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# Hooked!

Volume 3 Issue 2

Newsletter Date: Apr 2017

## Spring has finally arrived !!

Hi Everyone,

Welcome to issue 2! FishClub has finally started again with another great indoor session and we have another lined up in April, so book your place early.

We have a couple of exciting things coming up in the next few months and we kick off the first of these in May with the start of our first CAST awards initiative.

As mentioned in the last issue we will be running these awards throughout the rest of our FishClub sessions in 2017.

The awards are recognised by the Angling Trust and rewards you juniors with certificates & badges for your ongoing improvements & achievements. We hope you all join in, it should be a whole lot of fun!

The other one is included inside the pages of this newsletter.

We've included a voucher for our regular attendees which you can pass onto a friend or relative offering them free entry to any one of our FishClub sessions in 2017.

The voucher is valid until the day of our last event this year. So don't hesitate, pass it on and let's get more people down on the bank to experience our great sport, you never know they might want to come back.

With the weather finally warming up it's a great time to get out on the bank, so why not get out there. Spring is finally here.

So that's about it, hope to see you at our next FishClub event and make sure you get out on the bank this month.

Don't forget to add your catch pictures to our Facebook pages, we'd really like to see what you've been up to, and don't



Leah & Alex on their first Family Fish session

forget...

If you have any questions then please get in contact with us.

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

FishClub continues this April with the second of our indoor sessions back at Gt Blakenham village hall.

There are limited places for this event so book early. May sees us heading out onto the bank with sessions at Battsford & Maypole, Buxhall. A new venue for this year which

is packed full of roach.

**See inside for session details.**

### Facebook page

I'm sure some of you have been out fishing this year, so it would be great to see some of your 'Catch' photos. With Battsford continuing to fish well & lots of work going on at

Jimmy's lake and Easter just around the corner there's some great opportunities to get out for a day

**If you have any ideas on what you'd like to see then please let us know.**

If you haven't already joined then just search on Facebook for 'GVAC Juniors' and request access.



Rig making at one of our indoor sessions

## Dates for the Diary

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

### Apr 2017

**FishClub 2** - Beginners to Advanced  
Sat 22nd - 9.00 to 13.00 (Indoor)  
Gt Blakenham village hall

#### Float making & Rig tying

### May 2017

**FishClub 3** - Beginners to Advanced  
Sat 13th - 9.00 to 13.00 (Battisford) (FF)

#### Waggler, rod & line Peg Management

**FishClub 4** - Beginners to Advanced  
Sat 27th - 9.00 to 13.00 (Maypole) (FF)

#### Pole &/or Whip fishing

### June 2017

**FishClub 5** - Beginners to Advanced  
Sat 10th - 9.00 to 13.00 (Battisford) (FF)  
**Feeder or Waggler, rod & line**

### July 2017

**FishClub 6** - Beginners to Advanced  
Sat 8th - 8.00 to 15.00 (Poringland Lakes)  
**Pole &/or Waggler fishing**

**NFM Event 7** - Beginners to Advanced  
Sat 22nd - 9.00 to 13.00 (Woody's) (NFM)  
**Short Pole margin fishing**

**Members £5.00 Non-members £6.50 per session.**

(FF) - Family Fish session

(NFM) - National Fishing Month session



“Every journey starts with a single step”

## Preparation, Preparation, Preparation !

### Goal Setting

Every successful sports person has during their development set goals. It helps to drive & direct their efforts in becoming the best that they can be, focusing attention & maintain/enhancing their motivation.

As we start this years Fish-Club sessions, now is a great time to start thinking about what you'd like to achieve this year with your angling.

Why not start by reflecting on how your angling went last year... did I enjoy myself, did I improve in anyway, was there anything I could of done differ-

ently, did I catch as many fish as I hoped, what did I learn?

Asking questions will start you thinking about the things you are confident in doing and areas where you aren't so confident in.

The less confident area's are the ones to delve into further and think about why you feel that way & why. Now pick one or two of these, they don't have to be big things either. They can be as simple as:- tying a loop or casting a feeder or feeding a swim.

Once you have a goal in your mind then, make it:-

**Specific** - Write it down something like 'I want to cast better'. This will give you focus & a target to aim for.

**Realistic & Challenging** - Make it difficult enough to be a challenge but not to difficult to make it unrealistic.

**Short or Long Term** - To achieve your overall goal you may need to complete smaller goals first. Think about these.

**“You never know you might surprise yourself on what you can achieve”**

## Product Review



Knot Picker

**Item:** Knot Picker  
**Tackle Firm:** NGT  
**Price:** £1.49 to £2.49

### Description:

How many times during your fishing have you suddenly found yourself with a knot in your line?

Its inevitable, you will never be able to avoid it but you can, with the right tool deal with it quickly.

This is where the knot picker becomes your friend. Just push the point through part of

the knot and slowly ease the knot open.

Once the knot has been opened you can either use the thicker point to open the knot further or try with your fingers to carefully undo the knot.

Be careful though not to push the point through your finger as they are very sharp and don't take much pressure to pierce your skin.

With a little care and patience you will find that this little

tool will easily & quickly help you un-pick all your knots and get you back fishing quickly.

They are very cheap to buy and are available either from your local tackle shop or online

**“Takes the frustration away and gets you back fishing quickly!”**



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**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

### On the Slope Margin Rig

#### How does the rig work?

When you're fishing up against islands, or on marginal slopes it can really pay to use a strung shotting pattern to allow for a slower more natural fall of the hook bait through the water.

Bulk rigs are great for getting your bait to a spot quickly when you know your fish are firmly on the bottom and it will quicken your catch rate, but the strung shotting style of this rig will give you the versatility to catch fish at all levels as your hookbait drops through the water.

During the winter when the water is likely to be clearer & fish tend to follow the hook bait down inspecting it as it goes, using small shot such as No. 9, 10 & No. 11's will ensure a more natural fall through the water.

As you can see the shotting starts from just above the mainline loop and then are spread evenly up the main line. The spacing between each shot can vary depending on the depth you are fishing at, but once you have found that depth, then just spread your shot evenly apart along the bottom two thirds of the rig.

The further each shot is spread away from the next, the more natural presentation you will achieve.

Although this rig will generally be more effective in winter when the water is clearer and the fish can watch the hook-bait fall, it is also worth trying at the start of your session during the summer when the water is likely to be more coloured. With you feeding more bait, fish are likely to search the upper layers and this rig can pick off these fish, so be prepared for some quick, powerful bites!

