

THAMESIDE WORKS ANGLING & PRESERVATION SOCIETY



JULY 2011 Newsletter

TO ALL MEMBERS

SOME WORDS FROM THE CHAIRMAN

Welcome to the 2011-2012 Thameside season. A lot has happened since the last newsletter, most of it good news, including the fact that although the Blue Circle N W C A Club closed, Thameside was able to offer Thameside membership to those Blue Circle members wishing to continue fishing Blue lake, Inn on the Lake and now of course Cobham and Shorne. Consequently membership has now gone up to just under 650 members.

Blue Circle waters that they controlled at Crossways, near Dartford, were professionally netted, which resulted in the following species being removed and restocked in our other waters. They are as follows:-

Inn on the Lake:-35 Carp (10-18 lb), 11 Bream (3-4 lb), 1 Tench (6 lb), 10 small Roach/rudd.

Cobham Top Lake. 1 carp (2 lb), 46 Carp(4-8 lb), 1Carp (10 lb), 4 tench (3-6 lb), 2 Crucians (2-3 lb), 1 perch (¾ lb), 400 roach, 200 small Crucians, 2 buckets of mixed fish.

Cobham Bottom Lake. 45 Carp 4-6 lb, 12 Tench 3-8 lb, 2 Crucians 2-3 lb.

All waters are fishing reasonably well considering the varying weather conditions at the moment. **Cobham** has produced its first 2 lb roach from the Top lake plus plenty of Tench are being caught, whilst at **Shorne**, Roach, Tench and Crucians are showing up in good numbers and sizes. The Carp are still spawning, resulting in poorer catches than usual at the moment. **Inn on the lake** is producing a lot of silver fish as well as the larger Carp, Bream and Tench. **Blue Lake** is reporting good sized Carp being caught along with large Bream and Perch. More swims are being created by a dedicated few but like everything else done by volunteers' takes time.

River Beult. Swims have been cleared and a car parking sign erected. Members have permission to clear an area 1m-1.2m (3-4ft) wide to create other swims, so take a cutter with you but please be aware of undercut banks and deep water !!! and by deep, it goes to 14ft in places down the middle, with 6ft off the edge.

Work is proposed at **Shorne** and **Inn on the Lake** (subject to land owner's agreement), to control reeds, weed, overhanging trees, etc, Those of you who have been to **Shorne** recently will have noticed the addition of two new paths around the lakes 2m wide, along with two larger car parking areas for disabled members. This work was carried out by **Shorne Country Park** themselves and they have just started doing additional swim repairs to include re-levelling and steps onto some of the swims on long lake. (particularly useful for those of you with short legs like our match secretary. lol)

SOME GOOD NEWS.

A new rule book has been produced so, please insert the enclosed re-printed and updated rule book into your existing blue folder and dispose of the old set. (re-cycle if possible).

Do not sign the relevant page until you have **read and understood everything**, as there are new additions which require your attention, e.g. unhooking mats, change in bait rules, etc.

Thanks go to Peter Huckstep, Derek Graves & Barry Sims for their extensive time and effort in creating the new rule book.

MORE GOOD NEWS

The bait restrictions have been lifted at **Shorne** and are now the same as at **Cobham**. Again, please don't abuse them and the waters will be monitored to see what effect this has on the quality, size, weight of fish etc. First indications are that the roach have definitely got bigger. Please also note that one of the new rules is a maximum line strength of 12lb on all waters except **Blue Lake**. This has come about because of the ridiculous size lines that some people are using on our waters to try and bully the fish out of the reeds. This has tended to be more prevalent at Shorne but it's not necessary and certainly not good for the fish.

NOT SO GOOD NEWS

Now a moan over members not reading their rule books. **Rule 12** is still being ignored, with excuses like "it's in the car" or "it's in my other coat". It is a condition of our leases that all documents must be carried at all times. Yes, even if you are not fishing but just having a look round !!

The following **new General Bye-law 29** (new rule book) will also be strictly enforced ! "Members must not allow or take any person/s onto any fishery (Shorne excepted) unless that person has a valid authorisation, e.g. non fishing permit, written authority from either the Society or the Owners of the Fishery concerned "

To existing and new members, due to the increase in membership this has put more pressure on the car park at **Cobham**. So please when parking at **Cobham**, park bonnet first and only leave enough room between cars to get out as car parking space is limited. Complaints have been received that members could not get in due to the excessive room taken up by poor parking. Be considerate to other members. **You will be asked by the Bailiffs to move your van/car if parked inconsiderately and your details logged.**

Polite reminder to all members new and old that there is a speed limit on the approach roads at **Cobham**. The unmade roads do not form part of stage 3 of the WRAC Championship. There is a speed limit of 10 mph right up to the car park. Some members have already been warned about excessive speeding and it will not be tolerated.

THE WEB-SITE BIT (from Derek Graves)

Greetings one and all. Old members and new. The website will shortly be updated with the latest match results and also some new pictures for the gallery. To all existing members please keep the photos coming in and to all new members if you would like to see your catch on the website send me a photo. Not all photos do make it onto the site particularly if the quality of the photo is blurry, grainy etc, if the fish is obscured by two giant pair of hands or the captors head is missing.

I know I've mentioned this before but it would also be greatly appreciated if you have any comments about the following: the lakes and surroundings, fishing queries, loss of equipment in the lake, Bailiffs or Bailiffing, or anything you would like the committee to look into, then please, please, please, write or e-mail me so I can pass it on to the appropriate person/s to deal with.

We are also looking for volunteers to help with work parties on our waters so if you feel up to it and have the time to be able to spare a few hours, as and when necessary then please ring me on 01634 221445 and leave your contact details.

It is also planned to sell additional copies of the rule book for a nominal amount to cover postage printing costs should you want to leave a spare copy in the car or separate tackle bag so you don't forget it when leaving home. There will also be for sale as well, a new rule book cover which is slimmer than the present one and vinyl coated. Costs for both of these, separate, or together will be on the website.

It was asked by one member if the club could do a pin badge, maybe a baseball hat or hoodie with the clubs logo on it? What are your views on this? We obviously need to get a reasonable response to make it a viable proposition so please ring or email me to let me have your thoughts.

Please note that **Shorne** Visitor Centre is selling a small amount of tackle such as hooks, line shot, floats etc so if you run out or lose something you haven't got far to go for the basics. Even if you forget your landing net or unhooking mat they can sell you one of these as well.

As a committee if we don't have feedback from yourselves then all we can do is assume that you're happy with the running of the club

MATCH NEWS (from Derek Graves)

The Chairman's Matches have been very well supported this year with a turnout averaging 20 people per match. Unfortunately I did have to put all the matches on Shorne this year due to the low water levels at **Cobham** which prohibited the use of keepnets. The weights in the evening matches have been particularly low this year, don't really know why – maybe down to spawning, atmospheric or just crap fisherman. LOL. However I have different plans for next year, which may alleviate this as well as being totally diverse.

The junior matches have all been cancelled due to lack of support. Only two members were interested, which is not enough to carry on with.

I would also like to say thank you to the following new members who have turned up to fish the matches so far, these being **Rupert Garrett** and his son **Tristan**, **Dave Waghorn**, **Jim Young**, **Danny Butcher**, **Phil Townsend**, and **Robert Bass**. Also an old face from the past put in a guest appearance this year and still showed us he's not lost any of his fishing skills namely **Roger Kiddie**. So thank you for supporting the matches so far and hopefully we will see you on future match days.

FINALLY

Thanks to the following members:- Peter Huckstep for his unstinting services over the past years as Society Secretary. Peter retired at the 2011 AGM and will be a hard act to follow, but fortunately Mick Mount has stepped into the breach and taken over the reins as Society Secretary, and also Treasurer, John Young who is upping sticks and moving to Norfolk. Although only having been Treasurer for a short time he leaves us in a healthy financial position. We are fortunate again in that Committee member Barry Sims has offered to take on the position of Treasurer.

The Committee, and I am sure all of you, wish John, his wife Lyndsey and Peter all the best for the future.

Tight lines to you all.

Thameside Committee July 2011