

THAMESIDE NEWSLETTER MAY 2016

DEAR MEMBERS,

Some words from the chairman, Dennis Hammond

A warm welcome to renewing and new members. I hope you have had a good start to the new season. This newsletter contains some information already known to renewing members, but is repeated for the benefit of new members.

Please look at the various notice boards in place at the fisheries (along with the website), as from time to time, important messages are posted on them, e.g., bye-law changes, closure of a fishery for emergency/maintenance work, etc.

Thanks to those of you who were able to get to the AGM, some 60 + were there. I appreciate the input given and where possible the Committee have been able to implement some of the suggestions given. One suggestion raised has been agreed by the Committee and is that **“Three (3) rods are now allowed on the front Lake only at Inn on the Lake, from the 1st October to the 31st March each year”**.

This rule will be immediately withdrawn if abused.

It is only with feedback from you, that the Committee can continue to strive to improve, where necessary, the fishing you are paying for.

Remember that, as Thameside does not own any of the fisheries, it is not always possible to do some of the things suggested, as they conflict with the Landowners conditions of being allowed the fishing rights. Fortunately Thameside has built an excellent working relationship with its' landowners and is not usually refused permission to carry out works needed. Please, on your Fisheries **“take nothing but photographs, and leave nothing but footprints”**.

I wish you all tight lines and fair weather.

Dennis Hammond.

Secretary (Mick Mount)

The Committee for the season 2016-2017 as elected at the 2016 AGM is as follows:-

Chairman	Dennis Hammond
Secretary	Michael “mick” Mount
Treasurer	Jeff Buxton
Membership Secretary	Jeff Buxton
Competition Secretary	Derek Graves
Website Administrator	Ian Collier
Head Bailiff	Dennis Hammond

Committee members: - Dave Shirley (Assistant Head Bailiff), Barry Sims, Rupert Garrett, Terry Williamson, Billy Hargreaves, Roy Stedman, Philip Townsend, Gary Bushell. NB. See website for Committee “mug shots”.

Treasurer (Jeff Buxton)

- As in past years I still haven't got much to say apart from thank you for your membership money, without it, I wouldn't be able to have a holiday and put food on the table for the family. We wouldn't either be able to rent the fisheries, lakes or rivers that we currently have. We wouldn't be able to pay for the work/maintenance to be done on the lakes, club insurances or the necessary Committee 'Jollies' that we have.
- It was also suggested and has now been implemented to 'ear mark' money each year for fish stocking in our lakes. Any excess will go towards fish surveys, netting, weed treatment, etc

Membership Secretary (Jeff Buxton)

- Membership currently stands at just over 800 members and I have closed the membership and started a waiting list.
- It still amazes me that no matter how hard we try to get members new and old to give there correct contact details they still don't know how to do this. It would make my life a lot easier when applying for membership and also being able to turn around the membership applications at the beginning of the season.
- If you would like to take a family member fishing with you on one of our waters then you can apply for a non-fishing membership which costs just £10 for the year. See website for details.

Match Secretary (Derek Graves)

- The match season has got off to a good start with new members giving it a try. These are Andy Stuart, Allan Grange, Tim Jefferyes and his dad Chris Jefferyes. A warm welcome to all of them. If you fancy giving it a try then choose a venue from the list on the match calendar and book in with myself. It's as simple as that.
- The evening match at Shorne was not very fruitful, fish wise with only 3 people out of the original 11 staying on till the end of the match as nothing was being caught. Ian Collier won the match with 8 1/2lb of silvers and one carp.
- Jim Beaconsfield has taken up the role of 'bank runner' during the matches and can frequently be seen walking the bank conversing with other anglers, getting and giving fishing tips. Well done Jim.
- The last match held on Fathers day at Orchard Farm Fishery at Paddock Wood, proved to be fruitful for Reginald Graham as he won the match with 167lb of mixed fish. Three others also had weights over the 100lb mark. Even Billy Hargreaves did well on his first ever go with a quiver tip, landing 55lb of fish. Obviously the 'book' he received at the Trophy match is playing dividends for him.
- From August 12th till the 14th (over the weekend), it is planned to have a Carp match at Blue Lake which is open to all members. It is being run by Gary Bushell in conjunction with myself. Details will be published nearer the time on Facebook and the Website regarding the draw and the rules. Should you wish to any further info. then please ring me Derek on 07771528633 or Gary on 07973 405648

Website Administrator (Ian Collier)

- For any member, whether old or new, who has not visited the TWAPS website yet, it can be found at either <http://twaps.uk> or <http://twaps.co.uk>

- The website is full of official TWAPS information and updated on a regular basis. If you have any queries about the Society, it's fisheries, it's Committee Members and Bailiffs, the way the Society is run, upcoming matches, work parties and other events, it is highly likely that an answer to your question will be found there.
- The Society Rules and Bye-Laws are also available to view on the website and if you have a smart phone, or internet enabled device, you can download and save them to your phone. The Rules and Bye-Laws are PDF documents, look under "Club Info" → "Rules and Bye-Laws". If you download and save them on your phone, then you are no longer required to carry the paper/binder copy of the Society's Rules and Bye-Laws with you. Note that the Rules and Bye-Laws may be updated from time to time, and any revisions will be published on the website.
- The Society Constitution and Competition Rules will be published on the website in due course.
- One of the uses of the website is to quickly notify the membership of any important news such as work parties or out of use swims, new waters etc. Therefore please check the site fairly regularly for updates.
- Don't forget to submit pictures of your catches, preferably of you with your specimen, including a very short description, for inclusion in the gallery. We like to include other images too, not just of your catches, but also any Society related amusing or scenic or other relevant pictures are also very welcome. Videos are also welcome to. You can use the Photo Submission Form to send us pictures, or use the contact page to enquire about sending or linking videos.
- Talking of photos, I am looking for really good quality fish that have been caught on Society waters, together with the angler concerned, for the front page slide show. If you have any and would like to be featured, please use the photo submission form on the website, on the Photo Galleries page, under the Club Info section. We have lots of carp pictures, so any catches other than carp will be especially welcome.
- Please remember, I don't always get it right, so if you see any mistakes or omissions, please let me know, via the website contact page.

[Facebook Group \(Derek Graves\)](#)

- This is a closed group for members only. Currently there are 170 members in the group. Posts tend to cover a wide variety of topics with some good debates and discussions going on. There is also some friendly rivalry between carp and match anglers within the group.
- There are four moderators for the group myself, Ian Collier, Billy Hargreaves and Terry Williamson. All experts in our chosen field of fishing. So if you need any advice then please feel free to post your questions in the group and we will do our best to answer them. lol, pmsl

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

- **To all members,**
As previously announced there have been some changes to the format of the rule book. It is now downloadable as an electronic copy, but still available as a printed copy on request. A paper copy has already been given to all renewing and new members. Therefore when on club waters you must have with you either a paper copy of the rules or alternatively an electronic version saved on your phone.
- It has been suggested that the next stage would be to allow members to have a photograph of their membership card and ID card saved on their phone as well. The Committee doesn't have a

problem with this and sees it as the way forward, but will confirm definitely one way or the other later on in the near future.

- It is to be expected, that with a changing membership each year, situations arise which lead to some rule breaking. As mentioned in the previous newsletter, with the exception of Shorne Wood Country Park, **members are not allowed to take, or send**, friends, work colleagues, wives, civil partners to view **any** Thameside fishery without the written permission of the Head or Assistant Head Bailiff. **Rule 28 applies**. This is still happening particularly at Inn on the Lake. A non-fishing permit is available, contact the Membership Secretary for details. Despite this however, the Bailiffs are already reporting that new members are not reading the rules before going onto Thameside fisheries. One new member when questioned admitted he had not even looked at them, the Bailiffs reaction was understandable. The main problem is taking non-members with them when visiting. Several new members have already received a first warning over this, and it is important to realise that most of our landlords have this written into our fishing rights. Abuse of this raises serious insurance issues and must not continue.
- Due to the lack of support by members with the recent work parties this year and in previous years, it is being considered to add to the membership for the next season 2017-2018, a compulsory levy of £10.00 as a contribution towards Lake maintenance/work parties. This charge will be refundable on attending two work parties. It cannot be expected that the same few people do all the work for the rest of the members. The membership of the club is now at 850.
- Bailiffs are unpaid volunteers and are there to protect your fisheries, so please take the time to talk to them if you have any concerns about the fisheries or need advice on rules/byelaws.
Abuse from either a member to a Bailiff or a Bailiff to a member will not be tolerated.
- Work parties will continue to be held at the various fisheries as required. Due notice will be given.
- Litter is still being found being left around the lakes. This is not acceptable. Please take it home. Any member caught or seen leaving litter will be dealt with accordingly.
- I would also remind all members old and new that **ALCOHOL IS BANNED ON ALL CLUB WATERS**.
- Please beware that there is an increase of Ticks in the Kent area. Check out this link https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/521829/Ticksandyourhealthinfoabouttickbites.pdf
- Feedback about the club waters regarding the condition of the swims, litter, fishing quality, bank side vegetation, stocking queries, bait issues, rule changes is required from all members. The Committee can't strive to improve the lakes and their surroundings if we don't have feedback from members regarding their thoughts and views. Practical suggestions and ideas are always welcome and will always be considered. Just let us know please by the usual methods.

Shorne Country Park.

- Good catches of silver fish and Crucians are improving all the time, particularly Tench from 4" to 12" and Crucians up to 2lb 8oz. The good news is that the larger Carp are starting to be caught again and are in good condition. Hopefully this is as a result of the thinning out of the small underweight carp which it was grossly over stocked with.
- The weed is a problem and if you want to fish a swim and the weed is in your way then feel free to rake it out putting it well back on the bank behind you.

- The weekend and bank holiday car park cost has been increased to £3, weekday charge remains at £2. We still cannot do anything about this charge and there are now ANPR cameras at Shorne so if you don't buy a ticket you will get a £40 fine.
- Please note that Blue Badge holders must now register with KCC who will issue a yearly parking permit at a cost of £3. The phone number is 0300 041 7272.

Cobham Hall.

- In the last newsletter you were asked to park **between** the yellow markers, but incorrect parking still takes place. In this news letter **yet again**, you are also being asked to park straight, and not at an angle between the yellow markers on the post and fence boards. Members will be made to move incorrectly parked vehicles. This is a very popular fishery and the car park is capable of holding 24 vehicles when correctly parked.
- To all new and old members, just to reiterate, the track opposite the Gate House is a **DRY WEATHER ACCESS ONLY**. I have been asked by the Estate Manager for Cobham to tell members not to drive up the track opposite the Gate House when the grass is wet. Please keep to the track in dry weather not on the grass. The track by the cattle grid will be repaired as soon as possible.
- An injection of fish has been put into the Middle pond. A delivery of 400lb of Bream, Tench, Chub, Barbel and Ide arrived, and on the advice of the fish breeder only 250lb went into the Middle pond as any more would inhibit the growth. The rest of the delivery was put into the Top and Bottom ponds. Feedback from members shows that these fish are already giving good sport and will rapidly increase in weight. There are no fish over 2lb in the middle lake yet so if you do decide to fish it then please use light gear. Members are still trying to catch small silver fish using inappropriate tackle. I.e. carp margin poles or float rods with 6lb line and size 10 hooks. 2.5lb is more than adequate along with size 16/18 hooks. When using a pole make sure that the elastic rating is only a no.6 or no.8 If the pole you have bought says margin pole on the side then generally it will have too heavy elastic, as it is meant for catching carp. Feeding 2/4mm pellet with single or double red maggot will catch virtually all day long on this lake.

Inn on the Lake.

- As a result of theft of hotel property by a member, members are not allowed past the reception desk without the permission of the hotel management. Members still have the use of the Hotel facilities, e.g. toilets, bar, etc. but must carry their membership card with them. The access is via the first entrance on the left as you enter the Hotel.
- The Hotel management have asked that; **No bright clothing to be worn when in sight of the hotel, and members must be fully clothed at all times, no bare chests to be seen as this shows on wedding photos!** Breaking of the above request may result in the Lakes being closed on wedding days.
- A netting survey was carried out by Hadlow College on the Middle lake and Stock pond. The following fish were caught : - 5 Tench, 2 pike, a few bream and some silvers in the stock pond, and only carp in the middle lake. The Bream and the Pike were transferred back to the Main lake were they were originally from, before being illegally transferred by members to the stock pond. The silver fish were left in the stock pond with anything else that was missed.
- A new path and swims have been provided around the main lake at IOTL making access and fishing easier. Please remember **DO NOT BLOCK THE PATHS AND TAKE YOUR LITTER HOME.**

Blue Lake.

- Please note that a key is still required for the gate to the inner fence. Phil Townsend on **07879 854030** is your contact for this key. There is no charge for this.
- Thanks must go to the members rebuilding swims; they have worked hard to replace as many swims as possible.
- Catches have been good with some big Perch showing. Give it a try.
- There is still the ongoing perception and rumours that the Blue Lake is a carp only syndicate water. This is not the case and **any members** can fish this lake at any time.

Paddock Wood.

- As this is a working quarry we have no alternative but to issue keys for the fishery as outside of working hours the quarry is locked. Keys are obtainable to loan, free of charge, from: Phil Townsend (Northfleet) **07879 854030**, Roy Stedman (Gravesend) **0797 4030630**, Mick Mount (Gravesend) **07974 776999**, Derek Graves (Cliffe Woods) **01634 221445** and Jeff Buxton (Herne Bay) **07712 837996**.
Due to the restriction on the number of keys available, a key is only issued for a maximum of 14 (fourteen days). However should other keys be available, this time period can be extended by contacting the key holder you obtained the key from. However unauthorised **overdue or lost keys will incur a charge of £30.00. A member locked in without a key will incur a call out charge relevant to mileage involved.** You can fish this fishery without a key, providing you do so during the quarry operating hours. But if you get locked in see above!
- Extensive work is being carried out by site staff so please be observant at all times.
- Fishing is not permitted on the wall side of the lake.
- **River Medway;** Thameside only have the fishing rights on the bank adjacent to the car park field. Members must not cross the river via the foot bridge. You can fish up and downstream from the bridge.

Campanile

- A recent survey by Hadlow College, resulted in the following fish being netted/stunned; 2 x 12lb Pike, 2 x 5lb Tench, large quantity of Eels 2-3lb, 8 x double figure Carp up to 15lb, and 2 Catfish of 15 and 20 lb which were taken away by the Environment Agency to re-home. All the other species were returned to the Lake. Hadlow were anxious to inform us that netting/stunning is only 50 to 60% efficient, so there may be other fish which were not caught. Feedback from members will help establish if other stock is in there.
- Fish from the Cobham Top and Middle ponds Cobham were added as follows;_approximately 285lbs of carp from 3/4lb to 8lb 9oz, and 100lb of roach 2-4".
Further stocking, as required, cannot take place until at least late September or early October depending on the weather.

Tight Lines to one and all from your Committee.