

Match 15 Hartleylands Fishery 2nd October 2022

The day didn't start good for some of us as I had to wake Mrs Barr up to give me a jump start so that I could go fishing at 5.15am - she was so pleased to be able to help.....!!!!

Next was the Dartford Crossing where I missed out on a free crossing by 2 minutes - it was just getting better.

In the drive thru for a coffee and a Double Sausage McMuffin breakfast and on my way.

The spits of rain turned into a deluge and then the "Road Closed" sign for the A21 showed up. My old Sat/Nav couldn't handle it and got totally confused for 20 minutes before finally getting on track.

I was a total of 25 minutes late but the usually on time and dependable Ross was also missing. He was apparently lost as well and was even later than me.

By this time the rain had turned into a steady downfall and it looked like we were all going to get wet to some degree. This continued to at least lunchtime and the afternoon turned into a really nice late summer day - very pleasant and allowed us to dry out.

Onto the fishing, and after a confused pegging/draw we all settled down for the match, though us late arrivals were a little less prepared than some.

On a flat calm day some started short some went long and some went mad.

I was lucky enough to snare an almost "Barney" first put in....must have surprised him and took an early lead which was clawed back slowly but surely by the next 2 pegs (Andy and Terry).

Come half time most had had a carp or two and some silvers but they had to be thought out and when hooked fought really hard, In the end Terry Williamson fished a very good match and had 91lb of carp and his neighbour for the day Andy Williams had a very creditable near 80lb for 2nd place. This was the first trophy match that Andy has not won this year, but, to make up for it he battered me to win the Singles Knock Out to go with the Doubles which he won at the last match.....

A word must also go to late arrival Ross who ended up with 53lb of fish for 3rd Place while only having about 15 minutes to set up - well done mate.

Another worthy mention was Ian Harvey who struggled but managed a few carp late on to finally defeat his superstar son Mason, I bet he wont let him forget that for the next 2 weeks.....

All in all a good day's fishing in good company, and Thanks to Ian for a jump start so I could get home. If anyone has any news regarding Keith and Mark regarding their respective hospital procedures can they let me know (if they don't mind that is...)

ATB
Dave