

Fishery News Week ending 18 April 2010

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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 911 (2,229 season) Returns 202 (550) Rod average 4.5 (4.05)

Anglers are enjoying a rod average of 4.5 at Grafham Water and 25% are catching their limits. Derek Richardson of Bury St Edmunds caught the biggest fish of the week. Derek caught a superb over wintered Rainbow of 6lb 4oz by using a hi D line with a gold and silver tube off the Nature Reserve frontage. Season ticket holder Ian Heading took the biggest bag of the week. Ian, from Great Staughton, caught 8 fish for 26lb 8oz, also on a gold and silver tube by drifting from G buoy to A buoy.

Boat anglers have had the best of the sport mainly due to the moderate northerly winds that have made the bank fishing at Gayne's Cove and the Seat testing. The best areas for the boat anglers have been Savages Creek, the Nature Reserve frontage, Hedge End, P, G, Q and A buoys and the Seat. The best methods have been floating or sink tip lines with gold head damsels or Montana's with Diawl Bachs and black or green buzzers or medium to fast sunk lines with black and green boobies, cormorants, gold and silver tubes or tequila or orange blobs.

By the end of the week the rod average for bank anglers had improved with Hill Farm, the Stumps and Pylon Point all starting to produce good catch rates on floating lines with black or green buzzers, Montana's, Diawl Bachs and damsel nymphs fished slowly.

Competition News

Bob Church Open for the Frank Cutler Memorial Trophy

This match was fished on Sunday 11 April to an 8 fish limit and a 2lb time bonus. The match rod average was 5.44. Most of the anglers fished at either A and Q buoys or the Seat area on fast sunk lines with tequila or orange blobs and black boobies. The top three places and weights (including time bonus) were as follows

1st Paul McLinden 8 fish for 27lb 15 7/8 oz

2nd Richard Slater 8 fish for 27lb 11 3/4oz

3rd Michael Dixon 8 fish for 27lb 6 1/4oz

John Hensall took the best fish - a 4lb 12oz Rainbow. Top lady rod was Jane Lidster of Market Rasen with 8 fish for 20lb 5 3/8oz.

Best Rainbow 4lb 14oz taken by Elliott Macrow with a gold and silver tube.

Best brown 6lb 4oz taken by Derek Richardson of Bury St Edmunds with a gold and silver tube.

Best boat areas A,P,G and Q buoys, Gayne's Cove, Plummer Park, Savages Creek, Nature Reserve frontage, the Seat, Hedge End, Hill Farm

**Best bank areas Hill Farm, the Stumps, Pylon Point
Mid week boat winner R Timothy of Ampthill, Bedford**

Fish stocked 750

Forthcoming events:

AMFC Spring Match 23 April (40 boats)

EDFA vs. GWFFA 25 April (all boats booked).

Wychwood Mixed Pairs Saturday 1 May

Troutmasters final (no bank fishing for non competitors) 10 May (reservoir closed to all non competitors, bank fishing available from 5pm).

Invicta Tuesday Night boat league commences 13 May

Anglian Water Airflo Individual Final 22 May

Beginners courses: 21 April; 2, 8, 23 & 27 May; 6,12, 24 & 27 June and other dates throughout the season.

Rutland Water

Fish week 2,405 (season 4,297) Returns 462 (805) Rod average 5.2 (5.3)

An excellent week at Rutland Water with bank and boat anglers having tremendous sport with an overall rod average of 5.2 and fish are being found in many areas. The best fish of the week was a Rainbow caught by Ian Baker in Saturday's Lexus team event. Fishing for RAF Fish Hawks Ian netted a 6lb 5oz Rainbow, which helped secure his team second place. Numbers of Browns are being caught with one or two that have over wintered averaging 4/5lb.

Most fish are still being caught on lures but those favouring nymphs have also had plenty of action.

Fish are feeding on daphnia, Corixa and very small black and olive buzzers. A few fish were witnessed moving on top on Saturday night.

Christopher Crowther aged 12 fished with his grandfather Tony Tibbert off the front of Old Hall having already caught three Rainbows to his Granddad's one brown, hooked into a beautiful bream. Jude Tuff, a keen bream fisher, was nearby and had a set of scales to hand and weighed the fish in at 8lb 4oz. A highly delighted Christopher returned the bream safely to the water.

Competition news

Lexus Individual Friday 16 April.

30 Anglers competed for one of five places, plus a wild card to fish in the final. Steve Cullen for G Loomis won by 4oz with Rob Edmunds of Rio Masters taking second place. Steve and Rob were paired together in a boat and fished in the North arm. Both settled on using a Di7 with a tequila blob on the top dropper with a double black blob on the point. These were very successful tactics with Rob finishing at 11.30 am and Steve at 12.30pm. Although both caught their limit, Steve's bag was marginally heavier than Rob's.

1st Steve Cullen 8 fish for 22lb 13oz

2nd Rob Edmunds 8 fish for 22lb 9oz
3rd Stewart Hume 8 fish for 22lb 0oz
4th Andy Croucher 8 fish for 20lb 10oz
5th Robert Wheeldon 8 fish for 20lb 4oz

Wild card qualifier Derek Moore Rainbow of 3lb 7oz.

Lexus Team qualifier Saturday 17 April

The Rio Masters proved triumphant by a whisker in this popular match with just under 3lb dividing them from second placed RAF Fish Hawks. Both teams recorded 8 fish limits all round. 96 anglers took 630 fish for a rod average of 6.58.

1st Rio Masters 48 fish for 120lb 11oz
2nd RAF Fish Hawks 48 fish for 117lb 13oz
3rd Team Loop UK 45 fish for 113lb 6oz
4th Seighford Sharks 48 fish for 113lb 0oz
5th Team Vision 46 fish for 109lb 0oz
6th Pitsford Pirates 47 fish for 108lb 10oz

Troutmasters fish off

Fished at Rutland Water on Sunday 18 April and won by Kieran Bonas with six fish for 15lb 15½oz (including two over wintered Rainbows weighing 4lb 4¼oz and 3lb 8oz). Kieran will be representing Rutland Water in this year's final hosted by Grafham Water.

2nd; Neil Squires 3 fish for 5lb 10¾oz
3rd; Keith Jones 2 fish for 4lb 8oz.

Best Rainbow 6lb 5oz taken by Ian Baker
Best Brown 7lb

Best boat areas East Creek to Normanton. Old Hall, Green bank, Sykes Lane, Normanton, Carrot Creek, the Finches to Armley Wood, Barnsdale.

Best bank areas Green bank/Old Hall, Whitwell, Normanton, Sykes Lane, Sailing Club.

Best methods; Bank - Floating line with weighted lures and nymphs.
Boat - As above with various sinking lines and lures.

Mid week boat winner John Lee of Bourne

Fish stocked 2,500

Forthcoming events:

Beginners courses: 1,7,15 & 29 May; 6,9,13,20 & 26 June and other dates throughout the season.

Bob Church Classic 5 May

Dave Hodgson Memorial 9 May.

Tuesday Evening Boat League commences 11 May

Vision Pairs 23 May

England Qualifier `Odds & Sods' 30 May

Don't forget the **Help for Heroes** match Saturday 14 August call 01572 653021 for more information

Pitsford Water

Fish week 766 (3,193) Returns 161 (761) Rod average 4.8 (4.2)

Bank fishing has been challenging this week. With gin clear water and bright sunshine fish have been away from the banks. Fish are feeding hard on large buzzers and Daphnia, which are abundant; this is why the water is so clear as the daphnia eat the algae.

The small half is the top spot on the lake at the moment which is fishing well for both bank and boat fishermen. Thursday's EFFA spring boat match gave a rod average of 4.3 and most of the fish were caught in the small half.

Two stockings of rainbows are planned this week with all the brown trout now stocked for the season.

EFFA spring boat match

Julian Davies took the best bag, with 6 fish weighing in at 18lb 8oz. Julian commented that this was his best bag for several seasons. These were all taken from the small half. He also took the largest fish a rainbow of 4lb 14oz. Second spot went to Anglian Water's popular instructor Peter Hartley with 8 fish for 17lb 7oz, third was Mark McLeod with 8 fish for 17lb 4oz. David Moore took fourth place with 7 fish weighing 17lb 1oz.

Trout Master Fish off

Won by Nick Wood who was the only angler to catch, with the remaining three blanking.

East Midlands Trout Fishers Association bank match

Held on Sunday 11 April with 23 Anglers battling it out. England youth team member Ryan Worker showing them all how it's done. He managed 8 fish, the only limit of the match, weighing in at 16lb 6oz. Second was Pat Sweeney with 7 fish for 14lb 0oz. Third was Graham Bosworth with 6 fish weighing 12lb 11oz. Mick Facey took the largest fish at 4lb 10oz.

Best Rainbow 6lb taken by Terry Pancoust of Northampton.

Pitsford Water continued

Best boat areas North Farm Bay (off the Gravels), small half off the Causeway.

Best bank areas The Willows (small half), Bog Bay/Stilton Point

Mid week boat winner R Barlow of London

Fish stocked 600

Forthcoming events:

Beginners courses: 24 April; 9,12 & 22 May; 4,19 & 23 June and other dates throughout the season.

WIGFIC - Water Industry Game Fishing Competition: Pitsford Water is hosting this annual event between the Environment Agency and various water companies on 8 May.

Most boats are booked on this date and the bank will be closed to all non-competitors.

Ravensthorpe Reservoir

Fish week 589 (2,863) Returns 92 (557) Rod average 6.4 (5.4)

Anglers travelled from far and wide this week to enjoy some superb fishing at Ravensthorpe. John Sturge and George Lafrate drove up from Kent for a three day boat package returning 30 plus fish to their boat on Thursday - a combination of small lures and buzzers working best. Mike and Keith Harding of Knowle returned 42 fish on Saturday. Mitch Brown and Adey Greenho took 34 fish to 5lb. The biggest Rainbow of the week at 5lb 8oz fell to Trevor Heseltine from Bridgnorth on a size 12 Black Buzzer. Local angler David Brady from Orlingbury won the Troutmasters fish off on Sunday taking 4 fish for 8lb 10oz. David will represent Ravensthorpe at this year's Grafham Water final.

The fishing this week has been superb with fish feeding heavily on buzzers. Anglers are using floating lines and sink tips with long leaders and a team of three buzzers in olive, black or holo green to take plenty of fish. Intermediate lines with small black and green lures are catching well from the dam wall (try cormorants or black peas with a slow retrieve).

Competition news

24 members of the Mid Northants TFA contested the Hector Woolnough Trophy on Sunday catching 221 fish for a splendid rod average of 9.2.

1st Stuart Eggleton 7lb 12oz

2nd Mick O'Farrell 6lb 12oz

3rd Paul Gayton 6lb

Best Rainbow 5lb 8oz taken by Trevor Heseltine of Bridgnorth.

Best boat areas Guilsborough shore, Island to Catwalk.

Best bank areas All platforms and dam wall.

Mid week boat winner: Richard Claydon of Theddingworth.