

# Dorset Fish In, September 2001

Steve Pitts organised the Dorset Fish In for the weekend of 28-30 September 2001

Steve, Richard McLaughlin, Geoff Hancock and Peter Macconnell fished to the east of Kimmeridge on Friday evening, but failed to find any fish despite good conditions and a better than expected weather forecast.

Plans were made in the pub that night for a 5am start to fish the west of Kimmeridge on Saturday morning.

Peter, Dave Cooling and Mike Ladle made it by 5:30am, but the others suffered a technical problem with their alarm clock, and arrived later. This delay did not lead to any loss of fishing, as still no fish put in an appearance until Steve spotted a small and uncooperative school of mullet. All was forgiven over one of Steve's superior outdoor breakfasts, while Geoff showed us his collection of saltwater flies.

The threatened declining weather forecast forced us to rethink the prospects for Saturday evening, and we opted for the sheltered conditions on offer at one of Malcolm Brindle's marks.

Here, we met up with Malcolm himself and Steve Binkes who also thought this was a sound bet. While bass were always a long shot, Malcolm advised us that we would have a lot of fun with scad at half past eight.

At 28 minutes to nine, the water boiled, and we all thrashed the water with fly rods, and enjoyed some amazing sport. For anyone who has never caught a scad on a fly rod, it is a real experience. A ten inch scad can wipe the floor with a trout of 2 or even 3 pounds!

The evening was finished off with a pollack, no bass, and fish and chips by the waterside, courtesy of Steve Pitts.

Steve wanted to round off the weekend with a long-distance trek to the west of Kimmeridge on Sunday morning, but most of us declined.

Steve, Richard and Geoff did go, but not as far as they had planned. Fly fishing was the method of the day, and produced this amazing 4lb ballan wrasse, the first I have heard of on a fly, though we have had plenty from this area on plugs.

Persistence at last paid off, and Geoff and Richard finally got among the bass, with 4 bass to 4lb between them.

Many thanks to Richard and Steve Pitts for these excellent photographs, and to everyone who came along for a most enjoyable and educational weekend.



