

# CHRIS OGBORNE'S TROUT BEAT COMPETITION ANGLERS SHOW THE WAY FOR 1990



IT'S NOW over a week since my home waters of Chew and Blagdon opened for business for the 1990 season and all the signs are for another great year.

The very mild winter, the fourth in a row, means we have much warmer water than we would normally expect in April, with the result that fly life is well advanced. From conversations with my angling colleagues across the country, it appears this is a very general trend, and everyone is drawing full benefit from the early Spring.

Inevitably at this time of year, all our thoughts are stretching away to the six full months of sport that lie ahead. Opening time is a particularly happy time of year, the waiting is over, the fly fishing has returned, along with all the pleasures that go with it. It's a time for speculation, anticipation, and even some last-minute preparation.

It's also interesting to consider that not so many years ago the trout season did not open until May 1. Most of us would agree that earlier opening days are a benefit, but even so, on some of the colder mornings, with icy winds ripping the tops off the waves, a later date carries some wisdom.

Of all the prospects this year, probably the weather is uppermost in most people's minds. After a mild winter, following the scorching summer of 1989, memories of last season are still vivid.

Day after day of endless sunshine, with water temperatures well into the 70's made conditions difficult in the extreme. It was a season that demanded a drastic review of tactics, and saw some considerable innovation as new methods were sought to combat the conditions.

ANGLER'S MAIL Week-ending April 21 1990

I would forecast this process of innovation will continue into 1990, and develop even further. As always, it is the competition anglers who lead the way in this pioneering process.

Competitive fly fishing is advancing at such a rate that to stay at the forefront demands some very considerable effort. It also creates great personalities, and many become household names by virtue of their contribution to the sport.

One name that instantly springs to mind is my friend Dave Shipman, inventor of the hugely successful series of flies know loosely as Shipman's Buzzers.

These flies, leaders of the new generation of stillwater dries, have proved their worth for many season now. Dave's original has been developed and worked upon, but still remains one of the best.

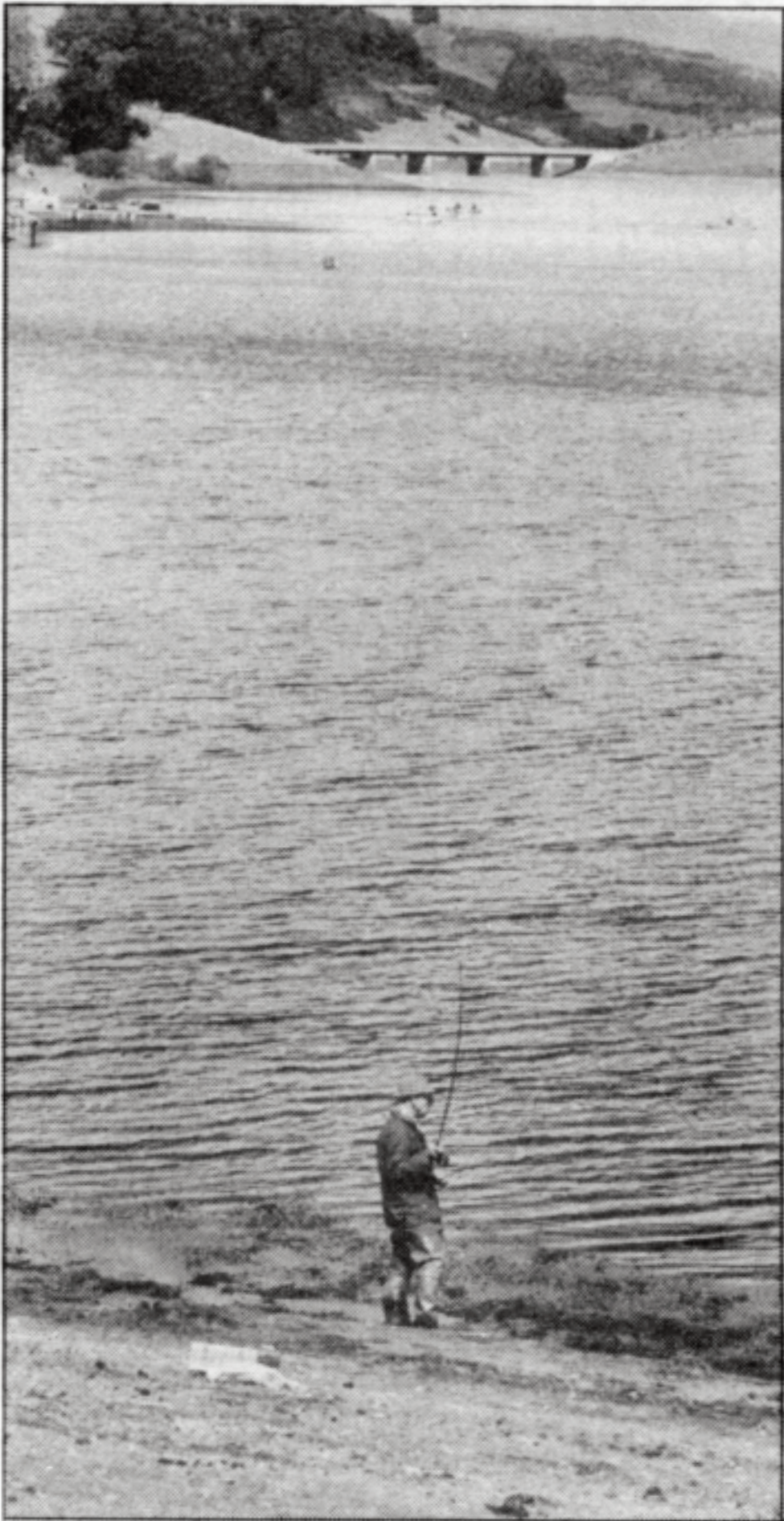
It fishes best in a well established rise, when fish are well on the move, and is often fished as top dropper in a team of three. Indeed, in really frantic rises I have often used three of them on one cast.

Perhaps its greatest benefit is it is relatively simple to tie, and is often one of the first patterns used by anglers trying dry fly for the first time.

One very prominent name on the competition scene last year was Chris Howitt, who fished in the Southern Federation. Chris won the Bob Church Classic last May on a day when I shared a boat with him and ran him a very close second!

Such days have a magic quality about them. We were fish for fish all day, neither of us knowing who had actually won until the weigh-in. In the event, we were separated by only 12 oz in 16 lb bags — such is the margin between success and failure!

Chris and I will be fishing together this year, but as team mates rather than opponents. We both have



Exmoor's Wimbleball Fishery — the venue for the first round of the Benson and Hedges Tournament

the honour of representing England in the tenth World Fly Fishing Championships in September.

Originally scheduled for Spain, this year's Championship will be held in Wales, the move due to administration problems in Espana. This competition,

arguably the most prestigious in the entire calendar, will be fished on both still and running water.

The Welsh Dee will feature prominently, with the quarry consisting of salmon, brown trout, and grayling, testing the whole range of the competitor's

expertise. Couple this with at least one session on Llyn Brenig, and the prospects are interesting in the extreme!

The Benson and Hedges Tournament, for club teams of six anglers, still goes from strength strength. The regional heats begin in May, with a whole series of matches through the year culminating in a September final at Bewl.

For my own Bristol team, our first round is held at Wimbleball, a jewel of a lake on Exmoor. It is always one of our favourite venues, largely due to the beautiful scenery and setting. It is also notorious as a dry fly or at least a top-of-the-water fishery, which very much suits our style.

Whatever your views on competition fly fishing, and there are still a minority who knock such fishing through bias or prejudice, it is impossible to deny the contribution it has made to the sport as a whole.

New methods have been pioneered, but more importantly it demands a regard for the true traditions and ethics of fishing. Loch-style drifting is almost as old as fishing itself and is a truly sporting way of catching fish.

I think 1990 will see further strength in this sector, as the calendar is more fully booked than ever before.

The first and possibly one of the most interesting, will be the European Championships in Dreux, France, later this month. The French are nowhere near as advanced as we are in still-water tactics, and this 14 acre lake is among the best they have.

Last year the British teams did really well, and I shall be in a team of three with Bob Church and Dennis Jack. A full report will follow after the event.

But for the moment, all this is ahead of us. A whole new season of challenge and excitement awaits!

21/4/90

A EUROPEAN fly-fishing country has been banned from taking part in this year's world event because their laws won't allow them to catch fish for sport.

The West Germans will still travel to fish the event on the River Dee in Wales this September, but won't be officially allowed to challenge for the world crown because of legislation which prevents them fishing competitions.

They are unable to compete following German laws which ban the exploitation

## FLY TEAM BAN

of live creatures. The laws followed Germany's decision to outlaw the use of keepnets by match and pleasure anglers two years ago.

The latest bombshell effectively rules out their hopes of winning a major international competition and could have

grave consequences for the rest of Europe if the legislation is taken up by the EEC.

Germany's plight was revealed by world championship organiser, Moc Morgan, who confirmed the West Germans looked unlikely to be taking part in an

official capacity. *21/3/89*

Moc said: "This throws a different light on all the European legislation coming through because of 1992 — it's certainly hard-hitting and we must protect ourselves to ensure nothing like this can happen here."

## A practice session at world venue

I WAS pleased to give the reservoirs a rest last weekend and travel to North Wales with the England world team for a practise session on the Welsh River Dee.

This year's world championship is being held on the river in September, on a catch and release basis which has been used in the last two world events.

Certainly I can vouch for the Dee's form for both browns and grayling which count in the championships. These are the main two species, but sea-trout and salmon will feature too.

I partnered Brian Leadbetter and we were lucky to encounter a lot of rising fish, giving us the opportunity to fish upstream dry in near perfect conditions. We both caught browns and grayling to just over 1 lb on the Corwen stretch of the river.

It took a thunder storm to put the fish down but not before we had satisfied our catch rate. The method was to wade out to the centre of the river and to fish back towards the bank. No nets were used as we released all the fish immediately.

I found the grayling in the Dee were



● A SEPTEMBER run of salmon on the Welsh Dee could provide some thrills and fine fish like this 18 lb Dee specimen for competitors in the World Fly-Fishing Championship.

spooked much quicker than their counterparts in the Southern English chalk streams, but as Dennis Buck pointed out they are equally prolific. Sometimes, however, they feed on such tiny flies they are very hard to tempt. All this will add a little flavour to this year's world championship.

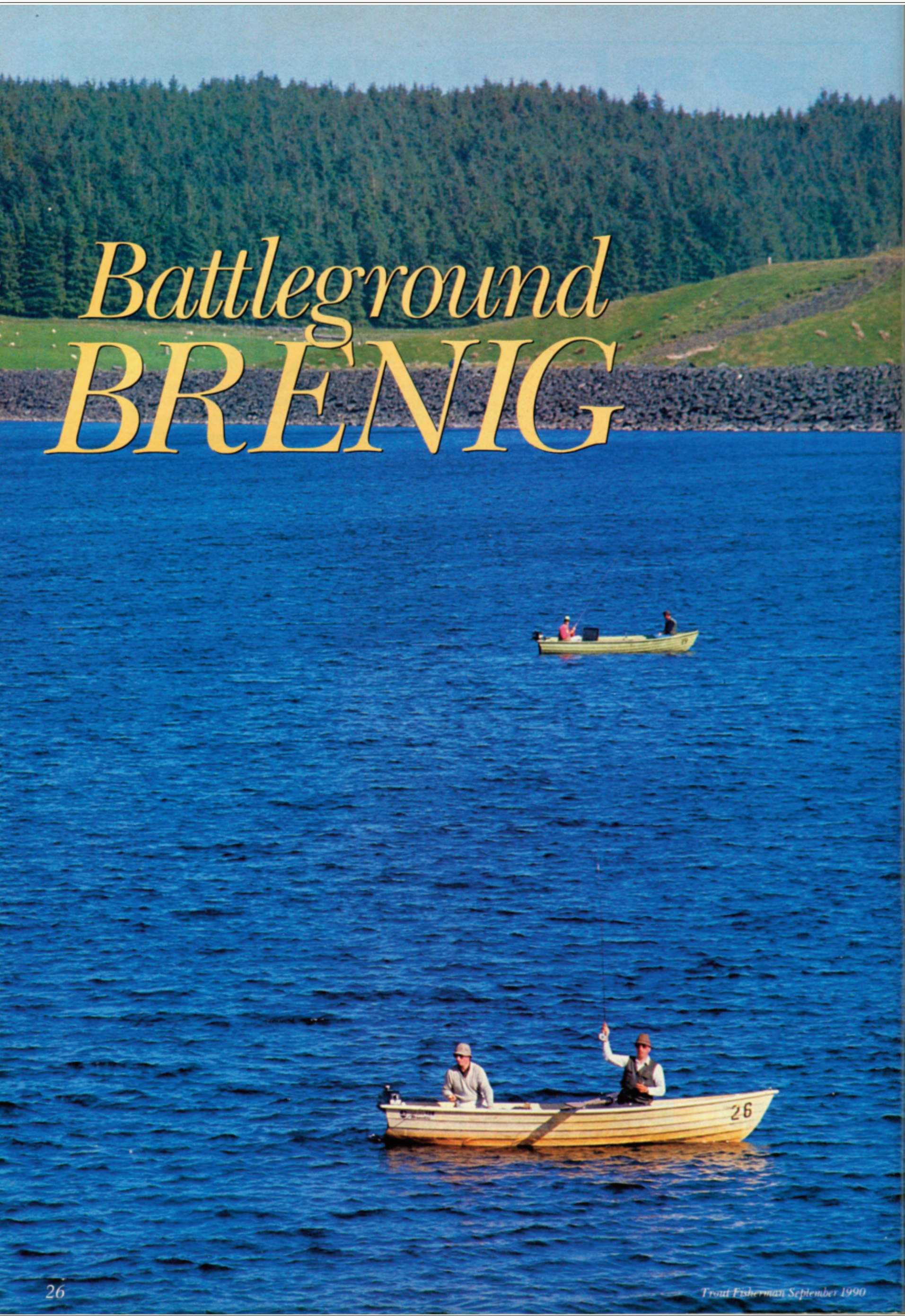
The next day was entirely different — wet and cold. With the river up nine inches the dry fly was out of the question. Fishing a weighted nymph brought me a succession of stocked

brownies to hand.

By and large these were small in length and wouldn't have counted had we been in competition — which of course brought back memories of the English disaster in Finland last year!

I hope the river will not be stocked especially for the competition, and inevitably these fish shoal giving one or two lucky anglers the chance to catch one after another, giving a false test of skill.





## WORLD MATCH PREVIEW

September sees Wales host the Tenth World Fly Fishing Championship for the first time. And no country will be battling harder for the title than the home nation. CHRIS DAWN tries out the two venues with members of the Welsh squad to sample the kind of sport the rest of the world can expect.

PHOTOGRAPHY: PETER GATHERCOLE



ABOVE: World Championship competitors will be fishing to slightly-amended International Rules.



LEFT: Breng sparkles under the July sun.

ABOVE: Welsh World team member Colin Welson lands a Breng rainbow on the Hi-D line. RIGHT: Back goes a Breng rainbow — World Match rules are catch and release.



LYN BRENG sparkled azure blue like some Mediterranean sunspot. Was this really the reservoir usually shrouded in cloud and drizzle, nearly 1300 feet up on North Wales' Denbigh Moors?

But with the July heatwave just beginning, Breng's 900 spruce-lined acres shimmered in the sun. The only air disturbance came from the succession of Tornado fighter planes that buzzed the dam wall in some NATO exercise.

Not that any lack of ripple seemed to worry Welsh international Hugh Howells, of Llandilo, who was practising for September's Tenth World Fly Fishing Championships. Hugh and his pal Colin Welson qualified for the Welsh World squad on their local Clywedog Reservoir, thinking that the match was to be fished in Spain. But with that country failing to organise the event in time, Hugh and Colin found themselves back with an old friend, Llyn Brenig, the stillwater venue for the forthcoming World Cup.

Hugh set the boat straight for the far side of the reservoir where the deep water of an old flooded quarry acts like a magnet for newly-stocked rainbows.



ABOVE: This beautiful stretch of the Dee at Pale, below Bala, will be included in the World Championship.



Left: Welsh World team member Hugh Howells hits a grayling on the Dee. Below: The grayling ready to be returned.

## WORLD MATCH PREVIEW



### BRENG FACT FILE:

Seasons: Mar 18-Oct 31 Permit: £6.50 day, £5 evening, for six fish.  
Boats: Weekend £14, weekday £12, morning £7, evening (after 3pm) £8.  
Bookings: 049082 463.

Breng has been unexpectedly thrust into the international limelight by the forthcoming World Championships, with anglers competing from 18 nations. But the number of other big competitions booked for Breng this season has all meant quite a renaissance for the water. With more boats being taken, more fish have gone into the reservoir to produce a healthy balance sheet for both angling returns and Welsh Water's operating company Land and Leisure. Breng can boast some 42 stable double-skin construction boats driven by new four-horse outboards, while a tackle shop, cafe and other facilities in the Visitor Centre are the sort of amenities which other water companies offering angling should strive to match.

Although used to control water flowing into the River Dee, Breng is very much a modern multi-use fishery also offering sailing, canoeing and windsurfing.

Unlike other fisheries in the area, Breng is strictly fly-only with a variety of naturals, including their speciality the green leaf weevil, giving visitors more options than just mini-lures. Heather flies, chironomids, caddisfly nymphs, sedges and daddies all enjoy a fruitful season.

The past two mild winters have seen no snow on the surrounding moorland for the first time in living memory. This has meant that some of the larger stocked fish have managed to overwinter better so now Breng is seeing some heavyweight browns and rainbows.

Hugh and Colin will be hoping to boat such a fish in their efforts to ensure that the World Championship Cup stays in Wales. But in the competition, all fish caught should live to fight another day as the rules are catch and release.

The competition will probably be decided on the River Dee, between Bala and Llangollen, where an ever-increasing head of grayling will give the favoured European teams from Poland, Italy, Belgium and Czechoslovakia the chance of glory. With five anglers in a team, each team member will fish a three-hour morning and afternoon session on the five different sections.

The Dee here is wide, deep and fast moving and requires chest waders to reach the fish sheltering under the far bank trees. Certainly that was how Hugh, Colin and organising Bala tackle dealer Dewi Evans tackled the river the next morning in more brilliant sunshine. Small dry flies size 16 and 18 flicked across to the far bank brought the grayling up out of the steadier water, with the odd brown trout to provide variety.

Many of the competing teams have practised extensively on the water with one Swedish angler reputedly taking 40 grayling in a session. England coach and first reserve Bob Church took 14 fish, including grayling to 1lb 2oz, on dry fly from the Corwen Stretch.

The last time the Championships were held in the UK was '87 and the inevitable big hauls of stockings from Rutland Water brought some adverse comment, especially from foreign angling writers used to catch and release. This year everything goes back alive, with the results decided on points for length rather than weight. Every fish caught more than 20cms (7 7/8") earns its captor 100 points, with another 20 points added on for every extra centimetre.

A pre-match stocking with 2,000 brownies in the Bala & District Waters should certainly liven up sport, provided they don't all shoal up in one lucky angler's peg. If you would like the chance to fish this beautiful piece of water yourself, then give Dewi a ring on Bala (0678) 520370. Day tickets are a fiver, weekly tickets just £10.

## WORLD MATCH COMPETITION



The winning team in the World Championship will win this magnificent Tormore Trophy plus pocket cup and individual replica.

### The Tormore Challenge

THE TORMORE single malt whisky sponsors of the 10th World Fly Fishing Championships are giving Trout Fisherman readers the chance of a fabulous prize. All you have to do is forecast the top three teams in the correct order of finishing in the World Championship.

The prize is a case of *The Tormore* single malt — a dozen Scotch whisky lead crystal glasses from *Nazing Glass* and an all-expenses paid weekend fishing break in Wales with members of the Welsh team.

The teams taking part are Wales, England, Scotland, Ireland, Spain, Germany, Finland, Italy, Luxembourg, Poland, New Zealand, Norway, France, USA, Canada, Belgium, Sweden, and Czechoslovakia with still possible teams from Rumania, USSR and Australia to come.

Italy have the most consistent record on running water in the ten-year-old event if you look at these past records; but the host nation also does well:

1981 Luxembourg, winners

1982 Spain, winners Italy.

1983 Italy, winners Italy.

1984 Spain, winners Italy.

1985 Poland, winners Poland.

1986 Belgium, winners Italy.

1987 England, winners England.

1988 Tasmania, winners England.

1989 Finland, winners Poland.

1990 Wales, winners?

After two successive victories on mainly stillwater, England's fortunes slumped badly on the Finnish rivers last year, finishing 13th. Poland were the winners followed by Finland, Italy, Belgium and Scotland. Wales were ninth.

Yet in Tasmania in '88 England finished well and truly in front of

France, Australia, New Zealand, Scotland and Canada. Wales finished a creditable seventh.

England again paralysed the opposition on home ground in '87 finishing top in front of Australia, New Zealand, Wales, Poland and France. But the year before in Belgium, when grayling were the main quarry, England could manage only eighth place behind Wales in seventh and the Italians first. Home team Belgium were second with Czechoslovakia third.

The year before in Poland, England were again eighth out of just 11 teams with the Poles, Czechs and French in the top three places.

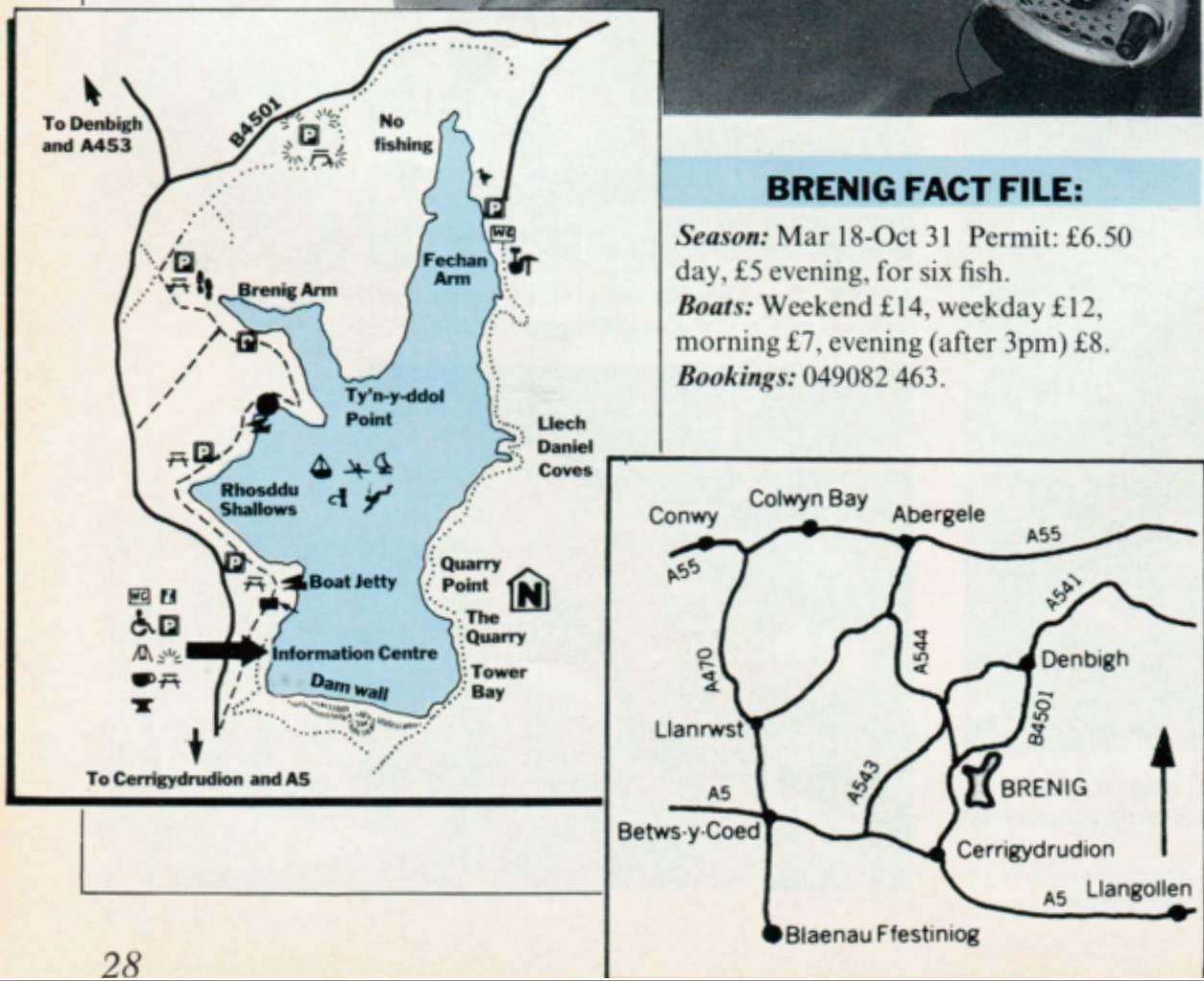
Former World Champion **Tony Pawson**, who won the individual title in Spain in '84, predicts Wales, Poland and Italy for his top three — not necessarily in that order.

England first reserve **Bob Church** goes for France, Poland and England to finish among the first three, while a diplomatic Trout Fisherman editor stays with Poland, England and Wales.

Now we want to know your choice. Just write your top three teams in order of finishing, numbered one, two and three, on a postcard. Also include the **TOTAL NUMBER** of sizable fish you think will be caught by the 90 anglers taking part over the three days. The closest figure to the exact number caught will be used in the event of a tie breaker.

Send your entry on a postcard to **The Tormore World Match Competition, Trout Fisherman, EMAP Pursuit, Bretton Court, Bretton, Peterborough PE3 8DZ**. Closing date to receive entries is Friday, Sept 14th.

The Tormore World Championship is being fished from Monday, Sept 17 to Thursday, Sept 20 inclusive.







England  
John Horsey, Chris Howitt, Brian Leadbetter, Chris Osborne, John Pawson, Bob Church (reserve) & Geoff Clarkson (manager).

The last event was the 10th World Flyfishing Championships where I represented the Drennan Team England in North Wales. We fished one full day's session on Llyn Brenig and four half-day sessions on the River Dee. These three days were the culmination of months of practice and turned out to be the most memorable moments of my flyfishing career to date.

Once again, the weather played a big part in the proceedings with a sudden change to gale force, cold winds and frequent showers of rain. However, the fishing was still exceptionally good and was probably a reflection of the incredible quality of the anglers taking part. Day after day we practised, tied flies, discussed tactics, travelled from beat to beat, prayed for good draws on the river, wished for good hatches of fly, hoped all our fish would stick, but most important of all, left nothing to chance which we could have a hand in!

### 'The real winner of the World Championships was the River Dee'

After day one on Brenig, the England team were, almost expectedly, on top. From then on we never really knew who were leaders of the pack, but knew we were in with a shout if we could get decent draws on the river. As with coarse fishing matches, the draw is so important, because if you get a peg with very few fish in it, no matter how good the angler is, the odds are he will catch very little. The other thing we had to avoid was a blank; with the points system as it was, a blank meant the total points for all competitors plus one in other words, there were 88 competitors, so if you got a blank, you scored 89 points and the team with the least numbers of points were the overall world champions.

This year it was the turn of the very consistent Czechoslovakian team who had no blanks in any session, closely followed by Poland, Belgium, France and England in fifth place. However, we did push these very skilled river anglers very hard all the way and, who knows, without our three really unlucky blanks, we may have been there or thereabouts!

The real winner of the World Championships, however, was the prolific River Dee, with its army of dedicated local anglers and controllers. The grayling fishing was, in my opinion, second to none and the people who control and police the river show a real love of their water and a genuine caring towards its fish.

During the close season I will be featuring some of the flies and methods that have worked for me and some of my fellow team mates and friends over the past seasons.

## 10th TORMORE WORLD FLYFISHING CHAMPIONSHIP

# CZECH-MATE

Eastern Europe forgets the glasnost on a high and coloured Welsh Dee

Top English rod Chris Osborne wills a grayling to rise on the Dee at Corwen.

Report by Mike Cocks

Left: New World Champion, Franciszek Szajnlik of Poland, displays The Tormore trophy he earned with four consistent performances on the river.

Pictures by Roy Harris

**E**ASTERN-BLOC countries continue to stamp their authority on the world scene as Czechoslovakia lifted the title at the 10th World Flyfishing Championship in Wales, with last year's winners Poland finishing second. Belgium improved their 1989 performance by two places, getting among the medals in third position. Out of the 18 nations competing, England managed a very-credible fifth while home side Wales came 10th, Scotland and Ireland finished 12th and 14th respectively. Despite a blank on day one at Llyn Brenig, Ralf scored consistently from each of his pegs on the Dee to finish three places above England's Chris Osborne (ninth), the only other 'home' competitor to finish in the top ten.

Chris, now emphatically back 'in form', got off to a flying start by winning the first day's loch-style session on Brenig. He pulled seven fish on a Concoction/intermediate line combination to finish with 580 points. As previewed in the September issue, this Championship was run entirely on a catch-and-release basis. On Brenig the minimum size trout which counted was 10 inches (25cm). This gained a basic 400 points for the angler with an extra 20 points for every additional centimetre. For the four half-day sessions on the river the same system was operated, but the size limit was decreased to 20cm, the main quarry on most beats being grayling.

Bob Church, originally a reserve but called into the team when John Pawson had to drop out due to work commitments, caught five on the reservoir to finish in second place behind Chris Osborne. John Horsey (three) and Brian Leadbetter (two) added to England's day one lead, but an unlikely blank from Chris Howitt meant that the joy was a little muted.

In contrast, the other home nations had little to celebrate on the first night. Four Welshmen blanked along with three team members from both Scotland and Ireland. On a positive note, Hugh Howells of Wales managed four white Scotlands. John Barrett got three. Ireland's Joe Creane brought a brace to the measure.

It is true that some of the U.K. teams contributed to their own downfall with poor results in the loch-style event, an area where it was essential to gain a good lead over the continental and Eastern Europeans who were likely to shine on the Dee. However, no-one could have predicted the excellent performance of the Czechs on Brenig. They were the only team not to register a single blank a record they were to maintain throughout the competition.

Day two saw the competitors drawn on pegs of approximately 200 metres over five beats of the river Dee, one team member on each. At the end of the allotted fishing time, the competitors moved upstream to the next beat, those on the top section moving back downstream to the first one. This continued through the next day thus ensuring each man fished a different area of the river in each session.

Heavy rain had coloured and raised the water the north-westerly wind strengthened as the day wore on. It soon became apparent that the dry fly tactics so productive during the previous week's practice would have little effect on most beats.

Conditions were very tough. The 1987 World Champion Brian Leadbetter fished right through the session on his Bala peg without even a take. During the afternoon session, competitors had some basis for comparison having now fished two river beats on the day. And it soon became obvious that 'luck of the draw' was to play some part in the outcome.

Private stretches not available for practice had been necessarily included in pegging the competition. And these were, in general, fishing far better than the club beats. The area known as Sun Bank had obviously been very recently stocked with brownies, and these were being caught comparatively easily by those on the right pegs.

Norwegian Tore Jacobsen took advantage of a good draw to amass 14700 points at the beat owned by chemical company and trophy donors Monsanto, but individual leader at the end of day two was Pole Adam Sikora. The deadly 'rolled

An example of the weighted, woven nymph/grub used by the Czechs and Poles.

Welshman Hugh Howells guides a good fish towards his controller on day three.

Extreme concentration from Australian Malcolm Cross.



The victorious Czech team celebrate their win with The Tormore trophies.

# CZECH-MATE

nymph' technique, which the Eastern Europeans unleashed on the rest of the world in Finland last year scored for him with 15 grayling. He then changed to dry fly, taking a further seven as fish started to show late on.

His wading owed more to speed than stealth, bringing one to the bank for his controller to record, then storming back out, hitting rises with pinpoint accuracy helped in this respect by a four-foot leader. Strange as such tactics may seem to us, they work well on fish less-easily spooked than trout. It is difficult to envisage a British or Irish victory in such an event in the future until our anglers master the suitable techniques.

Having said that, the scoreboard that night back at the hotel in Mold showed that many home competitors had made the most of good draws or the best of bad. Ralf Oswiezc, Chris Osborne, Joe Creane and Scotland's James Fairgreaves were all well up the field. Ralf's catch had included a possible British record grayling of 46 cm. The team positions were more difficult to determine, but the Poles, Czechs, French, Belgians and English all looked to be in contention.

The third and final day started without hitch for most, but two Americans had to be driven to their beats three-quarters of an hour late. U.S. skipper Walter Ungerman having forgotten to tell them the start time had been brought forward.

The wind was still strong, blowing directly downstream for some. It was a question of plugging away with downstream nymph for those on the exposed reaches, whilst competitors on more sheltered pegs enjoyed having some risers to cast at. Chris Osborne had found a shoal of grayling at the downstream end of his peg on the Corwen section, but found them very difficult to hit on the dry fly, ending the session with just two recorded.

Welshman Hugh Howells had some horrible luck when his net collapsed, costing him a good grayling less than two feet away from his controller's measure. Champion-to-be Franciszek Szajnlik helped himself to an excellent 12340 score at Sun Bank while four pegs upstream, Scotsman George Inglis captured the biggest brownie of the event.

David Willis of Ireland, with no score against his name up to the third morning, gratefully crossed himself as his controller

returned his first fish of the competition. "About time too!" was his admirably-restrained comment.

As the last period got underway on Thursday afternoon there was a delay for some competitors in reaching their pegs on the productive Monsanto beat. John Horsey related that he lost at least 30 minutes on a prime peg. However he put this to the back of his mind and still did enough to gain 16th position overall.

The Championship ended with the presentation ceremony and a superb dinner at which one was left in no doubt that the international camaraderie generated was equally as important as the result. There was much pudgy English and gesticulating as anglers communicated in the universal language of fishing.

Brian Leadbetter, never far away from the prizes, was awarded two packets of throat lozenges as the Champion Swimmer of the competition. He had somehow managed to take a ducking THREE TIMES in one session on the Dee! Belgian Richard Franck fell in twice during the afternoon on day two, kicking back to the bank with a strong breast stroke, rod clamped firmly between his teeth.

The four non-fishing home team managers Geoff Clarkson of England, Sandy Forgan of Scotland, Colin Wilson, of Wales and Ireland's Vinny O'Reilly all complimented organiser Mo' Morgan and his companions for putting the event together in only six months after intended hosts Spain pulled out. Both Colin and Vinny were at pains to point out how firing the event was for those competing. Geoff pointed out that the luck of the draw had played its part in determining the result but accepted that this was inevitable in a pegged-down river competition. Sandy stated that although a lot of fish had been caught over the three days, it had been a shame that the weather had prevented some of the stretches of the river from producing more.

The Czech interpreter and team member Jan Siman made it clear that they were delighted with their victory. He related that the only practice session they had managed was a two-hour stint on the Dee. No one in the squad had trout-fished from a boat before day one on Brenig, making the result doubly pleasing for them.

Poland were unlucky to finish second, with three of their five anglers finishing in the top ten. Adam Sikora taking second place behind winner Franciszek Szajnlik, and last year's World Champion Wladyslaw Trzeczunia gaining eighth place.

However with a scoring system that meant blanking was a disaster, the Czechs deservedly lifted the title with no team member returning fishless from any stage. Unfortunately to some extent a cloud descended on events after the presentation ceremony. France had been awarded third place on the night due to an oversight in recording the results of the final session. Somehow, Belgian Patrick Jaumot's 11 fish had been overlooked, a fact pointed out to the administrators by team captain Paul Vekemans during the return coach journey to the hotel.

Naturally this caused great embarrassment to the hard-working organisers; the French team were approached and an exchange of medals and prizes took place. Although obviously disappointed to have missed their rightful share of the glory during the dinner and presentation, Vekemans and his team seemed to adopt a philosophical attitude to the error.

If the New Zealanders the hosts in '91 needed any warning of how one error can colour an otherwise excellently-run Championship, this was it.

Some quotes  
Bob Church, after missing ten offers in succession: "Who said grayling are silly?"  
Walter Ungerman U.S. Team captain "These Belgians, French and Czechs would dry-fly every American off the water; we're amateurs compared to these guys."

Chris Osborne, successfully trying the rolled-nymph technique as a last resort on day three: "The name's Ogbornoff!"  
Ralf Oswiezc, grinning up at his audience from a streamy peg: "The reason I'm not 'mending' is so as not to scare the fish I've already lined!"

Vinny O'Reilly Irish team captain at the presentation dinner: "It's been great but we're absolutely knackered!"

### RESULTS

1. Czechoslovakia; 2. Poland; 3. Belgium; 4. France; 5. England; 6. Italy; 6. New Zealand; 8. Finland; 9. Norway; 10. Wales; 11. USA; 12. Scotland; 13. Poland; 14. Ireland; 15. Luxembourg; 16. Canada; 17. Australia; 18. Sweden.

Top Ten Individuals:  
1. Franciszek Szajnlik, Poland; 2. Adam Sikora, Poland; 3. Albert Bigare, Belgium; 4. James Milan, Czechoslovakia; 5. Rene Brugere, France; 6. Ralf Oswiezc, Wales; 7. Jan Astier, France; 8. Wladyslaw Trzeczunia, Poland; 9. Chris Ogborne, England; 10. Tore Jacobsen, Norway.

### TORMORE CHALLENGE

● NO readers were able to correctly predict the order of the first three teams in our Tormore World Championship Challenge. Nearest was Mr P W Eklund of Aberystwyth who picked 1 France 2 Czechoslovakia 3 Poland. His was the only entry we received which predicted that Czechoslovakia would finish in the top three! Mr Eklund wins a case of The Tormore single malt and a dozen Scotch whisky lead crystal glasses.

## Winning nymphs

I HAVE been asked a lot since the world championships about the types of nymphs used by the masters of Czechs and Poles.

Well, they're nothing special. I can assure you of that. Basically they're heavily weighted by building up a cigar-shaped underbody. This is covered by various coloured wools, ribbed with thick copper wire, and finished with a white wool head.

The Polish angler who finished second in the event was on the same mini-bus as me travelling

back to the hotel after one of the sessions on the River Dee.

He had taken 22 grayling from the prolific private section at Bala. The nymph as close as possible to it, and used it to catch three of my six grayling from the next session. The nymphs were simple yet effective.

1. Czechoslovakia
2. Poland
3. Belgium
4. France
5. England
6. Italy
7. New Zealand
8. Finland
9. Norway
10. Wales

Individuals:

1. Franciszek Szajnlik (Poland)
2. Adam Sikora (Poland)
3. Albert Bigare (Belgium)
4. James Milan (Czechoslovakia)
5. Rene Brugere (France)
6. Ralf Oswiezc (Wales)
7. Jan Astier (France)
8. Wladyslaw Trzeczunia (Poland)
9. Chris Ogborne (England)
10. Tore Jacobsen (Norway)