

# **THAMESIDE NEWSLETTER MAY 2018**

**DEAR MEMBERS,**

## **SOME WORDS FROM THE CHAIRMAN**

Hello and a warm welcome to you all, renewing and new members.

A lot of work has been carried out since the last newsletter, so please read thoroughly and make note of various updates/comments since then. A lot of information is being repeated for the sake of our new members.

Please look at the various notice boards in place at the fisheries 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.

Most of the answers to questions asked are on the website, so please where possible look at it and save yourself time in getting the information you need. Please however continue ask the Bailiffs for information if needed, as they can usually give you the answer you want, or know someone who can help.

I wish you all fair weather and tight lines.

**Dennis Hammond, Chairman.**

## **Secretary (Mick Mount)**

The AGM was well attended again this year at the Gravesend Rugby Club and thank you for those that made the effort to turn up. Feedback was given to the Committee which was taken on board and we will endeavour to act on throughout the course of the year.

The Committee for the season 2018-2019 is;

Chairman	Dennis Hammond
Secretary	Michael "mick" Mount
Treasurer	Jeff Buxton
Membership Secretary	Jeff Buxton
Competition Secretary	Terry Williamson
Website Administrator	Ian Collier
Head Bailiff	Dennis Hammond
Assistant Head Bailiff	Dave Shirley

Committee members; Roy Stedman, Gary Bushell, Philip Townsend, Billy Hargreaves, Rupert Garrett, Derek Graves, Barry Sims.

NB. See website for Committee "mug shots" of Committee and Bailiffs.

## **Membership Secretary (Jeff Buxton)**

If you change your house address, your email address or your contact details then can you please contact me. We get a lot of enquiries from members, wondering why they're not receiving anything by mail, or e-mail, and then when you ask them, you get the apology, "sorry forgot to tell you". For some members, we only have your mobile number, and if you subsequently give that phone to your child, that doesn't help either. So please let me know. Information will of course still be posted to members who do not have an email facility. This does mean however that "a postal" member cannot be notified of an emergency situation, EG, Fishery closure, etc, in time to stop them going fishing there.

Temporary membership can also be obtained from Phil Townsend on 07879 854030 by giving 24hrs notice.

## **Match Secretary.**

The match fishing season is now underway with several matches having already taken place. All match results and fixtures are available on the website and I post regular updates and results on the face book page.

All members are welcome to attend matches even if you have never fished a match before, and it is a chance to get out and fish new venues. We have people who fish to win and others who just come out for a day's fishing.

I have been asked to look into possibly running a match for junior members in the school summer holidays, either on a Saturday or Sunday, the most likely venue, depending on numbers attending, will be the Middle pond at Cobham where plenty of bites will be had. It will be a three hour match, with a trophy for the winner, so if you are the parent or guardian of the junior who wants to fish, send me a text on 07515 495408 by the end of June and if there is enough interest I'll sort out a date.

The Parent/Guardian will have to remain with the junior during the match and some keepnets are available for any that don't have one.

## **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. Keep an eye on the website, it is updated frequently.

The Society Rules and Bye-Laws are also available on the website and if you have a smartphone, or internet enabled device, with you whilst you are fishing, you do not need to have a copy of the Society's Rules and Bye-Laws with you, but you must be able to access the Rules and Bye-Laws from the TWAPS website whilst you are fishing. The Rules and Bye-Laws are PDF documents and can be downloaded onto your device if you prefer. Look under "Club Info" → "Rules and Bye-Laws".

If you don't have internet access whilst fishing, or prefer to have a paper copy instead, simply use the website Contact Form to request a printed copy and one will be sent to you.

Note that the Rules and Bye-Laws may be updated from time to time, and any revisions will be published on the website, notified in newsletters and announced in the Facebook Group (see below).

The Society Competition Rules are also published on the website. See "Matches" → "Match Rules". Any updates to the Competition Rules will also be published on the website, notified in newsletters and announced in the Facebook Group.

The website is used 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 too. Oh, and if you are pictured with your catch - smile! You can use the Photo Submission Form to send us pictures, or use the Contact page to enquire about sending or linking videos.

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.

TWAPS members are increasingly using Facebook. There is a very active TWAPS closed Facebook group, currently managed by Derek Graves, Terry Williamson, Billy Hargreaves and myself. The group is very friendly and is used for members to exchange tips, ideas, buy and sell stuff, foster healthy debate and generally communicate with each other. There is also quite a bit of light hearted non-offensive banter between the members, which can be very amusing at times, making it a good social group to belong to.

The Committee also take note of what's posted by Members and have listened to Members' opinion and have on occasion changed Society Rules and Bye Laws.

If you are a Facebook user and would like to join the group, simply log into Facebook and search for TWAPS to find this group. Click the "Join" button to request to join the group. Note you must be a current Member of TWAPS to be accepted as a member of the TWAPS Facebook group.

If you have any suggestions you would like to see on the website then please contact me via the website contact page, using Facebook, or have a chat with me on the bank.

Enjoy!

Ian Collier  
TWAPS Web Site Administrator  
April 2018

## **Head Bailiff (Dennis Hammond)**

It is to be expected that with a changing membership each year, situations arise which cause 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. The licence for Cobham, for example, stipulates all members must carry a current valid ID at ALL TIMES even if not fishing.

On the front of your membership card are several contact phone No's. These are there for your use should you spot any abuse or rule breaking on the Lakes, or even if you just require advice. It's no good reporting a matter to bailiffs several hours or days after the event. The numbers on the front can be used for general information regarding the fisheries as well, so please ring us. We are there to help.

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.

Please note cormorants have been spotted on our Lakes at Shorne, Cobham and Inn on the Lake. We are taking advice on how to deal with these birds (pests) Please immediately report any sightings to Dennis Hammond on 07957 870245 or Assistant Head Bailiff, Dave Shirley on 07766 830482.

A plea to new members, please read rule 12 Page 8, as bailiffs have reported that many of you are only carrying your id card when fishing.

Following a successful bid for funds from the Environment Agency's Angling Improvement Fund, floating islands which include underwater mesh cages, have been installed in the three Lakes at the Inn on the Lake, and the Top Pond at Cobham.

Due to the proposed major work needed in the Cobham Bottom Pond, due to silting, bank erosion and loss of water, the installation of an island has been put on hold.

Dip tanks; Permission to install a dip tank at the Inn on the Lake has been refused. The Committee is in negotiation with the Owners of Cobham Ponds and Blue Lake for permission to install them there.

## **Cobham Hall.**

In the last newsletter you were asked to park **between** the yellow markers. 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 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. The grass has been seriously chewed up, and despite it being taped off during excessive rain, earlier in the year, members were driving around the tape. If you are caught doing this or your vehicle registration number is taken by a member of the school and reported to us, you may end up with your membership being suspended. Alternatively the track access may be disallowed all together. Please use common sense and stick to the existing track.

## **Inn on the Lake.**

The code for the padlock is still being given to non-members. Help in carrying tackle to your swim is allowed, but the non-member must leave immediately afterwards. This applies to all waters.

**NOTE, three rods are only allowed from the first October until the 31<sup>ST</sup> March, and you must have the relevant licences to cover their use. This applies to the Big Lake only, not the Middle or Stockpond!!**

The stock of new carp, introduced into the Middle and Front Lakes, have all been caught at least once and named!! They are putting on weight so the future for them looks good.

## **Blue Lake.**

Water level still high, but good size fish being caught

The Lake is under new management and a meeting has been held with the New Management's Land Agent to discuss the issue of the loss of 40/50% of the fishing available due to chalk falls. No information has been received as yet.

## **Paddock Wood.**

Keys are obtainable to loan, free of charge, from Phil Townsend (Northfleet) on 07879 854030, Roy Stedman (Gravesend) on 0797 4030630, Mick Mount (Gravesend) on 07974 776999 and Derek Graves (Cliffe Woods) on 01634 221445.

Due to the restriction on the number of keys available, any key is only issued for a maximum of 14 (fourteen days), however this time period may be extended by contacting the key holder you obtained the key from if other keys are available to members from him. **Overdue keys and 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 also fish this fishery without a key providing you do so during the quarry operating hours. but if you get locked in see above.

Reference the River Medway; Thameside only have the fishing rights on the bank adjacent to the car park field.

Good fish being taken from the Canal Lake (see website gallery page), but still more feedback from members that have fished it would be appreciated. Remember the River is closed for fishing from the 15<sup>th</sup> March until June 15<sup>th</sup>.each season.

**Tight Lines to one and all from your Committee.**