

THAMESIDE WORKS ANGLING & PRESERVATION SOCIETY

February 2012 Newsletter

DEAR MEMBERS,

SOME WORDS FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Welcome to you all, new and old alike. Please read this newsletter as many things have happened since the last one. It is mainly positive news, with the odd moan.

- a) Despite another freeze, only one dead fish, a carp of 6/7lb, has been found at Cobham, mainly due to a team of bailiffs keeping areas ice free on all 3 Ponds. Thanks to them for working in up to -6 degree weather conditions!!
- b) Funds to de-silt the middle pond at Cobham have been obtained, thanks to a grant from the Environment Agency. This work should be underway as you read this news letter and be completed by the end of March. Top and Bottom ponds will remain open but subject to some interruptions. It is also planned whilst the de-silt is going on, to build another joint swim on the high bank of the middle lake closer to the water than the previous swims are at present. If you have any comments/views as to what species of fish should be re-stocked in the lake then please let us know.
- c) Comments have been received from members and day ticket anglers about the poor fishing at Shorne, with suggestions that the fish have been either stolen or poisoned! Following on from these comments the Committee arranged for a visit by the Environment Agency to check the water conditions in both lakes. The results were that the Oxygen levels were at 90/92%, with a PH of 7.5 and negligible Ammonia levels. The next step is for the EA (Environment Agency) to carry out a fish survey during late March/early April to establish stock levels, and then advise the Society accordingly what action to take to improve the fishing.
- d) 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.

Change of Society year

The Committee is recommending a change in the Society year, so that it will be from the 1st April to the 31st March, season commencing 1st April 2013. This will need approval at the AGM where further details will be made available regarding changes to various rules, subscription renewal dates, etc. The Subscriptions for the **season beginning 1st April 2013** (NOT THIS YEAR!) have been set at:-

Adult £60.00,

Joint £105,

Senior Citizen/Disabled Adult £45.00,
Junior up to 11 years old £10.00, (New category)
Junior up to 12-17years old £25.00, (New category)
Non fishing permits £10.00.

BUT this means that, subject to AGM approval to change of year, renewals for season **beginning 1st June 2012 will be for a 10mth period up to 31st March 2013**, and therefore renewing subs will be the same as you paid this current season with Joining fees will remaining the same:-

Adult £45.00,
Joint £72.00,
OAP/Disabled £27.00,
Junior (under16) £18.00.

Finally please let me know if you wish to nominate anyone for any of the Committee positions. NB, any nomination must have a Proposer and a Seconder. Please of course ensure that anyone you wish to nominate is prepared to stand!! Closing date for nominations is Tuesday 20th March 2012. Send nominations by e-mail to, djhangling@blueyonder.co.uk or by post to, M Mount, 4 Northridge Road, Gravesend, Kent, DA12 5AY. The current Committee, as shown on the attached agenda, with the exception of Steve Burbridge have all offered their services for the next season.

Tight lines

Dennis Hammond

Membership Secretary (Jeff Buxton)

Please note that I will be taking renewals for next season **AFTER** the AGM and **not BEFORE** or **DURING**. Please bring a stamped addressed envelope with you!!

Renewal is simple :

- a) Please cut off the renewal section of your current card.
- b) Take the time to complete the mini questionnaire relating to club waters you have fished as this will be very useful to the Committee in deciding where to allocate funds and manpower in the future.
- c) Complete all other areas in full.
- d) Post to **Jeff Buxton** or hand to me as above including a stamped, self addressed return envelope and of course a cheque for the correct amount (Adult £45, Senior & Disabled £27, Joint £72, Junior £18.)

Members who have changes to their current details, phone, address, email, etc, please let me have them as well.

Head Bailiff (Brian Potter)

Mainly good news although fishing patchy at times, some good fish taken on all waters including:

- Cobham, 8lb Tench, 3lb Crucian, Carp to 19lb and Roach to 1lb. One regular member no. 156 caught 27 carp to 6lb in a single session!!

- Shorne, Mirror Carp to 10lb, Commons to 9lb with many 3/4/5lbs caught as well dark black ones!!
- Inn on Lake, plenty of carp to 22lb, with one member reporting having caught 50 various weights since September, Plenty of perch, roach and a few bream as well.
- Blue Lake, plenty of carp reported coming out of Railway corner with other members catching large perch and eels. This Lake is challenging and not for the faint hearted.
- River Beult, no reports and remember close season starts midnight 14th March.

Now a moan about members leaving litter, in any form, not just sweet wrappers, cigarette butts, bread crusts etc, if you are caught you will be reported to the Committee for further action to be taken. Litter is unsightly, offensive and encourages rats. Do not leave it for someone else to collect!! The bailiff's job is not to pick up your litter. You bringeth, you taketh!

Should any members go to Blue Lake for the first time please note the following :- there are 2 padlocks on the first entrance gate. The larger key opens the black padlock, ignore the chrome one as this is for the use of Network Rail. This also applies to the second larger vertically railed gate. On going through the second gate parking is on the left and right where the gate giving access to the lake is. The padlock on this gate is opened using the smaller of the two keys. Alternatively you can keep on driving and follow the road to the end where there is another gate and padlock opened by the smaller key. Please keep the road clear at all times.

It has also been brought to the Committees attention about the use of excessively strong line i.e. 30lb and barbed hooks! (left on the bank at Shorne) 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)

Polite Reminder. Those disabled members allowed to take their cars to the lakes at Shorne must display their blue badge as a condition of parking there. Offenders will have registration numbers taken.

THE WEB-SITE BIT (Derek Graves)

To all old members and new please remember to check now and again to the website for updates on what is happening on the lakes. Believe it or not things do change on there and hopefully if things go according to plan the website will grow as the club does. The database with reference to emails works very well and the plan is to expand upon it with possibly competitions and questionnaires being sent out by email. The response/feedback from yourselves has been encouraging. Again if there is anything you would like to see on the website please drop me a line and I'll see what I can do. For example some members asked bailiffs/committee members if we could look into the possibility of pin badges for the club. This was duly done and now I can proudly report that the club now does have a pin badge for sale at a cost of £5.00 including p&p. Should you wish to purchase one at the AGM they will be

available for the reduced rate of £4.00. The badge can be viewed on the website. Please remember **all monies raised goes back into the running of the club**. I'm also looking into the supply of embroidered iron on logos for putting onto sweatshirts, jumpers, coats etc. and supply of other items such as baseball hats, bottle openers, keyrings etc anything in fact to promote the club. All of the fore mentioned or anything else considered will be subject to demand so please let me know if you would be interested.

A new page is proposed for the website after the AGM with pictures of your Committee and Bailiffs with relevant contact details, as this follows on from comments received from members not recognising Bailiffs on the waters, and actually realising that the club had 12 named Bailiffs. Obviously some Bailiffs only cover certain waters i.e. Blue Lake so unless you fish there, you will possibly never meet them.

MATCH NEWS (Derek Graves)

Matches have again been reasonably well supported this season even though times have been hard financially with fuel costs etc. and that is why taking this into account, it is planned to have more matches on the clubs waters this year, but with a few different formats to provide some variety. There will still be some away matches at commercials but within a reasonable driving distance. Normally we have 2 night matches but this year I'm planning on having 3 night matches one at Shorne, one at Cobham and hopefully one at Inn on the Lake. The latter will be subject to swim availability and may have to be done on a first come, first serve basis depending on who wants to fish it. The other plan I have for the matches is to start two of them later in the day, say fishing from 1 till to 7pm, or even 2 till 8. It appears this is how matches were fished in the old days. (as informed to me by Phil Townsend and he should know. lol)

The Fur and Feather was well supported even though the fish decided to swim south for winter. The Raffle and prize giving was held afterwards at the Rugby Club in Gravesend. The food supplied by the Rugby Club was outstanding on the day and the prizes of poles and rods and reels was well received by the winners. Member Mike Stirling couldn't believe it when he went home with a new pole for coming second on the lake with 3hrs fishing.

This year we had 3 entries for the new specimen trophy (as per rule book) and the winner will be presented with their trophy at the AGM.

Well that's all for the moment. Hopefully we'll see a lot of you at the AGM at Inn on the Lake on the 26th March. Finally - don't forget to renew your Rod Licence - it runs out on 31st March.

So thank you for supporting the matches so far and hopefully we will see you on future match days.