

Homemade Live System by Mark Brisley

After spending 3 hours in the kitchen rolling 5kg of 18mm from the Live System Base Mix and leaving them to dry overnight on the air drying trays, I headed off to local day ticket water Kingfisher Lake on the Bluebell complex in Oundle, Northampton.

I arrived at 2.30pm on a mid July afternoon from my 6-2 shift in a hot factory making biscuits. The lake was very busy with 12 anglers already fishing the 7 acre lake. As usual all the popular swims were taken so I decided to park up and have a walk round. Most anglers were staying until Sunday morning but noticed the guy in the lock band swim was starting to pack up so I went over and had a quick chat. Yes... he was going in the next hour so I waited for the swim to be vacated and moved in!

Before setting up I decided to get 2kg of my freshly rolled bait out into my area at around 30 yards by using my throwing stick. Because I normally fish 4 rods I spread my bait over an area about the size of a tennis court and proceeded to set up home for the next 48 hours.

I put the rods out last. It was now about 7pm by the time I got the last rod out and got my head down about 9pm after a tiring day at work.

I was abruptly awoken at 1am by a one-toner on the left hand rod. I jumped straight into my chesties, as the left hand side of the swim is tree-lined and snaggy, and bent into what felt like a half decent and very angry carp which started to kite left towards the tree line at a rate of knots. At this stage I was in the water up to chest height in my waders and, knowing I could not go any deeper for fear of taking on water, applied side strain. I started to gain on the carp and within a few minutes it was out in front of me about 10 yards from the bank. I put my head torch on and slipped my net under the fish before making my way back to the bank. I sorted myself out getting my unhooking mat, weigh sling and scales ready before I unhooked her in the water. I carefully weighed her..... a beautiful 34lb 9oz common was the result.



At 11am later that morning I reeled all four rods in and went for walk around the lake. During my circuit I had a chat to a few of the other anglers who were saying that nothing else was reported to have come out that night. I stayed and had a brew for an hour and decided to get back to my swim where I introduced another 3kg of 18mm Live System.

Out went all four rods to the same spots.

The following morning I was again awoken at 5am. This time it was by two beeps; and this time it was on the right hand rod. I sat on the edge of my bed ready but still pondering as to whether to put my chesties on. In an instant my decision was made as the screaming of my alarm signalled something had certainly picked up my hookbait.

This time the culprit came in quite easily as she popped her head up and I duly slid the net under her. Realising straight away it was another good common; I hurriedly rushed back to bank to this time unhook and marvel at a superb 32lb 14oz common.



What a great session and a truly memorable result.....a brace of 30lb commons!!