

# BDAC NEWSLETTER



AFFILIATED TO THE ANGLING TRUST FEBRUARY 2021

## 2020/21 SEASON ROUND UP

Well what a year it has been. Firstly we had to close all our waters at the end of March and of course during April which was the Club's Close Season anyway. Then due to the efforts of our National body, the Angling Trust, the Club was able to open its waters on 13th May. The Club was able to stay open during the second lockdown but then in the 3rd lockdown in January 2021 angling was banned by the government. Again sterling efforts by the Angling Trust meant that the government were persuaded to allow angling to go ahead but with certain restrictions. This meant there was to be no night fishing and anglers could only fish local waters. At the time of going to press this seems to be the way things stand for a time yet.

Secondly, probably due to the fact more people were furloughed or working from home, the Club's membership increased significantly, including 100 new Junior members. It was with this in mind the Club decided to stop selling night tickets at the beginning of June and close its membership in July to avoid overcrowding on the waters.

The Club has again run its special deal where new members can join in January and fish the last 3 months of the current season and the whole of next season, and this has been very popular with in excess of 400 new members joining to date.

The Club has taken the decision not to increase membership fees for the 2021/22 season but some changes have been made to the night fishing rule and fees (please check page 2 for details of new fees). It was decided not to sell these tickets to new members but to be offered to existing members only but these will be limited and issued on a first come first served basis. After 1st

## FISHERY WORKS DURING 2020

**STRAITS MILL** Due to serious storm damage during February when several trees blew down damaging our boundary fence and a neighbour's property, extensive work was carried out. This included removing the fallen trees, other potentially dangerous trees and the installation of a new boundary fence all costing the sum £15000. We are also monitoring other trees that could cause problems in the future. Weed controlling dye for the small lake was purchased at a cost of £324.

**LONG & OLD ISLAND LAKES** As a requirement of our lease, work was undertaken to remove trees on the banks of Long lake. The Club arranged for improvements to the path and creation of new swims on Old Island Lake. This work cost £2830.

**WILLOW MERE** Pathways and swims at this fishery had become badly overgrown and required a lot of work. This was carried out in two stages last Autumn and a fallen tree was also removed. Steps were put in at the entrance to the lake to help access. The cost of this work was £4280. The Club require a Fishery Officer at this venue, please apply to Shaun Mahoney

**HICKS FARM** A fallen tree was removed by the owner at no cost to the Club. The Club require a Fishery Officer at this venue, please apply to Shaun Mahoney on 07522 096393 or shaun.p.mahoney@btinternet.com.

**BARLEYLANDS** Grass cutting was carried out at a cost of £700.

**FISH STOCKING** 1000+ roach and skimmers were stocked into Asheldham and the same amount into Thoby Wood in March 2020 from a netting of Falklands Lake.

**LAUNDRY LAKE** Creating 2 new swims and repairs for £261.

Work planned for Southminster due to start this January has been postponed due to Covid-19 and weather conditions.

Please note there have been rule changes at Barleylands, Laundry and Thoby Wood. Check your 2021/22 Handbook for details.

Fishery Liaison Officer, Shaun Mahoney, with part of a stocking of tench and crucians which were supplied by the E.A. and went into Asheldham in December 2020.



I set myself a target early last year to catch a 20+ carp from **Dodds Farm**.

On Monday 5th October I achieved my goal with this beautiful coloured common tipping the scales at 22lbs and not only beating my target but matching my PB too.

Absolutely made up!

## BILLERICAY & DISTRICT ANGLING CLUB

Under current regulations it is not possible for the Club  
to hold its Annual General Meeting in 2021

There are vacancies for General Secretary, Assistant to the Fishery Liaison Officer  
and Ordinary Committee members.

Anyone interested in any of these posts please apply to:

### **IMPORTANT—MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL** **NO MEMBERSHIPS WILL BE SENT OUT UNTIL 30th MARCH**

The Club asks any member who can do so pays through Internet Banking (using their surname and id number as the reference) and not by cheque because the branch of Barclays Bank that the Club used has closed. Cheques will have to be taken to the next town weekly and will take longer to clear.

Any new non-fishing member will require a separate form with photo available from our website or via the Club's Helpline.

**NIGHT FISHING: The new night fishing tickets for Barleylands and Laundry will now cover all members on the Membership card including one named Associate and up to two named Juniors. These tickets are to be limited for the 2021/22 season and will be issued on a first come first served basis.**

**To avoid changing your membership card during the season and incurring an admin. fee, make sure that you include any additional fees with your renewal subscription.**

Memberships will be processed in the order they are received. You have until **30<sup>th</sup> 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 **1<sup>st</sup> May** you must ensure that your renewal form is received by the membership dept. by **9<sup>th</sup> 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.

### **GUEST DAY PASSES**

These are available for Southminster, Asheldham, Straits Mill, Hicks Farm, Shalford, Field & Swan Lakes and Thoby Wood but subject to change if necessary. Members will need an email address. Please refer to the back of your Handbook for further details.

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

The Club has again agreed with BSDAS for a water share arrangement where BSDAS members will be able to fish our water at Straits Mill, Braintree (both lakes and river), and 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](http://www.bsdas.org.uk).

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 1<sup>st</sup> June. The BSDAS card will show the gate padlock combination for Malcolm Barker Lake for the 12 month period together with their club rules and directions

Only the following classes of members of this Club will be eligible: Ordinary, OAP, Disabled and Intermediate.

#### **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. (If there is no envelope included the application will be rejected).**

Cards will be sent out during May 2021.

Name.....

I.D. no.....

For office use only

# MATCH SECTION

## Retired and Disabled

It has been a long and stressful year, and as we did not have any trophies up for grabs, I am not going to chat through every match. I believe that all the guys enjoyed their fishing. We lost one of our members this year, Mr Malcolm Salmon, God bless him. His family organised a match at Thoby Wood and supplied a trophy and lots of prizes such as wine, tins of sweets, chocolates and beer. The guys and I put in a Shimano reel and a Browning feeder rod and Bert Blackwood supplied two keep nets and two landing nets also for prizes. I'm sorry to say that I won the trophy and the replica, which we will replace each year. When we came to fish Southminster, Pit 6 was in a bad way with the water level very low, and we could not get to the swims as they were overgrown. Hopefully this will be sorted in the near future. All in all we have had a good year and should think ourselves lucky that we can still get out and fish. I could carry on and fill the page up but I have been told to keep it short as we all have other things to think about. So thanks to all my guys who supported me over the year, and I hope next season will be better. A Happy New Year to everyone and please stay safe.

PS special thanks to Bert Blackwood who helped me with pegging and weighing in, cheers Bert.

## BDAC Senior Points & Agg. Weight League Sheet 2020

1 Nigel Warwick	436	1 Nigel Warwick	274.175
2 Chris Ward	424	2 Ray Strutt	238.5525
3 Ray Strutt	393	3 Chris Ward	199.8125
4 Tony Eustace	351	4 Tony Eustace	149
5 Trevor Hayden	348	5 Trevor Hayden	144
5 Rav Ankin	348	6 Ray Ankin	118.890625
7 Keith Ward	326	7 Dean Mansfield	94.25
8 Jamie Byford	314	8 Peter Bicknell	88.3125
9 Peter Bicknell	269	9 Mark Hawthorn	86.6875



Harry Moore with his 11lb 2oz carp, part of his winning weight of 14lb 11oz from Dodds Farm in

## JUNIORS 2020 CHAMPIONSHIP

Although this 2020 season was hampered at the start due to Covid 19, as soon as we got the all clear that these Junior Matches could go ahead, every one of our Juniors attending could not wait to get started. We had another new member join our matches, Marley Darch and he has really come on leaps and bounds since his first match. We have been to some incredible venues and at every single match the Junior members are excited and always, and I mean always, smiling. It is wonderful to see them develop and nothing seems to put them off, be the catches big or small, they are always keen either way. Sadly because of Covid 19 it has meant that we have not seen a couple of Junior members this season very much, however we have had a continuously good turnout for all of our matches this year and we hope that they are all able to return next season.

Before we get to the results for the year, we would like to thank everyone at the Club who has helped in the donation of fishing equipment and tackle which has been used as prizes throughout the matches of the year and as is now the usual, we held back the big prizes for the end of season match, which this year was at Hicks Farm. Your donations are greatly appreciated by all of the junior members who attended these matches.

Nick Mitchell

The results of the season are as follows

Harry Moore 71lb 12oz

**CONGRATULATIONS HARRY !!!!!!!**

Jasmine Wilkinson 67lb 0oz



All 6 Juniors with their prizes at Parsonage Farm in August

## OUR 2021/22 MATCH CALENDAR

At the time of going to press, all matches are banned in accordance with Covid-19 regulations. Therefore, the Handbook for this season will include match dates but members are advised to check the website for updates as to when matches may commence.

## End of Season Report

Following a slow start because of Covid 19, we had good numbers turnout for both our Ladies and Mixed Pairs matches this season and we look forward to everyone coming along to the matches next year which hopefully will be a full season again. Anyone wishing to come along to these matches in the future, please contact Nick Mitchell for information or booking on 07970 606558

The aggregate results of the matches this season are as follows:-

### Mixed Pairs Matches

Alison & Martin

71lb 0oz

Kathy & Nick

43lb 12oz

### Ladies Matches

Kathy 73lb 0oz

Wendy 27lb 3oz

Unfortunately we have suffered with the loss of members this year, some of who are mentioned below, but the Club would like to take this opportunity to offer its condolences to any other members and their families who have lost loved ones at this terrible time.

### **ROY MILLS**

Roy passed away on 12<sup>th</sup> August, after a short illness. He and his wife Sue undertook a great deal of work on our waters, especially Southminster and Asheldham. He was Fishery Officer at Asheldham between 1998 and 2001, and was responsible for overseeing the building of the toilet block there, as well as improvements in the car park.

Having joined the Club in the late 1960's, Roy and Sue's involvement in the Club goes back to the 1970's, when they both featured regularly in matches. We remember when Roy sat on a large shoal of big bream at Rodbridge on the Suffolk Stour, and he slaughtered the opposition. He would have repeated this downstream at Sudbury in another match, were it not for the intervention of rodents where he stored his keepnet at home, losing most of his catch! The Stour features in another match where he was pegged (almost too) near to a large tree at Long Melford, when, during a violent hailstorm, the tree was struck by lightning, which went across to the far bank. This was the only time we had seen lightning hit two counties at once!

As well as being a Life Member, along with Sue, Roy was also one of the four Trustees of the Club, and also contributed to the Committee, where his views on all subjects were respected.

More recently up to last Summer, Roy and Sue would be seen fishing once a week on several of the pits at Southminster, where they made good friends of many other long-term members.

### **CLIVE JARVIS**

We must sadly report the death last year of Clive Jarvis, who was Chairman of the Club between 1979 and 1987. Brought up in the Ilford area, Clive moved to Wickford with his first wife Valerie, and both worked hard for the Club, Valerie becoming the first lady member of the Committee as Minute Secretary. They both enjoyed match fishing, each winning matches regularly. Clive was involved in the increase in the number of Club fisheries, his professionalism in the insurance world of the City impressing potential riparian owners. Unfortunately, Valerie was taken from him by cancer at an early age, and the Val Jarvis Trophy in her memory was regularly contested by our ladies.

Clive continued to have an interest in the Club and was made a life member following his term as Chairman. He re-married, to Jane, and they enjoyed visiting our waters regularly until, tragically, she died from cancer as well. Clive's funeral was held at

### **TREVOR HAYDEN**

We were recently saddened to hear of Trevor's death at 61. Trevor had been a Club member for over 40 years, and was probably its most successful match angler. He regularly, from the 1980's, featured at the top of the points and weights championships, winning countless matches. He also represented the Club in N.F.A. national championships, and was in the team which won the Essex Inter-Club league at the turn of the century. Trevor turned to the Essex open circuit, where he continued winning regularly. As has been mentioned in the many tributes on our Facebook page, Trevor was always willing to share his successful tips with others, we remember his catches of roach on the River Lark, using hempseed in the winter, whilst the rest of us struggled.

This ability to pass on his knowledge was epitomized by his son Sam, winning the Club's senior match championship in 2008. Trevor excelled away from the bank by gaining a B.A. in Sociology from Cambridge in his early 40's. The Club's Committee and his many other friends would wish to pass on our sincere condolences to all of Trevor's family.

## **WORKS PLANNED FOR 2021/2 SEASON**

**SOUTHMINSTER** The plan is to do remedial work on Pit 6 by removing some trees, lowering swims, installing a solar powered aerator and restocking.

**BARLEYLANDS  
& LAUNDRY** To install purpose built notice boards at the entrance of each fishery.

**BICKNACRE** To clear some of the bankside vegetation to provide more swims for carp anglers.

**STRAITS MILL** To remove more trees in danger of falling and to provide more swims for carp anglers.

**PARSONAGE  
FARM** To extend some of the existing platforms.

**RESTOCKING** It is proposed to undertake restocking of carp at Barleylands, Willow Mere and Straits Mill and silver fish at Thoby Wood and Parsonage Farm.

## **VACANCIES**

The Club is looking for Fishery Officers on the River Roding and Field and Swan Lakes.

As there will not be an Annual General Meeting this year, any member wishing to see the Club's audited accounts should send a stamped addressed C5 envelope to PO Box 2046, Wickford. SS12 9YW for a copy.