

FLY-FISHING AT FARMOOR RESERVOIR WITH-
HISTORICAL NOTES.

I WAS INTRODUCED TO 'FLY FISHING' BY MY GOOD FRIEND AND SHOOTING COMPANION 'GORDON HALLETT' WHO WAS NOB. A FOUNDER MEMBER OF THE NEW. FARMOOR FLY-FISHING CLUB. TOGETHER WITH. FRED TAYLOR DR. COOK, ARTHUR HOBLEY, RON FOREMAN AND 'BRIGADIER DARLOW':- CYRIL BARKER CHAIRED A MEETING IN THE OXFORD TOWNHALL.

FARMOOR STAGE I HAD BEEN COMPLETED IN 1965, CONSTRUCTION HAVING BEEN STARTED IN 1962. LATER ON A SECOND STAGE II WAS ADDED BEING FILLED IN 1977. THE RESERVOIRS WERE BUILT AFTER THE SERVING OF A COMPELSERY PURCHASE ORDER ON THE LAND OWNED BY MY THEN BROTHER IN LAW ROBERT HOWSE OF LOWER WHITLEY FARM, (512 ACRES.) WHOSE FAMILY MY SISTER HAD MARRIED INTO IN 1954. THE LAND WAS RICH-ARABLE LAND ON WHICH WHEAT CROPS WERE GROWN, AND HAD GRAVEL SUPPLY USED ON THE OXFORDSHIRE. ROADS. A SMALL LAKE WAS ENGULFED AND THE PRIVATE ROAD TO THE FARM HOUSE FROM THE B4011 LOST UNDER WATER.

LOWER WHITLEY FARM HOUSE Housed THE ORIGINAL TUDOR STAIRCASE (CUT FROM THE ADZE) THAT, 'AMEY ROBERT WIFE OF THE EARL OF DUDLEY WAS REPORTED TO HAVE BEEN PUSHED DOWN. THE STAIRCASE WAS TAKEN FROM CUNDR PLACE, NEXT TO CUNDR, ST MICHAELS CHURCH. MENTIONED IN SCOTT'S BOOK 'KENIWORTH'. THE STAIRCASE IS 'STILL IN EXISTENCE ALBET ON THE EDGE OF FARMOOR I).

FARMOOR I WAS ALLOWED TO STAND FOR TWO YEARS, WATER OF THE CORRECT PH VALUE HAVING BEEN TAKEN FROM THE ADJACENT-RIVER THAMES, AND 'SNAIL' INTRODUCED.

FARMOOR FLY-FISHING. OBTAINED THE LEASE TO 'FISH AND THE CLUB OPENED TO FINE SPORT RAINBOWS AND BROWN TROUT HAVING BEEN INTRODUCED TO THE WATER.

FLY LIFE WAS GOOD - OFTEN 'PROLIFIC' WITH CHROMOIDS. (BUZZER) HATCHES, FISH SUCCUMED TO 'DRY' FLIES AS WELL AS TO LURES & ATTRACTORS - FISHERY DEEP. WALKING AROUND THE WATER IN THE EARLIER-YEARS MANY FISH WERE SEEN CRUISING THE RESERVOIR EDGES - WELL WITHIN CASTING DISTANCE. FISH BOUGHT WELL SIZE FOR SIZE, WERE OF EXCELLENT-QUALITY, AND 'LIMIT' BAGS WERE THE ORDER OF THE DAY. FISH OFTEN TOOK THE FLY AS IT LANDED ON THE WATER.

LAKE FISHING. - THE ADVENT OF NEW RESERVOIRS NATURAL AND ARTIFICIAL BROUGHT 'FLY-FISHING' TO MANY WHO COULD NOT AFFORD THE HIGHLY PRIZED CHALK-STREAM AND SYNDICATE FISHING, ON SELECTIVE RIVERS, PRIMARILY OWNED AND KEEPER MANAGED. PLACES LIKE THE BRISTOL WATER WORKS CHW-MAGNA - BLACKDON OFFERED VERY-GOOD FISHING AT A REASONABLE COST.

ALEX BEHRENDT. PIONEERED 'LAKE FISHING' ESTABLISHING TWO-LAKES, IN HAMPSHIRE. HIS WIFE KATHERINE WROTE:- THE BOOK THE 'MANAGEMENT OF ANGLING WATERS' (1980).

IT WAS FROM 'TWO LAKES' THAT COMMANDER C.F WALKER, TOOK 'FLIES AND NYMPHS' TO STUDY DRAW & COPY. REFERENCE:- BOOK. 'LAKE FLIES AND THEIR IMITATION'

FISHERMEN LOOKING FOR GUIDANCE SHOULD READ THE FOLLOWING

T. C. IVENS, GREAT INFLUENCE ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF RESERVOIR-FISHING - 1952. BOOK, STILL WATER FLY-FISHING. FLIES BLACK & PERCOK. SPIDER. LURES: 'JERSEY HERO', 'ALEXANDER'.

DICK WALKER, FAMOUS 'CARP' RECORD HOLDER.

GOOD BOOK ON FLIES:- FLY-DRESSING INNOVATIONS.

RECOMMENDED:- MANY FLIES:- NYMPH. EXCELLENT (DAM-BUSTER. LURE.)

FIND THESE AUTHORS IN THE 'NEW ENCYCLOPEDIA OF FLY-FISHING' BY CONRAD VOSS BARK & ERIC RESTALL.

PUB. ROBERT HALE. ISBN ~~0~~ 0 7090 63083.

NOTE:-

THIS INFORMATION MAY NOT BE ENTIRELY ACCURATE AS IT IS WRITTEN FROM THE 'MEMORY' OF AN 88 YEAR OLD:

FARMOOR, FLY FISHING CLUB. (1968-2018.)

R.A. Clayton.

AT FARMOR ON THURSDAY 11th. JANUARY 2007 AN EXTRA-ORDINARY. GENERAL MEETING AT THE OXFORD SAILING CLUBHOUSE WAS CALLED TO INVITE MEMBERS OF FARMOR F/F TO DISCUSS A REPORT FROM THAMES WATER RE THE RENEWAL OF THE LICENCE FOR THE CLUB TO CONTINUE TO FISH AT FARMOR I.

A MOTION WAS PUT TO THE CLUB TO CEASE FISHING ON FARMOR NOW OR TO CONTINUE TO THE 31st OF DEC. 2007 WHEN THAMES WATER WILL NOT. RENEW OUR CONTRACT,

37 VOTED FOR IMMEDIATELY STOPPING.

34. VOTED FOR THE CONTINUATION. FOR THE REMAINING YEAR.

FISHING ON FARMOR (AS A CLUB) IS NOW AT AN END,
JANUARY, 2007.

FORTUNATELY THE CLUB HAD PURCHASED. A LAKE 140 ACRES AT 'HARDWICKE' NAMED AFTER A 'FOUNDER MEMBER' BRIGADIER 'DARLOW' - NOW KNOWN AS 'DARLOW'. WATER AND FISHING CONTINUED AS BEFORE.

FARMOR I BEING A. DAY TICKET. WATER. (380 ACRES.) ^{TOTAL} IN 2 FARMOR. II ESTABLISHED 1976. (ANNUAL AND DAY TICKET.) OF. 240 ACRES.

FARMOR. I NOW OPENED AN AVAILABLE - TO ALL CATCH & RELEASE WATER. RAINBOW & BROWN TROUT AVERAGE. 3 TO 4 LBS. ANGER TO TAKE. A MAXIMUM OF 1 FISH PER DAY.

PHONE :- RESERVOIR CENTRE. ON 07747. 640 707.

ONLINE WWW.THAMSWATER.CO.UK.
BY. TELEPHONE. 0845 9200 888.

PRICE LIST.

LEAFLET. FISHING AT. FARMOR. RESERVOIR. THAMES WATER.

FOOT NOTE:- AN EXCELLENT NEW BOOK 2007.

SUCCESSFUL RESERVOIR. FLY FISHING TECHNIQUES BY ADRIAN V W FREER.
CROWOOD PRESS. ISBN. 987 1 86126 9300.
