

fly fishing club. cambridge.

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INVICTA 'A' VICTORIOUS ON AMFC FUN DAY AT PITSFORD OCT. 11TH.



Well, half of the above winning team have done it again as they fished last year in the victorious Invicta B team in the same event. This year though Invicta B continued their illustrious and unblemished record of recent competition failure.

Invicta continue their successful run in AMFC Fun Days, mind you they did enter three teams with main success going to the 'A' team on the day with 48 lbs 8 oz. The best pair were Peter Oldham and Mike Smith with 28 lbs 5 oz. Best bag went to John Mees fishing for Invicta B at 18 lbs 10 oz and this included the best fish of the day. It would seem that slow or medium sinking lines with bright flies like Tequila Sunrise Blobs were the most effective methods on the day... so John's success will not come as a surprise to many. Invicta B team finished 3rd behind GWFFA 'A' and Invicta C... well, took part!



John Mees collecting a prize rod from Peter Firth for his 'Best bag'. Can anyone need another rod more than John I wonder?



Peter Oldham and Mike Smith cheerfully brandishing their award for "Best pair"

invicta calendar of forthcoming events 2009/2010

Nov. 26th	THE VICE SQUAD IN ACTION. Come & tie or watch	Harston Village Hall	7.45 for 8 pm
Dec. 10th	INVICTA XMAS SOCIAL. Full details later.	Harston Village Hall	7.45 for 8 pm
Jan. 7th	CHRIS. McLEOD. The Los Roques Experience.	Harston Village Hall	7.45 for 8 pm
Jan. 21st	STEVE COOPER of Cookshill Fly Tying	Harston Village Hall	7.45 for 8 pm
Feb. 4th	ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING + Tackle Auction.	Harston Village Hall	7.45 for 8 pm
Feb. 18th	JOHN SEATON of Anglian Water - 2010 prospects	Harston Village Hall	7.45 for 8 pm
Feb 27th	ANNUAL DINNER & TROPHY PRESENTATIONS.	Lion Hotel, Buckden	tba
Mar. 4th	JONATHAN WILSON (Angling Trust.) What do they do?	Harston Village Hall	7.45 for 8 pm
Mar. 18th	IINTER-CLUB OUZ NIGHT...The <u>BIG</u> one!	Harston Village Hall	7.45 for 8 pm

2010 INVICTA SUMMER PROGRAMME TO FOLLOW LATER

[Please also notice some programme changes from the original advice.](#)

ANOTHER INVICTA COACHING QUALIFICATION SUCCESS.

There has been considerable speculation on what has happened in 2009 to our young Bulgarian National Fly Team member, Stanislav Mankov.

Some have even offered the theory that in an exam year he may have had to buckle down and get some work done at college. It is a possibility I suppose but a far fetched one to my mind.

Anyway I understand that at the beginning of the year a strong rumour circulated that he was fishing in New Zealand. After that the trail grew cold until I received in mid-October an e-mail advising that he had just returned from Scotland where he had successfully passed an exam - no, not for Entomology which he was studying - but he is now an AAPGAI instructor qualified to instruct in the correct use of single handed rods. Those who have fished with Stan will appreciate his obvious intense commitment to the sport and the fact that his casting is not only effective but a joy to watch. And as if this were not enough condemnation, most of you will have recognised his fly tying is truly world class.

Stan seems to be of the opinion that some Invicta members may benefit from assistance (goodness only knows where that impression may have come from) and should any of you identify with this need and would like assistance in improving, Stan's phone number is 07593 212305 and I am certain he will be pleased to hear from you. Meantime congratulations on your exam success Stan! What about your college studies though?

THE AMFC 2009 COMPETITION - The final verdict.

Well, you will all have seen Invicta 'A's success in the AMFC fun day - following on from Invicta 'B's similar success last year. There is a pattern being established here you will note. Our brave lads are clearly peaking too late.

In our previous edition (No. 150) Invicta A were poised in a cliff hanger situation with arch rivals Bewl Bridge F.C. 'B' in a promotion struggle back to group 2. Both contenders in group 3 being level pegging with only one match to go. It does not get more exciting than this... does it?

Did Invicta 'A' beat Bewl 'B' in the deciding AMFC match at Chew and thus regain their slot in group 2? NO! As it turned out conditions on the day were appalling. Both the Invicta and Bewl teams were level on numbers of fish caught - both teams 2 fish for the day... yes, that is right 2 fish each for both **TEAMS!** The problem was that Bewl's fish weighed 4 lbs 15 oz and 3 lbs 2 oz and Invicta's 1 lb 10 oz and 1 lb 9 oz. so we were scuppered on aggregate weight. **All** other teams participating in this group totally blanked!!!!

This was certainly a very non-representative AMFC competition result and produced many disgruntled competitors but to be fair one has to point out that the conditions were the same for everybody.... **absolutely dreadful!** Invicta 'B' well they claimed final spot in group 4 and like most others blanked on this occasion. Oh well, now for 2010 and perhaps changed fortunes.



That's a nice one! Invicta junior member Keiran Bonas displays a 6 lb 2 oz spade tailed rainbow from Rutland Water. Well that's the weight I got but it looks bigger to me.

INVICTA SUBSCRIPTION RENEWALS, MERCHANDISE & 150 CHALLENGE

Well, we are back at that time of the year, Xmas, New Year, bills and subscription renewals. Not much to be cheerful about but one aspect is that whilst prices spiral upwards around you, the Invicta annual subscription (to those it applies to) remains at a miserly £17.00 per year. That represents tremendous value as our services to you are certainly in no way reduced and a great deal is offered to you both in and out of season.

Renewal of your subs is due on 1st January 2010, unless you are a new member having joined only in the last couple of months, (...*not* mid April as a few of you seem to believe!) At the same time we would draw your attention to the Invicta merchandise - the tasteful grey caps, cloth and metal badges, *which are now on special offer to you. See the subscription renewal form for details.* In addition, for those of you concerned with sartorial elegance and who may have missed the opportunities provided by the McLeod "*Suits you sir*" Piscatorial Outfitting Initiative, our treasurer has one trendy pale blue fishing shirt, size large, embroidered with that fashionable monogram '*Invicta FFC Cambridge*' which means that you will not only be impeccably turned out at the water but will be immediately identified as one of the more enlightened elite anglers. These shirts are in excellent poly-cotton with secure pockets and many novel features and are very comfortable with a ventilated back panel to keep you cool when required. As a plus feature

they are easily washed and, hung up on a hanger dry quickly and do not need ironing, making them ideal for destination and holiday fishing and ensuring that others do not edge away from you at the bar in the evening. But remember, Alan has only one left (L) at a mere £30.00!

Now, the 'Invicta 150 Challenge' is currently producing very gratifying results and pressing hard towards the £450 mark... at which point Graham Williams will have to reach for his cheque book and make the total £600 and if we can make it to another £150, Chris McLeod will match that to make £900. However, we are not quite there yet so if you have not yet responded... why not? If you have not donated yet, you can still send a cheque made out to 'EYFA' and post to Bobbie Worker, 112 Station Road, Oakley, Bedford. MK43 7RE. However, if you are a shy benefactor not yet having supported the challenge (or even if you have and would like to do more) the Subs. renewal form enclosed with this newsletter will enable you to round up your Invicta renewal of £17 to £20 or maybe £25 or so with the additional amount being passed on by our treasurer quite anonymously to Bobbie avoiding any embarrassment to your goodself at being seen to be acting charitably.

So... no more excuses then!



INVICTA WINTER EVENING MEETINGS. Reports from your winter scribe, Dave Jones.

CRAIG BARR.

The Barr family originally moved down from Scotland and set up home in Peterborough just as Grafham and Rutland were becoming established. Craig initially accompanied his dad on trips to Rutland but it was a successful trip to Ringstead Grange at the age of 9 which finally cemented his love for fly-fishing. He started competition fishing at 13 but his first effort at Pitsford was thwarted by a dicky hook which led to him failing to land a single fish.

A lesson learned the hard way I think? It took 5 attempts to get into the English team and he now holds 3 caps. His other successes are legion. An amazing solo performance occurred at Chew Valley in May of this year when he caught a brown trout of 15.12, which was the largest ever for the Bristol reservoirs. However, none compare with the ultimate prize – a day out on Ravensthorpe with our chairman Lawson Wight. For his pains Craig is now manager of the England loch style team!

I know many competition anglers carry in excess of 30 lines but Craig limits his choice to a 'mere' 18. However, he has 2 favourites, a Rio Midge Tip and an Airflo 40+ Di3. Our secretary considered the Rio had excessive memory to which Craig suggested he sent it back. Did you follow this up, Peter? The midge tip helps flies to fish just below the surface and minimises any tenancy to skating when fishing across the wind. Craig considered that the Di3 was the ideal line with which to search out the fish. In his opinion fish don't travel great distances but move up and down in the water. Hence, find the depth at which the fish are feeding and then employ a line most suited to keeping the flies within that zone. That said, Craig was known as a ripper when it came to retrieving but he now claimed to use anything down to figure of eight and even static.

A Di3 might be equipped with an 18 foot leader, with the 1st fly set 4-5 feet below the tip of the line and just one other fly on the point. There is a whipping of fluorescent silk 10ft from the end of the line which serves as a marker for executing



“the hang”. This is the part of the retrieve where the leader is allowed to sink vertically in the water immediately next to the boat and allowed to hang stationary for some seconds. The flies may then be raised through the water. Takes by all accounts can be violent. It was interesting to learn that the technique is much more fruitful at Grafham rather than Rutland where, on its day, a Di8 would be the preferred line.

Craig didn't go in for casting vast distances believing that 10-15 yards fan casting around your half of the boat was all that was required. He likes waves and frequently finds fish along the boundary with the muddy water which is often associated with windy conditions. He recommended using black flies in dirty water. Otherwise he has learnt that on a new water, following the locals is a good plan. In the early days at Grafham some anglers didn't like to be photographed fishing as it gave away their favourite spots. Known car number plates were a fail-safe means of telling where various anglers were fishing! Binoculars are useful for studying what other anglers are doing. The activities of birds such as gulls can sometimes help identify hot-spots.

Leaders were religiously made from Airflo Sightfree G3 fluorocarbon which is described as a 3rd generation line and at £14/100m is one of the more modestly priced. This would be used for anything from blobs to dry flies. Fine lines were, in his opinion, unnecessary for nymphs and he would normally use something like 10lb.bs which would have a diameter of 0.23mm. Leaders used with floating lines might be as long as 30 feet. He uses a 10" length for the top dropper but somewhere like 4-6" especially when fishing over weed beds.

There are over 400 commercial patterns of flies. The 15 pound brownie took an orange blob when a damsel and a buzzer were on the same leader! Charitably, this fish took the blob to be a pin fry. According to Craig it was not unusual to catch fish up to 6 pounds or more on blobs. Much maligned blobs are best used as an attractor ahead of a team of nymphs. I seem to recall that a black

lure ahead of lesser team of flies was a widely used technique at Grafham in the early days. The Grafham trout nowadays reputedly prefer a pink blob(s) on the drop. Em? pink? the examples I saw were far from pink as we know it (for grayling) and I reckon it was closer to neon magenta. Hot orange is the preferred choice when algae blooms prevail. 90% of his flies are tied on Kamasan 175's size 10. An exception is for boobies which are tied on 12's because they seem to improve hooking. Craig markets his flies and materials under the name **Flash Attack**. Good pictures of these patterns can be found on http://www.flashattackflies.co.uk/gallery_211141.html.

The Anglian Water Grafham and Rutland shops stock the complete range.

It was clear to the audience that Craig prefers simple kit providing it works. An Orvis 'Western²' rod for example costs only £140. BFR modular reels come in at around £50. However, Guideline waders and boots will set you back £250.

Finally, each member of the audience were allowed to select a couple of patterns to try out. I must say that I was impressed by the quality and I am sure that we all look forward to getting them wet. Fill in your lists for Santa!



For the dedicated 'hatch matchers' amongst you - left one of Craig's 'Flash Attack' Blobs and right one of his Boobie patterns. And... I ask, has anyone got the right to be so successful, so young and so good looking ???NO!



ROB EDMUNDS.... Dave Jones continues.

I was amused to hear that yet another of our noteworthy guest speakers had risen to the top of his sport via sharing a boat with our Chairman! There is no truth in the rumour that Lawson is offering tuition to club members at a discount rate! Seriously though, whatever Rob's past achievements may have been he deserves acclaim for his efforts managing the England Youth Fly fishing team for which the Invicta supplied 2 members. The team won the International event at Llandegfedd mainly through their prowess with dry flies (<http://www.eyfa.co.uk>). May I put a plug in for the Invicta £150 Challenge and urge support for this worthwhile cause?

Style was unimportant said the man who admitted to being a ragged caster and reputedly had the fastest retrieve in the west! There were no hard and fast rules – what worked one day can be hopeless the next. Your fly is one in a million. In order to fool the trout it was necessary to make the fly behave slightly differently even if this was inadvertent. My (DJ) largest brownie came in a moment when I was untangling the backing. Deliberately stopping and speeding up combined with a change of direction were all recommended ploys.

Lures need to be cast as far as possible and initially retrieved moderately slowly. Speed up for the last third for a couple of pulls and then stop. He guaranteed a take!

Nymphs move up and down in the water and the retrieve should attempt to match this by pull - rest, pull - rest, pull - rest. Don't lift off at the end of the retrieve but hang the flies especially in flat calm conditions or if the water had been heavily fished. Mark the line with a bright whipping at 13 feet from the tip. When this hits the tip ring raise the rod to 2 o'clock and slow down the retrieve until the whipping reaches the hand; the angler then knows that the flies are suspended a certain depth directly under the rod top. This technique works at depths of 30 feet or more and in Rob's opinion there was much more scope for using the method at even more extreme depths than generally appreciated.

Always put the brightest nymph at the top of the leader as its purpose is to attract fish whether it is the plop on landing in the water or simply the colour. This fly might well be an orange blob. Imitative patterns form the remainder of the cast, the idea being that the fish having (usually) rejected the monstrosity turns and encounters something more appealing. The fish has probably swum past them to look at the top fly and gone

back a second time when retreating. Your chances are therefore maximised.

Rob reckoned that fish were not fussy feeders but it was important to find the depth at which they are chomping. Counting the flies down and varying even the rate of a figure of eight retrieve can give an idea. With a floating line, the top dropper was highest in the water. Hence if fish were falling to the top dropper try to establish a technique where all of the flies are retrieved through that depth. Similarly if fish were taking close to the boat that might also indicate that the fish are high in the water. The situation was reversed if a sinking line was employed.

Someone mentioned the bung or “float fishing for beginners”. This involved the use of a bright floating object, say a large orange floating fry or simply a block of foam, below which is suspended 3 or 4 flies. The combination was cast out and the bung watched for sign of a take. Every 30 seconds or so retrieve about 3ft to raise the flies in the water and then allow them to settle. Extreme depths can be fished by putting the bung on a really long dropper – say several metres of 18lb nylon, a technique developed by coarse anglers under the name the hinged cast. The use of a bright bung was not very effective on the wild waters of Ireland and Scotland where a well greased-up Muddler was a better substitute.

What is the “washing line”? This is a technique where a team of flies are supported at the point by a buoyant fly – typically a boobie, and a floating fly line at the other. The intermediate flies rise and fall vertically in the water as the line is retrieved in short pulls. This method was particularly effective over the past 2 or 3 seasons, which Rob attributed to the cloudy summers, which kept the fish in the top few feet of the water column. Adopt this method when fish are coming to the top dropper when fishing the hang. The depth of the washing line was adjusted by controlling the buoyancy of the boobie by trimming the size of the eyes, or using a sinking line. A sink tip could easily be made using Airflo Polyleaders.

Whether fishing from the boat or bank, Rob recommended fan casting so that the whole expanse of water was explored. Moreover the retrieve, when casting across the wind, puts a curve into the line and takes often occur as the flies travel “round the arc”. This induced change of direction in the path of the flies seems to be deadly. Rob advised bank anglers not to stay in one spot too long. The 1st 10 casts

were the most important and after 30 minutes Rob considered the pitch as dead. I seem to recall a photo of Rob cycling around Grafham when fishing a bank competition in order not to waste valuable fishing time. The contours around the shore give a good indication of the likely depth of water in front of the angler. Points were invariably hot spots as are any areas where a stream runs into the main body of the lake. Boat anglers should look out for towers, marker buoys and moored boats (not to mention cages!).

Given that fish are not fussy (??), Rob gets through the season using a dozen or so patterns. 10 lures, black, or orange, sometimes sparkly. 2 nymph patterns – Hares Ears and Diawl Bachs, and a couple of dries typically red or black. Some of the flies he brought along to the meeting are shown in the photo.

This season a floating minnow representing a stickleback, proved the downfall of many trout especially in combination with a smaller, less buoyant version on the point as the fishing got harder later in the season. The minnow was constructed of torpedo shaped booby chord, secured in the vice by impaling it on a needle, and covered in a sheath of braided Mylar tube. The Mylar was trimmed at the head but a small amount spread out from the back to make a tail. The body was coloured with brown and green ink. Now then. The hook was pushed through “back-to-front” i.e. the barb at the head. This is the reverse to what you might expect but big trout take baitfish headfirst. Varnish the whole assembly, which brings the colour out, and attach a couple of eyes. Make sure that the fry floats in the surface film. The smaller version was constructed in a similar manner except that it just sinks. This combination can be fished New Zealand style, static on a floating line. Trout frequently attack the larger minnow fished on the dropper but fail to take it. The scheme then is to gently figure of eight the flies back, which frequently induces a viscous take on the smaller fly. Alternatively the larger fry can be fished on a Di-7 on a short leader so that it floats up from the bed of the lake.

An alternative for fry feeders is the Minkie Booby either in white and silver (a) or black and silver. Rob regarded the Humungus (b) as the better fly partly because of its wobbly movement when retrieved. Flashabou is the preferred tinsel as it combined strength with mobility. A booby version was also useful. It was vital to match the size of the lure to the prey fish.

Rob regarded the booby as the best fly ever. The foam must be trimmed to a size which gives optimum buoyancy which may on occasion be negative. Bob would only use 2 on the cast when stripping. Large black boobies fished slowly would be the first choice in dirty water and in the presence of an algae bloom. A combination of orange and sparkler boobies stripped through the surface on a Di-7 sometimes works in a flat calm when dries prove unsuccessful.

I noticed that he took the trouble to use stripped quill for buzzer bodies which must say something about its effectiveness compared with (say) Spanflex. He doesn't own a rotary drier so epoxy coatings don't always look very smooth. Really heavy nymphs were tied on Tiemco TMC2457 hooks: a useful dressing consisted of a base layer of red holographic tinsel with a very closely spaced ribbing of black thread and suitably varnished. Deep water was explored with 3 such nymphs but immediately after casting let out plenty of backing to avoid the line sinking in an arc and thereby reducing the effective fishing distance.

Check that flies fit the size gauge before entering a competition. Some are on the limit and require a tweak of the eye to meet the 15/16" requirement.

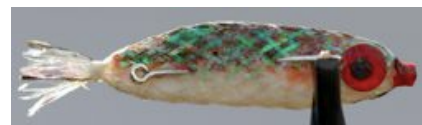
We didn't mention rods although I know he loved his Loomis. He did admit that in his opinion, rods of 1/10 the price are probably only slightly less effective but can make all the

difference in a competition. Sinking Airflo lines were by far the best in the business. He was less forthcoming on floaters and I didn't really get any idea for his preferences. Leaders were beefy by most standards. Dries were fished on clear Orvis Super strong at a nominal strength of 8.5lbs bs (0.20mm). Nymphs might be fished on Rio Fluoroflex Plus or Mirage at strengths of 10 lbs bs, extending up to 14lbs bs for lures. Droppers were attached with a 3-turn water knot.

We finished off the formal meeting with a brief mention of Zander. These fish preferred to feed at night or at the very least in very deep water. The successful lures were probably only barely legal, featuring waggie tails from a Mr Twister creation. However, I think you might find some in the box of a certain Mr Mees! These were fished jigging style on Proleader or something like Seagur fluorocarbon leaders to escape the attention of the Zanders' teeth. The fish are still there but in his opinion have decreased in size over the past couple of seasons.

Well, there seemed to be a fair number of "instructions" in this talk which, gathering from the attention Rob received afterwards, will soon be put into action.
-Dave J.

NB - Rob has kindly supplied a copy of his lecture notes as an 'aide memoire' to more productive fishing. If any member would like a copy of this e-mailed to them (very highly recommended) let me know - Ed.



Some of Rob's flies, clockwise from top left Suspender Minkie, Hummungous, Floating Minnow, Quill buzzer and Daddy. (Not to scale.)

BRITISH RECORD CLAIM FOR ZONKING ZANDER FROM GRAFHAM WATER

Sally Redrup mentions in the regular Anglian Water Reports that the British Record is being claimed by Michael Dollan from Walsall for a 22 lb specimen taken from Grafham Water in November.

The report states that Michael was fishing with his wife on his first visit to the water. The fish was taken on a dead Mackerel bait in 46 feet of water at the dam tower.

Hardly relevant to fly fishing I know but you could be interested in knowing what lurks in our local water... but many of us suspected this anyway.



RIVER MEL RESTORATION GROUP WINS WILD TROUT TRUST AWARD

From Invicta's president and Mel volunteer labourer, Norman Shippey.

Members will remember the presentation by Rob Mongovan, Ecology Officer for South Cambs District Council, last winter about the work on our local water courses by the council, Environment Agency and amateur groups. The River Mel Restoration Group (RMRG) was formed by a few environment minded villagers in Meldreth during the early months of 2006 and most of the year was taken up with consulting

It is one of over 160 chalk streams in England which lie in a curve from Wiltshire through Sussex and Kent with the last one on the Lincolnshire/Yorkshire border.

The real work commenced early in 2007 restoring banks, providing gravel riffles to encourage spawning, dealing with overhanging or dangerous trees, clearing debris and silt and planting up the restored banks. In 2008 our work was extended upstream into the village of Melbourn. Work progressed in both locations into 2009 when we took a Stand at the Melbourne Village Fete to publicise the Group and backed it up with a working party in the river adjacent to the site. This was entirely successful and attracted many new members to the group, the count is now in the mid sixties with work party attendances frequently of 10 to 15 people.



the various interested bodies, South Cambs D C, the Environment Agency, District and Parish councils etc, gaining their permissions, drawing up plans and, importantly, seeking agreements with the many riparian owners along the course of the river. The Mel rises from the aquifer under the chalk beds on the Cambs/Essex border and flows for approximately 5 kilometers to the R.Rhee and thence to the Cam.

The work was short-listed by the Wild Trout Trust and Orvis for a conservation award in 2008 but we failed to make the final two. Following a visit by the sponsors to assess our progress we were again short-listed for 2009. I was invited to accompany the Group Committee to the Awards Ceremony in the Savile Club, Mayfair on 14th October. The upper floor of the Savile is the home of the Flyfishers Club. The shortlist had narrowed down to three on the night, the R.Monnow in Herefordshire, the Chess in Buckinghamshire and the Mel. In spite of fielding no less than their Lady Mayor the

Chess group took second place to the River Mel Restoration Group who were named WTT/Orvis National Amateur Conservation Group for 2009 and received an engraved glass trophy, a framed certificate and £1,000.00 towards our future work. The award being presented by Charles Rangeley-Wilson.



Wildlife seems to approve as water vole have taken up residence in the newly restored bank, water fowl and other birds are nesting in both locations, there are significant shoals of tiny fish with an occasional brown trout being seen.



THE CARR CUP RESULTS 2009

You were all no doubt desperate to know how everyone fared in the 2009 Carr Cup series, which is open to Invicta members only. Well, with a strong sense of deja-vu here are the final placings. The adjusted total figure is our Booking Officer's version of the 'Duckworth Lewis method' allowing everyone to have one day off otherwise 10 points for attending and 5 points a fish. Why we go to all this trouble and not just award Graham Williams the trophy yet again is a mystery to many.

Next issue (we do not wish to over excite you) we hope to present the Tuesday evening league final results etc.

		Total fish	Total points	Adjusted total
1	Williams, Graham	42	280	260
2	Searle, Mark	30	200	200
3	Wilson, Ian	26	190	190
4	Facey, Mick	28	180	180
5	How, Gary	23	165	165
6	Ayres, Bob	21	145	145
6	Smith, Mike	21	145	145
8	Caldwell, John	15	135	135
9	Caulfield, Kieran	16	130	130
10	Oldham, Peter	17	125	125
10	Taylor, Alan	19	125	125
12	Prevost, Alan	14	120	120
13	Wight, Lawson	14	100	100
14	McLeod, Chris	9	95	95
15	Worker, Ryan	12	90	90
16	Bonas, Kieran	11	85	85
17	Sexton, Arthur	6	70	70
17	Worker, Adam	12	70	70
19	Middleton, Steve	7	65	65
19	Smith, Graden	9	65	65
21	Krailing, John	7	45	45
21	Stevens, Paul	7	45	45
23	Wells, Simon	4	40	40
24	Linwood, Andy	5	35	35
24	Newman, Andy	5	35	35
24	Williams, Chris	5	35	35
27	Sefton, Alan	4	30	30
28	Mees, John	2	20	20
29	Andrew, John	1	15	15
29	Malindine, Bob	1	15	15
31	Reeves, Peter	0	10	10



REFLECTIONS FROM THE WATER

..... **Peter Reeves continues his tiresome ranting observations.**

DO WE REALLY DESERVE TO FISH ?

Well, not something you would expect to find in a fishing newsletter but think about it. It is commonly recognised that what we can expect to get out of something depends on what we are prepared to put in. But human nature wants the maximum benefit from minimum input. We all aspire to something for nothing knowing full well that this is unsustainable. But why is this?

Why do well meaning, supporting organisations like the Angling Trust, English Youth Fly Fishing Association, Wild Trout Trust, Fish Legal etc.etc. have to devote so much time and energy in just survival, chasing essential funding even before doing valuable work in nurturing our sport for us and the future. We all recognise that they cannot exist on nothing and that their work is vital but too many of us try to bury our social conscience in convenience. I venture to suggest that faced with a call for support in the sport we are desperate to pursue, our initial thought is *what do I get out of it?* Gentlemen I suggest it is long past time to change and that you are asking the wrong question. The question we should all be asking is "If the cause is worthwhile, what contribution can I make to it?" The sooner we all as ourselves appreciate this, the sooner the future will be brighter for fly fishing and all concerned. Time to get real at last perhaps!

LAST CAST

Well, the government may have problems with its appointed advisory committee on drugs policy as to the relative dangers of some mood changing substances and equestrian sports but at least Whittle Lake Trout Fishery, as demonstrated by this photo, fully supports the government on its protective attitude against the potentially harmful use of dubious 'herbal' substances.

STAY IN TOUCH.

If you have acquired an e-mail address or changed one please be sure to let us know as we would hate to lose contact with you,

PS - can anyone supply the dressing for the Blue Footed Booby?

FREE FISHING AVAILABLE!!

Yes, I thought that would get your attention! Club member and fishing coach and guide, John Reynolds has recently acquired some fishing on the River Tanat in North Wales. The Tanat, which as John states 'everybody knows' (I didn't) flows into the River Vyrnwy which then flows into the River Severn. John's stretch is near Oswestry and offers fishing for trout, grayling and even a remote chance of a salmon he tells me.

This water will likely be available on a day ticket basis next season. The river like most in the area is, as I write, affected by flooding and John does not know how this will affect the fishing in the immediate future but he offers free fishing for grayling by Invicta members up until 14th March 2010 if you happen to be in that area. The stretch of several hundred yards double bank has not apparently been fished for 10 years but John had a few casts on a confluence pool on the last day of the trout season and had 2 small grayling and lost a large trout. He also points out that some vegetation clearance may be required and would be interested to know in how anglers fare.

Contact John direct by e-mail at <jwreynolds@onetel.com>, on 01691 780788 or mobile 07702 848417 for further details meanwhile.

