


B.A.A. NEWS



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June 2014

New Severn Fishery

See pages 2 & 3

Competition results

See pages 4 – 8

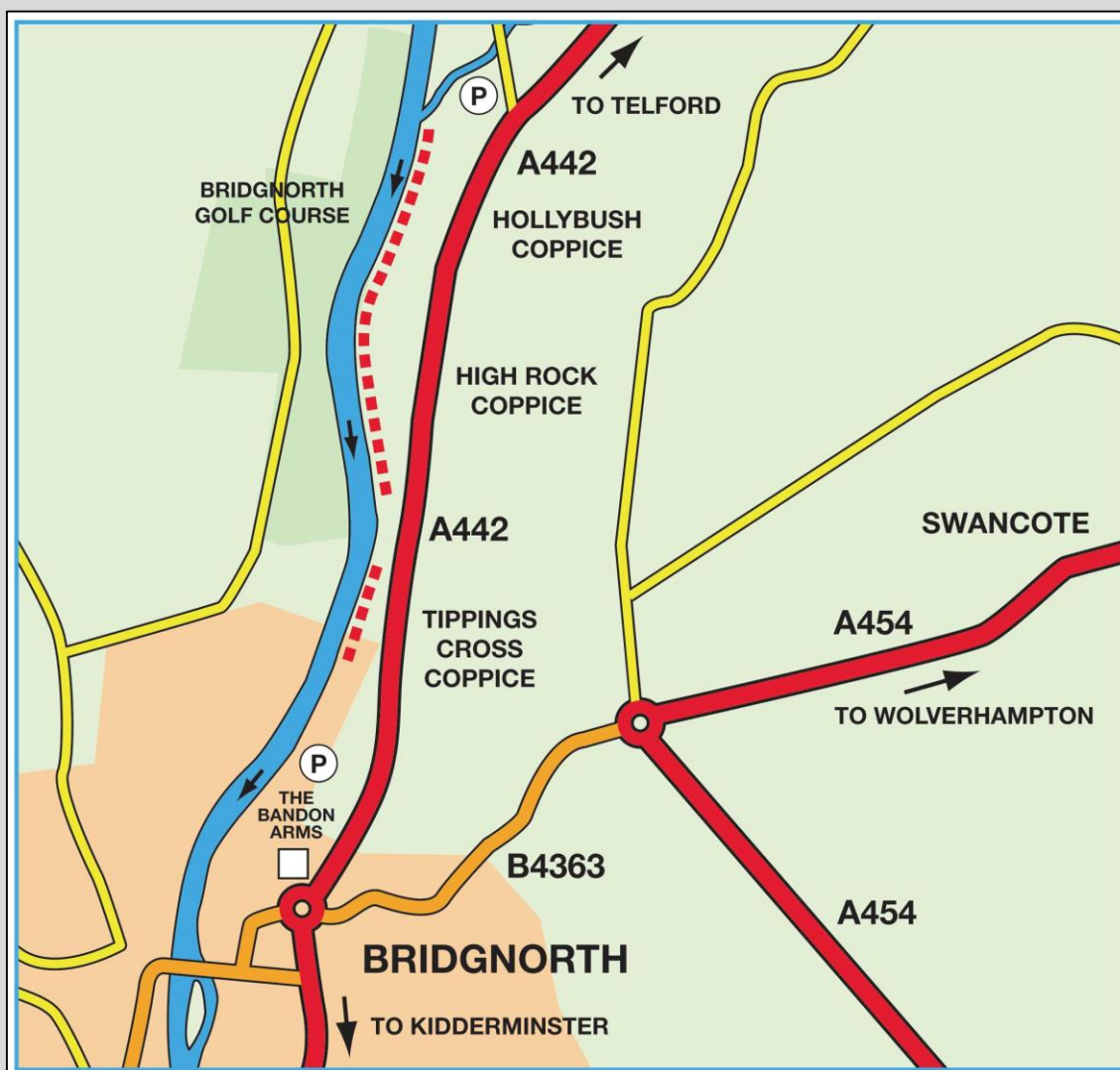
Barbel at Coppice!

See page 9

Cormorant control

See page 23

New Severn Fishery



In time for the start of the new fishing season on the 16th June, the BAA has a new fishery at Apley Estate on the River Sever just upstream of Bridgnorth.

Apley Fishery comprises of two sections:

The upstream section includes a short stretch of the River Worfe between the car park and its confluence with the River Sever and the River Sever downstream from the Worfe alongside two meadows. This section finishes at the end of the second meadow where a large brown building blocks access to the bank.

The Satnav reference for the upstream car park is;

Latitude 52°33'15.04"N

Longitude 002°24'18.40"W.

The car park also provides vehicle access to a nearby house, do not block this access and park on the right hand side as seen when entering.

The downstream fishery is a directly upstream of Severn Park. Parking is available in Severn Park, but a charge is payable. Access to the fishery requires a walk upstream through Severn Park.

Both fisheries and the upstream car park have been signed.

The River Worfe is narrow but fast flowing and will be useful when the Severn is in flood.

The Severn bank at the top end of the upstream fishery is steep, access to the pegs is easier further down the first meadow and in the second meadow.

The river alongside the pegs in the downstream section is shallow.



Upstream car park



Top of upstream section



Middle of upstream section

Competition results

In the April edition we held a competition to see who could provide us with pictures of the oldest membership card for a member of their family. The prize being a £30 Droitwich Angling voucher.

The results are shown below;

Glyn Price-Hunt's dad's cards for 1957 and 1959



Mark Valente's cards



Hi,

No good for the competition but I had a look and managed to find a few cards... 22. The oldest shown is 1979 but I was a member before then.

I fished for the B.A.A. in the Junior National on the Lancaster canal in 1971. I would have been a member prior to that and up to '79. I think I know where the older cards are, but don't have access to them just at the moment. I'm pretty sure that with them is a Menu from the Dinner held to celebrate the winning of the Senior National in that year with autographs from the side. The junior team attended as well.

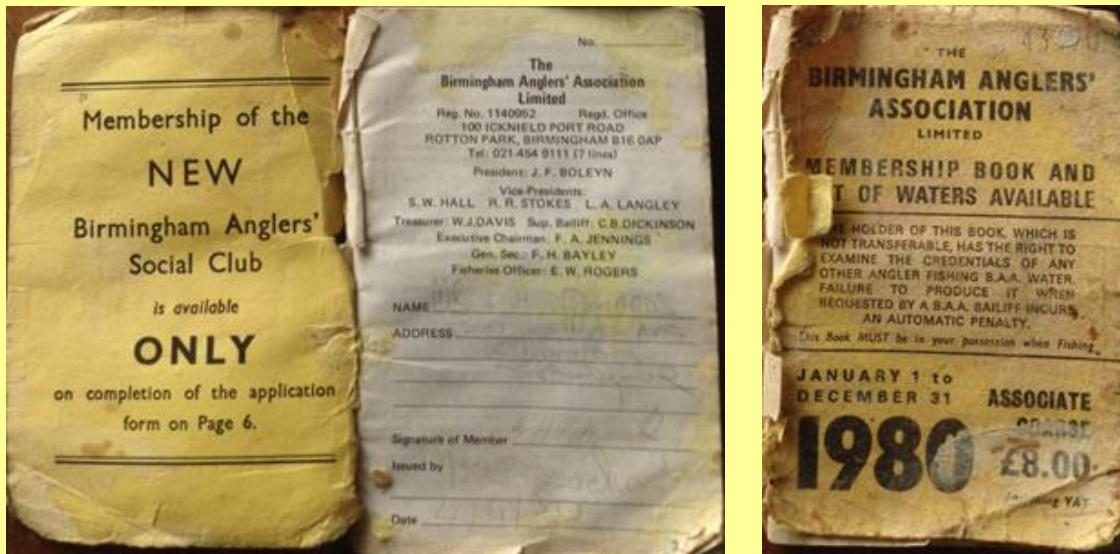
You may see from your records I was a member last year but didn't manage to use the card once (hence why I haven't renewed) and this is also one card that I just can't put my hands on at the moment ! I'm pretty sure I also had a card for another other year since 2008.

I was mad keen in my teens and early twenties but I'm sure a lot of the cards in later years were used only a couple of times due to work and family commitments. Was good to have one even if I wasn't going to use it much. Happy memories.

Kind regards

Mark Valente - Coventry

John Morgan's Granddad's cards



YEAR 1979

9

SEVERN-TRENT WATER AUTHORITY
SEVERN AREA LICENCE TO FISH

LICENCE DUTY **£1.50**

362354

READ YOUR LICENCE CAREFULLY. CARRY IT WITH YOU WHEN FISHING.

This licence is valid ONLY within the SEVERN area. It is NOT valid within the Trent River area.

NON TRANSFERABLE LICENCE TO FISH WITH SINGLE ROD AND LINE FOR TROUT, FRESHWATER FISH AND EELS. EXPIRING 31st DECEMBER, 1979.

MR. E. H. EDWARDS
of 360 Lutterton AVE
Charlton Kings, Birmingham

having paid £1.50 for this licence, is hereby licensed to fish with single rod and line for brown and rainbow trout, char, shad, freshwater fish and eels at all times and places where he is otherwise entitled to fish within the Severn area of the Severn-Trent Water Authority. This licence is issued subject to the Authority's bylaws and regulations in force in the area (see overleaf). It does not entitle the holder to fish in any waters without the permission of the owner or tenant.

Issued on 21st APRIL at 1-0 am/pm

W. F. LESTER
Director of Scientific Services

Distributor's name and address or stamp
H. W. BEACHAM
ASTON FIELDS
Birmingham

Close Seasons:

Brown Trout	reservoirs and lakes 16 October to 17 March inclusive
Migratory Trout	other waters 1 October to 31 March inclusive
Freshwater Fish	15 September to 14 February inclusive
Rainbow Trout	15 March to 15 June inclusive
Salmon and Trout	No close season

Size limits —snout to cleft of tail

It is an offence to take or kill fish of less than the following lengths:

Barbel	All waters	40 cm
Brown Trout and Grayling	Severn below Shrewsbury weir	25 cm
	Severn and tributaries above Chywedog confluence	15 cm
	Vymey and tributaries above Dolanog weir	15 cm
	Barney and tributaries above Gam confluence	15 cm
	Tanat and tributaries above Rhoads confluence	15 cm
	All other waters	20 cm
Rainbow Trout	All waters	30 cm

ST 080

NOTE THE BYLAWS AND REGULATIONS REFERRED TO ON THIS LICENCE COULD ALTER DURING 1979. PUBLICITY WILL BE GIVEN WHEN THIS HAPPENS. IF IN DOUBT CHECK WITH YOUR LICENCE DISTRIBUTOR OR WITH THE AREA FISHERIES OFFICE.

DO NOT DROP DISCARDED HOOKS OR LINES—THEY CAN CAUSE NASTY ACCIDENTS AND INFLICT GREAT SUFFERING ON WILD CREATURES.

REMEMBER IF YOU ARE USING TWO RODS, YOU NEED TWO LICENCES

Hi, found my granddads old fishing licence clearing out his shed last week. He was a Welsh man who came to England after being injured in WW11. His name was Earnest Edwards but was fondly known as Taf to all his friends.

He was a wonderfully funny man who loved his fishing.

It also contained his Rod licence.

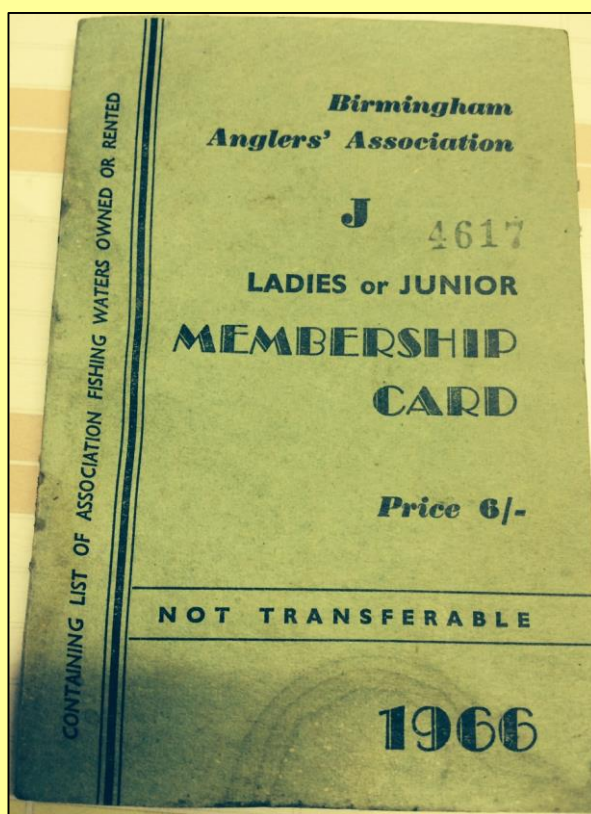
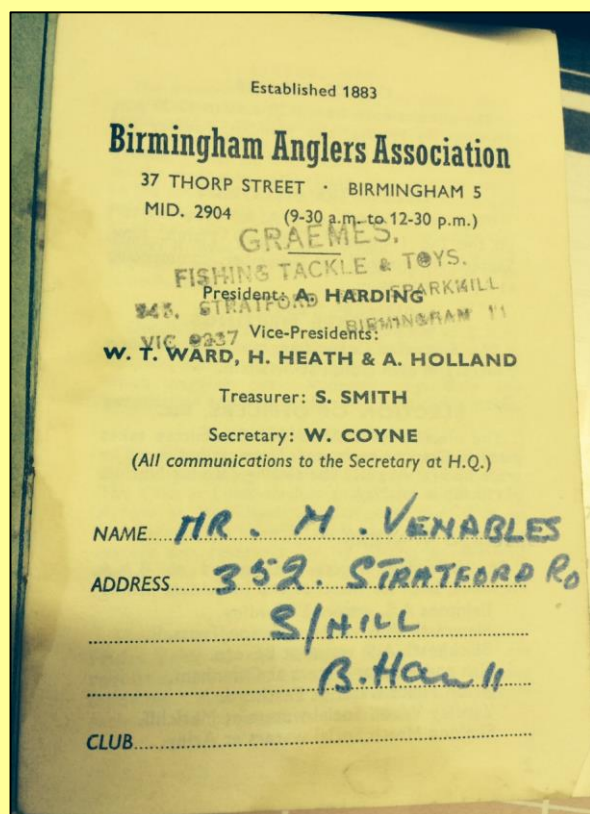
Shows how long it's been since my Nan cleared the shed out!!

Unfortunately my granddad past away several years ago but I have him to thank for taking me fishing as a youngster and igniting my "passion for angling".

Many Thanks,

John Morgan

Chris Owens Grandfathers 1966 BAA card



Hi,

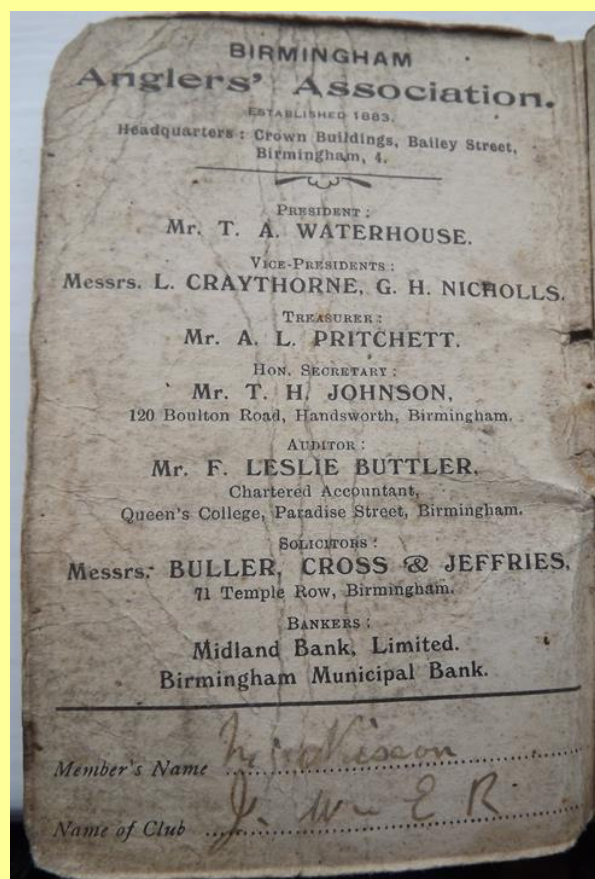
Please find attached pictures of my Grandfathers 1966 BAA card.

Sorry it a late submission but have only just managed to locate the card, hope it can still be considered.

Thanks

Chris Owen

The winner! – Philip Nixon's grandfather's 1937 card



Dear Sirs,

Please find attached photos of my grandfather's BAA card dated 1937. His name was Robert Nixon. Due to the age of the card there is no date on the inside cover and his name is quite faded. But I am sure it will be of interest to fellow members.

Yours faithfully,

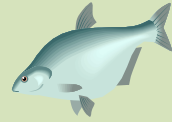
Philip Nixon.

Thanks to everyone who took the time to search the shed or attic for your old cards and send them in. As can be seen from the emails above, some of the cards also have a story. The prize of the £30 Droitwich Angling voucher will be posted to the address supplied by Philip Nixon, well done!

Thanks also to Steve Wyton who came up with the idea for the competition and supplied the prize.



Fishing news



Barbel at Coppice!



Hi BAA,

I've just enjoyed a river close season session at Coppice. At final knockings my barbel rod, which I was using for bream fishing, whacked round by a soon to be banked 16lb common carp. Then, as I was about to bring in my carp rod it shot off and low and behold...it was a barbel! I guess these two fish haven't read the script that barbel rods are for barbel and carp rods for carp! The carp was caught on a halibut pellet/corn cocktail and the barbel on a large lump of spiced luncheon meat. I've attached pics of both of them

I haven't seen any accounts on your news of barbel in Coppice - did you know they were there? I didn't weigh the barbel, but I'd put it at around 5lb.

On a separate issue: good on you for telling us about the code for fish poaching (your last newsletter). I often fish a gravel pit near Kingsbury for bream and tench and I recently heard a story about a friend of a member who came across two men stealing fish from there - a gill net full of them. He called the police and initially they said they'd send someone round. But no one came. He followed the thieves in his car down the M42 and called the police again - the operator said, 'we've got more important things to do than to deal with your fish' and that was the end of it.

I think clubs like ours and others need to inform the police that just one fish, say a 20lb carp, could be worth £500. So a large number being stolen has the same value as a car!

Will let you know of any more interesting catches.

Thanks,

Roger O'Malley (Sutton Coldfield)

Ed; As a result a lake being filled in as part of the Birmingham Airport expansion, we were recently requested help in relocating the fish, which went into Coppice. They were mainly silver fish with a few tench, bream and three barbel. Glad the article on reporting poaching in the May edition was useful and interesting.

Classic Coppice carp



I thought I would share the latest spoils, from my 1st session of this year at Coppice. A 2 hour session producing 4 fish. A classic Coppice unmarked Common 15lb 3oz, another at 15lb 1oz, 14lb and final fish of 9lb. Thanks to fellow BAA member Andrew for taking the time to take a snap shot.

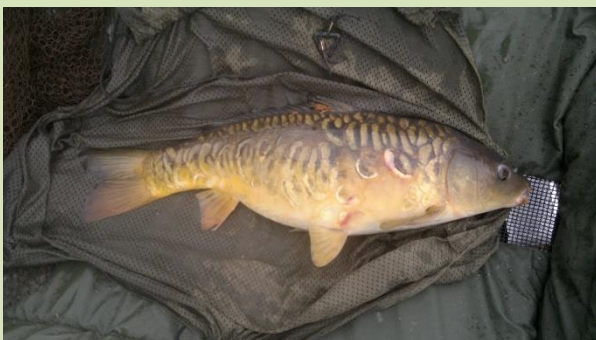
Cheers.

Jim Clarke

Sunny day at Nordley



7lb 5oz



10lb 5oz



11lb 1oz



17lb 8oz



Nordley at 5am

Hi all,

Kev of Birmingham with a report from Nordley pool 2 for the first time this year on Monday 26th May 2014. I had 5 carp in total 2 mirrors and 3 commons.

Fishing news record

for last 6 months

fish/catcher	lb	oz	location	method	date caught	BAA News edition
Barbel						
River Avon						
Kevin Day	14	0	Middle			Feb 2014
George hands	8	8	Marlcliff			Jan 2014
River Anker						
Martin Woodroffe	13	2		Superglued halibut pellets		Jan 2014
River Severn						
Matt Maybury	10	4	Blackstone	Maggot	07/03/2014	Apr 2014
Chris Manns	9	3	Knowle Sands	Double super-glued 12mm ellipse pellets		Apr 2014
Pools						
Roger O'Malley	5	0	Coppice	Spiced luncheon meat		Jun 2014

Bream

Pools						
Kevin Smith & Son	4	1	Coppice		04/04/2014	May 2014

Common Carp

Pools						
John Wylde	19	4	Coppice	Coconut banana pop-up boillie	01/03/2014	Apr 2014
Harry Treadwell	19	0	Coppice	Hair rigged strawberry boilie	27/12/2013	Feb 2014
Steve Middleton	19	0	Coppice	Corn		Apr 2014
Jim Clarke	15	3	Coppice			Jun 2014
Kevin Smith	15	2	Coppice		31/01/2014	Mar 2014
Jim Clarke	15	1	Coppice			Jun 2014
Jim Clarke	14	0	Coppice			Jun 2014
Kevin Smith	12	8	Nordley 2		26/05/2014	Jun 2014
Kevin Smith	12	5	Coppice		04/04/2014	May 2014
Kevin Smith	12	0	Coppice		04/04/2014	May 2014
Craig Cope	12	0	Nordley 3		06/04/2014	May 2014
Kevin Smith	11	11	Coppice		31/01/2014	Mar 2014
Kevin Smith	11	6	Coppice		31/01/2014	Mar 2014
Kevin Smith	11	1	Coppice		04/04/2014	May 2014
Kevin Smith	11	1	Nordley 2		26/05/2014	Jun 2014
Kevin Smith	11	0	Coppice		10/01/2014	Feb 2014
Kevin Smith	10	12	Coppice		10/01/2014	Feb 2014

Mirror Carp

Pools

Kevin Smith	17	8	Nordley 2	26/05/2014	Jun 2013
Kevin Smith	10	5	Nordley 2	26/05/2014	Jun 2013

Chub

River Severn

Chris Manns	5	1	Knowle Sands	Bread flake	Apr 2014
Chris Manns	4	14	Knowle Sands	Bread flake	Apr 2014

Pike

River Avon

Jim Clarke	10	5		Paternostered sprat	Jan 2014
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Executive update



Bailiffing

K Pearson reported that 419 bailiffing visits had been made, with 403 anglers checked and 31 removed. Reports of keepnets being used by anglers at Coppice Lake. K Pearson suggested that the GPC should maybe consider recommending amending the bye-laws to make it a specific offence.

A small number of anglers had been found at Ribbesford and Blackstone fishing in the close season.

Birds Meadow track

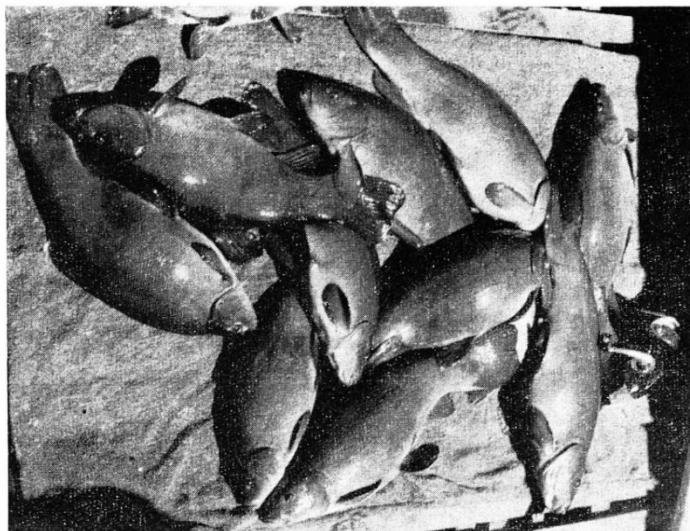
The track at Birds Meadow requires urgent repair. We are to make enquiries with the farmer with regard to getting the track repaired.



Archive extracts



Below are extracts from the June 1960 and 57 editions of the Midland Angler, the forerunner to the BAA News.



This was part of Fred Taylor's catch on opening day last year—a dozen tench, most of them over 4lb. and a brace close on 5lb.

MATCH fishermen are probably the most methodical and highly organised of all anglers. Besides being remarkably efficient at the waterside, their whole season is often planned from the 'off' to the very last week-end. They will be able to tell you months in advance where they will be fishing on a given Saturday or Sunday. Their bait supplies are laid on regularly and their tackle and equipment is arranged in the most efficient manner. Perhaps much of this organisation is arranged by the hard-working club secretary as far as venues are concerned, but the fact that their fishing is under control cannot be disputed.

I do not think, however, that I would like to have my fishing arranged for me week after week, and I would hate to have to confine myself to a few feet of bank space

PLAN YOUR SEASON NOW!

Why fish for roach and chub early in the season when they can be caught all the year round?

says
FRED TAYLOR



When Autumn comes its time to change to barbel, a fish that does not come into its own until the leaves begin to fall.

every time I go fishing. I would not like to think that I **had** to fish at a certain venue at a certain time whether conditions were right or not, but I sometimes think I might be a better fisherman if I did.

As it is, although my fishing is perhaps not so highly organised as the match anglers, I have tried over a number of years to plan it to the best advantage.

Take 16th June for instance. The opening days of the season will see many anglers fishing their first contest. They may visit a river or a canal but without doubt the majority of them will be after roach. Many 'free-lance' anglers, remembering the deep-bellied fighters they caught last winter, will also concentrate their attentions on roach or perhaps bream. Yet it is an indisputable fact that roach and bream are far from fit until later in the year and during the early season are very often

disinclined to feed enthusiastically, especially under low and clear water conditions.

Why, then, during the summer do so many anglers who have a choice of fish to pursue go after species which can be caught all the year round? When there is no choice, of course, one must make the best of it and go fishing for whatever is available. Not everyone has tench and carp fishing close handy but those who have must surely see the sense of going after them in early summer when they are in feeding mood. Why neglect these real fighting fish and catch roach and dace, which can be caught much more easily later in the year?

The season for summer species is so short and the cold autumn weather arrives so quickly that it would be foolish not to make the most of these fish while the opportunity lasts. Apart from that, one often needs a rod bender to give one confidence to start the season. I have never caught either a tench or a carp at the beginning of the season which did not give me a good run for my money and really start me off on the right foot. As Norman Woodward once said, "Get a few good tench under your belt to start with, then you can start thinking about the more difficult fish." How true!

There are times of course, when I go stalking chub in the early morning and have great fun trying to extract big ones from small overgrown waters. This, however, always comes after I've had a crack at the tench or carp.

As the summer ends and the last chances of tench or carp have gone I find my thoughts drifting towards the rivers and the chub and roach. My favourite river at this time of year is invariably in very bad condition. Dying weed and lilies, falling leaves here and there and patches of brown bulrushes tend to make the water a little stale, and until the first floods come my little river doesn't fish well at all.

By this time, however, the bream at Wilstone reservoir are coming into their own and until the severe frosts come I like to try an odd day or two there in search of big bream.



Chub bite more boldly and are easier to locate when the snowdrops appear.

The bream on the Thames are also in fine order in the autumn, and I like to have a crack at those too.

In recent years I have spent much time from the end of September onwards after that real autumn fish — the barbel. It is now generally recognised, I think, that barbel are an autumn fish no matter what river they live in.

With November comes the cream of the perch picking. Once again I don't think it matters too much where you live or what waters you fish. Perch are November fish! If you can check up the bigger perch caught in this country each season you'll find that November is the month when most of them are taken. Rivers, still waters, canals and deep gravel pits all seem to start yielding their perch in November. Of course all these fish can be caught at other times of the year: there is no disputing that fact and let us be eternally grateful that they can. But looking at the overall picture, and trying to organise my fishing, I think that my chances are increased enormously by seeking the various fishes at the appropriate times.

So we come to Christmas, and although Christmas time is traditionally pike time I like to go roach and dace fishing on my local river. By then it is in good order and the fish, though not by any means easy to catch, are in good condition. My own pike fishing is confined to the week-end after the first thaw (usually some time in January) when I try to catch a 20-pounder from Wotton Lake. Every season someone pops up with a 20-plus pounder from Wotton and it is usually in January. I like, too, to have a few days spinning for the big pike in my small river some time in February, but my main thoughts from February onwards are on the chub.

Chub in my opinion really come into their own with the snowdrops and remain in excellent fighting trim until the end of the season. They bite more boldly, they feed more freely and they seem to me to be easier to locate than at any other time, except in summer when they can be seen. Last season I went right through till February before seeing a five-pounder. Then I saw five in one day, two from the same

(continued on page 22)

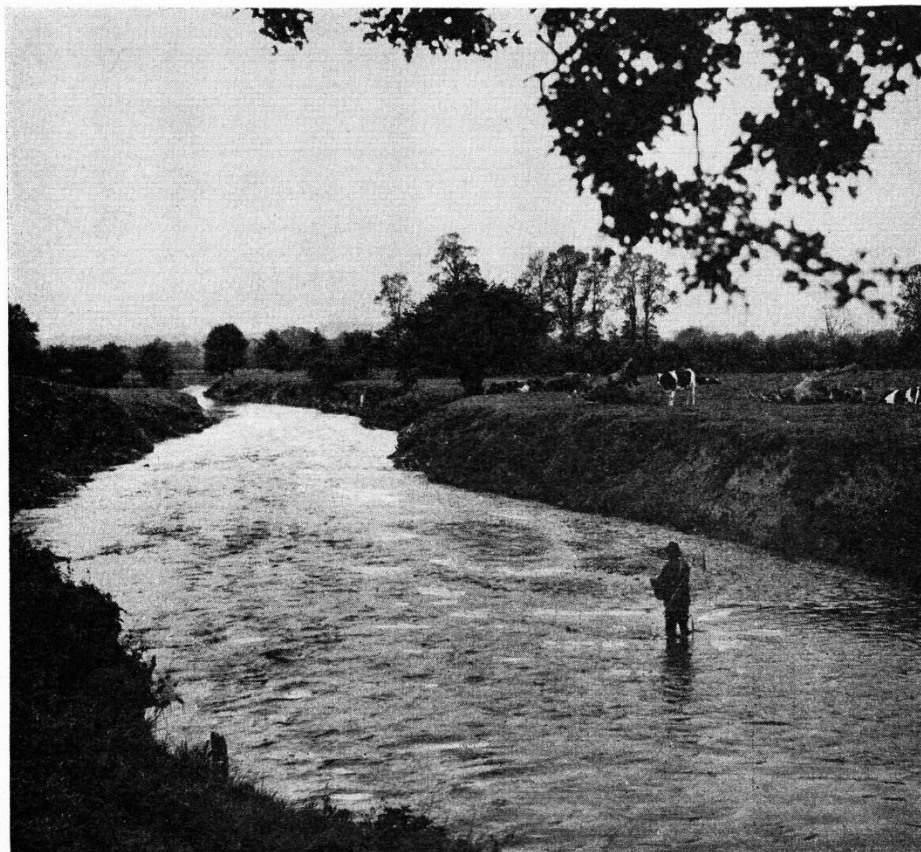
swim within ten minutes of each other.

If I were interested in pike to the same extent as chub I would spend the last two week-ends in the vicinity of the feeder ditches and overflow entrances of a pike lake I know well. I don't think the pike are in better condition at this time of year. In fact they are very poor indeed as a rule. They do, however, weigh more than at any other time of the year and chances of a 20-pounder must be increased considerably because of this factor.

I don't catch as many specimen fish as I would like but since I've organised my fishing I have caught more specimens of **more species** than before. Maybe what I have written does not apply in full to all waters or all fishing districts but it is worth considering for this season. Look up the list of specimens caught in your district over the past few years, search out the common factors, and then make a few plans accordingly. In other words be like the matchmen — get organised!

WHERE
TO GO

... Waters Open to All

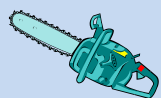


THE River Lugg—what visions of fine fish the very name of this famous Wye tributary conjures up! Of big trout and grayling, plump roach in the deeps, lusty chub and lively dace in the shallows, a fine head of pike and the odd salmon now and again—not to mention outsize eels.

An all-rounder's paradise, the stretch illustrated above—at Moreton-on-Lugg—is B.A.A. water avail-

able to any angler at £1/0/0 a year. The Association also controls several miles of adjoining water at Dinmore and Marden, full details of which are given in the B.A.A. Handbook.

How to get there: Birmingham—Worcester—Bromyard—Hereford road to Burley Gate—right for Dinmore and Morton.



Fisheries report



Preparation work for the start of the new fishing season on the 16th June has started with the Fisheries Team now working Mondays in addition to the usual Wednesdays. The work carried out during May is;

River Severn



Blackstone – cut back of summer vegetation around pegs and along the access track. All the trees that the BAA had planted in the upstream meadow are looking in good health after the feeding and watering they have had in the recent winter floods.



Northwood Lane - cut back of summer vegetation around pegs and cutting back vegetation alongside old railway embankment between car park and river to create a track. Please don't walk through the field as the farmer has just planted a crop in it.

Hampton Loade - cut back of summer vegetation around pegs.

Severn Stoke - cut back of summer vegetation around pegs.



New fishery at Apley Estate upstream of Bridgnorth – cut back of summer vegetation, digging out of pegs and putting up BAA signs.

River Avon



Wasperton - cut back of summer vegetation around pegs and access tracks. As can be seen from the above picture, the river was up about 18 inches when we visited with some of the platforms underwater. As at Blackstone, the trees that the BAA had planted in our two meadows are looking in good health after their winter watering. The banks are very rutted where cars are driven along, these ruts are particularly deep in the downstream meadow 2 and not easy to see due to the long grass, so be careful.

Cropthorne - cut back of summer vegetation around pegs.

Barton – cut back of summer vegetation around pegs.



Fladbury - cut back of summer vegetation around pegs. A gate has recently been installed in the fence under Jubilee Bridge (we didn't do it!), this will allow easy access between our fisheries either side of the bridge for members parked in meadows 1 and 2.

River Salwarpe

Claines - cut back of summer vegetation around pegs on the Salwarpe and Severn and cutting out a path to the Salwarpe and along its bank linking the pegs.

Coppice Lake access track

Just to keep you up to date, we have arranged with a contractor to carry out the track repair work, we are awaiting notification of a start date.

Match Reports

If you want to report the results of a contest you have organised on BAA waters, please email details.

Blue Ball AC

Sunday 11th May

Shernal Green, Birmingham &
Worcester Canal

		lbs	ozs
1 st	Andrew Wedgbrow	3	1
2 nd	Glyn Price Hunt	2	3
3 rd	John Dalloway	1	14

Report from - Brian Marsh

Main article header

Netherseal Fish Survey

Copied below is the Environment Agency Fish Survey Report 2014 for Netherseal on the River Mease. The report details the result of electric-fishing carried out during May.

The results may indicate a lack of large fish especially when compared to the description on the BAA Guide to Waters '*Chub, perch pike and barbel can all be found to specimen size*', but the water level in the river in recent years has been very low. Figure 3 in the report does indicate considerable variation in species density over a 5 year period.

Fish Survey Report – 2014

Watercourse: River Mease

Site name: Netherseal

Upstream NGR: SK2860612706

Downstream NGR: SK2858012600

Survey Date: 15/05/2014

Method: PDC Electric fishing. Single Catch.

Physical Information

Length (m)	110	Area (m ²)	440
Width (m)	4		

Water Quality Information

Temp (°C)	12.9	Conductivity (µs/cm)	901
pH	8.23	D.O. (% SAT)	86.7

Site Description

Netherseal in the lower reach of the River Mease is a winding river section, this should create a variety of depths and flow types. Flow type is mainly Glide/Run, with a dominant substrate of Sand/Silt. Some cover is provided by submerged and emergent plants, as well as by tree root systems. Water quality and site conditions for the survey were good, therefore would not have impacted efficiency.

Fish Caught

4 Perch, 4 Chub, 6 Gudgeon, Stickleback, Bullhead, Minnow, Stone loach and Spined loach recorded.

Single Catch Data

Species	Catch / Survey Totals			
	Nos	Wt(g)	Nos / Are	Wt(g) / Are
Chub [Leuciscus cephalus]	4	1509.07	0.909	342.971
Gudgeon [Gobio gobio]	6	139.82	1.364	31.778
Perch [Perca fluviatilis]	4	332.16	0.909	75.492
3-spined stickleback [Gasterosteus aculeatus]	33	56.14	7.5	12.76
Bullhead [Cottus gobio]	320	1511.63	72.727	343.552
Minnow [Phoxinus phoxinus]	2020	4724.89	459.091	1073.839
Spined loach [Cobitis taenia]	9	14.77	2.045	3.357
Stone loach [Barbatula barbatula]	170	2018.26	38.636	458.696
Total	2566	10306.76	583.182	2342.445

Figure 1: Single Catch Data: Density and Biomass of catch (2014).

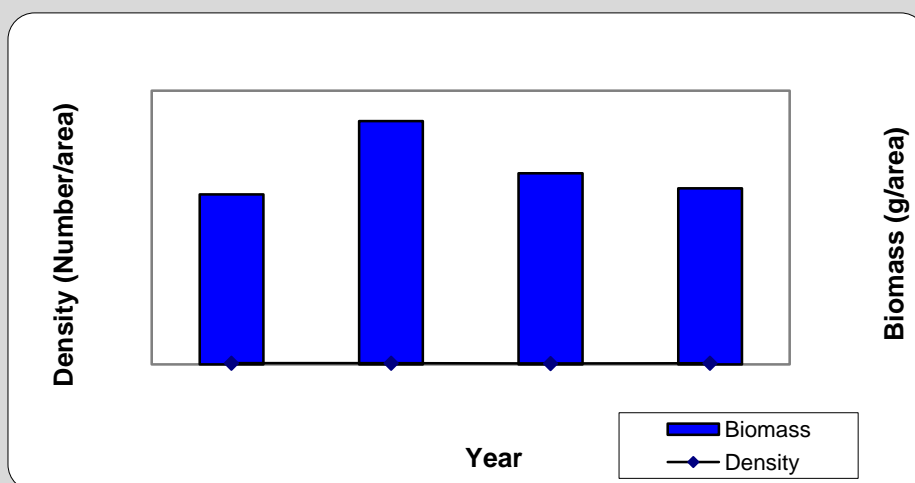


Figure 2: Graph of Density (Nos/Are) and Biomass (g/Are), not including minor species (2009-2014).

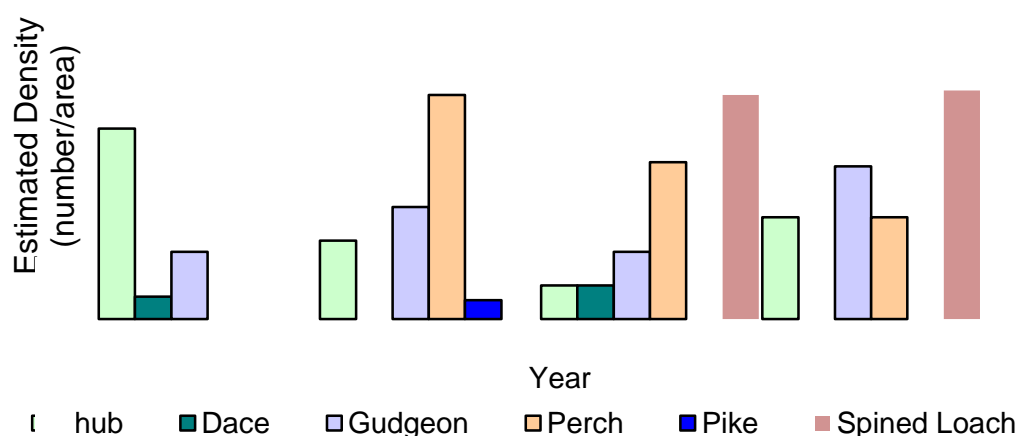


Figure 3: Graph of Density (Nos/Are) of recorded species (2009-2014)

Discussion

Overall density and biomass is consistent with 2009-2011 data (Fig 2). However, changes do occur with species composition. Dace are absent, although they are only usually recorded in low numbers. Roach are absent 2009-2014 and are expected at this site. Previous surveys 1997-2007 have recorded Roach, often in good numbers. This reduction in Dace and Roach could be due to habitat within the survey reach or movement upstream for spawning. Roach and Dace were recorded on a survey upstream of Netherseal (Saltersford Farm). Chub and Perch are present with a mix of age classes.

Along any stretch fish populations can vary between survey sites and years. This is due to the motile nature of fish, for reasons such as spawning, food sources, life stage and shelter from predation and high flows.

The Water Framework Directive classifies this fish site based on 2011 data as Good Status. However, it is close to the Moderate boundary. The absence of Roach is the main reason for the uncertainty between classification boundaries. The 2014 results may indicate a slight reduction as far as classification status. This will be impacted by the additional absence of Dace, making the total number of species recorded eight (including minors) from nine recorded in 2011. However, the increase in recorded Chub and Gudgeon may maintain Good Status. Further increases in the population of Chub would improve the classification score.

Angling Trust
Media Release



New Team of Advisors Ready to Help Fisheries Tackle Cormorant Predation

A team of three Fishery Management Advisors has been recruited by the Angling Trust, supported by rod licence funds, to help angling clubs and fisheries reduce the impact of cormorant predation on inland fisheries.

In addition to the [Fisheries Management Advisors \(FMAs\)](#), there will be a new Area Based Licence that allows greater flexibility by encouraging fisheries to work together for greater effect. The FMAs will liaise with regional forums, river associations and consultative bodies to co-ordinate action at a catchment scale.

Following a competitive selection process, the FMAs began work in late April 2014 initially for one year and are employed by the Angling Trust. They will help fisheries better co-ordinate non-lethal management techniques and, where necessary, lethal control under licence from Natural England.

Natural England's trial of Area-Based Management and Licensing will run from September 2014 to April 2015. At present, fisheries apply for lethal control licences individually. The trial will allow multiple fisheries to apply to Natural England for an Area Based Licence to coordinate more flexibly both non-lethal and lethal approaches in their area.

The new forms for the Area Based Licences have been designed to be as simple as possible to fill in and have been tested by a small group of fisheries, however, Natural England will be keen to get feedback on this throughout the trial.

By taking part in the trial, it is hoped fisheries will benefit from the sharing of best practice management approaches and greater access to hands-on support, as well as increased uptake of non-lethal management techniques, such as providing refuges from the birds for the fish. At the end of the trial, Defra will be seeking feedback from all fisheries involved to evaluate how effective the new approach has been.

Goosanders and mergansers were also considered as part of the 2011-13 review; new approaches to goosanders will be considered at up to two sites but mergansers will not be included in the trial. Coordinated, non-lethal approaches to addressing predation by these species are however encouraged and the FMAs will assist fisheries wherever possible.

Part of the role of the FMAs will be to help gather accurate data about bird numbers and, if monitoring of the combined need for lethal control exceeds the current national limit of 2,000 cormorants (and up to 3,000 for short periods), the limit will be reviewed by government.