's growth. It also seems that the new plants develop from little "seed heads" so we are also going to try removing as much as possible to prevent these heads getting a chance to sprout next year. Only time will tell.

Now, I think the above details are sufficient to illustrate that, in the past, there have been plenty of reasons for anglers to speak "bad words" about Moorlands. There may also be times in the future which don't go quite to plan but please be assured that we will continue to do everything possible to try to rectify those situations as quickly as we can.

I must end by underlining a fact that I am very proud of; Moorland Fisheries has NO POISSON CHATS. In fact we have no nuisance fish at all, other than baby carp and baby catfish which we will continue to remove as they are caught. Be lucky."

In April 2015 we got so close to our first seventy when Cut-Tail was banked at 69lbs 3oz. In fact I saw her later, just as she started spawning, and she looked a fair bit bigger again so she may well have been a seventy. We also saw Clover banked at exactly 60lbs so all was going well. By mid May the carp were well and truly back on the feed and during June there were loads of carp caught. After the end of March we saw very little rain and during July the temperatures hit 43 degrees. I was concerned that, with the carp getting so big and in such large numbers, the oxygen levels could drop to dangerous levels by the end of summer. After some fantastic advice from two friends I researched the "Vertex" aeration systems.

We already have a powerful aeration pump against the dam wall but it was obviously only dealing with a very small part of the lake. There are floating, paddle wheel type aerators available but these are noisy, inefficient and immediately become a new snag and they don't force the oxygen down into the water. The vertex system works from a powerful air pump, sited on the bank and this pumps air through weighted pipes, to special, micro-porous diffuser heads positioned on the lake beds. The diffuser heads then allow thousands of minute bubbles to escape and this creates a column of air rising to the surface from each head. The result of this is that water is also pulled in from the surrounding bottom layers and creates a sort of circular motion with oxygenated water being stirred around at all depths. The survey suggested two diffuser heads positioned on the centre line of the main bowl. However, I decided to try to give an even better spread of oxygen by opting for four heads along the centre line.

These were all installed, with the pipes buried in the lake bed, on 1st August and the system turned on. It is our intention that this will be left running permanently and we shall see what kind of improvement it gives. As at autumn 2015 we have had several anglers suggesting that the fish are fighting much harder than ever before and that they believe it is because of the extra energy from the additional oxygen. Who knows? It is also a fact that, as I write this, the water is extremely clear. That could just be the natural result of less fish movement and colder/denser water but I certainly don't remember being able to see so far into the water during previous autumns.

For interest only, here are the suggested benefits in brief from the manufacturer:-

1. Allow for greater densities of fish or greater growth rates.
2. Eliminate the potential for Spring and autumn turnovers of gasses.
3. Prevent winter kills caused by low oxygen levels and gasses collecting under the ice.
4. Improve overall water quality and clarity.
5. Speed up the rate of organic decomposition.
6. Reduce the amount of phosphorus, which would otherwise be available for plant growth.
7. Thermally and chemically destratify the water.

8. Cause circulation currents that might create favourable conditions for more desirable algae to out-compete blue green algae.
9. Decrease the severity of algae blooms and algae die-offs.
10. Shift the level of carbon dioxide build-ups within the lake bed by venting it into the air, which could limit the amount available for plants.
11. By pulling the oxygenated water across the lake bed it should change the silt from anaerobic to aerobic and this in turn will encourage the bacteria to devour the silt more quickly thereby gradually reducing the depths of silt and hardening the lake bed.

My own feeling is that, if number 11 above does happen, we could see the original lake bed features (old stream bed, dips and troughs) reappear over the next few years.

After a rest, while we took our summer holiday, the end of August saw the lake really turn on and the week of 29th August produced 130 fish. In fact, the carp were moving on to big beds of bait so fast that three anglers pooled their bait and shared one swim because they couldn't afford to put enough bait into three different swims. It produced so many fish that they resorted to fishing "shifts" with one fishing, one baiting and one sleeping.

All three ended with PB's and the total amount of boilies used (by all anglers) added up to over a quarter of a tonne.

One other thing that became apparent was that the pellets, which had been so successful in previous years, completely stopped working. My own thought is that the pellet breaks down so quickly that there isn't the "food item" attraction for big carp that is generated by boilies. On top of that, the carp are so used to seeing our bait that it has become an accepted food source, for which they search. Mid September saw our first proper rain and was a month of seeing numbers of big carp and rising weight gains. The excitement was also rising as we waited, with bated breath for our first seventy.

October brought some superb events which will remain as special memories but it also brought us two events which we will try to forget. I will deal with those first so that we can finish this chapter on a high rather than in a trough.

The first was an angler who landed Cut-Tail at 66+, lifted her out of the lake and then left her laying in the dry cradle while he wandered off up the bank, about 100yds, to find his mate. Fortunately for us Alan was fishing opposite and saw that something was amiss. When he went round and found what had happened he was, understandably, livid and the angler was immediately asked to leave. Unfortunately it resulted in his mate also having to leave but we will never permit this kind of bad practise. That left us praying that Cut-Tail would recover quickly.

The second was an angler who appeared at dinner in an, obviously, inebriated state. In fact he could barely stand, so we asked that he didn't fish until after breakfast the following morning and he agreed to this request. After everyone had returned to their swim Alan went round to check that the angler in question had returned safely to his bivvy. On arriving at the swim Alan found the angler in bed but his rods fishing and one of them with a fish attached and well into the southern arm. The angler was so inebriated he couldn't work out what he was supposed to be doing and wouldn't even get out of bed. In hind sight I think that he probably forgot to wind in before dinner. Anyway, this sort of thing will never be acceptable and he was also told to leave. Incidentally, the carp was a good forty but we unhooked her in the water and let her go. Right, that's the bad bits done, so now to the good stuff.

Simon and Tony are regular customers and Tony often catches numbers of fish, even when the fishing isn't at its best. This weather wasn't ideal and, as a result, the session was a difficult one with the fish playing hard to get and he moved twice in an attempt to find some feeding fish.

On 2nd October 2015 it all came together. Tony was playing, what appeared to be a very good fish which was really staying deep and pulling hard. When it eventually went into the net I immediately recognised her and also recognised that she was a fair bit bigger than when I had last seen her. I kept my mouth shut about which fish it was but Tony's question "It's the Half Lin isn't it?" Gave the game away. Yes it was indeed the Half Lin but what would she weigh?

It was a struggle for both of us to lift the sling up onto the scales and we stood and watched as they settled at 69lbs 12oz - Just four bloody ounces short. LOL.

Still we had all of October still to go and, from the other big fish being caught they were all putting on at least 1lb per week. We waited to see her caught again with the certainty that she would be well into the seventies.

Just after this event it was my Granddaughter, Bethany's 16th birthday, and she wanted to go to the Chinese for a meal. Jan was busy getting everything ready as usual and I was burning some rubbish at the braziers.

Suddenly I heard an ear piercing scream from my wife. It was one of those screams that shakes you and frightens you immediately and it sounded as if it was coming from the lodge.

I took off running and shouted back "where are you?". The reply was another scream "down here". Which spun me round and made me head for the basement. When I got there Jan had slipped and twisted as she entered the basement while only wearing flip-flops rather than shoes.

She was sitting on the floor sobbing in pain with her right leg folded at right angles, where there shouldn't be a joint, half way up her shin.

One of the anglers arrived as well as Sharon and both of them turned a whiter shade of pale. Somehow, my instincts took over and I eased Jan's leg back to roughly the shape it should be, folded it over her other leg to act as a splint and carried her up the slope and into the back of the car.

I sat with her and immobilised her leg as best as possible while Sharon drove us to the hospital whilst phoning for an emergency team to be waiting for us.

I have to say here that the French medical system is superb and Jan had an X-ray (where it was found that she had broken both bones above the ankle and one also below the knee).

She had an immediate emergency operation which lasted several hours and ended with a 9mm x 330mm rod fitted down inside one of her bones with just 3 screws to hold it in place.

In fact, because she had eaten just before the accident, she couldn't have a general anaesthetic and had to endure an epidural which stops the pain but allows you to listen to the noises???

I was absolutely amazed to see that she had no cast, no pot, in fact not even any major bandages. The surgeon had carried out all of the work through four tiny little incisions which just had, what amounted to, large plasters over them as protection.

I was allowed to sleep on a cot in Jan's room (all French hospital patients have individual rooms and not wards) that night, mainly to act as interpreter, but sleep wasn't very easy.

Jan spent another four days in Chalon hospital before being let home, on the condition that she did not try to climb any stairs. Even though our house has a spiral staircase I knew that, to get Jan to sleep in one of our ground-floor bedrooms, was about as likely as knitting fog.

A nurse was booked to visit every morning for the next month (anti co-aggs and blood tests plus clean dressings) and her face was a picture when she arrived on the first morning to find Jan upstairs in bed. Getting her up the spiral staircase had been ..... interesting. Anyway, her lack of mobility curtailed any opportunities for me to fish before the end of the season.

Right, back to the fishing;

Andy has been coming to us regularly for some time and has been desperate to bank his first fifty. Again this session he was soon into the forties and a couple of high forties at that but still not the, longed for fifty. Mid way through the week on 25th October he connected to a very strong carp.

The fish didn't give line easily and made some very strong and long runs. When I arrived in the swim I suggested that it was fighting like a big fish to which Andy replied that it would turn out to be 37lbs.

It fought all the way to the net and, just as it rolled over the net cord I noticed a tell tale scale at the tail root. I suggested that it was probably closer to 67 than 37. Andy's face lit up and his voice croaked "Really?"

In fact it was Cut-Tail at 65 lb 11oz and Andy went on to bank a fifty as well. She may have been down in weight by a few ounces but the fight and her appearance proved that she had survived the earlier idiocy.

The following week was the last one of our season and it included a guest who hadn't fished here for a few years. In the intervening period Lee had fished several of the known, French, big fish waters including Rainbow from where he had caught two scraper sixties and had a PB of 61lbs. I joked about the effort that he must have had to put into fishing Rainbow and how he could still beat his PB this week.

Mid week again saw him playing another big fish. Eventually it went in the net and I was almost disappointed that it wasn't Half Lin. It turned out to be Cut-Tail again but this time, just one week after her last capture, she turned the scales to 67lb 3oz. That is a 1lb 8oz weight increase in just one week. Obviously Lee was delighted with his new PB and we were delighted with her growth again.

That ended our season but I did also get a chance to fish from 1st Pontoon (closest to the house) during our first week off but, while I managed a couple of nice fifties and some forties, none of the big girls graced my net. In fact one of the fifties was a mid fifty but also a new fifty and a look back over the last few weeks revealed that we had seen a large number of new fifties and that some of them were shooting through to mid fifties and overtaking some of the known fish.

We didn't see our seventy BUT! I don't think many would argue with me when I say that there are probably TWO SEVENTIES swimming around in Etang du Roivre right now, as I type this chapter. In fact, one of them could easily be a mid seventy.

On top of that there are several more fish which should add to the known sixties plus more fifties than we can keep track of. My best guess as we

head for 2016 is that we will have 2 seventies, 10 sixties and another 30 fifties. I can't even begin to guess how many forties but, surprisingly, I am looking forward to see how well the very young fish grow. At three years old, some of them, have already made 26lbs plus and I have a theory that they could surprise some people, let me explain my theories; the current biggest fish have done really well, and especially so when you consider that their early years were spent in competition with roach, rudd, tench, bream, thousands of their brothers plus the dreaded millions of poisson chats.

To have made 60/70 in 15 years is very impressive but the "future generation" could eclipse this. The current youngsters have had none of the competition from the other species and we have, and will continue to, removed several of their siblings. This theory of mine revolves around the studies on the growth rates of humans which proves that those born in countries with poor nutrition or even just those born in the poverty years (between the wars) are, generally, much shorter than those born with a good start in life as far as nutritional foods are concerned.

In fact this is shown by the fact that, often, current generations are taller than their parents. Hopefully this will result in some extremely big carp over the course of the next few years.


Whatever happens, it will be exciting watching the fishery continue to develop.

Here's hoping that I am around long enough to see the development and to write some more chapters to this little book of mine.

Be lucky.

Keith

# ANGLERS CHARITY AUCTIONS



## THE ROSE APPEAL

Anglers Charity Auctions ACA



### **ACA Bank Buddy ONLY £27.99**

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

**A GREAT ADDITION TO YOUR KIT !!!!!!!!!!!!!**

#### **PRODUCT FEATURES INCLUDE :**

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

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



ACA MUGS  
£6.99

ACA HARRISON  
CARBON THROWING STICK  
£69.99



[WWW.ACAPRODUCTS.CO.UK](http://WWW.ACAPRODUCTS.CO.UK)

ACA NAVITAS  
BRANDED CAP  
£12.99



ACA POLO  
SHIRT  
£16.99

ACA NAVITAS  
BRANDED HOODY  
£34.99



# Hams Hall Syndicate

## My 1st 24 hour session

by Andrew Taylor

### New Beginnings

67

#### New Beginnings by Andrew Taylor

Just under two weeks ago I had the chance to join Hams Hall syndicate, so i arranged an appointment to go and have a look around and meet the owner. I arrived at the lake and was gob smacked at how beautiful the place looked and how secure it was, it was fantastic. On arrival i was greeted by Dave the owner of this fabulous looking venue. We introduced ourselves and proceeded to walk around the lake. He went through the rules with me and told me he supplies the members with a net, sling, cradle, carp care kit and a bucket... great way to stop diseases,

also less luggage to load the car with. While walking around the lake he told me the stock levels of the lake, which was amazing, and also about the breeding program he has in place, to continue to improve this awesome venue. He showed me around the near 8 acre lake, taking me through each of the named swims and explaining every detail about swim, like gravel bars, silt patches, various features etc. He was fantastic.

I'd instantly fell in love with the place, and wanted to become part of this great place, it was awesome. So we sat down, had a cuppa and a great chat, i signed the paperwork, paid my money, job done.

I arranged to go for my first time for a 24 hour session on Friday 28th

July...

I set my alarm for around 5am, it was a warm morning with a chilly wind, the air pressure had risen from the night before, so i loaded my car and i set off on my way. I arrived at the lake around 5:45am and there was only one paperwork, paid my money, job done.

I arranged to go for my first time for a 24 hour session on Friday 28th July...

I set my alarm for around 5am, it was a warm morning with a chilly wind, the air pressure had risen from the night before, so i loaded my car and i set off on my way. I arrived at the lake around 5:45am and there was only one other person there, i thought happy days... where do i fish?

*TalkingCarp*

Firstly i went to the lock up and collected my kit, and decided to walk around this beautiful place. I fancied various swims but one really took my fancy...

The 'Car Park Swim'. This looked really carpy, it had lilies to my right, two small islands, a weedy patch with an aerator to my left... this looked bang on... i then noticed fish showing under an overhanging tree on the island to my left around 45/50 yards, then there was fish cruising the surface around the island to my right... my mind was made up, this was my swim!

I opted to use my favourite flavour boilie to the island to my left which was Enigma from Attraction Baits, an excellent company I've been a part of since late September 2016, and who i have

recently become Team Leader of.

The Enigma boilie came out in 2016, and it's totally different to all other baits out there as it doesn't hold a very stinky smell but more of a unique aroma which is made up of fish meals and human grade foods, along with high multi vitamin and amino, mineral baits, the best liquid attractors and feed inducers available, this bait really does do all the talking, over the past nine months this bait really has improved my catch rate and fish size, this bait will always be on at least one of my rods no matter where I'm fishing!

So i scattered a handful of Enigma boilies over that spot and scattered Nemesis boilies to the island to my right which is a blackcurrant flavour which will be

available to all once the testing process is finished on this future lake smasher! I then thought, where do i put my third rod?

I grabbed my bait boat and sent it out to find a feature for my third rod...

I came across a hump about three rods length off the left hand island, it was only around 4ft deep and then it dropped to 7/8ft around it... i though perfect that will do me fine, i then scattered Enigma boilies over the hump, especially as this was so close to the overhanging tree which had been baited with Enigma, i thought bigger area to bait instead of individual spots, this hump was around 55/60 yards out... it was now time to set up...



Once set up i opted for an Enigma wafter to sit over a bed of crushed enigma boilies and a handful of pellets, so i loaded my Viper and sent it out to the overhanging tree on the left island. My second rod which was going on top of the hump I'd found around three rods length of the island, i chose a bright orange pop up, again in the Enigma range, i placed some putty from Deception Angling around 2/3 inches down my rig so it would sit just off the bottom nicely, so i resent my Viper out, again over a

bed of crushed Enigma boilies and pellets. I decided to put my third rod on the island to my right where id seen fish cruising the surface, and i chose a Nemesis wafter, once again with a handful of crushed boilies and a handful of pellets, this done the job for me.

It was around 8:30am... and it was now time for a sausage sandwich and a cuppa!

About 11am the bailiff Gary came round for a chat and asked where i had my rods... i told him and he said 'perfect, you're on the

right spots, just leave them until they rip off'. He then gave me two kilo of the feed pellet which the fishery use for the feeding program they have in place... he said use it yourself while fishing or just scatter it when you finish your session... so i split the pellets into three equal lots and drove my bait boat gently over each of my rigs and dropped the pellet, then waited...

It was around 3:30pm... and then came the sound i'd been waiting to hear...

**Bleep... bleep... bleeeeeeeeeeeep!**

My left rod ripped off and i was into my first fish!

I was excited to be into a fish so soon as this is known as a hard water,

i was also very nervous knowing the size of fish in this unbelievable place... it had a good chance of being a fish to remember...

The fish was staying deep and fighting like mad, and it started to head towards the aerator which was surrounded by weed... great! I needed to avoid this.

Then it finally broke the surface on the edge of the weed...

### My legs turned to jelly...

this was a great first fish... and bigger than any carp I'd had before...

As it headed again towards the weed, i knew if it got into the weed then it would be one hell of a fight to get her out...i managed to slip the fish into the net just as it entered the

weed...

I was ecstatic... this was amazing and as i looked in the net and removed the weed, i said to myself... this looks like a new personal best for me... I placed this beautiful mirror carp into my cradle and unhooked her, a few sprays of carp care on the hook mark... it was now time to be placed on the scales...

### Boom!

### 27lb 8oz...

a new personal best, happy days! After nearly 12 months I'd beaten my target, i couldn't believe it! I was over the moon!

### YES!!!

After a few snaps to remember, and upon releasing this beauty back to fight another day, i sent the bait boat back out to the same spot.



My second fish came from the same spot under the overhanging tree around 8:30pm, this being possibly one of the smallest fish in the lake but still a immaculate common carp, this topped the scales weighing dead on 16lb... happy days! A few nice snaps and away she went.

I sent that rod back out and catapulted boilies over each spot ready for the night ahead... I then set my alarm for 5:30am and decided

to hit the sack around 10:30pm...

I was awoken to an early alarm... it was 5am... and the alarm was my Nash SR3... my middle rod was screaming off... i then struck into my third fish, this one being the one on the hump three rods length of the island...

It instantly felt a decent fish, and headed straight towards the weed around the aerator, and there was no stopping this one...

Problem was it wrapped me around the aerator...

There was no way of getting this carp from around the aerator with out getting in and freeing her... waders on and in i went...

I managed to pass my rod through the aerator and free this beauty of a fish...

i then slipped the net under the fish... and it was mine!





This gorgeous mirror topped the scales at 23lb on the nose, happy days. This ended up being my last fish of the session, i was well chuffed, with a total of 7 anglers on the lake during that 24 hours, 4 fish where banked and 3 of them fell to me.

What a session, a new syndicate and a new personal best... awesome! Roll on next time!

All three fish where caught using a 1oz inline dice from Lump Leads, on a tranzlution leader from Deception Angling, and on the Enigma range from the Attraction Baits!

Until next time, be safe, be on the bank!

# Elite Tackle.co.uk

Stand out from the crowd, don't blend into it !!

## Introducing our New Distance sticks.

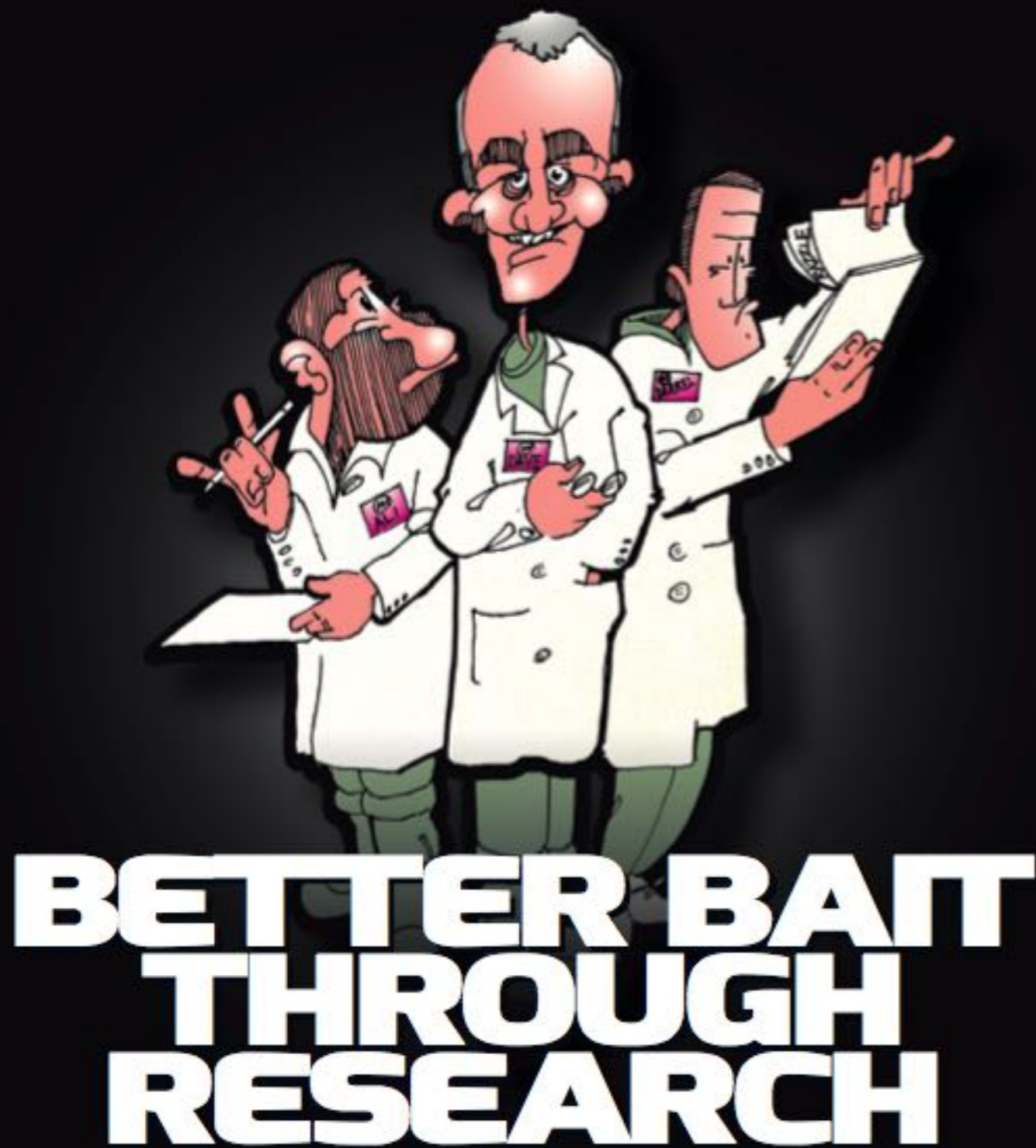
- Made from the 6082 grade solid Aluminium for strength.
- Anodised to ensure durability.
- Grooved to add grip along the stick making it easier to push into the ground.
- Available in 6 Striking colours with a range of Isotope heads to match making them easy to see both day and by night.
- Personalise your Sticks by Laser Etching your Name/Nickname or compoany Logo onto them.



We can Laser Etch your name or Company Logo



Find Us on Facebook @Elitetackle.co.uk or Call us on 07956552529



Mainline Baits continue to prove themselves on the hardest of waters, against the hardest of fish and against other baits.

Why? Arduous testing, constant development, improvement, refining and perfecting have bred baits and additives with incredible pulling power and longevity that have continued to astonish our consultants; the best rods in the business.

So if you're not considering Mainline Baits this season, maybe you should see the men in white coats?

ESSENTIAL  
CELL  
OUT NOW!



[www.mainline-baits.com](http://www.mainline-baits.com)



Your third contestant is now  
revealed !!!!



# STEVEN CORE

PROFILE

AKA	THE PREPARATOR
HEIGHT	6FT 2IN
AGE	17
UKPB	38LB 10OZ
PLACE LAST SERIES	NA

COMING SOON  
CARP WARS 2



# TALKING - REVIEWS

**Ridge Monkey control arm - scott grant**

**Ridge Monkey rm tec line - scott grant**

**Merlin - gary 'milky' lowe**

**The Shure Care Oval Mat - gary 'milky' lowe**

**Finygo App - Brian Dixon**

## Ridgemonkey Line Control Arm.

When I first saw this product I let out a hellulah.

Earlier this year I respooled my reels before a trip to France.

Once there I was boating my rods out which in turn puts twist in the line. After a week of this the line was completely useless and had to be changed again.

I used the Line Control Arm in June over my syndicate

water and can honestly say its such a simple yet very effective product and a must for all bait boat/boat users in general.

You simply fit the Control Arm over the base of the spool with the bail arm open

and the foam lined arm holds the line under just enough tension to come off the spool without the fear of it all birds nesting up on you.

The only gripe for me is that it would be much better if there was a diagram on the packaging showing you exactly how to fit it on your spool. Trivial I know but that's my honest opinion. If you are a bait boat/boat user this is a must and with a RRP £11:99 it wont break the bank and will save you having to respool your line every few months.

A no brainier really.

If you would like more information on all ridgemonkey products visit [www.ridgemonkey.co.uk](http://www.ridgemonkey.co.uk)





### Ridgemonkey RM-Tec Mono Line

Once back from France I took the opportunity to re-spool all my spools with the new RM-Tec line in green (my other set of rods in brown). The 15lb breaking strain is thick compared to other market branded lines at 0.38mm.

But once on the reels there are no gripes from me. On my syndicate I have to use tubing and if like me your eyesight isn't what it used to be threading a 12" length of tubing can be a nightmare.

With the RM-Tec I am now able to thread a metre long piece of tubing on without the aid of a tube threader which to be honest I don't think they do a metre long tube threader and can you imagine the nightmare you would have trying to use it!!

On my first trip out with the new line I caught on all rods and at no point did the line let me down.

The knot strength is superb and the line feels so strong even when I got caught up a tree the line held its own.

I am super impressed with the RM-Tec and if your in the market to re-spool your reels look no further.

RM-Tec comes in 1200m spools in green and brown with breaking strains of 12lb 0.35mm, 15lb 0.38mm and 18lb 0.42mm

The RRP £18:99 per spool.

There is also the RM-Tec Fluro which comes in 1000m spools in 15lb 0.33 and 20lb 0.37mm and RRP £24:99

The only gripe I have is that it would be so much better if there was a diagram on the packet showing anglers how to load the line correctly onto their spool as there seem to be so many different ways.

If you would like more information on all ridgemonkey products visit [www.ridgemonkey.co.uk](http://www.ridgemonkey.co.uk)



## Merlin

### Slow sinking camouflaged braid

Created in 1992 and fine tuned over the years Merlin remains one of the most popular traditional braids for today's specialist.

It continues to deliver the goods on waters both at home and abroad accounting for National and World record fish. A firm favourite with tens of thousands due to its reliability and those seeking natural behaviour of bait for their presentation. High strength Dyneema filaments have been interlaced with High Tenacity Polyester to produce a robust, yet extremely soft supple braid that is ideal for many angling situations and especially when fishing against heavy weed and snags.

Easy to tie and knot with grinders, palomars and 'no knots' this no-frills reliable product is suitable for a wide variety of modern day rigs. Use directly from hook to swivel, or connect it to stiffer material with a three-turn water knot to use as the final third soft section of a combi-rig. For those who have discovered the benefits of using an extra long soft 'hair' for their rigs its smooth supple behaviour in water allows plenty of separation between the hook and bait within the carps mouth and places no constraints on your presentation.

This weighted super braid is perfectly balanced to gently sink giving superb presentation with many modern rigs. Combine its low diameter, excellent knot strength and high abrasion resistance and you can see why it makes it an ideal choice for many on all still waters



TalkingCarp

## The Shure Care Oval Mat

This style of unhooking mat has been a choice preference for many safety conscious anglers in recent years due to padded walls and a rounded edge that ensures your capture remains safe and secure inside the perimeter of the mat.

The walls and base of the Oval Mat are luxuriously padded with 50mm safety foam ensuring utmost protection, but are also detachable with a zip puller, providing the angler with flexibility, if needing to travel light. To reinforce the fish's security, a mesh cover with Velcro fixing points also comes complete with the mat, so the fish can be covered for short periods. while your waiting for that all important camera shot

Additional features include are :

- 4 x metal D pegging points
- Neoprene carry handles
- Side pocket
- Elastic straps for forceps
- Foam padded Neoprene kneeling mat 50x30cm

Each ShureCare™ mat comes with a 3-Year warranty that you can register online and each product sold within the range comes complete with an exclusive certificate representing the model number and the date of your warranty activation

Size 105cm x 55cm x 20cm

rrp £129.99



TalkingCarp

## Talking Carp looks at... The new Finygo app

It's a modern world, most of use apps...but how many use apps for fishing? I must say reaching for my smartphone as I start fishing is probably the last thing I want to do....

However, I was asked to review a new UK based fishing App 'Finygo' (interesting name choice?) and have to say I'm pretty impressed.

Speaking to their CEO, himself a keen all round fisher, he has spent 2 years designing the app to answer just one question 'Given my fishing experience, what is likely to work best today'. Now that is a good question to ask, and it's the question we all ask ourselves when we get to the water.

This is not a new idea though. Most of us have tried using log books, or simple (fallible) memory to try and figure out what will work best and where to fish.

Sometimes we get it right, sometimes not.

We all want to bag up, so how can an app help?

How It works

On the face of it this all boils down to three steps. First add your catches in the app, then let the app analyse the crap out of them for you so you can see the best baits, and tactics on any given day for any given weather. After that you can see your own

progress and achievements. Hopefully something which gets better as you use the app!

### First Add Your Catches

First you get to your fishing spot and tell the app start recording your 'live' trip.

This basically means it will detect your fishing spot as you fish. This saves you having to find locations on maps and faffing about. This also means that you can add your catches after you finish fishing, and not worry about forgetting where you fished.

A cool thing here is also that unlike any other app out there you can add bags of fish. So you can add a whole days catches and the best fish in them in just a few seconds.

It also works without signal which is handy when you want to shut out the world, or you're in the sticks somewhere.



## Second Analyse Your Spots and Trends

After your trip has saved you can view your catches at the venues you fish. They show you a map with your best fishing spots, and you can test how changes in weather, and wind direction effect the fishing spots.

This is great as we all know that the best pegs change over time, and with conditions. Now you can take the guesswork out of it.

Something not to be missed here is also 'Trends' it will show you your best methods, baits, distances, depths by season, or the last few weeks.

We're really starting to take the guesswork out of tactic and peg choices now.

Lastly view your progress and share (boast)

We like nothing better than a good gloat. So you get to use the app to create a Facebook post. People can follow the post into the app to get more information. That's nice, and saves you having to do photos and comments on your catches twice.

What is also good is that it tracks your progress. Lots of us wish we knew how well we do over time. The app tracks it for you, and for each venue. Personally, I can't wait to smash a few past records, and get some 'Cups' in the app. Sad I know

### The verdict

This is a great fishing app, and if you put the effort into using it you're going to improve your fishing that's a fact. You are however going to need a reasonably good phone to run it. We have not covered a whole bunch of other features here which are worthy of mention including a swim mapper, and private groups for sharing tactics with your friends.



The verdict? Definitely worth checking out if you want to take the randomness out of your tactic choices.

**\*\*Editors note.**

Since I first heard about this app I downloaded it and gave it a go myself. As I have started fishing a water that's over 3 hours away from me I need some way of logging all my details, my catches, the weather, moon phases etc and at the same time I am also keeping an eye on catch reports from other anglers on the lake and now, in a very short time, it is painting a very clear picture of hot spots, bigger fish areas, feeding times and zones to avoid if I can. I mean... who wants to drive for 3 hours plus then have to start from scratch. Any way I have of giving myself a clear advantage, and maximising my personal time on the bank can only be a good thing. Right?

The app is free for all to download, on android or apple, and there is also a more in-depth 'pro' version should you want to part with a couple of pounds.

Easy to download? Yes, takes a few seconds (depending on your reception of course)

Easy to use? Definitely... took me a couple of minutes to quickly work my way round it.

Am I using it myself? Absolutely.  
Would I recommend it? Again, absolutely.

<https://bfvz.app.link/cEBnBugz3E> take a look for yourself.

**Brian.**



*TalkingCarp*



# CATCH REPORTS

Featuring -

Northern Banx, Anthony and Lindsay,  
Brooms Cross, Rich Austin, Richie Bullen,  
Sion Jones, Wyreside Lakes

# NB NORTHERN BANX TACKLE

WWW.NORTHERNBANX.CO.UK



HOOKS • RIG ACCESSORIES • SWIVELS  
HOOKLINKS & LEADERS • CLOTHING

QUALITY WITHOUT  
**COMPROMISE**

LOOKING FOR RELIABLE TACKLE WITHOUT THE PRICE TAG? ALL OUR PRODUCTS ARE PUT THROUGH EXTENSIVE TESTING BEFORE RELEASE & NOW BANKS CARP ALL OVER THE UK. CHECK OUT OUR CATCH REPORT GALLERY ONLINE & SEE THE RESULTS FOR YOURSELF!

NB NORTHERN  
BANX TACKLE  
WWW.NORTHERNBANX.CO.UK

Shop online today &  
Get **15% off** with promo code:

**TALKCARP15**

MINIMUM SPEND OF £20  
TERMS & CONDITIONS APPLY

## Catch Report

87



Aaron Cameron - Aaron went to Wyreside for 72hr on Sunny 2 - peg 18 - This was his first time fishing the lake and it was a wet and windy few days with a few sunny spells. He was fishing a gravel bottom 11 wraps out and was using a Size 6 Crank T Offset Hook inside PVA solid bags, over a bed of hybrid boilies mixed with chilli hemp/maize and boilie crumb. He had 4 takes, landing 4 fish. The first being a mirror at 17lb, second being another mirror at 12lb, third fish was by far the best fish a long dark gold common weighing at 25.1lb a NEW PB. And the fourth fish was another dark pristine common at 17lb.

Alex (Skippy) - Alex went to a local water for his first session for 6 weeks. He set up early and was rewarded quickly with a 24.4lb mirror using a Size 6 Crank Offset with a single 18mm Marine Core bottom bait.



Shop online today &  
Get **15% off** with promo code:

**TALKCARP15**

MINIMUM SPEND OF £20  
TERMS & CONDITIONS APPLY

TalkingCarp

NB NORTHERN  
BANX TACKLE  
WWW.NORTHERNBANX.CO.UK



**Billy Egginton** - Billy went to his local club water for a 16hr session and after seeing a couple of fish showing her put his rods out with a Curve Shank Hook on a Combi Rig using Natures Baits Bloodworm X and got him self this stunning fully scaled mirror.

**Chris Jervis** - Chris went to Moss Nook Fisheries around 7pm to do 12hr night session. Soon as he got on the lake I noticed it was really weedy so he had little look around and managed to find few clear sports . He put a few handfuls of chopped Marine Core Boilies on the spots and then left them for few hours while he got set up. He put out his rods around 9pm and was using the Crank T Offset Hook on Ronnie Rig with a Pink Monster Crab Pop Up. With in 20-30min he had his first Carp wasn't that big 8/9lb Common so he put out a bit more bait and left them for the rest of the night around 5:30am his rod went again on the same spot this was a lovely looking Mirror at 17.2oz.



TalkingCarp

TALKCARP15

MINIMUM SPEND OF £20  
TERMS & CONDITIONS APPLY

NB NORTHERN  
BANX TACKLE  
WWW.NORTHERNBANX.CO.UK

**David Hurman** - David went to Cobble Acre Lakes for a 60hr session he fished on Marios lake on a peg called Caspers swim. David managed to catch 5 Carp Biggest being 26.13lb He fished to the

pads on left side of the island his tactics were baiting little and often to tight spots against the pads. The rigs were both standard hair rigs using a Curve Shank Size 6 & The New Wide Gape SPT Size 6 bait was 15mm Mainline Cell and Pop up corn.



**Leon Rohrer** - Leon had a trip down to RH Fisheries where he fished The Avenue. He smashed his PB with this stunning carp called Ellie at 54.8lb using our Size 6 Curve Shank Hooks.

TalkingCarp

TALKCARP15

MINIMUM SPEND OF £20  
TERMS & CONDITIONS APPLY

NB NORTHERN  
BANX TACKLE  
WWW.NORTHERNBANX.CO.UK

Mark Tag Taggart  
- Tag had a 4 days session down at Merrington Fisheries in Shropshire. It was a wet and windy couple of days and He managed to get a couple of catches biggest being 24.8lb using our Size 6 Curve Shank on Multi Rig.



Mark Ward - Mark went down to his local mere for a 12hr session and caught this little common to beat a blank using a size 6 Curve Shank on the popular Ronnie Rig with a white Northern Special from CCMoore

# WYRESIDE LAKES OPEN CARP MATCH 8th-10th SEPTEMBER

In aid of our chosen charities.  
More information is available on  
our website

Book Online  
Now!



Anthony & Lindsay

Anthony Garner had a recent surprise when his girlfriend Lindsay asked to go fishing with him... so a trip to Chester Lakes was booked and off they went. Anthony landed himself a couple of carp up to 12lb but the highlight of the weekend was Lindsay grabbing the rod on a screaming take, hitting and playing her first carp run and landing this lovely 16lb mirror. Well done Lindsay... a great start to a brand new hobby!!

Sion Jones

Sion Jones paid a visit to R.H fisheries Monument 1 recently and had a few out including this lovely 32lb and the other ounces shy of 20lb.

Rich Austin

Just back from a very full on 3 dayer at Farlows where we held a fundraiser for my very good friend and England International Wayne Mansfords mum who is needing urgent treatment not avail on NHS we raised over 50 Grand for her which is seriously going to help and get her some badly needed treatment for her stage 4 Cancer Grrrrrrrr.

I had 3 fish over the event and lost out to first by 5lb lol but that didn't matter this weekend. Two of my fish were Colne Valley Originals of which I'm well chuffed. The theme for weekend was bright orange as Wayne is a proper ginge lol so I only used my bright orange CC Moore pop ups renamed 'Ginger Prince Pop Ups' Hooks for this weekend were J Precision Kranks in size 6 attached to Rigmarole hook links.



# Brooms Cross

## Fishery

Specimen carp and coarse



Dan  
Fletcher with  
Starburst at  
29lb 5oz



Jim Rawding  
with Bri's  
fish at 27lb  
14oz

Gary Reeves  
24lb 8oz  
personal best



Phil Gaskell  
with a 23lb  
14oz



specimen carp and coarse

TalkingCarp

TalkingCarp

# Brooms Cross

# Fishery

Specimen carp and coarse



Si Robinson Powell with a rare  
Upper Alt 20lb commom

Specimen carp and coarse

TalkingCarp



WINTER HITS WITH  
**THE BAG-IT DEAL**  
POST **FREE** DEAL



ALSO  
BOILIES FROM **£7.99** PER 1000  
HOOK BAIT FROM  
**£5.49**  
PLUS MANY MORE  
GREAT DEALS  
VISIT OUR

[SHOP.NATURESBAITS.COM](http://SHOP.NATURESBAITS.COM)



VISIT, [WWW.NATURESBAITS.COM](http://WWW.NATURESBAITS.COM)  
CALL 07990 553083

Richie Bullen

Jimmy, at 28 . 5 lb 14/08/17

My New PB from Brooms Cross fishery, CC Moore Live System, ticking all the boxes. With a single bottom bait also live system, mixed with nut crush and live system bag mix.



Sue at 28lb. 19/07/17  
Managed to catch this big girls on a Northern Banx wide gape T size 6,  
On a standard blow back rig. This very sharp and strong hook did the business as she put up a great fight, all the way into the net.  
I've beat my PB three times in the past 3 weeks.



*TalkingCarp*

NB

Full details on  
Our Website

WYRESIDE LAKES  
**2017 OPEN CARP MATCH**  
ENTER NOW

8th to 10th September 2017 - in aid of our chosen charities. More information is available on the website. Please contact Reception to book.



# Wyreside Lakes Fishery

## \*\*\*\*\*WYRESIDE LAKES MINI CATCH REPORT\*\*\*\*\*

Good afternoon Wyresiders.

The last week has been quiet on the fishing front, however it has definitely picked up on the back end of the week.

The members waters are leading the way with 26 fish out between them. Including four stunners from Joseph Dutchy Holland on Wyre lake (who also lost 3) the top ones being Wyre at 28lb and 26lb.

Wayne Hodge added to his excellent record fishing Day ticket on Bantons with a 22lber and a 16lber.

Bobby did a quick over nighter one day after work this week on Foxs lake and was rewarded with a beautiful 18lb common and while he was there met a new pal - Jamie Hindmarch - who listened and got a few top tips from Bob and had a lovely 20lber



 EVERY SATURDAY AND SUNDAY FROM 29TH  
OF JULY UNTIL THE 29TH OCTOBER 2017.

## Kids Club Fishing at Wyreside Lakes

2 CHILDREN PER 2 HR SESSION ~ £15 FOR 1 CHILD £20 FOR 2 CHILDREN.  
8.30-10.30am / 11am - 1pm / 1.30 -3.30 pm / 5pm - 6pm



- All equipment and bait supplied •
- Ideal first experience of fishing with a qualified coach •
- For ages 6-16 years • Morning & afternoon sessions •

For further details and to book a place contact:

**Sally Hughes** Tel: **01524 792093**

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

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



[facebook.com/wyresidelakes](https://facebook.com/wyresidelakes)



[@wyresidelakes](https://twitter.com/wyresidelakes)



# Talking - Foreign !!!!

*Inside this month -  
Etang St Pierremont -  
France*

*Abbey Lakes - France  
Moorlands Fishery - France*

# Lake For Sale

## Etang St Pierremont

### France



**Asking Price :- £169,000.00 ovno**

Fantastic & rare opportunity to purchase a 2+ acre Carp lake set within 8 acres of land with owners accommodation & separate anglers accommodation with mains electric & water. Set in an area of outstanding natural beauty less than 4 hours drive from Calais in the heart of the Champagne Ardenne region.

The lake is fully stocked with Carp upto early fifties, other fish species include Sturgeon, Rudd, Roach & Pike

Owners Accommodation comes fully furnished & consists of 1 large double bedroom, with faux leather double bed frame with 2 x double matching wardrobes & bedside tables, open plan kitchen/breakfast bar, complete with fridge/freezer, oven, hob, washing machine, dishwasher & lounge complete with wood burner, freeview t.v., 3 seater leather sofa, bathroom with underfloor heating, vanity unit & large corner shower. Outside open veranda overlooking the lake complete with wood burner & rattan double chair, 2 x single chairs with cushions & coffee table.

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

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

**Please call Emma on 07990 581130 for further information**



# Etang St Pierremont

*Our friends over at Etang St Pierremont have informed us that the fishing has been exceptional over the past month with over one hundred fish coming out to over 50lb, with numerous 40+ fish. This truly is a stunning lake located within an area of peace and tranquility.*

*Watch out for next month's review when Talking Carp Magazine visit.*





Special offer for all Talking Carp readers !!!!!

You can now fish this amazing lake at a  
redced

rate of £695 for the following dates.....

7th - 14th October 2017

14th - 21st October 2017

21st - 28th October 2017

saving you £300 off the normal price

*Etang St Pierremont*  
*France*



*Etang St Pierremont*



*Call Emma on*  
*07990581130 for*  
*more information*



**Abbey Lakes monthly report by Steve Waters jr.**

**This year the weed cycle in Heron has come up in full bloom making it slightly trickier to fish then the cooler months. That being said with many swims still fishable, It didn't stop young Dutch angler Frank Oosting smashing his PB with the capture of one of heron's A team, Single scale at a healthy weight of 57 lbs.**

**That week we were also graced with a 55 lb'er alongside a few smaller resident's from Heron. The next week really saw the fish switch on with father and son team Peter and Matt Townsend, where they between them banked over 20 fish including the M at 57lb and the stunning long common at 53 lb 8 oz.**

**Abbey regular and good friend Carl Andrews came over for his regular summer session and is now holder of lake record from heron with The Unknown mirror at 70 lb 9 oz !**

**Fox has seen a lot of anglers over the past few weeks with plenty of carp caught on various methods. Jon Button had a 20 + fish haul which including an epic looking grass carp of 70 lb. With very little weed present in Fox and with the fish being so active, I'm sure it won't be long until its biggest resident HUMPY (last out 79.13 ) decides to show up.**

**Attila and wild boar have fished consistently well over the last few weeks with fish being caught from all areas of both lakes and both producing carp over 50 lb with starburst from wild boar at 53.13 being the biggest.**

**The carp in Kingfisher have been a little elusive what with the catfish being very active at this time of year but they are now starting to show up as the temperatures start to fall and Roy Mortimer managed to wriggle one onto the bank at just over 51 lb.**



**Jon Buttons  
grass carp 70lb**



**Carl Andrews  
with 70lb 9oz  
unknown  
mirror**

# abbeys LAKES

Telephone: +33 344 380 866

Les ETANGS de l'ABBAYE - FRANCE



ABOVE - Roy Mortimer with  
51lb from Kingfisher

RIGHT - Pete Townsend with  
long common at 53lb 8oz



ABOVE - Tom Pardoe  
with a 58lb from Fox



# Moorland Fisheries

## Woolfing Fisheries

### Top Quality French Carp Fishing

#### “FIRST WEEK OF THE SECOND HALF”

I'm pleased to say that the first week back after our summer break hasn't been the total disaster that the incessant hot, dry weather could have caused.

There were more twenties and thirties than it would be reasonable to expect but 3 forties and 3 fifties in these conditions are a fair result. Add to that that five of those six carp were above 46lbs and we can continue to be excited for the following weeks.

That leads me nicely into some detail, albeit a small sample, of the success of the recovery of these fish. I know I keep rabbiting on about the weather but it has always been my belief that some “average” summer weather would produce better conditions for the carp to get back to “feeling good” and thereby in the mood to eat, recover, after spawning and grow back to their pre-spawn weights. This year has been far from average plus we have removed the weed and dyed the water. In the light of all that, here we are with some interesting figures.

Before our break, on 23rd July 2017, Alan caught The Peach at 57lbs 5oz. Back on 30th May 2017 she was reported to us at 58lbs but we didn't see nor check weigh her and the scales that were used didn't offer themselves for an accurate reading. Going another step further back, on 3rd October 2016 she weighed 59lbs 14oz and that was a confirmed and double checked weight. In short, she is already approaching last autumn's best weight with the two most important months growth still to come so I expect her to be well into the sixties by year end.

This week we've also seen two unknown mirrors at 46lbs 9oz and 52lbs 7oz.

Without knowing what they weighed previously I can only say that they should both be fifties, one possibly an upper fifty, by the end of the season.

Now, we've also seen two known fifties and an upper forty that we can trace.

Chunky's Double was banked on 21st August 2017 at 49lbs exactly. Her previous capture was on 4th May 2017 when she was banked, full of spawn, at 50lbs 13oz.

To already be back up to that weight is simply amazing.



# Moorland Fisheries

## Woolfing Lakes

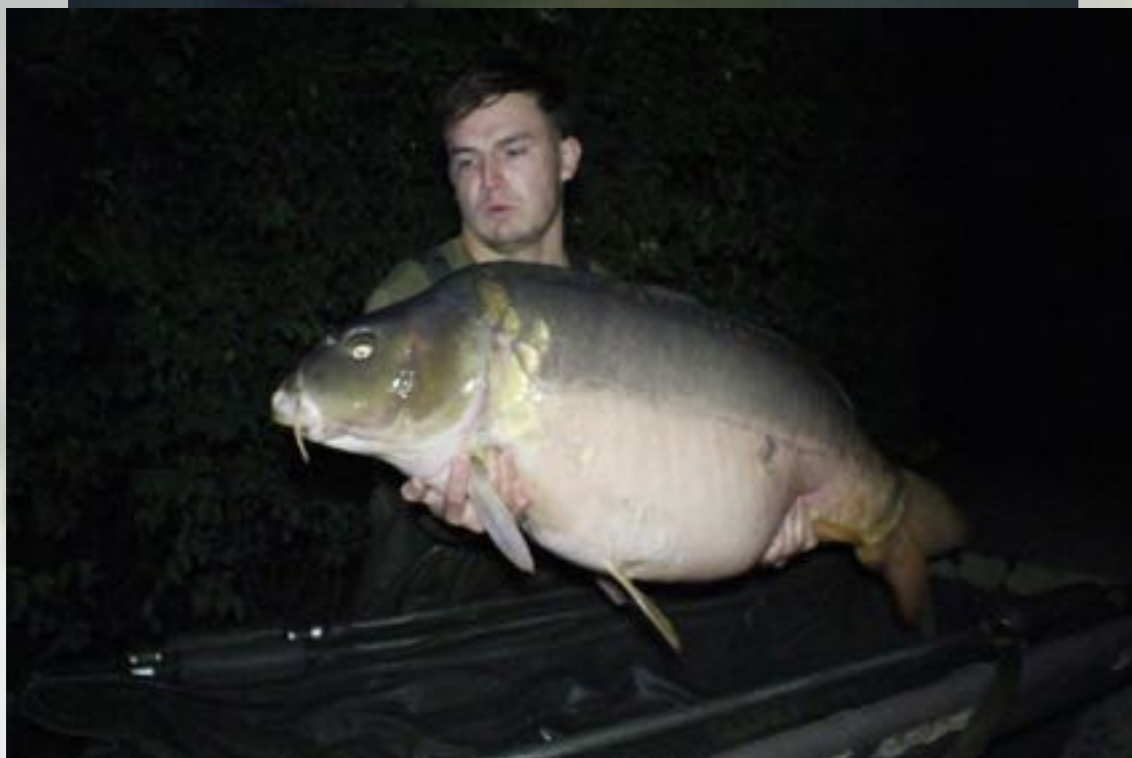
### Top Quality French Carp Fishing



Another capture on 21st August 2017 was Black Scale at 53lbs 8oz. Her best ever weight was 57lbs 3oz on 10th May 2017 when she was just about to spawn. 12 days later she had “shrunk” to 47lbs 8oz so she is another of the fifties which is well on her way back to her best.

We then also saw The Twin on 23rd August 2017 at 54lbs 13oz. Her best weight last year was 54lbs 11oz when she was caught on 27th September 2016 so she has already passed that mark and is close to her 2017 best which was 55lbs 7oz prior to spawning on 10th April.

Taking all of these recovery weights as an “average guide” and putting those against the remaining stock and known big fish would suggest that, given suitable conditions for the rest of this year (please let it rain) we have the potential for some new lake records and some very big hits. Exciting times ahead.



# EBRO

Fishing DREAMS

What's happening?

facebook



# EBRO

*Fishing* DREAMS

What's happening?

facebook





## This months advertisers -

**Pages 62 - 65 - Anglers Charity Auctions**

**Pages 42 & 43 - Castaway PVA**

**Page 73 - Elite Tackle**

**Page 11 - Galaxy Baits**

**Page 36 - Hooked On Baits**

**Page 27 - Kudos**

**Pages 4 & 74- Mainline Baits**

**Pages 78 & 97 - Natures Baits**

**Pages 86 - 90 - Northern Banx**

**Page - 18 - Pallatrax**

**Page - 90, 99 - 102 Wyreside lakes**

Thankyou for reading and your  
continued support

Please send your articles and catch reports by  
the 20th September for next months magazine

[brian.dixon@talkingcarp.co.uk](mailto:brian.dixon@talkingcarp.co.uk)  
[buggy@talkingcarp.co.uk](mailto:buggy@talkingcarp.co.uk)



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

‘The Talking Carp Team’

Brian Dixon  
Mark Faulkner  
Danny Walsh