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GREATEST ANGLER EVER

Ivan Marks – Known affectionately as the people's champion, Ivan was the greatest matchman of his generation. But his 'greatness' can never purely be measured by championship victories and trophies, more his love of the sport and the generosity and warmth he offered fellow fishermen.

Dick Walker – The father of modern fishing, Dick had a great angling brain, whether that was inventing tackle or catching specimen fish – including a British record carp in 1952.

Peter Drennan – A brilliant fishing and business brain has made the name Peter Drennan synonymous with innovation and excellence right across Europe. It is widely accepted that every angler has at least one piece of Drennan tackle among their kit.

Alan Scotthorne – The word 'great' doesn't do this man credit! Put aside his five World Championship individual crowns, European Champs gold and sackful of team medals and the Yorkshireman remains just as dangerous on the home match scene.

Bob Nudd – He may be in his twilight match fishing years now, but put the four-times World Champ on a shoal of roach on a river or drain and he'll rarely make a mistake.

Tommy Pickering – Tom is a legend in many people's eyes, and his matchfishing CV is staggering, with every team medal there is to win both at home and abroad, plus a raft of individual titles such as the UK Champs, Embassy Pairs.

Dick Clegg – He took on the management of the England team in the 1980s and medals flowed - and never stopped right up until he stood down in 2001. With 13 team medals in 16 years, and no fewer than 11 individual English world champions being crowned in that time, Clegg's genius is undoubted.

Fred J Taylor – Fred was a highly innovative coarse fisherman who developed the use of deadbaits for piking. His good friend Dick Walker convinced Fred that he should distil his knowledge of coarse fishing into a book – the result was a classic work, *Angling in Earnest*.

Bernard Venables – One of the co-founders of *Angling Times* back in 1953, Bernard first made his mark in the *Daily Mirror* with the cartoon strip *Mr Crabtree Goes Fishing*.

Peter Stone – An author of countless fishing articles and 12 books, Stoney was a big-fish legend and helped establish the Oxford Specimen Group in the 1950s. A barbel and chub fanatic, Peter had a quite brilliant talent for catching 'the biggest'.

Kevin Ashurst – A giant of matchfishing both in physical terms and with a rod in hand, and still very much a force to be reckoned with on the Irish festival circuit. Kevin's talent was rewarded with World Champs gold in 1982 on Ireland's Newry Canal.

Benny Ashurst – Although he never touched the heights of messrs Nudd, Pickering and Scotthorne, or his son Kevin, the late Benny Ashurst remains a perennial pick on most people's top ten match anglers as much for his innovation as his angling ability.

John Wilson – John was the face of angling through his inspirational *Go Fishing* series, screened by Anglia and Channel Four. John's incredible commitment to the promotion of fishing was recognised with an MBE in 2009.

Chris Yates – Star of the greatest fishing show ever made – *A Passion For Angling* – Yates is widely accepted as the greatest modern writer in the sport. Through books such as *The Secret Carp* and *Casting At The Sun*, Chris captured the beauty of fishing. He also broke the carp record with a 51lb mirror from Redmire Pool.

The legendary Ivan Marks. He's rated by some as the finest match angler of all time.

