



# Talking Carp Magazine

ISSUE 18  
August 2017



*Tom Nixon-  
Taylor*

**BUMPER  
Summer  
Special**



**Inside your magazine this month:**

Scott "Geezer" Grant  
Nathan "snowy" sharp  
Simon "pom" pomeroy  
Gary "Milky" Low  
Keith Moors  
Plus Much more.....

**Introducing the all new  
Foreign Adventures  
section**

## This months batting order -

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Kryston Super Nova Braid

### Catch Reports -

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### Foreign Adventures -

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

To another bumper issue of your favourite online carp magazine. This month we have a bumper crop of reading for you with some great articles from our stable of great writers such as Scott Grant, Gary Lowe, Nathan Sharp and many many more.

We have some great reports coming in from overseas too with anglers landing some real lumps from France, and Poland in particular.

We hope you continue to enjoy the magazine and as always feel free to contact us at any time. Email addresses below.

**\*\*Ever fancied writing your own article? Do you have a story you would like to tell? Had an adventure you would like to share with the world? Get in touch with us and we will guide you and get you published in our magazine for all to read. Don't be shy... give us a shout!! Everybody is welcome.**

Have a great month on the bank and keep those fish pics coming.

Team Talking Carp

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*Church Gate Lakes  
by  
Scott Geezer Grant*



## Church Gate Lakes

As far as day ticket lakes go there are plenty dotted all around Essex. I have fished quite a few of them and they all hold good quality fish.

A good mate of mine runs Church Gate Lakes in Battlesbridge, it's a complex with 4 lakes, The Back Lake caters for all anglers with a large head of carp between 2lb-6lb, The Top Lake is stocked with all species with carp to over 30lb, The Middle Lake is a members only lake, stocked with all species including catfish, The Bottom Lake is a smaller lake with 26 pegs again with a stocking of all species including carp to over 30lb.

I arranged to fish a

couple of nights with Dave on the top lake in the hope of catching one of the elusive 30lbbers.

With work being a little manic on the weekends I managed to book 3 days off, and the plan was to arrive on the Monday where hopefully it wouldn't be so busy.

I arrived at the lakes late afternoon and Dave was waiting with a cup of coffee in hand, we had a brief chat then had a walk around the complex.

The swims we were going to be fishing

were pegs 5 and 6, the wind was pumping down to our left into Dave's swim and I must admit it looked bang on.

One of the regulars Lee had just battered the swim I was going into which to be honest wasn't a good thing as I was sure the fish would move further up the lake at some point.

As the evening was upon us it was straight back to the car and time to get the gear to the swim.



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Once I was all set up I asked Dave what his plan of attack was, as he knows the water and what the fish like. He said he was fishing a critically balanced bait with a fleck of red, as he had caught so many fish on it. From what he said I went with a Ronnie rig and 360 rig one of my all-time favourites, hookbait wise was going to be the Nut Job Wafers that had been in my bag for over a year!!!

Once on the rig I tested it in the rig tank that came with my

Ridgemonkey bait bucket. It sat perfectly on the bend of the hook and I was sure this was going to be a deadly approach. As you can use a bait boat I took the opportunity and loaded the boat with a generous amount of

The Blitz and Chili Hemp coupled with Nut Job and Blackcurrant boilies in different sizes.

The left rod was fished tight to the far bank just off a wooden pole, the middle rod was also fished tight to the bank a few feet to the right. Further to the right of that the bank went back into a little divot and this is where the right-hand rod was placed.

With the rods out it was time to get the rest of my gear sorted, house up and a general tidy up as my swim looked like a bomb site.



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Dave had his rods sorted and now the social was on.

IT wasn't long before the right-hand rod was away and a feisty common was netted. The Nut Job Wafers were working, the rod went back out and before I could get the boat back the rod was away again!!! This was mental and if this is anything to go by sooner or later the bigger fish have to turn up.

Through the evening and night, the rods were in constant action and come 02:00 o'clock the final rod

was put up against the bivvy and much needed sleep was had. Come 06:00 o'clock and there were anglers walking past fishing further up the lake, Once woken up I set about getting the kettle on and getting the rods back out to their



desired areas.

I was using the new Ridgemonkey RM-Tec line in 15lb and to be honest I was really impressed with it. Lays nicely on the spool and is super strong. I woke Dave up with a coffee and all his rods were up against his broly, he also had a mad night catching a few of the lakes residents. None of us had banked a 20lber but hopefully it wouldn't be long before we did.

Tuesday was a hot day and even though I was completely knackered there was no way I was going to be able to



have a kip, not with the sun blasting down on us.

With 10 carp already landed plus a few bream and a couple of grass carp, the bait was going down at a rate and so was the lead count.

Throughout the morning we both caught steadily and come the afternoon the

middle rod ripped off and I knew the better fish had turned up, after a few minutes Dave netted a pukka 24lb mirror for me. This was my 16th fish of the trip not including the bream and grassies.

With the camera sorted Dave took some cracking shots then the fish was treated and

returned.

We both reeled in baited the areas up with boilies and went for a walk around the complex. Some of the fish on the members lake were showing signs of spawning which to be honest with the weather as it was it wasn't far away.

I did say to Dave if the fish start to spawn on



I will be reeling in and going home. As fishing for spawning fish just isn't on in my book. We got back to the swims around 16:30 and both set about

getting our rods out. It seemed like they had only been out minutes and the carnage began again. For the rest of the evening and again into

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the night the rods were in constant action. Come Wednesday morning and the fish count was 23 carp shed loads of bream and grass carp. I wound the rods in as I needed to go home and get more bait and leads, so far, I had put in 10 kilos of boilies, 1 x 11lt tub of HOB the Blitz, 1 jar of Chilli/Hemp, I had also lost over 25 leads!!!!

Just after midday I was back at the lake armed to the teeth yet again, I had just put the left-hand rod out and was in the process and doing the middle rod, when the left-hand rod was away, as soon as I lifted the rod I knew it was a better fish and low and behold when I netted a large mirror I knew it was over 20lb. With Dave on hand the fish weighed in at 22lb 10oz and again a pukka looking large framed mirror with lots of room to grow.



Dave chipped in with the biggest fish of the trip so far, which gave him a really good fight a lovely ghostie weighing in at 26lb, well done mate.

He followed this up with a lovely 22lb 8oz mirror shortly after, and we were now hoping the bigger fish had moved down to our end again.

Dave got called away for a bit so I was left to

my own devices. The problem, if you want to call it that was every time I sent the boat out

I was struggling to get it back before the rod was away.



*TalkingCarp*

HOME OF MALAYSI



had a couple of casts but just couldn't get it under the branches over hanging and when I tried again Bang!!!! You've guessed it up the tree I went. I couldn't stop laughing and when Dave came back I told him I had made a device for the birds to abseil from the far bank to my swim. He couldn't stop laughing, then got the boat and went out and untangled me from the branch. What was even more hilarious was later that afternoon Dave done exactly the same thing

and we were both in hysterics!! That evening Dave treated us to a pukka dinner cooked by the master chef himself. With Churchgate being a popular venue, there were anglers coming

and going throughout my stay. It was nice to chat to some of the anglers and some of which have now become good friends, you know who you are as there are too many to list and as you know I'm terrible at remembering names. With a steady influx of fish throughout the night come morning and my eyes looked like piss holes in the snow!!! I was so tired and needed sleep badly.

But be as that may come first light and the rods were all back



on their areas and at 07:00 o'clock whilst I was drinking my 400th cup of coffee the middle rod burst into life, as I lifted the rod the fish felt heavy and just plodded about, I knew this was a much better fish and after only a few minutes the net was slid under another chunky mirror.

Dave was summoned to witness the weighing and do the photos, on the scales she went 27lb my biggest of the trip and carp number 33 for me.

After the fish was returned I started to pack up as my whole body was aching.

Looking back over the session I had over 60



fish if you include the bream and Grass carp, Dave had around the same.





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

All the Best

**Geezer**

That's a lot of fish between 2 anglers over 3 nights, if you want to fish Churchgate Lakes

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**There's No  
Madness in  
the Method  
by Simon  
Pomeroy**

## There's No Madness in the Method

Undervalued,

overlooked, ridiculed, mocked, derided or is it a case of just foolishly ignored? For me it must be the latter when you take an overview of one of the most consistent tactics that so many carp anglers just won't appreciate

### – The Method!

There are some real shockers within modern carp fishing from products here today and then gone tomorrow or flawed tactics that hinder rather than help but as bad as a distinct lack of understanding within certain carping circles of proven tactics they naively fail to appreciate as they continue to follow the

well-trodden path of using the same old, and in many cases ineffective, approaches that have been all too quickly accepted as the best – why?

With no arrogance, I must look at myself as a professional angler: I write features, fish for the cameras and my whole working life revolves around fishing hence the 'professional' tag. Within this life I have been in a position to overview the modern scene and prove that so many successful and historic practices have been pushed to the side. Again, why?

I could, and perhaps should, view with an air of cynicism as the industry now dictates what the carp angler must use, but who are they to be the Prophets of truth? Why is it that so much that is written about or filmed is dismissive of age

old tactics that work whilst factoring on modern trends which are simply based on flawed assumptions? You tell me! After all these years, I look at the modern scene and admit to being both dismayed and sad that years, even centuries, of successful angling practices are now overlooked in favour of current fashions, when in reality they should be at the forefront. Don't get me wrong as I certainly do not proclaim to be the font of all wisdom on carping, but in my defence, I have been somewhat around the 'carping block' which has given me both a unique insight and more than enough evidence to question everything and assume nothing. And without doubt I believe that one of the most successful tactics to be part of the carp angler's armoury is fishing the Method

but so many either won't or don't!

With my professional hat on, my fishing time is very limited and this alone makes me factor on the most consistent of approaches. In the summer when the carp are feeding on Daphnia soup in the upper layers I surface fish (I love fly fishing for carp – another tactic, another story) but outside of that I tend to employ the Method approach when fishing on the deck. Why?

Simply, you cannot beat the amount of fish I've caught on a tactic that is but common sense.

Of course, it is only correct that you question my conclusions, but I write this imploring you to open your eyes to a fantastic tactic which, if employed correctly on the right day, can bag you



a net full of carp and blow more accepted and trendy tactics out of the water.

I suffer the same problem with carp anglers in the UK who just won't accept an approach that they view as something that is employed within the match scene and, therefore, to be treated with disdain – but here lies the first element of evidence. Fishing the Method on many of our commercial match venues is either limited or banned because it catches too many fish and is, therefore, classed as too great an

advantage! A tactic that is so successful but the carp scene, especially some of those who view themselves as at the top of their game, ignores.

Perhaps a damning indictment of my sport and industry, but I find it a crying shame that this efficient and effective tactic isn't given the time of day, especially when other more obscure and unproven approaches saturate the media and, therefore, the sport.

But enough said on the mysteries that shroud that part of the subject

and let's dive into the many benefits that will result in those edges that we need to stack the odds in our favour, whilst in essence we seek to trap a wild animal.

Firstly though, a word of caution: the most consistent mistake is not taking full advantage of the Method mix right at the beginning, i.e. the actual ingredients which make up the core of the base mix. Years ago, I introduced a good friend to the Method and as a class angler he quickly got his head around



the fact that he should at least research and, in doing so, actually fish the tactic. Digressing slightly but it beggars belief the number of anglers who quickly rubbish the tactic but when questioned are found to have never actually fished it! They are that percentage who have made the mistake of falling head first into the trap of believing something with no factual foundation. Back to the story – my friend, to my horror, then produced every bit of old and scabby bait from the back of his car and proceeded to mix this into a mess that smelled the same as it looked – of sick! When I pointed out that he had produced a concoction of untried and unproven slop he quickly retorted that it was all bait, albeit from different manufacturers and in different formats. I

was quick to respond: would you go into your fridge, chuck all the contents into a bucket, mix together and serve as a healthy balanced meal just because it

was food?! The moral behind this tale is to ensure that the mix you use is of only the best ingredients not some cheap bulked out rubbish or a mad



mixture prepared on a whim. Think that every time you use this approach you deposit a couple of ounces into your swim – ensure that it benefits the swim and, therefore, your results and not the opposite. Again, refer to the top match anglers, who now target large carp as the match scene has evolved away from silvers, and who spend time, money and passion to devise blends that work successfully time and time again - so

to do the opposite is somewhat naïve at best. No other tactic will allow you to introduce a lump of dissolving free bait accurately and immediately adjacent to your hook bait time and time again. Though PVA certainly has its place, why take the time, energy and cost of fishing with bags whilst the Method does the same job only far better? Fishing the method is beautifully easy and, therefore, can be successfully employed

by new-comers to the sport through to old-timers like myself. I love the fact that I have taught so many juniors its benefits and have to admit to having had the odd wry smile whilst they haul, but the seniors with all the flash gear blank on the standard tactics they are transfixed by. Though a Method angler of old, in the early days we looked to use the most unobtrusive of coil feeders but over the last two decades the modern Method feeder



now resembles a small spacecraft and is undeniably the most obtrusive piece of terminal tackle on the carp scene! I have a saying, "If I can see it, the carp can sense it", and if that is the case then there was every reason to find an alternative, hence why I use Stonze fishing weights: a genuinely natural weight that's contours and pitted surface permits a mix to adhere firmly to and allows the angler to cast long distances if necessary. Obviously boating out or working at close range works on the same principle and all benefit from the fact that when your mix breaks down all you have is a stone instead of something off the last episode of Star Wars! If I can see it, the carp can sense it now never factors as I no longer worry about that great big lump of plastic

and lead that the industry assures me is safe to use just because it's camouflaged (to the human eye and psyche) and it has miraculously become invisible, Absolute drive! Again, we should learn from the match anglers who have refined and proven that unobtrusive terminal tackle catches more fish as they are less aware and therefore less likely to spook. Using a Stonze as a feeder also dismisses any concerns that I

have in trying to get my hookbait away from the horrible modern feeder. This then allows me to fish with a shorter and more efficient rig, which results in better bite detection as well as great presentation. On the presentation front it also negates any concern for the dreaded tangle that can frustrate us all – simply put: you would have to be very unlucky to tangle. In essence, you now have cast out a researched supplementary bait in which sits your

hookbait. Your rig is well presented and tangle free with a hook link that allows for quick bite detection – all good so far if you have followed the plan and not deviated from the proven path. Last but not least, and one of the main reasons why this tactic can be so devastating, is what I have christened the 'flare' effect. In short you can manipulate your mix to break down at a rate that you, and the conditions on any given day, allow for. Breaking down sends



particles through the levels especially via the undertow attracting both substrate life and your quarry quickly to the area and this in itself can cause that competition feeding that produces those red-letter days we all seek. Gimmick tactic and over-rated? Well, all I can add is that from a personal view point within

fishing, a good angler questions and catches consistently and for me this approach has accounted for thousands of fish in the back of my net over the last two decades. Further evidence would be from my last two carp fishing trips where in the first instance I had fourteen pickups whilst the only other angler on the lake had none (he was on PVA

bags, long Hooklinks etc) and secondly, a recent filming for the Mr. Crabtree Sky Sports programme saw me land a 50lb plus common for the cameras. Try it, watch it break down in the margins and, whatever you do, never dismiss the method approach out of hand for if you do you will miss out BIG TIME!

**Simon.**



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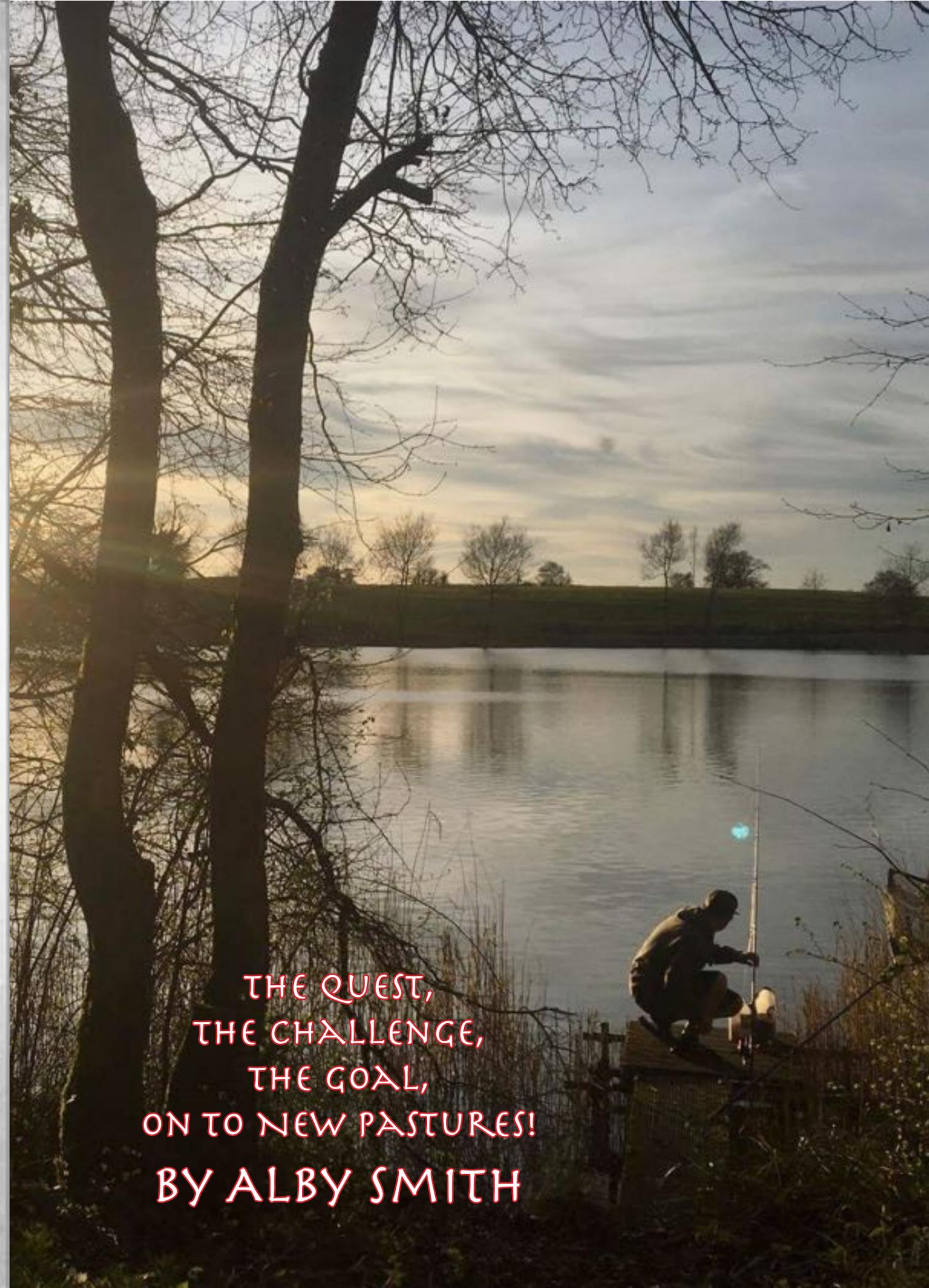


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THE QUEST,  
THE CHALLENGE,  
THE GOAL,  
ON TO NEW PASTURES!  
BY ALBY SMITH

Before we get into how I've been getting on out on the bank I would like to introduce myself.

My name is Alby Smith, better known as Smithy.

I started my journey as a young "know it all" youth, then fishing came along and stopped me in my tracks. Most people question why fishing? For me it was a chance to do something productive, which gives a sense of freedom and the chance to switch of from everything else for a short period. Even when not on the bank my mind was constantly ticking about when I could next go. All I wanted to do was hit the bank and catch carp, using match methods I managed to catch all sizes and species.

Taking from my experience of how much fishing can change someone's path and focus, I grew into a young adult and passed my level 2 coaching license within angling. I then went on to travel all over England helping those learn new skills and tweak other skills. I finally settled into carp fishing and for the past 6 years it has been my passion. I've met many like-minded people within this time. I would like to say thanks to Pat and Phil, all the guys from hindes who I currently test bait for and a special one to Brian Dixon as without him you wouldn't be reading this....

My main focus for a while had been Tockenham Reservoir, I had been fishing this in quite a structural way to get a better understanding of the carps movements and

the variety of things that can change this movement. This water has many features with varied depths waiting to be explored. I began to really understand how the smallest detail can change everything and even the result of a session. I then started to really refine my skills and set myself a goal of a 20lb from this water. After many day and night sessions I surpassed this goal and had over 5 20lb carp. Not only had I done what I set out, along the way my passion for fishing was still growing and although still very much in love with this lake, It was time to move on to a new type of challenge, one which would be tough but very rewarding. I had a look around and fished a couple of day ticket waters, which produced a few fish but the lakes weren't giving



me the buzz and challenges I had faced previously, I still wanted more. I then thought back about when me and my buddy Snapback had gone and visited Rambo. He was fishing a lake in the watermark which belonged to SCAC. So I made my way down to the lake and had a look around, perfect timing was an understatement ,it so happened that there was a competition happening on White Friars which I took part in. The challenges and questions this water

produced was exactly what I had been craving. Thankfully I won a ticket for the SCAC waters, no more searching needed here was my answer. While on the match I had met anglers that fished on SCAC waters, so before I went on any session I had a chance to pick a few brains.

It was now time to do it; I planned my first session on Franklins Lake just to get a bit of knowledge of lake bed features fish routes and swims. I set the lake into three

parts, top, middle and bottom which I believe is manageable with a round 20 acres and depths of up to 8ft, home to carp up to 40lb.

So the next goal.... A 30lb + Carp!

My first session was a short but tough one and I quickly realized the stories of the weed had not been exaggerated at all... It was not a fishless trip though with the capture of one of its green residence.

I then began to drop into different pegs, a couple of hours at a time, with the led, marker and fox swim mapper as tools to get a good understanding of the top end of the lake. One lunchtime mid-week I had 3-4 hours free so I jumped in the car, made

my way down there and got set up in the swim know as iris. I quickly put a rod out using Hinders white plum pop up on a chod rig with 20-30 plum halves and wholes around the hook bait. I was just settling into the first hour when my rod rang off, I instantly felt tense as this would be my first fish from the lake providing it weren't lost. After 5 mins of pure battle smashing into thick weed beds, a peach of a mirror slipped over

the cord and tipped the scales to 16lb,(thanks to Andy C for netting and banging photos). I was ecstatic, whilst not the biggest of fish, it was a sure sign my knowledge and understanding of the lake was growing. With that in mind I left shortly after ready to prepare for the next session. Leading on from the mirror I caught, I had done a few day sessions plus a couple of nights with no success, at this point

there had only been a handful of fish coming out of the lake and spawning was upon us. As time passed waiting for the lake to reopen I had a rethink of tactics and put a bucket of hinders large floaters in with my gear along with a few PVA bags. Time came around for another day session and this time my pal keyboard had joined me, we set about getting the fish feeding on top as I hadn't tried this yet. We were both unfortunate to have

lost 2 a piece due to hook holds and the thick weed. The determination to have one between us stuck so we continued to re feed the spots. I then sat back for a little bit, thinking how I could change things or possibly move to a different peg. Then in plain



eye sight fish could be seen feeding, it was as if a sign to say don't move! I then casted my hook bait right on to feeding fish and it wasn't long before I was in again this time I was completely prepared with the weed in mind. After a brutal couple of minutes another 16lb fish this time being a common had slipped over the cord. Keyboard then went on to bag a lovely 12-13lb common. The past few weeks have been hectic so finally me and the missus managed to get

down the lake. With most of the pegs being taken we set up on the road bank, a peg which I knew very little about. It was a very wet and late start for us and the traps where set no later than 11pm, the kettle went on and we had a brew and a roll each. We got our heads down but not for long, being woke up by

crashing fish around 1am through to around 3pm in close proximity, almost like they were teasing. I was very confident going into sunrise, with little happening I reset the traps and rebaited. It wasn't long before fish started to move in and I was having all manner of liners. It slowed up and then I had a pickup with the sky looking gray and it ready to burst I knew it was going to be a make or break. Every sound of the alarm would make me stop in my tracks but unfortunately it produced to no more



than a few yards being taken which was then dropped. All of a sudden the threatening of the clouds bursting became reality and the wind started to howl down the lake. The rain came down thick and fast, I could barely see the lake through, this continued for 2-3 hours solid with no signs of letting up. It finally settled and with no other indications of fish just short of a 15hr session we decided to leave.

With not many fish being caught across the lake past few weeks I was still happy to of had them feeding confidently. Each time I go there, I learn more and more about the difficulties (and perhaps number of times a session will come to a blank) I face in order to catch my goal. That still doesn't prevent each and every session on this lake being enjoyable and keeping my passion strong.

I will be back down franklins again very soon working away to catch a 30lb+. Stay up to date daily at Smiiithyhecarpangler on FB and for the more in depth story about my next upcoming session/sessions make sure to read issue 19 on which I will be out on the bank plus looking in to the differences of using Stonze in comparison to typical leads.



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f t b i

## Park Life pt 1

Many moons ago I had heard of a complex of waters near Peterborough called Northey Park. Unsure at the time what was lurking in the waters I contacted a friend who I knew was familiar with the place, it soon became apparent that Patsons lake was the one to keep an eye on, with fish to 40lb and a good head of

20lb+ backup fish I needed to keep track of the water for the future. Five years on, the fish were whacking the weight on with a couple of fish around 40lb and the big common known as “Kitch” being bagged by Dave Lane at over 50lb! It was now time to give the owner a bell. The lakes around 10acres with an average depth of 2-3ft with plenty of weed, lilies and

reeds for the fish to hide in, it’s an idyllic looking water. Once I had contacted the owner and legend Elliot Symak I could do no more than sit and wait for the time my name came up, in the preceding year the big girl sadly passed away but this did not put me off the water as it holds so many more cracking fish from fat pig like mirrors to long scaly linears and commons. A



**Park life pt 1**  
**by**  
**Nathan 'Snowy' Sharp**

couple of months after the big girl had gone I was given the news a ticket would be available for the following season... I was buzzing like a toy from Anne Summers!

All winter I was trying to get all the info I could about the lake until in the middle of March I made my way over to the lakes to hand over my ticket fee, what greeted me on a cold windswept afternoon was nothing short of brilliant. As I stood looking down the lake chatting to Elliot I saw four fish show and I was gagging to get started.....sadly I had to wait till June when the close season finished. The next couple of months seemed to drag!

Unfortunately, due to work commitments I was unable to fish the opening week which was gutting but I knew

I would be over the second week in June. When the time came I raced over (at a law-abiding speed) to the lake, when I arrived I could see there was three people on, all up one end of the lake. After a walk about I spotted a few fish on the windward end of the lake in a swim called "the pier", one of these fish was one of the real characters of the lake known as "boycies". I managed to get three rigs on what I thought was the money, but sadly by morning all I had managed was a big rudd and a decent sleep, a move had to be done. After another walk about I had found another group of fish just a little up the lake in the "causeway" swim, sadly this never really came to anything and I spent the following night watching the water but not seeing anything.

The session was a blank but I had learnt a fair amount about the water and had done some leading around in a few swims. Two weeks passed and with it being the end of June I didn't feel like I had been able to give the lake enough time in the opening month, I was determined to find where the fish were and where they were willing to feed. After walking about for a fair while I was able to find a good percentage of the lakes stock and had even noticed a distinctive patrol route they were taking from a shallow bar into a weed bed before disappearing into its thick strands. I felt I had found the spot to concentrate on so with my gear in the swim and no one around I decided to jump into the boat to have a scout around and look for suitable spot to present my rigs.



I soon found one very small hole in amongst the weed big enough for one rod and a much bigger and deeper spot to present my other two rods, the bigger spot was given a good dose of Nashys Scopex Squid 15millers and a few hands full of tigers. Once back on shore it was a simple task of clipping the rods up to the spots and flicking

a baited rig out. It was now quite late and I felt knackered, I was soon knocking out the zeds until an almighty screech from the siren had me running to the rods. The next few minutes were a blur until.... Pop...the line fell slack and the hook had pulled, I was gutted but knew I had a score to settle, with a slight tweak to the rigs I

soon had the rod back out and ready to rock. By morning nothing more had happened but I had noticed the bird life were very cautious when around my bigger spot, the answer to the reason came when at 10:30am the same rod rattled off, from the off this fish felt a lot more powerful with big charges toward the weed. I had to give it some muscle to bully it out, several times I had to repeat this procedure until the fish appeared on the surface, she looked a chunk and a cracking scaly one at that, over the cord she went. I could breathe a sigh of relief. Once on the mat I could see she was an old cracker, which we were able to recognise it as a fish with a brilliant name "tea and biscuits" or T&B for short! Although well spawned out she still went 29lb and I was again buzzing!

The rest of the day passed quietly but once the rods were out before dark I sat back confident of another chance. This chance came at just after midnight when my middle rod ripped off one I had picked up the rod there was nothing else I could do but hold on, eventually it has wiped one of my other rods out and everything had come to a stop with the fish weeded. Life jacket on I was soon doing

my best uncle Albert impression and trying not to sink, when I arrived over the fish I soon had it moving and after another five minutes of toing and froing I soon had a long lean power machine of a catfish in my net! People had thought there were none left but I'd just picked one up on a double tigernut hook bait! It had trashed my rig, line and potentially the spot, but i was determined to get a

rod back out there, once sorted i hit the sack with a little prayer to the carp gods for another chance. At 7:30am the carp gods must have read my message as the same rod as what produced T&B ripped off, once I had picked up the rod I was surprised that the fish let me lead it to the net with no hassle. Once in the net I was thrilled to see a cracking common which I later was told was called the



TalkingCarp



“Shrivelled right pec common”, she went 24lb 10oz and the session had ended on a high, I was two sessions in and was loving the place,

I couldn't wait to get back, this wouldn't be for another fortnight but I will be ready for more.

Keep praying to them carp gods.

*Snowy.*

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# Moving On

## by Gary Milky

### Lowe

After enjoying a fantastic couple of months on a couple of syndicates this year I was really looking forward to fishing a lake not far from work so I could do quite a few overnights as well as a session now and again. I knew it was not going to be easy as a few fish a year was good. I knew I had to be realistic and although the ticket was a very reasonable priced and not many members I knew most of the time I would be on my own, and with all the mid-week bait up trips that I would be able to do I knew I would soon have the fish on the bait. I was using a bait I had confidence in, and that was Mainline Cell which I had done so well on. The lake in question is a large 55-acre pit and accessible on a cheap club ticket. Although it's a tricky lake the

stock it contains is quite special with fish knocking on the door of 40lbs! I wondered why I had waited so long to acquire a ticket? I purchased my ticket in February and after changing some of the kit over to suit long range fishing and topping up the freezer with a few bags of cell I was keen as mustard to get down and start trying to figure things out. It was all a bit of a struggle to begin with as I had no info on the lake and had not seen any one on the first 3 trips there! I was regularly seeing fish though and I was learning with each trip as well as improving with distance and accuracy. My first bite from the lake came on my 3rd trip. I was fishing single hook baits on chod rigs towards an out of bounds area at 145 yards, this was still nowhere near where I

had seen the fish but that was as far as I could reach, and as I was watching the water at first light my right-hand rod absolutely melted off! I jumped out of the bag and was at the rod within a second but unfortunately the line had fallen slack and I had been cut off. I was gutted, but you just have to get on with it as it happens when fishing gravel pits with savage bars in it I had a couple more blank two-night trips in the week after work after that session but the week after I had a 4-night trip planned I arrived to a quiet lake on Wednesday morning. I had a good look around and had seen several good fish show at extreme range right in the middle of the lake and fortunately for me, the peg where I had seen the fish was free so the tackle was swiftly loaded up on the barrow and of I

went on the long walk to the swim. Once in the swim and knowing I had plenty of time ahead of me I spent the next couple of hours doing nothing all I did was drink tea and watched the water. I wanted to try and work out the best area to position my rigs from what I was seeing rather than rush into it and sure enough there was several shows over the area I needed to be in. I had a good lead around and found a nice smooth hard silty area at 140 yards and placed three rods bang on the money before depositing a bucket of bait over the top. Then I needed a brew as that was hard work at that distance After sorting the gear out and getting my house up it was time to sit down and chill for the evening. Around 6am the following morning I had a tench of around

6lb on the middle rod that also managed to wipe out my right-hand rod which I was not happy about as it was bite time and the wind had now strengthened blowing straight at me meaning I would struggle to get the rigs back out without making loads of disturbance from several casts. I decided to wait until later in the afternoon as the wind was due to change and blow straight off my back, which it did around 12 I had everything ready to go and re-did all three rods whilst I had the chance. Everything went well and I was really confident that all three were on the money and all that was left to do was top up the area with another 5kg. The wind though had again swung and I now couldn't hit the clip with the Spomb, so I decided to wait until later that evening

to see if the wind died off as I didn't want to spread bait all over the place and probably ruin my chances. The wind finally dropped around 7pm and I baited for an hour to the big bucket of mainline response pellet, tigers and with a good helping of Cell over the top of the rigs and was well and truly shattered afterwards! I popped the kettle on and before it had boiled I had a drop back on my left-hand rod. Presuming a bream was the culprit I fully tightened the clutch and wound down rod was nearly dragged out of my hand! I quickly knocked the backwind on realising this was no bream or tench and a slow steady fight ensued but before long the fish was within 20 yards of the bank. It was at this point it decided to pick up my middle rod in the process. I eventually

managed to bundle a common into the net and a feeling of sheer elation swept across my body as I had finally caught my first fish from the tricky big pit! As the fish had only recently spawned and temperatures were very warm I set up the self takes and we rattled off a few shots and released Common back to its home then cast the rod back on the spot ready for the night. I then retired back to bed. I was made up with the capture and felt like another fish was on the

cards but despite them showing most of the night on me nothing else happened for the rest of the trip and I packed up for home Saturday lunchtime pleased to be off the mark. The next few trips were again fish less, but I was on fish every time they seem to feed on my bait the day after I had left. I had also had several trips where they seem to turn up on me but soon move to the other end of the lake. After speaking with some friends that had

previously done well on the lake they both said it was because I was using a helicopter arrangement and I should try lead clips. They both thought that despite hitting the clip etc. when fishing at this range the Heli set up was tangled 90% of the time therefore rendering my rigs useless. I trusted their opinion as they had both started off the same way fishing helicopter rigs and being done time and time again before switching to lead clips and experiencing



almost instant results. That week at home I spent a lot of time in the man cave tying leaders and rigs ready for my two nights after work on Thursday and felt confident if I could get on them again I may be able to swing the fortune a little more in my favour with rigs that would hopefully be presented a lot better! I arrived on Thursday after work and the lake was fairly busy with a couple of people in each of the bays and one other person fishing the main expanse of water. I had a good look around and again saw a few fish in the middle so I set up in a swim commanding that water, which also had a nice wind blowing off my shoulder to aid with casting. As I hadn't seen loads I baited with around 5kg of Cell and a mixture of response pellet, tigers and corn. The

spot I was fishing was smooth silt but around that area which was the size of a dinner table there was think weed I decided to fish all three rods on bottom baits with size eight Nash fang twister with about six inches of kryston super nova. The first was a blank but during the morning I saw a lot of shows in the middle there was a lot of fish out there and some were very big too! After a few hours of watching them I decided to rebait all the rods and bait extremely heavily whilst the wind was assisting me. I must have put at least 10 kilo over all three rods as I think they had cleared me out. The wind was due to change later that evening which would coincide with when most other anglers would be turning up for the weekend and making their own disturbance with leads

and Spombs whilst my area would be quiet. Shortly after I finished putting my bait out with a spomb a friend turned up for a social and set up in the swim next door. We sat chatting whilst drinking a few cold beers and putting the world to rights, and while doing this we were watching the fish do their thing out over our rods, so we were really confident of a take at some stage. All of a sudden, my left-hand rod went in to meltdown. The take was so fast it had lifted the rod from the alarm which had not beeped once! Once I lifted the rod I knew this was a powerful fish as it proceeded to strip a further 60 yards of line from a tight clutch... but gradually each time it ran I managed to stop it and start to gain some line back. The fish was soon in the deep left-hand

margin, but it wasn't beaten yet and went over my other two rods and down the right-hand margin. Luckily it didn't pick up my other rods and Steve had slipped into his waders and joined me ready with the net. Another few minutes of being beaten up followed before eventually Steve netted it and was a good mirror.

I could see I had a very special carp laying in the bottom of my

net! Steve stayed in the water with it and I went to sort everything out camera, mat, etc. We doubled up the unhooking mats just to be on the safe side and had plenty of water to hand and between us we hoisted the fish ashore. On the scales she went 35lb 6oz... I was well happy with that.!!!

Steve got some great photos after a few minutes she was plodding off back into

the pit having made me a very happy angler. Needless to say, a fair few beverages were drunk that night and I packed up the following morning one happy chap and couldn't wait to get back down the lake to try and catch some of these great carp that are in there.

Until next time....

**Milky**



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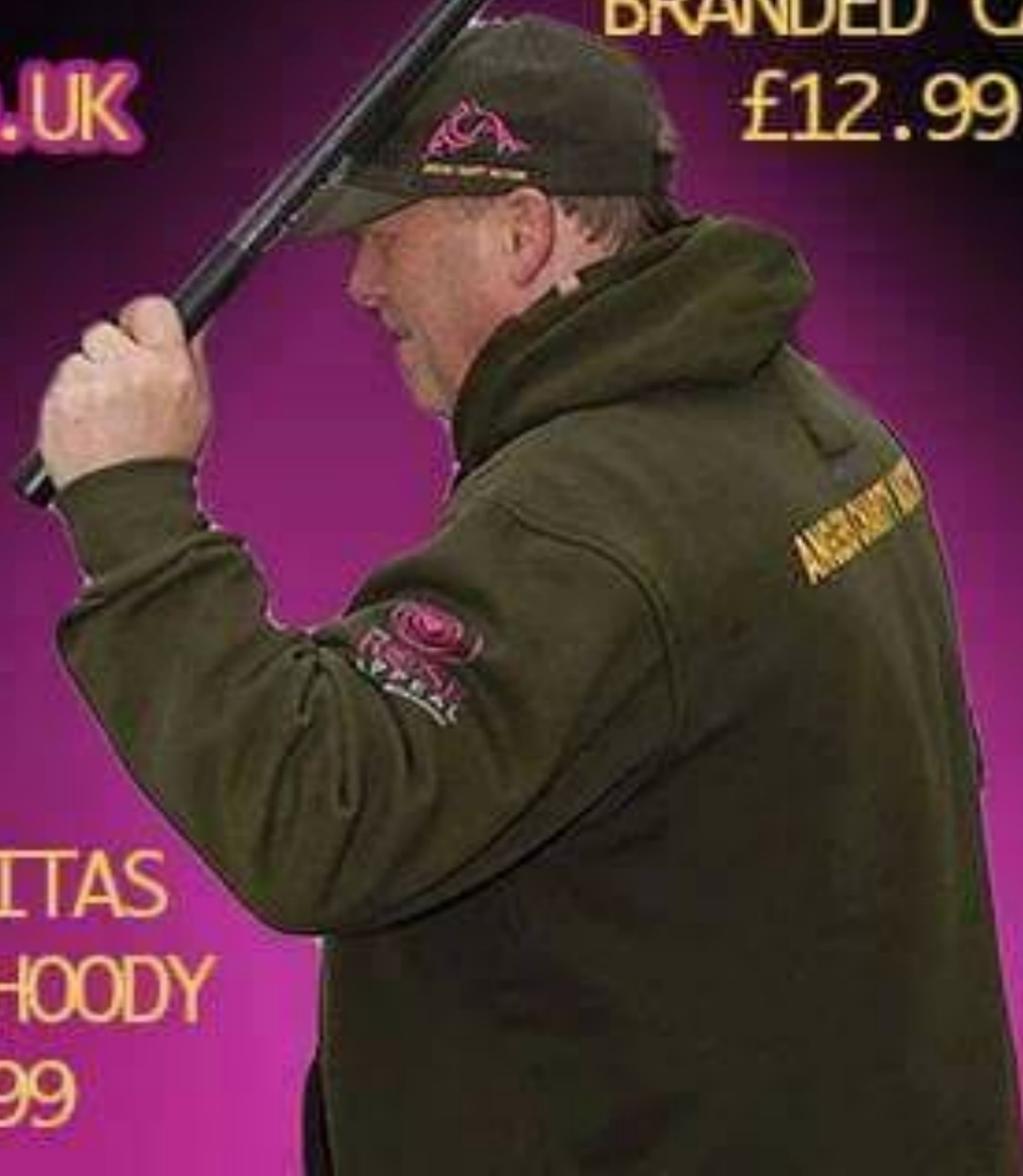
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After what can only be described as a 'set back' on the Syndicate Water due to Spawning, we did get a day on the new Club Water and had a couple of low doubles but spent most our time, not concentrating on the fishing but discussing the up and coming French Public Water trip that was only a few weeks away. The guy that had put us on to the water in France and who would be meeting us over there was Denis Ryan, who fishes more in France than he does in the UK getting in a total of nine trips in 2016 alone.

Denis has been going to France for over thirty years and has never fished a 'Commercial' Fishery. His knowledge of French waters is huge and he has fished most of the regions in France. He has fished all the big 'well known' lakes such as Lac Saint Cassien, Lac de Pareloup, Lac du Der-Chantecoq, Lac d'Orient to name only a few along with numerous smaller less known waters, including some completely unknown waters (outside of France anyway) and he

has also caught Carp from the Rivers of Loire, Seine and Yonne. In August this year, he is also Fishing the World Carp Masters being held on Lac du Der and he is partnered with a guy called Andy Grover and they are both being sponsored by Gav at Beechwood Baits Ltd. ([www.beechwoodbaits.com](http://www.beechwoodbaits.com)), which was the company that used to sponsor me until I took my enforced break from the sport.

There are about 17 English pairs teams entered out of the 68 Team Spots and they are up against Teams from Poland, South Africa, Croatia (one to watch), Netherlands, France, Czech Republic, Italy, Germany, Greece and Belgium. You can follow the progress of this competition on their website, [www.worldcarpmasters.com](http://www.worldcarpmasters.com). Not all teams are sponsored but some are and they are sponsored by companies such as, Shimano (Netherlands Team), Duster Baits (England Team), LCA Tackle (French Team),

Spomb (His team), Prologic (Croatia), Carp Stuff (Netherlands), Carp'R'Us and Trakker (Czech Republic Team), Sellfish (Czech Republic Team), R.A.D. Angling Limited (England Team), Sticky Baits are entering their own Team and Pro Line Carp Products are sponsoring a Belgian Team. The reason I mention the Belgium Team last is that I have a story to tell about some of the International Team, who will be fishing the WCM as I mis-fortune on this French trip gave me the good fortune to meet and get fishing instruction off some of the guys as me and my Dad ended up on French ran Commercial Fishery that they had booked out for a week to run their own WCM Qualifier...but that, as they say, is another story I have to tell.

Oh, yes, anyone looking for a partner for the 2018 WCM, I am well and truly up for it so give me a call....!!! This years tournament starts on the 24th August with fishing starting at 18:00 on the 27th August and ending 08:00 on the 1st

## The Long Awaited and Overdue Return To The Bank – Part 2 by Ethan

September. Good Luck to Denis and Andy and Beechwood Baits. If we get chance, me and my Dad may travel over for a couple of days to see some of the guys and visit the 'Event City' as there is loads going on before the fishing starts...maybe Brian from Talking Carp would like to sponsor me as the 'Official Talking Carp Press Reporter'..??

Anyway, Denis had joined us at the Club Water to finalise the French trip details as, although my Dad has fished Public Waters in the past and we went to a commercial fishery for my first trip last year, he had not been to the venue we were planning on and we would be arriving two days before Denis.

Just to recap from Part 1, the water we planned to fish was about 60 acres and quite weedy but with some good clear spots and fortunately, Denis had fished this water before on two occasions so we did have a little bit of insight to the water.

This was going to be a real test for me on my first

ever Public Water and I was up for it..!! We were travelling from the Midlands down to Dover to travel on a DFDS Ferry at 23:59 that would get us to Dunkirk at 02:59 (French Time) on the Wednesday Morning of the 31st May. From there we had a four hour drive, well my Dad did, to our venue. Now, I'm not being difficult but I will not be naming the venue as this is not a common knowledge water to anyone other than French Anglers. To our knowledge, Denis was the first non-French Angler on it last year and we will be the second (and third). We know this as Denis has spoken to several French Anglers on the water and also the owner of the local Café which is close by and they have not seen anyone other than the French fish it.

The total journey was about 8 hours driving and about 450 miles and we expected to be at the Lake at around 07:00. In total we would be doing about a 900 mile round trip, which was not a concern for my Dad as he says the roads

in France are easy to drive on with little in the way of hold-ups, especially in the early hours.

Now you may know that not all French Public Waters can be 'Night Fished' and some even have restrictions of which Banks can be fished at night, but fortunately for us, we were already armed with this knowledge and we knew that on the Wednesday and Thursday nights, we could not fish but could 'Bivvy' at the Lake. We could day fish those days and then night fish from the Friday to the Monday, which was not a problem and we had booked our Ferry back for the Monday evening.

If you are going to fish a Public Water in France, you need to check first about the access and fishing rights and remember that not all waters allow night fishing and they may also not allow 'camping', which means you cannot stay in your bivvy or anything else at the water side if you are not 'fishing' overnight. The French authorities are really strict about this and even though you may



not have a rod in the water, you cannot stay in your bivvy as they class this as camping.

The you also need to get the right Licence/Permit as France has numerous 'Regions' and they do not offer a single permit to cover 'all' regions. You will need a Carte De Peche, which is a French Fishing Licence and you can buy these from lots of places in France in virtually all Towns and Villages from places like Tackle Shops,

Newsagents (Maison de Presse), Bars.

There is a website I found called, 'Public Fishing France' ([www.publicfishingfrance.com](http://www.publicfishingfrance.com)) and this has some good information about Public waters and the regions they are in, which you will need to know so that you get the correct permit etc. They cover all the 'Major' Lakes and rivers and Sea Fishing too and not just for Carp as they cover places for Trout, Salmon, Pike,

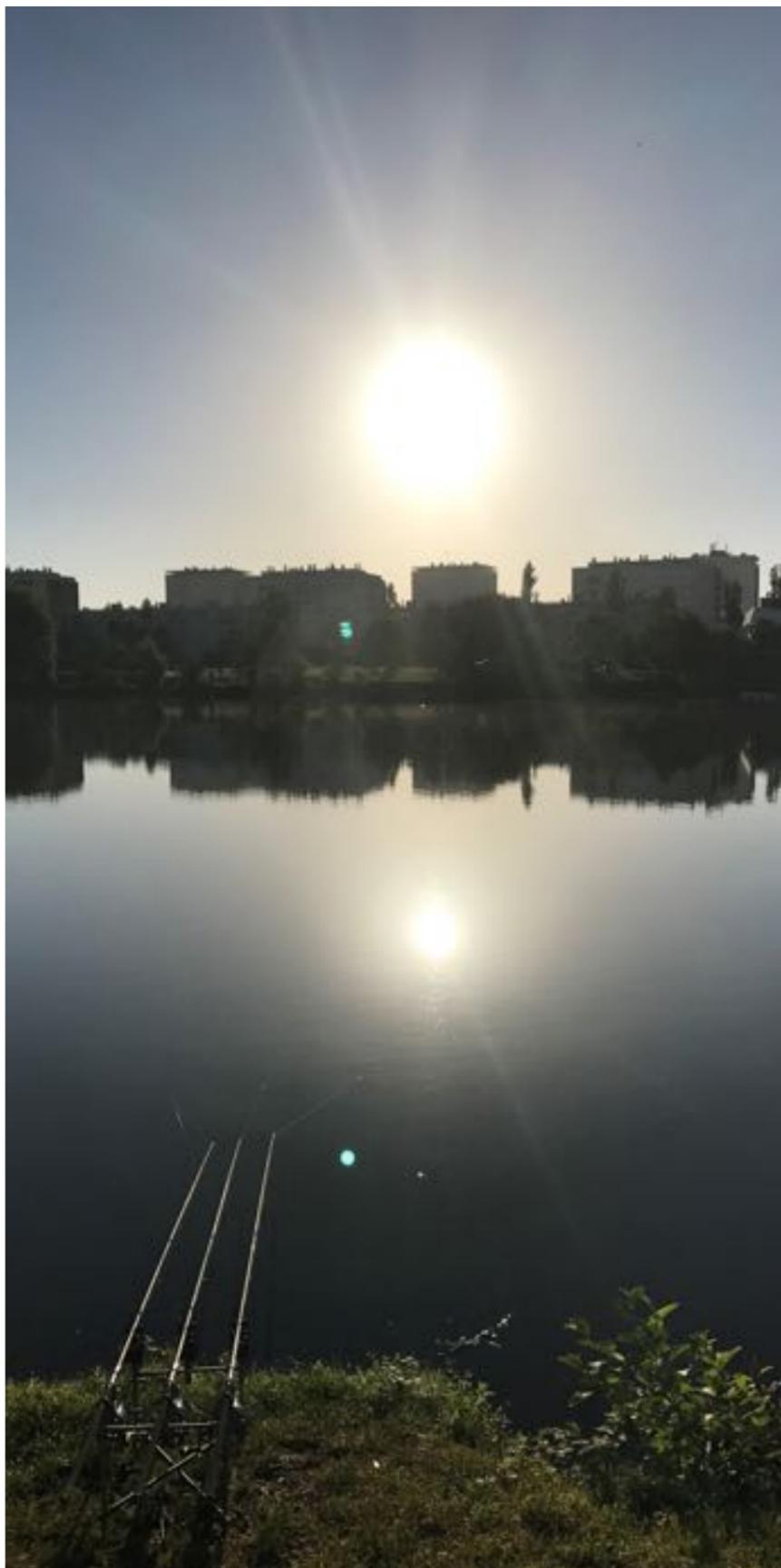
Bream, Bass (which I am going to have a go for next time) Perch, Tench, Roach and other Course Fishing species.

You need to keep in mind that over in France, if you are caught with no Permit, or even the wrong permit, you will have all your gear taken away and be in serious trouble in terms of paying a fine to get the gear back. The Police in France do the checks and do regular patrols of the waters. They will either be from the 'Police Nationale' or the 'Gendarmerie Nationale' and both are armed to the teeth and most do not, or will not speak English to you. You can find more about this at Fédération Nationale de la Pêche via [www.cartedepeche.fr](http://www.cartedepeche.fr) You can apply and pay for your Permit online and they offer a 'Holiday' permit which you can select just to cover the duration of your trip. We have full Annual permits for two regions as we knew we would be doing a few trips this year. They actually offer about six different types of Permits including under 12's, Child/Teenager, Women's

Taster, Holiday, Day and Full Adult Annual and on most waters, you can fish up to 4 rods too. Once you have the correct Licence, Public Waters are 'FREE' to fish.

Remember, you only need this if you are fishing a 'Public' water, you do not need it for a 'Private' water, which includes the Commercial Waters that many anglers fish every year, in fact, some of the Commercial waters in France are more pressured than UK waters and more and more of them that used to be known as 'Runs waters' are getting harder to fish.

The other thing to consider, is your vehicle. Again, not all waters have access for vehicles so you have to find somewhere safe to park but this could be some distance from where you are fishing and obviously, you do not want to leave any gear in the vehicle at all. To drive in France, you need to have some headlight stickers that alter the beam of the headlights and you must have some other equipment with you in the



car at all times, including, High Vis Vest (one per passenger) and these need to be immediately accessible, Warning Triangle, Spare Bulb Kit, and a Breathalyser Kit with two disposable testing units. Visit the [www.rac.co.uk](http://www.rac.co.uk) for further information. You need this no matter what water you are fishing if you are driving in France and make sure you have the correct insurance and breakdown cover. Fortunately, I do not have to worry about any of this..!!!

Another thing you need to consider is there are generally, no toilet facilities at the lakes and certainly no showers, shelters, electric or food and drink service. "Drive and Survive" is something I see advertised at commercial venues in France but they still offer toilet and shower facilities, electric and a resident owner or bailiff on hand for advice and information but Public Water Carp Fishing is the true meaning of 'Drive and Survive'. You have to have everything with you and because you are in a place that can be

accessed by the general public, you cannot leave your gear and go to the shops or nip to the freezer in the cabin for more bait or food etc. It is for this reason, it is not a good idea to go alone unless it is only for a couple of days. It is not really a good thing for just me and my dad to go without another adult with us as he would not leave me in a public area with thousands of pounds worth of gear as I am only 14 and he cannot take me with him if he needs to go to the shop etc. as there would be no one with the gear at all. All these things need to be considered before you head to a Public Water.

This trip would be no problem though as we would have Denis join us on the Friday morning and my Dads French mate, Laurent, whom he met eleven years ago whilst fishing in France was also coming to fish with us all for the weekend. You cannot under estimate the value of having a French carp Angler with you on a French trip...he also knows some great waters..!!!

Once you are at a Public Water, apart from the planning for the trip and survival during the trip, fishing it is no different from a fishing a new venue in the UK or anywhere else. The French Carp don't know you are not French and are happy to take a bait in the right conditions. The biggest issue, is trying to find out what 'size' the fish go to. My French PB currently is only 22lb so providing there are a few upper 20's I would be happy but to be honest, a lot of the public waters contain lots of unknown fish and that is the appeal to both my Dad and Denis. We were lucky that last year, Denis had a 52lb out of this water along with 2 over 40lb and 5 over 30lb plus a couple of 20's and that was just in a four-day trip. My target was to beat my PB and 'Name' the fish...! We also knew that the water was weedy and that it did not have too many Cray Fish or the dreaded Poisson Chat. Everyone knows what a Cray fish is but for those that don't know what a

Poisson Chat is, they are a small Cat Fish that can grow up to about 40cm but due it not having many natural enemies in the water, it can seriously damage fish stocks and will definitely ruin your baited area...!! One good tip I was told was that they love Fish and Fish Meal, so avoid using them in boilies at all costs, including any pellets that contain Fish Meal too. That is why, when in France, we use a sweeter boilie and certainly nothing that smells 'fishy' and we use at least a 22mm boilie hook bait that is 'rock hard'. Some of the guys my Dad has fished with on waters where these things are a real pain, use a snowman setup with two 25mm boilies...! We also carry the Fox Armour Mesh in the full range of size and thickness just in case. Poisson Chat are not keen on Tiger Nuts or Particles either and seeing how Carp are and that on Public Waters there are no bait restrictions, you can get creative with your approach to baiting and baiting up. There is nothing worse that reeling-in to find you

have no bait on the hair. If the Crays are having the hair away, again use a larger or multiple baits/boilie to cover the hair. I am sure that there are other solutions to these problems but they have worked for people I know, so thought I would share them. Back to our trip and we set off for Dover with our plan of action for the first few days after loading the car in such a way as to make it easy to get to the gear when we arrived as this particular lake had full vehicle access and we could even have the car next to us whilst fishing, which was a massive bonus and meant we did not need a barrow and could take 'extra' gear for comfort in terms of

cooking etc. that we would be at the lake on our own, which was to arrive at the lake about 7ish in the morning, have a quick look at a few potential spots to fish from as there are not 'swims' or 'Postes' as the French call them, like we would have here in the UK or that you get on a commercial fishery over in France, so you have to adapt to the situation. We would then drive to the supermarket that was 5 minutes away in the local town, stock up on essential food items, including the (according to my dad) Best Biscuits in the World. These are the LU Brand "Petit Beurre", which he absolutely loves and makes sure he brings several packets back



with him..he even gets his mate in France to send them over as he cannot find them in a UK shop...!!

Once we had some supplies, to see us through until Friday, we would go back to the Lake and start setting up in our chosen 'Postes'.

The journey was trouble free and we arrived at exactly 07:03 to clear blue sky and a temperature of 23 degrees C.

The lake looked awesome and we were the only people there, not another person in sight...this was looking good. We parked up and had a slow walk along one side of the lake. The supermarkets did not open until 08:30 so we were in no rush and looked at a few areas of the lake and the availability of casting to them. We also looked to see where we could 'bivvy' and park the car close to us. We were also mindful that Denis and Laurent would need swims when they arrived and decided on a couple of areas that narrowed the water in to a bay and as a bonus,

where fish were showing too.

My dad sent a text to Denis and Laurent to say we had arrived and that all was looking good and we made our way back to the car to relax for an hour before heading to the supermarket...it was at this point, it all started to go wrong...!!!

Imagine, you have planned a trip and purchased your permits, you have packed your gear for 2 people for five days fishing, you have spent 9 hours in a car and 2 on a Ferry and you have arrived at a place you have never been to in your life before to glorious sunshine, high temperatures and showing Carp, that you know can go to at least 52lb... imagine all that and then try to imagine the worst thing possible that you could 'never imagine' would happen...!

Walking back to the car from our chosen spot, my dad noticed a small board on a stake in the ground just a bit bigger than a A4 sheet of paper. Out of

curiosity, he walked over to it, from behind whilst I carried on to the car. As he walked around the front of this little, inconspicuous sign, I heard him shout a string of obscenities that I cannot write here but they amounted to "you must be kidding" ...?????!!!!!!

Now, my Dad is not fluent in French by any stretch of the imagination but he can speak a little and read even less but there is a word he does know well and for good reason as he is fishing in one in France next May...that word is 'ENDURO' and that means a 'Competition' but a competition that last a few days, normally between 3 and 7 days...!!

The next part he also knew...2 – 5 juin, which means, yes you have guessed it, the 2nd to the 5th June 2017.... so basically, there was a Carp Competition on this lake from the Friday to the Monday, the exact weekend we could night fish it and it was closed to the public, even the English public...!!!



I have seen my Dad 'lose it' in the past but this was another level...he did not just go ballistic, he went supersonic. If France was a person, he would have shot them...!!

By the time he got to me at the car, he was only in ballistic mode but I had guessed there was a problem (Hahahhaa). He then explained to me that life was a waste of time and that fishing was rubbish and he was unsure why he even bothered breathing and that all things French

could kiss his behind...! To say we were gutted was the biggest understatement since the beginning of time, which, if my Dad had of had anything to do with it would probably have been cancelled.

Now at this point, the only thing that would calm my Dad is a cup of his beloved tea and that is exactly what he had said. In a calmer tone, he looked at me and said "don't worry about it mate, there is plenty of water around here we can fish

and at worse we can travel a bit further and find somewhere. Let's have a brew and a think and I will ring Denis and Laurent and we will sort it out". Great I thought, not too bad then just a little gutting that we were at a place that screamed 'Carp' and we couldn't really fish it. My Dad then proceeded to get a few bits out of the back of the car so he could grab the brew-kit and we discussed the possibility of staying here for a couple of days, fishing the day time and

seeing who turned up on the Friday and maybe even seeing if they would let us stay on the lake seeing how we had travelled from the UK to fish it. This is when it all went wrong again.

As I have already explained, my Dad had planned to take a look at the water, then go to the local Supermarket to get 'essentials' and then back to the Lake to set up... two of the essentials he needed, yep that's right, Milk & Sugar, both of which he needed for his 'calming' cuppa. You've all seen the images of a nuclear explosion...I will leave you with that image of the Mushroom Cloud spreading outwards from a beautiful French Public Water full of Carp....he threw the gear back in the car and drank a litre of water without pausing for breath.

Now much calmer, he made a few phone calls but the problem was now the temperature was seriously on the up...it was just after 9 in the morning and the temperature had already

hit 25 degrees C, which would have been fine if we were just going to be taking our time setting up our gear in the shade of the trees around a great lake, but we weren't, we would be travelling for another hour in the morning traffic to another venue to meet with Laurent. This was the result of a few calls between my dad, Denis and Laurent and it was decided that there would be no point staying here as there was no way we would be allowed to fish during a Club Enduro, which apparently this was. Had it been an open, we may have had a chance although we would have probably had to pay the entrance fee for the competition, which to be fair, we would have done but it was agreed we would go an hour down the road and fish a 'Town Lake' so my first chance of not only a French Public Water but some 'Urban' fishing too.

My Dad decided to get more fuel and some supplies as both the Petrol Station and Supermarket were next to each other

and here we encountered another 'issue'....and we had only arrived two and half hours ago.

The Supermarket does not supply carrier bags, not even to purchase. If you don't bring your own, you have no bag and we only had a basket as my Dad had no One Euro coins to get a trolley. Now the trolley, you can push to your car, the basket, that's not allowed out of the store...my Dad was not impressed! Not to be out done though, he piled all the goods on the floor, told me to stand by them, paid the cashier, who spoke no English, took the change, walked outside, put a coin in the trolley, came back in with it, pushed past the queue of French people that were watching his every move, picked the items up off the floor and put them into the trolley, looked at the starring cashier and line of people, smiled, muttered some English 'words' and pushed the trolley to car...problem of no bags, solved..!

Just over an hour later, we arrived in the car park of a Public Swimming Baths

and Park. In front of us was an amazing looking water that had a river running in at one end and a Canal and River out at the other. It was about 50 acres in size and on one side was some tree lined open areas and on our side, the main town. After a few more phone calls, we were met by two French guys that could not speak a word of English that Laurent had sent to meet us to guide us to the other side of the water as the roads were a one-way system and not easier to follow. This is where the internationally use 'hand signals' come in handy and after a brief exchange of visual pointing and gesturing, we were following a guy on a 'Push Bike' along the main road of the Town, yep, that's right, a Push Bike. We could not believe it. The only way he could guide us as he could not get in the car as it was full of gear was for us to follow him on his bike..now that was a first for my Dad but it did give us something to laugh about as up to then we had just had drama. After ten minutes, we arrived on the other side

of the lake in an open area with a community shelter, some benches and a picnic table and some waste bins. Our view back across the lake was to the Town and the high-rise flats, Swimming Pool and Yacht Club...what an amazing place to fish.

Now, after arriving at the planned venue, pretty much nothing had gone right for us and this was not going to change just yet. This new venue was known to Denis as he had fished it before and although it was reported to contain fish to over 30lb, the majority were high doubles to low twenties but that was not going to be a problem, the heat and the spawning were though and to make it worse, although you can night fish this place seven nights a week and you can bivvy up with no problem or even just camp, you cannot park there overnight...!

This is where we had a major issue as we had planned for a venue where we would have the car with us so that we could leave some of the bait and

kit on it and also cook out of the back of it and now, that was not an option. For Denis, it was not so bad as he was not arriving until the Friday morning so he had time to change his kit to suit and for Laurent, it was no problem as he lived 5 minutes away from this lake. This was turning into a Fishing nightmare and my Dad still had not had a brew.

First priority, make a brew and have something to eat, sit down, look at the situation and make a plan. Laurent was coming to see us about 14:00 so we sat tight until then. We had already decided on a couple of suitable swims and to be honest there weren't many. The majority had steep bank straight down to the water and we were not geared up for it as we had no chest waders with us as we did not need them at the other place. This was a bit annoying since we had both just had new Chest Waders from Pros Waders ([www.proswaders.co.uk](http://www.proswaders.co.uk)) and I have to say if you are looking for a pair of Chest Waders that are top quality material and extremely well made but

cost a fraction of others out there, look no further. For £37.99 my Dad was not expecting much for his money but these are real quality and they are made from a material called Plavitex which is not only flexible down to -50°C it is also resistant to tearing and all the stitching is waterproof.

The spec of these waders is impressive and the feel and comfort when wearing them is superb. They are made from 680gram Plavitex smooth PVC coating with soft polyester reverse and have high frequency welded seams that make them stronger along with the double stitching and welded elastic brace with clip buckles with a High Quality Cleated Boot and an internal chest pocket. These are real value for money.... but we didn't bring ours with us..!

Laurent arrived and it was decided that we would not be able to set up properly for the night as we had too much gear and could not leave it on the car so we decided to just setup my rods in a swim, fish for

a few hours and then get our heads down by the car on the Bedchairs under the stars as the weather had hit 32°C and was still climbing.

At the point of getting my first rod out, me and my dad had been awake for nearly 34 hours and we were knackered to say the least. The thought of unloading all the gear that evening was not good and even though we would be taking a chance as you cannot park over night at this venue, because we had the fishing gear with us and could explain the situation, it was thought we would be ok so I was actually fishing...! I had three rods out by 16:00 and we were starting to settle in to the new place. I have to say that neither of us was very keen as it was not what we had planned to fish but I was fishing and after only 20 minutes, I had a screamer.... Fish On...In the Net...On the Bank... My first ever French Public Water, Town Lake Common Carp tipping the scales at 16.8lb. Not massive but a Carp and that is why we were here.

20 minutes after that, the same rod went again and this time I landed a Mirror of about the same size.... and hour later, another Common about a pound heavier. It is really strange fishing and playing a fish with people on push bikes, joggers, people walking past with kids, walking their dogs and all the usual things you see in a park but not normally on a fishery and to be honest most were really friendly and wanted to speak with us and ask about the kit and the fish and it was at that point, I wished I had done French at school and not German but we managed to communicate and they seemed to understand thanks to the international hand gestures for fishing.

Two hours fishing, three takes and three carp on the bank is what I call a good start and the hooks and rig bits from both Sharp Tackle and Mosquito Angling along with the Bait from UK Bait Company and Pyramid Baits were all seemingly "doing the business" as they say and I had even put to use my new

'Distance Sticks' that Rowan Charnwick from Elite Tackle (www.elitetackle.co.uk) had sent me so I could hit the same spots each time as I was fishing in to open water but towards an Island at about 60 yards.

So, we were thinking that after what can only be described as a complete disaster when we arrived, things were looking better and we started to sort ourselves out for the night and sleeping by the car. At this point, we were very tired and felt hot and bothered and exhausted so a good nights sleep would make things better. I had reeled in after another hour and having no more action and my dad had put the rods on the roof of the car but still made up and we had literally

thrown gear in the car after getting the bed chairs out and sorted them for us to sleep on. We had had some food which we sat on one of the benches to eat and looked out over the lake and chatted about what an eventful day we had just had. We had discussed the options for our swims and decided on the two we would fish and that Denis and Laurent could sort theirs out as they wanted to fish a little nearer the inlet of the River but that wouldn't be until Friday morning and we couldn't fish there as we did not have the gear to it (plus, my dad is too old to be up and down steep banks, but don't tell him I said that).

The plan was, Laurent would return on Thursday afternoon, after he finished

work and would take our car to his place after we had unloaded what we wanted. He would then come back on the Friday morning at which time, Denis would have arrived and he would do the same with the car that Denis had and then he would walk back. That way, we would have the gear we needed in the Bivvies', some gear left on the cars but parked safe and no cars parked to cause an issue about the No Parking rule.

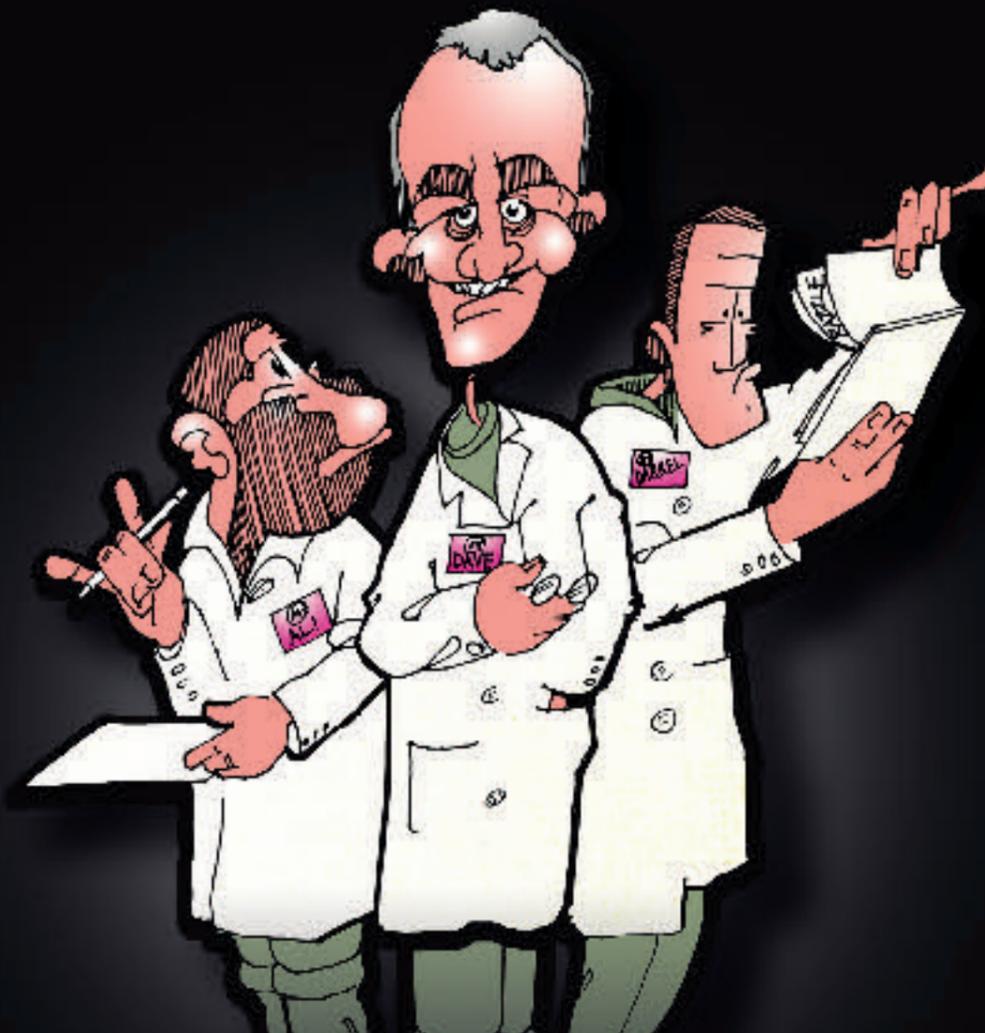
By 22:15 it was dark and the place was deserted. We were the only people there and the only car and that is when it all went wrong...again...!!!

To be continued.....

**Ethan**



TalkingCarp



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# Lady Luck Is Shining On Me.... By Eddie McKenna.

Let's start off with a good old sob story.... A month or so back, a few days before a week-long fishing trip to France I managed to rupture my Achilles tendon. At the time of the incident I didn't know the severity of my injury and went to France anyway. Upon my arrival, back I made my way down to the hospital where they was shocked I had been able to walk around on it without agonising pain (the things u do for a fish eh). I had to have an operation and I was left in a cast and crutches but the fun never stopped there. Next up was the small matter of a BCAC Pairs match qualifier in which we got through to the next round. It got me thinking this injury is possibly some sort of lucky charm...

Fast forward a few weeks of blanking on

my local park lakes and at this point I was still unable to drive but I was out of the cast and in a sort of brace/ boot making me walk but very slowly and not without its pain. I got a lift to Brooms Cross Fishery. I have a yearly syndicate on Brooms but due to work and my injury I hadn't made much use of it. I set out for 2 nights. Very excited. Decided on Lower Alt which is considered the smaller fish lake of the 2 specimen lakes at Brooms. The lad coming off the peg had had a fish the night before. Good signs. Gets the rods out. Not a single bleep all night. I woke up to turmoil right in at my margin. The fish had started spawning. Brooms Cross owner Rob made his way over and got me on Upper Alt and closed Lower Alt to let the fish do their business. The

night on Upper alt also produced no fish. It seemed as though my luck was all used up.

The next 2 weeks went by slowly as fish where spawning in most venues across the UK, during this time I kept in contact with Rob and the team at Brooms and he informed me that both lakes where due to open that day. I was dying to get back to Brooms but sadly I had no transport to the venue. I made my way to physiotherapy, I got on the subject of driving and the therapist said I should just check with my insurance. The Injury to my left leg renders that foot unusable for a manual car with needing to use the clutch. Next thing I remember is being back at Brooms in my father's automatic car. FREEDOM!!!

This is where the

I had a talk with Rob and he informed me that my favourite peg on Upper Alt was going to be available from about 17:00 so I packed my car and I was there for 14:00. I couldn't wait, I just wanted to be there even though I knew I wouldn't get on the peg for a few hours. I had a stroll up the lake and spoken to a few anglers who had all had decent fish. The layout at Brooms makes it a very social place and this reflects

upon talking to the guys who fish there who are usually more than happy to have a chat. Anyway, I get back to the peg I am due to fish on and the guy fishing informs me he has had an upper double and he has only been there since the morning. I told him I was on after he got off and he kindly said I could start bringing my gear over if I liked to save waiting for him to finish. Great stuff. Hobbling my way over with my final barrow

load I arrive to find this guy bent into a fish. After a while I netted the fish for him and called up the Brooms Cross phone. This is the policy on Brooms so they can keep an eye on weights and condition of their fish. Plus, they are all weighed with the same scales for accurate gains/losses of the fish. The fish wrapped the scales round to 25.0lb. I joked with the angler telling him he should have left earlier so I could have caught that fish, well at least I think it was a joke. The guy got his photos of his beautiful capture and then it was my turn. 24 hours of unfinished business to attend to. There is fish coming out everywhere, I seen a lot of fish on my walk round and some fish had come off my peg as I'm stood there. I had a feeling this was going to be a good session. I was wrong.



First rod out, right rod. I opted for fake pop-up corn fished blowback style with a size 6 curve shank hook. This was attached to stiff coated braid with some coating stripped away close to the hook and finished with a bit of putty. This one went out tight to the reed bed with mixed pellets and corn and a few crushed Essential Cell. Second rod out, middle rod. I opted for

a Essential Cell bottom bait on this rod fished on a kd rig with a size 8 wide gape. I never used the bait boat of this one. Instead I casted tight to the reeds and catapulted a few Essential Cell free offerings around it. Last rod out, left rod. This was used to make use of the double peg. Using the curve shank pattern again, only this time opting for a waffer approach

on a D-Rig and 12lb IQ2 line. Essential cell waffer of course, boated out amongst a bed of mixed pellet and essential cell. About an hour or 2 passed by after I got last rod out with no bites to get me excited. On the plus side, this gave me time to get my bivvy up and organise my home for the next 24hrs. Next minute, a couple of bleeps on the right-hand rod, I looked out at my spot where I had dropped the boat to see a big bow wave coming from the swim. BANG, I'm in. After a pretty mundane fight in the middle this on gave me all sorts of trouble under the rod tip, taking me into beds of weed/lilies in the margin. I finally managed to slip the net cord under the fish bringing in a load of weed with it. I knew it was a +20lb. Get in there!!! I called up Brooms and got the

rod back out on the spot whilst waiting for the scales to arrive. Rob come over and recognised the fish straight away. "Deebo" at 28lb dead. Over the moon!!! Rob and the other onlookers said their congratulations and left me to it. It wasn't long before I was calling the Brooms phone again... right hand rod again. This time a drop back. I hit it to find nothing there, a couple of winds on the reel and yes, in again. This one tried to cross over my middle rod and stayed in the middle for a lot longer than Deebo. Eventually this one also slipped over the net cord. Another +20lb fish. WOW. Same routine as before, call the scales and get the rod back out on the spot. The scales arrived and went around to 28.2lb a fish called "Sue". 2 x 28lb fish in the space of a few hours, magical



stuff. The rest of the night went by with no action. I didn't really care, why would I after putting 2 lumps on the bank. Fast asleep, 4:30am, left rod meltdown. I hobble out to my rod and connect with yet another Brooms lump. Another great battle but sadly (for the fish) it shared the same fate as its predecessors. Back of the net! And another +20lb fish!!!

Call the scales, rod back out on the spot. Scales arrive again, 25.2lb, a fish known as "The Maggot" 3 x +25lb fish in about 12hrs fishing. 12 hours still to go. Let's have it. A couple of hours later, left rod melting away again. I'm in. Similar battle as all the bigguns on the session. Same fate as the other bigguns, an interview with Mr Landing Net. Job done



again. Lift up the net to take a peek, it can't be another +20lb can it? Rod back out on the spot, call Brooms for the scales. It's only another +20lb, this one at 21.4lb. No name accompanying this fish but as with all fish, very very welcomed! That's 4 x +20lb fish in the session now. And still time for another... No sooner had I put this back my right rod wanted back in on the

action. What a battle!! This fish ran me round everywhere. Had me in all sorts of bother. Crossed over both my other rods. I was lifting rods up, putting them down, stepping over and under rods. Gave me a real workout. What an epic battle! Eventually got it in and seen it was a bit smaller than my previous catches. Back out on the spot, call the scales. This one

just shy of the magical 20lb mark at 19.4lb but what a character and the best battle I've had in a very long time. Rob told me the fish is called "Half Price" people who have caught it will know the reason behind the name as I didn't know before catching it. The reason for the name is..... Well, get down to Brooms Cross, catch it and find out!!! It was now the worst time of every session, going home. Surprisingly it wasn't as tedious packing down as usual, I'm not quite sure why. Everything was packed away now, Just the rods left on the clutches. I'm sat there on the bucket on the phone to my better half and the clutch started screaming. Fish number 6 was hooked. Another great battle from this fella which made me think before seeing it that it was another smaller fish.

## Lady Luck Is Shining On Me....

I was right, never weighed this one as I had already put the Brooms Cross Staff through their paces but it was a mid-double and that was the final whistle on my 24hr session.

To cap it all off I had: 28.0lb (Deebo), 28.2lb (Sue), 25.2lb (The Maggot), 21.4lb, 19.4lb (Half Price) and a lovely mid double. That's 4 x +20lb with 3 of them being +25lb and 6 fish in total.

WHAT A RESULT!

Hope to see you on Brooms Cross in the near future.

Eddie.



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# *Keith Moors 'Living The Dream'*

## *Chapter 12 Two steps Forward and One step Back*

We continued with the reed cutting during the winter but I now believe that we left it too late.

Let me try to explain.

We didn't start the reed cutting until most of the winter was over and as we cut the reeds off we discovered hundreds of baby (2012 fry) carp of around 1lb in weight. They were obviously hiding in the reeds to avoid the predators and it was noticeable that the cormorants would arrive every evening and patrol the edges of the reed areas that we had just cut in an attempt to feed upon the fry that we had disturbed.

We made an immediate decision that we would cut the reeds before Christmas 2013 rather than leave it until Feb/March as we had just done. The theory behind that is that the cormorants will have more time to mop up more of the fry. It was immediately obvious that we would need to keep removing these yearlings whenever they were caught in order to control the biomass every year.

As 2013 progressed these fears were confirmed by anglers catching numbers of baby carp (plus some slightly larger as a result of another unexpected hiccup which I shall cover later) and as I type this it is early December and we have removed around 1000 of them. Amazingly they have reached 3lb plus in their first year (obviously they must have spawned during 2012 because the lake was totally emptied in November 2011) Anyway, this means that we have reduced the biomass by at least 3000lb, and that is being very conservative in my estimation.

We also believe that we may have discovered another reason for so many young carp surviving last year. We thought that the most important predators would be the large perch and bass. However, we now believe that it is actually the baby bass and perch which are of most importance as it is these small fish which control the carp fry as soon as they hatch. Unfortunately each drain down allows thousands of them to escape through the grills of the fish traps below the gates.

Because of this, the following year (the first year after a drain down) our predator base is reduced and ineffective. The carp spawn, most of the

eggs hatch and the carp fry don't start getting eaten until they have grown somewhat and are free swimming. They then outgrow their predators very rapidly. With the baby predators in place (from early spring spawnings) the carp fry are decimated before they are more than a few days old.

This became more apparent as the year progressed and the carp spawned once again. 2013 saw the spawning later than normal and we decided to lift as much of the weed which was carrying eggs, as possible. The weed was allowed to dry and we noticed that there were literally thousands of baby bass pulling at the weeds but very few baby carp. The rest of the year proved that we had far too many small carp (3lb to 4lb) but these were from the 2012 spawning and we needed to remove these by different means.

I must add here that, as I type this we are about half way through cutting the reeds for the 2013/14 winter and we have found very few baby carp in the reeds this time.

The main reason for each of our previous drain downs has been to control the dreaded poisson chats. We have now gone two full years, and I shall shout this from the highest building, **WITHOUT A SINGLE SIGN OF ANY POISSON CHATS!!!**

You don't know how wonderful that sounds.

Anyway, we do not need to carry out another drain down this winter and we can go into 2014 with our continued plans to remove all baby carp as they get caught plus any catfish which remain.

Whilst on this subject, we now have a stock pond which is teeming with beautiful young scaley mirrors of between 3lb and 20lb. It is our plan to grow these on until they reach 20lb and then gradually release them into the main lake. This gives us a stock of hand picked carp with no risk of disease and from a known heritage with good growth potential.

Our season started in March as normal and this just gave the hospital time to remove the defective lens in my left eye and fit a glass replacement so my vision is as good as it is ever going to be and I am back to fishing accurately again.

The winter was prolonged and this produced some fairly poor early season catches for us and for many other lakes across Europe. On top of that the carp didn't spawn until well into June. In fact the spawning took place virtually immediately the weather improved. It then stayed very hot and the fish took a while to get back to condition so catch rates overall were not up to our hopes.

Now would be a good point to go back and explain my earlier reference to "another unexpected hiccup". During the extended winter period of May we suffered torrential rain for 48 hours non-stop. So much rain fell that the lake rose about two feet and flooded some of the swims and paths. Luckily, there is no way that the big carp can escape from the lake. They could have a brief swim along the paths between each swim but the entire site is securely fenced so they can only ever end up back in the lake.

We are also lucky that our spillway is very quick to control the levels and we were almost back to normal within two days. However, the problem that we did end up with was that the main lake rose enough to start flowing over the new dam wall and into the stock pond. This flow of water was enough to attract the doubles living in the stock pond and, having been attracted, to swim over the dam and into the main lake.

We immediately started catching these doubles in numbers and taking them back to their previous home. In fact we also started catching some low twenties with superb scale patterns and we decided to leave these in the main lake as we expect them to become new thirties very quickly having been released from their confined space.

By the end of the year we saw the captures of small carp (2012 fry and stock pond escapees) drop to very low numbers so we believe that we have got on top of that “nuisance” and 2014 will see much better catch rates. Part of that improvement will also be because of the increased competition from the increase in the number of additional twenties.

However, the catch reports weren’t all doom as the lake produced its first sixties and we ended with five banked but these were made from three different fish.

The best weights of each one was, Benign at 61lb 3oz, Half Linear at 62lb 6oz and Cut Tail at 63lb 0oz. As the season went on we also saw another five carp over 57lb and we expect all of these to be sixties, making eight in total for spring 2014.

Slightly further down the list we have seen numbers of carp weighing forty eight pounds plus and some of these are probably already fifties but simply haven’t been caught since they crossed the threshold. One of these was a fish, caught at 48lb earlier in the year and named “Footprint” because of a line of individual scales below its dorsal line. She was not a recognized fish and had grown through the forties very quickly.

I will put my money where my mouth is and say that she is destined to be a very, very big fish for the future.

Now I’m going to try to paint a picture which has intrigued me and which might go some small way to explain the excitement of owning a fishery. Back in 2010 I was lucky enough to bank “The Long Common” at 51lb 2oz. The capture came out of the blue and remains very special in my memory.

Since then she has remained elusive and has been lost at the net just once to my knowledge but I am convinced she is probably hooked and lost on more occasions. However, this year saw a very warm and calm

spell immediately following spawning and the big females were laid up in the upper layers over the weed recovering from their exertions. In order to check that none were carrying obvious injuries I drifted silently over them with the boat.

I was able to recognize some of the obvious scale patterns and Clover, The Half Lin and several others of the “A” team were on show. Whilst standing in the boat watching, a very large common slowly emerged from beneath me and moved across the top of the other fish with no sign of panic. This fish was significantly longer and broader than any of the other carp but I obviously couldn’t see the depth. She just gave this impression of being simply enormous and the size of her scales was mind blowing. Later in the season I was able to watch her from the bank on a few more occasions and, luckily, I was in the company of other anglers. To say that they were excited would be a massive understatement and on each occasion we were able to see that she had a good depth to go with her length and width.

I think it’s safe to suggest that she is probably currently the biggest resident of our lake and could easily be nudging 70lb. We just need to see her put on the bank so that we can get a proper weight and some up to dates photos.

Right bait is the next subject. We thought that we had a good bait company in place last year but they decided that they weren’t prepared to adjust any of their baits nor the standard colours of pop ups etc. This was disappointing to say the least as our initial talks had suggested that we would end up with a high quality bait which was “designed” to suit the characteristics of our lake. Add to this that it was down to us to take the orders, fill in the specific paperwork dictated by the bait company and transfer the money to their account and perhaps you can see how I felt that the “give and take” had disappeared.

Anyway, we had several options waiting for us to act upon. One of them was a company called Eclipse and my initial discussions indicated that Dave was someone who agreed with my philosophy that almost any bait would get eaten but that some waters would “disguise” the flavours more than others.

We started with one of his standard baits and adjusted it several times as the season progressed. I was fishing with it and reporting back with my findings. That sounds very clever but in all honesty I was already aware of what we needed to improve based on the “failings” of previous baits. I had been aware for many years that a fishmeal base would give us the best growth rates but this would make the next step more difficult. One of the important factors was to keep the bait fresh after time in the water. We had tried many baits over the years and they had come back smelling of the lake bed clay within a couple of hours.

One method that seemed to help had been to add citrus acid in the forms of lime or orange oils so we again tried this route as a starting point. We got the bait working well and it was outfishing all other baits but I still wasn't satisfied. I spoke to Dave and suggested that we might get a better “food signal” if we added some spices. My feeling was that we now had a food bait which the fish would home in on and the next step was to get that signal to last for 12 hours after casting out. Our lake is high pH so the citrus signal would overcome this and the spices may actually produce a continued signal as the flavours were diluted.

I suggested that Dave might like to do a few days on the lake so that he could see at first hand how the bait was affected. During the lead up to his trip he produced another fishmeal bait with a very spicy base mix plus an additive which must be used very sparingly as its cost alone is £250.00 for half a litre. In trials, the bait worked immediately and I then took a small quantity of the boilies and added a light “glug” of two substances in order to try to make these hook baits give off an extra signal so that the fish were attracted to the hook bait quicker. It began to work immediately and we were then able to get an optimum level of glug for the hook baits

and these will now be available for 2014.

As an illustration of just how effective the baits were by the end of the season, we were giving away some samples to anglers who were really struggling on their own favourite “they work everywhere” baits and some of them said that it was like turning on a switch and they began to catch immediately.

We now have a bait which is very efficient in our lake but which can be purchased by our customers (direct from Eclipse) for use in their UK fishing.

With the decision already made to use fish meal boilies I also decided to start to introduce pellets. I had wanted, in fact I had been searching for, some pellets with a high fishmeal protein content for some time. We had used the soya and wheat meal protein pellets and they were, at best, ineffective.

The fish were not attracted to them and as the proteins were of the vegetable type the carp would not be able to easily assimilate them. We switched to a Coppens pellet and the change was remarkable. I was convinced that a combination of the new bait with the new pellet would pay dividends so I fished over a marker float and added a large quantity of bait. At 7.30pm I tipped in 25kg of pellet plus 5kg of boilies. My first carp came at 8.30pm in the shape of a 47lb mirror followed by two more thirties and another forty by midnight and then everything went quiet. Surely they couldn't have eaten all of that food?

I did exactly the same the following evening and caught another three carp including two thirties and another forty. The bait and pellet was working well and my next couple of sessions also produced two fifties for me including “Arfur” at its first ever fifty plus 52lb and “Chunky” at her biggest ever 57lb. Chuffed for many reasons. It also proved that we are now at the point where very big beds of bait are working well.

Right, that almost brings me to the end of another chapter but we have needed to add another rule as we found "Benign" towing around a three ounce lead on a lead clip. The rig had not been used incorrectly but there was simply no way that the lead would discharge and that was purely down to the type of clip used. I immediately banned lead clips but we will now allow certain types but only after I have had the chance to examine each type prior to use.

Furthermore, with the obvious benefits of using quantities of pellet and boilie we are changing another one of our rules. We haven't allowed bait boats since the early years when we had several situations where idiots were abusing their use and annoying other anglers.

However, we are going to allow their use during 2014 but only on exclusive week bookings and only if everyone in that booking group is in agreement. After all, if you abuse their use and upset your mates then that should be sorted out by your group and I don't need to be called out to referee the fights. It will be interesting to watch how the catch rates are affected by the extra food available.

Another chapter and another year done.

Be lucky.....

# HERE HE IS THE SECOND CONTESTANT.....



**DAVE LANEY**

PROFILE

AKA	LANEY
HEIGHT	5FT 10IN
AGE	UNKOWN
UKPB	55LB 00Z
PLACE LAST SERIES	2ND

**CARP WARS** A STORM IS BREWING!

# COMING SOON CARP WARS 2

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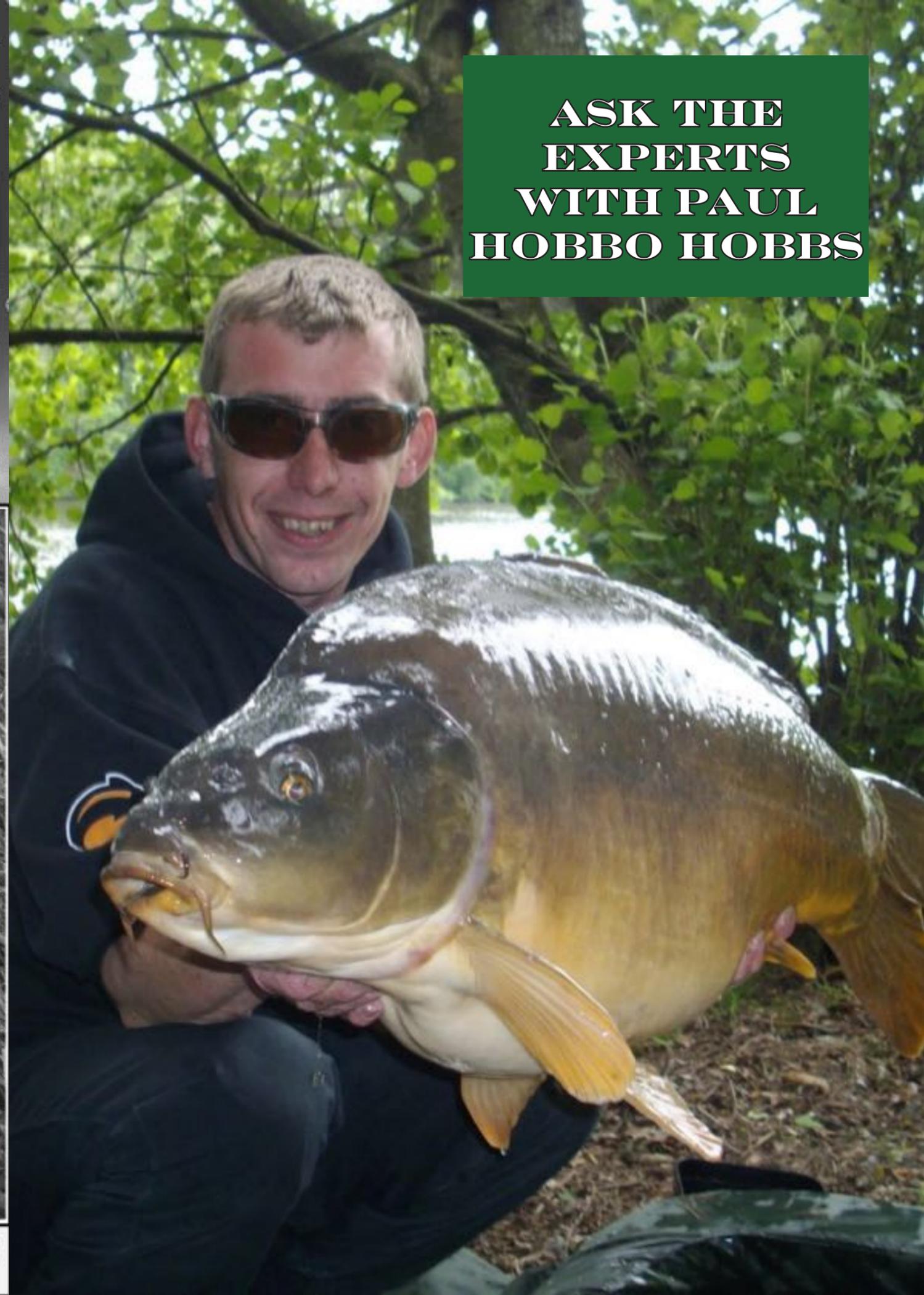
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## Hello Talking Carp readers!

As we move into August the carp are sneaking a nice spot in the snags or moving up and down the marginal shelf.

**With this in mind we have had a question in from a Mr A Haslam. He is new to stalking carp in the margins and he is worried that his normal set up is OTT with 3.5 TC rods.**

Well if the carp are there, fish for them! If you are using strong rods then there are decent size carp in your venue. As long as you are sensible with your clutch, enjoy it fella! I would take this opportunity to give you a few tips. Don't forget your polarized sunglasses. These will help to eliminate surface glare. If you can climb a few trees to get a higher vantage point this is also an added bonus. Don't forget to have a look for overhanging trees, bushes, lily pads and quiet corners. These may well be little hot spots. Once you have found a location its worth priming a

few areas on your venue. Once located I like to use a fairly decent sized in-line lead to fish shocker or drop off style. Rig wise I like to keep it simple and effective. For me a bottom bait or wafter hook bait or even a few grains of plastic corn are effective as these



are quite visual. If you feel that the fish are getting away this is a perfect opportunity to lengthen your hair. These little tweaks can be a massive advantage when stalking. Make sure to pin your main line down with a few blobs of putty.

Now this can be the most frustrating style to say the least. But this is what carp fishing is all about. And when the bites do happen don't rush it. Enjoy the fight especially with hefty rods. The bonus part is with strong tackle you have the stopping power in your rods and only you will know how much you can give them when the carp lunges in close on a short line. This is when your clutch is set right.

Hopefully this will help you with your predicament. Until next time enjoy the sun! Don't forget your mixers and sun cream! Be Lucky!

Paul





*The only limitation is your imagination*



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# Talking Carp

# Reviews!!!!

## The all new Finygo APP !!!!!



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

It's a modern world, most of us 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. Were really starting to take the guesswork out tactic and peg choices now.



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Ronnie Rigs  
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- CHOOSE YOUR MATERIALS
- IMPROVED HOOK HOLD
- ULTRA STRONG HOOKS



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## KRYSTON



## Super Nova Braid

### Review.... Krystons NEW Super Nova braid.

If you're seeking a traditional braid that offers superb presentation over a wide range of waters, then look no further. Equally at home over soft silty bottoms, hard gravel bars, on still waters or rivers this outstanding ultra-braid is 'the' only choice for many anglers. The secret of its success lies in its unique construction. Unlike many standard cross-ply braids Super Novas pattern immediately tells you that this is something special. Exceptionally soft it's probably the supplest of all the braids on the market, and due to its extreme flexibility gives your hookbait a presentation of the highest order...in other words totally natural.

Its perfect combination of design, weave and weight gives Super Nova the mechanics to create that all-important freedom of movement. Within water it will effortlessly flex allowing free passage of your hookbait into the carps' mouth, just like a free offering.

Unlike the many poorly designed hooklength materials on sale that tether and restrict a hookbaits natural behaviour Super Nova will let you mimic the action a freebie perfectly.

Low diameter combined with a super soft feel make it the ideal tool for fooling the wariest of carp. Once wet it transforms becoming ultra-supple, darkens slightly and uncannily takes on the look and feel of real silkweed. Its exceptional light and dark green tint camouflage is a colour combination that large wary carp associate with safety and blends in perfectly when fishing near and amongst weedy areas. High knot strength with good abrasion resistance. Ideal for many angling situations. Tried, tested and proven make it a firm favourite with many. First-rate for a wide range of waters. Excellent over silt, gravel and weed. Full instructions of recommended knots come with each spool. Perfect.

*Milky*



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# CATCH REPORTS

Featuring :

Northern Banx, Brooms Cross  
Fishery, Wyreside Fishery, Andrew  
Taylor, Anthony Farnan, Glyn Fox,  
Natalie Rattue, Rich Austin, Stuart  
Mellors

COMING SOON



NB

NORTHERN

BANX

WWW.NORTHERNBANX.CO.UK



# Catch Reports

Chris Jervis (Owner) I have just arrived for me first session At a new water I have joined Wyreside Fishing Lakes. I have chosen to go on Bantons lake and picked a peg called the Dry one .I set 3 rods out 2 on Ronnie Rigs And one on a DRig using Crank T Offset Hooks From Northern Banx Tackle. I put around 30/40 chopped Core Boilies in as freebies and then used the New Crab Pop Up as the hook bait . First rod I put in the margins about 10 yards away from the bank next to some reeds. Second rod was at 13 raps on a clear spot in the middle were I had seen Carp showing and finally the 3rd rod was just out to the right Hand side about 18 yards out. I was fishing for around 3hrs before my first rod went it was the left hand rod just in the margin I managed to land my first carp on a new water it was a Mirror Carp at 21lb. I was made up with how the session was going for the first few hours and then 30mins later second one went to a 14lb Common . Both using the Crab Pop up from Corebaits.



Craig Hinks went to his syndicate and had an amazing session. catching this carp and a catfish. Biggest carp was 24lb and he was using 2 different types of hooks, curved shank and long shank from Our Tackle Range. He was also using cb4 bottom baits from core baits topped with a piece of fake corn, fishing at around 50 yards towards an island.



David went out for a 48hr match on his local lake and managed to Catch these lovely looking Carp on our End Tackle Range. Hooks Wide Gape & Curve Shank with some of our Pop Up Corn biggest 17lb 13oz.



NORTHERN  
TalkingCarp  
BANX  
WWW.NORTHERNBANX.CO.UK

# Catch Reports



NAME- Michale Doogan  
 VENUE- bishops bowls  
 LAKE- Greenhills  
 Date Of Capture -20.7.17  
 Length Of Session -24hour  
 RIG-blow back rig  
 FISH WEIGHT-15.3 & 16lb  
 BAIT USED-horizon baits  
 TACKLE USED-25lb coated braid & Crank T Offset Anti Tangle Sleeves

Peter has recently went down to Farlows lake for a 36hr session and managed to catch his first Carp on a single Corebaits Core Waffer at 50 yards on a stiff combi rig with a Northern Banx size 6 Crank T Offset Hook.



Richard Bullen  
 New PB, Sue at 28lb fishing upper lake at Brooms Cross Fisheries.

Richard Managed to catch this big girl 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. He's beaten his PB twice in the past two weeks, last week was Eclipse at 25lb 2oz

He used the same simple method used for catching the Eclipse inline running lead has found to also be the best approach. His bait for both sessions were CC Moore bait Odyssey XXX, chopped on a bed of Pellet. And a single hook bait.



COMING SOON



NB

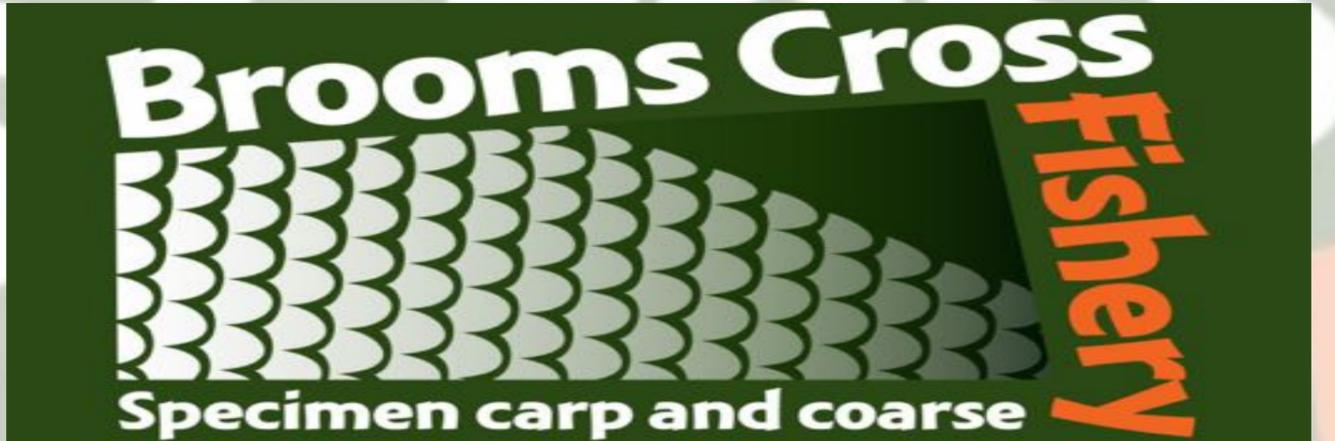
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*Danny Sloan with Half Price at 23lb 12oz.*



*Rob Townsend 20lb stalked from Lower Alt lake*



*Ian Santangeli P.B. 22lb 10oz*



*Peter Riley with his new P.B of 27lb 6oz*

# Brooms Cross Fishery

Specimen carp and coarse

*Rob  
Townsend  
with a  
second  
of 2 carp  
stalked  
out of  
Lower Alt  
lake*



*Stevie  
the bailiff  
doing a  
spot of  
stalking  
too and  
quickly  
nailing  
this  
beauty.*





## Wyreside Fishery reports...

A very changeable fortnight with the weather throwing everything at us... wind, rain, thunder and sunshine! However, this has not put the fish off with a respectable 116 fish out of the 5 lakes. With 26 fish over 20lb and 8 over 25lb also there were 3 of the big girls out of Wyre - C-scale at a healthy weight of 34lb falling to the charms of Chris Sawyer and Luke Worthington also had a blinding 24hours in swamp managing to bag White Tips at 27lb a 24lb and to top it off, Si's fish at 30.12. Glad 2 also made an appearance at 33lb. Some reported tactics at the moment is small pops (yellow or white) over bait for the night. But day time zigs with small baits just under the top seem to be doing the trick.



## Chris Sawyer sent in.....

I did 48hrs in Swamp resulting in 3 fish and lost two due to the weed, my first bite came around 1.30am Saturday morning which I unfortunately lost. I got the rod back out there and at 7am I was awoken by a one toner and was rewarded with a fish known as "V fish" at 25lb, I lost another just after this but didn't have to wait long for another bite as I was soon doing battle with one of the real special ones known as C Scale at 34lb 2oz, it all went quite after this until around 7am Sunday morning when I had a mid-double mirror.

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

tel: 01524 792093



## Andrew Taylor



I came home from work Thursday 22nd June and knowing I had tomorrow off work I decided to grab my gear and head out to my syndicate! I had only been previously on two other occasions since joining in April. So I loaded the car and away I went... I arrived at the venue around 6:30pm... air pressure was on the rise, and there was a warm breeze. After having a walk around, I decided to fish a peg named 'Logs', which some called one of 4 summer pegs, as the water is at its max at 3ft deep. Before setting up I noticed an overhanging tree opposite to where I would be casting, so I scattered 2 handfuls of Attraction Baits Enigma boilies and 4 handfuls of 14mm pellets, then proceeded to set up camp. Once set up I cast out a lead to check how many wraps it was for the perfect positioning of my hook bait... 1st cast and I landed millimeters away from the overhanging trees... but I'm snagged???

Time for a boat trip... I went up the top end of the lake and got the boat out and rowed to my swim to remove the snag... I removed a load of broken line from the trees which was hanging in the lake... time to try again...

Lead back out and line clipped... I counted my wraps... and out went my 1st rod... my 2nd rod I thought I'd just have a play on a few different A few more anglers arrived and the bite seemed to slow down a bit... I was lucky enough to have another fish before dark, and another common carp. I set my rods for dark with 2 handfuls of Enigma boilies and 4 handfuls of pellet, as this seemed to be working well for me. Unfortunately, I didn't have a bite through the night. I actually managed to get some sleep, that was until around 6am... bleep bleeeeeeeeeeep! My left rod ripped off, it seemed like ages but after a battle and a half of keeping this lump from getting into the snags, it was in the net! The best-looking mirror carp I've ever caught. What a way to end the session. 7 fish on the bank! Happy days! All fish came on 15mm Enigma boilies from the ever-reliable Attraction Baits. I used a 2oz leaf coated inline pear from Lump Leads. Also, I used a size 6 d-spc micro barbed hook on a blow back rig, attached through a quick-change swivel on a translucent fluorocarbon leader from Deception Angling!





**Anthony Farnan** is a 13 years old boy from Slough with asd and ADHD, and a very keen interest in fishing, so a birthday trip to Farlows lake was the order of the day!! Daniel and Lewis Daneshi stepped up in true fashion and took young Anthony to catch a carp... or two. Fishing dog biscuits on the surface had Anthony totally enthralled and soon he was cradling a 17lb mirror and followed it up with a 15lb common carp. A huge thanks to Daniel and Lewis for making Anthony's day one he will not forget.



**Talking Carp writer Rich Austin** battled through a very lively storm recently, braving the thunder and lightning and was able to tick one off his "wanted" list in the shape of The Long Common. Well done Rich, we know how happy this one made you.

**Glyn Fox**  
41lb 8oz on the Boa  
Rig



Sharp Tackle



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Natalie Rattue has been out on her local water and certainly getting amongst the fish!



Stuart Mellors**Overnight session 1**

Did a over night session had 6 with the biggest being 34lb . Caught on key cray low lying popup to a combi rig blow back style with a running lead clip system . I hooked on a small pva mesh bag of key cray flake which had been coated in the key cray signal arouser.

Spodded out little and often of chopped and hole key cray 12mm boilies which had been coated in the key cray dip



Did a over night session had 10 with a brace of 27lbs the biggest being 27.08lb with 7 x20s in total. Caught on key cray low lying popup to a combi rig blow back style with a running lead clip system . I hooked on a small pva mesh bag of key cray flake which had been coated in the key cray signal arouser. Spodded out little and often of chopped and hole key cray 12mm boilies which had been coated in the key cray dip

Got to lake approx 1800 hrs had work at 0500 hrs so reeled in at 0400hrs and went to work for a couple of hours which was a 35min drive to my work place and came back to the lake for few hours fishing



# Foreign Adventures

**Featuring:**

*Etang St Pierremont  
Carp Gran Canaria  
Ebro Fishing Dreams  
Moorlands Fishery  
Carp In Poland*



**Special offer for all Talking Carp readers !!!!!  
You can now fish this amazing lake at a redced  
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**7th - 14th October 2017**

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***Etang St Pierremont  
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**





Above - Shots from inside owners accomodation



Below - living area inside anglers accommodation



CARPGRANCANARIA.COM



BOOK WITH US FOR THE HOLIDAY EXPERIENCE OF A LIFETIME



**Our last few months have been amazing with carp captures to all our day trip clients to 41lb and our Holiday clients having carp to 39lb.**

**We are situated at Lake Chira around 1hrs drive from the holiday resorts and 1hr 15 mins from the airport, through the Gran Canarian mountains amongst the pine forests and some of the highest peaks.**

**We take a small group of anglers daily keeping it small and personal and not too many lines in the water, so all our clients have the greatest possible chance to catch one of those wild Canary carp, beautiful scaleys, plenty of commons and mirrors keeping everybody happy and many having their PBS and we have an extremely high catch rate!!!**

**If you are visiting the island for a holiday and fancy experiencing one of our excursions that we have on offer our cost is 85 euros and this includes your pick up and drop off from your hotel or meeting point, guided mountain drive, 2 rod Nash set up either the Scopes or KNX rods, all relevant tackle and equipment, bait, light lunch and refreshments, license and our guides are with you all day. (Non fishing partners are welcome) This years day trips have been incredible with as many as 12 runs per day!!**





**We had the pleasure of Steve Briggs and partner Joan Jacobi join us for a weeks Holiday,which was his 2nd time out with us and our day trip clients had a very special guide for the day,what a week with 100s of carp,lots of fun and laughter and happy memories,looking forward to his 3rd trip in the New Year,where we will be fishing our new Big fish Venue !!**

**We offer fishing holidays and have been offering these for over 15 years either Fly/Survive or with a Food package,self-catering at our lake apartments or rural house with heated pool or you can bivvy on the bank 24 hrs as we have the only legal camping land on the lake and all our clients receive a camping and fishing license without these you are heavily fined and will be removed from the lake!!**

**Our apartments can sleep up to 8 persons sharing and the house with pool sleeps 6,all are situated at the back of the lake around a 3/4 min drive to our fishing areas.All accommodation requires car rental and we do feel a car rental will enhance your holiday and fishing experience and allow access to all fishing areas,maybe you would like to visit the supermarket or local bar!!! Or transfers can be included.**

**Our tackle is of the highest quality and supplied by our Sponsor and good friend Kevin Nash and you will receive a 2 rod set up again either the Scopes or KNX rods,pod,net,cradle,spod/marker rod,ground hog with bed chair,luxury mattress,chair,mosquito net if required,alarms,we do ask you to either bring your own reels or we can supply these but for you to bring your own line,all camping equipment,row boat,licenses and we do offer free showers and wc to be taken at our lake house if you have no accommodation .Also anything that needs charging can be done here!!**

**We have many repeat clients over the years booking day trips and then holidays and we have made some great friends and met some fantastic people and created many amazing holiday memories with great carp captures over the years and hopefully made some peoples dreams come true!!! Our aim is to provide a great service,to look after our clients,you are all met on arrival and set up and our guides will even help get your baits out if required on our fishing areas,we are around to help,answer any question,some guidance and we offer great knowledge on the lake,the carp,surrounding areas etc and we are full of information on the island and whats on offer on Gran Canaria,our little peace of Paradise in the Sun!!!**





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So whether its a holiday with the family and you fancy a day trip, or 24hrs, 36hrs on the bank we can do this or any duration on the bank or week holiday, we can do this!! We can combine a beach and fishing holiday, tailor-make your holiday, book with the family, groups or with the lads just fishing!!! Feel free to contact us for a quote or inquiry.

Dave and Ali the original and premier carp fishing company on the Canary Islands (Gran Canaria)





It's been an up and down year so far for us at Ebro Fishing Dreams

With a diving holiday planned in mid February and a repaint of our guest Accomodation and swimming pool needed we decided not to fish January and February for the first time in nine years that we have been operating .

These months have been very important to us over the years as they have provided us with an opportunity to explore new spots and fish for ourselves in between customers.

These months can be extremely cold minus 12 the lowest that we have experienced, but big fish have to feed and our best sessions for big Carp have been during this time .

The Carp on the Ebro are influenced by river conditions , they don't like sudden temperature change so we look for the sections that have been most settled on either the river Segre or the Ebro which meet just outside the town of Mequinenza .

We still fish for Catfish during these months although many believe they are dormant , Cats have saved many a session when the temperamental Carp threaten to ruin the best laid plans.

We arrived back from holiday mid March made a fuss of the sulking dogs and then spent two days organising for the first outing of the year.

From January to mid April we leave our base at Riba Roja D'ebre and head to parts of the river that are not affected as much by snow melt and rainfall.





Like anyone we have favoured areas but these can when river levels are high be tight for larger groups, fortunately the first two weeks for us we're a group of two and a group of five .

We arrived the day before the first arrivals and the first choice swim was free !!!

We settled in and our first client who was returning for his 5th trip with us arrived

After two days Jon had caught 13 Cats to 161lb and 6 Carp to 46.09 , he was then joined by our son Jay for three days who had fished at our base of Riba Roja three times but had only caught Cats to 94 lb and was desperate for a 3 figure fish , he managed Cats up to 168 lb and Carp up to 44.04 .

The following week was even better , with a family from Wolverhampton who managed 12 Cats over 100 lb and many Carp up to 47 lb.

The cats were heading off to spawn so we headed to Riba Roja.

The section of river at Riba Roja which is know as Embalse de Flix is dammed and it is 11 kilometres between the damns , it can be a prolific section with many catfish and regular daily catches of 10-20 fish.



Although this area has a smaller average size of fish than other areas it makes up for it with regular one hundred pound plus fish and many exceeding the two hundred pound barrier, I believe the river record will come from this section in the near future.

Embalse de Flix is also blessed with the biggest population of Mandarin Catfish in the system.

On arrival back at base we knew what to expect , fast currents caused by snow melt and rainfall , fishing was challenging, within a couple of days of baiting the action started to pick up with weekly catches of 50 plus Cats until

in May as like the month before at the other location the Cats disappeared to spawn .

A couple of difficult weeks followed and when we were almost out of it the river was flushed to remove insects eggs and weed growth which in turn prolonged the absence of the bigger fish.

Finally the action improved with multiple catches and many over the ton until the second week of July when action slowed once again .





**We are not sure whether this was a second spawn or the delayed spawn caused by the flush.**

**Over the last few days there has been a large improvement in the sport and we hope to fulfill our clients Ebro Dreams**



## Welcome to Ebro Fishing Dreams

[Click here to see our video](#)

"Ebro Catfishing and Carp fishing not to be missed!"

If you're looking for a fishing holiday of a lifetime, look no further. Situated on the popular River Ebro in Spain, Ebro Fishing Dreams is the best place for catfishing and carp fishing.

We are a family run business offering unrivalled service and quality in everything we do. For the best fishing holiday on the Ebro where dreams become reality - Ebro Fishing Dreams.

We came catfishing the Ebro many years ago catfishing all stretches of the river year after year. We gained invaluable experience of catfishing the river Ebro and also it's monster carp, falling in love with the place.

So we decided to stay in Spain and settled in Riba Roja as this was the most productive fishing area. Now we wish to share our knowledge and experiences with you!

See you soon! **Paul and Debbie**



**EBRO**  
Fishing DREAMS

For any further help and advice please email us [ebrofishingdreams@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:ebrofishingdreams@yahoo.co.uk)  
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Our Dutch contact is: Wim Koopmanschap **0031 615 083 785**

# Moorland Fisheries

## Woolgang Fisheries

### Top Quality French Carp Fishing

#### 2017 HALF SEASON REPORT.

Well we have completed the first half of 2017 and we are now into a 4 week break from the fishing. This is not normal but we there is a considerable amount of work to be done around the house and garden so the plan is to hit it hard and give Sharon a break from the cooking times. This should mean everyone can relax and be fresh for the second half of the season.

We also plan to add some more dye to the lake in order to try to finally get on top of the algae so it will be interesting to see how effective this is. The biggest effect will probably be more evident next season.

Right that leads nicely on to a resume of this year so far. I will keep it brief but there have been some major events.

The first of these has to be the weed control.

In previous years the weed cutting began as the weed developed and it was then a race to keep swims open and fishable. This year, the team worked on the weed before it got a foothold and it seems to have done the job beyond everyone's expectations. The type of weed in our lake is one which sets "turions" (seeds). These then drop

to the lake bed and germinate before growing very rapidly into new plants. It is hoped that the early control this year (and possibly next) might lead to even less work for the future simply because the weed did not have time to set seeds. Fingers crossed.

The knock on effect from removing the weed may also have something to do with the fishing being harder this year, although I know of several lakes which are going through similar patches, without having any weed control to blame. It could be that the natural foods that would normally be in the weedbeds are now openly on offer to the carp as they roam about and this large supply of readily



available natural protein seems to be very much to their liking. Now before anyone shouts that they don't get big on natural food just bear in mind that 1 gram of dried daphnia contains 525 calories, yes you read that right; 1 GRAM = 525 CALORIES, and the blue whale seems to do alright on shrimps. We have to hope that this free food source is not so widely available in future years as the weed growth becomes less and less. Bloodworms, snails and slaters will always be there, as they have been since the lake was dug 300+ years ago and that is good for the welfare of the fish but we need to be able to compete with our baits.

Following the weed control we needed to work on the algae blooms. One thing leads to another I guess. Our research through some of the best U.K. fisheries has led us to use an aqua blue dye from "Lakeserve". We have made one application and the second will be added during this break. Our



research suggests that the final piece of this complicated jigsaw will be that the fish will begin to feed very heavily again. The reasoning behind this is that some of the small daphnia type organisms feed and thrive on algae so once the algae is beaten the food chain above changes dramatically leading to anglers baits becoming far higher on the acceptance scale.

Right, onto the fishing. The obvious highlights have been the captures of Half Lin at 74lbs 15oz and Cut Tail at 76lbs 15oz. However, there were one or two other sixties that we were waiting to see but they didn't get banked until after spawning so we now wait to see what those can do during autumn. Without digging through records the fish that spring to mind are, Clover, Pipesmoker, Twin, Lumpy, Footsteps, Horseshoe Scale, Black Scale, Chunky, Andy's Common, Roundscale, Peach etc. etc. All of these, plus a few more, could be big sixties if they get caught at the right time and the weather conditions remain good for the "post spawning" recovery period.

The possibilities for next spring are mind blowing but let's not get ahead of ourselves.

As a final piece to this blog, I mentioned "Peach" above and Alan spent an evening float fishing following his earlier success with an unknown fifty, and his only bite, as they light faded, was from her. She turned the scales to 57lbs 5oz so, firstly, a huge well angled to him for that but it's even more impressive if we look back at her previous captures.



Her best ever weight was on 27th March last year. This was before spawning and she weighed 61lbs 4oz. That's just 4lbs bigger than she is now and she is currently well spawned out. Let's take this a little further. We know that the big girls can shed 10lbs plus in spawn and we also know that our growth rates, even conservatively, are 4lbs plus. Just those two facts alone give her, along with several of the others listed above, the potential to be upper sixties before the end of this season and new seventies next spring. That being the case, what about Half Lin and Cut Tail???? 80lbs plus????  
Be lucky.

*Keith*

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



*Team PALLATRAX Polska*





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Thankyou for reading and your  
continued support

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

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for Carp anglers written by  
**YOU !!!!!!!**

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