Est. 1883

B.A.A.NEWS

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April 2011

BAA News is reborn as a monthly news sheet downloadable from the BAA web site. The news sheet will be created as a PDF document enabling anyone with Adobe Reader on their PC to download, open and read the document.
The purpose the news sheet is to provide a regular update on BAA activities and plans and provide a platform for reader feedback, comments and input.

Please send any feedback, comments or contributions to this newsletter to the above email address for the attention of the BAA News Editor.

Search for new waters

Due to healthy finances, the BAA is actively looking for opportunities to purchase new fisheries and land alongside existing fisheries to improve access. Let us know of any fisheries you are aware of as there is a £200 reward for information that leads to a successful acquisition.

We are in the process of purchasing a meadow alongside an existing Avon fishery. This will improve access and allow parking by these swims. Watch for progress reports in future editions.

The BAA Management Team is in discussion with Birmingham City Council on ways to increase the number of anglers using the City's pools and lakes by providing access to our members. We will keep you updated on progress.

The BAA attended an auction for a fishery on the River Wye below Hereford. It was decided not to bid to the full price (£74,000 plus vat) due to the limited number of swims and difficult access.

For your safety

You may have noticed that OS (Ordinance Survey National Grid Reference Co-ordinates) such as SP 116 514 (Barton car park) have been added to the *Where to fish* maps on the BAA web site and the *Guide to Waters 2010*.

The reason for this is, due the remote and off road location of some of the BAA car parks. In the event of an angler requiring emergency services assistance, they may have difficulty in being located.

To prevent this, if you do make a 999 call for assistance from one of the BAA fisheries you should quote the OS reference number for your location.

Fisheries report

The Fisheries Working Party is responsible for maintaining the Association's waters. It consists of number of volunteer members whose role is to maintain access to the Association's waters by clearing vegetation and tree pruning. It is also responsible for the maintenance of fishing platforms and the construction of new ones. The working party goes out once a week in the autumn and winter months and twice a week in late spring and summer. Given the extent of the Association's waters, the initial focus every year is to try to ensure that the most popular waters are accessible by the start of the new season.

Please could members contact the BAA office if they become aware of any remedial work required?

It is hoped to produce a schedule of proposed work for the working party which will be included in future newsletters, although it may be subject to minor changes. Members are advised to check this website to avoid the work possibly disrupting their fishing plans.

Work carried out to date in 2011 is;

PENSHAM: The building of new pegs started back in October last year but was delayed by the big freeze in December. Twenty six have been completed in the upstream meadows 1 and 2 and a further 26 in meadow 3 (the wood). A footbridge has also been built across the ditch between meadows 1 and 2.

COPPICE LAKE: The drainage of water into the Lake has been improved by the digging of a land drain and the repair of the water pipe that feeds water from the nearby stream. The paths around the lake have been improved by the addition of aggregate.

The Fisheries navy also set sail with the intention of removing the wooden jetty from the island due to hooked carp being lost when they swam around the supporting posts.

Unfortunately this was not possible as the jetty and its' supports are constructed from telegraph poles which are too big for the team to tackle. But the trip to the island was not wasted.

The trees overhanging the lake were cut back and burned. Dozens of leads, feeders, numerous lengths of lead core plus hundreds of hooks (some baited with artificial baits, a real threat to wildlife) and many metres of line were removed.

BLACKSTONE: Three tons of stones have been added to the access track to fill the potholes.

BREDON: All the pegs have been repaired and are now fishable.

MANOR FARM, WASPERTON: The area around the Propeller Memorial was mowed and tidied in preparation for a rededication of the memorial on the 9th April. All the pegs have been checked and where necessary repaired.

LINDRIDGE: The footbridge downstream of the car park has been replaced due to extensive rot. BAA signage has been improved, some trees cut back and tyres dumped in the car park removed

The team on the Teme with the old and new bridge under construction.

COTHERIDGE: A trench has been dug to prevent fly tipping in the car park and the rubbish cleared.

Planned work for the next period;

Nordley Wednesday 20th April: Additional fish placed into pools 3&4, access track repaired and cut back of vegetation.

Date to be set: Weed clearance at Stubbs Pool and possibly Mythe Pool.

Litter

The vast majority of members are keen to ensure that the Association's waters are kept free of litter and most will take the time to remove the litter left by an irresponsible minority. It is the Association's policy not to provide litter bins on any of its waters because disposal of accumulated litter is not possible and furthermore, bins would attract vermin. Members are urged to be meticulous when leaving a venue and please think twice before discarding unwanted bait etc. as well as any bags that might have contained bait. These will not only prove hazardous to wildlife but will also attract rats which pose a serious health risk to anglers. There have been problems at a number of venues, particularly Coppice Lake, where a large number of rats have been seen.

Please take your litter home.

Bailiffing

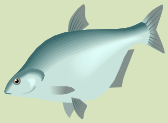
The Association's waters are currently bailiffed by over 40 volunteers and their role is to ensure that only members and valid day ticket holders have access to its car parks and waters. Anyone interested in becoming a bailiff should contact the BAA office.

Members should ensure that they always have their card on their person when fishing, and not, for example, in the car or at home. Bailiffs are not allowed exercise their discretion and give anglers the benefit of the doubt and neither can they phone the BAA office to confirm that the angler has a card. Failure to be able to produce a card will result in the angler being asked to leave the water. Unfortunately, some anglers have been less than cooperative in such circumstances and a few, quite aggressive. Such behaviour may well result in the termination of membership.

Illegal Fishing

Over the past twelve months a number of reports have been received which suggest that netting and the use of nightlines have been taking place. Such activities are illegal and potentially very damaging to fish stocks. Unfortunately some of the reports have been received many days after the alleged incident which gives the Association no opportunity to respond. If any member suspects that an illegal activity is taking place on any of the Associations waters, you are urged to contact the BAA office immediately (tel. phone number on membership card), or as soon as possible, which may enable officers and/or bailiffs to take action.

Fishing news

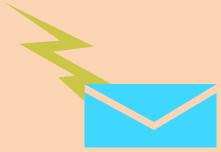


Big carp for Juniors

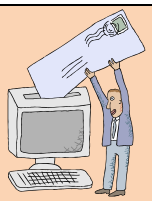
Hi baa my friend, Curtis Holdom and myself, Jack Parkes (both aged 15) had a recent trip to Coppice Lake and had a very successful one. I had a 23lb 5oz common and my friend had a mirror known as 'Stumpy' at 26lb 2oz. Spoke to a man who is very familiar of the lake and the stock of fish and he confirmed that it was Stumpy. Many thanks baa, Jack and Curtis.

Email us details and pictures of your memorable fishing trips for inclusion in Fishing News.

DON’T FORGET TO TAKE YOUR CAMERA AND MEMBERSHIP CARD



Readers' letters



If you have any items, thoughts, issues you want to air in the BAA news, please email it to baajnw@btinternet.com titled for attn of BAA News Editor.

Suggested topics could be;

Do we need a close season?

Barbless hooks.

Quality or otherwise of fisheries.

Changes or additions to BAA News.

The Editor will act as moderator for items to be included.

Evesham Festival

Look out for details of the Festival and BAA's involvement in the next edition of BAA News.

Juniors Competition at Coppice Lake

Look out for an update in the next edition.

BAA Office national holiday closures

The BAA office at Hagley will be closed on the following dates and not available for the issuing of night permits or membership renewals.

Friday 22nd April

Monday 25th April

Tuesday 26th April

Friday 29th April

Monday 2nd May

Monday 30th May

Normal office opening times are 9:30am – 2:00pm Monday – Friday.

When the office is closed emergencies can be reported on 07976 886558.