

VAC RIVER ITCHEN TRIP 18.10.20

The club made its annual visit to the River Lower Itchen in mid-October, both for fly and coarse fishing. For once the day was dry, the weather mild and the river in very good condition.

The coarse anglers had a mixed day but grayling, trout, chub to 4lb and roach to 2lb 7oz were caught.

The fly anglers mostly had a good day but their usual lunch-time gathering was somewhat curtailed as social distancing was the order of the day.

Klink and Dink was the method used initially by some of the fly anglers which caught fish and generally longer rods proved useful to get over the bank-side vegetation.

There were also some newcomers to the fly only section part of the venue including "Chuck" Finch who ended his day with 2 trout and 6 grayling.

Father and son, Jason and Dan Tarry, also enjoyed their first visit to the fishery. Jason caught 3 trout and 1 grayling using a chewing gum caddis, a billy and an adams. His son Dan caught 2 grayling, 2 brown trout and a small sea trout. He caught his fish on a size 14 billy and his final brown on a size 14 Duracell jig.



Jason and a grayling



Dan with a grayling

Bob Ring caught 4 grayling on a Green Grayling Grabber and a brown trout in the morning. In the afternoon he moved downstream and caught seven grayling, all of good size and one brown trout, all on worm. He also lost a very large grayling at the net.



A grayling caught by Bob

Richard Russell had a very enjoyable day and was glad to have some decent weather for a change. He fished the morning using a pink indicator method through a deep pool on a bend of the river but lost a big brownie. He coarse fished in the afternoon and caught 4 small brown trout.

Andy King used his new nymphing rod with French leader attached and caught a grayling on a tiny tungsten bead shrimp pattern on 3.7lb tippet. A larger grayling came to a large pink topped Klinkhammer with the same small tungsten beaded shrimp Dink attached.

On the fly only section a number of trout, average weight 2 to 3lb, were caught on the fly by Barry Evans (10 brownies using a yellow tungsten beaded pattern).



A brown trout caught by Barry

Chay Hedger also caught on the fly (11 Brownies and 1 Grayling).



Another brown trout caught by Chay

On the coarse section of the river Rob Trollope had a fabulous day out. He had previously only caught 2 Grayling but on the Itchen caught 9 Grayling, 6 Trout and a chub. One grayling was 1lb 10oz, now his personal best.

Kevin Laird had an enjoyable, and dry, day. Fishing was slow but he caught a chub of 3lb, 9 Grayling, 3 trout, biggest about 4lbs, lots of minnows and a few parr.



Kevin with his chub

Lewis Mascoll had the best fishing trip of his life catching his first Grayling and 8 trout.



Lewis Mascoll and his first grayling

Paul Norris had a slow day but caught four grayling a trout and a chub. But Steven Pepperrell had 30 fish on traditional maggot feeder including grayling, sea and brown trout in the weir pool at the start of the fishery.



Grayling caught by Steve Pepperrell

Jon Greville caught a good chub estimated between three and a half to four pounds. It was taken on a slower stretch of the river, after constant little and often feeding maggots for about an hour. It took double maggot on a size 16 at the end of a long trot.



Chub caught by Jon Greville

Rob Stevens had a couple of grayling and a trout and Darren Kempster caught a very good roach of 2lb 7oz.



Darren with his roach

Overall a good day and all are looking forward to the next trip to the Itchen.