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**Considerations**

**C**hristmas is long gone. Hogmanay is a memory for some and just a haze for others. I thought that I would look at the last summer season and consider options.

At times I have become disillusioned by constant failure but I suppose that I must carry on, if only to prove to myself that I can still hack it.

I would like to thank those members who throughout last year ferried me to and from matches and also on some "pleasure" trips - I remember Hammerlands in the rain!

I would also like to thank all those members who have helped me to ferry my kit to and from pegs, especially the Island pond at Magiscroft. Without your help I think that I would probably have had to give up by now. Unfortunately I know that I will probably need more help this year.

I have made just two New Years resolutions. One is easy to keep, to keep a diary of all fishing over the year but the second is a lot more difficult. I want to beat Davy in at least one match.

Enough about me. I want you all to have a good season. Tight lines.

## ***Comments.***

***B*** *ecause we haven't met up since that last abortive meeting I have no comments to make on your language, behaviour or litter habits. All I can say is that by the end of last season we were so much improved in all three disciplines that it was sometimes difficult to recognise many members. Thank you, I would like to be able to go a whole season without mentioning any of my usual reminders.*

*Now a few words about a perennial problem, I refer of course to meetings. I know that many of you have a problem attending meetings for family, work or transport reasons. Please try to attend, it is important to the general running of the club that the committee gets your views and acts on them if at all possible. If you are unable to attend then send an e-mail to Geoff or myself.*

*Last month I suggested that I needed to give up writing the newsletter and asked for a volunteer to replace me, at least until Ian is ready to take over again. No takers so I will continue to try to put out a reasonable newsletter but I really do need your help with subjects for discussion.*

**Phil Maude**

**The Bomb**

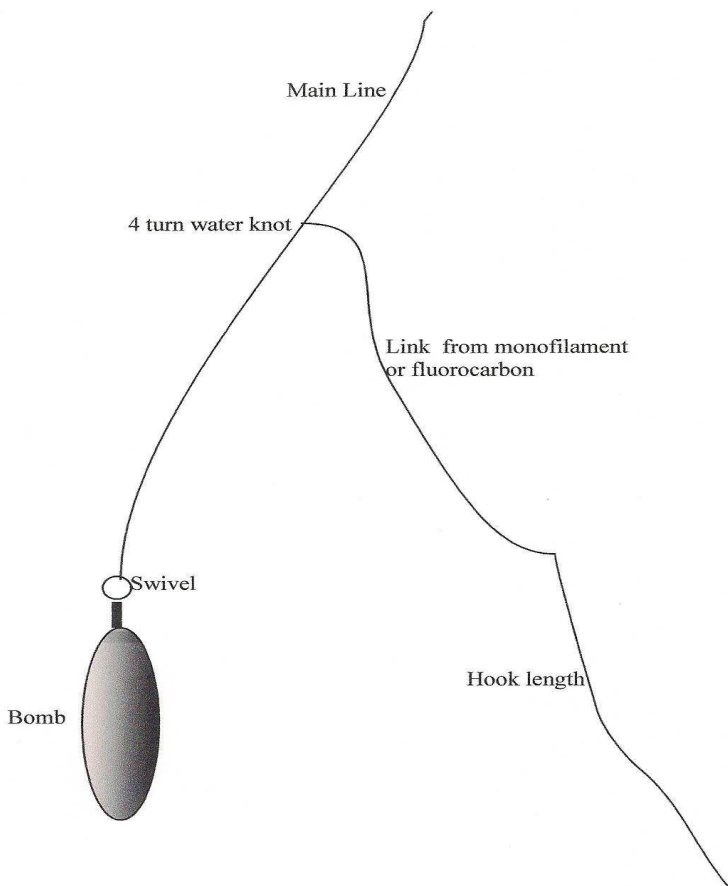
Over the last few months I have written about legering based on the feeder. I want to now discuss briefly the BOMB.

For me the use of a bomb and a big explosion would probably be the only way I would be able to catch a few fish but that is not the sort of bomb I am writing about! At this time of the year fish do not use a lot of energy therefore filling up your swim with freebies and ground bait is counter productive. Fish, when and if feeding, will more readily take static baits. This is what the bomb offers you, little or no feed and a static bait.

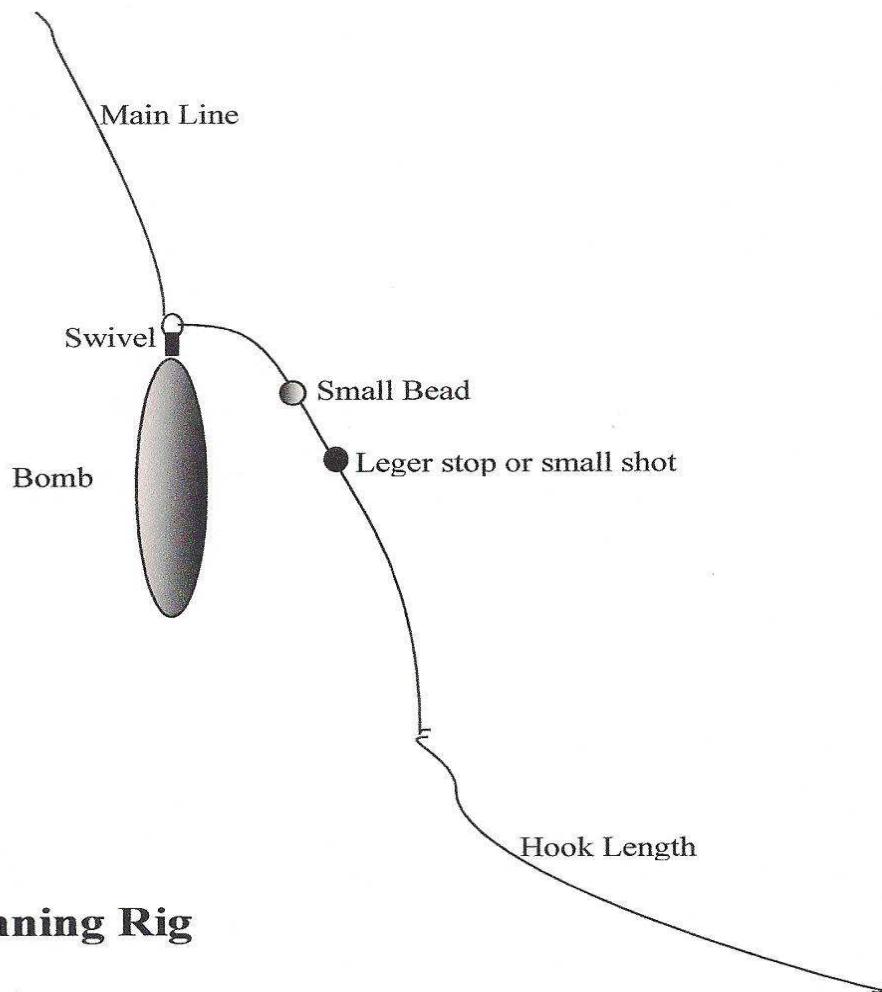
The bomb comes in various forms and weights and can be fished in either the paternoster style or as a running rig.

Some time ago a carp angler, Richard Walker, designed a bomb for use on a lake near the small town of Arlesey. He patented the bomb and it is now one of the best bombs on the market. Just a simple pear shaped weight with a swivel in weights from 1/8 ounce up to a massive 4 oz.

### The Rigs



### Paternoster Rig



## Running Rig

Five useful tips which may help you.

In the paternoster rig the use of fluorocarbon will help to reduce tangles because of its stiffness.

If there is a steep shelf in the water carefully flatten out some weights so that they will hold position or buy round flat spectacle weights.

Experiment with the hook length until positive bites are seen. Usually between 18 and 30 inches.

Don't try to tighten too hard to the weight. Putting a bend in the tip will increase the resistance to the fish and result in dropped baits.

Use a 4 lb. main line but use smaller hooks and finer hook lengths than you would in the warmer months.