

Hooked!

Volume 4 Issue 2

Newsletter Date: Apr 2018

Highlights in this issue:

- Events for this year announced
- Latest News
- We look at some essential tackle
- A closer look at bait (New)
- Pole Rigs & Shotting!

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Spring is here !!

Hi Everyone,

At last the warmer weather is starting to come through and hopefully the fish are starting to wake up and feed.

Our first indoor session of the year took place last month and by all accounts it was a really interesting one and well received, with a new face or two. We have our 2nd indoor session later this month, following on with the theme of knots & tying so I hope you can get along to it.

For those of you who are interested we will be running the Angling Trust's **CAST** award scheme again this year. We'll be concentrating on Level 2 this year, but I know that one or two of you have a couple of tasks outstanding on your Level 1 certificate so I will make sure we finish those off as well. If there are any of you that didn't take part last year and want to sign up this year then

there will be opportunity for you to do so. Just contact Paul and he will pass on all the information about the awards to you. We charge a small nominal fee to cover the cost of the certificate & badges.

This issue sees the return of the 'Bring a friend' voucher which gives free entry to one of our FishClub sessions. Simply give the voucher contained in this newsletter to one of your friends and book your place directly with Paul Sargent... what could be simpler!!

A quick mention to a tackle recycling scheme that's happening in Suffolk at the moment. A friend & fellow coach Brett Calver has set up a scheme whereby anglers can donate their unwanted kit for redistribution to junior anglers in the county. Details are on our Facebook page, its well worth a look.

One of our juniors was lucky enough to pick up a very impressive seatbox last year &



Steve demonstrating the art of pole elasticity

another two will shortly be sharing a high quality Daiwa pole.

As always if you have any questions then please get in contact with us & we'll try and answer them for you.

See you all soon !! (Ed)

Be sure to show this newsletter to your parents so that they know when the Fish Club sessions are taking place...

Otherwise you might miss out!!

Latest News

FishClub

A new year beckons with 2018 promising to be another great year for FishClub. We have a greater variety of sessions lined up between March & November... Yes! November.

There'll be 11 sessions this year covering a wider range of techniques & key skills. In addition

we've added two extra venues to our list, with sessions at Stonham Barns & Alton Water.

We'll also be opening up the opportunity for you to take part in the Angling Trust's level 2 CAST award. So let's to look forward too.

Facebook page

We now have a page on Facebook open to everyone. We

have used this to advertise our events to a larger audience and showcase some of the great sessions we've had over the year.

If you have any ideas on what you'd like to see in the future please let us know.

Type in **Gipping Valley Angling Club Juniors** on Facebook and checkout the pages.



End of year BBQ
in full swing

Dates for the Diary

Mums, Dads & Grandparents this is the section you need to read. Here are the up & coming sessions planned for the year.

These are confirmed dates for 2018.

Apr 2018

FishClub 2 - Beginners to Advanced
Sat 21st - 9.00 to 13.00 (Indoor)
Gt Blakenham village hall

Loops, Knots & Hook tying

May 2018

FishClub 3 - Beginners to Advanced
Sat 12th - 8.30 to 14.00 (Battisford) (FF)

Waggler - rod & line, Peg Management

June 2018

FishClub 4 - Beginners to Advanced
Sat 9th - 8.30 to 14.00 (Stonham Barns) (FF)

Short & Long pole work

FishClub 5 - Beginners to Advanced
Sat 23rd - 8.30 to 14.00 (Battisford) (FF)

Long pole work

July 2018

FishClub 6 - Beginners to Advanced
Sat 7th - 8.30 to 14.00 (Alton Water) (FF)

Feeder &/or Slider Float work

Members £5.00 Non-members £6.50
per session.



“The All Blacks... The most successful team of any sport!!”

Preparation, Preparation, Preparation !

Have Purpose

I am sure that we have all met someone who when we look at them appear to know exactly what they want and where they are headed.

People like this all seem to have a drive & determination to a particular desire or goal that most of us just don't seem to have, and it's generally these people that tend to find more success in life.

You may think that it's just something they're born with or 'I could never do that', but

in reality anyone can do it, you just need 'purpose'.

Purpose can be described as 'The determination to do and achieve something'. For the New Zealand 'All Blacks' their purpose is to 'Add to the legacy' or history of their success and for a team that has won 86% you can understand why.

Our very own coach Mark Brewster talks a lot about 'purposeful practice', this is all about the... **why** am I practicing this task, what's the pur-

pose? Is it just to keep practicing or is it to achieve & improve.

In fishing you can give purpose to pretty much anything, from improving your casting technique to quickening up unhooking fish. From trying a new technique to setting a weight target on your next trip.

The next time you fish, set yourself a 'purpose' and strive to achieve it.

“Purposeful practice



Just a small selection of patterns

Product Review

Item: Handmade Floats
Tackle Firm: MB Floats
Price: £1.50 to £1.99

Description:

Finding good quality homemade floats is sometimes difficult. There are some great floats out there but you'll pay a hefty price for them.

But when you have someone on your doorstep offering hard-wearing floats with a good selection of patterns to suit most situations then why bother looking anywhere else.

Our very own coach Mark Brewster has been making floats from his home for a number of years now.

If you attended our indoor sessions last year you would have been able to see for yourself the whole process of how Mark goes about making his floats and a lucky few of you went away with a couple of your own floats.

Mark has a quite a number of different patterns to suit all the likely fishing venues you will face, all include a variety

of sizes.

Currently he is working on a new pattern especially for Cattawade which will hopefully be ready to test in the next couple of month's.

If you're looking for a few pole floats then tap Mark on the shoulder at one of our coaching sessions, he will be more than happy to take you through them.

“Hard-wearing at a good price, give 'em a go!!”

Behind the Scenes

It is with great sadness that I bring you the news that our friend, Club Membership Secretary, Welfare Officer & founder member of GVAC, Christine Shipp passed away on the 29th January.

Many of you I'm sure will recognise Christine as the lady & joint owner behind the counter at Bosmere Tackle in Needham Market. Together with her husband David they have run the shop for many years.

Christine was a great supporter of the GVAC juniors over

the years and was one of the focal points for the club.

Many, many juniors have passed through the doors of the shop over the years and with Christine's encouragement gone through the GVAC junior academy.

A lot of them are still fishing today, some have made great strides in the world of fishing, some are committee members and coaches with the club currently.

All had a deep respect for Christine.

Personally I had only known Christine for these past five years. My first contact with GVAC was through Christine at the shop.

Christine & I had our deferring views on things, but we also agreed on many areas, she was a stickler for the rules, strong willed & determined. I had a deep admiration & respect for her.

Her legacy will remain for many years to come.

Christine R.I.P.



Christine Shipp

Bait School - The Humble Maggot

What are they?

Maggots in their many forms are the larvae stage of flies. Traditionally anglers in the UK use three main types of maggot.

The Maggot, which is the larvae of the bluebottle.
The Pinkie, which is the larvae of the greenbottle, & lastly
The Squatt, which is the larvae of the common house fly.



How are they produced?

Maggots are massed produced at various maggot farms around the country. Large animal carcasses are hung in buildings containing a huge amount of flies. These flies lay their eggs on the decaying meat.

Once the eggs hatch the miniature larvae gorge themselves on the meat until they have stored enough fat and food reserves for the next stage of their development, this is the black dot that you see on the inside of the maggot. They then drop off the meat. It is at this point that they are collected up, cleaned and prepared ready for transportation to your local fishing tackle shop. They are usually sold by the pint.

Versatility

Maggots are perhaps the most versatile & traditional baits used by anglers around the world and fish love them. When other baits sometimes fail to produce a bite the maggot somehow always seem to get you out of trouble. They have a whole host of uses:- you can colour them, you can flavour them, they can be used alive or dead, you can make them float... you can pretty much do anything with them and they will still produce a few bites.

Looking after & storing

This is the part your parents aren't going to like...
The best place to store your maggots is in the fridge!! This slows down their metabolic rate and the process of chang-

ing into the next stage of a chrysalis or 'Caster'. If you are fortunate enough to have an understanding Mum then you won't have any problems, however, wherever you store your maggots... **MAKE SURE YOU CHECK THAT THE LID OF THE BAIT BOX YOU'RE USING IS SEALED TIGHT!!!!** You won't get a second chance if you get it wrong. Believe me, you will be in **BIG** trouble if your mum comes down in the morning, opens the fridge and finds everything covered in maggots & I mean everything!! Alternatively you could get a bucket, cover the base with plenty of ice & place the bait box on top of this and leave them in the garage.

Maggots

Typically used on the hook these generally come in white (natural), red or bronze, sometimes as 'Disco's', (multi-coloured). Adding turmeric to 'Bronze' maggots was always a favourite for roach.

1, 2 or a bunch on the hook are your best bet depending on what type of fish you are trying to catch.

Pinkies

These can also be used on the hook and as feed when using maggot on the hook. The name pinkie comes from the fact that normally they have a slight pink tinge to their skin but they can also come in fluorescent pink or red. A favourite bait for bream either feed in groundbait or double pinkie on the hook

Squatts

The smallest of the commercially bought maggots and normally stored in sand. Not so readily available these days as they were a few years ago. Again another great feed bait for bream or roach. If you have any size 22 or 24 hooks then try a



"Maggots work. We all know that. And when you have them do your side try you can MAKE them work in some ways. Be that fishing success, in the margins or down the track, they will work if you make them work."

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www.gippingvalleyanglingclub.co.uk

GVAC is based in mid Suffolk and has waters in and around Needham Market, Stowmarket & Brantham. The club was established in 1984 with our original members fishing Needham Lake and four sections of the River Gipping.

The club values its members' opinions, the development of its fisheries and the development of angling and is intent that all shall be given the opportunity to enjoy our sport in a safe and friendly environment. Our very active Junior Academy sections host regular events for young anglers and, along with our intermediates, are given every encouragement and opportunity to compete on a national level. With the support of Bosmere Tackle in Needham Market, the Environment Agency and Mid Suffolk District Council, young members and non-members alike can enjoy the coaching afforded by the club's volunteers. We are actively involved with the running of the Suffolk County Amalgamated Angling Association (SCAAA), members of [Institute of Fisheries Management \(IFM\)](#) and are supported by the [Angling Trust](#) in angling development projects.

Pole Rigs & Shotting

Slim Body Open Water Rig

How does the rig work?

This time we look at a rig for open water. A bulk and two droppers setup usually suffices for many rigs that you may use. When conditions are flat calm or a light wind then a slimmer float offers greater sensitivity than a more bulbous or rugby ball bodied pattern.

A float dotted down in the water to just a pimple will show the tiniest of indications from the smallest fish or indeed the shyest biting fish.

Set your bulk grouping of shot at about 45cm from the hook as a starting point. The two dropper shot can be positioned firstly, one just above the main line loop knot and the second a further 6cm up the line

Back shot can prove crucial to the rig if the breeze increases, usually up to three No. 10 back shot spread evenly above the float can really improve the stability.

Float size depends on the depth of water but as a guide 0.1g per foot of water you are fishing will be about right.

The length of line between the float and your pole tip should be no more than 40cm or less. This will keep the pole tip directly over the float to help with hooking.

Make sure your feeding is very accurate. Use a pole pot or catapult to feed the swim. Start feeding cautiously and see how the fish react. You need to strike a balance of keeping the fish interested & competing for food without over feeding them. Using groundbait could also prove useful in pulling fish into your swim

This is a good all round pole float rig that you should master and have confidence in using.



**CLUB
MARK**

