



Issue 78
August 2022



Inside-

Julian Cundiff, Joe Turnbull, Scott Grant, Andy Murray, Tom Simcox, catch reports and much more



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Hello and welcome back....and here we are at issue 78. It is the height of Summer and we hope you are all enjoying it... heaven knows it has been a long time coming. As I write this we have just experienced a cracking bit of summer heat and sun, and whilst the fishing went to pot it seems, it was certainly nice to feel the heat for once.

It was also good to see so many anglers actually leaving the fishing alone during that mini heatwave... sometimes it just needs to be done. Enjoy the summer, and the fish will be there when you return bankside.

Now, back to this month and we have got another belting issue for you with all your favourite writers. We continue chatting with Jules, Joe Turnbull shows you how to cook a really nice dish in the time it takes to make a pot noodle, Geezer gives us another of his adventures at Churchwood, Richard Handel with a great piece on mapping with the Deeper, and the Canadian Carp Society continue with how the carp fishing is going for them. Then add to this more from Andy Murray, Jay White, Tom Simcox, the list goes on!! Talking Carp magazine... the carp fishing magazine written by the angler, for the angler.

Remember to keep those articles, catch reports and emails coming in. we love to hear from you....and everyone is welcome at Talking Carp.

Until next month... take care and tight lines.

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Team Talking Carp

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Talking Point



with Julian Cundiff

TALKING POINT...

Long Hot Days

with Julian Cundiff & Brian Dixon

Hello and welcome to issue 78. We are at the point where the summertime is truly upon us and the fishing can go one of two ways it seems... The carp are either in it after a successful spawning session or they've suddenly become quite cagey and more difficult to catch.

If that's the case and you're sat on the bank with quiet alarms and nothing taking your floaters, then what better way to spend an hour or two than having a chat with Mr Carp Angling himself, Julian Cundiff.

Welcome back Jules. And firstly, tell us how your fishing is currently going in this beautiful summer we seem to be having at the minute? Long, hot days can spell disaster for some, but we're sure you've adapted, improvised and overcome to bank a few beauties on your chosen waters.

Jules: Ah cheers my friend and good to chat again. Yes the last month has been one hot ***** and much as I love the heat when it was thirty plus degrees around us it was pretty oppressive. That said I'm not complaining as I'm currently sat in Starbucks typing this whilst the car is MOT'd. It's cold, it's wet.... it's a typical UK summer day. Being retired I have the luxury of being able to pick and choose my trips and to be honest for almost three weeks I didn't plan anything and just waited to see what the day was like. My diaries show fourteen carp from four waters since I last wrote (which is probably fifty per cent down on usual) which is not great, but it could have been a lot worse! I also dropped three which is a bummer, but floating weed has been



I've kept at it

awful so that's understandable. Unlike bottom weed there's very little you can do when they kite, it clings to the mainline, slips down and literally pops the hook out. Nooooooooooooo.....

Brian: Good to hear... So, last month we talked about how stuff has changed over the years since your early days, and we discussed tackle changes from back in the day to now, the introduction of bivvies as we now know them, the specialist luggage making its way onto the market and it

was quite an eye opener to see how far carp Angling in general has come in quite a short time. But what about the pioneers of the early days. A few names absolutely stood head and shoulders above the others in the early years, carving out their carp fishing careers as others watched on, but who stood out for you personally as you began to find your own way? Who made you sit up and take notice?

Jules: When I first started 'specialist' angling in the late seventies all my influences were anything BUT carp anglers as that side of thing was so remote it never really resonated at all. There was no internet, so influences were people you bumped into fishing or read about in books and magazines. Before I joined the NASG (National Association Specialist Groups) my magazines were Angling Times, Coarse Angler and occasionally David Hall's Coarse Fisherman.

Fishing with Eric Hodson meant that virtually all my influences were.... him.... which was no bad thing. Once I joined the NASG, then the BEAC (British Eel Anglers Club) and the PS (Pike Society) I was exposed to the 'in house' magazines so my influences really expanded. Eels John Sidley, tench Barrie Rickards, bream Alistair Knowles and so on..... Carp were 'just another species' until I was given a copy of *The Carp Strikes Back* and my world changed. Boys own stuff and definitely a game changer. So, from 1983 to 1986 I read every single thing I could on carp fishing (books and magazines) and thinking back my influences / inspirations would be Rod Hutchinson, Kevin Maddocks, Andy Little, Tim Paisleyit was thirty five plus years ago!

Brian: We know you have been fortunate enough to rub shoulders with some of the greatest names in the sport, but is there anyone you could definitely say had an actual influence on your fishing? Who made you think about what you were doing, and fuelled the fire inside you to drive you on?



He's up there. A very young Dovey during our Daiwa days

Jules: I'm very fortunate (I've worked at it in all honesty) to not only have met, fished with but also written or filmed with virtually all my 'influences' which I guess the twenty year old Julian Cundiff would never have dreamt of. Most of what I've read or viewed has 'influenced' me to a degree but as to 'major



One inspired me, one taught me
how to carp fish

influences that's pretty
easy to detail.

Rod Hutchinson - The
Carp Strikes Back
inspired me to carp fish
to the exclusion of other
species.

Kevin Maddocks - Carp
Fever taught me how to
carp fish

Andy Little - showed me
that I wasn't as good as
I thought I was and that
nothing should ever be
too much trouble

Tim Paisley - probably
the biggest influence

of all when it comes to longevity, giving back, work rate and
understanding that carp fishing is more than just trophy shots

Brian Skoyles - surface angling and being open minded to alternative
methods

Kevin Nash - work rate, longevity and separating friendship from
business

Gary Bayes - bait!

To be honest I could go on and on about influences but those guys.....
class apart for me. Unlike the modern scene where 'many' forget
those that helped / influenced them but prefer to imagine they did it
all themselves or name check 'trendy anglers' or those that they want
to get a deal with. Don't get me started down that route.....

Brian: The one thing we see banded around far too much these days is the word 'legend'... especially in the angling world. Personally, we think of names like Springate, Walker, MacDonald, Hutchinson, Nash, Yates, and dare we say Cundiff, to name but a few when we think 'angling legend' but what about modern day anglers? There are a few names who seem to stand out to us at a time when everyone is fighting for a slice of the pie. Simon Crow, still bagging big ones wherever he goes. Terry Hearn... still clocking up the hours and putting carp on the bank that we would all love to catch. Is there anyone you would add to the list as someone who you think has that carp fishing X factor?

Jules: Legend is defined as 'an extremely famous or notorious person within a particular field'..... That's the strict Oxford dictionary definition but as you are posing the question to me I will detail it from MY PERSPECTIVE. Not that it's right but as they say timeline is everything and who may be a legend to me may well not be to a person younger or older than me. Hope that makes sense? I think, no I'm sure that Terry and Simon are legends but with their longevity (both were carp fishing in the eighties) I would say they are 'time served' and not necessarily 'modern day' anglers? For me it's about longevity, contribution to the sport and making a difference. Just catching carp will not tick my box although it may do for others. How about these?



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Alan Blair, Tom Dove, Neil Spooner, Tom Stokes, Adam Penning.....

The issue is that the older you get the more difficult it is to have a PROPER perspective on anglers considerably younger than yourself. I bet there are MANY anglers a lot older than me who wonder what all the fuss is about me (they may well be right) but if you were around from the late eighties onwards you may get it? Likewise, to the younger generation unless you are on television, film vlogs etc who are you? I'm cool with that too. As long as my peers feel I've contributed, and I can look in the mirror and know I have I'm happy.....

Brian: As we just touched upon... there does seem to be a lot of anglers vying for their 15 minutes of fame in carp angling. YouTube, TikTok, Facebook live streams etc seems to have bred a generation of quick hit media stars... but we also see hundreds of the same kind of video...

sitting in a bivvy, tying this rig, showing you the 'latest gadget', they have bought, and the worst kind of video we are seeing at the moment is filming a run, alarm screaming, clutch spinning and rod bending round for 30 seconds before they decide to pick up the rod and do something.... This latest fad actually annoys the hell out of me, there really is no need. So, the million dollar question to you is.... do you have any advice for someone



Carp catching and contribution...an easy choice 'Spoons

Jules: All that stuff is not FOR ME at all.

I do my bit via social media, shows, conferences, books, magazines, podcasts and when I fish it's for ME not the 'business'. I call it my fishing 'decompression' time. Time to get back to nature, to be twenty again and to step away from the world that we are part of. For someone new there are far more opportunities but far more people chasing them and prepared to do it for **** all. Pay peanuts and you get..... My advice as to how to get noticed.



Kevin and his sense of humour

- 1 - Find yourself a water full of carp mid doubles to twice that size.
- 2 - Go regularly all year round.
- 3 - Catch lots of carp.
- 4 - Photograph everything.
- 5 - Teach yourself or get taught good photography.
- 6 - As 5 but digital technology, video editing and IT skills
- 7 - Be yourself and not a watered down copy of others
- 8 - Wear or do or be something that is YOU.
- 9 - Think long term.
- 10 - Don't give up the day job, your school or studies.

Brian: We have seen you at the shows and open days over the years (pre Covid of course) and its amazing to see that after all the years at the top, you still manage to find the drive and passion to deal with hundreds, and sometimes thousands of anglers, over a weekend. We've seen the looks

of joy on peoples faces, and that thanks you get when your advice has helped someone catch their personal best... we know you are far from being ego driven... so is it the joy of seeing others success that keeps that fire burning for you?

Jules: Balance mate. I've been fishing since 1976, writing since 1982, carp fishing since 1984 and involved in the industry from 1987 (and worked full time 1980 - 2018) and never lost the passion. Like everyone I've had ** times with stress, loss of friends, death of parents, crazy girlfriends..... and so on. Fishing, carp fishing has never been my SOLE interest even though for a big percentage of the time it's been right up there. Obviously health, family and work were far more important but it's the extras that give me balance. Motorbikes, KISS, gigs, bike riding, WW2, reading, old school pro wrestling / MMA / bodybuilding and so on. I've spent time with people whose life is carp fishing and nothing else.....yee gods..... zzzzzzz. If that, and that alone floats your boat good on you but 5, 10, 20 years from now? I hope so.....**

Brian: And on that note we will call it a day for now... many thanks once again to Jules for sitting down and opening up to you, the reader, and sharing his thoughts. As you all know Jules is available on his own media channels to answer questions and offer words of advice and help should you wish for some, so don't be afraid to get in touch.

Many thanks once again and see you next month

Jules: My pleasure mate, time for another ' bucket coffee ' and hopefully the car will be ready soon as these conditions look very carpy...

Jules

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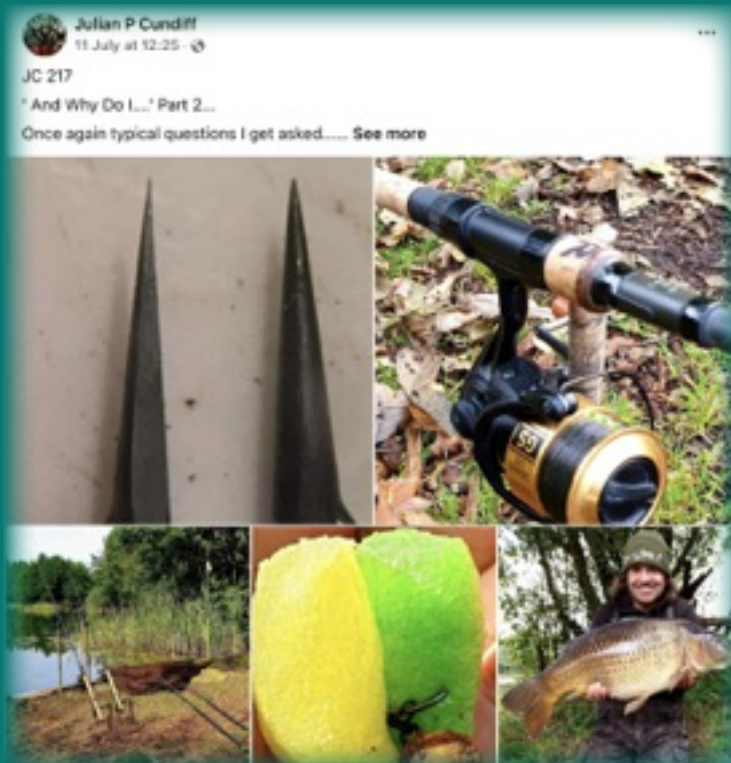
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**MORE TO FOOD, THAN
A POT NOOD-LE.**



By Joe Turnbull

I get a fair bit of interest in what I eat on the bank and its not all mixed salad leaves and tuna. I like to eat healthy, but I still have my treats come the weekend and I definitely believe that everything in moderation is perfectly fine. If you train and keep fit, then mentally and physically you're more than ready for anything angling has to throw at you. Keeping motivated throughout the year and in your sessions is of utmost importance and a lot of it can boil down to what you eat on the bank.

Back in the day I reckon the sales of pot noodles went through the roof and I bet if they'd carried out a poll, the higher percentage of sales would have been to carp anglers! Well thankfully times have changed, and we now have better stoves, better cooking equipment and better healthy foods that simply need heating up. When I first started fishing, I was spoilt if I'd gotten given a bacon roll on the bank but now it's easy to knock this kind of food up.

Things high in sugar are ok for a quick fix but in no time that sugar kick will wear off and you'll be searching for the next thing to eat. Instead of snacking on things like biscuits, crisps and chocolates look at things that are that are higher in carbs but lowers in sugars like bananas, oat bars (look for the low sugar variations), nuts, protein bars, yogurt, low sugar chocolate chip cookies and dark chocolate. There are loads more things to choose from, just have a look





online. As anglers we can become lazy and that can rub off on our food where things like pot noodles are seen as easy and quick to eat but you can easily knock up something far tastier with just a few simple ready prepared items.

This in mind I thought I'd go through a really tasty meal that cost around £7-£9 and this is for two meals that you can save and have the next day or keep cold and have another day. I've chosen salmon for the main food item here but I have also made the same meal with meatballs, chicken, pork and prawns but you can add what you like. Getting somewhat creative is what it's all about and once you've done it once I can promise you that you'll never reach for that pot noodle again.

So, start of by adding the salmon to the pan (you can add both pieces or

just the one) and through this entire process you do not need any oil as the pan itself has a non-stick coating. Next up, take some mixed stir fry vegetables, now these come ready mixed in a few variations but for this meal I've got a sweet pepper mix. They usually come in quite large bags and are cheap for the amount you get so before I leave home, I simply split the amount into two and put the other half into the fridge ready for the next session. Go ahead and add the mixed veg onto top of the salmon making sure that mix is covering the whole of the pan. After that, I add noodles and once again you can get these in a few variations. The types you can get are plain rice noodles, egg noodles which are a little thicker and then the ones I've used here which are the slightly spicy, Singapore fried noodles. Again, make sure that you cover the pan with the noodles so that there are hardly any gaps. Lastly you need to add a sauce as this pulls the whole meal together and gives everything a really



nice flavour. There are again quite a few different variations of sauce flavours, but these are really authentic and tasty, so the choice of this last addition is really the one to think about. Anyway, the one I choose this time was a new one called Fire Banger Chilli sauce, it wasn't silly hot, it was just right, really tasty with roasted red peppers, red chilli and soy sauce.

Simply pour the sauce all over the mix being careful not to let it spill off the pan as now you should have a small pile building up. Now here's the clever bit. Shut the lid and turn the stove on but keep in on low for about 5 mins. You'll be really surprised at just how quick this cooks and how its cooks. Basically, what happens, is that the water from the mixed vegetables steams all the food, including the salmon and before you know it you have a large meal that will not only fill you up but will keep you going for a long time. All you need to do now is place the food onto a



plate and serve piping hot!

Utensils wise I use the Ridgemonkey XL Compact toaster which folds down to a nice compact size. It also fits in any bag, and I like this particular model because the handles are detachable which makes packing it away much easier. Everything in my angling is always scaled down to as much as I can possibly can without being without anything. This makes me more proactive, and it makes me want to do things such as cook good food on the bank. Sure, there are ovens, full size fridges and all manner of cooking items these days but by taking stupidly bulky items only drags you down.

It's now really easy to cook great hot meals on the bank in no time and it doesn't have to be bacon or sausage rolls so get creative, light the fire in your belly and keep that motivation high.

Be lucky

JT



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Parkers Specimen Social

by Tom Simcox



Firstly the first thing I'd like to point out on this fishery are the looks of the place Parkers is a very picturesque place and on arrival me and my brother were taken back by the looks of the lake and looking at each other with very good expectations on what was to come during our 48hr stay. We already knew which were our pegs on arrival due to us messaging back and forth with the manager (Rob) and Mark Timerick, from Nuneaton Tackle, who both kindly invited us along. So as we left our parked vehicles, me, my brother and my son Adam, approached the lake and soon found out Rob was already set up next to our designated pegs. So the first thing we did was talk to Rob to pick his brains on the lake and also take a steady wonder around the lake where other anglers were fishing and doing well. We Introduced ourselves, talked a little on what they had caught and picked up some tips along the way after talking to the other anglers and walking round this lovely lake we set about getting our gear out and making a start, me and my brother fished a double swim which gave us access to a very nice piece of water surrounded with reeds, an island and all around the edge of the lake was lined with reeds with all little crannies and holes, my kind of fishing.

So, now we're in our pegs and set about getting that first fish on the bank, which to my surprise didn't take long as my right hand margin rod along a set of reeds burst into life, a nice little fight resulted in our first carp, a pretty little mirror around 4lb . The funny thing was when someone had



a bite someone else would have one. It seemed to come to life all around the lake then go quiet at the same time and when that quiet spell came it would be around tea time where the local lads set up a BBQ and what a BBQ it was and the food was amazing. I don't drink but the boys also had a few beers. They were a cracking group of lads. As soon as the food was dealt with, it was back to the fishing.

We didn't go to sleep till early hours. The first night, me, my brother and Mark were having a good old chinwag. I think it was around 01:00 or 01:30 when we eventually got our heads down, but didn't get much sleep with my brother having a small mirror and around 4:00 in the morning. I managed to get something a little bigger and very very pretty in terms of the colouring, a stunning mirror entered my landing net as I said earlier, it seemed to trigger around the lake as I found out off Mark he'd been going around the lake taking pictures most of the night with a sturgeon being caught amongst other carp.

As the morning came, the fishery also had a cafe on the car park called Lakeside, which although is on the car park, it's a separate business from the fishery, but the location allows everyone to use it and we took full advantage with some cracking sandwiches before we eventually done a livestream in there and walking all around the lake to give people different shots of the lakes beauty and whilst doing this we all took our lines out





our swims to give the spots a deserved rest and let the carp move freely around the swims pressure free. The weather on the other hand took a bit of a nose dive as we headed into the Saturday afternoon with the rain coming down fairly heavy at times but it would be around 3 or 4 o'clock when we had a brief spell where we decided to get the rods back out onto there designated spots and not soon after I was going around to take some shots of Marks reward, a lovey mirror which was the

first of two pretty quick bites for Mark and on the return to my peg, my boys rod burst into life with a cracking little common was his reward. Then a couple of hours later, I was into action again with my middle rod, bursting into life once again, it was a bit bigger than what we were getting in a high double common, a lovely looking fish. We took some pics and released it on its way and true to form, my brothers rod then came to life but the fish came off halfway through the battle. The fish were really on the feed coming to all different rigs bait and approaches.

My approach didn't change to what I use 90% of the time, wherever I go, multi rig pop ups with 12mm scopex squid, and my mix containing: scopex squid 12mm freebies, pellet, Sweetcorn, flake and a good covering of scopex squid syrup whilst adding scopex squid hemp to the mix separately. It kept the bites coming throughout the weekend, as tea time approached the owner of the cafe popped over to ask if we wanted anything from the cafe, which became like a takeaway at night. It was also Caribbean food on the menu so my brother opted for a curry and dumplings,



me and my son just opted for some cheesy chips which went down a treat. There food was second to none, so a massive shout out to the Lakeside Cafe. Totally awesome.

As we settled down for our final night, feeling very confident, but at the same time, needing some much needed sleep, it must of been a couple of hours, my brother Shaun was away again, this time being a small mirror, eventually, putting his rig back out onto his spot, it must of been another hour or so when my siren sang out again.



This time it was a different type of fight and during the battle, I'd caught a few glimpses of what it was, it wasn't a carp, it was a sturgeon that eventually came off at the net, which was unfortunate but I couldn't really complain it had been such a great weekend with such great people, meeting Rob (the manager), who had poured endless hours into getting the fishery where it needed to be and will continue with its growth to make it what I'm sure will be a very popular water. The work Rob has put in can be seen as soon as you approach the place with a very neat and secure otter fence going all the way round the perimeter of the lake.



The pegs themselves, which are very nice, neat and tidy and all barked out, also on the car park behind our swim has: the toilet and shower, which are both spotless and clean inside. Then there's the money they have spent on new stock with carp going up to the 30lb barrier some huge surgeon's and some massive catfish that also go in the region of 80lb. So there is something for everyone and talking to Rob they are nowhere near finished with the whole project. He plans to net the lake and

add some more new stock to what is a huge variety of amazing specimen. On behalf of my brother and my son, we would like to wish parkers all the best with there future and a massive thank you to Rob and Mark for our invitation. I for one, will definitely make a return in the future. I'd love to see the place in the autumn and winter time.

Thanks again. It's very much appreciated

Tom.





Winter session at Churchwood fisheries



**Then off to Malta
by Scott Geezer Grant**

In the past I normally fish a winter session over at Churchwood Fisheries, but due to Covid and the lake being shut I haven't had a chance the past 2 years. Well, this year normality resumed and I was looking forward to wetting a line on the complex again.



I had a session planned for February for a few nights on Jenkins, and my good mate Nick who incidentally is the owner's cousin would be fishing a session on Churchwood. As always bait prep is key to my fishing and a day before I was due to load the van, I started preparing my bait. For the session I would be taking tutti frutti crushed and whole mixed boilies, plus the Creamy Toffee again in crushed and mixed sizes. Also, I had a bucket of the finest chillie hemp in the land, and a

gallon of maggots a winter winning combination.

My session was planned from Friday 4th- Monday 7th then I was off to Malta diving a couple of days later. I arrived Friday mid-morning and it was cold, but that's how the weather is in February. I spoke to the owner Steve and he said the lake had been fishing well up until a couple of weeks ago, but now seems to of shut down, not what I wanted to hear, and it now makes



it even harder. The wind was a North Westerly and even though it was 10oc it felt more like 5oc with the wind, the pressure was 1012 but would be dropping over the next few days. After a lovely catch up and cup of tea with Steve it was time to unload the van and get

the house up.

An hour or so later the house was up and everything was sorted and in its place. I fished here a few times before so finding spots/areas I didn't have to do; the fish seem to frequent the same areas in the winter and as long as I apply the bait they should feed. I have caught from these areas in the past so that's my starting point. I opted to fish 2 rods on pop ups and 1 rod on wafter.

Winter is not an easy time so topping the baits off with a few maggots gives the edge that can make the difference between catching or blanking. The right and middle rod was fished to the far bank to my right on the shelf, and the left-hand rod was fished on a clean gravel area to my left. Even though it's winter I still use a lot of bait for the time of year, my philosophy has always been if you keep feeding them, they will keep eating, especially if it's a good digestible bait. The left-hand rod was fished on a tutti frutti wafter over matching crushed boilie, whole boilie, a few Creamy Toffee boilies, chillie hemp and a few maggots. The middle and right-hand rods were fished with creamy toffee pop



ups over the same. Rig wise I was using ready-made Ronnies from Sharp Tackle, superior hooks that have never let me down.

With the rods out it was time to stick the kettle on and give Nick a ring to see what time he would be here. He must have heard the kettle go on as he appeared out the blue and scared the s@£* out of me! It was



good to see him though and I was looking forward to having a social as it's been quite a while since we last fished together. I made us both a tea, we had a brief chat before he had to get on with the dreaded task of unloading his van, and getting his gear to the swim. I left him to get set up whilst I chilled out and watched the water.

A couple of hours later he had his rods out on the spots, so now it was time to have a social. Nick always has something new every time I see him and this time was no different. Obviously, it gets dark early so before we knew it evening was upon us so we sat in the lodge. It started to get cold and out of nowhere Nick said "shall I go and get my heater" to which I replied "what heaters that mate", next thing I know he goes to his van and comes back with a diesel heater that they have in lorries/campers etc. I was intrigued to see what this thing could do. Nick connected it up to a leisure battery then used the remote to turn it on, it wasn't long before the thing was pumping warm air into the cabin and boy after 30 minutes it made a massive difference. Like I said he always has something new, and after nearly gassing myself a few years back one of these bad boys was on my shopping list. We sat chatting and drinking until 10pm then we both retired to our bivvies. When I went into my bivvy it was like an ice box!! Nick was okay he took his heater up to his.

Once in the bag it didn't take long before I was lovely and warm



and sending out the zzzzzzzz. I woke up at 07:00 o'clock after a quiet night busting for a pee (no change there) the kettle went on for the first morning's coffee. Nick came down just after 08:00 o'clock he also had a quiet night. The weather was still quite cold and the wind chill was definitely making it a lot colder than it actually was. We sat drinking copious amounts of tea which although was making us feel warm, I was streaming like a race horse. Early afternoon saw

Nick bank the first fish of the year from Churchwood in the shape of a lovely 18lb 7oz Linear. The fish was really dark and looked a right old warrior. Steve came down and was pleased that Nick

had managed to snag one. Later in the afternoon around 4pm my left-hand rod was away and after a scrap a common of 16lb 5oz was engulfed in the net. Not massive by any standards but any fish in the conditions we were fishing in was a bonus, especially as this is the first fish since it shut down a few weeks back. The fish was treated and safely returned, then the rod was rebaited and boated out to the same spot.





Come evening and the temperature was a lovely 8oc and it was going to stay like that all night, but the wind started to pick up and the weather app was stating gusts of up to 20mph, not what you want to hear when your surrounded by massive old trees.

After a lovely meal washed down with a few ciders and another good social a quiet night was had by us both. The next morning, I woke up to heavy rain and it looked bang on for a bite, the pressure had dropped to 1001 but would be creeping up throughout the day, surely one of the big girls will feed. Come 0930 the rain stopped but it was due to start again at 2pm. Just after midday

I wound the rods in and went for a lovely shower, the facilities are second to none here, you cannot fault them a flush toilet a fully fitted out cabin with fridges/freezers each lake has its own it's like being in France. Nick packed up in the afternoon and I had one more night before I would be departing myself. Evening saw

me having another lovely dinner but this time it was a solo affair. The temperature had dropped dramatically and it was going to be 2oc, the wind had eased and tomorrow's weather is looking better with a south westerly wind.

A quiet night was had and the following day a couple of lads turned up to fish the Cat Lake for a few nights. I had a chat with the





to get set up. Later in the afternoon one of the lads bagged a huge cat weighing in at 58lb 6oz!! they went on to have a further 5 cats from 18lb-30lb, remarkable considering its February!!

I packed up late evening and said my goodbyes, it was another great trip with a fish under my belt. I will be back but not until February next

year.

If you would like to fish either Jenkins, Churchwood or the dedicated Cat Lake visit their website www.churchwoodfisheries.co.uk

For bookings call Steve/Helen on 01277-375499





Two days later I was flying out to Malta with a couple of friends and their families. We had booked 10 nights at DB Sandbank in Melliehe, all-inclusive and a place I have stayed at previously. The rooms are excellent and the food is top draw. We would be diving as much as the weather allows, the diving in Malta is excellent the viz is amazing the Mediterranean Sea is so beautiful and clear. I managed to complete 12 dives whilst there, and the ones that stick out were the Madonna a dive I completed 3 years ago when I qualified as an Ocean diver, and it was my first ever sea dive, P31 patrol boat just off Camino Island, it sits at just 20 metres and you can see the boat on the bottom from the waters surface. I done a few wall dives and whilst coming back on

one of the dives, I was coming up to do my stop and whilst at 9.8 metres I looked up to see a school of squid enjoying the sunrays coming through the water, sights you just don't get to see every day. I also completed my depth progression with Mick, as in 2021 I passed my Sports Diver qualification which allows me to go down to 35 metres, but the furthest I had been down was 30 metres, but whilst out on a dive at Lantern Point myself and Mick went down to 35 metres and it felt good.

Our skippers Chris & Matthias were top blokes and both knew their stuff, they took us to the best dive sites Malta has to offer. The shop they work for is called Sea Shell Dive Centre, and if you are visiting



The Creamy Toffee, Banoffee, Monster Tune, Tutti-Fruitti Boilie ranges along with pop ups, dips etc is readily available in your local stockist, or visit the A2 baits website for the full bait range. www.a2baits.co.uk

Malta and want to go diving to the best sites gives these guys a shout. The shop prices are very reasonable and you can also hire any kit requirements, what you get is worth every penny.

For more information visit www.seashelldivecentre.com

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www.a2baits.co.uk

www.sharptackle.co.uk

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(Facebook)



Carters Leads currently have an offer on, buy 50 leads up to 4oz for £37:50 which includes postage. Head over to their face book page for more information.

For all your PVA needs head over to the brand-new Castaway website. Where you will find an array of PVA products that can help you in your fishing. www.castaway-pva.co.uk

Stay safe and remember its only fishing.

Scott "Geezer" Grant



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Time out...Time for
change...



by Andy Murray

Hi all, since my return from France in April, which I covered in the May issue of Talking Carp, my carp fishing has been very patchy for a number of reasons. A couple of trips to the Pits proved a challenge as the big Pit was busy and getting on the carp proved difficult, it does seem to have become a bit of a theme on here, as well as a couple of other things started to be an issue for me, nothing major, but those little things niggle away at you don't they? I had a couple of trips down to Trent View which proved more fruitful. Apart from that, work and family life has kept me away from the bank, to be honest, I wasn't too fussed either. When I feel like that I just go with the flow, rather than force the fishing trips, best to leave it until the time is right

to go. I seem to have been a bit unsettled with a few things this year, normally I can't wait for each fishing trip. I'll come back to that later. We have just returned from a long family holiday in July which took a fair bit of organizing, we went with my daughter Lynsey and the Grandkids. As we run our own business (Myself and Lynsey), there was a lot of work to get through to clear the decks so we could take the time out for a nice break in Bulgaria. It was also Sal's first holiday for three years due to the joint combination of Covid and her two-year battle with Breast Cancer.

We had a wonderful time, mainly chilling out by the pool and the beach, with the odd boat trip as well. Oh, and we got to see Elvis! Again! My friends will laugh at that. Just before the trip, my Grandson (who is a real Elvis fan), went with me to see the new Elvis film, it was brilliant! What has any of the above got to do with fishing you may ask? Probably not much to most, but to





ing chess with him, my oldest Grandson to the gym and Cinema, helping my daughter building her business and arranging special times with my wife are more important than my next carp, no matter how big it is...mostly anyway...

did notice last year on the Pits when using bags, I had a few occasions where I had indications, but no bites developed, on other occasions they would rattle off without any indication at all. This has led me to play around with the presentation a bit this year, I have attached a picture of the set-up I'm now using. I was using a slightly stiffer hook-link with a rig ring on the hook shank to enable the turning off the hook, I have seen a lot of anglers use this type of set-up. I'm sure this cost me carp on the Big Pit last year, where the carp aren't so riggy (I think anyway). When the hook can turn too freely and turn back in on itself, the point can catch in the hookbait more easily, which can give some indication but no bite. So, I have reverted back to old school with a piece of

me it's about balance. I see others who catch more and bigger carp than I do, occasionally I feel a tinge of jealousy but to me, my family is the most important thing in my life. I think a lot of us have been through a couple of years of hell and are coming out the other side (I know we have), I hope it's helped some of you have more appreciation for the things you have, it has for me. So, taking my youngest Grandson to his rugby games and play-

Anyway, back to the fishing, when I have got out on the bank I have enjoyed being there. I have worked hard at my fishing when on the bank this year. Even on the trips to the Pits where I struggled, I made sure I worked hard at finding the spots even at range and making sure I got bait on to them. I have also continued with my use and experimenting with PVA bags, as to bag and a bait size and what I fillings I put in them. I

tubing as opposed to a rig ring on the hook, I am also using a more supple braid. I also started trimming the hookbait down more than I have been doing, using a wafter and trimming the roundness away. One of the other things I have been doing with PVA bags is not putting liquid in, but different size pellets and dry stick mix powder, to create a cloud around the bait after the PVA dissolves. These might all seem like unimportant things but often it's those little things that can be effective. This year I have had more bites on the bags and less false indications. Now here's the thing about indication, and some anglers may have different opinions, I noticed this on one of my trips on the Pits this year, a group of anglers next to me constantly seemed

to be redressing their lines and messing about because of lots of false bleeps, it can be really annoying... but I just assumed they were a bit new to fishing and let them get on with it. It does show though the importance of getting the line set right to be able to read what is happening at the rig end. Once I have cast out, I settle the line, put the rod on its rest, then attach the bobbin, pretty straightforward so far heh... It's second nature as to how tight I have the line as I have been fishing for so long. On some waters the line will be set tighter than on others, so for instance on the Big Pit I fish the lines are set very tight as I'm usually a fair way out

and I really don't want too much line along the lakebed due to the gravel and mussels and possible cut-offs. I know some folk are paranoid about the line near the rig standing out to the carp, but with well over a hundred yards of line out, to me the last few yards are always going to be on the bottom due to the sheer weight of the line, no matter how hard you think you have tightened it, it might be a bit different for braid, that's will



depend on which type you use. Back to having the line really tight, I still leave enough movement with a heavy-ish bobbin or indicator to register a knock or a blip, so I can tell something has occurred. If I am fishing a bit closer in, then I may fish the line a little bit slacker, so the bobbin has a bit more bounce in it, just to ensure the last few yards are along the bottom, but this is not for fear of spooking carp, but to make sure they don't bump into the line, which is not quite the same thing, so any indication is coming from the bag itself. Back to the PVA bags, I use the PVA from Castaway, along with their fantastic cable ties. It's relatively easy

to fish up to 80-90 yards with the medium sized bags. If I need a bit more distance, then I will use a smaller bag for the extra yards. In shallower water where I just want a small amount of bait, I will use a smaller bag as well, so the smaller bags are not always necessarily just for distance, I use them to suit my fishing circumstances. One final thing about bag fishing, is to always have bags pre-

prepared to hand, this saves so much time drying everything in order to cast out again. The Tidy Stems from Gemini Tackle are great for this, just clip on the to the loop and I am fishing immediately again.

On a recent trip to Trent View I had a few bites through the day by getting the bag and tactics mostly right. I had found a spot at the bottom of the drop off,



it was just over 20ft deep. It was quite a steep drop-off, so I was happy to fish there, over the last couple of year on my trips here, I have found the deep margins worth fishing on here, regardless of where the carp are showing, and boy do they show on here! Once I found the right spot, I was getting a bite every 2 hours or so, no false warnings, they just rattled off, all of the fights were immense. The best of them being this stunning Scaley 23lb carp. As the 2 swims next me were vacant, I thought I was in for a bit of a red-letter session, as there were a number of carp in the corner, I was obviously picking them up on the way out. As more anglers turned up and filled the swims, the bites stopped...the joys of day ticket fishing heh? I always enjoy my trips to Trent View,

even though it's a busy fishery, it is well run and quiet, which is a good reflection on Ian and his team.

As I am putting the finishing touches to this article, I'm getting ready for our much-awaited trip to Parco Del Brente in 2 weeks, it seems to have been a long time coming and I am really looking forward to our trip, even the drive down there. I have been sorting out one or two major items of tackle in the last couple of weeks. One of the constant concerns these days is having enough power whilst out on the bank, especially on longer trips abroad, after much deliberating I have invested in an Atom Pro and Solar Charging system, early indications are that it has been a sound investment. The Solar panel put 20% into

the battery in around 3 hours of sunshine, which is really ideal for keeping all the electrics charged whilst away. So, if you are thinking or changing your power supply for your fishing, take a look at the Atom Pro and Solar Pack from GCT Angling.

As I said, although I haven't been fishing quite so much these last few weeks, and then been away with the family, I have had some thinking time. During the last couple of years, I have made a couple of decisions that were not the best I have made, which has impacted on my own sanity at times! No point in having any regrets though, you make your bed, best lay in it, as goes the saying. However, I have been planning a few changes for my fishing going forward, I have been having a

few exploratory walks round a some lakes I haven't fished before and have my eyes on a couple more lakes for the future. I have enjoyed my fishing on the Pits these last 6 years or so, but maybe its time for a change as to where and how I fish. Particularly as I expect to have a bit more fishing time next year, though some of that time will be taken up with more trips abroad. A couple of the lakes I have been looking at are a bit nearer to home and I will be having a couple of trips in the coming weeks to get a feel for them. The other major change has been to change bait companies, I have been with DT for just over a year and have enjoyed my time with the guys. There hasn't been any falling out or anything negative, it just wasn't right for both of us. No hard

feelings and I will stay friends with the guys. I haven't been in a rush as to deciding just what to do going forward about bait, after a few conversations and meetings, it's likely I will go with the Key Baits Solutions team. More of this in future articles.

By the time you read this, I will be setting off to Parco, one of my targets this year was to catch a 50lb carp, which I did in April, so now I am thinking it would be nice to catch a 60lb carp on

one of my remaining 2 trips I have abroad, if I catch a 60lb carp at Parco, then I will have to maybe up the target to 70lb for my trip in October to Etang Deux Pierres! It's good to have a dream and it's good that it's still there. Whatever you dream about or do, I hope it works for you.

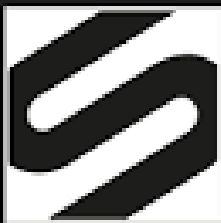
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SMART CARP CLOTHING -

INTERVIEW BY MARK CARPER



The Carp Clothing Brand For When Size Matters!!



With the 'Recreational Angling' Industry worth an estimated and staggering £1.4bn to the English economy each year, it is little wonder than companies spring up with all manner of items to tempt you to buy 'more' gear... and believe me, I fit the profile of the perfect consumer...!

I love my carp gear, even the stuff I buy and never need let alone use and clothing is no exception, except, I am no longer the slim figure of a youth and young man I once was and now, I need a 'T' and some shorts for the shall we say "Larger Gentleman"...?!!

Now, I'm not a complete lump, but I do have broad shoulders and a slightly broader belly, but I can still squeeze into a size thirty, err, umm, sixtyseveny pair of trousers/jeans/shorts but I'm comfortable in a thirty-seventyish if I'm being totally honest, and most of my T-Shirts / Hoodies / Jackets etc. are a 2XL..

...and there's the problem, the majority of 'Carp Clothing' that has the "High Street" fashion feel, or is at least attempting to portray that as an image, definitely appears to run on the small size and I have given away clothing that although advertised as 2XL, which from most companies is their 'Maximum' size, its nothing like the 2XL I buy from the 'actual' High Street and my shoulders don't fit, let alone my Chest and Gut... clearly they do not want the 'fatties' in their gear as we likely spoil the image...!!

For me, the clothing needs to be equally 'comfortable' and 'practical', the designer (or so they are aiming for) status, you know from Bankside to Bar Side, doesn't even come into the equation... and for me, Carp Clothing is exactly that, it's Carp Clothing. I don't want or need it to portray a fashion statement and I certainly don't want to wear it "up the pub"...!!

Recently though, I happened across a company that are not aiming to be the 'Gucci' or even the 'High Street Fashion' brand of the Carp Clothing Industry but are simply aiming to provide quality clothing

at the right price and for those that may be slightly bigger than average, up to 'Beast Size'... and I don't just mean the belly beast (like me), I mean guys that are proper "Power Lifter" sized beasts..!!!

I decided to catch up with the founders of Smart Carp Clothing, Colin and Andrew Poynton and Danny Turley to find out what their story was and why they felt they needed to release a range of clothing that 'Starts' at LARGE and runs to 6XL...Yep, that's not a typo, on some of their items, they offer sizing up to 6XL...!

TC: Gents, welcome to Talking Carp Magazine, the Xtra Sized Free Carp Mag...!

SCC: *Thank you for the invitation we very much appreciate it.*

TC: Tell me a bit about yourselves and how the idea for Smart Carp Clothing came about..?

SCC: *There are three of us who started Smart Carp Clothing, Myself (Colin), my brother Andrew and our good friend Danny Turley (aka Turtle).*

Both my brother and myself have fished together all our lives some 40+ years, enjoying various fishing trips. In the 90's this was Coarse Fishing in Ireland, moving on to carp fishing in France and Spain late 90's into the 2000. One particular trip saw us going to a lake in France, that had just changed hands and renamed to the now famous "Gigantica" where we meet the then bailiff



Danny Turtle.. We became good friends immediately and enjoyed 7 trips in total while Dan was bailiff there.

Fast forward 10 years or so, we were enjoying a catch up over a few beers talking everything carp as you do... when we got onto the subject of it becoming harder and harder to get carp clothing to fit us. Even when it comes to joggers, the styles were changing and the new “skinny fit” just didn’t measure up for us! Literally!

All 3 of us are big guys, I am 6ft-6” tall and wear our 4XL with Dan and Andrew being around 6ft and wearing 3 & 5XL’s. So no chance of fitting into the big named brands from the tackle shops...!

Having worked in the workwear industry in times gone by, I had the connections to have clothing made to bespoke specification. The conversation went on, as did the beers and our plan formed... Over the next couple of days we thought of names for the brand and we kept coming back to one name. Our aim was to develop a range of clothing that keeps you warm and comfortable while on the bank enabling you fish “Smarter” and looking the part in some “Smart” new fishing clobber! “Smart Carp” was born..



TC: I see you do a fairly standard (for the Carp Industry) range of items, from T-Shirts to Hoodies and Joggers to Shorts, so how did you decide on what your range would consist of...?

SCC: **We knew we weren’t the only guys out there with this problem, BUT we also needed to get off the ground. With limited funds available we needed a product to launch Smart Carp as a brand. This would give us a**



foundation to be able extend the range over time. Most carp anglers love a hoodie so this would become our first product.

Detail and design were key, but premium fabric was also a must. The Smart Carp 'Premium Hoodie' is exactly that. It's a firm favourite to this day and now available in a couple of colour options.

T-Shirts, Joggers and Shorts all followed and as you say, are fairly

standard. However, to cater for the for the bigger carp angler, our 'Size range' is not standard and the range is growing all the time and eventually, we want to cover all aspects of carp clothing and offer them in our Larger sizes.

TC: How much did the 'Sizing' influence what the range would be...?

SCC: *Sizing is everything and we spend a huge amount of time getting this right. For instance, you can't just take a T-Shirt and make it wider. Well, you can, but the result is a very poor fit and probably too short and with the arms pulling etc. Our clothing is designed from scratch and every size is taken into consideration.... Our range may be bigger sizes but sizes that are designed specifically to fit well...!*

TC: How did you decide on the range of sizing and why do you not cater for our 'slimmer' Carpers, the Smalls and Mediums or even the Larges...?

SCC: We started off by offering XL to 5XL, we were then asked for slightly bigger T-Shirts, so we extended the range to 6XL.

Our initial thoughts on smaller sizes were the big brands take care of that. However, as our brand grows, and people see the quality and style of products we are getting asked for smaller sizes. We have now added size large into the range of some of the T-Shirts and we may do more in the future, but we will always cater for the bigger guy.

TC: Was the sizing purely based on 'Chest and Waist' sizes or did 'Height' play a part in the design process, I often find 'Carpy' T-Shirts too short and thus uncomfortable...?

SCC: You're exactly right, many brands offer 3XL or maybe even 4XL but are they really? We would say not. As you say, too short or slim fit... Not on our shift..

At the very start we asked Bill Cottam to join our team to help promote the brand. Bill has been around the carp scene more than most. Bill was importing clothing from the USA to get the fit. Bill is now fully branded in the 'Smart Carp' range....Just take a look



at that celebratory return shot of Bill in his Smart Carp T-Shirt after returning another European Monster Carp...!

TC: Do you have any influence on the actual material, design, and cut of the clothing or are these just “off the shelf” ready to go and you ‘badge them’, so to speak...?

SCC: We make a big deal shouting this from the roof tops. ALL Smart Carp Clothing is 100% made for us from scratch. The full design, cloth, sizes and every little bit of detail is our own. Many samples are tried, and hours of time are put into making what we consider to be the best carp clothing we can make.

TC: What type of materials do you use for the range and what was the influencing factor for them...?

SCC: We use the best fabric we can, no corners are cut. The feedback we receive from our customers has been exceptional. Not only are they pleased with the quality when they receive their clothing but also how they wash and stand the punishment the modern-day angler puts them through, and this keeps our customers coming back again and again. Already we have established a regular customer base who order as soon as new products are released.

TC: Along with the ‘Fleece’ options designed for those cooler days and winter,



I notice you do an 'Air-Flow' T-Shirt and 'Light Weight' Shorts, so what materials do you use for these and are they hard-wearing...?

SCC: *We already have a very good quality T-Shirt available in two colours in the range, and as the emphasis has always been quality, this means the fabric is a heavier weight than most cheaper products out there, which is great for most of the year but when it comes to the height of summer it can be a little on the warm side.*

The same applies to our Jersey Shorts, extremely comfortable but as these are made from the same premium fabric as our Hoodie, a bit warm on a hot summers day.....

....So, the need for a Light-Weight option was a must to complement what we already have.

The Light-Weight Shorts are so comfortable but still have the zip pockets as with the Jersey Shorts, which is an absolute must to keep your valuables safe while on the bank and the 'Air-Flow'

T-Shirts have been a great success for us, from the minute we launched them.

We sampled a few polyester materials until we found our Air-Flow fabric. It's very breathable and allows the air to really cool you down on these hot day days that we have seen lately.



Even if we say so ourselves, these are lovely to wear, you can hardly feel you have anything on...!

TC: Surprisingly, the one thing I couldn't see in your range was a Baseball Cap...! Is there a reason for that or is it something you will be releasing...?

SCC: ***Caps have been a debated subject here at Smart Carp HQ:) The main reason for not having one to date is our range is based on offering a product that isn't available from other brands, Size...***

Most guys don't have the same issues when it comes to headwear. However, we are working on something, and as our brand grows and customers want Smart Carp products, we have been asked more and more. As with all our products this will be quality and fit right. Keep an eye on our Facebook Page for updates.....

TC: ...and what about a Jacket, you know, something waterproof for those good old downpours we get so often, do you have any plans to release something in the bigger size range...?

SCC: ***We have been working on 'Waterproofs' for some time now and again, starting from scratch when it comes to size, style and fabric. Waterproofs can't be***





rushed, or you get problems. Having not been 100% happy so far, we continue to work on getting this right and will keep everyone posted...

TC: What are your most popular selling items and in what sizes...?

SCC: ***Up until recently, our 'Premium Hoodie' has been number one! Warm, comfortable and looks the part.... However, the Air-Flow T-Shirts have been crazy, customers have ordered and come back for more within days after receiving them...!***

In terms of sizes, 3,4 & 5XL are all very popular sizes for us as you would expect with these not being available from other brands.

TC: What is your normal 'Order to Delivery' times and do you offer free delivery...?

SCC: ***We aim to dispatch orders the next working day and even same day on some occasions. Free delivery on all orders over £40 and just a small charge for orders under that.***

TC: Do you have plans to extend the range past 6XL or is that as big as you need to go...?

SCC: ***We continue to grow and develop new product ranges and up to now, 6XL has been more than adequate but if the demand is there anything is possible...!***

TC: It does appear that 'Collaborations' are a thing now and fancy and intricate printed designs, do you have any plans to steer your products in that direction...?

SCC: ***Right now, our products are only available from Smart Carp. We have been approached by one or two none clothing companies regarding having some products made for them. This is something we can do if the quantities are there to manufacture them.***

TC: Colin, thank you for that insight into Smart Carp Clothing and I look forward to seeing how the Brand and Products grow... which hopefully will be faster than me or you may find 6XL needs to be upgraded..!!!

After speaking to a few fellow anglers that have been wearing the clothing for a few sessions or longer, the reports back are as Colin says, made well, fit well, wash well and are definitely designed to last.

For me it has to be about the 'Fit'... the Comfort Level has to come above the 'Label' or 'Badge' and 'wearability' is far more important than the 'Fashion Statement' (I mean that in Carp terms not 'proper' fashion)... I will stick to my true 'Designer' labels for the pub..!!!

Take a look at the items on their webpage and follow them on Social Media at...

<https://smartcarpclothing.co.uk/>

Instagram: @
smartcarpclothing
Facebook: Smart Carp
Clothing





CARBON BAIT

WWW.CARBONBAITS.CO.UK

541 ft

Deeper Mapping

151 ft

by Richard Handel

How does the fish Deeper page help you plan out your fishing trip when you are sitting at home?

Before the haters get on their high horse and say it's cheating. I'm only looking at the bathymetry of the lake bed and understanding the whole lake's contours and how the fish travel about their underwater highways.

My lake

Once you have mapped as much as I have, you get an understanding of when you see carp topping and moving around. Of where they have come from and where they are going to. I don't believe it's taking away watercraft as I screenshot all the swims and their prominent features when I'm looking on my laptop or tablet in the comfort of my home. You still have to put the time in to get as much information as I have accumulated, which is no different than spending time over the close season mapping feature with a marker float and jotting it down on paper. The world has moved on and we don't send letters handwritten anymore, we send emails.

Back to the subject in question.

Firstly, find the area that you have seen the carp showing and then search on your personal page for that area, zoom in and study the contours. You can work out where the best spot in the swim is to intercept them from.

8 ft drop off

An 8ft drop-off may be leading down from a 5ft gravel bar.

5 ft Bar

You still have to observe the carp's movement around the lake and comprehend their reasoning as to why they will be moving.

Once you have located your hot spots in multiple swims, you can simply arrive, find the carp, check your information, and set about getting the rods and bait out extra.

Measuring

You can measure the distance from your swim and calculate the number of wraps needed for 10ft, 12ft, or even 13ft rods, flick a lead out and feel it down if you're after that 'donk' or simply chuck a bag out.

Same spot



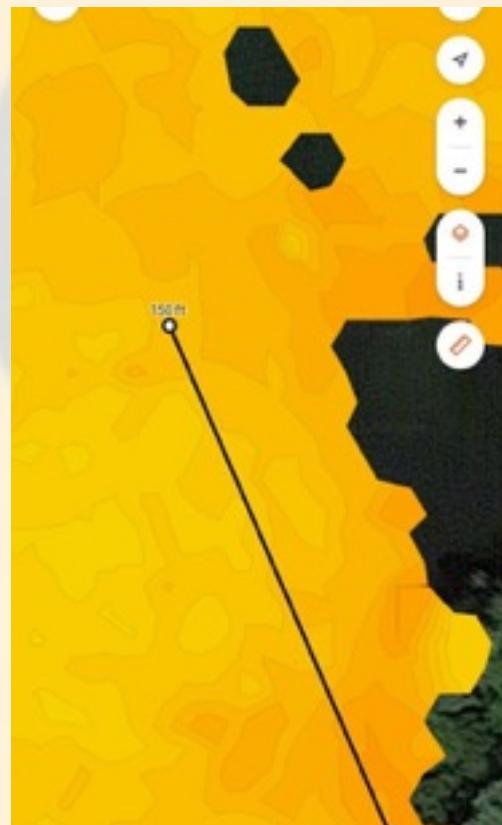
understand why distance sticks took so long to come out as a tool for fishing. I use to walk out the distance and use power gum on the line, I also counted the number of posts along the fence line and then stuck a peg in the ground. On occasions, I moved other people's pegs but that's a whole different story. We all had bank sticks, so why on earth didn't we think of distance sticks in the 80s?

The above spot (example) in this write-up is where I'd had quite a few fish from over the years and also where my bleak winter of 2022 finally came to an end after capturing 3 carp and losing one.

This is the same spot, but without any overlays, it also helps you understand where the carp are traveling from or to.

Horizon makers

You can zoom out and check for horizon makers, all this is at your fingertips. This can all be done at home and you can build up a portfolio of swims in a very short space of time. I use to do all this in a notebook with a pencil and sketch put the treeline and distance to the spots. To this day, I can't





18lber 26lber 22lber

This does not take away the watercraft of arriving at the lake, looking for carp and talking to other anglers. It's about understanding what you can see, what is underneath that you can't, and when a carp shows you know exactly what's out there. After all, the effort I put in with marker floats and mapping lakes by hand, is

simply not going to be as accurate.

Top Tips

The bigger the screen, the better understanding.

Until next time

Richard





Ridgemonkey®



ARMOURY TACKLEBOX

What's in your armoury?

There is no doubt that being well organised is paramount in any pursuit and fishing is no exception with so many different small items needed to cover most situations. Well, it doesn't take long to see just how many of these things are possible to keep in order. The RidgeMonkey Armoury Tacklebox is the only all-in-one tackle kit on the market. It contains everything you need to safely store all of your tackle at the end of the day. You will also need with a massive 28 compartments on two sides, three separating boards and an efficiently structured design. The RidgeMonkey Armoury Tacklebox is perfect for anyone that wishes to store worms and live bait in their valuable worm tank, tools and gear in a single, lightweight box. It is the most convenient way to keep your tackle safe, secure and organised for the road ahead.

PRODUCT FEATURES

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- 28 compartments all with secure lids
- Three separating boards
- Internal measuring ruler
- 2 x large and 20 x small hook bins included



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The Annual trip

by Jay White



The annual July Furzebray trip was finally here, and as every year, the excitement and anticipation were very high.

We all met for breakfast at a local cafe where we fuelled up and did the dreaded draw.

It didn't go well for me, coming out last and having the last pick of swims.

I knew straight away what swim I was going to end up with, and it was my least wanted out of them all.

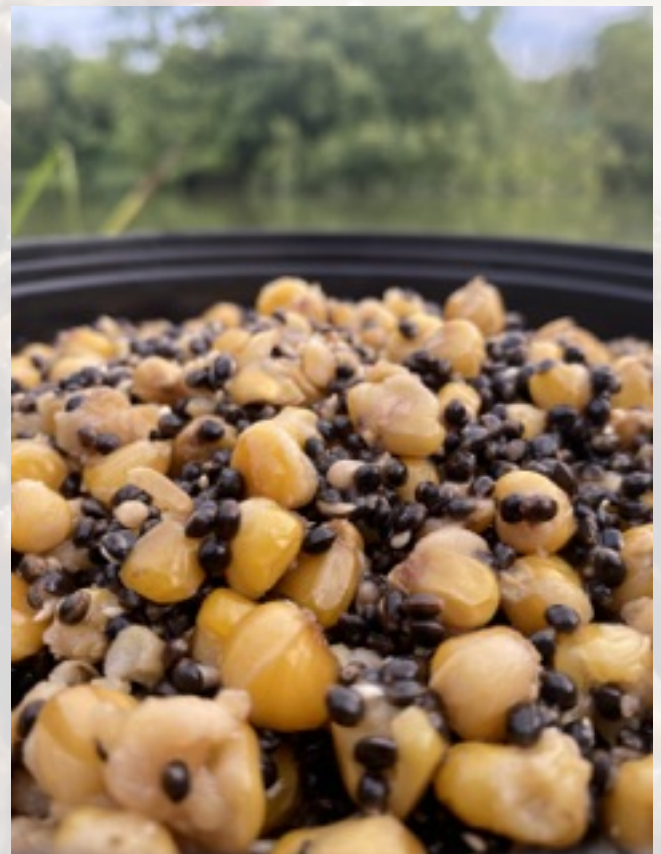
As predicted, I was in a swim called lifebuoy, one I'd never fished before. It's a beautiful swim with a huge range of features and lots of water, but given the scorching hot weather we had, I just didn't feel it was the one. As soon as I got into my swim, I realised it was a proper sun trap with absolutely no shelter or escaping the sun from dawn until dusk. This was going to be tough! I got my bivvy up and everything organised as quickly as I could before I got burnt to a crisp.

I baited up a couple of margin spots with some DT BAIT

DEVELOPMENTS fish, blood and orange pellet and chops mixed with some hemp from CARP PARTICLES UK, and a couple of handfuls of maggots before I headed to the other bank to sit with the rest of the lads in their nice cool shaded swims.

I got back to my swim around 9pm, flicked the rods out to the spots I'd baited and went to bed to catch up on some much-needed sleep.

The night was quiet for me, and come 10am it was too hot to sit in my swim again, so I wound in, put some more bait on the spots and



headed to my mate's swims again for the day.

The fish were fairly active, well spread out and right up in the water making them easy to watch. They had no interest in feeding but I'm sure some of them could be tempted.

Surface fishing on the lake is somewhat pointless, the fish just will not have it, so I decided to go for a little stalk and try and make something happen. I nipped back to my bivvy to grab a rod and some bits and headed to the little swim known as secret. Keeping silent,

I carefully entered the swim and saw a good few fish, with a couple looking to easily be 30s.

I saw a few fish hugged tightly to a big ball of weed, with one tail up and clouding up nicely.

Knowing how shallow it was, and the fish being up in the water, I wanted to present something right in front of their noses. I played around with a float and some fake dog biscuits to make a sort of upside-down zig. This allowed me to fish 5 inches deep without the float being right over the bait. Using a small JPrecision floater hook and a worm, I flicked it out to where I saw these fish patrolling and it didn't take long for it to slide away. After a short but intense fight, I netted the fish.

Unfortunately, it wasn't one of the better ones, but it was an amazing looking mirror of around 10lbs.

I emptied my pockets and got in the water to unhook the fish in the net. Tony, one of my friends was with me and went to grab a quick picture but the fish had other plans and it slipped my grip before we had a chance to get a shot.





Happy I was off the mark and my crafty little float rig had worked; I spent the rest of the day looking for more opportunities but the fish had cleared off. This is how I spent the next few days due to the heat, managing to sneak out a couple more smaller ones but still trying hard to find the bigger fish. By this time, most of the others had also had fish, with a 31lb PB for fellow team mate Alan, and a couple of other fish to Ash, Dave and Rich, including a couple just over 30. Monday evening arrived and I set the rods and got my head down, not feeling overly confident, but first thing the next morning, my right-

hand margin rod ripped off. I was on it like lightning, but the fish made it to the only snag in the area and managed to cut me off in a matter of seconds. Absolutely wounded, I composed myself and tried not to let it get to me.

Luckily, Tuesday was slightly cooler, so I could actually spend the full day in my swim for the first time since arriving. Spending that time watching the water taught me a lot. I saw lots of fish moving through my swim and I used this information to formulate my next plan of attack. I changed two of my spots, one just off a bar to the left and the other pushed further down the margin to my right where I'd seen a fair few fish visiting frequently.

With everything set, I went to bed that evening feeling a lot more confident.

Come midnight, my left-hand rod did a bite! Fishing a double hookbait consisting of an FBO boosted hookbait coupled with a matching wafter over a spoonful of the pellet, chops and hemp mix did the job nicely, resulting in a stunning scaley 21 pounder.



I set my alarm for first light so I could accurately get my rig back out on the spot with a little bit more bait, and sat up watching the water in anticipation, almost expecting my margin rod to do something, but it didn't. Later that day, I repositioned two of my rods again. One rod I walked much further down the margin and dropped it on a spot I'd been baiting all week with the same mix, and set the rod up on some long sticks in a small gap in the reeds. I used a small piece of a green beast yellow dumbbell waffer to tip the hookbait, just to give it that tiny bit of a visual boost, and added a small pva stick of pellet

and crushed boilies.

The other one I tucked into one of the island bays which looked as carpy as it gets. My left rod I kept on the spot that did the bite previously.

It was a lot of work getting it all set, but happy with everything I'd done, it was time to sit back and relax. The afternoon passed with no action and I remember thinking 'it's not going to happen', but within 5 seconds of that thought, my left hand rod was away again! A much better fight but still didn't feel massive. The lads were watching from the other bank, and once it was in the net Dave





kindly ran round to do some pictures. It was another low 20, but another really scaley one so I was more than happy, but still I really wanted something just that little bit bigger! Now that I'd spent some time in my swim, I was actually quite happy to be in there despite it being my last choice initially. Going into the last night on a high and full of confidence for another bite, I got my head down quite early, almost expecting an early morning wake up call.

When I opened my eyes, it was already light. I had no idea what the time was at this point so I just laid there thinking about getting up to make a coffee. With that, I heard 3 high pitched beeps, which got me up and out of bed pretty sharp as it was my right hand rod, the one

fishing further up the margin. I ran to the rod and lifted into nothing. I thought I'd been done so I took up the slack whilst muttering a few choice words to myself, but the slack line kept coming, and coming, until I eventually felt some resistance. The fish had picked up my

rig and swam towards me along the marginal shelf, covering a good 40 yards.

By this time, it had already gone straight through my other two lines. Because of the effort and time it took to get the rigs and bait out, I really didn't want to disturb those spots so I sussed out if it had gone over or under the other lines and played the fish back through them into open water.

Then it woke up and charged off with some serious power, heading straight for the snag, which it reached but I was ready. I ran back up the bank to get the angle so I could play it round the snag and once again got it into safe water. The fish wasn't done yet, and it bolted left again, going back

through my other two lines which I managed to deal with without getting into trouble. A short while later and the net got lowered into the water ready to land the fish.

As soon as it was in, I instantly recognised it as a fish I'd caught a few years previously.

Even though it was a repeat, it was an absolute banger, and one that is very sought after by many. The legendary Tiger Fish, weighing in at just over 30lbs. Again, despite it being a repeat, it was great to see it and finally have a 30+ out after

what was a very tough week in blistering heat, and being the last morning, it was a great way to finish the week.

I worked hard all week, trying different spots and tactics to work out where the fish wanted to be feeding, and it paid off in the end, finishing the week on 6 fish.

Another fantastic week at Furzebray with a top group of mates!

Best wishes and tight lines Jay.



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The Campaign pt.2

by Chris Flack



The syndicate lake was due to open again on the 1st of April and I could not wait to get back up there and as it was a Friday I'd booked the day of work and got to the gate for 6am, blimey its was cold, very cold with the temperature at -2!

The ground was covered in frost you would have be crazy to give up a warm bed to be stood by a lake in those conditions! Unsurprisingly, I was the only one there, I walked around Pit 3 to see if I could locate any fish but nothing was showing and with a north easterly wind blowing down the lake I was no closer to finding them. I soon noticed the bird's were on the back of the wind and in the corner bay and I thought to myself that the carp must be doing the same, so with nothing to go on,

I decided to set up in the swim closest to that end and it was the same swim as last time I was here. After an hour or so, I was all set, the sun was up and the frost began melting away, the

day looked great but temperature didn't get much above 6 degrees and with the wind still hacking in, it felt much colder! But I stuck it out not giving in to the cold! The fish were in the corner where I thought they would be however, they were more interested in just sunning themselves then feeding. After the second night was done, I was no closer to catching a carp and no warmer either so it was time to call it a day and pack up and head for home. On the way back to the van I stopped for a quick chat with another member and he had caught a cracking low twenty common and surprisingly, he was fishing in the teeth of that north easterly wind, it just doesn't make sense sometimes





soon as work was done, I made the hour long trip up the M3 and arrived at the lake in good time. After a quick walk round and seeing the lake (Pit 2) was busy but not too busy

I decided to drop into the a swim with a small island in front as I had seen a few carp milling about just below the surface.

My next trip was thankfully much warmer in fact it was shorts and t-shirt weather. This time I decided to fish on Pit 2 and I opted to go back in the same swim that I'd fished at the end of 2021 but despite the weather being more favourable, the carp were playing hard ball, no one was catching either and I soon was heading home.

It really was a hard and slow start to the this years campaign but I knew that if I keep to what im confident in doing I will be ok. The weather now getting warmer week by week and the fish were starting to respond and luckily I'm good friends with one of the bailiffs so I was being kept in the loop to what was happening at the lakes and filled with anticipation for my next trip. As

I soon found some clear spots and set the traps, one with a choddy and the other two with my favourite ronnie rig. With the bivvy set up and a cold can of beer opened I was all set and ready for the night ahead. Now, I must point out a little fact about my syndicate lake, night bites are a very rare occurrence and when the hours of darkness fall I never expect my delkims to indicate a take but, at 2:30 am my alarm decided to inform me with a heart attack inducing scream that a carp was doing its best to get as far as it could down to the left hand margin, after getting my bearings I was holding on for dear life trying to play back carp back towards me and somehow I did! I was thinking to myself that this feels like a decent fish, it was soon only a few feet

The Campaign pt.2



in front of my swim when a mirror carp broke the surface and it looked a good'un too! my landing net was to my left and just as I was reaching down to get it, the carp decided power off to the right and before I had a chance to control it the hook pulled! Blurry eyed,

I sat down on my bed chair trying to take in what had just happened, one minute I was fast asleep, the next im losing a fish! Only one thing to do and that was to put the kettle on, once I'd had a cuppa,

I went back to bed and soon woke up to the sun rising, still trying to work out what happened a few hours earlier I came to the conclusion that I just pulled too hard in trying to turn the carp back towards

me, gutted but content I had to accept that it was just one of those things! I redid all the rods with fresh rigs, topped up each spot

with a bit more bait.

The rest of the day was uneventful and I soon was waking up to the Sunday morning sun rise looking at my phone seeing it was around 6am, I was staring another blank in the face! I got up and put the kettle on a few hours passed, I messaged one of the other members to see how he got on and told him of my continued bad luck when my the same rod was away again I struck into the fish and after a short battle, I slipped the net under a cracking little zip linear, pristine in everyway and a blank saver, a small consolation but more then welcome weighing 12lb 4oz

I was happy the rest of the session was soon over and I was already



thinking about the next trip and hoping I can get my mojo back and start catching regularly again .

The next trip was soon upon me and I found myself back at the lake on a Friday afternoon, this time back in my favourite swim on the other side of Pit 2 knowing where the spots are and I was soon set up, anticipating what might be over the next 48hrs and seeing the carp show in and around my area, I was feeling confident , the weather was behaving very odd though, we had sun, rain, strong winds and the temperature was blowing hot and cold.

Trying to take it all in and fighting with the bird life as they were doing their best to dive down and eat my bait! I was feeling frustrated, I remember waking early on the Sunday morning and checking the time, it was 5am and I started bracing myself for a blank! I just turned back over and went back to sleep only to be woken up by a screaming take , my first thought was bloody tufty! I jumped out of bed picked the rod up and soon

realised I was playing a carp and this carp was putting up a great fight holding its own it started to tire and a common carp was soon sulking in my net! Finally, my luck was changing!

I got the scales and mat ready and weighed her! in at a decent 27lb 14oz. What a wake call she was! I raised her for the all important photo and soon returned home. I was one happy angler. So that brings me to the half way point of the year now and with the lakes shut again for spawning, I'm currently planning my next trip and I have a week off work coming up and will be doing a 3 night session so I cannot wait for that! So until next time, tight lines!

Chris.





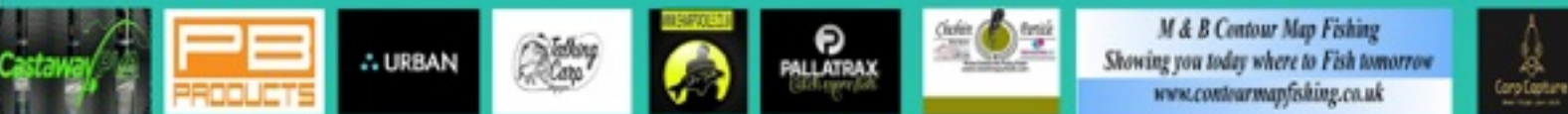
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*Canadian Carping:
A Journey of Anglers Part 3 by John Bulmer*



**ZERO GARBAGE
LEAVE NO TRACE**



new catalog of information being made available to members is rapidly and steadily growing and shows no signs of slowing down. The collected articles, videos and discussion feed on the CCS platform has allowed new or curious anglers to

The Canadian Carp scene exists. Having discussed this fact in the previous installments, it should be clear that Canada can, and should be on the radar of any Carp anglers seeking adventure on a grand scale.

As we have moved through part one and two of this Carp journey conversation here, there has been a constant. A new constant for Canadian Carp anglers and their global counterparts, The Canadian Carp Society.

The CCS has filled a void in resources for new anglers to ensure experience is shared and knowledge documented. This

gain new insight to what works and what doesn't and why, before ever setting out. Ideas and accepted norms from the European and UK Carp scenes are being challenged and tested and the results are exciting.

One of the many great aspects of the Canadian Carp Society, is that the content is generated by members. A soapbox for Canadian carpers to climb on and share viewpoints without the attacks and badgering that so much of social media has become. The CCS platform is simply put, a safe space for the flow of ideas, healthy debates and stories that help Canadian Carp anglers grow.

Carp angling is different here. While the popular baits and tactics of our overseas friends have generated a strong standard of guidelines to follow, they are just guidelines. The most consistent Canadian Carp anglers have taken those popular tactics and adjusted and altered to suit their own needs. As any skilled angler would. Differences in the robustness of rigs, the baiting campaigns on a larger scale, and mobility throughout the season to follow the fish as they move through vast expanses of water are but a few examples, and now within the membership of the Canadian Carp society platform these differences are being documented and shared. The knowledge acquisition of the

average Canadian Carper has grown massively in the last year and those that invest the time and effort into the utilization of that knowledge have presented a new skill level to our Carp anglers. A skill level that is constantly catching numbers, size and quality

The events held by the CCS, the Challenge series, the SSF (Spring, Summer and Fall) and more, have found a way to build social connections without ever sharing the bank with others. While this was practical to recent global events, it was an idea first put together by CCS founding member Nathan Cutler through his Improved Carp Angling website. The Challenge

Series format has allowed members to enjoy friendly competition without paying entry fees or traveling great distances. Anyone can fish their own favorite swims their own way. A great confidence boost to the newer or inexperienced anglers when the cards fall their way and they move up



standings against more popular anglers. This generates a drive to succeed in anglers that may be shy or anxious in larger social atmospheres. A massive help toward the improvement of mental health.

The SSF operates in the same manner. Members sign up for a virtual event held three times annually, May, July and October. These 9-10 day events focus on two categories; teams of three and a solo division. And yes, if you compete in both, your top Carp can count towards your team weight. With the leaderboards updated daily as catch reports are sent in, anglers find a new goal every day to inch out above their fellow members. These events

have several times now come incredibly close, even finishing with a half-pound difference between first and second. The excitement generated for the back and forth and fair chance every angler has that competes, has made the SSF a favorite among Canadian Carp Society members.

As the growth of knowledge continues and anglers grow in their confidence, we have seen a drastic improvement to fish care. It goes without saying that Canada has long had the reputation of being a keep what you catch culture in fishing. With that comes the negative stereotypes carried through generations against fish that aren't as desirable table fare as many of the other species we have to offer. As sport fishing grew in Canada over the years, and the catch and release movement became more widely accepted, somehow, those species once frowned upon as poorer table fare or even worse, invasive, never moved up to that accepted level. For species such as our beloved Carp, this is changing. The Canadian Carp society has devoted a great deal of its content library to resources related to Carp Care. Articles, videos and more upcoming





ZERO GARBAGE LEAVE NO TRACE

projects to educate and direct anglers to the needed equipment have allowed our prized captures to go back strong and injury free, leading to a new surge in the documenting of recaptures of trophy or unique fish among members. Carp care equipment has caught the eye of passersby and other anglers leading to great conversations that shine a new light on both Carp and those that pursue them.

One of programs the CCS has on an ongoing basis that truly helps Carp anglers in our communities stand out, is the Leave No Trace drive. This drive promotes the clean up of swims and natural areas where anglers frequent, and unfortunately garbage is left behind. The brainchild of CCS member Kevin Girolametto, and through the help of Simon Stewart from Carpkit.com and many other members, this program has not only proven to improve our fishing spaces and

community areas, but the sharing on social media has generated other angling clubs and groups to follow suit. Anglers and non-anglers all win in this scenario as a great example is set for our youth as well as those who realize that they in fact were part of the problem. Just a little act of “Good Karma” to quote Kevin goes a long way and has won over areas for fishing that anglers were not previously welcome.

From inception to construction through launch and growth, another constant in the CCS philosophy has been the need for positivity. This is as essential as Carp Care on the platform. As touched on previously, other social media platforms seem to thrive on negativity and attacking others. Everyday the impact of that negativity is seen in the media and communities suffer. The CCS member community is so driven to maintain a positive atmosphere that negative comments and actions are

simply not permitted. This attention to the impact that negative groups or individuals can have on ones mental health has allowed a greater range of anglers and skill levels to feel comfortable with the community as well as allow potential for that same positivity to be shared outward with young anglers. With young anglers and communities seeing the positive path in angling, the future is bright here and anywhere else they may travel.

At the end of the day, the social and unsocial anglers alike will all gravitate at times to a resource for new ideas or utilize it to share their own. The most important part of that scenario is that the resource exists for these anglers and emphasizes the needs they have for their waters. The CCS is there for them, with them and will continue to grow because of them.

All the best
John.





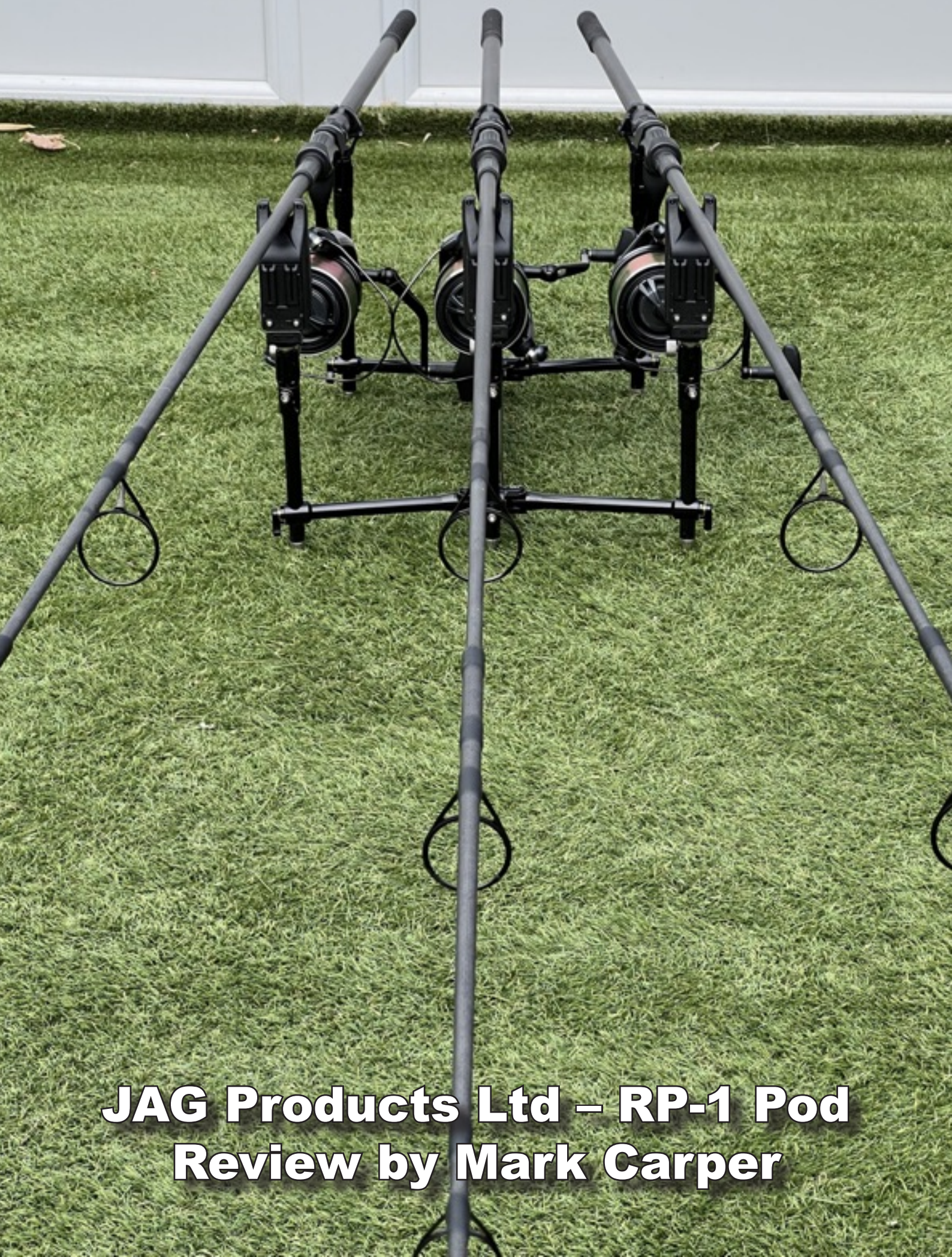
Reviews

Featuring -

Jag products Ltd - RP-1 Mark Carper

**A Water bottle to clean tackle -
Anthony Wood**

**Can you still find good value waders -
Anthony Wood**



JAG Products Ltd – RP-1 Pod
Review by Mark Carper

In the words of JAG Products, “Introducing the quickest & easiest to use pod we have ever made!”

....and in my words, “they are not wrong...!!!”

From Bag to Bank it takes me no longer than fifteen-seconds and under the quoted ten-seconds if I’ve got my glasses on and can see the ‘alignment marks’..!

With my Delkims and Nash ‘Butt Locks’ already attached and my Indicator Heads too, (although not if I’m using my Matrix Innovations “Cheeky Monkeys” as I have to completely detach the Climber Arms for those), I am literally ready to place the rods on the RP-1 Pod in under fifteen-seconds... incredible... but is that speed worth the RRP of £429.00..??!

Described further by Jag Products, the manufacturers well known for the quality of their products but also the matching price tag... “The eye catching ‘Single Stick’ design means that there’s no need to attach buzz bars, bite alarms & rear rests at the start of each session. Simply unfold the four arms using the precision guide and you are fishing! It is that simple! No Unwinding, Tightening, or Assembling, out the bag & on the bank in under 10 Seconds”.

My Previous Pods

I never really used a Rod Pod much up until late 2017, when I started using one for all my carping. Prior to that, I had used pods, going right back to the Gardner (I think..?!) ‘Square’ Section Pod with a single stick at each end a Buzz Bar screwed on and then I had a few Fox Pods, including the Three-Rod quattro pod, which incidentally, my dad still uses...!

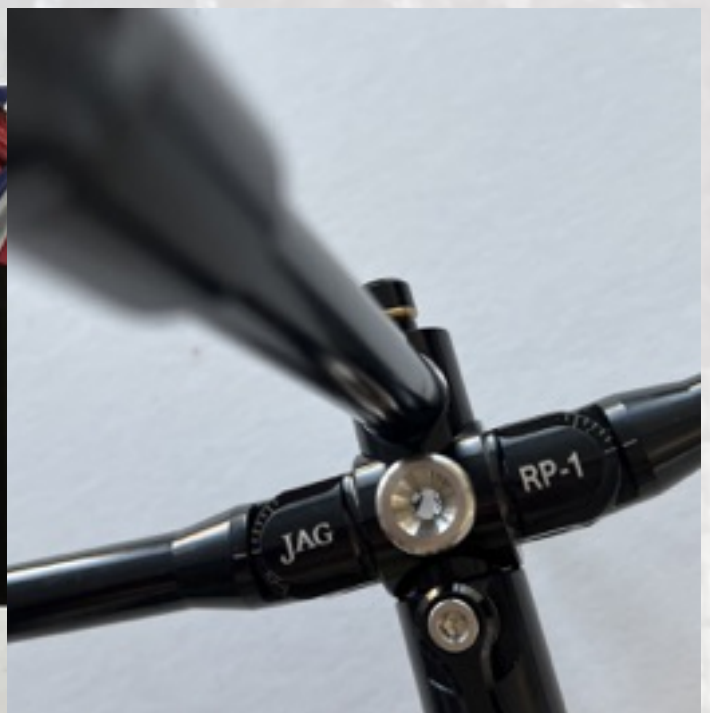


But in 2017, due to the hard banks of a water I was fishing, I finally said goodbye to the Bank Sticks and the favoured 'Goal Post' setup with Chunky Bank Sticks, and bought myself the Summit Tackle 'Colosseum' CB3 Rod Pod and all the accessories at a total of just over £600, in fact, I purchased two identical setups as I bought one for my lad too...a total bill of £1200 and change... Summit very kindly gave me a discount and some freebies though...!!! (if you click the link, you can read my review of that Pod way back in Issue 22 from December 2017.. <https://online.pubhtml5.com/kzxy/elcd/#p=102>)...

...Fast-Forward to March 2022 and after seeing the RP-1 at the Northern Angling Show, I didn't take much persuading to get my order in, in fact, it took no persuasion at all as I never mentioned it to anyone...!!

By the end of that month, I was the owner of the RP-1 Prolite Black... the reason for me getting this version was simple, I wanted something that would be lighter than the current Pod I was using, so the move from Stainless to Aluminium was a no-brainer...!

As you would expect from a British made product from JAG, the quality of the RP-1 is awesome and the functionality is exactly as they describe it



and packing it away is even quicker than setting it up, even with the Alarms and Rests still attached and it packs down small too, with the whole Pod fitting neatly but more to the point, easily in to the supplied 'Camo' Storage Bag which measures just 390x300x96mm.... even the Bag has been manufactured in the UK too.

The Choices

Pod wise, you have two choices, the first being the one I have, the Prolite, which is made from High-Grade Aluminium with a super-hard Black Anodised finish and weighs in at 1.4kg or the 316 Marine Grade Stainless Steel version with a slightly higher weight of 2.5kg. The weights of both include the six removable 'Bank Sticks' also, so basically, the full Pod as you would normally use it.

A notable feature is that you can go from a Three-Rod Setup to a Two-Rod Setup in the blink of an eye.... you simply remove the Centre Stick and Swing the 'Pivoting' Arms along to the next alignment mark and, well, that's it.. you have a Pod that looks like it was designed for Two Rods in an instant, and if like me you are a "Tackle Tart" and hate using two rods on a three rod pod, this is just an added bonus... or maybe you just want to be 'mega carpy' and have a two plus one setup, in which case the removed sticks then become your single rod sticks...how carpy is that..?!



The entire pod has been designed, developed & manufactured here in the UK at JAG's very own precision machine shop and the RP-1, in either guise, simply oozes quality, which is probably reason enough for most to purchase it, even without knowing that you can use the Six supplied Sticks, which incidentally come with 316 Stainless Steel Diamond Points and an Adjustable Inner Section, secured with Precision made 'No Loss' Locking Levers, which are exclusive to JAG products, completely on their own without the central part of the Pod, and add to that the Integrated, pre-drilled, countersunk and lined 'Wooden Platform Anchor Points' and the supplied 60mm and 80mm Wood Screws to pin the RP-1 down with the minimum of hassle, and when you then consider 'All' the features and how the supplied Pod can cover so many different situations, is compact and super-fast to set up and pack away, maybe the price tag is not so hard to understand...maybe..??! ...and that takes me back to my question, albeit originally focused on the fact the RP-1 was quick to setup... "is it worth £429.00..?", even with all the features I have mentioned, which for those that like to know all the facts, will be listed at the end of this piece too, can you justify the price tag and do other pods offer more for less or less for more..?

Well, I'm not writing this as a comparison with others and having owned, and still own a High-End £350.00 plus Stainless-Steel Pod, with a load



of extras, to change it from a three-rod to two with various sizes of 'Legs' and Buzz Bars etc. etc. and also owning a couple of the Nash 'Pocket Pods', yes, I own do own two as they are customised and tailored for my use, something that I did myself as I did not like the way the rods sat on the originals, I am probably well placed to do a comparison, but this is all about personal preference and can 'I' justify the price tag and quite honestly, I can, but not without a couple of criticisms about the RP-1...?!

A Bit Critical Perhaps?

My first 'general' criticism is to do with the position of the 'No Loss' Locking lever that is used to set the 'length' of the Central Bar of the Pod.. I can guess that it is placed on the top of the pod for ease of access and prevent it sitting in the dirt if it were placed underneath, however, on the Prolite version, the Lever leaves little marks along the inner bar where it has been adjusted and Locked in place and these are visible and noticeable, which for me, spoils the whole aesthetics of the Pod, which I know is probably me being 'picky' but for £429.00 I feel I can be. Now, if you only adjust it to the same position each time, the mark it leaves will remain hidden but, if it were placed underneath the Central Bar, the marks would not be visible at all...!



Does this make sense to you...?

I fish with two sets of rods, one set of 9ft and one set of 6ft, both from the Nash Tackle stable and I like to use the RP-1 in its most 'Compact' format, which means I don't actually extend the Central Bar at all, so the 'marks' are not a showstopper for me, but they could be for others.

My second issue and for me this is a big one, is the fact that the Front and Rear 'Rod Splay' is governed by the angle you set on the pivoting arms, which to align the Bite Alarms and Butt Rests have been set at 12" for the Front and 10" for the Rear, which I know is perfectly normal when using Buzz Bars and set at the correct distance apart (front to back) will stop making your rods look like they are running in at the tips and allow you to 'splay' your rods if you so wish... but for me, I like to have my rods running 'Parallel' and to achieve this, I simply use the same size Buzz Bar, Front and Back, which I cannot do with the RP-1...!

Yes, I know this is again just 'Aesthetics' and some might even say 'Pathetic' but I know how I like my setup to look and I really do not like the amount of 'Splay' the RP-1 produces, even on the six-footers. Now, some people have seen it and think it looks good and others say it's practical to have the rods splayed out at the tips, but I don't like it and I've told JAG about this, in fact, I have even requested a set of 'Front Arms' so I can swap them with the rear, to have a matching pair and resolve the splay issue once and for all...!

The reason I ask if this makes sense to you, is it is a bit difficult to explain but I hope you can see what I mean in the pictures.



I know I could 'extend' the Pod and that is exactly what I am supposed to do and this will solve some of the splay issue but not all of it as the rods are still 'splayed' just to a lesser degree, or, I could grow-up and just ignore the splay..? But, one of the reasons I bought the RP-1 Pod was because it was so compact and I felt it would work (if I'm honest it was more about "look") perfect with my Black Ops Rods (and no, they are not toy rods and no, I will not be getting a big boys set anytime soon..!!).

The very reason I purchased a Nash Pocket Pod, when I already had a top-quality Pod from Summit Tackle, was for the compactness of use and the reason I own two of the Pocket Pods is because I have swapped the different sized front and rear Buzz Bars and created a 'Matching Pair' of Buzz Bars on each pod... I have also reduced the height of the front uprights on one Pod to enable the rods to sit level rather than the 'Tips Up' that they do with the 'none-modified' version...

Anyway, that's it, the only two 'gripes' I have, and both are weak at best. If you asked me to give you just one good reason NOT to spend the money on the RP-1, I couldn't do it, not without sounding like a spoilt child anyway, which I just have... HAHAHA..!!!

If you asked me which version to buy, I'd tell you it's all about your personal choice on how it looks with your setup, the weight doesn't really come it to unless you really want to travel light and save the odd kilo here and there, but then, that's what Power Barrows were made for weren't they..?!

Do I recommend it...?

Absolutely and here's why... It is a superbly designed, fantastically engineered, quality made Rod Pod from a proven and very capable manufacturer and a British one at that, and it would likely be the last Rod Pod you ever buy as it looks and feels like it will last a lifetime... is it worth that RRP...?

With all the features and the flexibility you get with an RP-1, including the near instant transformation from Three Rod to Two and back again and

the option to fish All Single Sticks, with top quality Bank Sticks if the need arises, and the very fact it is so compact but immediately ready for action and it is as stable on hard banks as well as soft grassy ones and super stable on a wooden platform with no additions other than a couple of screws, and, due to the 'sticks' being adjustable you can fish with 'Tips' Up for that proper carpy look(!) or even Tips Down for that err, proper carpy look(!?) it is, in my honest opinion, 100% worth the RRP.

Did JAG Products 'gift me' the RP-1 to test/keep, absolutely not, that's why I can be totally honest.

..should they have gifted it to me for such a great review, of course they should.. HaHaHa.. dream on..!!

All the Important Stuff...

RP-1 Prolite Black:

- o 3 Rod Splay - Front 12" & Rear 10"
- o 2 Rod Splay –Fully adjustable using the laser etched increments
- o Weight (Inc. Sticks) 1.4kg
- o Bag dimensions - 390x300x96mm
- o Rear Stick height – 9"
- o Front Stick height - 7"
- o Supplied with 2x60mm & 2x80mm Wood Screws (Phillips Head)

RP-1 316 Stainless:

- o 3 Rod Splay - Front 12" & Rear 10"
- o 2 Rod Splay – Fully adjustable using the laser etched increments
- o Weight (Inc. Sticks) 2.5kg
- o Bag dimensions - 390x300x96mm
- o Rear Stick Height – 8"
- o Front Stick Height - 6"
- o Supplied with 2x60mm & 2x80mm Wood Screws (Phillips Head)

Website: <https://www.jagproducts.co.uk/product-page/rp-1pod>

Instagram: [@jag_fishing](https://www.instagram.com/jag_fishing)

@mark_carper257

@talkingcarp.magazine



**A water bottle that cleans your
dirty fishing tackle!
By Anthony Wood**

I don't know about you but when I'm fishing the amount of times I have got mud, dirt, etc on my reels or shoes is more than I can count. Add to that the hot weather that we get in the summer and you start thinking what if there was something out there that I could use to keep cool but that would also help clean my stuff.

Well... Let me introduce you to the Lunatec Hydration Spray Bottle!!

The first thing to note is that there are a few sizes available 750ml, 1000ml and 1500ml. I personally went for the 1000ml as I felt it was a good size without being too small and at the same time big enough to hold enough water to be useful.

There are three strengths of spray pattern to choose from mist, stream or shower. There is also another almost hidden spray setting which is on the tube that is inside the bottle and that is stealth or pulse, basically there is a little hole that you can reveal by pulling the tube down a little which changes it from stealth mode to pulse mode which is the one you want for cleaning and using less water whereas stealth is the one for drinking, misting, etc.



I've seen a couple of YouTube videos of people using these and they pump the hell out of it which will destroy the bottles seals quickly, the manufacturer recommends pumping no more than 6 times which will give you 35psi which they say is enough for any task you want it to do.

I got mine as a bundle which included a tube extension to the nozzle where you can leave the button open on the lid of the bottle and control the water release from the nozzle at the end of the tube (it really makes it easier to use and direct), there is also an elasticated bottle strap which makes holding it a lot easier too as it just sits on your hand, there is even a little pocket at the front of the strap for putting the smaller nozzle in when you use the tube extension.

The only thing missing is a cooler cover to keep the water cold for longer which they don't unfortunately produce.

So whether you want to wash off your shoes before you get in the car, give your reels or rods a wash down, have drink or simply mist yourself with some refreshing water to keep yourself cool, this bottle really does have you covered.

Check them out at www.lunatecgear.com (Also on Amazon) , www.facebook.com/153970287994547/ or <http://instagram.com/lunatecinc>





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Can you still find good value waders?

By Anthony Wood



For years anglers have struggled to find the balance between good quality waders and getting done over with carp tax. There are some seriously good quality waders out there but then you will find that you are going to be paying a premium price for them.

A while ago I came across a company called Night Cat when I was looking for a decent folding chair (See the June issue for that review) and I noticed that they also did some rather nice looking waders for a very reasonable £45.97 so there was soon a pair of those zooming their way to me along with the chair.

The waders are made from a tough nylon fabric coated with pvc and they say that the waders are 100% waterproof. The boots are actually integrated into the pants of the wader which removes any chance of leakage through stitching.

The boots themselves have anti-slipping outsole which helps to reduce the chance of slipping on the rocks, etc whilst you are wading, they also have anti-abrasion properties so that they will last a lot longer.

I've had these for a while now so I thought I'd let you know what I thought to them. Firstly they are easily as good as waders that you pay 3 or even 4 times the price of. They are also more comfortable for the larger angler than some of the less flexible brands out there, the shoe size is also accurate so you don't need to get a larger or smaller size. The adjustable H-back suspenders make adjusting



the waders to be comfortable on you is so easy.

So far I have used them in rock pools, wading through the surf, wading in lakes with sharp swan mussel shells littering the lake bed and waded through streams with slippery and sharp rocks and I can honestly say that these waders from Night Cat have performed better than any others that I have owned.

You can find the waders that I've got at www.nightcat.com/activity/anthony-wood (when they found out I was doing a review they sent me this link which gives anyone who uses it 20% off!!), you can also follow them on their social media www.facebook.com/nightcatoutdoor or on www.instagram.com/nightcatoutdoor.





Catch Reports

Featuring -

D.T. Baits
Castaway PVA
Deception Angling
Lac Serreire & Badgers Holt

Plus all of your catches !!!

Matthew Charlesworth



It's been a good couple weeks since last fishing Newhay. I'd prepped my rigs and my bait ready for the next 48 hours ahead. Fishing peg 7, a first for me on this 1.5 acre weedy lake. I approached by solely using insectarine from EVG baits and particles. I found my spots and baited with enough for a bite at a time. I got the first rod out and within an hour, it took off from the island spot, a nice dark common at 15lb. I proceeded with the game plan and put all 3 rods out. I had nothing for the next 24 hours. I redid the rods around 10am and had a decent session by the end of the second day, landing 4 stunning fish. The biggest one been 18lb and some characters too. By far the best session I've had on Newhay to date. And while using insectarine as my bait of choice. What a bait! TEAMEVG

Matthew Charlesworth



Jack White 15yrs old



**I was fishing on peg 11 on Pavyotts mill fishery.
I caught this on the second night a meter off a set of reeds.
Caught on a bio baits sticky nut pop up which had been trimmed
down to act as a critically balanced bait (10mm). I also used some
black 4mm pellets in a mesh bag hooked onto the rig. The rig was a
Ronnie Rig with a size 4 curved shank hook.
This fish is known as Chloe and weighed 41lb 1oz**



Adam Baglin with a cracking 55lb mirror from Badgers Holt



Mandy Summers with a new personal best and it is a 60lb beast. Congratulations Mandy.



Thomas Kamin landed 9 carp in
total with this one going 67lb



Thomas Kamin with another from
his haul and this one going 62lb





Alan Clarke

Alan tops off a recent run of DT baits PB's with this lovely Furzbray 31lbs 5oz mirror.

Alan fished a pink Supa fruit wafter hookbait over whole and crumbed test bait drenched in our Fish Pro liquid.



David Honey

Friend of DT Dave Honey with a monstrous common from our Waterside fishery social! Dave fished a bag of crushed Fish Blood and Orange pellet and crushed test bait boilies. His hook bait of choice was one of our Cult classic banana popups. We'd like to congratulate Dave on his insane new PB of 55lbs 12oz.





Terry Canham



DT's "Little" Terry Canham proving the apple doesn't fall far from the tree. Not wanting his Dad to have all the lime light

Terry banked one of his target fish as part of an 11 fish hit. The common which was also a new PB weighed a massive 40lbs 3oz. All 11 fish were caught on our Peach and Sour Cream.

Michael Ellis

Michael managed six bites on a recent session this 24lbs 14oz mirror being the pick of the bunch.

Michael fished Peach and Sour Cream to keep the bites coming.





Rob Chandler

Rob showing our dedicated winter bait the Cold Water Green Beast can bank you fish what ever the time of year! This chunky mirror went 39lbs 5oz.



Terry Canham

DT's Terry Canham was back in action recently managing this lovely looking 32lbs 14oz common.

Terry fished his ever faithful Cult classic banana popups over a bed of black crab boilies.



Castaway PVA

Davis and Thomas



Tom Blackmore and Leo



Castaway PVA

Sophie Williams



Andy Hyden



Castaway PVA

Bradley Voak



Damian Wheway



Castaway PVA

Derek 'The Don' Ritchie



Adam Honeysett



Deception

Angling

Daniel Powell



Reece Bestwick



Deception

Angling

Damian Wheway




Reece Malcolm



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www.
pavyottsmillfishery.
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We are just 3hrs from Caen, 2hrs from St Malo, 1 1/2 hrs from Roscoff.

Win A FREE weeks fishing. Anyone who books a week with us at just £150pp and catches one of these 2 amazing carp (2 tone or Hald moon) will win their next trip for free.(Drive and survive)

Thankyou Matt and Tracie



Le Lees Carp Fishery

THIS MONTHS ADVERTISERS -

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CASTAWAY PVA

CHEF UK CARP

DECEPTION ANGLING

D.T. BAIT'S

GCT ANGLING

MAINLINE BAIT'S

NUTRABAITS

PAVYOTTS MILL FISHERY

RIDGEMONKEY

SERIOUS CARP SOCIALS

SHARP

Thanks for reading

**Send your articles and catch reports by the
28th August 2022 for next months magazine**

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m.galli@talkingcarp.co.uk



**THE CARP MAGAZINE
FOR CARP ANGLERS WRITTEN BY
YOU !!!!!!!**

'The Talking Carp Team'

**Brian Dixon
Mark Faulkner
Dave Harnick Snr
Mark Galli**



"Smart Liquid forms an essential part of my angling approach summer and winter. I use it on boilies, pellets, groundbait and particles because I have proven in my tank that the fish go crazy for it in cold and warm water.

They feed sooner, harder and longer when it's in the water massively increasing the chance of a pick up. I literally would not fish without it now. Look out for Thinking Tackle On Demand at Embryo Broom this summer, I smash the lake and have this mega mirror called 'Bullion' all using the Smart Liquid!"

- DANNY FAIRBRASS

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