

Canal Carping (part 1)

By Anthony Kent

It was the middle of July and I was driving to my local lake the sun was shining and I was full of excitement looking forward to the few days fishing I had ahead of me. My enthusiasm took a knock as soon as I drove in to the car park. There were more cars than I had seen all season a quick scan of the car park end of the lake and it full of new faces. As I walked round the lake it became evident that the sun had brought out this years intake of new members. All hoping to hook into one of the special fish that live beneath the lakes mirror like surface.



After a few laps of the lake, I decided on an area of the lake where there was the five free pegs and opted to fish the middle peg. I got the rods out first time on a nice little spot I had found about 20 yards out then sat back to take in the surroundings. As I sat there I soon realized that there was more anglers on the lake than carp in it.

Then out of the blue a carp lifted it self clean out of the water no more two feet from my little northern special hook bait. Just as I was thinking I was in with a shout I heard a splash on the spot and a bight yellow maker float popped up. A few chosen words were sent in the direction of the idiot that cast the marker in. it was as he retrieved his float taking both my rods with it I decided I need a brake from the rat race.

After asking a lot of questions I decided to go and have a look at a length of canal that I was told held a few carp. That first trip I did not fish but decided to bait a few likely looking spots with a good helping of meteor boilies and cantex red 365 pellet with a plan to return in a couple of days. I left it until just before dark with the hope that the boat traffic would have stopped for the day. That night passed uneventful so it was time for a quick brew then the slowly pack away before the daily boat traffic started again.

As the steam started to pure out of the kettle the tip on the right hand rod pull round and after what was a mental fight a nice double was in the net. I was buzzing to have caught one on my first trip and the thought it might be an uncaught fish with no other anglers in sight made it all the more special.



After giving the spots another good dose of 14mm meteor I went to work a happy man with the plan to return in a few days. My second trip was a after work over night, it was nice quick job to get the rods in. no spodding or marker rod needed just a gentle under arm swing and handful of bait.

The night passed quickly and I was soon sitting on my bed drinking a brew when the right hand rod was away again with a nice mid double. Just as I finished the self-take photos the left hand rod was away and I was soon holding up a second double figure for the camera. Even though the fish were only doubles, I was happy in my fishing again.

