

Vass-Iex

175 Lightweight Waterproof Smock

Roger Mortimore endured some rotten weather to see just how the Vass-Tex waterproof smock coped.

here's nothing worse than getting a soaking when you're out fishing, and finding clothing that is truly waterproof and functional can be difficult – until now!

Vass has recently launched a new range of waterproof and windproof clothing made with the company's Vass-Tex 175 fabric. It's lightweight, breathable and machine washable, plus there are no metal fittings to go Casting styles are not impeded, either, because the fabric stretches when you raise your arms or turn into a cast and, because it's so light, you hardly know that you're wearing it.

Some of the features that I like on the company's smock are that the hood can be tucked away in the collar when you don't need it and the elasticated cuffs and waist keep the wind out. The large front pocket has

a storm flap and Velcro fastenings so you can keep your phone and car keys protected in here.

Wearing the smock over a pair of Vass chest waders will almost guarantee that you're totally 'waterproofed' – unless you fall in the sea, that is.

Having worn the waders and the smock a few times, I can report that they're comfortable to wear for a few hours and, because the smock's fabric is breathable, you don't end up being soaked in sweat. Fortunately there were no heavy downpours during these sessions – just constant rain for a few hours – but the smock kept my clothes bone dry.

We know that the waders are pretty tough and this smock is billed as tearresistant, but if you do have a bad fall and do some damage, the fabric is easy to repair.

Another neat idea is the reverse upper D-ring that allows you to carry a lightweight landing net if you're roaming the coast while lure fishing.

The style of the smock means that it doesn't look like your usual fishing smock; it's smart enough to wear when you're out shopping or taking the dog for a walk and, because it isn't lined, it can be worn both in summer and in winter with a couple of extra layers underneath.

It's available in six sizes from S to XXXL, so there's a size to fit everyone, from children to large adults. tsf

Contact: Your local Vass Stockist Website: www.vassrainwear.co.uk