

Highlights in this issue:

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

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Volume 4 Issue 3

Newsletter Date: Jul 2018

Summer is here & its HOT !!

Hi Everyone,

And welcome to the latest Hooked newsletter. Can you believe we are nearly half way through our FishClub sessions for 2018.

With visits to Battsford top lake & our first visit of the year to Stonham Barns behind us, plus by the time you read this GVAC will have tackled a completely new water for us with our first ever 'FishClub' session to Alton Water, Stutton. This gave you a completely new challenge when we got to grips with fishing a large reservoir.

Any of you that had taken part in the predator &/or lure days then this would of been a return visit. Our FishClub session however concentrated not on Pike but feeder fishing for roach. Conditions were tough with such an expanse of water so accurate feeding & casting was essential to tempt those roach

to bite.

The weather was very kind to us with bright sunshine but as the day progressed the wind got stronger & stronger which made casting increasingly difficult.

But I think it is safe to say that we will be returning there next year.

With so much sunny weather at the moment I hope you get the opportunity to get out and have a day's fishing somewhere, pester those parents to take you out and get on the bank.

There is also news on the Bait-Tech initiative that is now underway, more information on that inside.

Until October have a great summer!!

As always if you have any questions then please get in contact



Pip showing Edward the best way to unhook a fish

with us & we'll try and answer them for you.

See you all soon !! (Editor)

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

Different venues and a return to familiar ground are all part of the remaining FishClub sessions for the next 2 months. Why don't you join us, improve your knowledge and skills and challenge yourself with new techniques to learn and master. If you haven't already why not take the opportunity to take

part in the Angling Trust's level 2 CAST awards, it's not too late to start!!

Much more to come during this years FishClub sessions.

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.

Dates for the Diary



Match on!!... Lauren, James & Rhys in action!!

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

July 2018

FishClub 7 - Beginners to Advanced
Sat 21st - 8.30 to 14.00 (Stonham Barns) (NFM)
Long & Short pole work

August 2018

FishClub 8 - Beginners to Advanced
Sat 4th - 8.30 to 14.00 (Woody's Lake) (NFM)
Margin Top Kit work
FishClub 9 - Beginners to Advanced
Sat 11th - 8.30 to 14.00 (Woody's or Jimmy's Lake) (NFM)
Long & Short pole work

Sept 2018

Senior/Junior Pairs match 10
Sat 22nd - 8.00 to 15.00 (Venue TBA)

Oct 2018

FishClub 11 - Beginners to Advanced
Sat 20th - 9.00 to 13.00 (Indoor)
Gt Blakenham village hall

Hook tying & Equipment setup

Nov 2018

FishClub 12 - Beginners to Advanced
Sat 10th - 9.00 to 13.00 (Indoor)
Gt Blakenham village hall
TBA

Members £5.00 Non-members £6.50 per session.

Key:

(FF) Family Fish, (NFM) National Fishing Month

Preparation, Preparation, Preparation !



"Paul showing Henry how to untangle his hook"

Know your kit!

Being confident & independent are qualities that we should all have as individuals and they come into play in almost all aspects of our daily lives, in whatever we do.

This is very much true also when it comes to fishing.

Its probably a subject you think we haven't covered in our FishClub sessions, but in actual fact every session we hold has an element of these qualities.

That's the reason why the

coaches always encourage you to try things yourself.

We'll show you, and each coach has his own techniques, but we want you to learn to the point where you do everything yourself without even thinking about it... that's where the confidence comes in.

This year one of the main things I would like you all to concentrate some of your efforts on is setting up your kit, whether it be your own or the club's.

We've started placing all the kit in each swim and as you

turn up in the morning we'll be asking you to choose a swim and start setting up ready to fish.

There'll be coaches around to help you where you get stuck or need a bit of assistance but, we want to encourage that knowledge building, independence and most importantly confidence in you, where you are able to set everything up by yourselves.

"accomplishment builds self-esteem, builds confidence!"

Product Review



Preston Innovations Bait tubs

Item: Bait Tub
Tackle Firm: Preston Innovations
Price: £1.79 to £2.99

Description:

Every angler carries them, every angler needs them, the humble bait tub.

Pretty much every tackle firm in the country will produce and sell their own brand of bait tub, but what makes Preston Innovation tubs stand out above the rest?

Well for me it's the range that they produce.

Coming in sizes from 1/2 pt to 3pt tubs they cater for every need, they even produce a specific one for bloodworm along with a selection of white tubs designed to keep your bait cooler in the summer.

The tubs are made from hard-wearing plastic. The lids are flexible and create a solid seal when pushed on fully. Your precious bait won't escape from these tubs.

The shape also has a bearing with either square or rectangle options available. They give you a lot of versatility when using these tubs on your bait trays.

They will also last you years if you take care of them, and work well with a lot of the other Preston products..

"Hard-wearing , versatile, good design... What else could you ask for!!"

Behind the Scenes

The club and coaches are always looking to improve things for our juniors and promote what we do to the broader public.

With this in mind our lead coach Paul Sargent has in the last few months been talking with the Directors of local bait company Bait-Tech.

For those who haven't heard of Bait-Tech they are one of the UK's leading bait firms with a distribution network stretching around the world and a reputation for providing

top quality baits & groundbaits. Based in Bramford they are one of the few angling companies based in Suffolk & the nearest in location to GVAC.

Bait-Tech will be providing the junior section of the club with substantially reduced cost, bait & groundbait to cover the FishClub sessions in the future.

Not only that but Bait-Tech have kindly allowed us to pass on this generous offer to you juniors, so you too can buy bait, pellets & groundbait di-

rectly from the club at our FishClub sessions.

There will be limits to this offer and the final details are still to be confirmed, but we hope to offer bags of whichever bait we use at a particular FishClub session to you at the end of that session.

We hope to take delivery of our first order very soon so that we can start using Bait-Tech products at our FishClub sessions.

Paul will provide a price list in advance of the sessions so that you can see before you buy.



Bait-Tech Pro-Natural range

Bait School - Casters

What are they?

Put simply, casters are the chrysalis form of the bluebottle fly maggot, and are the next stage in the life cycle of a maggot. They are a shell-like pupae that contains the soon-to-emerge fly.

Casters are slightly smaller than maggots and their shape is slightly more rounded. They are available at all good tackle shops and, like maggots, are sold by the pint



How are they produced?

To make a pint of casters you will need just over a pint of maggots – this takes into account those that will die. The best maggots to use are white maggots.

Coloured maggots just don't make good casters, probably due to the fact that they contain impurities, in the form of dyes, that don't help the fly's metamorphosis.

Riddle them thoroughly getting rid of all the sawdust, pick off any dead maggots and maggot skins by hand. Leave them covered in the garage until they start to slow their wriggling down, this is a sign that they are starting to transform into casters.

These slow wrigglers should be tipped into a spare clean bait box and covered with folded sheets of damp newspaper, with the lid placed on the box. Do not use dripping wet newspaper as the water may gather at the base of the bait box and suffocate the casters at the bottom. Store these soon-to-be-casters in a fridge.

Continue riddling your maggots with a maggot sieve twice a day, removing the casters and adding any new ones to the supply in your fridge. Within a few days you'll have more than enough fresh casters to last a session. It's a slow & gradual process so many prefer to buy casters directly from their nearest tackle shop.

Caster colouration & Use

Buy a bag of casters and you'll undoubtedly find casters of different shades. The freshest ones will be white or a cream colour, while the oldest will be almost black. Try to buy your casters as fresh as possible as they will not only last longer, but they will give the fish a different bait to target – it's amazing sometimes how a lighter coloured caster will bring about bites much faster than a dark one, and vice versa.

One thing to bear in mind, when you are buying or storing your casters, is the fact that the darker a caster becomes the more buoyant it will be. Light-coloured casters sink very quickly, while those much older, very darkly coloured casters will float.

Dark, floating casters can be used to great effect, particularly during the summer. Simply leave a helping of casters out in the sun and allowing them to dry out will turn the shell dark brown. A full day in the sunshine will crisp-up the shells, darken them dramatically and transform them into floaters. They can now be used on the hook to present a really slow-falling bait to catch fish on-the-drop, or they can be catapulted out as feed for surface feeding fish such as the rudd.

Buried, Nicked or Double?

There are different ways to hook your caster, you can hook them the same way as you would a maggot, you can double the casters up using this method or you can bury the hook inside the caster. Simply press the point of your hook into the top of the blunter end of the caster & as you press the hook through the skin slowly twist the hook so that the spade end & knot on the hook just sits outside of the caster, (look at the picture on the right) to see what it looks like.



