



Where To Fish This Weekend

ON TOUR

This week: **Tony Keeling**

It's a surprise highlight of the year for Tony as he finds himself on the bank with ailing legend Jeff Moors and his benefactor Dave.

Caught at the Border



A plucky carp gives Dave a cracking battle.



Dave Smith latched into roach, rudd, carp, skimmers and even this stillwater chub at Border Fisheries.



Dave's lad Tom landed the first fish of the day - a fact Tom wouldn't let his dad forget!

TO those readers who tell me angling clubs are all but finished and have no part in the future of our hobby, I would say stop reading this right now!

Bay Malton Angling Club started life not too long ago with 25 members and two pools. The club stayed like this until about 12 years ago when it took the plunge and embarked on an expansion programme to get new venues and increase membership.

And what an expansion programme this turned out to be! This friendliest of clubs in Dunham Massey, Altrincham, Cheshire, is still moving forward and now has 31 different venues including ten river stretches and 21 stillwaters, some with several pools on the same site.

They have five stretches of the River Dane, two on the River Bollin, Birkin Brook and the Rivers Goway, Ceriog and Ribble. Some of these venues contain specimen barbel along with other species and some salmon and trout.

On the stillwater list there are just too many to list. Suffice to say that Border Fisheries, with its seven lakes, is just one of them. For the record the club now has some 3,000 or so members!

Before we get any further I'll introduce you to Dave Smith. Dave was the guy who selflessly raised a lot of money for angling legend Jeff Moors, who is coping with a terrible illness with a massive amount of dignity. Jeff used to spend many an hour working as a manager at Border Fisheries.

So when Dave picked me up at Stoke station it came as a wonderful surprise to hear that

we would also be picking up Jeff on the way to Border Fisheries.

We were soon at Border where we met up with the amiable Stewart Godber, secretary of the Bay Malton AC. Then, after devouring a hearty breakfast, it was over to the Specimen Lake for some fishing. My mind boggles when I'm faced with a Specimen Lake!

Dave showed me the ropes with the Method feeder as I can honestly say that I'd never even cast one before! He also set me up with a pellet waggler - now I was experienced at that game as I'd had three or four casts with Andy May's gear

a year or so back! Anyway, Dave was soon catching decent sized skimmers on hair-rigged mini boilies fished tight to the island - or somewhere in that vicinity if it was me casting!

Dave's 14-year-old son Tom caught the first carp of the session - he let his dad know in no uncertain terms!

Jeff came down and I must admit it brought a lump to my throat to see him sitting on Dave's box and having a go. He said he was struggling with casting, but his efforts were ten times more accurate than I managed when it was my turn!

The large skimmers kept coming but Dave and Tom started to pick up other species including the odd carp, roach, rudd and chub.

Dave was, in fact, expecting more carp, but what the heck - this is fishing and a cracking day out to boot.

It was a wonderful day at a wonderful venue, a huge credit to the Bay Malton AC. And the company was brilliant - every BMAC member I walked past uttered a welcoming word of some kind - it's that sort of venue, and it's that sort of club. I'd advise you join - you won't regret it!



Sign of the times: After an expansion programme Bay Malton AC has much to offer.



It was good to see legend Jeff Moors, who's now seriously ill, have a cast on Dave's gear.

FACTFILE

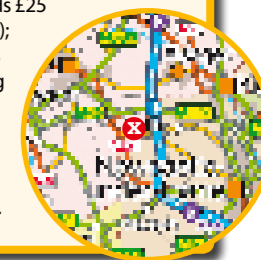
BORDER FISHERIES, BALTERLEY, CHESHIRE.

LOCATION: exit the M6 at J16 and take the A500 heading towards Nantwich. When you come to the roundabout take the A531 towards Betley. Go down here and turn right into Waybutt Lane. Keep on this road and bear right to the fishery.

FACILITIES: it's disabled-friendly, and well-suited to families. Coaching schemes are arranged to suit all abilities and there's a thriving junior section. There are seven quality waters to suit all (over 240 swims) and loads of other venues to pick from. There's an on-site tackle shop and café. Check out: www.baymaltonanglingclub.org.uk

TICKETS: Bay Malton AC membership fees are: adults £50 plus a one-off joining fee of £50; 16-17-year-olds £25 (no joining fee); 8-15-year-olds £12 (no joining fee).

CONTACT: call Stewart Godber on 01270 820812.



Angler's Mail has a NEW WEBSITE!

Go online and check out www.anglersmail.co.uk

► Our website's been re-launched for the new season, with more content and regular updates.

► AM is No.1 for coarse tackle so browse our brilliant archive of tackle reviews you can trust!



Also check out our new website for:

- Classic tips & venues
- Regional match results
- News snippets

PLUS ►► **BIG FISH** - if you don't make it into AM magazine, or if you post on our Facebook, you might get into our online gallery.