Brian just four points off maximum best

LEADBETTER led an English grand slam at the World Fly Fishing Championships by winning both days. Brian had the team's top catch then clinched the individual title by winning on the River Test and finishing third at

Avington. This gave him just six penalty points, the minimum possible being four.

Brian tempted 11 fish from the River Test at

fly and corixa patterns. Chris Ogborne was second with wins at Grafham and Avington, fifth at Rutland and sixth on the River Test to amass 13 penalty points. England regular Bob Church was third on 15 points with second place

at Avington using shrimp

on Avington and Grafham, fourth at Rut-land and seventh on the Test. Dennis Buck made it four in a row for England with 21 points. Dave McLellan of New Kimbridge using a Mayfly imitation and then caught a further ten fish Zealand was fifth with 21

Only one hitch How points THE matches attracted the largest number of countries to

ever fish plus an American observer. It is hoped the USA will enter a team soon, possibly in Australia next year.

Although organiser Tony Pawson was disappointed that British television did not film the event, thanks to the efforts of Norway's Thorbjom Tufte, the Norwegian Television

Service have covered the matches. The only hitch came when competitors who were not in the individual championships got lost on the third day when arrangements had been made for them to fish on other

The team contest was determined in the boats at Grafham and Rutland Reservoirs, with each member drawing for venue and fishing the other venue on the second day





champion, competing against the best in the world. I had just intended to be a helpful part of a successful team, he said. 'Avington was the

penalty points, but an in-ferior fish points score. Brian Leadbetter, 40

described the result as 'marvellous.' 'I didn't

dream I would end up as

competing

venue I was most worried about before the series started but once I had three wins I knew all I had to do was hold my own at Avington on the last day and the title would be mine, he added.

worked THE Championship was de-

cided by a penalty point system, similar to that used in the coarse fishing World Championships:

This means the winner of any event was given one point, the runner-up two working down the placings. Each fish was awarded 100 points plus one point for every gramme, up to a maximum of 2,000 points maximum of 2,100 points for





Cheers from the champs! England celebrate their World victory

FULL RESULT 85,330 pts

41,355 2. Australia 3. New Zealand 27,815 Others: Wales 23,235; Poland 22,765; France 21,830; Finland 21,555;

Individuals Day Three: (Avington) Chris Ogborne (England) 16,425; Bob Church (England) 12,115; G. Gaillard (France) 9,925; (Test) Brian Leadbetter England) 9,970; Dennis Buck (England) 7,335; John Pawson (England)

New Zealand) 10,190; Krzysztof Sasula (Poland) 8,575; N Wichiotti Overall: Brian Leadbetter (England) 6 penalty points; Chris Ogtome (England) 13; Bob Church (England) 15; Dennis Buckley (England) 21; Dave McLellan (New Zealand) 21.

ANGLER'S MAIL Week-ending June 6, 1987



England

2. Australia

4. Wales

5. Poland

6. France

7. Ireland

Individuals:

1. Brian Leadbetter (England)

2. John Pawson (England)

5. J. Ramf (Australia)

6. T. Piggott (Australia)

7. Dennis Buck (England)

8. T. Entwhistle (New Zealand)

3. Chris Ogborne (England) 4. Bob Church (England)

8. Italy

3. New Zealand

Dennis Buck, Bob Church, Brian Leadbetter, Chris Ogborne, John Pawson, Geoff Clarkson (captain), Brian Thomas (reserve) & Bob Morey (stand-by reserve). 85.330 pts 1. England



41,355 pts

27,815 pts

23,235 pts

22,765 pts

21,830 pts

18,890 pts

17,525 pts

24.580 pts

20,240 pts

16.210 pts

13,385 pts

11.610 pts

11,095 pts

10.915 pts

10.365 pts

Ireland 18,890; Scotland 18,700; Czechoslovakia 17,960; Italy 17,525; Luxembourg; 17,365; Canada 16,920; Belgium 15,915; Norway 12,455; West Germany 10,755; Spain 9,535; Rumania 7,355;

Day Four (Avington) John Pawson (England) 17,390; R Capisano (Raly) 10,275; Brian Leadbetter (England) 10,210. River Test, Dave McLellan



Trout

squad

live up

to their

promise

WORLD BEATERS! England stormed to a record-

breaking victory in the World Flyfishing Championship at the weekend.
Led by hero Brian Leadbetter — winner of both his matches — favourites England turned

on the style by clinching the title for the first time in their history with the bigger of the style by the bigger of the style by the bigger of the bigger

history with the biggest-ever points tally.

They doubled the score of their nearest rivals Australia, and took the top four individual

STORY by ANTHONY HAWKSWELL

Bedford engineer Brian led the rout which saw the home side total an amazing 85,330 points compared to the 41,355 of their visitors from the other side of the globe. The thrilling victory broke the stranglehold of the all-conquer-ing Italians — winners for four of the last five years. They didn't find the Leicestershire

and Cambridgeshire stillwaters to their liking and finished well down in eighth place.
Under the guidance of stalwart Moc Morgan Wales finished in fourth behind Australia and New Zealand, while Ireland was seventh.

RED BY NATIONAL WESTMINSTER BANK

• WE are the champions! England team members

TEAM EVENTS 23: 24 MAY 1987 GRAFHAM WATER & RUTLAND WATER INDIVIDUAL EVENTS 26: 27 MAY 1987 RIVER TEST & MINGTON TROUT LAKES



Report: STEVE WINDSOR

DAZZUNG ENGLAND out to start the motor. What a superb Celebration time for the England squad as

THE THINGS THEY SAID ...

Brian Leadbetter, new World Champion . . "I've just remembered — there have been two World Champions from England, nyself and Tony Pawson — and we qualified to fish for England for the first me on the same day, in the same boat,

I couldn't have done this without the nelp and support of the rest of the team and we mustn't forget the part played by reserves Brian Thomas and Bob Morey." Joe Betteridge, retiring President of the CIPS to host the event came. He has it onto the Salmon and Trout Association and the Confederation.

'This is the best organised World Championship I've ever been involved with. The hospitality is superb, and I'm particularly proud to have been President when two English teams — coarse and fly took both individual and team prizes at a World Championship.

eam ties into the individual - that's exactly what has happened, and to the end we've shared flies and tactics . . ." Dick Willis, 29th overall for Ireland 'On Tuesday morning on the Test, I drove a Mayfly pattern into my finger. There was no time to stop so I left it in.

Every time I cast the line caught on it, which was agonising. Moc Morgan emoved it for me at lunchtime last cast at Grafham as Bob Church was

Chris Ogborne, second overall . . . "We said that we'd continue our close

"If the fishing's this good on the other side, I'm booking the next bus ..." Bob Church, third overall, commenting on his afternoon session on the Test . . "I had a gallery behind me on the lawn, and this brought out the showman in me. so I fished much better, I got a lovely near 3th brown on a Grey Wulff." Don McLellan, top overseas rod from New Zealand fellah on the next beat to me got his fly stuck in a tree. As I watched he walked across the water and fetched it. 'Who is this fellah?" I asked my ghillie, "is it Bob

fish! I really wondered if I'd got a salmon.

on Tuesday lunchtime . .

and Trout Association . . . "We are here because our wives have

John Sautelle senior, from behind an oxygen mask on Saturday night bastards . . ." Brian Leadbetter .

"I've had 63 trout this week. Of those, I felt a pull from just seven . . ." Moc Morgan . After seeing so many dead fish this week I hope the Welsh World no-kill contest."

'No' said the ghillie,' it's God — he just thinks he's Bob Church " David Swatland, Chairman of the Salmon

"Fishing," said a voice from the floor. 'Get out there and beat those Pommie

made it possible. Let us pay tribute to them, where would we be without them?

Championship in four years time will be a

they collect the lion's share of the trophies at the Northampton aftermatch dinne including the winning team's Anglian Trophy, (left to right) Bob Morey, Brian Thomas (both reserves), John Pawson, Geoff Clarkson (non-fishing captain), Ch Ogborne, Brian Leadbetter, Bob Church



TROUT FISHERMAN TROUT FISHERMAN

Home side thrash the world in both team and individual championship

the light of this result." Chris has every cause to be

grateful to the team training having had the chance to

techniques that also brought him success in his Bristol team's Wimbleball B&H heat.

Floating line fanatic Chris summed it up: "Let's just say that I'm in serious danger of

Pooling of ideas in the powerful squad came up with a

revolutionary technique, which relied on a virtually

non-existent retrieve to fish a team of flies on a sunk line

through exactly the right death

No actual retrieve was

made after the cast, the line merely being taken up as the

boat drifted in an attempt to

depth, before lifting. Takes we seen visually, not felt, and in mastering the system,

England's outstanding angler was Brian Leadbetter, who to

stay in touch with the shoels

than 36 fish taken on Church

patterns — closely followed by John Pawson with 31. Over at Grafham, Chris Ogborne took

17 trout on a Green Tag Stick and a White Sedge and Bob

Church 12 on Zulu and a sparkle

orange Baby Doll for England

to claim all four top places. Dennis Buck took six fish at

Fry, Peach Doll, and other

lines during his Rutland triumph, Brian topped his first day at Rutland, with no less

used no less than six different

hold the flies at the proper

enjoying sunk line fishing

relearn his approach, and master new sinking line

S EXPECTED England crushed the opposition in the team section the World Championships lished at Rutland and Grafham

but there was so much more to their victory than meets the For it was preparation and practise that characterised this England win, powerfully coached and controlled by non-fishing skipper Geoff Clarkson who first assembled

his team more than a year ago for a look at the venues, then led them through more than a month's practise sessions at both venues prior to the event. So comprehensive was the resulting victory for the Anglian Water Trophy that we may have entered a new era in match The great justification for all the preparation came for Geoff. on day one at Rutland. Having

thoroughly covered the water. his team discovered a vast pocket of fish down Rutland's unfancied North Arm below Armley Wood. The English boat that found the fish had just two drifts and left them. As the boats set out at Rutland on that first day, just two boats set off down the North, with John Pawson and Brian Leadbetter in them, and the match was as good as won

In the afterglow of success, Chris Ogborne who topped the first day Grafham weights, told me: "We should now reconsider our team approach

Grafham. Brian then returned to his rods at Grafham, too, with six fish the following day. The result left England cruising out in front, and guaranteed all five of the team a place in the 32 man individual event. With all four days competition counting Brian was way out in front with just two penalty points, followed by Bob Church and Chris Ogborne on

six, Australian John Rumpf and New Zealand's Tony Entwistle on eight and Dennis Buck on nine after he won his second day at Rutland. John Pawson had 17 points after slumping to The team placings for second and third brought some surprises. Australia had been hotly tipped to do well, but no one could have suspected their second place in the team.

Best fish of the team championship was this superb 4 'elb rainbot taken by Irish competitor Dick Willis at Grafham Water with one

competition — beating the other three home nations out of sight. This was in spite of losing before, and most of our Australian fishing is visual casting to fish seen. I didn't use their non-fishing skipper John Sautelle senior down to Australian flies, having picked up on your patterns, like the

Peterborough Hospital with a spot of heart trouble. John Silver Invicts and the Church Fry. We also had to borrow long recovered sufficiently to join his rods, as we had nothing over nine feet, Remember this is team in Winchester's Guild Hall surely an invitational gether through the auspices of our Freshwater Fisherman's wreaking havoc with the form One of their successful

Acting skipper John Sautelle individuals was John Rumpt unior added: who told me "It's been an advantage speaking the language. We've We had a lot of help from Alan Pearson and Peter Thomas, and in addition we had had to throw away a lot of our ideas about trout fishing, and a fisheries expert in the team in the shape of our Tasmanian, Dr the ability to adapt has been great strength. Of course we've read English books and Rob Sloane. He had some pretty accurate ideas about the behaviour of stockies, and magazines, including Trout Fisherman, but most of us were where to find them. I discove sceptical for instance about when I fished with John Pawson that we had similar ideas to the English lads, and on know it works." our day at Rutland, I felt I really should have had more fish than

teams of three flies. Now we Third placed New Zealand drew a huge cheer when they announced: "If you have to be besten it's nice to lose to the

offshore islands ...

39

New World Flyfishing

Luciana Lynch,

Champion, steals a kiss

commercial director for Findlater, as she presents Brian with the winner's

Dry Fly Sherry Trophy

takes a tumble on the

Test as he lands a



AND SD to Winchester, as

competitors drew for position.

At Avington a pegging and

that man again, as Brian Leadbetter took 11 fish and first

sessions system was in force.

place on a variety of mayflies.

including Charles Jardine patterns. The Silhouette Mayfly,

Shadow Mayfiy, Flyline Extended Body Mayfly and the

Grey Wulff all scored for Brian.

unbeatable position. Brian had been working away from home and paid tribute to his hotel, the

Crown at Everleigh, whose

with practise galore "I don't find dry fly too

reservoir.

Avon beats had provided him

tough", he told me, "It's not

unlike allowing fish to turn down with a top dropper on the

Dennis Buck was second to Brian with eight fish, while John Pawson's nine brought him third on the Test beats. Over at Avington, Chris Ogborne pipped Bob Church by three fish. Throughout the contest, fish over 41/alb counted only as a maximum weight of 41/5/b. Avington rainbow was one Chris Ogborne had found a deadly fly, a Hare's Ear shrimp, and Brian took all his fish at Avington on it. But John Pawson was to excel on day two at Avington, with first place. Brian's fourth was nevitably enough for the championship. Over on the Test Chris Ogborne managed sixth,

and Bob Church, who had a frustrating morning returning

over 30 fish that were just under the 36cms rainbow limit, lifted

his afternoon form for seventh

Aussies, widely fancied in the individuals for their river and

Strangely enough we were not too well prepared. I had just one Mayfly pattern, and I lost it

early in the morning in a tree.

Put it down to four hours sleep

Chris Ogborne on his way to another victory . . . this time at Avington when he took seven

hole on the first lake in the first

trout from the favoured de

20-minute session of the

individual chame

visual fishing skills? Nineth placed John Sautelle junior

commented:

What happened to the

On the Test, the mayfly were up, and on the Tuesday it was

a night for 14 days, or to a historic and traditional setting for angling, with 32 individuals poised to take on the Test at Kimbridge and Avington. Two sessions on two beats on the Test saw a large element of luck entering proceedings as

slump after getting up for the team performance, but we just didn't put it together." And so it was Brian Leadbetter's trophy. At the ceremony at the Winchester Guildhall he accepted the Findlaters Trophy, a limited edition split cane Partridge rod worth over £500, and Farlows tackle voucher. Chris Ogborne was second: Bob Church third (Bob has kindly donated part of his prize for a Trout Fisherman contest); Dennis Buck was fourth, New Zealander Don McLeilan fifth and John Pawson Tributes were made to the

many sponsors, the Sports Council; Nat West Bank; Findlaters: Dewars (whose Pipe Major Willie Cochran piped the event throughout); Volvo; Freight Rover; the Humberts who gave the Test beats: Mrs. Holland at Avington; and innumerable other sponsors This was the week that World competition in fly fishing came of age. The next event will be in Tasmania in November 1988, for wild fish, and from the shore - a different kettle of



book.

John as I missed a lot of takes.

we've never fished from boats

"We're all pretty good casters, which helped, but





+ 1 + 2 + 9 - 20; Fifth: Don McLellan, (N.Z.): 6 + 8 + 5 + 1 - 20; Sixth: John Pawson, 2 + RESULTS Team championships (Points scored 100 per fish, one point per gram up to 2 kilos per fish. 15+3+1-21; Seventh: Tony Piggott (Aus): 9+3+7+8= 27; Eighth: Moc Morgan (Wales): 6 + 7 + 4 + 10 = 27 England, 85,330; 2. Australia 41,350; 3. New Zealand, 27,815 4. Wales, 23,235; 5. Poland, fewer fish); Ninth; John 22,765; 6. France, 21,830; 7. Ireland, 18,890; 8. Italy, Soutelle (Aus): 3 + 7 + 11 + 7 : 28; Tenth: Tony Entwistle 17.525: 9. Canada, 16.920 11. Beigium, 15,915;

13. Finland, 13.270:

14. Norway, 12,455

6,640; 19 Spain, 5,590.

to 32 on day three.)

15. Luxemburg, 11,490; 16. West Germany, 10,755; 17. Rumania, 7,355; 18. Kenya, Individual Championships (Lowest score wins, one point for first, two for second etc, cut First: Brian Laadbetter: 1 + +4 = 7; Second: Chris Oghorne: 1 + 5 + 1 + 6 = 13; Third: Bob Church: 2 + 4 + 2 +

(N.Z): 3 + 5 + 12 + 9 = 29; 11. J. Gaillard (France); 12. A. Tondera (Pol); 13. John Ranupf (Aus): 14. R. Hanizet (France): 15. N. Capisano (Italy); 16. R. Lanser (Lux); 17. S. St (Czech); 18. V. Aulti (Finland); 19. J. Lemmer (Selgium); 20 Boyko (France), J. O'Malley (trefand); 22. K. Sasula, Poland; 23. A. Meleta (Poland); 24. J. Miller (Scot); 25. M. Oliver (N.Z); 26, N. Nicchiotti (Italy); 27. P. Heirskanen (Fin): 28. G. Stock (W. Germany); 29. R. Willis (Ireland); 30. J. Eisner (Czech): 31. M. Lame (Ireland); 32. R. Jones(Wales).

of the marquee and landing four keepable fish.

progressed, the final result unfolded. Chris Ogborne could produce only two more fish,

though Bob Church after a blank morning landed five takeable fish

including a brownie, a rainbow and three graying to assure him of third spot overall. At Avington, Brian Leadbetter had secured the champtonship title. By casting a

leaded Shrimp to craising fish he brought his catch up to ten fish for

third place on the day, being beaten only by Roberto Capisano of Italy and his own team member

John Pawson, whose 13 fish made him the clear leader.

So there you have it. Obvious favourites, it's true, but England

still did a magnificent job to produce such a resounding victory. Not only did they take the

overall team title, but in the

ndividuals they held first, second,

third, fourth and sixth places with

As the afternoon sessi

I IRRORING THE TOP INCREASE in British competitive fly-fishing, it seemed appropriate that the seventh World Flyfishing Champiomhip, which was fished on English waters, should see the largest number of teams entering in the event's history. OF THE Twenty-one nations took part from places as diverse as Zambia and Norway as well as the more traditional European countries Other notable first-timers included Australia New Zealand and Canada, making 1987 a troly nternational year. The competition was divided into two sections. The first, the team event, was to be fished over May 23 and 24 from boats on Rutland and Grafbam Water, Due England's triumph in the 1987 world to the large number of anglers, championships was not unexpected, but

each five-man team was also divided into two, so that three would fish one water on the first day and two the other, swapping

over on day two. If that sounds complicated the execution went without a fritch — particularly from England's point of view. Obviously as home team England were favourites to take the title. though few could have predicted their buge margin of success Day one saw Chris Ogborne Bob Church and Dennis Buck fishing Grafhem, with Brian Leadbetter and John Pawson on Rutland. Fishing conditions were favourable with a good wave and overcast skies, though early-morning drizzle made the

At Burland boats concentrated around the known "hotspots" including the Normanton shore and by early afternoon catches were being reported as "steady" with plenty of three- and four-fish bags, Grafham, due in part to coloured water, was proving a harder proposition, though catches were still fair. Top boat carried England's Bob Church and Ireland's Dick Willis, who boated 21 fish between them, including the best fish so far — a 4

10am start less than comfortable bottom of the North Arm. Ib rainbow taken by Dick Willis. Most of the fish, including the "last cost" big one, came from the shallows off the Sludge Lagoon.



throng the eventual winners on day one had slipped off to the Pre-match practice had found large concentrations of fish on the peninsula shore of the arm and here Brian Leadbetter's and John Pawson's bouts could be found

ranging between lead impregnated and intermediate, (Brian changed lines xix times during the day!) Brian and John produced a superb team performance, taking 36 and 31 fish respectively. With Chris Ogborne on 17, Bob Church on 12 nd Dennis Buck with six at Grafham, England were to take an all-but-unassailable 32,000-point lead into day two. As could be expected, day two was more difficult. With news of the big catches at Rutland filtering through, the bottom of the North Arm was besieged. Conditions were still good if a little rougher. but catches dropped considerably. Dennis Buck taking first place at Rutland with 12 fish and the

ever-consistent Brian Lendbetter

steadily picking up fish. Using a combination of Peach Baby Doll and Old Nick fished on lines

the margin by which they won was

spectacular. PETER GATHERCOLE reports

> abbing similar position with six fish at Grafbam. With England members taking the top places on both days victory ared, though no one could have predicted the massive

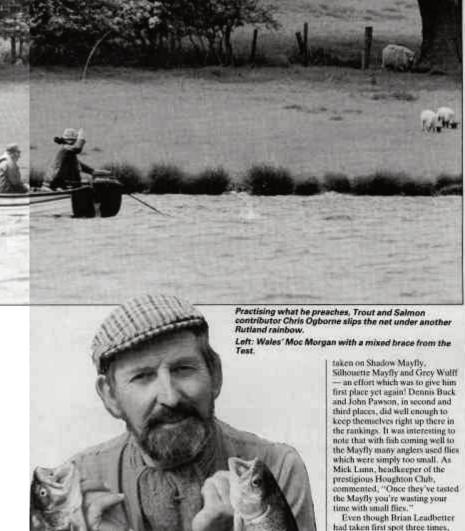
Smiles of victory: Left to right — Bob Morey, Dennis Buck, Bob Church, Geoff Clarkson, Brian Leadbetter, John Pawson, Chris Ogborne and Brian Thomas.



tremendously in a style not familiar to them before the championship. Not to be outdone New Zenland pipped Wales for third place, with the Poles coming fifth So to the individual stage of the competition, in which the top 32 anglers over the team days went through to fish on Avington and the River Test. With all five of the

England team through to the individuals it meant Chris Ogborne and Bob Church or Avington, with Dennis Buck, Brian Leadbetter and John Pawson on the Test. Fishing on the Test was due to the kindness of Mr and Mrs Arthur Humbert of the Kimbridge lisheries and, with the beginnings of the Mayfly seaton in progress, sport was At Avington, with its clear water and big fish, leaded symphs were very much the order of the day. To make it fair, the three

lakes were split into mini beats and rotated every 20 minutes. Chris Ogborne drew bottom beat of the first lake and took un early end, landing seven fish, including a 14 lb brace on a leaded Hare's Ear nymph. After losing three good fish in this period, Bob Church's fortune changed before funch, when he took 10 fish, best 8 fb 6 oz, to give him second place to Chris's 13-fish first. At Kimbridge, England were faring almost as well. Among an early hatch of Mayfly the irrepressible Brian Leadbetter was well on his way to an 11-fish total



had taken first spot three times, the title of world-champion was still to be secured. Chris Ogborne in second place, was still in with a

slim chance, though it meant Brian coming lower than fifth on the final day, After a slow start, due in part to a bad draw, Brian took fish consistently in all but the last two sessions at Avington John Pawson, on the other hand. drew well, and was soon amassin a fine bag, though Dennis Buck, like Brian, was finding it hard The Test, too, was causing the odd problem, particularly for Bob Church, who had the misfortune

the measure and had to be neturned. Chris Ogborne fared

better, fishing his morning in from

a five-man team. The only man to break the run was New Zealander David McLellan, who put up a superb performance in his first ever World Championship. Congratulations, too, should go to Terry Piggott of Australia in sixth spot and Wales's own Moc Morgan, who managed an adoutable eighth. But England weren't the only winners, for along with Australia and New Zealand, who came second and third, the sport of trout fishing came out on top. Even in competition the feeling of camaraderie among the teams, couriers, officials — in fact all those involved - was a credit. Next year the competition will travel to the other side of the world — to Tasmania. It will be Australia's bicentenary so competitors can be assured of an extra special event as well as some fantastic trout fishing. It would

perhaps be too much to ask for the English team to repeat their incredible performance, but it goes without saying that they will certainly give it their best. Results Team event 1. England 85,330 pts. (H. Leudbetter 24,580; J. Pawson 20,340; C. Ogborne 16,210; R. Church 13,385; D. Buck 10,915);

Individual event B. Leadbetter (England); 2. C. Oeborne (England): 3. R. Church (England); 4. D. Buck (England); 5. D. McLellan (New Zealand); 6. Pawson (England); 7. T. Piggott (Australia); 8. M. Morgan (Wales); 9. J. Sautelle (Australia); 10. T. Entwistle (New Zealand).

to draw a beat where the water was deep and held an inordinate number of small fish. Fishing dry he took 30 fish in the morning session, all of which failed to beat

Zealand 27,815 pts; 4, Wales 23,235 pts; 5, Poland 22,765 pts; 6, France 21,830 pts; 7, Finland 21,555 pts; 8, Ireland 18,890 pts; Scotland 18,700 pts; 10.
 Czechoslovakia 17,960 pts.

2. Australia 41, 355 pts: 3. New