

# invicta

## fly fishing club. cambridge.

President: Norman Shippey <normanshippey@btinternet.com>; Chairman Lawson Wight <lawson@camsweep.co.uk>; Treasurer Alan Prevost <alan@prevost.net>  
Secretary/Newsletter Editor Peter Reeves <piscator2003@yahoo.co.uk> tel: 01223 511992.  
Bookings officer John Caldwell <john.caldwell@unep-wcmc.org> tel: 01480 381619.

Affiliated to the Federation of Midlands Fly Fishers (Anglia), the Anglers' Conservation Association and the Salmon and Trout Association.

Website: [www.invictaffc.org.uk](http://www.invictaffc.org.uk)



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## ONE SPORT, ONE VOICE. ANGLING UNITY AT LAST?

Angling has several disciplines but all of these have common interests such as healthy fish stocks, clean water, freedom from harassment by misguided pressure groups, appropriate informed legislation etc.

Until now the voices of anglers have been fragmented with separate disciplines having individual bodies to represent their own interest effectively creating dilution by division. On his last visit to Invicta, David Moore who was then representing Anglian Water did draw our attention to the Fisheries & Angling Conservation Trust (FACT) an organisation formed with the object of creating a coalition of Angling bodies in order that our voices would carry more weight with government. He also advised us that he was shortly retiring from Anglian Water which would allow him to apply more time and energy to FACT.

Well, this process seems to be bearing fruit apace, as witnessed by the press release issued by FACT on 26th November which reads as follows. "Leading angling bodies have agreed in principle to establish a powerful new body to represent all anglers.

The boards of the Anglers' Conservation Association, National Association of Fisheries and Angling Consultatives, National Federation of Anglers, and Salmon and Trout Association have agreed to their Chairmen signing a letter of intent committing them to the development of the new body. The full membership of each organisation will be consulted before final agreement. The National Federation of Sea Anglers has been fully involved and will formally consider joining next Spring. Other fisheries organisations will also be welcome.

The new body will build on the benefits the four organisations already deliver to their members and become a unified, powerful voice to protect fisheries, the sport they offer, and the environment on which they depend.

The development has been led by FACT, the Fisheries and Angling Conservation Trust, which

already acts as an umbrella body for angling. FACT Chairman Jim Glasspool said:

"This is a major step forward towards a unified organisation which will be able to provide an improved range of services to millions of anglers and be an effective voice for them. Much remains to be done but there is an enthusiasm and commitment from everyone to achieve that goal."

Invicta is affiliated to the Anglers' Conservation Association and The Salmon & Trout Association with both groups subsequently contacting us confirming the intent of consolidation and inviting comment on the situation from their memberships. This would appear to be a wholly remarkable achievement by FACT and a major step forward in advancing our sport in all its disciplines and ensuring that it faces the future on a very sound foundation with potentially clear, uncluttered lines of communication to our legislators without diminishing any of the services provided by the original individual organisations concerned. Hooray!

## OPENING TIMES

Are you jaded, edgy, twitchy? Well, not long to wait now. Effective therapy will soon be available as under:

**RAVENSTHORPE** opens Saturday 1st March 2008  
**PITSFORD** opens Friday 7th March 2008  
**GRAFHAM WATER** opens Friday 14th March 2008  
**EYEBROOK** opens Thursday 20th March 2008  
**BEWL BRIDGE** opens Friday 21st March 2008  
**RUTLAND WATER** opens Friday 21st March 2008

Also Anglian Water advise that their annual free magazine "HOOKED" is expected to be available from early February. Many will receive their copy by post but if not ask, nay demand, your copy on your first visit to a lodge in 2008 as this publication is always well produced and informative.

## INVICTA CALENDAR OF FORTHCOMING EVENTS

(Items marked § are provisional dates to be confirmed)

Jan. 10th	<b>CLIFF WATERS of 'Trout &amp; Salmon'</b>	Harston Village Hall.	7.45 for 8.00 pm
Jan. 24th	<b>MEETING CANCELLED DUE TO HALL NOT AVAILABLE (See March 6th)</b>		
Feb. 7th	<b>ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.</b>	Harston Village Hall.	7.45 for 8.00 pm
Feb.21st	<b>NIGEL SAVAGE. Alternative targets for the fly</b>	Harston Village Hall.	7.45 for 8.00 pm
Feb.23rd	<b>ANNUAL DINNER</b>	'The George' at Babraham.	8.00 pm
Mar. 6th	<b>MICK HUFFER of 'Fly Fishing &amp; Fly Tying' fame</b>	<b>Fly Tying demo</b>	7.45 for 8.00 pm
Mar.20th	<b>Inter Club QUIZ 'n Fun night.</b>	Harston Village Hall.	7.45 for 8.00 pm
July 6th	<b>GWFFA Inter-club FLOATING LINE COMPETITION</b>	Grafham Water.	tba

**\*\*Please note the revisions to the originally circulated programme contained in the above calendar\*\***

## WOULD YOU BENEFIT FROM PROFESSIONAL HELP?

At our recent Fly Fishing Forum evening (see Dave Jones' report in this issue) the question of high performance rods was raised and whether they were value for money and effective. Henry Lowe made the very valid point that design and manufacturing techniques were raising standards in the equipment, especially at the top of the range where the increasingly higher costs of research and development could be recouped. Equally valid was his point that all too infrequently was any development conducted on the hands that held the rod where quite minor investment would all too often render more benefit than a rod upgrade.

He did subsequently suggest that I contact another panel member, Peter Hartley on this theme. Peter is not only the Chairman of GWFFA but also an experienced and qualified AGPAI instructor and English International. Peter tells me that in his opinion "The majority of anglers, however experienced, would benefit from casting tuition. Many feel that they cast well enough but could do with more distance or better presentation. Many anglers think that they know how to double haul but do not do it properly. The roll cast is an important tool in the armoury, generally not executed correctly." Now be honest, is your casting as good as it could be? Are you using correctly balanced equipment and are you getting optimum results from it? Maybe you would like to try other outfit/ weight combinations to see whether some of these would suit you better. Are you satisfied with your distance? Are you safe when casting? Does your presentation send fish to the horizon? Remember I have fished with many of you and you with me and I have long come to the conclusion that effortless grace and accuracy in fly fishing is a wonderful but very rare commodity. So, what can realistically be done about it and why has it not happened before?

Well, I feel that embarrassment at seeking help stands in the way of improvement of our skills and as a consequence our enjoyment of our sport, which really does not seem to make much sense.

Additionally, we probably harbour a concept that the road to improvement is paved with unquantified expense. After all golf professionals do not come cheap so why should flyfishing pro's?

Pursuing this subject with Peter it transpires that he does some cost effective improvement sessions with GWFFA members and would be agreeable to extending this to Invicta members given that viable numbers materialised. 'Viable' in this context would be a minimum of 4 and a maximum of 6 people.

So what is involved? Well, Peter suggests a Saturday or Sunday morning in February (prior to the start of the Season) at Grafham could be organised given sufficient support. Peter would supply all equipment and tuition on its proper use and also give anglers that consistently use one set of tackle opportunity to try out others such as 8 weights, 7/8 weight, 6/7 weight or even 4/5 weight. This latter is quite practical, with the advance of years and the accumulation of bodily abuse effects I now fish #5 weight outfits quite happily and greatly appreciate fewer aches and pains at the end of a session as well as the greatly enhanced sensitivity of the tackle. Peter would match to these Airflo sixth sense and 40 plus lines which he rates very highly. This would not be a bank breaking exercise either as Peter proposes a very reasonable charge of £12.50 - a price which could save you much more than that and provide more satisfaction and he is confident that not only newcomers but old hand with bad habits will see great benefit from proper, professional tuition. Please register your interest initially to me on 01223 511992 or email piscator2003@yahoo.co.uk.

## EVENING MEETING REPORTS by Dave Jones. IAIN BARR

Iain threw the evening open to club members and invited questions.

### Dry fly fishing

Dry fly fishing was the first on the list although I am not sure if the question was intended to be related to reservoirs or running water. It turned out that Iain had some of his most successful days with dry flies on the reservoirs. What is a dry fly? It was worth remembering that flies can lie in the water at various angles. Some have a body dipping directly down as in a CDC shuttlecock style, in others the body could be at 45° as in some emergers, and some float with the body parallel to the surface film. The latter style needs the underside of the front hackle to be trimmed to enable the body to rest on the surface film. In this respect a parachute style is probably superior to the conventional sedge pattern. The angler needs to experiment to find out which body position is in favour with the trout on that particular day. Dry flies were usually tied on Kamazan 405's. Ian treats his flies with Gink which should last for hours. Under most conditions a copolymer leader is preferred. This season's discovery has been Frog Hair. This has been around for a few years and has, as far as I can recall, received mixed reviews in the magazines. Ian likes the elasticity. Many dislike the price! Flat calms demand that the leader is sunk. Fluorocarbon leaders are sometimes employed when simple degreasing on copolymer lines doesn't work. The leader can be up to 22 feet in length. It pays to fish with a slack line. This is achieved by putting the rod tip into a circular movement during the last part of the cast: this puts a snake loop into the line. Thus when you instinctively strike immediately the fly is taken, there is a bit of take-up to delay contact with the fish. Generally he recasts every 4 or 5 seconds in different directions to cover a wide area of water. Iain has found that, regardless of what is actually hatching, his first choice is a large red fly sitting in the surface film. In a flat calm he might fish a single or perhaps two flies at most. If there is a big wave then the set up might change to three dries headed by a big bushy fly to act as a sight. Takes are not always obvious: sometimes they are little more than a sip, which could be invisible at range. Ian has also fished a team of 4 hoppers sub-surface on a Di-3 or a slime line, the theory being that trapped air in the hackles closely resemble the air pocket generated by a hatching fly on its way to the surface. Dry flies are fished on a relatively heavy AFTM 8 line. He has a preference for Greys Platinum or Worcestershire floaters. The last couple of feet were coated with Mucilin to ensure that it floats.

Dry fly fishing led to a brief introduction New



Zealand style fishing. This is a technique where the leader lengths between the flies on a cast were attached to the bend in the hook in front. A blob of super glue on the bend helped to stop the leader slipping around the bend. The advantage claimed for this method is that it gives much better contact with each fly (what happened to the 8" dropper length Iain?) and helps show takes even when the fish moves in the "wrong" direction. Typically three or more flies would be connected on a cast in this manner. However, another technique is to use dry flies on the main leader and suspend midges on a short dropper below the surface. In this way the dry flies act as indicators. I could imagine attaching flies to the midges etc. etc almost creating a trawl! In fact I have just remembered that this is exactly the technique used for big game fly fishing in Northern Australia, where the attractor rig is an essential part of getting fish interested in a relatively small lure containing the hook. Another potential technique is to put a bushy dry fly at the head of a leader acting as a wake attractor for a minkie or something similar trailing behind.

### How do you run a successful team?

The key is communication – sounds easy enough? The top teams rarely bother to practice for 1st round matches, relying on their inherent skill on particular water. However, the 2nd round probably demands a couple of days on the water whereas the final warrants three-day practice sessions. Send the team members off in different directions around the reservoir. Ensure

that the team members are using different techniques and explore different depths in order to find the fish. When the location of the fish is discovered don't hammer them – save that for match day! Arrive at the water early on the day. Scout around and take note of the location of cormorants and gulls and even successful human anglers. The fish may well have moved on from the previous days.

### Why is the fishing in the North Arm of Rutland so poor?

Well, it didn't used to be so but it is generally recognised as a current problem. Tests show that the water quality is the same in both arms. It has been suggested that the water is too deep to get decent hatches. Perhaps there are too many predators in and out of the water? Some fish are actually stocked up the North Arm, mainly on the south shore. The prevailing wind is from the west and freshly stocked fish tend to run with the wind. Experience shows that it takes a stockie about a day and a half to reach the dam – as often as not in the southern corner. The fish then turn up wind and follow the bank into the south arm where they seem to stay.

### Where do you fish at Grafham?

Don't bother around the edges and simply fish the middle. The area around L buoy was recommended as it marks an underwater island (except in 1976 – I wuz there!!) at the western end of the reservoir. This must be a hot spot as I read the Grafham report this week and noted that every area but L was allegedly fishing well! I suppose it is one way of reducing overcrowding around G buoy!

### Fishing the hang?

Cast a long way with a sinking line and three or four flies on the leader. The top fly needs to be an orange blob or something equally visible in the water. Figure of eight the line back until the leader reaches the rod tip. Peer into the water for sight of the blob, which will probably be about 3 feet down. Stop retrieving and hold the line in a near vertical position for about 10 seconds. Sometimes there is a fierce take but otherwise look out for abnormal movement of the blob. There are variations on this technique, some anglers preferring to fish each fly individually at various depths. It was interesting to hear that the Aircell HiD, no longer available, was probably the best line for this technique as the tip sank faster than the body of the line. I well recall Airflo rubbishing every other line on the market at the time when they introduced their compensated sink lines which ensured a constant rate of descent along the whole length of the line. Interesting then to see them introduce a sinker similar to the HiD under the name Sweep with little acknowledgement to the predecessors.

Another method which bears some similarity to the hang method, uses a heavy double hook fly 6 feet

from the fly line and a booby some 17 feet further down the leader at the point. The leading fly sinks rapidly to the depths whereas the booby remains near the surface but starts to descend when the assembly is retrieved. This method, dubbed the "see-saw", enables the angler to fish two depths simultaneously although the assembly must be tricky to cast.

### Championship fishing in Norway

Iain returned from the world Championships in Norway with 2 silver medals, one for the team and another for achieving the runners-up position. There is a comprehensive write-up in the December Trout Fisherman and for those who want the fine detail and day to day positions can be found by searching with key words *13th FIPS Mouche 2007* and looking for *flyfishingnorway* in the results.

### Bob Church

Bob Church has another book coming out in which one of the chapters has been written by Iain. Watch out for it in the New Year.

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## FLY FISHING FORUM

The gurus were John Mees, Henry Lowe, and Peter Hartley with Peter Reeves as the Chairman.

### How do you go about catching big brownies?

Select a lure with similar dimensions to the prey and fish it deep and slow. These flies like the traditional minkie might be a few inches in length whereas the 16 lbs brownies from Grafham this season was taken on 10" lure Ginked to sink slowly. Mind you it was being dragged down by 10 yds of 880 grain lead core looped to 10 yds of a Di7 with a Di5 running line. Henry made the point that large flies normally require heavy lines. However, in 1990 when the trout were preoccupied with 5" roach fry, he successfully used a conventional No.10 LS lure with an extended tail concealing a wee double to make up the length. This sparse design shed water on the first false cast and could thence be readily projected out into the reservoir on conventional tackle. Peter Hartley reckoned that brownies were unpredictable and said that he had his largest brownie on a small booby sparkler fished on the top dropper.

### Zander – do they affect trout fishing?

Rumour has it that a zander of 26 lbs was captured at Grafham this season. However, even at this size, zander are blessed with small mouths and are unable to feed on fish the size of stockies. I was interested to learn that zander were often grouped together with fish of a similar size and that they hunted in packs. They are fast growing and were claimed to put on 2kg per annum. They don't like the light and will be found in the depths of the reservoir during normal daylight hours. Thus they are unlikely to be caught in large numbers using conventional trout fishing methods.



Small zander provide food for brownies and where they shoal up, often attract the larger trout which can then be targeted by the angler. Although Peter Hartley was at one time against coarse fishing in reservoirs his opinions have since mellowed purely because the commercial exploitation was to be preferred over netting and disposal.

*How long should you leave a dry fly out on the water before recasting?*

This question probably arose from an Iain Barr remark that he only left a dry fly out for about 10 seconds before recasting. Peter Hartley reckoned to leave his flies out for several minutes especially if there was evidence of surface activity. Henry said it depended on how the trout responded. It was good idea to try and anticipate the direction in which the fish are heading prior to casting. Sometimes they wanted a static fly whilst a fly twitched on, through or even just sub-surface might on other occasions, prove more successful. Henry recommended heading for the scum lanes. Lines of the order of AFTM 3 or 4 were less likely to spook fish. John Mees thought that a booby stripped through the surface was far more effective than using a dry fly.

*Is the colour of a floating line important?*

An interesting range of opinions were expressed. John Mees preferred fluorescent colours because they were the easiest for the angler to see and he didn't think the colour made any difference on reservoirs where the length of the leaders was much longer than used on rivers. Paul Sissons preferred dark lines on tree-lined rivers. Henry liked fluorescent lines for demonstrations but would not use one for fishing. Someone suggested that as the underside of fish eating birds was white and presumably difficult for fish to see then lines should be light coloured. I don't think that argument is valid as the sky is very bright and any line other than completely transparent will appear as a dark silhouette. Peter Hartley on the other hand claimed that gillies always suggest the use of a light coloured line.

*What are the most important features of an artificial fly?*

A reasonable representation of food said Henry. John Mees reckoned that trout were not overly intelligent or why would they take blobs: so any reasonable outline of food forms will do. Peter Hartley tended to agree and suggested that shape and size were critical and half a dozen patterns are all that is required. He did concede that a dab of extra colour, fluorescent or otherwise, helped trout to see the fly in muddy water.

*What do you look for on an unfamiliar water?*

Don't go with preconceived ideas and find out as much as possible before wetting a line. Look for fish on the top. Visit the down wind shore and see what potential food has been amassed. Salmon anglers will find a gillie essential after all it is their living and it

pays for their advice to be accurate.

*Are we being brain washed by companies in to changing kit?*

It was considered to be good sales practice to build up a specific feature – say rod length – and then promote a different style which requires new tackle. I recall that *the* rod for match fishing was the Bruce and Walker 11.3 whereas nowadays this would be considered to be liquorice-like compared with modern powerhouses. Henry Lowe and Peter Reeves both praised high cost rods (Hardy and Sage for example) for their versatility particularly in adverse conditions. However, it was not possible for the average angler to get the best out of them without a few lessons. Peter Hartley confessed that after using a £700 Loomis he found it so effective that he was reluctant to hand it back!

*Where is the weed at Grafham?*

Before the application of ferric sulphate at Grafham in order to prevent snails and the like blocking the water filters, Grafham was full of weed, and hence food, all over the reservoir. It was so thick that it was often difficult to get a decent anchor hold. Nowadays weed seems to be non-existent. This was attributed to the variable water levels and the change in water quality resulting from the building of new towns in the Ouse catchment areas. It was possible that erosion has resulted in a scouring of the bottom of the reservoir so that it is no longer fertile. There was no intention to introduce weed but a £12 million programme is in hand to reinforce the banks at Grafham and Pitsford. Ah well – better late than never.

*Why is the L buoy mark claimed to be a hot spot at Grafham?*

L buoy is roughly half way along a line between the Lodge and Savages and marks a shallow region which appears when the water level is exceptionally low. Iain Barr claims that it is his favourite mark. John Mees reckoned it was OK in July and August and suggested that a red buzzer was the preferred fly.

*What are your views on catch and release?*

According to John Mees some anglers prefer to kill all of their catch whilst others do not. Obviously it is preferable to remove fish if they are diseased. It is doubtful if fish are harmed by C&R. Trout at Ravensthorpe are caught at least 1? times. Hooks should be debarbed and patterns like boobies, which tend to be swallowed, should be avoided. Some care is required in the manner with which fish are handled – preferably not at all. Whilst still waters can tolerate C&R, wild fisheries on rivers should always be C&R in order to preserve stocks. Peter Hartley said that C&R for salmon was definitely beneficial on salmon rivers.

*Should there be a unified fishing body for the UK?*

Such an organisation is already in place as described by David Moore on his last visit. The organisation is

called FACT – Fisheries and Angling Conservation Trust. For more details have a look at their web site HYPERLINK "<http://www.factuk.co.uk>" [www.factuk.co.uk](http://www.factuk.co.uk). It seems that politicians have discovered that angling is “a good thing to do” and intends to make clubs such as GWFFA and Invicta to be proactive in recruiting youths to the sport. On the other hand the Government has not been helpful with grants. The Confederation of English Flyfishers for example received a grant via Sport England of £15,000 in 07 which will be halved in 08 and totally removed in 09. Angling suffers from not being an Olympic sport (current costs for London 2012 £12billion) and an image of being a blood sport. It seems that we have a considerable hurdle to climb.

We had to call it an evening at something past 10pm. Thanks to all concerned in participating in the event.

**HAPPY NEW YEAR EVERYONE.**

**Remember that our first meeting in 2008 is on Thursday January 10th at Harston Village Hall 7.45 for 8.00 pm.**

**Cliff Waters of EMAP (‘Trout & Salmon ‘) will be addressing us on ‘Life between the covers’ which I am certain will be both informative and entertaining.**

## LOST IN TRANSLATION?

### Method 1: feathers intact

Make a body at your convenience and return to Carnation level having taken the precaution of the Let loose on long enough: some Millimeters.

Take a pen of cul de canard full and virgin Every time scissors and set the level Carnation with 3 towers over mounting. Attach to the So that the wing than the curvature then adjust Its length by pulling on the spine. A few Additional tours for good block.

If you want to provide any advantage you can set A second plume in the same way. Could have Seen Set the two feathers in one step, but it Less easy to adjust the length of the wing and it Especially less solid than if you do it in two Once.



What a wonderful source of information is the internet. Trolling through looking at different handling methods and uses of CDC I came across a French website - in French. By the touch of a button instant translation was offered with the above result. Clear everyone? Anybody still harbouring ambitions to become a Euro MP?

## INVICTA NOTICEBOARD

Henry Lowe has given me a copy of the Game Angling Instructors Association - a directory to game fishing instructors, coaches & guides. Should any member desire access to this information then please contact me on 01223 511992 or by e-mail. Peter Reeves.

### RIVER SAN (POLAND) FISHING TRIP

I am currently correlating interest in the suggested trip the the River San. This promises to be a fishing experience of a lifetime. If you failed to respond previously and do not want to miss out on this exciting proposition, then be sure to register your interest with me urgently and get latest updates and information. Peter Reeves. Tel: 01223 511992 or by e-mail on piscator2003@yahoo.co.uk.

## GOVERNMENT SUPPORT FOR ANGLING

Jackie Sheldon, Senior Development Manager for the Angling Development Board has successfully bid for £40,000 from Sport England to develop the current Level 1 and 2 Angling Coaching qualifications. The funding will enable the development of recognized coaching qualifications for the whole of the UK.

The ADB have been working in partnership with Scottish and Welsh angling governing bodies and sports coach UK to co-ordinate the development of coaching across the Home Nations. All angling governing bodies have now signed up to the new UK Coaching Framework and the UK Coaching Certificate. Consequently angling is now included within Sports Coach UK new re-categorisation of sport.

Since its formation last April the Angling Development Board has more than doubled the funding for the development of angling to nearly £400,000 over the next three years. After setting up the ADB, Sport England increased overall funding to £250,000, The Environment Agency has agreed to contribute £20,000 for the development program and Sport England have recently agreed to fund the appointment of a Regional Development Officer until 2010.

Already the ADB has been using this money to get results. Last week the organization announced the appointment of Darren Birch as Regional Implementation Officer for the North of England to work on the delivery of the club, coaching, volunteer, equity, child protection and education development through the angling network. The ADB is already in talks with major partners to match fund post in other parts of the country.

Darren Birch is a regular angler and has a sound sports development background. Darren is currently the North West Regional Officer for the English Federation of Disability Sport and has also previously worked for Wigan Leisure and Culture Trust as Disability Sports Development Officer. This has involved developing effective partnerships with National Governing Bodies, County Sports Partnerships, Local Authorities and local voluntary clubs to increase participation in sport.

**Matt Holt, Client Manager for Sport England** commented, "Sport England is pleased to support the ADB in its development of UKCC for angling. This will help raise coaching standards within the sport. In addition we look forward to working in partnership with the ADB in the coming year to help achieve our objectives of increasing and sustaining participation, and creating excellence in community sport."

**David Moore, Chair of the ADB** added, "At a time when winning support for non-olympic sports has been under threat we are very encouraged to have such good backing from Sport England and its chief executive Jennie Price. One of the strengths of angling is the opportunities it offers everyone in society to be active and the availability of good quality coaches is vital to increasing participation."

The ADB, formed in April 2007 to protect and develop the interests of angling and recreational fisheries in the UK has the National Federation of Anglers, The National Federation of Sea Anglers and the Salmon & Trout Association as subscribing members. There are approx. 4 million anglers in the UK spending over £3.5 billion annually on angling and fisheries related issues assisting rural communities and employment according to the ADB. A high average and I thought I was extravagant! Anyone seen an Environment Agency balance sheet?

## MEMBER'S PROFILE No. 9 - Alan Prevost (Our Treasurer who hopes to hear from you soon.)

PR - Alan do you remember when you first started fishing?

AP - When I was about 8 years of age (1943) in my Grandfather's big pond.....

PR -When did you first target trout and was it with fly or bait?

AP - 2000 when I retired with fly fishing.

PR - In your early years (supposing you can still remember) was fishing readily available to you?

AP-Yes. The family used to go out fishing to Rayleigh in Essex

PR -What is it about fly fishing that appeals to you?

AP - Being out in the countryside and meeting people

PR - What is your preferred method of fly fishing?

AP - From a boat

PR - Do Any other species than trout interest you?

AP -I am going to start coarse fishing with my young grandson

PR -Where would be your dream fishing venue?

AP -Ireland

PR - Do you have any unfulfilled fishing ambitions?

AP - Yes, to catch a lovely big salmon

PR - Has the attraction of fishing been constant?

AP - Yes



**Our jovial treasurer wishes to remind you subs are now due. So, to keep that broad smile on his face, please complete and return the renewal form you will shortly receive in the mail with other important Invicta information.**

PR - What was your most memorable fishing experience?

AP -Fishing in Bewl on dry fly

PR - Do you have any misgivings over fishing at all?

AP -No

PR - Where do you go from here in a fishing context?

AP -Just to keep enjoying the sport

PR - How important has your involvement with 'Invicta' been to you?

AP- Very important, especially being involved with committee work

## TACKLE TIPS - from Peter Reeves

Those of you that attended the John Wadham talk may remember how he mentioned that he liked hi-viz lines (bright yellow as sold by AW under plain wrapper) but how when cast in tree lined small rivers and streams, fish fled when false casting but remained unconcerned when using a duller colour such as green.

This is a point which had concerned me in my return to small rivers/streams. The trouble is that the duller lines are out of favour and yellow, white etc. are the norm. There is a camouflage line for nymphing on the market which is expensive and loses that hi-viz advantage. The New Zealanders advise using dyes to produce a brown/green colour but I shirk from putting a new fly line into boiling water and dye. Instead I have used a spirit based permanent marker (best with a chisel felt tip) to tone down the first few metres of my bright lines for streams and I still have the hi-viz colour behind which few fish will be able to see. Using different colours gives a messy but camouflaged look and the business end of the line is no longer in fish scaring livery. Application can be messy but I

suggest those junk mail catalogues or magazine supplements that come in clear thin polythene film be used (unopened) with a rubber glove on one hand and drawing the line several times between the polythene cover and the felt tip.

I also have the habit of moving lines from one reel to another and forgetting what weight line is loaded. I have overcome this now for pale coloured floaters by taking the same spirit based permanent marker and lightly marking dots on the front end of the flyline, 6 dots for AFTM 6 lines, 5 dots for the #5 etc.



**Lest we forget! A cracking Rutland Brownie.**