

THAMESIDE WORKS ANGLING & PRESERVATION SOCIETY

AUGUST 2012 NEWSLETTER

DEAR MEMBERS,

SOME WORDS FROM THE CHAIRMAN

A warm welcome to you all and I hope you have had a rewarding start to the 2012/2013 season.

A lot of what you will read may be old news to most of you, but remember Thameside has a significant number of new members each season, and it is right and proper that they, and you should be kept up to date with both ongoing issues from past seasons, as well as projects in the pipeline for this season.

I have been privileged to Chair the Committee meetings which have been lively and productive, sometimes not finishing until the late hours.

Brian Potter resigned as Head Bailiff and a Committee Member, and I as Assistant Head Bailiff was appointed, by the Committee, as his successor. I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank Brian for his help and support over many, many years.

The current Committee is now as follows:-

| | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| Chairman | Dennis Hammond |
| Secretary | Michael "mick" Mount |
| Treasurer | Barry Sims |
| Membership Secretary | Jeff Buxton |
| Competition Secretary | Derek Graves |
| Head Bailiff | Dennis Hammond |
| Assistant Head Bailiff | Derek Graves |

Committee members:-Dave Shirley, Roy Stedman, Peter Huckstep, Philip Townsend, Jack Louth, Geoff Louth and Albert Murray

Derek Graves is also our Website Administrator and Philip Townsend is also our Health and Safety Officer. NB. See website for Committee "mug shots"

The Committee wish to extend an apology to those of you who attended the 2012 AGM.

The venue was changed from past years due to the unavailability of the Gravesend Rugby Club, and so it was decided to use the Inn on the Lake. A Monday evening was recommended by them, as there was no other function booked on that night, not true, as upon arriving I discovered a large contingent of Ann Summer's reps having a meeting in the adjoining room! The AGM notification and newsletter had asked members to confirm their attendance in order that sufficient seating would be made available, and as only a small no. of replies were received, seating for 60 was arranged.

Imagine my delight, and yet concern that so many arrived, meaning that there was standing room only. Complaints from those at the back of the room that they could not hear were not however, helped by the furnishings the room, i.e. the thick carpet, and curtains all down one side of the room itself, and the "individual meetings that were going on between members themselves" and, in fact on several

occasions I asked them to refrain from chatting whilst other people were giving reports, answers to queries, etc.

Refreshments were not supplied due to the charges made by the Hotel. The Committee acknowledge it was not free from problems and to that end have already booked the large hall at the Gravesend Rugby Club for the 2013 AGM, and refreshments will be supplied!

The voting procedures at the AGM are being looked at with an aim to make them clearer. Details to follow at a later date.

Regarding feed back to the Committee, this is still very minimal. The Committee can only act with the running of the club and the waters on your behalf if we hear from you. This can be done by e-mail, text, "snail mail", word of mouth to a Bailiff or Committee Member.

Finally I wish you a continuing good season, and remind you that due to the change of Society year from next season, the **final renewal date for next season is the 1st April 2013.**

Tight Lines

Dennis Hammond, Chairman and Head bailiff

[Membership Secretary \(Jeff Buxton\)](#)

Just a few reminders for you:-

- Membership is closed at present, but there is a waiting list available should you have any friends or family that are thinking of joining Thameside for the forthcoming season 2013/2014. Please ring or email me your details on 07712 837996 or jeffbuxton@btinternet.com
- Also available for the sum of £5.00 is a **non-fishing permit** which will allow members to take their wives/girlfriends/partners to club waters whilst they are fishing there. Without this permit **only club members** are allowed on our waters. It has been noted by our Bailiffs that there have been rule infringements in respect of this and appropriate action will be taken by them should this rule continue to be abused.
- Please, please, please if you change your email address, home address or phone numbers then please let me know so I can keep our database up to date.

[Match Secretary \(Derek Graves\)](#)

Good support for the matches this year with some new faces putting in an appearance. If you have never fished a match then come along and give it ago. You don't need specialist equipment, only your everyday fishing tackle and a keep net, (which I can supply if you don't have one). There's no money involved apart from a day ticket fee should we be fishing a day ticket water, such as Monk Lake or Cackle Hill etc. The only other thing you will need is a sense of humour and some swimming trunks. (Tristan Garret fell in at Shorne when a carp took his rod into the water. We all kept a straight face, even his Dad Rupert, until his back was turned. LOL)

On the 10th September at 7.30 pm, there will be a "Match Meeting" at the Gravesend Rugby Club. This is open to all existing members who fish matches and all new members who have never fished a match, but would like to know more about what's involved and the places we visit. I would also like to get feedback as to whereabouts you would like to fish the matches, so I can book them for the

following year. The sort of information I'm after is, How far do you want to travel? How much do you want to spend? Commercial or home water? Twilight match instead of an all nighter? Etc.etc To all new members who attend it will give you the chance to see and meet some of the existing match fraternity and see what a sorry lot we really are. LOL so hope to see you there

I can now report the following winners to date are:- Glowworm – D Graves, Random Pairs – D Graves and D. Shirley. Dave Shirley was also the recipient of the L. Moore Memorial Trophy. Individual Cup winner was Charlie Rayner, Nightingale – Tony Stedman (Terry Stedman came 2nd), Committee Cup – Jack Louth. The Gravesham Trophy was won by Blue Circle Match Group for the 12th year in a row (I believe), and finally the Starlight Trophy was won by Rupert Garrett (he had a lucky peg so he was bound to win LOL) So as you can see the Trophies are spread around this year. New faces that have fished in our matches include Steve Fogarty and Andy Stewart who had a particular liking for peg S10 on Long Lake during the Chairman's Evening matches. (he drew it 3 times!)

[Match Calendar \(for rest of season\)](#)

Due to circumstances beyond my control I have had to make certain changes to the match Calendar

| | | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-------------|
| September 2 nd | Monk Lake 2 | * | 8.00am draw |
| September 9 th | Kent Champs | RMCanal @ Hythe | |
| September 23 rd | Mousehole Lakes | * | 8.00am |
| September 30 th | Cacklehill | * | 8.00am |
| October 14 th | Orchard Farm | *Belvedere Cup | 8.00am |
| October 21 st | Stones | * | 8.00am |
| November 25 th | Claygate | *AWAC Trophy | 8.00am |
| December 16 th | Horsham Lakes | Fur & Feather | |

NOTE : Fur and Feather is booked for 35 to fish at Horsham Lake (TWAPS to cover Day-Ticket charges), followed by a meal at 'The Three Mariners' pub which is en-route back to Gravesend. FULL DETAILS will be in a special newsletter due out mid November.

[Head Bailiff \(Dennis Hammond\)](#)

Maintenance work continues on ALL waters and my thanks go to those who supported the June and July work parties at Cobham. Hope you enjoyed the BBQ.

Please keep your comments coming in, it is only by listening to you that Thameside can continue to improve. Yes, there is still a lot to be done, and as your Head Bailiff I am fortunate now, following a re-shuffle, to have a good team of bailiffs to call on, who can monitor all waters on a regular basis. It is intended to have a regular team to cover each water, so that they can familiarise themselves with the progress of that water and its development.

Not so good news!

Why, why, do members still break rules on all the fisheries. Rods unattended, litter, no paperwork (you know me, I have been a member for years!), open bait tins in view, leaving gates open, excessive use of boillies, cans of alcohol on the bank, etc, etc.

Taking non-members onto club waters without the requisite permission or permit is not allowed. This has been particularly prevalent at Inn on the Lake and the excuse "I'm just visiting or dropping something off," and then staying for the next hour or so will not be tolerated. You have been warned.

There is a team of new bailiffs recently appointed as listed below:-

Darren Reynolds, Darren Westripp, William Tanner, Paul & Helen Pitkin, Morag MacLennan and Jim Scott-Telford.

They have been instructed to report any rule infringements in order to cut down on this problem. Membership no's are kept on record for any future action to be taken if found necessary. Please report to me ASAP any bailiff issues that you as a member encounter.

I will not condone abuse, verbal or physical, **by or to a bailiff**, it works both ways.

If you see anything untoward happening on our lakes good or bad, then please contact me either via the website or by the emergency number on the front of your membership card.

General Comments

- Please take your rubbish home. We don't like having to clear up after you. You don't come round our houses and take our rubbish away. Or do you?
- We've had reports of members using an excessive amount of Boilies at Inn on the lake. This is not allowed. Anybody caught doing so will be reprimanded. Boilies at this lake is in moderation only i.e. half a kilo for example. Abuse of this rule could lead to no Boilies at all being allowed.
- When fishing our lakes, please do not block off the paths. If you happen to set up your bivvy and rods in such away that you prevent access to other parts of the lake, then the Bailiffs will be asking you to move or reposition your gear accordingly. If this happens to be 5 o'clock in the morning and you're in the land of nod, Tuff! Just have a little respect and consideration for other members.
- NO ALCOHOL is allowed on any of our waters. See Bye-Law 7, page 11 of your rule book. Also check out page 4 of your rule book.
- Reading notices. It surprises me how, so many anglers manage to drive to Cobham in the first place, park, unload their gear, walk to the swim, set up and fish, yet they can't read two A4 notices put on the gate and notice board, beats me. They are there for a reason and it is up to you to read them and take note. This also applies to the notice boards at Shorne.
- It has also been brought to the Committees attention about the use of excessively strong line i.e. 20lb+ and barbed hooks! (left on the bank at Shorne) Even more unbelievable was that braid was found at Shorne on the bank as well. May I remind all members the **maximum size line for all waters except Blue Lake is 12lb** (rules 7 and 15, page 11 and 12 of your rule book)

Club Water Updates

Cobham Hall.

- Regards the middle lake, works are in hand to start the repair work soon. It has been difficult to progress with this as quickly as we would have liked, but this has been due to other circumstances beyond our control, i.e. weather, committee/individuals workload, estate manager requirements, work party arrangements and the loss of the Head Bailiff. Approval has

been agreed with Cobham Hall Estates for the work needed to the Middle Lake. Derek Graves and Dennis Hammond had a very productive meeting with Terry Curran, Cobham Hall Estates Manager, on Tuesday 14th August 2012, at which Terry approved the plan that Derek had drawn up for the works needed. Costings are being finalised and work will recommence within the next couple of weeks. As soon as we know any more it will be put on the new website and on the gate and notice board at Cobham.

- The Middle Lake, although having been netted twice, still has fish in it and I would ask that if anyone catches these fish please put them immediately into the Bottom Lake. **Keep nets are not to be used!**
- Car parking – There are some individuals who are being inconsiderate when parking at Cobham. Please bear in mind that the car park, when people park correctly and don't leave big gaps between their motors, will hold approximately 23 vehicles.(subject to size of vehicle) The other day it was 14 and 2 members drove away! If you have not parked sensibly you will be asked to do so by the club Bailiffs. If you happen to be the first one in the car park don't just park in the middle of the car park because it is more convenient, but have some consideration to those who will be coming in after you. The club now has a membership of approx. 650 who are all entitled to fish Cobham and use the car park. Beware you have been warned!
- The top lake has been fishing well. (DG) had his best session up there the other weekend 15th July on the top lake with 8 carp between 6 and 9.5lb and lost 3 more and that was within 3hrs of fishing in the afternoon.

Shorne

- Fishing ok at times, but I've noticed that people aren't going up there in the evenings when it fishes the best. The other evening Derek Graves fished on L13 and had 8 carp out in an hour and a half, and lost as many. If you do go up there in the evening, take some Industrial strength Mosquito repellent as the mozzies this year seem to be extra virulent, even to the extent of being able to suck your blood through a hoodie and t-shirt combined. (as reported back to me by DG)
- Sadly we have to report the death of 2 moorhens caught up in line left behind by inconsiderate anglers. Please make sure you take any line /litter home with you as nobody likes this sort of thing to happen.
- Please do not fish the "backwater" on Long Lake, situated as you walk along the path from L13 toward L16. This is not a recognized fishing area and anyone caught fishing here will be dealt with accordingly.
- Please be careful with your mobiles at the lake. It has been reported back to me, that Dave Shirley, whilst trying to retrieve a pole section dropped in the water by his wife, found 3 mobile phones and a landing net handle. Dave did get his pole section back and was last seen trying to charge the phones to see if he could sell them on eBay.

Inn on the Lake

- Good News! Members no longer need to sign in at reception when visiting or fishing.
- Heavy weed reported which make fishing more challenging, particularly should you catch a carp and then have to pull it through all that weed. If you have any advice for our members then please email us through the usual channels. An email received from one member reports of him catching well over 100 carp in seven sessions. Mind you he doesn't say how long his

sessions were though. If anyone catches anything other than carp here, could they please let us know.

Blue Lake

Fishing really well, lots of 30lb plus carp coming out plus some good sized perch and bream.

Website

As you may or may not be aware we now have a new website. Please look at it and let me have any comments you may have good or bad. It is easier to upload pictures for the gallery now as well. If you have any articles or stories you want published then send them in and providing they're not too smutty they can go on the website.

If you have any pictures of fish that you have caught, in particular other species than Carp, i.e. Bream, Pike, Perch or Tench, then it would be nice to see them.

There is also a "For Sale" page on the website so if you wish sell any fishing items then let us know. It's totally free.

Tight Lines to one and all from your Committee

P.S. Work party at Cobham 1st Sept, but you may get this letter too late to attend. (members with emails will have already got theirs earlier.)