

Newsletter No.182 May 2016

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Editor's Notes

Winter Programme

The committee are in the process of arranging speakers for next winter's evening meetings. We strive to offer a varied programme and would welcome any suggestions on content or speakers. If you have any suggestions please contact Peter Oldham p.oldham111@btinternet.com

Website

Have you spotted the new area on the website? This is where you can have your contributions and angling experiences published. All reports and contributions are welcome <http://invictaffc.org.uk/about-us/members-contributions/>

The Invicta Floating Line Competition sponsored by Snowbee

For a full report and results go to our website <http://invictaffc.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2014/05/Snowbee-Newsletter-2016.pdf>

AMFC

A big thank you to all the 25 members who are making up our two teams this year with some representing Invicta for the first time. Both teams are now complete for this season but if you would like to fish any of the AMFC matches in the future then please contact David Moore: davidmoore48@outlook.com

NEXT CARR CUP DATE & VENUE

EYEBROOK – SATURDAY 4th JUNE

Eyebrook reservoir. I would hope to be fishing nymphs and buzzers, either by the dam or in one of the bays. If the weather is right dry flies work well, either static or pulled through the surface.

Contact Mark Searle to book your place. Currently there are only 5 places still available



Three members of the Invicta Muddlers team, finished 3rd and top local team in the Floating Line competition. Presentation by Bob Ayres

Carr Cup Round 2, Rutland Water

Saturday 14th May 2016

The weather had suddenly turned colder, from balmy spring days of twenty plus degrees to the prospect of half that, and with brisk northerlies. However 25 members made the trip, which is excellent for this event, which is often a difficult one to get members to attend, but Rutland, as all waters, had been fishing really well and hopes were high.

Significant in our ranks this time were a number of new members and some really old ones! Well, old in the sense that they had been members for a very long time. Among these were John Gale and Ian Baldock, and it was very good to see them. We hope to encourage them on a few more trips this year.

Kieran Caulfield burst back into action with the highest score of the day and Graham Bodsworth recovered from a bout of ill health to show us how to quietly fish nymphs.

There were no real hot spots and anglers departed to all quarters of the lake. In each boat there was a good mixture of more experienced angler with beginner and these tended to look for the quieter water. Absolute rookie Trevor Barton managed to take a beauty out of the Bunds in the South Arm, while Graham Bodsworth had a 7lb 5oz rainbow from nearby – the biggest fish of the year so far.



Top bag of the day for Keiran Caulfield

Meanwhile Kieran Caulfield was bagging up in record time, and eventually going on to catch 18 from East Creek just outside the Lodge. Successful method was slow glass with washing line. Fish

were surprisingly high in the water as they have been for a long time now. They just don't seem to be plunging to the depths which is maybe a result of not having any extremes of temperature for a long time.

Other boats tried all the usual hot spots but the only other notable one was just inside Sailing Club Bay, where Graham Bodsworth and Mick Facey found fish buzzer feeding. They observed that all the takes came, especially to a reddish cruncher, during frequent hatches of red buzzer. They ended up each getting into double figures although they only had 3 to the boat by 2pm.

Pulling only had limited success. There is plenty of food in the lakes at present and with the winds dropping off, buzzers and nymphs on slow sink lines and midge tips worked best on the day. When the sun appeared later in the afternoon, action for most did tail off, but at nearly four and a half rod average, few can complain.

The day that started with a hearty (but probably not good for the heart?) breakfast at the Stibington Café and finished with a drink in the Lodge restaurant. All very convivial, and the Carr Cup table indicates that although David Moore is in the lead, with plenty more fishing ahead of us, the Club Championship is wide open.

So, on to the Eyebrook on Saturday 4th June, where we hope for some top of the water action



Report by David Jones on the casting tuition sessions held by Peter Hartley

This is another one of those articles on what I learnt when seven anglers turned up for Peter Hartley's casting class at Grafham. A very pleasant morning with bright sunshine and a gentle breeze provided ideal conditions. He sat us down and asked what we hoped to get out of the course. All seven anglers gave different responses. He then asked a series of questions aimed at assessing our knowledge. I soon discovered that I did not know what 7/8 on a rod butt meant. Apparently 7 refers to the use of the rod with a DT line whereas the 8 indicates the loading required when using a WF line. A question on the meaning of DT and WF illustrated the lack of understanding within the group. Peter explained that in the early days of still water trout fishing WF lines were uncommon and it was quite usual to cut up a DT line to extract a shooting head which was attached to a length of running monofil. I would say that these are pretty rare these days due to the tendency of the nylon backing to tangle.

We demonstrated our skills or lack of, on the grass outside of the fishing lodge whilst Peter observed and suggested improvements. I liked the fact that he did not insist on gripping the rod with the thumb or forefinger pointing up the rod. I liked the "answering the telephone" analogy of moving the rod holding hand in the back stroke, reminding you not to raise the casting hand above the ear. He winced at the sight of my #10 line and thought that my outfit was excessively heavy. I have never found that even in old age. I like to feel the line working the rod. He suggested another model which I think was matched with a #7 line. Nope, I did not like that. Then he produced a Loomis GLX. I have never used one before but I immediately felt it was different to any other rod I had ever used. There was obviously technology in use which was not employed in other rods, after all anyone can copy a taper. It cast a line with a really narrow loop, out of sight. Slight snag was the £700 price tag but had I discovered the beast at an earlier stage of life I would have bought one.... or two! Double lottery ticket this week me thinks!

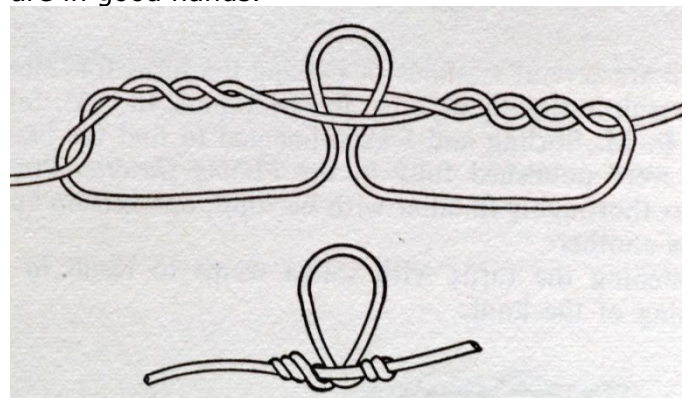
I liked the session where anglers were seated in order to practice casting in as boat. Unfortunately Alan Prevost put his chair on soft ground and it tipped over throwing Alan to the ground. Much mirth followed (was he practicing falling over-

board?) but I am pleased to report that he was unhurt!

We discussed fishing problems in the final session, notably tangles in the leader. I think some of the participants were over-ambitious in expecting to be able to use 4 flies on a cast until their casting expertise improved, namely in using an open casting stroke. Peter is a fluorocarbon addict but not a fan of the expensive brands. He thought it was stiffer than nylon monofil and was less prone to tangle. He uses a blood-loop to join droppers to the leader. I have not seen one of those used since coarse anglers used to make up paternoster rigs. If the loop is made sufficiently large then part of the loop could be used as the dropper leg. There was some doubt if it was legal to connect droppers via mini-metal rings when fishing competitions.

Peter distributed a booklet "Trout - A Fly Fishers First Guide" by Robin Gow, Henry Lowe and Hector Woolnough. Ignore these authors at your peril! I particularly liked Chapter 12 on Safety & Conduct - a much overlooked topic which should be compulsory reading for beginners and experts alike.

So, far from casting instruction alone, this was a pretty fair introduction to reservoir fly fishing from which I am sure we all benefited. Finally, during the course, an unfortunate boat angler suffered a stroke. I was hugely impressed by the manner in which the wardens sprang into action and had an ambulance on hand by the time he was brought ashore. I felt that at Grafham, we are in good hands.



Blood Loop

Dave Jones
April 2016



SUMMER PROGRAMME 2016

Carr Cup Dates and venues

GRAFHAM – SUNDAY 10th JULY

Grafham water this is our Presidents cup match, which will also incorporate an inter club match with GWFFA, we fish the day with our own club members, come in for a BBQ lunch and a chat, back out to fish the afternoon. We all come in for the weigh in at the lodge and results.

DRAYCOTE – SATURDAY 13th AUGUST

This is the club Carl Hunter bowl match. Draycote is a well stocked water and is often a good water for dry fly fishing, also has a good head of 3lb + fish, if you are lucky.

RAVENSTHORPE – SATURDAY 3rd SEPT

At this time of year this water can produce some very large fish which will also come up for the dry fly. As this is a smaller water than most, nobody is far away, so if you are finding it tough there is always someone close by to give advice.

GRAFHAM – TUESDAY 4th OCTOBER

This is our last Carr cup match for the season where the cup can be won or lost. Even if you are not in the running or not interested in winning the Carr cup just listening to all the banter between the few that are still competing is worth the trip alone, you will hear permutation of points that Albert Einstein would be proud of.

Other Invicta Dates and venues

ELINOR 6th NOVEMBER

This is our fur and feather match, more of an end of season get together. We start about 9.30 and finish about 16.00 and make our way to the pub for a warm up, drink and to sort out the prizes. For this trip we all bring a prize and we all get to take home a prize, as with all our trips this is a very sociable day with help and advice in abundance.

AMFC Dates and venues

R1 G2 & G3 Rutland	Sat 23 rd April
R6 G2 & G3 Chew	Sat 8 th Oct.

Group 2

R2 Bewl	Wed	11 th May
R3 Chew	Wed	1 st June
R4 Draycote	Sat.	16 th July
R5 Grafham	Mon	26 th Sept

Group 3

R2 Hanningfield	Thursday	7 th July
R3 Pitsford	Saturday	23 rd July
R4 Eyebrook	Saturday	20 th August
R5 Grafham	Thursday	8 th Sept

Contact David Moore for further information:

davidmoore48@outlook.com

