

Fishery News

Week ending 20 September 2009

- **Brad makes a brilliant recovery to win English title at Rutland Water**

Brad Gifford wins English National - see Rutland report for full story

- **John Sturge takes Pitsford's best Rainbow**
Holiday angler John's 8lb Rainbow makes the TV.

- **Autumn matches for all**

Rutland Water 01780 686441

Anglian Water Autumn Pairs 10 October

Anglian Water Rudder match

George Moore Memorial Trophy 24 October

Grafham Water 01480 810531

Anglian Water Rudder Match 31 October

www.anglianwater.co.uk

Rutland Water 01780 686441; Grafham Water 01480 810531;
Pitsford, Ravensthorpe & Hollowell 01604 781350,
Taverham Mills Fishery 01603 861014; Alton Water 01473 589105
Recreation Dept Anglian Water 01572 653021

Grafham Water

Fish week 515 (season 19,616) returns 155 (5,418) rod average 3.32(3.62)

The west end of the lake continues to produce results with small red or fiery brown dries doing well in the mouth of Savages to Sanctuary Bay and also cormorant boobies fished around L and H buoys. Gaynes Cove is holding a lot of fish too, especially around the weed beds. Anglers fishing in this area are finding that the fish are on fry, so Minkies; large Diawl Bachs or Sticklebacks are producing.

The sport on the bank has now really picked up with the bank anglers doing well around G Buoy and also in front of the willows at the north end of the dam, fishing floating lines and minkies or fry patterns.

Best rainbow Several 4lb plus

Best boat areas Savages Creek, Sanctuary Bay, Gaynes Cove, L and H Buoys.

Best bank areas G bank, Willows, Hill Farm, Savages Creek, north dam

Mid week boat winner Ian McKenzie of Baldock

Forthcoming events

Beginners courses - **27 September; 10 & 24 October; and 1 November**

Rutland Water

Fish week 917 (season 35,812) returns 310 (9,002) rod average 2.95 (3.97)

Good numbers of fish are being taken at Rutland Water with many fish over 3lb. All methods seem to be working at the moment with fry patterns, floating fry and Minkies producing spectacular results around the weed beds.

Bank anglers have a choice of areas to try including Sykes Lane, the dam, Normanton and the peninsula.

The best boat areas are similar to the bank with the English National fished last Saturday providing action down the south and north arms and the main basin.

Prospects look very good with superb fish being caught with bank anglers in particular amongst the bigger fish around the weed beds feeding on sticklebacks, roach/bream fry, corixa and snails. Anglers are reporting some very big fish moving. Boat anglers fishing around the weed are taking good fish, but there are plenty of fish feeding on buzzers out in the open water of the reservoir. Dry flies are working with one or two daddy long legs showing. There have been excellent buzzer and sedge hatches in the last week. A few olives are still coming off. Boats are very popular please check for availability before setting out.

Competition news

English National

There was a lot at stake for the 120 Anglers fishing the English National at Rutland Water last Saturday. Victory would mean not only the England title but also a place on the 2010 international team. First and fourth place went to anglers sharing the same boat!

Brad Gifford of Kettering was a convincing champion - his victory made even more poignant following his recovery from a lightning strike earlier this summer. Brad fished the South Arm, sharing boat number 60 with Mick Cocks. Brad caught his 8 fish by 1.40 pm followed by Mick 10 minutes later.

1st Brad Gifford 8 fish for 25lb 15½oz

2nd Richard Slater 8 fish for 23lb 6 1/8oz

3rd Paul Shaw 8 fish for 23lb 2 ¾oz

4th Mick Cocks 8 fish for 21lb 1 5/8oz

5th Chris Bobby 8 fish for 21lb 1 ½oz

6th Mark Andrews 8 fish for 20lb 11 1/8oz

Best Rainbow 5lb 8oz taken by M Lacey

Best Brown 5lb

Best boat areas The main basin, sailing club, middle of both arms

Best bank areas Sykes Lane, Yellowstone, Spud Bay, Whitwell, Barnsdale, Inman's Spinney, the Dam

Best methods Bank - fry patterns and dries
Boat - as bank but include various sinking lines with mini lures/boobies

Mid week boat winner Marcus Woolford of Cropston, Leics

Forthcoming events

Beginner's courses; 27 September; 4 & 17 October; 1 & 21 November.

Anglian Water Autumn Pairs 10 October

Anglian Water Airflo International all boats booked 3,4,5,6, & 7 October.

Pitsford Water

Fish week 655 (season 15,135) returns 198 (4,486) rod average 3.3(3.3)

John Sturge and his son Peter, from Westgate on Sea in Kent, fished Pitsford on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday with their friends as part of a three-day boat package. They caught on various methods throughout their holiday with some good bags of fish. On Tuesday John weighed in a Rainbow of 8lb, which he was delighted with. He took the fish on a red headed Diawl Bach on a floating line. This was excellent timing for John as a photo of this fine fish was featured on Sky TV on Friday in the Tightlines programme with Pitsford Senior Warden Nathan Clayton as guest. The show's presenter, Keith Arthur, signed the fish photo for John to keep, an added bonus for John, who's a great fan of the programme. The icing on the cake for John and Peter was that on the last day of their holiday Peter caught a 7lb 15oz Rainbow, which was in superb condition. He took this on a white and green lure on a floating line.

Boat fishing continues to provide top quality fishing with fry patterns now in full swing, as fish are feeding on roach fry around weed beds so look for the Sea Gulls! Drifting boats are best and traditionals like Mallard and Claret and Silver Invicta are working well. Should we get any rain don't forget to get out those daddy longlegs as it will be swarming with them.

Bank fishing is possible but great care needs to be taken when wading. The fish are just over the weed beds and anglers are putting themselves at risk to wade out to them. If you are wearing chest waders only wade to your thighs - no further. If water levels continue to drop weed will be left high and dry which will make wading difficult and increase the danger.

Best methods See report

Best Rainbow 8lb taken by John Sturge of Westgate on Sea, Kent

Best Brown 4lb 5oz

Best boat areas Stone Barn - Bog Bay and main bowl

Best bank areas Stone Ban - Gravels - Sermons

Mid week boat winner Alex Flynn of Northampton

Fish stocked 500

Forthcoming events

Beginners' courses; 26 September; 3 & 11 October and 7 November.

Environment Agency versus Anglian Water pairs match 13 October. Call Pitsford Fishing Lodge on 01604 781350 to book

Ravensthorpe Reservoir

Fish week 162 (season 11,830) returns 33 (2,271) rod average 4.9 (5.2)

Anglers have enjoyed some good top of the water sport both from the bank and boats. Floating lines with bushy flies i.e. soldier palmers and claret bumbles have enticed some hard fighting Rainbows to oblige. Some sport to Daddy Long Legs has also been reported.

Boat anglers using dries, spiders and Diawl Bachs on the drift are also taking some nice fish.

Anglers fishing the platforms and the dam (when the wind allows) have reported some fry feeders, but most of the fish caught have fallen to black and green lures.

Best methods See report

Best rainbow 4lb plus taken by Stuart Payne of Long Buckby

Best boat areas Across the main bowl

Best bank areas Mongers and the dam

Mid week boat winner Mark Bradbury of Duston, Northants