

English River Championship 2013, 6 November

2013 River Eden, Lazonby Estate

As quoted from an e-mail by Calum Fraser. PSUK Secretary

Malcolm/Gentlemen,

What terrific location you have found to run your River Championship in the North, though I'm sure others will have fond memories of the two years of casting a line in the River Itchen and the rewards that river had to offer (for some).

I know it has little to do with me, but I hope that you will give the Eden another go next year. I think its important as the River Championship is still in its infancy that we allow anglers to know where the event will be held and then keep it there for at least 2 years before it moves on to another part of the country.

I had a fantastic day, eventually landing a nice grayling about a 1lb 04oz (34-36cm) along with a half dozen small browns. It was great to meet up with some of my old fishing pals and make some new acquaintances.... we all just need to keep plugging away to encourage more anglers along to the river events, but this year around the country has seen a fall in numbers of participating anglers.



Iain Fraser landing his third Grayling on route to winning the English River Championship

Wednesday 6th November 2013 , saw ten anglers from around England arrive and fish the English River Championship on the River Eden in Cumbria.

The water was slightly higher than would have been preferred however there were large areas of the river that anglers could get into and fish for grayling.

A number of brown trout were caught Martin Barrett (Wiltshire) found them everywhere he went landing sixteen (16) on the day, but struggled to find a hungry grayling....though he did have some good sport and a couple of the brown trout were a good pound & a half in weight.

However it was the grayling that anglers needed to catch and it was the big lad from Essex, Iain Fraser who manage to winkle them out catching four during the day, two within the first 20 minutes of the competition starting and I won't dwell on his fourth...though it has happen to me when my flies are sitting on the water and I'm having a cup of tea...anyway Iain was getting into the river to start fishing....and it counted.

Colin Alexander our river expert struggled on the Eden and had to resort to returning to the same location where he had caught a grayling the day before during practice. He had said in the morning that he would return to the same stretch of river for around 12.30pm and he would probably catch it again.....well as an observer I was there and at 12.32pm , Colin caught the fish which measured 41cm ...

Now forgive me Colin, but I'm sure I heard you say " Well done George" as you put it back and that no reference to the newly arrived and christened prince. Colin ended the day with 2 grayling total length 82cm....mmmmm,

He was also heard at the end of the competition whistling and shouting "George" before there was a splash at the back of his car and he closed the boot.



I will leave it to your own thoughts as to the relationship between Colin & George, but interestingly when Colin was fishing the River Dee at the British, his fishing partner that day said "That's not a Brown Trout", Colin replied "No its a Sea Trout " quickly putting it back said "Well done Bert".....! Did it not measure 41/42cm as well...!

Anyway as to the results Iain Fraser 1st, Colin Alexander 2nd, John Proverbs 3rd and Henryk Pycz (Met) 4th. All four gentlemen will be heading North to represent England on the River Clyde on the 24th/25th June 2014 and I wish them well.

Apparently some of the Scots lads are in first names terms with the trout in the Clyde, but refer to them more lovingly as " You little illegitimate...thing you" when they smash their cast, spit out the fly at the net or race across some jagged rock strewn water cascade in their endeavours to escape.





