



The Association of Major Flyfishing Clubs

2010 Newsletter

All the Results –All the Reports – Each Month

May

Is this the coldest start to May on record?

I cannot remember a colder start to May. We seem to have had cold north winds for the last fortnight. I know the first weekend at Broadlands in Hampshire was awful and I was tying flies on the S&TA tent for the Nottinghamshire Agricultural Show on the second weekend. It was so wet and cold that it was almost impossible to tie.

The report for the Group One Match on Bewl the same weekend also indicated that the weather in the South East was unpleasant.

I remember the drought summer of 1976? When it snowed on Whit Monday morning, cleared up by mid day and we did not see another cloud until September.

What we need is a warm wet summer, with light winds. But I don't suppose we shall get one!

Not Staying for the Meal!

The A.M.F.C. has been going for nearly 25 years and a number of things have defined the unique nature of the competition.

We are a 'Club - Association' event, not just a group of anglers who make up a team for competitions. Our matches are part of a programme, not a one off, or knock-out event.

Our main awards are for winning Clubs and have no monetary value. We have no sponsors, nor ever sought any, so we are entirely independent.

Finally, and I think this has been a most important definer of the Association's culture; we always meet together after each match for a social meal.

When no member of the team stays for the post match meal I think it disrespectful to the organiser and rude to all the other teams and competitors.

If your club is not represented when the results are announced during the meal, it does no favours to the way your club is thought of by other members of the Association.

There are occasions when people cannot stay for the meal. Sadly it seems to me that over the last two years one or two teams regard not staying for the meal as the norm. I do not think this is good enough!

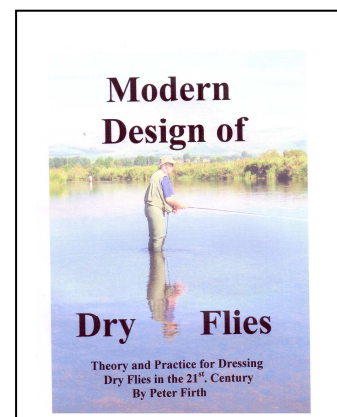
In the past there have been complaints, many of which I have supported, about value for money. Since we have almost abandoned on site catering the situation has changed.

At Grafham most catering is at the Wheatsheaf at Perry. At Rutland we now use the Wheatsheaf at Edith Westen. At Eyebrook I have eaten at both pubs in Caldecott. At all these the value for money has been perfectly satisfactory.

I leave you with the description the meal at Bewl for the Group One match last Saturday. *'Those of you who did not stay for the meal missed a real treat for cold anglers. A large plate of creamy chicken and mushroom pie with a perfect short crust pastry, made by the chef this morning and accompanied by new potatoes or chips, carrots, peas and leeks, followed by a mound of apple crumble, all freshly made, then coffee for those that had room for it. For £8.00 astounding!'*
John Dunmall.

And now for a personal advert

Some of you will know that I am dry fly stupid! (*It does work on still waters – yesterday I caught 14 in two and a quarter hours on my local still water*) I have written a little booklet which I intended to call 'A Unifying Theory for the Design of Modern Dry Flies' but that seemed a bit unwieldy so it is just called 'Modern Design of Dry Flies'. If anyone would like a copy they are £3.00. Contact address below.



The Weather and the Fishing Deteriorate in the Afternoon Rod Average of 4.9 and Weight Average of 1lb 14.5oz at Bewl

Results Group One

Report by John Dunmall of Bewl

Name No Weight

Bewl Bridge F.C. 'A'

Baz Reece	6	10lbs 14oz
Nick Cox	6	11lbs 2oz
Jim Letham	8	18lbs 15oz
Bill Rankin	8	16lbs 13oz
Phil Thompaon	5	8lbs 6oz
Dave Withers	4	8lbs 7oz
TOTAL	74lbs	9oz

Bristol Reservoirs F.A.

Andre Guysler	6	12lbs 8oz
Clive Perkins	8	20lbs 13oz
Andrew Wiles	2	3lbs 7oz
Graham Currie	8	18lbs 8oz

TOTAL 55lbs 4oz

Fish Hawks 'A'

Ian Baker	8	14lbs 7oz
Si Morris	3	5lbs 0oz
Ian Lashman	4	9lbs 15oz
Kerry Richardson	3	4lbs 11oz
Al Gamble	4	7lbs 9oz
Dan Taylor	3	6lbs 5oz
TOTAL	47lbs	15oz

Hanningfield F.A.

Dave Franklin	7	12lbs 4oz
Ray Malyon		
Mick Newton	2	4lbs 10oz
Alan Stern	3	5lbs 10oz
Andy Brown	4	7lbs 6oz
Dave Bramley	1	2lbs 0oz
TOTAL	31lbs	14oz

Rutland Water F.F.

Mike Gunnell	8	21lbs 6oz
Andrew Flitcroft	5	9lbs 8oz
Dave Lang	8	15lbs 4oz
Al Owen	7	14lbs 6oz
Paul Sissons	3	5lbs 3oz
Mike Barrett	4	7lbs 1oz
TOTAL	72lbs	12oz

Best Bag 21lbs 6oz

Mike Gunnell (Rutland)

Best Fish 3lbs 7oz

Ian Lashman (Fish Hawks)

Although there had been some sharp showers beforehand, the match started off in dry but heavily overcast conditions with a light east north easterly wind of around 5 knots. From noon onwards the wind became much gustier and the drizzle developed into showers. The average temperature was around 9.5° C but felt a good 2 degrees lower in the wind. Pretty miserable.

The best catching areas were Hook Straight and the Nose, although fish were showing fairly close in from Monty's Seat and Ferry Point to Dunsters. With the fish relatively high in the water the favoured method was a fast glass line with a cormorant dropper and a booby on the point. Tequila was a good colour combination. Others used a sink tip or slow intermediate and the occasional Di 3. Some of the more liberated souls used a 'Woofter', which I gather is a gay concoction in pastel shades of pink and green. How the trout felt about this I'm not sure, but I have my reservations.

The deterioration in the weather around noon seemed to have a marked effect on the trout's willingness to feed and those that found pockets of fish and bagged up either did so with ease before midday or

worked considerably harder in the afternoon to achieve their limit.

The average weight was fairly consistent at just under 2lbs per trout, so well done to Ian Lishman (Fish Hawks) for his 3lb 7oz fish, and team mate Al Gamble with one of 3lb 1oz. A tight contest for best bag with Mike Gunnell (Rutland) on 21lb 6oz, and Clive Perkins (Bristol) hot on his heels with 20lb 13oz. Also a close run thing with Bewl finishing first with a total of 74lbs 9oz, just 1lb 12oz ahead of Rutland with 72lbs 13oz. Well done to Bristol for making it to third place with only four rods.

***Ian Lashman
Fish Hawks 'A'
Best Fish 3lbs 7oz***



<i>Bewl Bridge F.C. 'A'</i>	1	5				6	2=
<i>Bristol Reservoirs F.A.</i>	3	3				6	2=
<i>Fish Hawks 'A'</i>	2	2				4	5
<i>Hanningfield F.A.</i>	4	1				5	4
<i>Rutland Water F.F.</i>	5	4				9	1

Careless Management Makes the Group Two Match on Eyebrook A LOTERY!

RESULTS

Name No Weight

Bewl Bridge F.C. 'B'

Vernon Chapman	2	5lbs 12oz
Ray French	0	
Dave Little	2	5lbs 5oz
Chris Nun	3	8lbs 3oz
Bob Shaw	1	2lbs 4oz
Mick Phipps	0	
TOTAL	21lbs	8oz

Grafham Water F.F.A. 'A'

Richard Keswick	2	5lbs
Brian Calvert	2	4lbs 8oz
Norman Rushton	1	3lbs 14oz
Roger Hurren	6	15lbs 3oz
John Vincent	6	20lbs 1oz
Dereck Bravington	4	10lbs 3oz
TOTAL	58lbs	11oz

Queen Mother F.F.

Danny Peet	7	22lbs 4oz
Martin Conroy	2	6lbs 12oz
Phil Hall	2	6lbs 1oz
Jim Longmore	7	18lbs 5oz
Mick Hill	2	5lbs 5oz
Dave Kidby	0	
TOTAL	58lbs	11oz

Royal Navy/Marines

Tony Wilkinson	8	22lbs 10oz
Ron Tutt	2	6lbs 12oz
Dave Morton	4	11lbs 12oz
John Honey	1	2lbs 3oz
Mark Glass	3	9lbs 9oz
Mark Close	0	
TOTAL	55lbs	4oz

Soldier Palmers 'B'

Jamie Thomas	1	2lbs 15oz
Rob Jackson	8	21lbs 10oz
Gaz Cullen	2	3lbs 12oz
Andy Draper	1	2lbs 15oz
Tony Hoggart	8	30lbs 15oz
Mick Angel	0	
TOTAL	62lbs	3oz

Best Bag 30lbs 15oz

Tony Hoggart (Sol Pal 'B')

Best Fish 6lbs 9oz

Ron Tutt (Navy/Marines)

Best Fish of Season

I leave you with an edited letter from Ray French of the Bewl Team as the Match Report

The water had been fishing really hard the previous few days in fact the season rod average was only 2 point something since March. On match day because of the poor fishing in the dam area and main bowl we decided to split the team up cover the whole reservoir including Stoke Dry in an effort to wrinkle out a biggy.

As we thought, the majority who hadn't been up earlier stayed up the main end and struggled.

Struggled that is until a bloody great lorry pulled up near the bank opposite the lodge at about 11am and dumped a huge load of stock fish, almost into a couple of Army boats! Of course all the boats that had witnessed this, attacked the shoal immediately trapping it against the bank, bag ups were then inevitable. The shoal did disperse a little apparently, mostly toward the dam where some more competitors were pleasantly surprised by this unexpected 'rise' of co-operative fish.

Meanwhile, those boats in Stoke Dry and other extremities had no idea of any of this until it was way too late when they trickled back up in the afternoon to see what was going on. It had been a struggle with little reward but we knew it would be and assumed it was for everyone else. How wrong we were. It spoilt the day and frankly any motivation for competition. In fact my boat partner Dave Kidby in disgust suggested we go back to Stoke Dry, so we did and had a pleasant afternoon spotting large fish and trying for them, in fact I

lost a lovely fish but in the end we both returned empty handed. Some of our team picked up fish at the dam but it was always a case of too little too late.

Now, I don't blame any anglers for taking advantage of the stocking situation, I would probably have done the same but I do blame Eyebrook management for stocking in the middle of a competition or at the very least NOT telling the AMFC Team organisers on the day so that perhaps an out of bounds area could have been considered. For many it was two wasted days, at some expense, on almost impossible fish. Yes that's fishing, but it wasn't the same for everyone on match day and that's not fair in a competition.

Ron Tutt (Navy/Marines)
Best Fish at 6lbs 9oz
Also
Best Fish of Season
(so far)



<i>Bewl Bridge F.C. 'B'</i>	1	1					2	5
<i>Grafham Water .F.A.'A'</i>	2	4					6	3
<i>Queen Mother F.F.</i>	5	3					8	2
<i>Royal Navy/Marines</i>	3	2					5	4
<i>Soldier Palmers 'A'</i>	4	5					9	1

**Variable Winds make Pitsford Difficult for Group Three
Tradition Nymphs on floating lines probably best
But rumoured that best bag came to Orange Booby on DI7**

Results Group Three

Name No Weight

Grafham Water F.F.A. 'B'

Kevin Appleton 3 6lbs 11oz
John Weaver 3 5lbs 4oz
Steve Ellerbeck 2 3lbs 8oz
Tony Sterling 8 18lbs 6oz
Gordon Alleyne
Chris Lane
TOTAL 33lbs 13oz

Fish Hawks 'B'

Keith Gilchrest 2 4lbs 12oz
Tony Butterworth 3 4lbs 9oz
Dai Venn 2 5lbs 14oz
Si Gaines 5 9lbs 10oz
Dave Graham 6 11lbs 4oz
Keith Jones 8 17lbs 9oz
TOTAL 53lbs 10oz

Invicta F.C. 'A'

Kieran Caulfield 1 3lbs 1oz
John Caldwell 2 3lbs 2oz
Mark Searle 4 10lbs 10oz
Graham Williams 2 3lbs 4oz
Mike Smith 2 3lbs 0oz
John Brownbridge 2 3lbs 7oz
TOTAL 26lbs 8oz

Iver F.C.

Eddie Grey 6 10lbs 13oz
Ron Lusardi 6 14lbs 9oz
Jeff Hickson 5 10lbs 15oz
Ray Simpson

TOTAL 36lbs 5oz

Soldier Palmers 'B'

Alex Caldwell 5 8lbs 10oz
Toby Bunney 3 6lbs 15oz
Tom Rose 3 5lbs 7oz
Dave Froggatt 2 3lbs 10oz
Paul Lee 2 8lbs 10oz
John Gamon
TOTAL 33lbs 4oz

Best Bag 18lbs 6oz
Tony Sterling (GWFFA)

Best Fish 4lbs 9oz
Paul Lee (Sold. Palmers)

Report by John Caldwell

The night before the match was one of the coldest recorded in May for many years and the fish proved fairly elusive in the morning.



At the 'off' most of the boats headed to one of two destinations – either Pitsford Creek or the small half just to the right. This was when we discovered the wind, or lack of it. If you set up to drift with the drogue the wind would die; the minute you took the drogue in it would spring up again from a different direction. Very tiresome.

Boats drifting towards the mouth of Pitsford Creek saw plenty of fish, and plenty of action from a boat anchored in the middle of a huge shoal of fish. Some people picked up 'freebie' fish as Anglian Water stocked a couple of hundred

small brownies there while the match was in progress.

Most people opted for buzzers, diawl bachs and crunchers on floating lines or midge tips, but I did hear a rumour that Ray Starling bagged up using a Di7 and orange booby. Eddie Gray

told me that he had four of his fish on dries (hoppers).

After the weigh-in ably carried out by Nathan, we had a magnificent buffet in the lodge. This had been prepared by Soldier Palmers 'B' organiser Graham Lumsdon and was excellent value at £4 per head.



Tony Starling (GWFFA 'B')
Best Bag

Grafham Water F.A. 'B'	2	3				5	3=
Fish Hawks 'B'	5	5				10	1
Invicta F.C. 'A'	4	1				5	3=
Iver F.C.	3	4				7	2
Soldier Palmers 'B'	1	2				3	5

A Sweltering Bawl gives Group Four a 6.4 Average The Fish in Mid Water on the Hottest Day OF 2010

Results Group Four

Name No Weight

East Midlands T.F.A.

Graham Bodsworth 8 21lbs 3oz
John Duffield 4 7lbs 10oz
Alan Sefton 7 12lbs 14oz
Keiran Bonas 8 18lbs 2oz
Tyan Worker 6 10lbs 15oz
Adam Worker

TOTAL 70lbs 12oz

England Police F.F.A.

Chris Reeves 8 17lbs 15oz
Henryk Pycz 2 3lbs 12oz
Alex Rothwell 7 11lbs 9oz
Jim Gates 8 15lbs 10oz
Bob Eaton 7 12lbs 15oz
Dave Summers 8 14lbs 12oz

TOTAL 76lbs 10oz

Invicta F.C. 'B'

TOTAL Nil

Tunbridge Wells F.F.S.

Bob Holland 8 15lbs 12oz
Jeff Later 8 24lbs 4oz
Jim McGonigle 6 10lbs 11oz
Keith Lawrence 7 12lbs 14oz
Mick Dwyer 8 20lbs 7oz
Brian Beeney 6 10lbs 5oz

TOTAL 94lbs 5oz

Best Bag 24lbs 4oz

Jeff Latter

Tunbridge Wells F.F.A

Best Fish 4lbs 12oz

Graham Bodsworth

East Midlands T.F.A.

A Short Report of the Group Four Match on Bawl from Tunbridge Wells F.F.S the Organisers

The Match was fished in bright conditions with a light breeze blowing off the dam. Most teams concentrated their efforts on the main bowl. Most fish were caught tight into the margins and the Chingley Bank fished particular well. The most productive method was two Boobys fished 10 foot apart on a Di 3 or Di 5.

The 18 anglers caught 116 fish between them, a rod average of 6.44 fish per angler.

Not many years ago an average weight of 1lb 13oz would have been considered very satisfactory. So far this season we have had averages of 2lbs 4oz from Grafham - 2lbs 1oz from Pitsford and a staggering 2lbs 14oz from Eyebrook. The stocking referred to in the Group Two Match must have been of very large fish!

Below

**Graham Bodsworth
(Taken in 2009)**

**Best Fish
also**

**Largest Fish in Group Four
so far!**



<i>East Midlands T.F.A.</i>	2	2					4	3
<i>England Police F.F.A.</i>	3	3					6	2
<i>Invicta F.C. 'B'</i>	1	0					1	4
<i>Tunbridge Wells F.F.S.</i>	4	4					8	1