

Fishery News Week ending 25 April 2010

· Grafham Water rod average hits 6.1

Fantastic rod average with loads of limits

The heat is on Rutland Water hosts Northern heat of Anglian Water Airflo International

Nine teams battle it out under the sun for a place in the Northern final and a fantastic rod average of 7.56

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 382(season 1,281) Returns 280 (830) Rod average 6.1 (4.74)

The fishing at Grafham Water has been outstanding this week with a rod average of 6.1. Nearly 40% of anglers caught their limits.

Boat angler Bob Wallinger from Sharnford, Leics, caught the biggest bag of the week. Bob caught 8 fish for 29lb 12oz on a di 7 line with a big gold and silver tube from most areas on the reservoir. Bob's best weight was 4lb 12oz with both a rainbow and a brown.

The boat fishing has been the best option with plenty of over wintered Rainbows being caught between 3 and 8lb, mainly on black or green buzzers, pheasant tail nymphs, cormorants and cats whisker boobies on either floating lines with very long leaders or medium to fast sink lines with the washing line method.

The main areas for the tremendous boat fishing have generally been the western end of the reservoir - Savages Creek, L and H buoys and the Lodge frontage. I and Q buoys and the south end of the dam are also producing excellent catch rates. Bank anglers have had some good sport with the south end of the dam being the most productive along with Gaynes Cove.

Competition news

GWFFA bank match 18 April

Mark Brinkman won the first Grafham Water Fly Fishers match of the season. Mark caught 8 fish for 16lb 4 1/8oz by fishing a hi D line at the south end of the dam with a cats whisker booby.

1st Mark Brinkman 8 fish for 16lb 4 1/8oz

2nd Harley Smith 4 fish for 9lb 6 5/8oz

3rd Derek Bravington 4 fish for 6lb 10 1/8oz

Spring Association Match Friday 23 April

With near perfect conditions expectations were high for the Spring Association match of the AMFC. This is where all the divisions fish together but as a four man team and not as a 6 man team, and anglers don't fish with anyone from their own division.

The majority of the boats headed towards the west end of the lake with either floating or midge tip lines, fishing on either buzzers or nymphs.

The best team overall was Rutland Water FF who narrowly beat Hanningfield FF by 8oz. There were plenty of quality fish with both Rainbows and Browns vying for best fish with 5 fish well over 4lb. At the very end of the weigh in Keith Gilchrist came to the scales with a brown weighing 6lb 3/8oz. This fish gave Keith the best bag without any time bonus of 22lb 4oz, but the top rod spot was taken by regular season ticket angler Chris McLeod of Ashton on the Green with a total bag weight including time bonus (only 1lb per hour) of 27lb 6oz. All of his fish were caught on an olive buzzer on the point of a 25 foot leader fished on a floating line. The rod average for the match was exactly 7 fish.

Best Rainbow 8lb 6oz taken by Mr D Valentine of Baldock.

Best Brown 5lb 12oz taken by T Hale of Hitchin.

Best boat areas L,H,I,Q and D buoys, Savages Creek, South Dam, Lodge frontage.

Best bank areas South Dam, Gaynes Cove.

Best methods See report

Mid week boat winner S Poplett of Stevenage.

Fish stocked 2,000

Forthcoming events:

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

Rutland Water

Fish week 2,142 (season 6,439) Returns 472 (1,277) Rod average 4.53 (5.04)

Rutland Water is in outstanding form with lots of limits and quality fish being taken. The rod average for the week is an impressive 4.53. Numbers of over wintered fish are coming out with Rainbows long and lean averaging 3 -3½lb. Whilst Browns in the 3½ to 7lb class were caught during the week the best was taken in the Anglian Water Airflo International Northern heat on Saturday by John Calvert fishing for Greys G -Tec Stocks. John's fish weighed an impressive 7lb 3¼oz.

Michel Nollet from Belgium took a lovely Brown around the 3lb mark. Michel was on holiday with 11 fellow anglers who also caught some impressive fish with Rainbows up to 4lb.

Fly life is tremendous at the moment with masses of buzzers, daphnia and also corixa on

the menu. Prospects are excellent with great fly hatches occurring on settled days.

Competition news

Anglian Water Airflo International Northern heat.

Rutland Water hosted a Northern heat on Saturday 24 April. Nine teams were competing for 5 places in the Northern final on 5 July. Greys G-Tec won with John Calvert taking the best fish of the match at 7lb 3¼oz and fellow team member Chris Guthrie winning the prize for best bag, weighing in at 25lb 14¼oz. The match fished to a fantastic rod average of 7.56.

1st Greys G-Tec Stocks Team 47 fish for 133lb 5¾oz

2nd Team Vision 48 fish for 128lb 15¼oz

3rd Iain Barr FF Team Airflo 48 fish for 126lb 3 1/8oz

4th Team G Loomis 48 fish for 123lb 14½oz

5th Seighford Sharks 48 fish for 122lb 14¾oz

6th Peregrine Team Esthwaite 47 fish for 111lb 3¼oz

7th Ashington Kingfishers 46 fish for 109lb 4 5/8oz

8th Weardale Fly Fishers 43 fish for 98lb 8oz

9th Froggies Fly Fishers (3F) 33 fish for 84lb 13¼oz

Best Rainbow 6lb 5oz taken by Ian Baker

Best Brown 7lb 3¼oz taken by John Calvert

Best boat areas The main basin, Barnsdale, Old Hall

Best bank areas Normanton, Sykes Lane, Sailing Club, Stockie Bay

Best methods Bank anglers - Floating line with buzzers/weighted lures.

Boat - as for bank anglers, but include sinking lines with various lures.

Mid week boat winner N Evans of Ramsey, Cambs

Fish stocked 2,000

Forthcoming events:

May is a busy month - please book boats in advance to avoid disappointment.

Beginner's 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 606 (3,799) Returns 146 (907) Rod average 4.1 (4.1)

With a weekly rod average of 4.1 Pitsford Water is certainly on form at present. The 2,000 stock fish have stirred up the residents combined with masses of large buzzer hatches top of the water sport is now on the cards. Bank and boat fishing are now on a par, with fish moving well in the evening and around the banks, making the last few hours exciting.

The small half continues to dominate the boat fishing areas at present, with lots of fish taken from there at the weekend. The Greenwell Persauders had their Spring match on Sunday with 12 out of the 15 anglers taking 8 fish limits.

Gordon Bramwell was top rod with a 7lb Brown trout in his bag to boost his weight of fish. Pat Flynn of Northampton bank fished 5 times last week and took his limit on all 5 visits. He also returned 10 other fish, making good use of his Gold season ticket.

Both bank and boat anglers have been using a mixture of lures and nymphs, with lures scoring when it's bright on an intermediate line. Buzzers are being used more and more and fish are being taken on these, mainly down deep. The bung with buzzers has worked well over the weekend. A leader of about 18 feet with fluoro carbon does the trick.

Best Rainbow . 8lb taken by Keith Fairey Northampton.

Best Brown 7lb taken by Gordon Bramwell of Loughborough.

Best boat areas Small Half, Farm Bay, Bog Bay.

Best bank areas Farm Bay, Small Half.

Mid week boat winner Mr Hickman.

Best methods See report.

Forthcoming events:

Anglian Water Airflo International Midlands heat 1 May

Beginners courses: 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 494 (3,357) Returns 130 (687) Rod average 3.8(4.8)

The best fish of the week at Ravensthorpe was a 10lb 1oz Rainbow taken with a montana by Dave Burton. Dave was boat fishing from the Catwalk corner.

There have been good catches to black buzzer this week, fished very slowly from floating lines. Mornings are the best time for bank and boat anglers with some fish still being taken to lures and bloodworm.

Best Rainbow 10lb 1oz taken by Dave Burton.

Best boat areas Island and Coton end.

Best bank areas Dam (lodge end) and Platforms

Mid week boat winner P Simms of Luton.

Fish stocked 350