

Worthing Pier in the News!



10

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Hearts sink as wind blows in advance of festival

15.09.1972

HEARTS SANK when the wind began to blow on Friday for bad conditions were almost certain to affect Worthing Sea Anglers Association's two day pier festival, scheduled to begin on Saturday at 7.30 a.m.

In the event the effect of the wind was almost catastrophic; the entry was severely cut and sport was abysmally poor.

There was an entry of 90 who between them caught 48 eels and two flat fish totalling just 17lb. 10 oz. 8 dms.

Top weight for the day was W.S.A.A. member W. Cottrell with 1 lb. 13 oz. G. Godden (W.S.A.A.) was second with 1 lb. 7 oz. 4 dms., C. Jewell was third with 1 lb. 4 oz., and D. Rudland (W.S.A.A.) was fourth with 1 lb. 1 oz. 8 dms.

By Sunday, conditions had improved and so had the sport. The entry was, however, down considerably; in fact, only 125 took part and a total of 37 fish weighing 28 lb. 10 oz. 8 dms was caught.

The interesting feature of Sunday's catch was the complete absence of eels. Several flounders over a pound were recorded and the rest of the fish were mullet.

Sunday's leaders: A. Pelling, (S.A.C.) 2 lb.; M. Perfect (W.S.A.A.) 1 lb. 15 oz., F. Wilson (Brighton Palace Pier) 1 lb. 12 oz. 8 dms., W. Priest (Blue Circle) 1 lb. 11 oz. 12 dms.

The main results of the festival were: Festival champion Mike Perfect (W.S.A.A.) 2 lb. 12 oz. 12 dms.; top lady, Mrs A. Butler (1 lb. 6 oz. 8 dms.); top junior, Alan Irbens, 1 lb. 8 oz.

The best fish, a bass weighing 1 lb. 10 oz. 12 dms., was taken by A. Pelling and the best flounder was caught by Bob Cleveland and weighed 1 lb. 5 oz. 12 dms.

The festival team prize went to Mike Perfect, David Rudland and David Butler of W.S.A.A., their combined weight amounting to 3 lb. 15 oz. 8 dms.

Disappointed

When I spoke to David Rudland, the W.S.A.A. secretary, he naturally expressed his disappointment at the result and said, "These are the

ANGLING ANGLES
Alan Wrangles

worst figures, from the point of view of both attendance and weights, that the Worthing Festival has suffered for many years."

It is, of course, a fact that pier festivals, unless sponsored, will never be able to offer the large prizes that are now available at beach festivals. The numbers involved preclude large prizes.

Are we witnessing the beginning of a decline in these events?

Following my remarks regarding barbel in last week's edition, I have just heard that a 3 lb. fish has been caught near Coultershaw Mill on the Rother by G. Phillips of Pulborough. The fish took maggot bait.

The overall winner of the cup was Bill Hill with his weight of 4 lb. 1 oz. Second was Billy Thorough junior with 2 lb. 15 oz., and third junior member Adrian Johnson.

The Knapp Willey Memorial Trophy Competition, which was held on the River Arun at the Black Rabbit on Sunday, attracted an entry of five teams of 15.

Steyning Angling Club retained the cup, their team weighing in 11lb. 12oz. 4dms.

Brian Miller, of Steyning, gained the top individual award by catching two bream weighing 4 lb. 8 oz. 4 dms.



Members of Worthing Sea Angling Association, MIKE PERFECT (above) and BILL COTTRELL (below.)



For more resources visit: www.worthingpier.org.uk

