



# Dorchester Fishing Club

## July Newsletter

### 2007

## News

There has been a lot happening in the past year: -

The Lower Water improvements were completed and are now providing excellent fishing conditions. The loss of the ranunculus in the area will slowly recover over the next few years. The Club has attracted a lot of good publicity for these works and the Environment Agency will be using this as an example of a collaborative project on their website.

Work on the Upper water is almost complete; we have installed flow deflectors and willow mattresses to increase water flow and to stabilise the bank at Whitfield Hatches.

The Loud's Mill fish pass is currently being built (*an 8x1.8 metre Larinier pass*) and will allow salmon to reach the valuable spawning areas above Dorchester. Congratulations to all involved in the appeal, especially Charles Dutton and to all Members who donated money towards the appeal.

The Club has been offered and accepted a stand at this years Dorset County Show (Dorchester) and we will be sharing the stand with John Aplin. We intend to show the public how the fishing Club has cared for the River Frome for the past 130 years. We are still seeking a few willing volunteers to help out on the stand; please contact the Honorary Secretary ASAP if you can spare an afternoon at the show. (*show dates 1st & 2nd September [www.DorsetCountyShow.co.uk](http://www.DorsetCountyShow.co.uk)*)

*A Frome Salmon*



The Fishing Club Blog (online diary) has become a firm favourite with Members, especially those who live away from the area. I also know there are many non-Members who follow the Club's season with envy! Please, if you do have any interesting stories, photographs etc. email them in ASAP after the event. (*see below for extracts from this seasons entries*)

Hope to see you all at the picnic with the Frome, Piddle & West Dorset Fisheries Association on Friday 13th July meeting on the Lower Water at Lower Bockhampton.

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## River Conditions & Fishing Report (extracts from the Blog)

**25/03** Managing Committee river walk today - we walked from Lower Bockhampton along the river to Gascoyne Bridge. The River was in excellent condition throughout and a grannom was spotted on the return journey.

**01/04** My brother and I fished around Whitfield hatches today having a great day in the process, much better than last year. The river looked superb, clean with lots of the right type of weed.

**06/04** What a true Grannom day, warm clear and sunny, and it looks set for the bank holiday weekend.

**18/04** After putting down at least a dozen fish prior to catching my first, I went on to catch four superbly marked wild trout, the largest being just under a pound.

**21/04** The grannom were already hatching when we arrived at 10:15 and we were quickly into fish. As the day wore on the hatch became less with fewer fish rising, but there were enough to keep us amused until 4pm.

**04/05** Restocking today and many thanks to John, Peter, Richard, Paul, Dave & Rod for helping. The fish were again in excellent condition and a credit to Hooke Springs Trout Farm.

**06/05** I would recommend that you start carrying a few mayfly patterns - just in case!

**12/05** After a ploughman's lunch while sat watching the hatching mayfly, there was time to have a very quick bit of weed cutting - it was an excellent day and many thanks goes to John, Tony, Adam, Richard, Rod & Dave.

**21/05** Hi John - Just wanted to report a cracking afternoon on Monday. I spent a few hours fishing the upper water with my father, who's relatively new to the fly fishing game.

**23/05** A cautious approach that involved crawling through the mud and keeping myself very low allowed me to get a mayfly in the right spot and success on the third cast.

**28/05** We also witnessed a massive Caenis hatch about 9.45 pm, which led to one or two fish metronomically sipping away and mostly ignoring our tasty looking Mayflies.

**15/06** Here's a picture of that rogue goldfish heading merrily upstream!

## A Fly for the River Frome

**Hook:** Flash Point Size 20  
**Thread:** Primrose  
**Tail:** Coq De Leon  
**Body:** Super Fine  
**Hackle:** Whiting Golden Badger  
**Post:** Oyster White Yarn



## Badges

**Lapel Badges** -The Club logo has been made into a small royal blue ceramic lapel badge. One can be yours for just £3.00, which includes posting & package.

**Car Sticker** - We also have a supply of car stickers for £1.50, which includes posting & package.

Please order from Honorary Secretary.

The paradun (parachute) style of tying has really captured my imagination this season. This pattern has been very successful during the pale watery hatches, both here and in Poland. It is worth purchasing top quality hackles and I would strongly recommend the Whiting 100's Saddle Packs. (available from [Lakeland Flytying](#))



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## Keepers Corner

We had one of the finest Aprils I can remember, fantastic weather, superb river conditions and to put the cherry on the cake second to none Grannom hatches with fishing to match.

I even found, or I should say made time for a little fishing myself this season and one evening during the Mayfly, I returned home after only two hours fishing realising that I had just had one of the best evenings fishing in my life.

As usual superb growing conditions, at the moment you can practically see all my fisherman's paths growing behind the mower, not funny from a lawnmowers point of view....

We had a fun time on one of our work parties constructing Willow flow deflectors below the bypass bridge up at Whitfield, I hope no one has fallen whilst wading, or even worse lost a fish, as did John G in the willow revetment on the lower water, we have also made a start to the mattress work at Whitfield and this should be completed shortly.

So far a truly outstanding season, I have seen one or two more of you out enjoying the fishing this summer and as I write this we still have a few Mayfly a lot of huge Sedges, Pale Wateries and the Blue Winged Olives will soon be in full swing, so get down to the river and enjoy!!!!

Three dates for your diaries:

**BASS FISHING:** Sunday 1 July Meet at ferry bridge car park 6pm Fly or Spin option.

**RIVER PICNIC:** Friday 13 July 6pm at Bockhampton to look at the river works with the Frome Piddle group.

**DORSET SHOW:** 1 and 2 September - come and support us on the DFC stand.

More dates to come please look at the clubs blog.

John E Aplin  
Riverkeeper  
[www.RiverWorks.co.uk](http://www.RiverWorks.co.uk)



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## Frome, Piddle & West Dorset Fishery's Association

The Association focuses on the preservation, promotion & development of fishing activities within our area. The Association is recognised by many fishermen, riparian owners, by English Nature and the Environment Agency.

If you are not yet a member, please consider subscribing to this most useful local focused lobby group which, by harnessing the resources of local fisherman can speak with a far clearer single voice.

For more details please contact: Secretary—Tony Medley. Cliff Cottage, East Burton Road, Moreton, DT2 8RL. Tel: 01929 462270

[www.grhe.co.uk](http://www.grhe.co.uk)