



Medway - Kent And Sussex Fishing Forum



Sea Reports

Sea Reports are proudly sponsored by MEDWAY - KENT AND SUSSEX FISHING FORUM

Winter is slowly and some say thankfully sliding away and the much anticipated cod fishing has failed to materialise here in the South East. A couple of hundred miles North, the Yorkshire sea anglers have enjoyed one of the best shore cod fishing seasons for a long time, just to rub salt in to the wound (excuse the pun!). Current sea temperatures off our coast are currently between 8 - 9 degrees centigrade.

I hope many of you have had a chance to take a look at our sponsor's Facebook page and join the group! The good news is that the early year's flatfish are showing in good numbers with some prime dabs and flounders being caught from around the shoreline!

THAMES REPORT COURTESY OF WAYNE MAY

Thames estuary charters:

The boats have been landing plenty of thornbacks this month, several reaching double figures. Along with the rays, a few nice bass have also been landed up to 5lbs in weight, a few codling are being caught, but, nothing like last years bonanza.

Shore marks:

Ship and Lobster, Gravesend - Plenty of whiting being caught on almost every tide, several weighing in around the 1lb mark, a nice size for the Thames. Flounders are slowly increasing, especially on the evening tides. The flatties falling to beaded and wishbone rigs baited with ragworm.

Swanscombe Peninsula - Several seals are now in residence affecting the daytime fishing, as darkness falls the bites increase. Whiting and flounders are being caught on every cast, both lugworm and ragworm proving effective.

St Clements Reach, Greenhithe - A great venue this year, a clean river bed to fish over.

The crabs have arrived early, keeping your baits off the bottom produces more bites.

Whiting are in abundance all the time, taking almost every bait presented. All winter the school bass have stayed close in, rattling the rods on most casts, again the odd flounder coming up on the evening tides.

Running rigs and long snoods for targeting the rays by boat, with herring and whole squid. For the river, two hook flappers and pannel rigs working well.



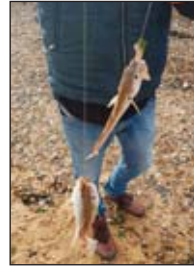
MEDWAY REPORT

Some good days, some not so good days! Catches have been up and down, but, on the whole, most anglers fishing the river have caught something. Some nice catches of flatfish have been made, along with plenty of whiting. Many of the whiting have been sizeable, so a tasty tea for some anglers. Although most worm baits have caught, it's the maddies that the fish seem to want. Indeed, there are still numbers of bass in the river, but, remember the rules for 2018 are 'catch and release' only. Marks along the City Estate and Roman Way have produced fairly well and consistently.



Top local shops for all your tackle and bait requirements are Anglers Den (near Aldi at Gillingham) 01634 852180 and Medway Tackle Supplies, Canterbury Street, Gillingham 01634 570470.

SHEPPEY - Anglers have enjoyed a pretty good few weeks fishing, but, the cold onshore winds at the beginning of the month made it uncomfortable. Some nice flattie bags being taken around the Sheerness and Minster areas, along with whiting, some of a good size and the occasional bass. Worm has been the best bait and some of the better dabs have liked it tipped off with a bit of squid.



Top local shop for all your tackle and bait is Sheppey Angling 01795 661089.

NORTH KENT/ HERNE BAY - Catches much the same as Sheppey with flatfish and whiting dominating catches. Worth noting that beaches from the Swale estuary right along through Whitstable to Reculver are showing fish, so take your pick! A number of bass are still being caught. Won't be long now until the early thornbacks and smoothounds begin to come in close as the skate are being caught out in the Thames and egg purses are being spotted washed up on the beaches.



Top shop for your tackle and fresh and frozen bait is Absolute Tackle at Herne Common. Call them on 01227 636724.



THANET - Ramsgate pier fishing well. Loads of dabs, whiting, rockling and a few schoolie bass and dogfish. See Jason Parrott's Kent Boat Report for catch reports out on the water!



SANDWICH BAY / DEAL - Plenty of dabs, flounders, whiting, rockling and small bass to worm baits. The beaches around Deal appear to be fishing better than the pier and a lot less snaggy too!



DOVER - A few codling but nothing of note reported. Loads of dogfish,

