

MEADOW MEAD IN THE MIST

By Ken CS

A WEEDY WINTER

The first frost hit the lake last Thursday 21st and brought with it the coldest October night on record!

So with work finishing early on Friday I made sure that all my gear was packed ready for a cold overnigher.

Now Meadow Mead is a 2 acre water that was dug nearly thirty years ago as a reservoir for the grazing animals within the farm estate.

The water has depths ranging from 3 foot to twelve foot and is choker with weed and the bank is far from flat which makes fishing slightly uncomfortable but I like all that as it makes fishing fun!

I met up with my friend Frank who was going to take me to the meadow and fish the night as well.

I followed Frank down various roads and country lanes until we arrived at a little locked gate. Following the track we arrived at the reservoir that was tucked very much out of sight.

After a good walk round I decided to fish a corner area which had the wind blowing away down the lake.



A Meadow Mead common that fell to an N-Gage Pop-up fished on the Chod Rig. The weed is evident and this is the margin!!



Frank on the bank!

I quickly set up my two rods, to my left I cast a Live System pop up out in a PVA bag full boillies and pellet, I then proceeded to scoop some loose offerings over the ripples that the pva bag had caused.

My second rod was set up with an N-Gage pop-up attached to a size 6 DC chod rig. This I cast out towards the middle of the lake.

Frank cast his rigs to some clearer areas and we then settled down behind the rods. At about seven pm Frank had a couple of beeps and landed a double figured Meadow Mead carp that was glorious and had probably never been caught before.

At about three am my left hand rod bleeped and I struck into a solid lump of weed This locked me up solid, with Franks help the line came free and i landed a lump of weed along with my first Meadow Mead carp which turned out to be a small common. The fish scrapped 10lbs not a huge fish but an uncaught common from an unknown water which is actually very important to me. It was a perfect fish!

Morning soon arrived and I quickly packed up as I had Tackle Show to attend. Will I return you bet, half term is here and as I write this I have spent the morning tying new rigs as i am back to the Meadow tomorrow, will I catch? Well I don't care, after all unlike other lakes no one actually knows what's in the Mead, **and I love that!**

CHOD AND CORE CONSTRUCTION

I have no interest in rewriting the book on how to use lead core and how to make a chod rig I will however add my own observations and suggestions to make things a little easier and more effective!

I use the following components for my lead core

A five foot length of Thinking Anglers Lead core with a light lead spliced to the end.

A one inch length of ESP shrink tube

Two Thinking Anglers Oval Rubber Beads

One Thinking Anglers Chod Ring Swivel

I firstly attach a light lead to the lead core by splicing the end. I then slide a one inch length of ESP shrink tube down the lead core I position this shrink tube about eight inches away from the lead and place over a steaming kettle. This process will stop the bottom bead and swivel from working their way down the line to the lead as this has reportedly accounted for the losing of some fish. I then simply slide on an oval bead the new TA Chod Swivel and another oval bead. And that is basically the job done. I always attach my lead core to my main line via a needle knot.

I will not go through the process of tying up a chod rig as there are countless well written articles on this elsewhere on the CC Moore web-site. I will add the following two observations.

I have found that the original Drennan Continental Boillie Hook in size 8 will allow you to pass 15lb ESP Bristle Filament through the eye three times and that the size 6 Continental will accommodate the 20lb Bristle Filament.

Needles to say I use the size 8 Continental with my 12mm Northern Specials and the size 6 Continental with my 16mm Northern Specials and my 14mm CCMoore pop-ups.



The picture clearly shows the use of the shrink tube below the oval bead and the addition of the TA Chod Swivel that improves the movement of the rig!