

AUGUST 2011



## JULY MEETING

The July meeting was a visit to Blackland Lakes near Calne. A successful evening was enjoyed by all those who attended with a variety of coarse fish including carp, perch, rudd and tench being caught.

## CARP TRIP

Dave C has very kindly arranged for us to visit a private lake near Timsbury which is a few miles north of **Romsey** (a very special award is available for anyone who goes to Timsbury near Bath!) for this year's carp trip. We will also be fortunate enough to have the use of boats and indoor kitchen facilities together with a tour of the site. Further details will be given at the August meeting when we will also be taking names from those wishing to attend.



Some of the facilities available at the carp trip venue during construction

# AUGUST MEETING

August sees the annual "natter and noggin" social evening at the Pheasant on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> August.

# BOAT COMPETITION

Eight members of the PFF met for breakfast at the same Taunton branch of McDonalds en route to this year's boat competition at Clatworthy. Having had one too many at a beer festival the previous evening, Dave C had taken what he had thought to be the wise decision of hitching a lift with Tony and Ivor. Unfortunately for Dave, Ivor had scrumped a brace of recently deceased rabbits from the roadside with which to feed Tony's ferrets. The smell of his new back seat companions combined with the effects of the beer had turned Dave an interesting shade of green!

When we arrived at the fishery the weather was warm but overcast and it was noted that the levels were down but similar to those last year when we had enjoyed a fantastic day's fishing with full bags all round, so things were looking good! Once tackled up Tony and myself were the second boat away from the dock and we headed off in pursuit of Richard and Ivor who were heading directly towards the shallow bay which had held the fish last year. I initially opted for the same set up as last year – a single red buzzer suspended 6ft below a bung. When after a few minutes my rod was nearly torn from my hand and with Richard already having caught I thought that I had cracked the method for the day. After a good fight I finally managed to bring a lovely 5lb rainbow equipped with a tail like a shovel to the boat. Unfortunately the fishing went quiet after this and we moved out of the bay and fished in the shallow area opposite. On the first cast my bung was immediately pulled under again and I very quickly had a beautiful little brownie in the boat. Whilst I was occupied with this Tony spotted fish moving on the surface and began casting a ginger hopper towards the fish and pulling it back across the surface. Almost immediately this brought a response and Tony was fighting his first fish of the day. Unfortunately he had been using Teflon coated hooks when he tied his flies and the fish quickly shook the hook.



Richard and Ivor searching the shallows.



Tony eagerly awaiting lunch!

When we met in the lodge for lunch it became clear that the match was still very open with a number of people having only one or two fish in the boat and Richard leading with three fish. During lunch Tony (who had plenty of time on his hands having failed to bring his lunch!) and I studied the map of the reservoir on the wall and decided that we would fish the shallow bay beyond the dam for an hour and if this proved fruitless then we would change to sinking lines and strip lures through the deep water of the main reservoir.

Having battled our way against the wind to the chosen bay I was almost immediately rewarded with my third fish of the day and my hopes were high of bagging up. Unfortunately the fishing went quiet again and, to our expense, Tony and I persisted for too long in the bay. When we finally moved out of the bay and into the main body of the reservoir time was beginning to run short. Tony's persistence was finally rewarded with his final two casts of the day which yielded a fish each with incredibly fast retrieves.....

When we arrived at the boat dock Alan was the only person to have five fish in his bag although he did appear somewhat concerned by the weight of Richard's bag. At the weigh in he was somewhat relieved to find that much of this weight was in fact ice packs and that he was the deserved winner. The final rankings were Alan in first place with Richard second and Chris third. The largest fish of the day was my 5lb 0oz rainbow caught with my first cast.

The final table of results is shown below:

Position	Name	N <sup>o</sup> of Fish	Total Weight
1	Alan J	5	15lb 1oz
2	Richard	4	13lb 0 oz
3	Chris B	4	9lb 8oz
4	Bruce	3	8lb 12oz
5	Dave C	3	6lb 12oz
6	Tony	2	6lb 0 oz
7	Iain	0	0
8	Ivor	0	0