

PETWORTH & BOGNOR ANGLING CLUB



E-mailer Issue 8

September 2016

Latest News

AGM

Our AGM is coming up in a couple of month's time on 24th November starting at 7.30 pm. The venue is The White Swan on the A27 just outside Arundel. We will be running a Tombola as we did last year and if you have anything you would like to donate as a prize please contact us. [HERE](#)

If you have any motions or matters for consideration these must be submitted to the Secretary by 3rd November. You can e-mail the Secretary. [HERE](#)

Work Parties

Date	Venue	Times
25th September	The Granary	08.30 - 12.30

Upcoming Matches - Check your handbook for times.

Date	Venue	Comment
25th September	Watersfield	The Arun has been consistently producing good nets of silver fish. We fish limited pegs so booking in is essential,.
2nd October	Petworth Park	The last match on Petworth Park this year. After a slow start fishing has gradually improved through the season.
18th October	Chichester Canal Grosvenor Road	Third of the series of four matches on the canal.
23rd October	Coultershaw	This will be interesting, do you go for a bag of silver fish or sit it out for the bigger fish?
30th October	Chichester Canal Grosvenor Road	The fourth and last match on the canal this season.
6th November	Passies Match Lake	<u>A combined silver fish and carp match. Please book in with the Match Secretary. HERE</u>
20th November	Hurston Match Pond	First of our autumn / winter series here.
27th November	Cart Pond	Pole Only Match.
4th December	Hurston Match Pond	Second of the autumn / winter series.
18th December	Passies Match Lake	Silver fish only - no carp! <u>Please book in with the Match Secretary. HERE</u>

Specimen Fish

Launched in our last e-mailer was the chance to win a complimentary membership for next season. There are two categories for entry and if you would like to submit a catch for consideration please click [HERE](#)

So far we have had the following submissions.

Barbel

The best barbel that has been sent to us so far is Chris Hayes fish of 12lb 1oz. We know that bigger barbel have been caught but pictures need to be submitted to us for them to be entered. So barbel anglers if you want the chance of a complimentary membership next season don't be shy and send in your barbel pictures.



Chris Hayes with his personal best barbel of 12lb 1oz

Other Species

In the other species category we have had a number of entries and we have even had one submission superseded by a better fish of the same species.



Bob Bridle with his new club record tench of 5lb 8oz from Petworth Park



Keith Hughes with a new club record crucian carp of 3lb 1oz 8dm from Petworth Park



Phil Tubb with a 2lb eel from Cart Pond



Colin Bridger with his roach of 2lb 1oz from Watersfield. This fish has beaten an earlier submission from Keith Hughes at 1lb 7oz

A Day Out with our Hotham Park Draw Winner



Our stand in Hotham Park

Our winner - Nick is a lapsed angler, used to be a Worthing member and spent a lot of his time carp fishing. He is very interested in taking up angling again but wants to follow a simpler path than specialist carp fishing. Nick fancied having a go at Hurston and was interested in particular in fishing the Tench Pond for crucian and tench. Nick has never owned or handled a pole so we decided on a waggler approach with rod and line. We chose one of the stream side swims that has obviously been well used as we did not need to rake before we started fishing. We had a bait menu with us of corn, meat, pellet and maggots and started off by damping down some 2mm pellets and feeding a couple of areas close to the weed with 2mm pellets with a few grains of corn mixed in. I started off on the rod with a hair rigged grain of corn and we soon had some tell tale bubbles where we had fed and shortly after the float sailed away and after a brief tussle the first tench was banked. We had a few more and then Nick lost a good one in the weed. There were plenty of rudd moving and if you put a maggot on you could guarantee a bite in seconds. Towards late afternoon we decided to decamp to Fittleworth for a



Nick concentrating on his float at Hurston

brief trotting session on the river. We selected a swim not far downstream from the bridge, exchanged the waggler rig for a stick float rig, fed a few maggots and we were up and running with a small dace third trot down. We took turns on the rod and caught steadily throughout the session, a mixture of mainly dace and roach with the odd chublet and one decent perch. Nick took the honours with the last fish of the evening and another species when he landed a gudgeon. We both had an enjoyable day and hopefully the sessions will have sparked Nick's enthusiasm and we might see him on a bank in his own right soon.



Fish on! Nick plays a Rother dace

Improvement Projects - Watersfield Bridge

As long as I have been a member of the club the footpath under the railway bridge has been a real pain and it is obviously worse when trying to negotiate it in the dark - so the idea of flattening it out was very attractive.

The plan was to put some shuttering in on the stream side, lift all the bricks, lumps of concrete and rocks that were standing proud, fill in the holes and then once this had settled lay a top dressing.



Work gets underway



Shuttering cut to size and ready to put in place, you can see the size of the rocks that were removed in the foreground



The shuttering was screwed into place by Dave with his trusty 'Makita'

Having got the shuttering in place the large lumps dug from the path were put down the side to act as a soak away. The spoil from digging out to fit the shuttering in was used to level out the holes in the path. It was all looking pretty good and we might not need the top dressing, but that can be reviewed in a couple of weeks time when everything has settled in.

Many thanks to all that helped out:

Richard Donnelly, Dave Chambers, Steve Warner, Nelson Keet, Colin Bridger, Martin Cornish, Mick Greenway and Peter Foster.

I took my trolley through the day afterwards and it was so much easier than before - a job well done!

Improvement Projects Rother - Update

In the last e-mailer we mentioned a number of projects that were imminent or in progress.

Fittleworth Mill Fish Pass - this has now been completed and opened and will allow fish to pass upstream from Fittleworth much more freely than before. This means that effectively all our stretches of the Rother are linked. We have to thank ARRT for funding the project and the landowners for their contribution to funding and putting up with the disruption.

Fittleworth Foot Bridge - now reinstated and as long as we don't have any big floods hopefully solid enough to last a good few years.

Coultershaw Tree Clearance - we had a number of areas where fallen tree were beginning to obstruct areas of the river and following discussions with the estate that own the south bank it was agreed that some of these should be cleared. This has now been done although I have heard rumbles of criticism, mainly because a couple of people might have lost a favourite fish holding area and the far bank looks somewhat denuded in places. This work really had to be done for the long term health of the river and it is amazing how quickly vegetation will grow up again on the far bank. As for those fish holding areas - we haven't lost the fish so it is just a case of finding where they have moved to, which I thought was part of the joy of fishing.

Improvement Projects Hurston - Update

We published an article on the website about the addition of the blue dye to the match pond just over a month ago. The original report can be accessed [HERE](#). We have seen very little if any weed re-growth in the match pond as shown in the picture below which was taken in the middle of September.



One month on from the addition of dyestuff

When we removed the weed from the match pond we also did a small section on the middle pond and this has completely grown over again. These results are very encouraging and it looks as if we might at last found a solution to our perennial weed problem at Hurston.

Next Steps

We would like to consider extending this treatment into both the middle and tench pond and the best time to do this will be next spring. In order to give ourselves the best chance of success. However in order to reduce the mulching and enrichment potential from the weed currently in the ponds it has been decided that we should have a concerted effort to remove as much weed from the ponds as possible in the autumn when it is unlikely to grow further.

In order to do this we will be transferring a couple of our boats to Hurston as we have found that removing the weed directly into a boat is the best way to go. We also need to get rid of as much of the weed as possible so it does not rot down and leech back into the water so we will need people on the bank burning the weed as well.

It goes without saying that we will need people to help with this project. So if you can spare us some time we would be really grateful.

At the moment we are just canvassing support as we have no dates fixed yet. If you can help us with this we would be grateful if you could contact us [HERE](#).

Social Media

Website

We are aware that many of you now use either a tablet or mobile phone to access the internet. The way that you format a website is very different for these smaller screens. We are currently working on an upgrade to our website so that it can be viewed from a wider range of devices. This is quite a bit of work for our webmaster but will make our website easier to view and navigate whatever you are using.

Facebook

Those of you that use Facebook will hopefully have noticed that we have been trying to keep our page fresher with more regular content. This seems to be working as we are reaching more people now than we were before.

With both our website and Facebook we rely upon new content to keep them fresh and interesting. Although we create a lot of the content ourselves we are always interested in what you have to say or your pictures.

You can e-mail us with content for the website. [HERE](#)

You can view and send suggested posts to the Facebook page. [HERE](#).

Free First Aid Course

The club is organising a basic first aid course in the next couple of months. The course is primarily aimed at bailiffs and those that regularly attend work parties, however, we are likely to have a few spare places.

If you are interested in a place on this **free** course please contact us [HERE](#).

The course takes about ½ day or an evening and you will get a certificate upon successful completion. This certificate is valid for three years.

Fishery Log Books

Whenever you fish, please remember to fill in the log book. Without regular entries we cannot produce the monthly fishery reports that you have requested. It also helps us if you record any thing out of the ordinary, for instance if you see a tree down that is obstructing a swim it will help us with our fishery management to know where we need to direct our efforts.