

Hooked!

Volume 5 Issue 2

Newsletter Date: Spring/Summer 2019

Highlights in this issue:

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

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Goodbye Snow, Hello Sun !... Hopefully

Hi Everyone,

Welcome to the second newsletter of the year. Having been fishing every week since the start of the year I can honestly say I really hope the last of the cold weather is behind us and we can look forward to warm days, plenty of bites & netfuls of fish!

By the time you read this edition we will have completed 2 or 3 of our sessions for the year, we have lined up some new & old venues for 2019 and a whole variety of different techniques & methods for you to try.

Our first session at Suffolk Water Park in April saw 5 of our 'advanced' juniors tackling match Lake 1 on pole and feeder. Conditions weren't helped by a mixture of sun, rain, sleet & a touch of snow, together with a biting northerly wind but you all caught, mostly on the pole, with Roach being the

main species. Even the coaches caught. Over 60 young people turned up on the day and they too all caught some fish. Hopefully a return in June will see us enjoying much better weather.

But that is what fishing is all about... and for me the beauty of the sport, you never know what you're going to catch next.

Completing the level 2 CAST awards will be a priority in the coming weeks and for anybody who hasn't started the CAST awards or would like to start them then have a word with Paul at any of our FishClub sessions for more information.

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 !!

Tight Lines (Editor)



'First-Timer Oliver deep in concentration'

p.s. Don't forget to upload any catch photo's you have to our Junior Facebook page.

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

Latest News

FishClub

April saw us at Suffolk Water Park for the first of 3 sessions there this year, plenty of roach were caught although the bream & carp evaded our best attempts to catch them...

FishClub 2019 will be taking us to Battisford, Jimmy's lake/woody's lake & Alton Water and we end the year back in-

doors at Gt Blakenham. So lots to look forward to, and some new techniques to challenge your fishing skills.

Facebook page

Keep in touch on our Facebook page where you'll find details of all our advertised events and showcase all of the great sessions we've have over the year.

Feel free to post your own catches and days out fishing as well.

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

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



Juniors waiting to start fishing

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.

May 2019

FishClub 1 - Beginners to Advanced
Sat 11th - 8.30 to 14.00 (Battisford Top Lake)
(FF)

Pole & Wagglers fishing

Jun 2019

Family Fish Day 2 - Beginners to Advanced
Sat 1st - 9.00 to 16.00 (SWP - Match Lake 1)
(FF)

Pellet Wagglers & Bomb Fishing

FishClub 2 - (**CANCELLED**)
Sat 22nd - 8.30 to 14.00 (Stonham Barns) (FF)
Long & Short pole work

Jul 2019

FishClub 3 - Beginners to Advanced
Sat 6th - 8.30 to 14.00 (Jimmy's Lake) (NFM)
Long & Short pole work

Family Fish Day 2 - Beginners to Advanced
Sat 1st - 9.00 to 16.00 (SWP - Match Lake 1)
(FF)

Sept 2019

FishClub 4 - Senior/Junior Pairs match
Sat 28th - 8.00 to 16.00 (Alton Water) (FF)
Pole, Wagglers & Bomb fishing

Members £5.00 Non-members £6.50 per session.

Key:

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



Paul watching Lennon unhooking another Roach

A Coaches Blog

The Joys of Fishing!

Well, since the New Year I have managed to get out on the bank nearly every week and the weekly blog tally is currently standing at 16.

It's been a real eye opener with every week being a different venue trying to find out the best baits, methods, talking to regulars etc.

I've also managed to pick the worst day for the weather on most weeks as well, one such week saw me sitting in my car

for an hour watching the torrential rain coming down before deciding to drive back home.

In that time I have fished 6 of the 7 scheduled GVAC Mid-week league matches and most surprisingly have managed to win 3 of the matches & win 2 sections as well, so not a bad return so far.

Having never fished some of these venues, certainly not under match conditions it's been a brilliant challenge and has really got me thinking

about how to get the best out of a swim. All the blogs go into detail about the baits, methods & techniques I've used & will hopefully help with your own fishing, if you wanted to fish these lakes.

Why not join me on the journey through the year & read my blog. Just pop along to the following link:-

<https://angling4all.org/blog>

"Every journey starts with a single step!"



Preston Mag Store Pre-tied hooks

Product Review

Item: Mag Store Pre-tied Hooks

Tackle Firm: Preston Innov

Price: £3.00 - £3.99

Description:

Personally I much prefer to tie my own hooks as pre-tied hooks don't give me the versatility or options for what I need, but Preston Innovations last year released something a little bit different to the industry standard.

Firstly the **Mag Store System** which uses magnets to

locate each individual **Rig Stick** into their new system box (8-10 Rig Sticks are supplied in each system depending on size), allowing you to swap and change their location within the box and add new **Rig Sticks**.

In addition you can now buy a variety of pre-tied Preston hooks on a rig stick. These come as 8 pre-tied hooks which you can then instantly lock into your Mag Store System box.

If you are not a fan of tying your own hooks then these are a great alternative and will save you a lot of time & effort but this comes at a price.

My advice would be to perfect your own hook tying skills and in the long term save you a lot of money... but as they say... each to their own.

"If time is your enemy then this solution could be the answer!!"

Behind the Scenes

Bait-Tech Offer

For those of you that are not aware, local company Bait-Tech, one of the UK's leading bait firms with a distribution network stretching around the world, will continue providing GVAC junior section with substantially reduced cost bait & groundbait to cover the FishClub sessions for 2019. Not only that, but Bait-Tech have kindly allowed us to pass on this generous offer to you juniors, so you can buy bait, pellets & groundbait directly from the club at our FishClub sessions.

There are limits to this offer & is strictly for the use of GVAC juniors only.

Paul will be sending out a revised price list soon so that you can see what we currently have to offer.

Around the Club

Now that we are getting into the warmer weather members of the committee & willing volunteers are carrying out work parties at some of the clubs venues.

So far these parties have carried out work at the Barking

lakes, Maypole & Battsford lakes.

The work involves cutting back the overgrown trees & shrubs, clearing out swims to make them more comfortable to fish from and various other maintenance tasks.

It is also hoped that during 2019 there will be some substantial repair work carried out on the banks of Woody's lake as the banks have eroded quite badly in some areas.

Check the club diary if you are interested in attending any of these work parties.



Bait-Tech's Pro Natural range

Book Worm - Ivan Marks on Match Fishing

If I'm not fishing then I like nothing better than to read about fishing, be it one of the angling newspapers, a magazine or one of the many books that have been written by the greats of the sport.

So I thought I would share with you some of the books that I have read over the years, which have inspired me to learn more & improve my own angling ability.

Title: Float Fishing with Ivan Marks

Author: Ivan Marks & John Goodwin

ISBN: 0720710278

Published: 1978

Pages: 176

Price: £5.00 - £10.00

Every sport has its heroes and for me when I started fishing at the tender age of 10, no angler shone brighter than the late, great Ivan Marks. This man was my hero, sadly Ivan passed away in 2004 at only 68yrs old.

I was extremely privileged to have met him a number of times in my youth and he was always the most humble, unassuming gentlemen you could ever wish to meet. Always open to questions, he would never hide any secrets about his tactics or baits.

Many thought of him as mainly a ledger/feeder man and indeed he won a lot of matches using this tactic but in reality it was his talent with a float that brought him his greatest success.

In this book Ivan starts off describing the basics of float fishing. He talks in depth about the different conditions he faced on the bank, the theory behind his shotting patterns, bite detection, the tackle he used (now mostly out of date) and many other aspects of this art.

The second and largest proportion of the book then goes into detail on each & every different type of float he used,

all from his own range of floats that were in the beginning all hand made by Ivan himself but which were later produced commercially.

I still have some treasured floats in my own collection.

Ivan talks in-depth about each design & the materials that were used to create the float.

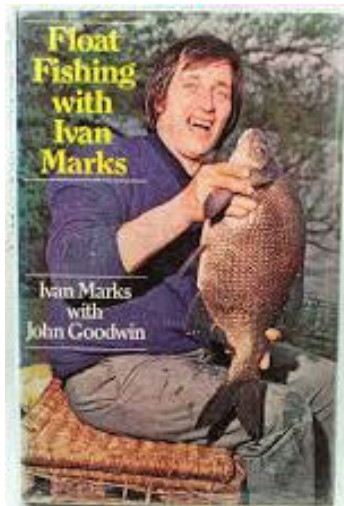
He talks about the use of that float in the some-times, specific situation it was designed for, giving you shotting patterns and the depths the float was used in.

There is a lot of detail in this section of the book and it is best read a few times to fully understand it all.

The last section of the book concentrates on the secrets of Ivan's success from using small hooks, to using good quality bait, how to feed your swim correctly, bait presentation, all the way through to decision making, having confidence, even how to think like a fish!

Bearing in mind that this book is now over 40 years old there is so much of the content that is still relevant to today's fishing, and if you only ever buy one book about float fishing, then in my opinion this is the book to buy.

The copy I have is at least 39yrs old and I have read it countless times over the years as a reference for many aspects of my own fishing and every time I read it I always discover something new and different that I can use.



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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 local tackle shops in the area, 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

The Mugging Rig

How does the rig work?

With the warmer weather now upon us and summer just around the corner, carp are starting to be more active and as the temperature rises they will be basking on the surface in the hot sun.

This tactic involves swinging the rig towards any visible, cruising fish on the surface, 'mugging' them as they swim past. You don't need to feed just swing the hook bait between 30cm & 50cm in front of their noses.

The depth of the rig is purely trial and error but a good starting point is 45cm as it gives the carp time to inspect the bait as it falls through the water.

The shotting pattern is very simple and consists of a bulk of No.10 shot directly underneath the float with no other shot down the line. This makes the fall of the bait as natural as possible.

If the carp are taking the bait with confidence then shallowing up the rig to sit in front of the carp's nose may well quicken up the bites. However, if the carp are wary then add an additional 15cm to the depth so that they have more time to work out if the bait is falling naturally.

The line between the float and your pole tip should be between 100cm to 120cm, this helps to keep your pole tip as far away from the fish as possible, and helps prevent spooking the fish.

Keep the line tight to your pole tip so that you give yourself the best chance of hooking those fish.

Be ready for some very quick bites and aggressive fights as the carp tear away from your swim. This can really be an exciting tactic to try.

Feed very sparingly to keep a few fish biting !!

