

2005 Branch Report – East Anglia Branch

Submitted to IFM Council in March 2006

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Chairman's Report

2005 commenced with our AGM in February with a reasonable attendance of 25 existing and prospective members. The interim committee that stepped in during October were formally voted in but there were no takers for the role of Vice Chairman. The AGM was followed by a talk from Ian Wellby on Parasites, Viruses and Bacteria.

Our next event was our summer workshop, a one day event planned for a Saturday and designed to introduce people to some of the practical aspects of fisheries management. The chosen topic was Water Quality for Fisheries. With over 40 delegates attending things were rather hectic at times and the technology did not always behave. A variety of presentations from Barry Howard, Ben Helm, Chris Randall, Chris Extence and Andy Beal kept everyone interested. Practical demos of aeration gear by Spirex Aquatec and a lab session of WQ testing and invertebrate I. D. gave everyone something to think about. Many thanks to Chris Vaughan and Shuttleworth College for hosting the event

Following a rest over the summer our evening talk on Weed Management was a surprise success. Presentations by Chris Randall and Julie Figures on mechanical and chemical control of aquatic vegetation had an excellent attendance, over 70 people squeezed their way into Brampton for the evening event. Obviously this is an important issue for fishery managers and something that would benefit from a more practical workshop.

Although it has been the custom to arrange an annual CIWEM/IFM Xmas talk the event planned for this year was not possible. Talks are ongoing with our local CIWEM branch concerning future events

Many thanks for the help and support everyone has shown over last 12 months. This year looks to be equally as busy. With such a diverse and wide spread membership it is vital that we work with neighbouring branches in Midlands and Thames to provide a wide variety of events. There is scope for co-ordinating programs to compliment each other and avoid clashes of dates to ensure that meetings continue to be well attended.

Andy Sadler