

THAMESIDE NEWSLETTER May 2019

DEAR MEMBERS,

Some words from the chairman, Dennis Hammond

A warm welcome to renewing and new members who have joined since the May 2016 newsletter. I hope you are enjoying good catches.

This newsletter contains some information already known, but is repeated for the benefit of late renewals and new members.

- Campanile: Agreement has been reached over parking at Campanile as follows;
 1. Thameside will pay the Hotel an annual retainer to allow you to use the Hotel car park, without having to pay every time you sign in.
 2. You **MUST** sign in with your vehicle registration number **every time** you use the car park.
 3. If you leave and return on the same day you do not have to sign in again.
 4. If you wish to fish overnight, please sign in as an overnight guest.
 5. **Both** your current membership card and ID photo must be shown to reception.
 6. If you make a genuine mistake, eg. wrong registration number, and receive a penalty notice, inform the management immediately as they are able to cancel the penalty in the case of a genuine mistake.
 7. You have the use of the Hotel facilities, clean footwear please.
 8. Remember that each signing in is only valid for that day, i.e. 24 hrs, unless you sign in as an overnight guest.
 9. The above conditions apply to **all types of membership** including disabled.

Following the above will ensure that you can enjoy the Fishery without worrying about penalties.

However should you not follow the above then you will receive a fine of £20. This will not be paid for by the club.

- Members are still giving out the gate codes where they apply to non-members. Anyone found doing this must face the consequences. (i.e. will possibly lose their membership of the club)
- Photos: It would be nice to see photos other than carp on the website.
- Blue Lake: The company, CAAN who are carrying out the chalk fall survey work, are in negotiation with Network Rail to gain access to the top of the cliff face to further their investigations. No updated timescale for the start of repairs has been received by the Committee. The good news is that the Committee are looking into the possibility of opening up the Point swims by the tunnel. This would involve creating a new access via the old pump house.
- Following on from some recent comments posted on the FB group not so long ago regarding the closure of the IOTL for a day. I would like to point out that as the owners of the property they are entitled to do so. This applies to any of our other lakes as we do not own them but only rent them. Therefore, if the Owners want to ask the club to meet certain requirements on their property then as tenants we have to oblige. Obviously, everything is discussed with the relevant people concerned. We have a very good relationship with all our Landlords and will not jeopardise to suit the whims of 1 or 2 members who think that they are exempt from these rules or requests.
- Cobham Bottom Pond: A very productive meeting was held on the 30th May 2019, with the Estates Director David Standen, to discuss the issues arising with the repairs required to the leaking concrete dam wall. Estimates received from at least two companies, involve the use of very large equipment which may require planning approval, etc. David is anxious for the

problem to be resolved as soon as possible, as he wants the Pond to be saved. He and Derek Graves are liaising with the relevant authorities to speed up the process. Updates will be sent to you when available. It is obvious from the above that no one could foresee the problems found, but I can assure you that everything possible is being done to get the project finished.

Dates for your diary are: -

1. Saturday **15th June** work party at Cobham 9am to 1pm.
2. Thursday **27th June** 9am to 1pm at Inn on the Lake.

Clearing nettles and brambles, please wear appropriate clothing!

Please **TEXT ONLY** to Dennis on 07957870245 if you can attend either or both, and for the Shorne one please supply vehicle registration number in order to arrange free parking!

I wish you all tight lines and fair weather.

Dennis.

Society Secretary (MICK Mount)

- Hi everyone. My names Mick Mount and I'm the Societies Secretary. I am the person that you should be writing or emailing to if you have any queries/questions etc regarding any of the club's waters, rules, fish stocks, work parties etc. This can then in turn be passed on to the relevant officer to answer your reply or added as an agenda item to be discussed at a Committee Meeting.
- Two new members have been co-opted onto the Committee. There were 5 applicants and following a discussion and vote Jack Louth and Jenny Mount (yes, she's my wife) were accepted onto the Committee. Jack has been a previous Committee member so is well used to what goes on But Jenny is the first ever female in the history of the club to be on the Committee. This has not been through any form of discrimination against females but because no others have actually asked to join the Committee in the past. Other members on the Committee will have to watch their manners and language now but the downside for me is she will now know what I get up to on a Tuesday Evening.

Treasurer (Ian "the Saint" Ogilvie)

- Not much to report since taking over in January except that money is coming in, I'm keeping an eye on it and have had 3 holidays since. So please keep the funds rolling in as I need to keep my tan topped up.

Membership Secretary (Derek Graves)

- For those of you that know and those that don't I took over the role of Membership Secretary following on from the sudden resignation of Jeff Buxton in middle of January 2019. It has been a steep learning curve in picking up how the system works and the various membership that were on offer. I've had to update the database, do a new database for non-fishing permit holders, as there wasn't one, design new application forms with the help of Barry Sims (thanks Barry), and other such issues.
- The renewals at IOTL I feel went reasonably well but it would have been better if not everyone had left it to the last Thursday to renew. It was certainly an extremely busy evening but we got through it ok. My thanks to Dennis Hammond for manning the door, and

Phil Townsend and Dave Shirley for helping to collect the money and issue the cards. Certainly, made things run a lot more smoothly.

- I would like to thank all members for bearing with me while I sorted out their memberships this year, new ones and renewals. Unfortunately, as I am self-employed, I have to work renewals and particular the issue of new membership around my daytime job. This year so far, we have 300 enquiries regarding joining our club.
- It's surprising how many members can't read a set of simple instructions to renew or join or don't know where they live or in one case their full name. Supplying a SAE without a stamp on or no SAE at all is another issue. Along with the incorrect fee. Its simple things like that which can speed the whole process up and make my life easier without having to ring people and clarify their details. This doesn't make the return of membership cards any quicker, so please make sure you send the right amount. I would add though that paying by bank transfer does make things a lot easier and quite a few members have been taking up this option. The outcome of this is that membership cards will have to be changed for next year to accommodate this facility to let me know as at present there is nowhere to record the details on the card.
- If you change your house address, your email address or your contact details (this affects your membership fee) then can you please contact me, preferably by email. I get a lot of enquiries from members, wondering why they're not receiving anything by mail, or e-mail, and then when I ask them, I get the apology, "sorry forgot to tell you". For some members, I only have your mobile number, and if you subsequently give that phone to somebody else, that doesn't help either. So please keep me informed. Those who receive information by post may like to find a family member or friend who will allow you to use their email address, as this is the fastest way to get urgent information to them, closure of water, etc. Information will of course still be posted to members as required.
- I have noticed as well that there have been a few "fat finger" typing errors in the email department. I.e. con instead of com, 000 instead of 007 for instance. This appears to have arisen where someone has set up an email address on their laptop or computer and then set one up from their phone. Because the keyboard is a lot smaller on a phone then that's where the fat finger phenomenon arises. Please take care that the outgoing email address you type in is spelt correctly otherwise I get a bounce back and you don't get information.

[Match Secretary \(Billy Hargreaves\)](#)

- We've had a good turn out on the matches so far even though the fishing has been a bit hit and miss. If you would like to give it a go then give me a ring, the number is on the website along with the venues.

[Website Administrator \(Ian Collier\)](#)

- For those who don't know, the TWAPS website address is either <http://twaps.uk> or <http://twaps.co.uk> The website is full of official TWAPS information and updated regularly. This is the first place to go to if you have any TWAPS related questions. If you haven't done so recently, why not take a look?
- The Society Rules and Bye-Laws are 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 free of charge.

- Note that you must have with you your **ID card and Membership Card** with you at all times whilst fishing or visiting any TWAPS water. If you don't you will be asked to leave whether you have just arrived or been there all day.
- Also note that the Rules and Bye-Laws may be updated from time to time, and any revisions will be published on the website. If you see any mistakes or omissions on the TWAPS website, please let me know, via the website contact page.
- Don't forget you can submit pictures of your catches, any Society related amusing or scenic or other relevant pictures and videos too. Details of how to do this are on the website. Also keep an eye out for the occasional competition (which may or may not involve prizes), announcements or survey form, all of which appear on the website from time to time.
- There are a number of unclaimed Society records and I don't mean LPs or 45s. Any member can claim any record if that member can verify that their catch is bigger than the current record, if any, for that species for that water. All species count from all TWAPS waters. Further details, and how to claim a record, can be found in the "Galleries" → "Society Records" section of the website.
- There is an active TWAPS closed Facebook group, currently managed by Derek Graves (Membership Secretary), Billy Hargreaves (Match Secretary) 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, often amusing, banter between members, making it a good social group to belong to. 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.

Head Bailiff (Dennis Hammond)

To all members,

- 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. Controlled small camping style gas burners are acceptable.
- The sacking of fish on any Thameside fishery is against Society rules, but the use of a flotation retaining sling is permitted. Please use extra care during low water levels especially at Inn on the Lake.
- Please ensure that you carry your documents when fishing or just visiting the fisheries. The bailiffs will accept them in any electronic form, e.g. phone, tablet, etc.
- Please familiarise yourself with all the rules and byelaws of the various Fisheries.

Shorne Country Park.

- Fishing well considering changeable weather, with some good-sized carp and tench being caught. The weed problem on the Long Lake will be dealt with as soon as possible. A stock of 200 4-6inch Chub has been put into each Lake.

Cobham Hall.

- To all new and old members, just to reiterate, the track opposite the Gate House is currently a **DRY WEATHER ACCESS ONLY**. Please keep to the track in dry weather not on the grass.

The Estate Director has suggested a permanent access may be the best answer. Details to follow as available.

- The middle lake has been fishing extremely well and lots of people have done well catching the various fish in there. Light tactics are still giving the best results. Some anglers are still however using their carp gear that they would normally use on the top lake. Please don't for the sake of the fish. Other than Crucians there are NO other species of carp in there!
- If any cormorants are spotted up at Cobham can you let the Head Bailiff know ASAP, or any one of the other Committee members or Bailiffs.
- As mentioned above the works at Cobham Hall Bottom lake are ongoing but due to unforeseen issues such as the cost involved, legal paperwork and other factors that we are now having to consider, it is going to take longer than first envisaged. Members will be kept up to date as things develop.

Inn on the Lake.

- Inn on the Lake: Please do not block the wooden gate entrance at the Jetty swim, access for the Hotel must be kept clear at all times. If you do block it you will be asked to move whether bivvied up or not. No exceptions!
- **“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.
- 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 fishing 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.

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.
- Good size double carp being caught and Perch to 5lb. No reports of any catches of the large numbers of bream that were in there.

Paddock Wood.

- A few reports of good fish from the Canal Lake but little information received from members fishing the River. Please let us know how you get on.

Campanile

- See Chairman's notes re car parking.
- Good size Carp, Bream, Roach and Tench reported.

Tight Lines to one and all from your Committee.