

BDAC NEWSLETTER



AFFILIATED TO THE ANGLING TRUST

FEBRUARY 2019

SUBS HELD FOR 2019/20

The Club's Finance Committee has decided to hold the basic subscription rates at the same level as 2018/19.

The only change to fees will be to the Night Fishing charges which will rise to £50 for either Barleylands or Laundry Lake. The joint fee for both lakes will rise to £80.

Those members purchasing Night Fishing permits will from 1st November 2019 to 31st March 2020 be able to fish with 3 rods provided they possess the enhanced EA licence.

For both of these waters members are reminded that they can spend **no more than 72 hours on the fishery then no return to that fishery for 48 hours.** All new fees will be shown on your application form. Please note that members without a night fishing ticket CANNOT use three rods at any time.



Jasmine



Layla



Kathy

Mixed Pairs and Juniors Match at Thoby Wood in August.

This was a very successful match with specimen tench and bream caught. Jasmine with a tench of 6lbs 2ozs, all the Juniors with their prizes, Layla (who won the Juniors' match) with a 5lb tench and Kathy with a personal best tench of 6lbs 7ozs.



A beast of a common from Jamie Sutton at Barley-lands .. weighing in at 35lb 8oz..

Well done Jamie !!



Luke Harman with 23 pounder at Bicknacre caught on a asylum maple meganut

BILLERICAY & DISTRICT ANGLING CLUB

As General Secretary and under the constitution of the Club I hereby give notice to all members that the
2019 Annual General Meeting will be held at the
Wickford Community Centre, Market Road, Wickford, SS12 0AG on Wednesday 20th March 2019
commencing at 8.00 p.m.

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
2. President's address.
3. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 14th March 2018.
4. Chairman's address.
5. General Secretary's report.
6. Treasurer's report and adoption of the accounts for the year ending 31st December 2018. (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 2019/20 Officers and Management Committee.
Nominations received and seconded are as follows: -

Chairman	K. Collard
Vice-Chairman	S Mahoney
General Secretary	R. Driscoll
Treasurer	D. Howard
Membership Secretary	Nomination approved
Match Secretaries	C.Elder/J. Byford
Junior Secretary	N. Mitchell
Newsletter Editor	Vacant
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

Calvin Elder	Ray Nicholls	Fred Barnes
Dave Harman	Roy Mills	Dean Mansfield

13. Election of Auditors.
Sygma Chartered Accountants be 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 at £10 per person in addition to their normal subscription. This year members can pay for their ticket on their renewal form in the appropriate box.

Details of Consortium waters can be viewed on their website: www.fishersgreencon.co.uk.

Please note this is not a BDAC venue so it is policed by FGC bailiffs and any disciplinary matters are handled by the Consortium only.

GUEST DAY PASSES

These have been extended from the Club's freehold waters (Southminster, Asheldham and Straits Mill) to include Jackletts Farm, Hicks Farm and Thoby Wood. Members will need an email address and a printer.

Fee:

Day passes (6am to 10pm, sunset at Hicks & Thoby) £10 per guest.

Two day pass at Southminster only (6am on day 1 to 10pm on day 2) £18 per guest.

Payment can only be made by bank transfer to BDAC sort code 20-37-83 account number 90158224 with the member's name being the reference.

Rules:

The printed pass must be taken with the guest on the day.

These passes are non-transferable and non-refundable.

The member must be responsible for the guest adhering to the Club's bylaws and venue's rules.

All guests must be accompanied by the fully paid up member.

To apply email; bdacmembers@gmail.com or phone
the Club's Helpline 0844 335 3978

WATER SHARE WITH BISHOPS STORTFORD & DISTRICT ANGLING SOCIETY (BSDAS)

The Club has again agreed with BSDAS for a water share arrangement. 100 BSDAS members will again be able to fish our water at Straits Mill, Braintree (both lakes and river), and 100 of our members will be able to fish their water "Malcolm Barker Lake" and a short stretch of the River Stort. Full details of these fisheries including directions can be viewed on www.bsdas.org.uk.

Only the following classes of members of this Club will be eligible; Ordinary, OAP, Disabled and Intermediate. This will be on a strictly first come first served basis and successful applicants will receive a BSDAS card in May and will be valid from 1st June 2019. Last year this was oversubscribed and the Club understands a number of these tickets were not used. This year please only apply if you are going to use the ticket on a regular basis so those members who live nearby and would like to fish this venue will stand a chance of getting a ticket. Also last year some members were not able to get a ticket because they did not send in a SAE envelope and their envelope was too small.

The BSDAS card will show the gate padlock combination for Malcolm Barker Lake for the 10 month period together with their club rules and directions relating to the lake and river. Complete the application form on this page and return, together with a **C5 Stamped addressed envelope**, with your completed renewal form.

**BISHOPS STORTFORD & DAS
APPLICATION FOR WATER SHARE CARD**

Complete this form (or photocopy) and return with your renewal form together with a stamped addressed envelope - C5 size.

Cards will be sent out during May 2019.

Name..... I.D. no.....

For office use only

BS&DAS no. Rec. no.

IMPORTANT—MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

NO MEMBERSHIPS WILL BE SENT OUT UNTIL 27th MARCH (AFTER THE CLUB'S AGM)

Write your name on the reverse of your photo and **sign your cheque** (if used). To help process and speed up your renewal the Club would prefer payment to be made by bank transfer through internet banking. Ensure that your name and ID number (see renewal form) is sent as the reference so that the Club knows who the money is coming from and don't forget to send in your completed renewal form and photo. Any new non-fishing member will require a separate form available from our website or via the Club's Helpline. Please note : Barclays Bank will no longer accept subscription payments over their counters.

We have again included boxes for the night fishing fees and Fishers Green Consortium. To avoid changing your membership card during the season and incurring an admin. fee, make sure that you include these additional fees with your renewal subscription.

Memberships will be processed in the order they are received but cheques will take at least a week to clear. You have until **30th April** to renew after that a £10 entry fee will be charged as your membership will have deemed to have elapsed. If you wish to fish from **1st May** you must ensure that your renewal form is received by the membership dept. by **8th April** to guarantee your membership card will be back in time.

Memberships are only issued by post. No photos are required for Associates or Juniors.

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 member who does not send this will have their application returned. Please provide either phone numbers or preferably an email address in order that we can 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

This will be my last report as Fishery Officer for Straits Mill.

I have enjoyed the past seven years and with the team around me I think we have made some worthwhile improvements. For some the carp fishing has been good with up to seven fish coming out on a number of occasions to one angler. The winter carp fishing is also good but anglers tend to be secretive. It is not a watter that you will find easy; it has to be worked at, look and watch and you will find the fish.

The weed removal from the small lake has improved it and 40 lb bags of bream are commonplace and the tench that we have introduced are showing up well plus increasing in size rapidly, these are supplemented by introductions of tench from our stock pond at the top of the site. Hopefully it's planned to remove the weed from the big lake this coming year but this has to be accomplished at the right time to be affective so don't be impatient.

I have encouraged the Club to introduce tench into the big lake to try to get it to the standard it used to be.

With the paths we put around the fishery and river access it is much improved, with the right equipment we could make the access to the lower section of the river as good as the top section. I am hopeful that the work at Straits will continue but the guys need help from the membership.

Geoff Latham

WILLOW MERE

The fishery continues to produce some good carp up to 28lbs. Bream, roach, rudd, and perch were caught regularly with lots of pike seen but no reports of any large fish caught. The lake can become very weedy, so if members have a rake it is advisable to take it along. Banded hard pellet and paste are methods that can be used to catch the better silver fish. Some of the roach exceed 1lb and bream go up to 5lbs.

Tight Lines for the new season.

Brian Thorpe

BARLEYLANDS

This year has seen the introduction of the new night ticket which I think has worked really well. The number of members fishing Barleylands is still high, even those doing nights during December. 2018 has seen a steady increase in

the size of fish caught, and the condition of these fish is being maintained to a very high standard. That is just one of the reasons that the use of sided unhooking mats or cradles is compulsory on this fishery. When I walk round Barleylands, particularly in the evening, with the sun setting behind the trees, this fishery can only be described as a stunning oasis between the busy towns of Wickford and Billericay. For those members who have not yet visited Barleylands you are missing out on a really good carp water. The water level has stayed pretty consistent throughout the summer, though slightly down on previous years, but there remains a very good depth of water across the lake. Most members have kept to the rules and for that my bailiffs and I are very grateful, as this makes our jobs much easier. In regard to baits, most boilies seem to work, with some flavours appearing to do better at different times of the year. All manner of rigs do the business, though just when you think you have found the answer the fish manage to prove otherwise.

I look forward to seeing you on the bank later this winter and during next season, and please remember mine's two sugars!!
Peter Fox 07570781126

HICKS FARM

During this last year we have made many improvements to the fishery. The bottom car park has been expanded and the overhanging trees have been cut back which has opened more swims. We have also repaired four swims on the field side of the fishery. In my opinion, this fishery is the best to take young anglers to as they will always catch. This is supported by our match weights, to win you will have to catch between 100 and 150lbs! Pleasure anglers are catching carp up to 16lbs although I believe there are some fish in there of between 20 to 25 lbs. The most effective baits are maggots (dead or alive), corn, bread, chickpea, paste and hemp. If you like margin fishing, take some ground bait with you as you will be surprised how the bigger fish come in to see what's on offer. Even in the winter months the fishery is fishing very well with weights over 50lbs quite common. I find ground bait and corn works very well now (December 2018). For those of you who think this fishery only has small roach in it, it has been reported to me that a roach of 1lb 13oz has been caught using hemp on the hook and as feed! The most effective methods are pole fishing and feeder fishing, and, if the lake is not

busy, great sport can be had on the wagglers. Next season you will be able to bring a guest with you, however, they must be accompanied by a member, and you must purchase the guest ticket before you come to the fishery (see page 3) as they are not sold on the bank! Important note, this fishery has several matches on it next season, normally on a Wednesday or a Sunday; also, the fishery owner closes the venue on two weekends as he allows the Caravan Club use to it. To save you disappointment, please check closure dates on the fishery notice board, your hand book and on our website. www.bdac.co.uk. Tight Lines
Robin Driscoll – Fishery Officer – 07732-695586

SOUTHMINSTER

Another good year's fishing at Southminster. Plenty of sizable fish coming out of the reservoir including some good looking carp, roach, rudd, bream and some nice perch and small tench indicating that the ones we put in prior to opening must be breeding happily.

On the subject of tench, we've had some nice ones out of pit one in the middle of DECEMBER. All pits are fishing well and are popular. My thanks to all my volunteer bailiffs and helpers, without whom the venue would not look the way it does. I look forward to seeing you all next season.

There will be work parties in the closed season most Sundays, some weekdays and all are welcome. Come and have a bit of banter. Dave Harman

PARSONAGE FARM

Another great year's fishing at Parsonage Farm fishery, tench being the main fish to be caught right up until Christmas! Good bags of roach, rudd, and not quite so prolific crucians, hybrids and perch can provide good sport. There have been several of the bream which were stocked a couple of years ago caught up to about 3lbs. Another good sign is the amount of small skimmers that have been caught, so they must be spawning. As I write this two new swims are nearing completion at the far end of the lake, hard work but a big thanks to my helpers! This means there will be swims all the way round the lake. A great lake to fish and friendly people who make it so! See you all soon.

Steve Swallow Tel:- 07411 988519

FISHERY REPORTS

RIVER WID

Despite the 'Beast from the East', the final few weeks of the last river season (2017/18) saw good catches of the then recently stocked fish (Dec 2017).

The long hot DRY summer began early this year and has continued well into autumn. To combat these challenging conditions members have maintained catches by developing the 'reversed surface trotting' method. This entails mounting a small stick float 'upside down' on the running main line. The float is fished either flat, with split shot/weight for casting fixed equally either end of the float or bit hit and miss with the float cocked using a small bulk back shot. The greased hook link exits the caught.

top of the float and remains on the surface A big thank you to my bailiffs for their presenting a floating bait. Spent casters or bread crust are my preference. (I have also seen sugar puffs and a dry fly being used to good effect!!!). Try to present the bait ahead of the rig as it is trotted along shallow gravel glides and over weed beds. Regular feeding 'little and often' should get the shoals of dace and chub surface feeding and with practice can prove very rewarding. Once the winter rains arrive link ledgering/feeder fishing will come into its own. My tip is to fish half of a big lob worm either free lined or pinned down on a straight lead. My bailiff Barry prefers feeder fishing red maggot.

ATTENTION ALL RIVER ANGLERS - We intend to hold an end of season 'gudgeon' (largest/most caught) competition/meeting for this stretch of river on Sunday 10th March 2019. Interested parties please contact me for further details. Likewise if you are up for any work parties. Kind regards and enjoy your fishing. Peter Yates – Fishery Officer – Mob 07465 429877

HENNY STREET, R. STOUR

Extremely high summer temperatures understandably killed summer sport on the Stour this year making for almost pointless fishing conditions. That said tench were caught by fishing late into the evening float fishing corn in the deep margins. As autumn has turned into winter specimen chub have started to become a worthwhile target although only small fish have been caught so far this will surely change as the season progresses. Travel light and fish with big baits... you might get a surprise! Good Luck. As a foot note I would like to assure people that if you come across any cows in the field they are not dangerous just curious, if you leave them alone they get bored and leave you alone, however if you run away they

will run with you!

Steve Howell

LAUNDRY LAKE

Firstly, I would like to thank all the people who turned out to help with the 2018 works parties. A lot of work was put in to making the 'swims' a lot safer to use.

The introduction of night fishing has been very successful with not only the fishing but everyone looking after the fishery and keeping litter to a minimum. Again, this year, the fishing has been a

link good reports of some large fish being caught. A big thank you to my bailiffs for their unstinting support throughout the year. It has been brought to my attention that an otter or mink has been seen at the laundry lake and all are welcome with an 8am start. Steve Smith

RECTORY PONDS

Again this year there seems to be a drop in members fishing in Rectory Ponds. Not sure the reason for this. I have, however, been called many times by members fishing here reporting that there has been illegal fishing going on which seems to be on the increase unfortunately, I have immediately responded by going up there to see what's going on and have moved these people on.

The fishing has still been good with carp and silver fish being the main species caught. As I write this report (December), there is a lot of debris in the top lake and a large branch has fallen in the bottom pond which the owner is aware of.

Each year, I put in the dates of the work parties for Rectory but nobody turns up apart from the people who help with Laundry, so COME ON the people who fish Rectory Ponds, the date for the work party is 27th April 2019. Be lovely to see a few of you there.

Steve Smith

THOBY WOOD

I have taken over as Fishery Officer as Ron Cook the previous Fishery Officer stood down due to a broken hip. A lot of work has gone on this season. It started with a meeting with the owner to sort out

some outstanding problems. The first was the entrance gate which had broken and was dangerous. He agreed to replace it and this has been done. The next thing was to get the dumped car and tree branches next to the container removed, this also has been done. The last thing was to get the toilet block up and running again as it has been out of commission for a couple of seasons due to a leak in the bowser. The owner found us a replacement and then I began the work of reconnecting the pipes and sorting out the leaks and the pump, so we now have flush ladies and gents toilets again.

On the lake there were a number of trees that had come down, one was right across to the island. These have been removed, there are still a couple to do next season but are not causing too much of a problem. The Norfolk reed on the front bank has been cut back and grass in the car park and paths around the lakes regularly cut. Now to the fishing: the lake has fished really well with a 29lb mirror and a 29lb common being caught. There have been a fair number of mid teens to low twenties reported, best pegs are 14, 15, 16 and 17 at the far end of the lake and the pegs around the island, the carp don't seem to like lots of bait just a few freebies around a hook bait of a boilie or pellet. The tench seem to favour the lilies again around the island with four at 7lbs reported with quite a few being between 2 and 7lb. Best baits are pellets or sweetcorn on float or feeder, they can be caught close in during summer evenings. The open water pegs 4 to 10 and 20 to 26 seem to favour the bream and the tell-tale sign of bubbles can be seen on a still day, target the fish with a method feeder with pellet, maggot or sweetcorn getting the best results. Fish range from 2 to 7lb and I have had reports of up to 25 bream in a session. A 20lb pike was reported caught but a couple of days later found dead in the margins. Some jacks and other pike to 12lbs have been caught, if you are pike fishing please make sure you have the right gear. For those who just want to relax and see the float go under there are plenty of roach, rudd and perch to 12oz that can be caught on maggot. I watched the carp through the spring and they did not spawn and I expect this was due to their age as they are quite old. The Committee decided to try and solve this and stocked fifty 5lbs carp, being a mix of commons and mirrors. We will see what happens in the spring. Tight lines.

Shaun Mahoney

FISHERY WORKS DURING 2018



STRAITS MILL - BRAINTREE

As with Southminster in 2017 we applied for a grant from the Angling Improvement Fund to improve access, renew swims and weed clearance (see photo on left) on the small lake. The work completed was the installation of 2 disabled swims, one on each lake, new swims and platforms and reprofiling and widening of the slope from the car park down to both lakes. The old slope was blocked off. The cost of all this work was approx. £15,500 and we received a grant of £5000 towards this.

In October a hard standing parking area was created at a cost of approx. £11,500. In March an amount of £2275 was spent on the felling of trees on the area between the lake and the river. All brush and logs were left on site to form habitat piles for wildlife. In total the Club spent over £25,000 on this freehold property last year. A new Fishery Officer, Colin Evans will be taking over from 01/04/2019.

SHALFORD LAKES

The undergrowth and swims were cleared in March with costs being shared with the owner. The Club's contribution was £500. The owner also agreed to do regular grass cutting at both Church and Road Lakes.

ASHELDHAM

Over Christmas and the New Year Asheldham was stocked with 225 carp of up to 5lbs at a cost of £2250. (See photo). In 2019 the Club intends to concentrate expenditure on Asheldham to look at clearing the duck weed and some of the lilies. Also some serious repairs need to be done to the banks.

SOUTHMINSTER

No major works were carried out here after the big expenditure in 2017 on the Bill Broom Memorial reservoir. However Pit 2 was finally opened. The main costs were on the electricity to run the pump to feed into the reservoir and lakes and this totalled over £800.

WILLOW MERE

In April work was undertaken to cut back and trim overhanging trees to allow a sufficiently wide walkway around the lake at a cost of £1475.

THOBY WOOD

The owner provided new gates, cleared the dumped car and the burnt out container at no cost to the Club. The toilet block is now up and running, the owner supplying the new bowser and the Club providing all the new pipework. In November the lake was stocked with 50 carp averaging 5lbs at a cost of £3000. The Fishery Officer has carried out general tree clearing.

BARLEYLANDS

£630 was spent in 2018 on grass cutting.

WINDMILL LAKES

Field & Swan were stocked in November with 125 carp up to 4lbs at a cost of £1250.

Long Lake: the owner cleared some overhanging trees to make more swims at no cost to the Club.

Old Island Lake: there are no plans to do anything here as the lake is silted up and leaking and it will cost too much to put this right. Members can still fish here if they want as there are still fish in the water.

RIVER WID

A very constructive meeting was held with the owner at his request last year and a development plan for the future was agreed. It was agreed to re-develop from the weir pool down to the blue bridge and from the bridge to the first fence creating 12 to 13 proper swims (costs to be shared with the Club where plant and machinery need hiring). The owner will investigate the snag in the weir pool and remove it. In 2018 3 mink were caught.

HICKS FARM

The owner carried out some swim repairs and removed some willows on the far bank.

DODDS FARM

Chicken wire was put on the bridge. The owner extended the car park and rebuilt some swims at no cost to the Club. He does however ask members not to park in front of the tanks or the steps down to the bungalow. Eddie Stanton is the new Fishery Officer.

PARSONAGE FARM

The Fishery Officer has built a new swim in the reeds at the far end of the lake where the fishing has been prolific in the early part of each season.



The Club is following a policy of spending the major expenditure on its freehold waters. Southminster and Braintree have had considerable improvements made in the last 2 years and it is proposed to look at Asheldham improvements in 2019.

RETIRED & DISABLED SECTION

Once again we have come to the end of another good year with some high weights coming out. We have been down on our numbers this year owing to a few guys unable to attend for a few weeks here and there but as it is we don't get any younger each year.

The first match was won at Southminster by myself with 89lbs (I have to mention it but I love this fishery).

John Dennison pulled out 46lbs from Parsonage Farm, Nigel Warwick 125lbs from Hicks Farm and 94lbs from Windmill, later in the year he also had 139lbs and 144lbs from Hicks Farm. Well done to Clive Gliddon with 68lbs from Bicknacre, the weights are getting better here. Paul Mortimer did well at Thobey Wood with 40lbs including a tench of 7lbs. Shaun Mahoney had a good bag at Southminster of 153lbs, Bert Blackwood had a good day at Parsonage Farm bagging 75lbs of tench, well done Bert. To finish up the year we fished our last match at Hicks Farm, won by Tony Read with 45lbs. After the match we went for our buffet and drinks at a local social club hall. Overall points winner was Shaun Mahoney, and the knockout trophy went to Bert Blackwood. I would like to thank all the guys that have supported the group this year and hope to see you all next year, best wishes to Malcolm Salmon, Fred Groves and Tom Batterbee who we have not seen much of this year, get well guys we miss you lots.

See you all at the AGM to pick up your trophies, or at Southminster 20th March or on the bank sometime. Good luck and all the best to a great bunch of guys.

Ray Nicholls - Match Secretary

POS	ANGLER	POINTS	POS	ANGLER	WEIGHT
1	Shaun Mahoney	402	1	Nigel Warwick	742.125
2	Colin Sinclair	400	2	Tony Read	564.125
3	Paul Mortimer	392	3	Shaun Mahoney	516.875
4	Tony Read	381	4	Dave Tosley	499.3125
5	Dave Tosley	379	5	Colin Sinclair	488.125
6	Nigel Warwick	377	6	Paul Mortimer	469
7	Ray Nicholls	363	7	Ray Nicholls	464.625
8	Calvin Elder	357	8	Calvin Elder	391.9375
9	Steve Foster	354	9	Derek Howard	390.5625
10	Clive Gliddon	342	10	Clive Gliddon	377.5

Pike match report

Numbers were a bit down this year possibly due to the weather. We were met with cold winds and heavy rain at the start but this didn't put the fish off as Jay had a jack first cast. The rain soon cleared to leave bright calm conditions. Not ideal but the pike were on the munch with more fish caught than last year. Everyone had a fish or two albeit mostly jacks and it looked like David Wilson would be taking the trophy thanks to the biggest fish of the session at 8lb 14oz. However last year's winner Dave Twitchett (see photo) managed a late fish of 8lb 8oz to add to his tally and retain his title! Herring, mackerel, smelt and roach all worked plus one on a lure. Once again a very enjoyable friendly match with a few quid raised for charity. Ken Brown



POS	ANGLER	POINTS	POS	ANGLER	WEIGHT	Senior Match Group Final Placings 2018 Congratulations to our new Champion Tony Eustace. A big thanks to the Match Secretaries Jamie Byford and Dean Mansfield. Thanks also to Calvin Elder for collating all the points and weights.
1	Tony Eustace	704	1	Tony Eustace	1156.938	
2	Ray Strutt	673	2	Ray Strutt	874.0625	
3	Chris Ward	671	3	Chris Ward.	860.125	
4	Nigel Warwick	659	4	Nigel Warwick	843.7625	
5	Jamie Byford	644	5	Jamie Byford	784.9375	
6	Ray Ankin	618	6	Jim Trew	702.5	
7	Trevor Hayden	607	7	Shaun Mahoney	663.3125	
8	Dean Mansfield	595	8	Ray Ankin	651.3125	
9	Calvin Elder	566	9	Trevor Hayden	647.25	
10	Keith Ward	508	10	Dean Mansfield	590.8125	

BASIL JEE AND DEREK SWEETLOVE

We must sadly report the passing of these two Life Members of the Club during 2018.

Basil can truly be called a founder member of BDAC, his involvement going right back to 1954, when a group of 12 businessmen in Billericay met at a local pub, and organised a group who fished a worked-out brick pit close to Billericay Station. When it was decided to fill this pit in, the group disbanded, only to resurrect their wish to form a club in early 1957. With Basil being the first Secretary, the group fished at one or two small waters locally, but were mainly intent in carrying forward the Club by arranging regular coach outings, which became very successful. However, in the early 1960's a foot & mouth outbreak stopped angling for several months, and interest in the Club dwindled. Basil and friends decided the way forward was to rent our own waters, and this was achieved with his contacts and guidance, resulting in waters at Little Waltham on the Chelmer, Oaklands Farm, Stock, and Blue Mills on the Blackwater. Basil was then able to negotiate with a gravel company firstly the renting and ultimately the sale to us of our freehold site at Southminster.

During the early 1970's, Basil, with the help of Derek Sweetlove, negotiated the renting of worked-out sandpits at Straits Mill, Braintree. In 1981 we purchased the freehold.

Basil was General Secretary of the Club from 1968 until 1977. His "day job" in legal services was invaluable to the Club, and he was involved in other local clubs and societies, such as Billericay Town Football Club. He encouraged his children to take an active part in a thriving Junior Section in the 1970's, we met some of them, with his widow Christine, at Basil's funeral in September. Despite moving away from our area, latterly to Shoeburyness, Basil continued to take an active interest in the Club, contributing a yearly donation to Club funds. We accordingly donated an amount to WaterAid UK in his memory.

As mentioned above, Derek Sweetlove was involved in the successful building of the Club's fisheries from the 1960's. He was a Committee member from that time, and was Fishery Officer at Southminster for at least 30 years up to 2002. During this time, as mentioned, we were involved in the development of the various pits there, together with the excavation of pit 9. More recently, Derek was Fishery Officer at Asheldham from 2009 until 2017, and he was instrumental in the construction of the Club's trailer, used to transport machinery around our various waters. He was therefore to be seen regularly involved in working parties at many of our fisheries, where his engineering skills were invaluable.

Charity Carp Match 2018

This year's event was held at Straits Mill in July and thanks to the heatwave we didn't have any rain. The 6 entrants had an enjoyable two days with most catching fish. The winner was Graham Johnson with 8 carp for a total of 98lbs. The largest fish weighed 18lbs 2ozs.

Fishery report for Dodds Farm.

There is now access to all but 3 swims that have damaged platforms, two on the first lake and one the back lake.

Both lakes have seen carp to over 20lbs caught, tench over 5lbs and earlier this year roach of over 1lb

Eddie Stanton. Fishery Officer.

Congratulations to Jasmine Wilkinson who is the aggregate winner of the Junior matches this season. Her winning prize was a fishing chair and a personalised cap as champion. See her photo on the website.



21lb 7ozs common caught at Thoby Wood. Lovely condition carp I have caught before from this lake. Kevin Saunders



30 December 2018 - Bicknacre, Jackletts Farm

A lovely 27lb common carp out of Jackletts and it is a beauty. I used a spinner rig and I was in the corner of the lake right at the back, cast towards the broken tree using a variety of bait and a vanilla chocolate pop-up. Jack Coles

The Club is inviting applications for the posts of Fishery Officer for the following waters - **River Roding, Willow Mere** and **Field and Swan at Windmill Lakes**. Please contact Shaun Mahoney on 07522096393 to declare an interest. The Club would like to thank Geoff Latham who is retiring as Fishery Officer at Straits Mill and to wish good luck to Colin Evans his successor. There is also a vacancy for the Newsletter Editor. If interested please phone the Club's Helpline 0844 335 3978

REMEMBER ALWAYS TO TAKE YOUR HANDBOOK WHEN FISHING BRAC WATERS