

BDAC NEWSLETTER



AFFILIATED TO THE ANGLING TRUST

FEBRUARY 2015

Despite a fall in the number of members, your Committee has worked even harder this year to keep down expenses in the face of falling revenue. We successfully renegotiated our Insurances to give the same cover for less money. The newsletter has been reduced to one copy per year, saving approx. £2500, most of this being the high cost of postage these days. Fishery rentals form the greatest part of our total expenses, and we were successful in renegotiating improved deals in 2014 on three waters. It would be too easy, in times of reducing income, to just increase subscriptions across the board, but we have learnt from previous experience, and that of similarly affected clubs, that this would only lead to further reductions in members. In 2015, therefore, we are adding just £4 to the subscriptions of Ordinary, OAP, and Disabled memberships, compared to 2013 levels, with no change to all of the other categories.

Unfortunately, not all of our negotiations with landowners were successful. For some years the Club's Committee has thought that our lack of facilities, and low attendance numbers, at KINGS COURT RESERVOIR, Cooksmill Green did not warrant the high rent being paid. We asked the owner to reduce the rent according to comparable rents which we are paying on nearby waters in the Chelmsford area, these having close parking and toilet facilities, but met with no success.

This means that the last day of our fishing rights at KINGS COURT will be SUNDAY 15th MARCH 2015. Please do not attempt to access the farm after that date.

We are also giving up, after 14th March 2015, the **LOWER field at PATCH PARK ABRIDGE**, on the river Roding. Your 2015/16 Handbook will reflect this change, the field in question being opposite the cottage on the current plan in the 2014/15 handbook. We pay a high rent, and overgrown banks have rendered this stretch impossible to fish.

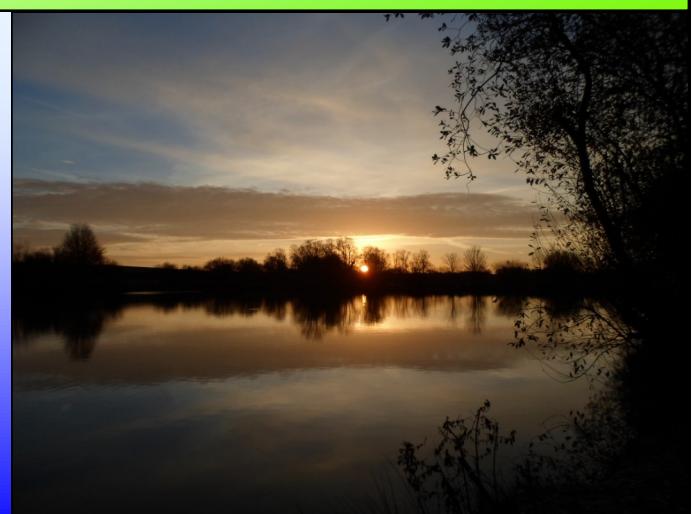
On the reverse side of this year's renewal form (sent with this newsletter) we are asking members to complete a short survey. This information can then be used to help the Club's committee decide how best to plan future expenditure. This is your opportunity to let them know your opinions, please take the time to answer the questionnaire.

Photo of 4.4. Chub caught on Christmas Eve at Shonks Mill. John Lesurf

CHANGE OF AGM VENUE

Please refer to page 2 for details of the new venue for the AGM. A bar is available and there is plenty of parking adjacent to the Community Centre.

Armigers' top lake at dawn on 14th Dec. last, just before the start of the Jokers Match. It was -2 deg. at the time. Despite the temperature the 22 anglers present got "stuck in", and at the end of the five hour match had scaled a shade over 1,300lbs between them. Calvin Elder



BILLERICAY & DISTRICT ANGLING CLUB

As General Secretary and under the constitution of the Club I hereby give notice to all members that the
2015 Annual General Meeting will be held at the
Wickford Community Centre, Market Road, Wickford, SS12 0AG on Wednesday 18th March 2015
commencing at 8.00 p.m.

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
2. President's address.
3. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 19th March 2014.
4. Chairman's address.
5. General Secretary's report.
6. Treasurer's report and adoption of the accounts for the year ending 31st December 2014 (Copies will be made available at the meeting) plus a Membership report.
7. Junior Secretary's report.
8. Senior Match Secretary's report.
9. Retired and Disabled Match Secretary's Report
10. Ladies/Pairs Match Secretary's Report
11. Presentation of Trophies
12. Resignation of Officers and Management Committee. The President temporarily taking the Chair.
Appointment of 2015/16 Officers and Management Committee.
Nominations received and seconded are as follows: -

Chairman	K. Collard
Vice-Chairman	S Mahoney
General Secretary	Vacant
Treasurer	D. Howard
Membership Secretary	Nomination approved (Mr Box)
Match Secretary	A. Holt
Junior Secretary	S. Allgood
Newsletter Editor	G. Howard
Website Editor	C. Short
Minute Secretary	C. Short
Telephone Helpline Officers	G and D Howard

The Management Committee shall consist of the above Officers and one representative from each of the Fishery, Finance and Junior sub-committees, plus six ordinary members.

Nominations received and seconded are as follows: -

REPRESENTATIVES & ORDINARY MEMBERS

Del Sweetlove
Ray Nicholls
Dean Mansfield

Fred Barnes
Geoff Latham

Calvin Elder
Roy Mills

13. Election of Auditors.
Messrs. Hamilton Brading be re-appointed auditors to the Club for a further year.
14. Management of Fisheries Report
15. Any other business.

The Chairman has the discretion whether to accept from the floor of the meeting amendments to any resolution.

FISHERS GREEN CONSORTIUM

The Club will again be purchasing a **limited supply** of Consortium tickets, and these will be sold to members on a first come first served basis using the application form (right) at £10 per person in addition to their normal subscription. Details of Consortium waters can be viewed on their website: www.fishersgreencon.co.uk.

COMBINATION LOCKS

The new number valid from the 1st May 2015 will appear on the back of your membership card.

There have been a number of times when members are failing to close the padlocks or scramble the number and this is leading to non-members on waters.

FISHERY OFFICER VACANCIES

The Club has vacancies for Fishery Officers at the following Club fisheries:-

Shalford Ponds and River Pant.
Barleylands

Candidates should live near the venues and be able to visit them on a regular basis. For more details and to apply contact:-

Shaun Mahoney 07522 096393

FISHERS GREEN CONSORTIUM

APPLICATION FOR 2015/16 CARD

Send this form (or Photocopy) with your BDAC renewal, completing the details below:-

NAME

FEE £10

.....
.....
.....
.....

TOTAL

.....

For office use only:

FGC No.

REC No.

ID No.

Spring Carp Match application forms.

This year's close season Trevor Cross Memorial Carp Match will be held at Barleylands between midday Saturday 18th April and midday Sunday 19th April (£10 per rod). The rules are the same as in previous competitions with the winner being the angler with the largest weight of carp caught over the 24 hours of the competition.

Application forms are available from Colin Short (WebAdmin@BDAC.co.uk) or by phone (see Handbook).

RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIPS

Put your name on the reverse of your photo and sign your cheque. If you wish to pay by bank transfer remember to use your ID number as the reference so the Club knows who the money is coming from and don't forget to send in your renewal form and photo. Any new non-fishing member will require another form available from our website or via the Club's helpline. Memberships will be processed in the order they are received but cheques will take up to approx. a week to clear.

You have until the **30th April** to renew, any forms received after this date will require the payment of the £10 entry fee as membership will have deemed to have lapsed. If you wish to fish from **1st May** you must ensure that your renewal is received by the Membership Dept by **10th April** to guarantee you will have your card back in time.

NO MEMBERSHIPS WILL BE SENT OUT UNTIL AFTER THE CLUB'S AGM.

Memberships are issued only by post.

No photos are required for Associate or Junior members.

Any Junior becoming an Intermediate must fill out their details in the Junior box and include a photo.

Disabled members **must** send the required proof showing current eligibility, any members who don't send this will have their application returned. Please provide either a phone number or preferably an email address to contact you if there are any problems with your renewal and to help the Club keep you up to date with any urgent news.

FISHERY REPORTS

STRAITS MILL, BRAINTREE

Firstly I would like to thank members who fish Straits Mill for their cooperation in helping to keep the fishery relatively free of litter, we do pick up some as would be expected there is always someone who thinks it's clever to hide rubbish in the bushes. The fishing has been up and down this year but we have had some noticeable catches a tench of over 7lbs and carp to 26lb but it's the bream in both lakes that are showing to be piling in the weight with regular 40lb catches with individual fish of 7lb. From May our regular work party day will change from a Tuesday to a Monday morning, still a fairly relaxed morning, over the past year we have dealt with a number of fallen trees and erected a boathouse, we had a digger in a couple of times to help with the heavy work. It's amazing what a 1.5 ton digger can do in a day, we pulled an enormous fallen tree right across the shallows up the bank so we could cut it up. Trying to keep the weed down in both lakes is always a problem and can take a lot of our time, although it never seems to make much difference. The stock pond is now ready to have some breeding stock introduced, personally I want to see tench and crucian carp to give us a rolling stocking program into the small lake initially, as we are relocating the pike and carp from there to the big lake. Sadly one of our regular helpers John Scruton passed away just before Christmas, John had helped out on a Tuesday for the past couple of years and will be greatly missed. If you can help in any way call me 07745 454758. **GEOFF LATHAM**

WINDMILL LAKES

Fishing has been good this season despite the fire on the adjacent land which resulted in the Club having to close the lakes for a few weeks. Plenty of fish have been caught using a variety of methods and baits. There's been some nice carp to high doubles out of Swan Lake as well as lots of silvers for the pole anglers. Field Lake has fished well also with those anglers braving the cold weather this winter still catching some nice perch and carp. Baits:- worms, maggots, pellet, bread, luncheon meat, boilies and sweetcorn have all done well. I'm doing a couple of work parties in April so contact me for information and dates. I'm looking forward to meeting more anglers as the weather hopefully starts to warm up soon. Enjoy your fishing.

COLIN ETHERIDGE 07516522701

ARMIGERS

Well, another fishery report and I would like to wish everyone a happy new year. The fishing has yet again been fantastic, the only slight problem is anglers going home very tired!!! We know the lakes are overstocked, but because we do not own the fish we cannot do anything about the problem at the moment. Thanks for being patient and feeding the two geese that had a genetic problem called angel wing, which means they cannot fly. Once again my thanks go to Pete and Annie Harding for their support and hard work throughout the season. Any problems, please give me a call either on my home no 01799 524677 or mobile 07976 635569.

PHIL TRUNDLE

HENNY STREET RIVER STOUR

Since mid December the river level has been up and down on a near daily basis. This has made fishing very tricky as timing has to be spot on if you want to catch the river in the right conditions. An aid to this (as I've mentioned before) is to use the EA river levels web site and keep an eye on the Lamarsh reading station. This can really save a wasted trip. Over the last couple of months small pike have been reported. The chub have not really got going yet but as last year the last 2 months of the season are by far the best time with fish to well over 6lbs reported by people using roving tactics. I was fortunate to witness another EA fish survey of our section this year. The high point being the capture of a double figure zander! Having caught them from other sections of the Stour I think it's time to put a little effort in on our very own section. Be safe on the wet muddy banks!

STEVE HOWELL

BARLEYLANDS

The carp in Barleylands have again put on weight at a really good rate, this means that the numbers in the mid twenties have increased year on year. It is also nice to see a number of smaller fish coming through ensuring the future stocks of this fishery. Most fish seem to be caught on Mainline cell boilies, this may be because this is the most popular boilie used over the last two years and more of this particular bait is going in on a regular basis. A bait dropped over the margin weed (two to three rod lengths out) also seems to work well with sweetcorn or maize being a good choice as a particle

bait. Rigs do not have to be complicated, a simple hair rigged bait to either a running ledger or a bolt rig with the lead coming off the clip if caught in the weed seem to work as well as any other rig. A lot more carp have been caught this year in the upper twenties and twenty eight and above class, and with luck and a continuing growth rate the future looks good for a good number of thirties being caught in the next year or so.

I would like to thank all the bailiffs for their hard work over the last year, they have really gone that extra mile when asked. I would like to make special mention of Peter Fox as he is standing down at the end of the season. Thanks Peter it has been a pleasure working with you (well mostly).

Tight lines and have a great fishing year in 2015.

KEITH COLLARD

SHALFORD PONDS

Church Ponds fished well all year with carp of 11 & 13 lbs being caught in the bottom pond. Preferred bait is sweetcorn followed by bread flake on sinking line. The top pond never failed to produce with carp of around 3 to 5 lbs. Several swims are being repaired or rebuilt and grass and snags including two large trees being removed. The bailiffs have been doing a good job including catching plenty of fish.

The two new ponds are being less productive however some good carp in top condition are being caught in the first pond. As the lower pond is full of oxygenating weed and with crystal clear water it is harder to fish. Best fish reported are 10 and 18 lbs commons from the top road pond.

Owing to an ongoing illness I'm afraid I am having to give up the Fishery Officer position. Both my bailiffs have been a great help to me and I'm sure they will continue to be so for the new FO.

There have not been any reports on the state of the fishing on the river. Most of the year the water has been low except for some deep eddies and bends in the river.

Hope to see you all in the summer.

TREVOR TURNER

I AM SURE WE WOULD ALL LIKE TO THANK TREVOR FOR HIS GOOD WORK AND WISH HIM ALL THE BEST FOR THE FUTURE.

EDITOR.

FISHERY REPORTS

WILLOW MERE

The fishery has been well attended until November. Owing to the recent prolonged spell of unsettled weather, the number of anglers fishing has slowed down. Members who have put the time and effort in have been rewarded with some good fish. One member caught over 40 carp from May to October. The best carp was a fish of 25 lbs. Other reported fish were perch 2½ lbs, bream 3 lbs, pike 10 lbs, F1s up to 3 lbs plus lots of decent rudd and roach. The lake can become quite weedy during the summer months. It is advisable to take a rake if possible. It also helps if fishing for fish other than carp by pole or rod and line to fish with large baits such as 6 mm banded hard pellet, paste, luncheon meat or sweetcorn to discourage the small roach and rudd. I would be pleased to hear from members regarding any good fish caught.

BRIAN THORPE

STANFORD RIVERS R. RODING

Stanford Rivers and downstream to Passingford Bridge this Autumn and Winter has been fishing well with bread and hemp as feed and single red maggot or worm as hook bait. On Christmas Eve I fished the big pool just below Shonks Mill car park on a bitterly cold day and fished a short session with tip but a switch to stick and worm produced a chub of 4 pound 4 ounces. The perch have come on a lot in this section and I have had in a hour session a bag of perch up to a pound and half. Fish just after rain when the river is toning down.

JOHN LESURF

LITTLE EASTON RECTORY PONDS

As winter comes to a close the fishing at Rectory has become a lot slower. Through the summer months large bags of carp and silver fish have been caught with carp up to 20lb in the bottom lake. Corn, pellets, bread and meat all seem to be working well.

LITTLE EASTON LAUNDRY LAKE

As we come to the end of another season Laundry is still very popular venue. The fishing seems to have got harder over the years as the fish have seen all methods, but the rewards can be good with carp of 20lb+ coming to the bank. I would like to remind members not to leave the car park before 6am and to leave the venue by 10pm as there is no night fishing. A big thank you to all my bailiffs for their support throughout the year.

STEVE SMITH

DODDS FARM

Fishing this season has produced some very good sized carp and tench.

The carp have been in their mid twenties and the tench up to 8lbs. Roach are showing when fished with light tackle! Even the occasional crucian has appeared.

Access to both lakes is rather awkward, as both roadways have been torn up by farm machinery and with all this excess rain making access very muddy isn't helping either.

Please adhere to the Dodds new Club rules. No loose feeding of boilies. Boilies can only be used as a hook bait or on a stringer.

MICK JENSEN

PARSONAGE FARM

Fishing this year has again on the whole been excellent, tench, roach, crucians, rudd, the occasional bream and high hybrids all being caught on a variety of methods and baits. Also this season a lot more perch have been caught up to around the 4lb mark. The tench fishing on its day can be quite exceptional and the average size is increasing year on year. The roach go to 2lb, crucians 2lb, rudd to 1lb, bream to 5lb and hybrids to 3lb.

The fishery is getting more and more popular which also may account for the extra litter around the lake, please remember to take it home and bin it! Lastly I would like to thank the members who have helped with jobs at the fishery, you know who you are and your work is appreciated not only by myself but other members. Thanks

STEVE SWALLOW 07411 988519

HICKS FARM

This is a 1.5 acre lake with comfortable swims easily accessed from the adjacent car park.

The sport at Hicks has been constant through the season with carp being the predominant species. Large catches have been made regularly with carp in excess of 15lb being reported.

Some nice roach to over 1lb and the occasional large perch have been caught this season. In the warmer weather surface fishing has been the most successful method with fish often being taken in the margins.

JIM BEAVER

LADIES & MIXED PAIRS SECTION

This season's matches for Ladies and Mixed Pairs of the Club has been interesting with various ups and downs but the match that stands aside this year was the Mixed Pairs match which took place on the on a bright morning on the 27th September at Armigers where we had a good attendance of eight anglers, making up four mixed pairs. The match started at 10am and we had to stop at 12 noon because everyone's nets were heaving but this break was not much of a rest as it took an hour to weigh everything and then at 1 o'clock we started again for two hours. The winning pair was Mandy Burridge with her weight of **501lb 12oz** and her Dad Ralph Turner with his weight of **197lb 9oz** giving them a total of an amazing **699lb 5oz** which was an astonishing figure for just four hours fishing. Mandy used a Pellet Waggler for the first half of the match at about 6 to 12 inches deep and for the second half of the Match she used a Paste Ball sitting on the bottom although with the 'Hot Tub of Carp' in her swim the bottom was not always reached. Amazingly Mandy only lost one hook during the match but even now can remember her arms took some time to recover from the beating. Armigers delivered as it usually does a fantastic match result with **1706lb 6oz** being the total weight caught by all four pairs it was the highlight of our season. Finally, a big thank you for everyone who attended the Ladies and Mixed Pairs Matches this season, as always all of the events were enjoyable and even when things didn't go quite to plan, we still had plenty of laughs in great company. We look forward to seeing you all again next year and as always we would welcome any new Ladies and Mixed Pairs to come along and join in these Matches. If you need any further information please contact **Nick Mitchell** on 07970 606558

JUNIOR SECTION

Hello to all, First of all, I would like to thank all the parents and guardians for turning up with their juniors, whatever the conditions. There were many highlights this season, here is a quick overview.

Our second match of the season, on the small lake at Straits Mill saw James Hunt catch 33 lb 10oz of bream, all caught on expander pellet close in. It was so nice to see a great bag of bream! Well done James.

The fourth match of the season was held at Rectory Ponds. The winner on the day was James Hunt, fishing the top lake by the dam wall, and achieving a weight of 35lb 13oz of carp. He caught on corn, maggot and pellet.

The fifth match of the season was at Shalford Ponds- competing for the Billericay cup. First on the day was Jamie Sutton with a weight of 32lb 7oz of carp and roach.

The sixth match of the season was at Armigers and it was a glorious late September day, sunny and calm. As always this lake produces big weights, it seems every year records are broken here. Although we had only 3 juniors fishing this match, one under 12, one over 12 and one intermediate the fishing was great. The overall winner was Jamie Sutton with a weight of 336lb-8oz- what an amazing weight considering the match was only 4 hrs long and we had to weigh in half way through. Well done James. Second place went to James Hunt with 213lb-2oz, and third place was James Treadway with 180lb-8oz. Jamie Sutton averaged 84-2-0 per hour over the 4 hour match. At this rate in a senior 6 hour match he would quite easily have cleared 500lb. Our thanks go to Ray Ankin & Dean Mansfield who carried out the midway weigh in, using large carp mats. This allowed the lads to fish on uninterrupted. Also, my thanks go to Calvin for helping run this match.

What a great season- the juniors all fished well, showed real skill and we all had a lot of fun. We always reward everyone who takes part and at every match juniors take home free fishing tackle, including carp baits. The top three anglers receive winner's money and we have end of season trophies for different age group match winners.

Many Congratulations to our overall winners: James Hunt winning the over 12's Junior Champion, with a total of 152 points, Jamie Sutton for winning the intermediate award with 98 points, and James Treadway winning the under 12's category with 104 points. Well done lads. Remember, we welcome all new juniors, so do come along and give it a try. We are a friendly, helpful group- who all love angling. Here is the end of season results:

Jamie Sutton	intermediate	= 98 points
James Hunt	over 12s	=152 points
James Treadway	under12S	=104 points
Samuel Mansfield	under 12s	=54 points
Alfie Allgood	under 12s	=36 points
Jack Douglass.	under 12s	=19 points
Reece Breakspeare	under12s	=18 points

Many thanks and tight lines

Steve Allgood.

MATCH SECTION

FINAL LEAGUE POSITIONS 2014

POS	NAME	POINTS	POS	NAME	WEIGHT
1	Shaun Mahoney	779	1	Mick Brown	1767.969
2	Andy Holt	737	2	Len Goulding	1592.25
3.	Nigel Warwick	719	3	Tony Eustace	1583.594
4	Len Goulding	715	4	Shaun Mahoney	1519.563
5	Ray Ankin	679	5	Ray Ankin	1420.454
6	Mick Brown	678	6	Andy Holt	1401.188
7	Tony Eustace	648	7	Nigel Warwick	1356.813
8	Chris Ward	639	8	Paul Mortimer	1337.188
9	Trevor Hayden	633	9	Trevor Hayden	1270.563
10	Ray Strutt	603	10	Robin Driscoll	1234.75

Congratulations to this year's Club Champion: Shaun Mahoney.

RETIRED & DISABLED SECTION

The weather has been good to us this year which accounts for a few of the decent weights . First match was at Southminster which was won by Ray Nicholls with 66lbs. I don't know why they always put in pit 6 on the platform. Second match was at Bicknacre which was won by Fred Barnes with 29lbs 7ozs of bream, rudd, and roach. Match 3 was at Windmill Lakes which was won by Bert Blackwood with 18lbs 9ozs. Match 4 was at Hicks Farm which was won by Peter Jones with 82lbs 4ozs. Match 5 was at Shalford Lakes and won by Steve Foster with 59lbs 12ozs of carp from the Church Lake. Match 6 was at Straits Mill and won by Peter Jones with 49lbs 6ozs of bream and roach. Match 7 was at Thobey Wood and won by Shaun Mahoney with 22lbs 12ozs which included a bream of 5lbs 13ozs. Match 8 was at Bicknacre and the winner was Colin Sinclair with 22lbs 4ozs of bream and roach, Match 9 was held at Rectory Ponds and won by Nigel Warwick with 101lbs of carp. Next was the Vets National which 5 of us decided to enter, only one of the lads won his Section and that was George Rivers well done George. Match 10 was at Dodds Farm and won by Peter Jones with 41lbs 9ozs of carp. Next match was the Challenge Match against Bishop Stortford on home water Bicknacre. Winners on the day were Billericay 128pts to 81pts, well done guys. Match 11 was changed from Windmill to Oakford Farm owing to the Fire problem and was won by Len Goulding with 38lbs 12ozs of carp. Match 12 was the 2 day festival at Rectory Ponds over the August bank holiday the winner over the 2 days on a points system was Steve Foster with 20 points total weight of 181lbs 12ozs of carp. Next match was away to Bishop Stortford at Beggars Hall which was won by Billericay 108pts to 101 pts. Match 13 was at Hicks Farm and won by Ray Nicholls with 88lbs of carp. Match 14 was held at Straits Mill and the top weight on the day was Derek Howard with 38lbs 4ozs of bream and roach. Match 15 was at Armigers and was won by Steve Foster with 321lbs 6ozs of carp. Match 16 was the pairs match on the Maldon Canal. Match 17 was Southminster the winner was Eric Sugden with 33lbs of carp. Match 18 was on the river at Braintree and the top weight on the day was Steve Foster with 4lbs 14oz. Match 19 was at Hicks Farm we had joint winners on the day both had 69lbs and they were Eric Sugden and Dave Tosley. Match 20 was our Christmas Match at Armigers top weight was Lenny Goulding with 170lbs. After the match we all met at the Farmhouse Inn for food and a pint and give out presents. Overall I have enjoyed this 2nd year I have got more used to the guys so I am thinking about starting up an old peoples' home. My misses says I've got to go with them. It's good to see and meet these guys on a week to week basis smiling or moaning. These are a great bunch of guys and I would not change one of them. Thanks guys for all your help throughout the year ,special thanks to Bert Blackwood and Paul Mortimer for helping with pegging and paper work and see you all on 25th March at Southminster. Happy New Year to all the members of B.D.A.C.

Ray Nicholls

Final League Positions

Name	Points	Name	Weight
1 S Foster	479.5	1 S Foster	826-2-8
2 P Mortimer	416.5	2 P Jones	727-9-0
3 C Sinclair	409	3 P Mortimer	693-12-0
4 P Jones	403	4 S Mahoney	683-10-8
5 B Blackwood	400.5	5 F Groves	613-5-8
6 R Nicholls	398	6 R Nicholls	585-3-5
7 S Mahoney	385.5	7 T Batterbee	583-14-8
8 N Warwick	369.5	8 B Blackwood	570-6-0
9 F Groves	367	9 D Howard	566-3-0
10 T Batterbee	354.5	10 M Salmon	541-12-0
11 M Salmon	335	11 C Sinclair	504-13-8
12 D Howard	320	12 L Goulding	470-3-0
13 J Dennison	309	13 D Tosley	427-11-8
14 G Rivers	307.5	14 N Warwick	419-11-8
15 F Barnes	304	15 F Barnes	403-4-0

Best Fish: Rudd 1lb 12ozs.....Fred Barnes

AND FINALLY



The zander netted by the EA on our stretch of the River Stour during a fish survey.
Photo reproduced with permission of the Environment Agency

CLUB WORK PARTIES

The Club's Committee has worked really hard to keep maintenance expenses down and this has helped to keep the membership fees at a very good value for money level. We now ask members to do their bit. Most of our Fishery Officers run work parties during the Close Season and members' attendance had been dire. None of the work is strenuous but is urgently needed to keep our venues looking great and to improve your fishing experience. Below is a list of work parties that have been booked but if your favourite water is not mentioned get in touch with the Fishery Officer to offer your help. Remember after a morning's work you will be entitled to fish in the afternoon.

Southminster

Sunday 5th April

Willow Mere

Sunday 26th April

Straits Mill

Sundays April 12th & April 26th.

Work parties every Mon. 9.00am to 1.00 pm.

Rectory Ponds

Sunday 5th April 8.30 start

Laundry Lake

Sundays 12th,19th &26th April 8.30

Windmill Lakes

Call Fishery Officers.

Armigers

Sundays April 12th &19th April. 9.00

Asheldham

Call Fishery Officer

Parsonage Farm

Call Fishery Officer

Dodds Farm

Every Saturday & Sunday in April.

SOUTHMINSTER

Another season is nearly over and I would like to thank my team and all the other members who have helped over the last year. I have had reports that members are moving carp from Pit6 to Pit 8. This is against Club's rules and could spread disease. If you are caught you will be asked to leave. The rubbish is getting worse please take it home with you. The weather has not done any favours again, Pits 4 & 5 are flooded. The fishing has been good considering the conditions with carp to low 20's, bream to 8lb, perch to 3lb, roach to nearly 2lb, rudd to 1lb 8oz. Please note the disabled gate is closed until further notice during wet ground conditions.

BILL BROOM



Stocking the River Roding today with 2000 Chub at around 20cm (6 inches). They were from the EA fish Farm ,Calverton, Nottingham and were in mint condition. Would members report any catches of this new stock over the coming months. John Lesurf [28 January](#)



I accepted a invitation from Thames Water to visit the newly constructed River Lea Tunnel project which takes storm water and untreated sewerage which is normally put in the river system after heavy rainfall to the Beckton Sewerage works. This project is the fore runner of the Thames Tideway project proposed from West London to Beckton which alleviates the millions of tons of raw sewerage discharged into the Thames every year. It was an informative visit and I think this might be of some interest to our members to see what is being done to protect fish stocks and wildlife. As a small group of six visitors we were greeted by the CEO of Thames Water Richard Ayling and after safety training we descended one of five huge shafts by cage lift, the shafts which become operational at the end of 2015 and will themselves fill up with untreated sewerage ready for treatment. After the visit there was a question and answer session which Richard chaired. John Lesurf