

VERULAM ANGLING CLUB MATCH RESULT

Date : 31st October
 Venue : Southend Farm, Damsel Lake
 Match : Midweek

	NAME	WEIGHT	Peg	COMMENTS
1	Steve Burfoot	35.09	16	Pole and maggot
2	Stan Kiddle	32.15	3	Pole and pellet
3	Alan Thomas	29.09	10	Feeder then pole
4	Chris Budden	23.08	7	Feeder
5	Simon Jee	23.4	5	
6	Chris Stride	18.08	8	
7	Roger Brown	14.04	14	
8	Andy Trigg	7.04	9	
9	Barry Cowley	DNW	15	
fished	9			

For those of you who have never been to Southend Farm it's a bit of a strange place. Clearly there's lots of history associated with the site as numerous dilapidated buildings are passed as you approach the fishery itself along with a lot of equestrian related activities, kennels, small businesses and workshops etc. It's not quite Darling Buds of May meets Scrapyard Challenge fortunately as the former trout fishery was converted to a coarse fishery over 20 years ago and the waters are quite attractive.



With the ban on matches at Frogmore likely to continue until the New Year, the Match Committee have now booked Damsel Lake on the alternate weeks to our Tuesday Riverside Road fixtures up until December.

An eager turnout today; I aimed to arrive at 7.30 when the Café was due to open but I hadn't taken account of the early morning 'commute' and traffic delayed my arrival until 7.40. By then Chris Budden had already finished his breakfast and the former copper was down by the lake on patrol.

With much cooler weather now the expectation was that it would fish harder than two-weeks previous and breakfast banter was much focussed on if the pole, method or bomb would be the best approach.

Come the draw and Simon Jee, winner from our last visit found himself on the same peg. Steve Burfoot, who, on the previous visit, was last from end peg 2, was end peg again, this time 16 and one with a line of inviting reeds reaching out 9yds on the left.

Stan was on end-peg 3, the only peg used on the causeway and the rest were spread out on pegs that can all produce on the right day.

The start was slow with Roger the first to get a carp on the tip followed by Chris Budden. Those on the pole were finding the skimmers were slow to wake up. Not unexpected but at least some carp were active and crashing out. Steve soon had his first but ended up, through the day, losing three in the reeds and a few others had carp just pulling off on the way in.

When the skimmers arrived most found 4mm expander the best bait but the bites were not confident and all reported fish coming off on the way in.

Stan's first carp came about two hours and then Alan got one of over 9lb on the tip. This prompted others to put the pole down but it would seem that there was no clear winning method today.

Steve was fishing bunches of maggots and waiting a long time for bites but, when they came, they were quality fish... but it was his 9lb'er hooked two minutes from the final whistle that made all the difference and gave him top spot with 35.09 including 8.04 of silvers. This pushed Stan's 32.15 down to second as his three carp for 20.11 plus silvers left him 2.10 short. Alan picked up 3rd with his one carp plus 20lb of silvers for 29.09

All in all a good match with the top three all benefiting from having a big fish bump up their weight and the fish clearly spread all around the venue. We return on November 14.