



River Itchen Trip

October 2024



Idyllic view of a very full Lower River Itchen and the approach track.

Report courtesy of Barry Evans. Photos from a variety of sources notably Andy King and Barry Evans

VAC Lower River Itchen Trip 19th October 2024

The club made its annual visit to the Lower Itchen for both fly and coarse fishing this year on 19th October. Unfortunately, as can be seen from the cover photograph, the river was in flood due to previous heavy rainfall. It was also heavily coloured and rising during the day – not perfect conditions for fly fishing for Grayling and In consequence the fly anglers suffered generally poor results, although some good fish were caught. Coarse anglers fared better, managing to catch a fair number despite the conditions.



One of two good sized brown trout caught by Andy King on a red czech nymph Caddis grub suspended under a Thingamabobber indicator.



Richard Russell caught this nice sized brown trout on a klink-hammer pattern but unfortunately lost a larger fish.

Others deployed their not inconsiderable skill throughout the day, persevering on several sections of the river to no avail!



Hugh Arnott during a sunny spell demonstrating considerable skill and patience in pursuit of his quarry.



Despite the challenging conditions the coarse anglers managed to catch a number of grayling and trout.

Richard Collins enjoyed a very successful day trotting for grayling, catching several similar to this, (top), - his best at 11 1/2 lbs, and a wonderfully sleek and speckled brown trout (below) at a little under 2lbs.



Steve Osborn really enjoyed his day, catching several Grayling. The best of these weighed in at over a pound, and a 3Lb 14oz trout – the best of the day, on what was his very last cast.



Steve Osborn - very happy with his last-minute catch!



Jeremy Goodacre had a very mixed bag, which included lots of minnows, plenty of "chublets", and what he described as a half decent Perch...

It did however include this sleek looking grey lady...Jeremy's first ever grayling!

John Tumalty had a mixed day but managed to land a nice brown trout of around two and a half pounds, and Ian Waterman who enjoyed his day on the Itchen caught a nice sized Sea Trout of around a pound, then later on a larger brown trout.



Richard Russell demonstrating elegant nymphing technique.

This annual trip, organised by the Events Committee, is always oversubscribed, and those who enjoyed their outing this year will be keen to join the list in 2025... So, if you would like to be included, and fancy trying this wonderful venue - either as a coarse or fly fisherman, keep your eyes peeled for an announcement in E-News next year.

The Events Committee organises a number of events during the year and is able to rely upon club members willing to share their knowledge with others. If you would like to assist the Events Committee in this way please contact Hugh Arnott, Committee Chairman, for further information at:

events@verulam-angling.co.uk

Please do not contact the Club Secretary for events bookings or enquiries.