



England
John Ketley (captain), Doug Blackwell, Clive Greenaway, Peter Heddle, Tony Pawson, Roger Penrose, Stephen Pope, Brian Thomas, Bill Turner, Terry Waite & Leslie Wilson.



SCOTLAND'S fly fishermen travelled well south of the Border to England's Chew Valley lake, Avon, in June to win the first of this season's two International Fly Fishing championship matches, forcing England, the favourites, into third place. Wales came second with Ireland in fourth position.

Scotland's 96 lb 11½ oz total was primarily due to the brilliance of Brian Peterson and Robert Veitch, who between them weighed over 30 lb of trout. Supporting these two was an overall team performance in which every team member caught fish.

Other teams had blank rods, but John Dryburgh and Robert Robertson also weighed in impressive bags over the 10 lb mark.

The Welsh team, looking for a hat-trick, despite having third top weight of the match of nearly 16 lb by their star man, Gwynfor Jones, was second, with Elifion Davies and Mark Thomas having baskets over 10 lb. Their total weight was 69 lb 12½ oz.

The English team, with their home advantage, had to be contented with third spot, and a total of 61 lb 10 oz.

Ireland, despite improved performances in 1978, were once again the wooden spoonists and were obviously disappointed after good results in practice. They



This hat bearing a giant fly failed to bring luck to England captain John Ketley's side.

by most of the competitors.

Brian Peterson of Scotland, top rod for the match, had caught half his total by 11 am and this was the story for most of the contestants. From then on most were able to move fish but found hooking difficult.

For the first time in this international competition the committee split all teams into groups of three, and the groups were paired to enable each one to fish with members of the other three countries.

The cloudy morning gave way to a wet and windy afternoon, with strong east winds. Fish were then proving difficult to hook and the anglers worked hard for little reward. For the last quarter of the match the sun came through and made things even more difficult, yet a few all important fish came in the closing hour.

For Scotland Brian Peterson had nine fish for 17 lb 3½ oz and Robert Veitch 12 for 16 lb 10 oz, the day's highest total.

For Wales Gwynfor Jones weighed in eight fish for 15 lb 15 oz.

A total of 173 fish weighing 278 lb 6½ oz fell to the competitors.

Flies favoured by Brian Peterson were Grenadier, Wickham's and a variation of the Hairy Mary. Robert Veitch found his fish with a Grenadier and Dunkeld. Gwynfor Jones also fished a Grenadier as well as a Green Peter and a Fiery Red.

Tartan triumph

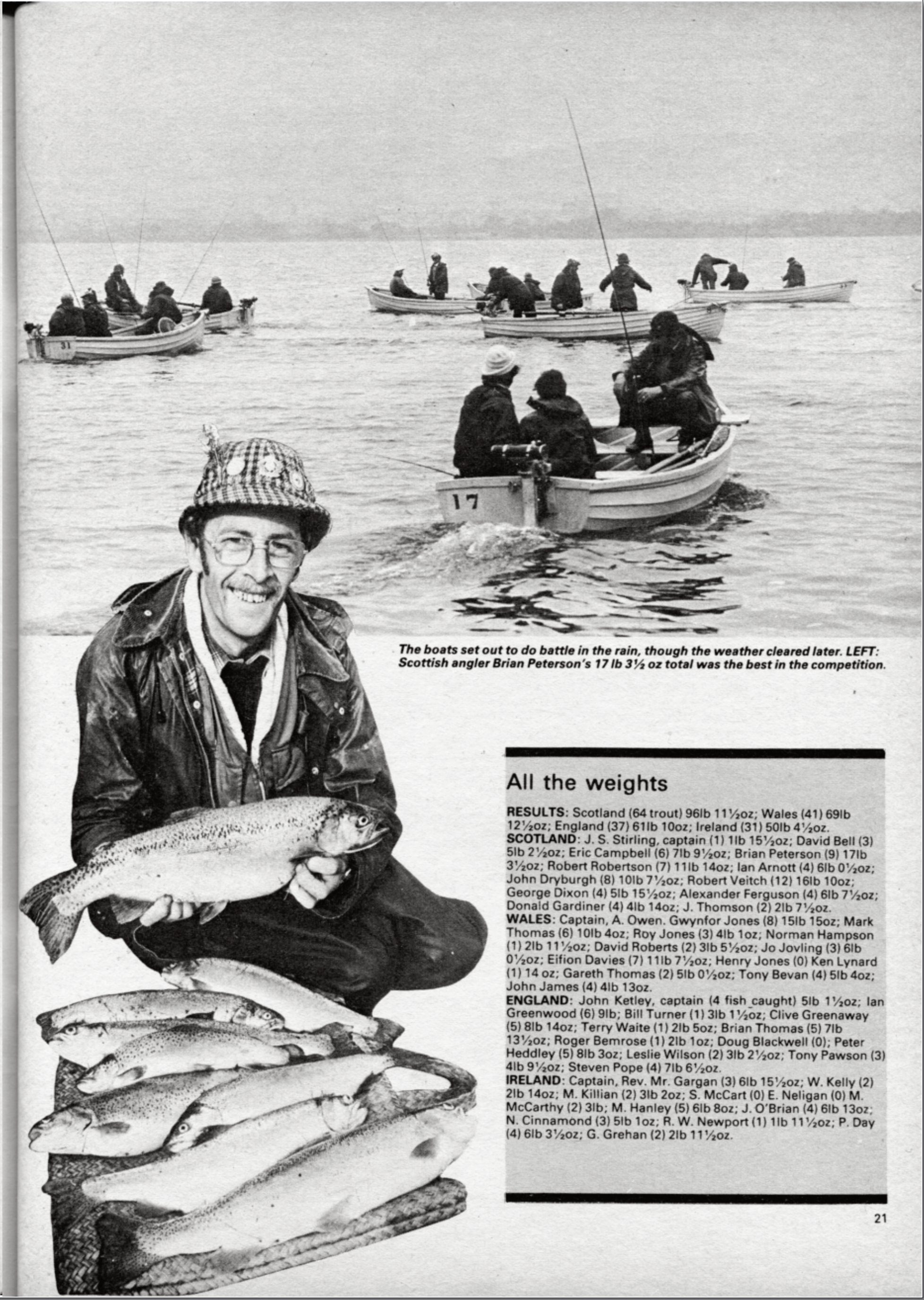
Scots win International with 27 lb to spare



The Jubilant Scottish team and officials. Every member caught fish.

TROUT FISHERMAN

1. Scotland	64 fish	96-11-8
2. England	41 fish	69-12-8
3. Wales	37 fish	61-10-0
4. Ireland	31 fish	50-4-8



The boats set out to do battle in the rain, though the weather cleared later. LEFT: Scottish angler Brian Peterson's 17 lb 3½ oz total was the best in the competition.

All the weights

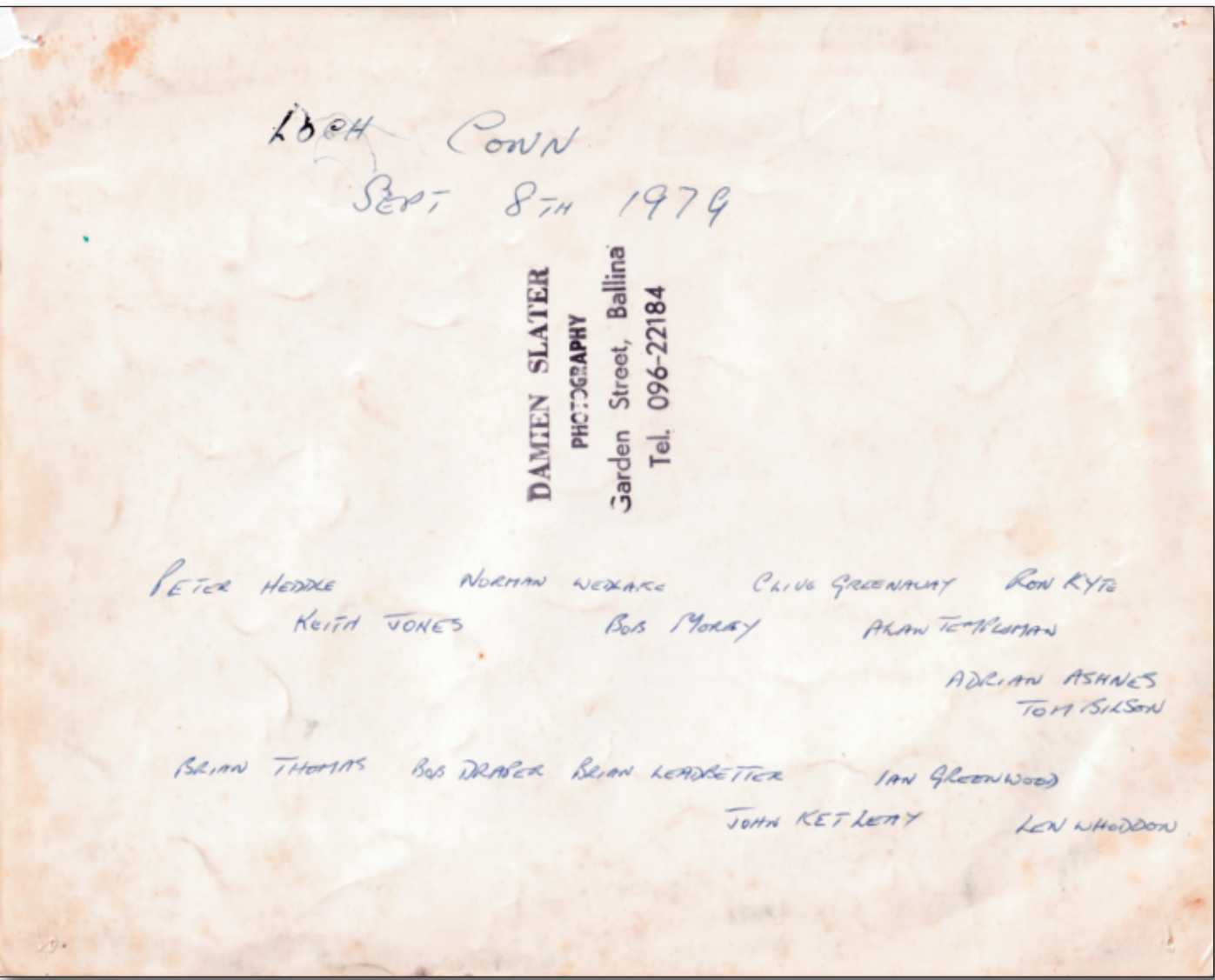
RESULTS: Scotland (64 trout) 96lb 11½oz; Wales (41) 69lb 12½oz; England (37) 61lb 10oz; Ireland (31) 50lb 4½oz.

SCOTLAND: J. S. Stirling, captain (11) 1lb 15½oz; David Bell (3) 5lb 2½oz; Eric Campbell (6) 7lb 9½oz; Brian Peterson (9) 17lb 3½oz; Robert Robertson (7) 11lb 14oz; Ian Arnot (4) 6lb 0½oz; John Dryburgh (8) 10lb 7½oz; Robert Veitch (12) 16lb 10oz; George Dixon (4) 5lb 15½oz; Alexander Ferguson (4) 6lb 7½oz; Donald Gardner (4) 4lb 14oz; J. Thomson (2) 2lb 7½oz.

WALES: Captain, A. Owen, Gwynfor Jones (8) 15lb 15oz; Mark Thomas (6) 10lb 4oz; Roy Jones (3) 4lb 1oz; Norman Hampson (1) 2lb 11½oz; David Roberts (2) 3lb 5½oz; Jo Jovling (3) 6lb 0½oz; Elifion Davies (7) 11lb 7½oz; Henry Jones (5) Ken Lynard (1) 14 oz; Gareth Thomas (2) 5lb 0½oz; Tony Bevan (4) 5lb 4oz; John James (4) 4lb 13oz.

ENGLAND: John Ketley, captain (4 fish caught) 5lb 1½oz; Ian Greenwood (6) 9lb; Bill Turner (1) 3lb 1½oz; Clive Greenaway (6) 8lb 14oz; Terry Waite (1) 2lb 5oz; Brian Thomas (6) 7lb 13½oz; Roger Bemrose (1) 2lb 1oz; Doug Blackwell (6); Peter Heddlay (5) 8lb 3oz; Leslie Wilson (2) 3lb 2½oz; Tony Pawson (3) 4lb 9½oz; Steven Pope (4) 7lb 6½oz.

IRELAND: Captain, Rev. Mr. Gargan (3) 6lb 15½oz; W. Kelly (2) 2lb 14oz; M. Killian (2) 3lb 2oz; S. McCart (6) E. Neilgan (6) M. McCarthy (2) 3lb; M. Hanley (5) 6lb 8oz; J. O'Brian (4) 6lb 13oz; N. Cinnamond (3) 5lb 1oz; R. W. Newport (1) 1lb 11½oz; P. Day (4) 6lb 3½oz; G. Grehan (2) 2lb 11½oz.



England
B. Draper, C. Greenaway, I. Greenwood, P. Heddle, K. Jones, R. Kyte, B. Leadbetter, R. Morey, A. Templeman, B. Thomas, N. Wedlake & L. Whaddon.

INTERNATIONAL FLY-FISHING

AT LAST, THE IRISH!

A hard-earned win for the home team on winswept Loch Conn

Bob Stirling with his catch.

Boats leaving the concrete-walled harbour at Gortna Abbey.

THE TROUT of Lough Conn in Co. Mayo were in dour mood for the International Angling Match and in conditions which called for dogged persistence above all other angling qualities the Irish team battled to their first win since the match on Lough Corrib in 1973.

The home team's winning margin was a mere 6 oz, but it would have been more emphatic if John Murphy had not returned four minutes late. His two fish were ineligible, as were the two caught by his boat-partner, Terry Fenton, the Welsh captain. As it happened the disqualifications did not affect the main result, as Wales had once finished clear-cut holders of the Wooden Spoon.

Ireland's 18 fish totalled 15 lb 5½ oz, England weighed 14 lb 15¼ oz (15 fish), Scotland 11 lb 12½ oz (12 fish), and Wales 10 lb 2 oz (9).

John Stirling, captain of the Scottish team that won the Spring International at Chew so handsomely, this time collected the major individual award, the Brown Bowl for the best basket. He had four fish for 4 lb 5¼ oz. His catch was all the more meritorious when measured against the nil return of his boat-partner Michael Tolan, the Irish captain. Michael in practice had been as successful as anyone, and his five trout on the day before the match had made him unofficial favourite.

John Stirling left the choice of drifts entirely to his partner "It was his home lough and, obviously, he was looking for fish. I knew I could leave it to him," he said. Out from the Gortna Abbey boat station, they went up to Annagh Island and the decisive drifts came around 4 pm in a small bay. John Stirling took 8 fish of 1½ lb and less than 20 minutes later he had another of more than 2 lb. Two small fish completed his bag.

Michael Tolan blamed the high level of the lake for poor sport. Conn had been fishing well until ten days before the match, but river floods brought the level to winter height and coloured the water. The individual winner fished a cast comprising a Bibbio, Connemara Black, and a Greenwell's Glory, but results generally suggested that presentation was more important than fly-pattern.

"I think that if you could get over a fish I would move," John Stirling summed up. "Fish came out of the blue."

Gwynfor Jones yet again was top rod for Wales. His three fish weighed 3 lb 11½ oz the second best catch of the day. In the last four internationals he has been second twice and third twice.

The heaviest fish was one of 2 lb 11½ oz by England's Bob Draper, but England's top scorer was Brian Thomas with two fish for 3 lb 2½ oz. Ireland, with seven anglers with two or more fish, were the most consistent side. Eamonn Neil three fish for 2 lb 10 oz did best for Ireland.

Next season's internationals are at Llyn Fawr, Gwynedd on May 18 and Loch Leven on August 23. The president elect of the International Fly-fishing Association is Trevor Hiron, of Wales.

England's Bob Draper found Conn hard going, but late in the contest he took this 2 lb 11½ oz brown trout — the best of the match.

Drifts close inshore are covered on Conn and fish often work along rocky outcrops such as this.

The Irish team (front, left to right): J. Allard, J. Duffy, J. Dunbar, M. Waddell, G. Timmins, P. Gille, C. Sleator. Back row: H. Hillary, S. Young, E. Sullivan, Mrs M. Searle, M. Tolan, J. Murphy, E. Neiligan, C. Deery.

A STAFF FEATURE

WHEN Col. Moylett, the official time keeper for the International match finally managed to fire his shot gun after three abortive attempts, the twenty-eight boats raced away through the white capped waves of Lough Conn. Some powered by engines of twenty plus horse power made for the far end of the Lough some twelve miles away while the others veered east and west to nearer shallows leaving Roman candle like waves in the dark, stained water.

A mix up over the time estimated to reach the all important finishing zone by 6p.m. caused the disqualification of the Welsh skipper Terry Fenton and his boat partner John Murphy. Their boat arrived just four minutes late. Although both anglers had caught fish the trout would not have made any significant difference to the final result. But sadly it meant that Terry lost his automatic selection for next year's team.

In those boats were the determined anglers of the four home countries, everyone anxious to catch as many fish as possible for his team and country. Everyone also knew that it was going to be a hard and difficult day. Lough Conn was not fishing well and fish had been very hard to come by during the two practice days. Conn generally fishes well in a big wave but not in wild gusty winds. Added to the uncomfortable Force Eight gusting wind was the fact that the heavy rains had stained the waters in the North end and had spoilt the fishing during the preceding week.

In an International match of eight hours' duration the all-important hour is the first and any angler getting off to a good start, fishes the better for it. Few of the top anglers will say that they like to be in the first boat that goes down a certain drift, results often proving the wisdom of their view.

In the gusting wind many of the competitors opted for using a sinking or sink tip line for greater control in casting and for getting more "pull" on the line, hence better control with the flies. Many however

Gwynfor Jones yet again so close to the coveted Brown Bowl.

All smile as Irish win

Dramatic end to international as two are disqualified.
by Moc Morgan

TROUT FISHERMAN

TROUT FISHERMAN

Scotland — Back row (left to right): J. Dryburgh, Donald Gardner, Bob Veitch, Archie Reddick, John Stirling (capt.), Alec Ferguson, Alistair Nicoll, Andy Young. Front row: John Ballantyne, Ian Annett, George Dickson, E. Campbell, Bob Robertson, J. Faulds.

Man of the match John Stirling, winner of the Brown Bowl.

stuck to the traditional floating line and worked their flies on the surface. Probably under the big wave conditions a bigger fly would have produced better results but the rule for international fly fishing matches prohibits flies tied on hooks longer than five-eighths of an inch.

Many of the anglers who got to the sheltered shallows moved a number of fish, while some saw very little all day. Lough Conn is notorious for its trout that move to the flies only to evade the hook. Many of the locals believe that loating one fish in every five that move to the flies is a good performance. In a big wave the hooking problem can be even more difficult with the angler finding it difficult to keep a tight line.

Another problem confronting the anglers in this particular match was the difficulty in moving from one location to another. In any international match if things are slow in one particular area the engines are fired

Wales — Cliff Harvey, Merfyn Williams, Norman Hampson, Trevor Hiron, Terry Fenton (capt.), Moc Morgan (team manager), Ken Bowring, Gareth Thomas, Ivor Jones, Peter Medlicote, Eddie Kelly, John Davies, Gwynfor Jones, Roy Jones, David Davies.

TROUT FISHERMAN

All smile as Irish win

and then the big search is on. But with such a big wave on this particular day too much time would be wasted in any major change of drift.

The Scottish skipper, John Stirling played a real captain's part and won the coveted Brown Bowl for the best bag in the match. He was one of the anglers who went to the far end of the lough but it was one o'clock before the first fish came to his net. From then on he took another three fish at regular intervals. He used a sinking line and had two on the Bibio, one on a Connemara Black and one on a Yellow Tailed Greenwell. Sharing the boat with John Stirling was the local Conn wizard, the tall Mike Tolan. This year has been a poor one for Mike and he came in without a fish. Over the years it is seldom that a competition is held on Conn that Mike has not figured in the frame but it was not to be so this year. With them was the youngest boatman on the lough, a mere lad of thirteen years, but a very, very good one for all his tender years.

The English team did quite well and were only six ounces adrift. Popular Bob Draper from Northampton took the fish of the match which weighed 2 lb 11½ oz. The top rod in the English team was Brian Thomas. Eamon Neiligan was the most successful in the Irish team with three fish taken on the Green Peter and Black Pennell. Gwynfor Jones was once again the top rod in the Welsh team. He was second in the match over all — the second time he has filled this spot. He was third in the last International at Chew Valley. Gwynfor also used the Bibio and Green Peter with the third fish coming to the Golden Olive.

The Irish victory was deservedly a popular one. Their last victory was in 1973 on Lough Corrib. Prior to that, they only had two wins in 40 years of competition.

Results

Ireland

M. Tolan, nil; C. Sleator, two fish for 2lb 2¼oz; E. Neiligan (3) 2lb 10oz; F. Guilfoyle (2), 2lb 2oz; J. Duffy (2) 1lb 11oz; E. Kennedy (2) 1lb 2¼oz; J. Allard (2) 1lb 10¼oz; S. Young (2) 2lb 2oz; J. Murphy (disqualified); Mrs M. Searle (1) 12oz; J. Dunbar, nil; G. Timmins (2) 1lb 4¼oz; Reserves — Dr E. Sullivan and M. Waddell both nil. Total of 18 for 15lb 5¼oz.

Scotland

J. Stirling (captain), (4) 4lb 5½oz; D. M. Bell (2) 2lb 5¼oz; A. Campbell, nil; B. Peterson, nil; R. Robertson, nil; I. H. Arnott (2) 1lb 13oz; J. Dryburgh (1) 9¼oz; Vetch, nil; G. Dickson, (1) 7oz; A. Ferguson (1) 15¼oz; A. L. Young (1) 1lb 5oz; A. S. Nicol, nil. Reserves — D. Gardiner and Ballantyne both nil. Total of 12 for 11lb 12¼oz.

England

I. Greenwood (1) 10¼oz; C. Greenaway, nil; P. Heddle (2) 1lb 6¼oz; B. Thomas (2) 1lb 7½oz; L. Whaddon and R. Kyte both nil; R. Morey (1) 10¼oz; B. Draper (1) 2lb 11¼oz; K. Jones (2) 1lb 10¼oz; B. Leadbetter (3) 2lb 5½oz; A. Templeman (3) 2lb 5½oz; N. Wedlake nil. Reserves — A. Ashness (1) 11¼oz; J. Ketley (captain) took one fish for 11oz. Total of 15 for 14lb 15¼oz.

Wales

T. Fenton (captain), disqualified; P. Medlicote, nil; G. Jones (3) 3lb 11¼oz; N. Hampson (1) 1lb 8½oz; K. Bowring (2) 1lb 12oz; C. Harvey nil; G. Thomas (1) 13oz; T. Hiron, nil; M. Williams, nil; D. Davies, nil; J. Davies (2) 2lb 5¼oz; I. Jones nil. Reserves R. Jones (1) 1lb 10¼oz; E. Kelly, nil. Total of nine for 10lb 2oz.

Winds gusting to Force Eight made things difficult.

TROUT FISHERMAN

1. Ireland	18 fish	15.5.12
2. England	15 fish	14.15.12
3. Scotland	12 fish	11.11.12
4. Wales	9 fish	10.2.0

Full Results >>


Small fish for English National

DAVID PORTER, a retired Army major who is chairman of the Southern Fly-fishing Federation, won the English National Fly-fishing Championship at Grafham Water. He had eight rainbows, best 2 lb, for a total weight of 8 lb 7 oz.

Mr Porter, who comes from Ringwood, Hampshire, fished a Black Pennell, Dunkeld, and White Muddier Minnow. He took his fish drifting from 'G' buoy to the Sludge Bank.

A force 6 wind was blowing from the northern quarter but the match was a great success with very few blanks recorded at the weigh-in at 6 p.m. One disappointment was the scarcity of reasonable fish, most being rainbows of around 1 lb. However, credit must be given to the fishery for the overall organisation, as everyone appeared to thoroughly enjoy the day.

Qualifiers for the 1980 Internationals in Wales and Scotland were: D. Porter, 8 lb 7 oz (8 fish), J. Ketley, 8 lb (9), K. Jones, 7 lb 15 oz (9), D. Lovelace, 7 lb 15 oz (7), J. Miller, 7 lb 3½ oz (7),



David Porter with his two best fish.

R. Draper, 7 lb 3 oz (9), S. Wood, 6 lb 14 oz (8), R. Laver, 6 lb 11 oz (9), G. Wood, 5 lb 7½ oz (5), D. Mussell, 6 lb 7½ oz (7), W. Day, 5 lb 12½ oz (6), D. Hunt, 5 lb 11½ oz (2), L. Wilson, 5 lb 11½ oz (6), M. Parrott, 5 lb 11 oz (5), T. Woodcock, 4 lb 15 oz (5), D. Allen, 4 lb 11½ oz (6). Reserves: B. Budden, 4 lb 11 oz (4), R. Shutter, 4 lb 9½ oz (4).

1. D Porter (Southern)	8 fish	8-7-0
2. J Ketley	9 fish	8-0-0
3. K Jones	9 fish	7-15-0
4. D Lovelace	7 fish	7-15-0
5. J Miller	7 fish	7-3-8
6. R Draper	9 fish	7-3-0
7. S Wood	8 fish	6-14-0
8. R Laver	5 fish	6-11-0
9. G Wood	5 fish	6-7-8
10.D Mussell	7 fish	6-7-8
11.W Day	6 fish	5-12-8
12.D Hunt	2 fish	5-11-8
13.L Wilson	6 fish	5-11-0
14.M Parrott	5 fish	5-11-0
15.T Woodcock	5 fish	4-15-0
16.D Allen	6 fish	4-11-8
Reserves		
17.B Budden	4 fish	4-11-0
18.R Shutter	4 fish	4-9-8