



*I fish because the voices
in my head tell me I
have to*

I'm old enough to be comfortable with introspection. So lately I have been trying to understand why fly fishing has given me so much pleasure.

It is clear that there is no single factor. I recognise that aesthetic, intellectual and environmental factors each made an important contribution. BUT I finally came to the conclusion that it was the atavistic pleasure of the hunt and kill (or not) that was the dominating motivation.

I'm not sure that this is a very honourable motivation but there it is!

Where and How Will the Results be Announced?

The decision not to have a meal together after the matches may have unforeseen consequences. (I believe Group Three have decided to continue to have a post match meal).

It may be that all the anglers WILL go down to the pub for a drink and wait patiently for the organiser to come with the results, and then have photographs before setting off

The Association of Major Fly Fishing Clubs

2011 April Newsletter

All the Results –All the Reports – Each Month

for home. I am more pessimistic and fear that more and more anglers will just get in their cars and leave immediately and the camaraderie that has been the hallmark of the AMFC will be eroded.

There is one other consequence if anglers leave immediately. NO PHOTOS! No photos and the justification for this



newsletter become questionable. Without photos it would be logical to return to the pre-newsletter era and just post the result sheets out each month.

I wonder how much the motivation for this decision was for the convenience of the organiser and had not been based on testing their angler's wishes! (Having spoken to a number of anglers at the Spring Match I fear this may indeed be the case)

All may work out o.k. if organisers inform anglers where and when the results will be announced and the majority stay to see how they have done. However, if the

results are announced to one or two remaining anglers at the reservoir in the rain the Association may live (or not) to regret this decision.

An early indication of the problems associated with this decision occurred at this spring match. The decision taken at the AGM to CONTINUE with the post match meals for the Association Matches had not

been passed on to the anglers. The winning team had not expected to stay for a meal and the Kew/QM trophy would not have been able to be presented. It is to the team's credit that three of them decided at the last minute to join us for the meal and Fish Hawks 'A' were presented with the Plate and individual plaques.



Probably the biggest fish of the day nearly 9lbs

For many the new season starts with a Whimper!



We're off in 2011, but sadly on a day when Rutland was in a less than perfect mood.

The sun shone out if a cloudless sky all day and by the middle of the afternoon the temperature was well into the twenties.

Cloudless, hot and a flat calm with any tiny, intermittent movement of air from all sorts of directions. Even worse a warning of severe thunder storms in the afternoon. Fortunately the storms did not arrive until late evening.

If these conditions were bad there was worse!

The main problem was the state of the water. The whole reservoir was stained with brown algae. Visibility around New Zealand Point was only about 12 inches and it was

only marginally better against the Dam at about two feet.

In these conditions it is not surprising that there were fifteen blanks. What is more surprising is that there were eleven limits.

There had been another competition on the two previous days and, almost without exception, the limits came to anglers who had fished in this competition.

The implication of the previous comment was that there was only one method which was successful and only a limited number of areas in which fish could be caught.

This did not seem to be

the case. Most boats went to the North Shore and spread out from Sykes Lane all the way to Barnsdale. However a few boats went to Fantasy Island and at least one limit came from there. In the afternoon, Phil Thomas and his boat partner caught limits in the small bay between New Zealand Point and the Yacht Club.

Areas seemed to 'switch on' for short periods. You needed to be in the right place at the right time with the right method.

It was reported that Rob Edmunds, who finished first and won the Eddy Grey Cup for the best Bag, caught on a booby fished along the bottom. Other successful bags were caught on nymphs fished on long leaders.

This may be the first occasion when there was a full complement of anglers for the Spring Match. Well done everyone.



Rob Edmunds – Winner Eddie Grey Cup

GROUP ONE

<u>Name</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Weight</u>
<u>Bewl Bridge F.C. 'A'</u>		
Baz Reece	4	10lbs 11oz
Nick Cox	0	
Ray Burt	2	3lbs 11oz
John Dunmall	0	
TOTAL	42lbs	16oz

<u>Fish Hawks 'A'</u>		
Phil Thomas	8	20lbs 8oz
Paddy Mounter	8	19lbs 10oz
Warren Gain	2	4lbs 4oz
Si Morris	5	8lbs 15oz
TOTAL	53lbs	5oz

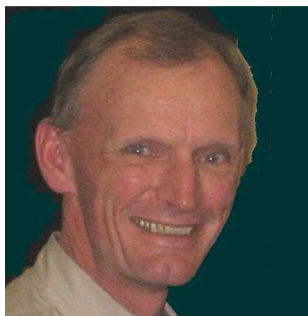
<u>Grafham Water F.F.A.. 'A'</u>		
Andy Linwood	2	3lbs 12oz
Ruger Hurren	3	6lbs 6oz
Norman Rushton	8	17lbs 6oz
Nick Preston	3	6lbs 8oz
TOTAL	34lbs	

<u>Hanningfield F.A.</u>		
Phil Shaw-Browne	1	2lbs
Clive Morgan	8	15lbs 14oz
Lloyd Pallet	8	18lbs 7.5oz
Garry Morris	4	9lbs 6oz
TOTAL	45lbs	11.5oz

<u>Rutland Water F.F.</u>		
Graham Pearson	8	20lbs 9oz
Al Owen	2	4lbs 9.5oz
Mike Barratt	2	3lbs 8oz
Paul Wild	8	18lbs
TOTAL	46lbs	15oz

Best Bag **20lbs 9oz**
Graham Pearson (**Rutland Water F.F.**)

Best Fish **3lbs**
Baz Reece (**Bewl Bridge F.C. 'A'**)



Group Two

<u>Name</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>Weight</u>
<u>Bristol Reservoirs F.A.</u>		
John Wellman	0	
Andrew Wiles	0	
John Bowan	0	
Mark Stewart	1	1lb 14.5oz
TOTAL	1lb	14.5oz

<u>Fish Hawks 'B'</u>		
Jock Woods	2	5lbs 0.5oz
Keith Jones	1	1lb 7.5oz
Mark O'Neil	0	
Al Ovenden	4	8lbs 8oz
TOTAL	15lbs	

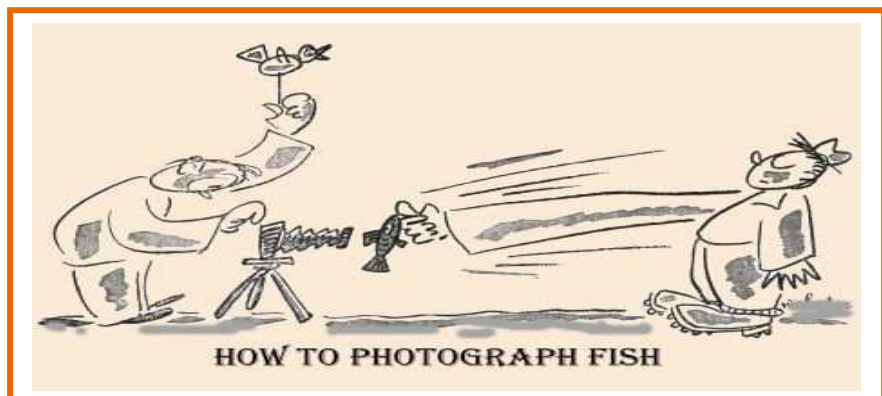
<u>Queen Mother F.F.</u>		
Phil Hall	8	15lbs 4oz
Martin Conroy	0	
Mick Hill	3	4lbs 12.5oz
Danny Peet	0	
TOTAL	20lbs	10.5oz

<u>Royal Navy/Marines</u>		
Mark Close	3	5lbs 2oz
Neil Jones	0	
Chris Anderson	3	5lbs 15.5oz
Steve Scott	8	17lbs 7.5oz
TOTAL	28lbs	9oz

<u>Soldier Palmers 'A'</u>		
Tony Hoggart	7	13lbs 14oz
Del Spry	3	6lbs 5oz
Rob Jackson	1	2lbs 1oz
Paul Lea	2	4lbs 1oz
TOTAL	26lbs	5oz

Best Bag **17lbs 8oz**
Steve Scott (**Royal Navy/Marines**)

Best Fish **2lbs 12oz**
Jock Woods (**Fish Hawks 'B'**)



Group Three

Name No Weight

Bewl Bridge F.C. 'B'

Ray French	0	
Bob Shaw	6	11lbs 8.5oz
Ray Simpson	3	6lbs 2oz
Ken Holmes	0	
TOTAL	17lbs 10.5oz	

Grafham Water F.F.A. 'B'

Peter Hartley	1	2lbs 2oz
Chris Lane	3	6lbs 7.5oz
Steve Ellerbeck	3	6lbs 4oz
Sheena Goode	2	3lbs 11.5oz
TOTAL	17lbs 9oz	

Invicta F.C. 'B'

Mark Searle	7	13lbs
Chris How	2	4lbs 5oz
Chris McLeod	3	6lbs 3.5oz
Ron Lusardi	4	6lbs 13oz
TOTAL	30lbs 5.5oz	

Tunbridge Wells T.F.S.

Keith Nicholson	0	
Jeff Latter	3	5lbs 2oz
Simon Newman	5	11lbs 1.5oz
Peter Thomason	7	16lbs 4oz
TOTAL	32lbs 7.5oz	

Best Bag 16lbs 14oz
Peter Thomason (Tunbridge Wells T.F.S.)

Best Fish in COMPETITION 4lbs 5oz
Peter Thomason (Tunbridge Wells T.F.S.)



Match Statistics

Average Bag Average Weight

<u>GROUP ONE</u>	4.3	2lbs 1oz
<u>GROUP TWO</u>	2.3	1lb 15oz
<u>GROUP THREE</u>	3.1	2lbs
<u>GROUP FOUR</u>	3.2	2lbs

GROUP FOUR

Name No Weight

East Midlands T.F.A.

Rob Edmunds	8	23lbs 15oz
Kieran Bonas	2	3lbs 1oz
Adam Worker	3	6lbs 11oz
Ryan Worker	8	18lbs 12oz
TOTAL	53lbs 1oz	

England Police

Chris Reeves	4	7lbs 5oz
Russell Logan	2	3lbs 9oz
Mick Harby	0	
Bob Eaton	4	8lbs 4oz
TOTAL	18lbs 15oz	

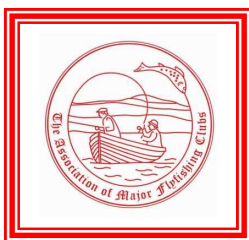
Invicta F.C. 'B'

Alan Prevost	1	11lbs 1.5oz
Matt Willatt	1	2lbs 7.5oz
John Brownbridge	3	5lbs 13.5oz
Peter Albury-King	5	19lbs 6.5oz
TOTAL	19lbs 6.5oz	

Soldier Palmers 'B'

Paul Kitchen	2	3lbs 0.5oz
Dave Hussein	4	8lbs 0.5oz
Colin Pennington	4	6lbs 13oz
Peter Harrop	0	
TOTAL	17lbs 14oz	

Best Bag 23lbs 14oz
Best Fish 3lbs 4.5oz
Rob Edmunds (East Midlands T.F.A.)



Challenge Table 2011 – RUNNING TABLES

Points scored for:

Rd1	Rd2	Rd3	Rd4	Rd5	Rd6	Totals	Position
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Group One

<i>Bewl Bridge F.C. 'A'</i>	1					1	5
<i>Fish Hawks 'A'</i>	5					5	1
<i>Grafham Water F.A.</i>	2					2	4
<i>Hanningfield F.A.</i>	3					3	3
<i>Rutland Water F.F.</i>	4					4	2

Group Two

<i>Bristol Reservoirs F.A.</i>	1					1	5
<i>Fish Hawks 'B'</i>	2					2	4
<i>Queen Mother F.F.</i>	3					3	3
<i>Royal Navy/Marines</i>	5					5	1
<i>Soldier Palmers 'A'</i>	4					4	2

Group Three

<i>Bewl Bridge F.C. 'B'</i>	2					2	3
<i>Grafham Water F.A. 'B'</i>	1					1	4
<i>Invicta F.C. 'A'</i>	3					3	2
<i>Tunbridge Wells T.F.S.</i>	4					4	1

Group Four

<i>East Midlands T.F.A.</i>	4					4	1
<i>England Police F.F.A.</i>	2					2	3
<i>Invicta F.C. 'B'</i>	3					3	2
<i>Soldier Palmers 'B'</i>	1					1	4