Angling Times here to Fish

TEN PAGES OF THE BEST RIVERS, LAKES AND CANALS TO FISH NOW – 140 VENUES!

FISHERY OF THE WEEK HOUSE POOL, of surprises

WOODSIDE'S UNDERRATED POOL IS A REVELATION



VERY fishery has a lake where visitors rush to find a favoured peg - but that's not necessarily the right decision to make.

Modern commercial fisheries are often made up of several pools, and despite the owners stocking each to a similar level, anglers tend to gravitate towards just one or two favourites, ignoring what the rest may offer.

Worcestershire's Woodside Fishery put itself firmly on the map after producing a raft of giant perch last winter, with fish over 5lb from Island Pool regularly hitting the headlines.

But while it's easy to see why some are fascinated by such huge predators, just a few steps away from Island is another underrated gem that is capable of equally thrilling sport.

House Pool was dogged by weed for a number of years, but through sheer grit and hard work by the owners the problem has now been rectified.

However, rather than stock the lake with just carp, they decided to introduce silverfish after realising that a lake dedicated to these would make Woodside a fishery for all.

Small fish are few and far between, though, with quality roach and rudd averaging 8oz and running well over 1lb, big perch, chunky skimmers and bonus tench all playing a part in the new-look water.

One man itching to give it a try was Garbolino's Darren Cox. The England international has the skills to catch on almost any water, but he can't hide the fact that putting together a large net of silvers gives him the most satisfaction.

"I've never been to this fishery before, but as soon as I drove through the gates I knew this was a country mile away from your average commercial," explained Darren.

"It's well maintained and the scenery is stunning - let's hope the fishing hits





the mark as well," he added.

Local advice suggested that keeping it simple would work best.

He opted for short pole and caster tactics, with a small piece of worm the ideal change bait.

Darren didn't even plumb up, setting his rig 2ft deep and presenting it around 4m out. There was no waiting, with the venue's plump roach responding straight away.

By changing the depth slightly every now and then he kept the bites coming at a fast and furious pace and in just four hours he'd accumulated 70lb of silvers, which included roach, bream, perch, chub and several eye-catching golden rudd.

Fishing light seemed to be the best policy, with Darren using a 0.12mm Garbolino hooklink to a size 16 Kamasan B911 F1 hook. His float was a 0.3g DC12, with a Garbolino blue

TOP VENUE TIP

EXPERIMENT with your shotting pattern throughout the day. A strung-out pattern wil make the hookbait fall slowly, while a bulk of shot set 18ins up from the hook will get it to the bottom quickly, avoiding smaller fish.









jigging, treble hooks,

permitted

parking, toilets

livebaiting or deadbaiting

FACILITIES: Luxury on-site accommodation,

ISLAND POOL

CHARLIE'S POOL

WOODSIDE POOL

HOUSE POOL

hollow elastic completing the set-up.

"I can't believe how people sometimes dismiss lakes like this because they are not dominated by carp," he said.

"Today has been brilliant. I've landed hardly any tiny fish, with most of them between 60z and 100z and even a bonus 2lb-plus perch."

Alongside House and Island Pools are Charlie's and Woodside, both of them highly-regarded waters that focus on providing plenty of bites from carp and silverfish.

"There were plenty of cars around when I came this morning but not one single person on House Pool.

"What I experienced today just goes to show that these less popular lakes can be true hidden gems," concluded Darren.





Bag up on skimmers at Churchgate Lakes, in Essex.

2 Four Seasons Fishery, Lancs 3 Lakeside Fishery, Notts 4 Lingmere Fishery, Merseyside 5 Moorfields Farm Fishery, E Yorks **6** Viking Fishery, Pollington, E Yorks 7 Westlands Lakes, E Yorks 8 Belvoir Lakes Fishery, Leics 9 Cudmore Fisheries, Staffs 10 Lakeside Fishery, Northants 11 Lanny's Lagoon, Warks 12 Rookery Waters, Cambs Sherwood Forest Fishery, Notts 14 Woodside Fishery, Shropshire 15 Angler's Paradise, Devon **16** Avalon Fisheries, Somerset 7 Chequertree Fishery, Kent 18 Churchgate Lakes, Essex 19 Holme Grange Fishery, Berks 20 Rookley Country Park, Isle of Wight

Carleton Hill Fishery, Cumbria



This week's venues

Turn to find loads more great venues in your area

Carleton Hill Fishery • Four Seasons Fishery • Lakeside Fishery • Lingmere Fishery • Moorfields Farm Fishery • Viking Fishery • Westlands Lakes • Belvoir Lakes Fishery • Cudmore Fisheries • Lakeside Fishery • Lanny's Lagoon • Rookery Waters • Sherwood Forest Fishery • Woodside Fishery • Angler's Paradise • Avalon Fisheries • Chequertree Fishery • Churchgate Lakes • Holme Grange Fishery • Rookley Country Park

Valid from Tuesday, September 30 to Friday, October 3 and Monday, October 6 Photocopies are not accepted