

QUEST FOR THE PERFECT FILM

The highs and lows of making angling DVDs



Two tench are feeding in a beautiful estate lake.

As one of them takes the bait, the float lifts...

...and the strike sees the fish make for the lilies.

Caught in the Act is not about specimen fishing, but Bob and Stu caught plenty nonetheless.

A BEAUTIFUL English estate lake on a summer's day. The camera pans across the water to an angler casting, zooming in on a float sitting at a jaunty angle by a lilybed. Pinprick bubbles surround it as a scattering of maggots lands expertly around the orange tip.



KEVIN WILMOT
Deputy editor

you think this sounds like a scene from one of the excellent angling films produced over the past decade or so, then you might be right, but Bob is at pains to explain how Caught in the Act is different.

"What sets us apart is that we never mock up bites," said Bob. "Every single bite is caught on camera - none of this whipping a sack out with 'one I caught earlier' or cutting from angler sat by rods to scenic, then cutting back to bent rod with a fish already played out and ready for

netting. In some cases we film the bite underwater, with the actual fish we catch seen taking the hookbait. No, we believe it is a film maker's job to build anticipation and give the viewer as near a representation of being sat behind the rod themselves. It's about involvement."

The four DVDs cover an angling year, with 10 species targeted in waters up and down the UK, and Bob and Stu had their share of disasters during the three years of filming.

"The worst was probably the three trips in the dead of winter trying to catch a big stillwater zander. We failed miserably and by the end we were losing the will to live."

And the highs? "One of the best had to be discovering a shoal of massive perch on a popular river fishery and then getting 3lb and 4lb perch to eat lobworms right in front of the underwater camera before catching the biggest fish in the shoal. That was an incredible high."

The films are narrated by traditional angling enthusiast Keith Elliott, and plenty of stunning underwater shots complement the fishing footage. It must be good; National Geographic TV has asked for some for a series to be aired later this year. "That came right out of the blue and shocked us!" said Stuart.

Here we present a taster of the four DVDs, with images taken from the footage...

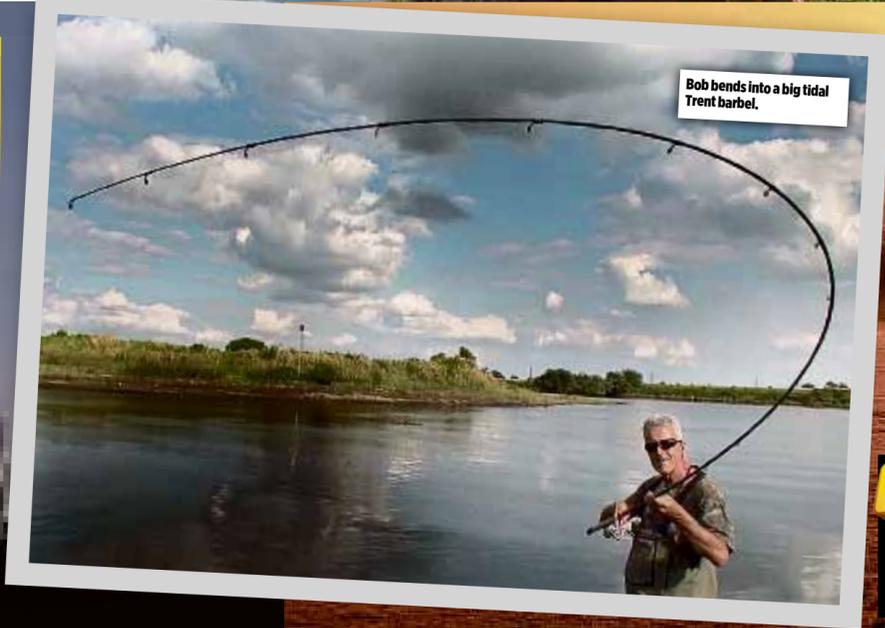


When he wasn't behind the camera, Stuart caught plenty of big fish himself.



There's plenty of stunning footage taken in the dark.

"What sets us apart is that we never mock up bites. Everything is real"



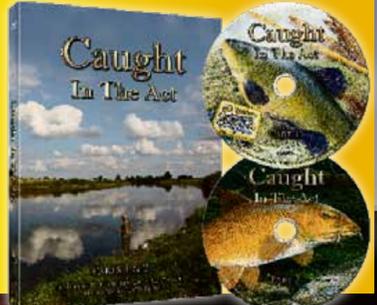
Bob bends into a big tidal Trent barbel.



They would travel hundreds of miles to get a few seconds of the perfect shot.

WIN FILMS!

We have four copies of parts one and two of Caught in the Act to give away. Just send a postcard with your name and address to: Caught in the Act, Angling Times, Bauer Media, Media House, Peterborough Business Park, Lynch Wood, Peterborough, PE2 6EA. Closing date for receipt of entries is Monday, April 15



ORDER THE FILMS...
Caught in the Act parts one and two are sold together as a 160-minute double DVD set. Price is £29.99, including post and packing. Available to pre-order from today (April 9) from www.bobrobertsonline.co.uk Released May 1. The full trailer can be viewed at www.bobrobertsonline.co.uk www.facebook.com/CITAFILM or www.youtube.com/stubarbel Parts three and four will be released November 2013