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September 2011

We're in the Angling Times again! — The letter from Martley

District Police regarding theft of fishing tackle at matches, published in our August edition, resulted in an Angling Times article 'New twist in tackle theft' in their 16th August edition and a call to John Williams for a quote.

Attention all budding photographers

The Association is currently in the process of compiling the next issue of our "BAA Guide to Waters 2012"

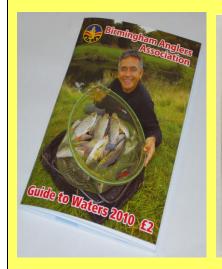
We are on the lookout for a suitable picture to go onto the front cover. So, if you have a high resolution digital photo of either yourself or a friend, with a notable catch and would like to see it blazoned across the front cover of 10,000 copies of the BAA Guide Book, then email the jpeg file (as an attachment) to the BAA at baajnw@btinternet.com, or copy it onto a disk in and send it in to;

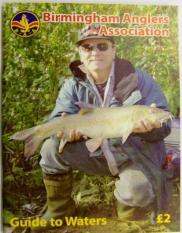
John Williams - Secretary,
Birmingham Anglers Association Limited
30 The Old Woodyard,
Hall Drive
Hagley,
Worcestershire DY9 9LQ

Of course the picture doesn't have to include a fish. If you've got photos of any BAA venue which is attractive and you think would make a suitable cover picture, then send them in also.

Please include your name, membership number and details of where the picture was taken and we will do the rest. The picture chosen will not only earn the owner untold fame and prestige – but also a small prize from the Association.

Below are copies of recent BAA Guides to give you an idea:









→ Fishing news



Canal success



Hi,

Thought I'd send you the attached to show that it's not just the BAA's lakes that hold large carp. This 18lb carp was taken on during a recent evening session on the Worcester Canal in Alvechurch. The session also yielded a 5lb tench and several bream.

Regards

Will Peace

New member success

Hi,

I recently joined the BAA and this is my very first barbel caught on the river Severn at Highley a couple of weeks ago.



I spent a weekend in fishing at Highley in the rain and caught 4 good size barbel and 2 eels all with halibut pellets.



And here is my latest and biggest catch to date, another barbel caught on Saturday 14th August at Knowle Sands. I don't know the weight as we didn't have the scales with us but it is a good size and was caught using halibut pellets.

Regards

Jac

Fishing news record

Fish/catcher Rowbol	weight	location	method BA	A News edition
Barbel Stephen Mayo	14lb 7oz	Mid Severn	10m DD ellipse Pellet, hair rig 12 hook. Hemp/pellet g-bai	July 2011
Steve Hewitt Lee Wilkes Bream	12lb 4oz 10lb 10oz	Wasperton Arley	SBS Baits Frankfurter hooke	July 2011 July 2011
Colin Townsend	8lb 8oz	Severn Stoke	8m halibut pellet hair rig on 10 hood 2m halibut pellet a Brown crumb feed	&
Common Carp				
Stan Kovachev Phil Wood Carl Gerroni Jack Parkes Daniel Ambrose Will Peace Kevin Smith	34lb 2oz 26lb 4oz 24lb 7oz 23lb 5oz 20lb 18lb	Coppice Coppice Nordley 4 Coppice Coppice Worcester Ca Alvechurch Coppice	mid water boilie	July 2011 June 2011 June 2011 April 2011 June 2011 Sept 2011 July 2011
Mirror Car Steve Middleton Curtis Holdom Keith Jones	p 31lb plus 26lb 2oz 19lb 8oz	Coppice Coppice Nordley 1		June 2011 April 2011 May 2011

Email us details and pictures of your memorable fishing trips for inclusion in Fishing News. Can you also include the following information so we can build a record of what's being caught and where?

Fish species, weight, bait and method used, time, date and location of catch

Please let us know if you don't want your name included in the article.

DON'T FORGET TO TAKE YOUR CAMERA AND MEMBERSHIP CARD

Executive update

There have been two separate incidents at Ribbesford where bailiffs have been verbally abused and threatened by people fishing without permits or day tickets. The bailiffs have recorded car registrations and reported the incidents to the police.

The 2011 Evesham Show has been another success for the BAA. Forty seven full memberships were sold and significant funds raised from the tombola and club merchandise sales.

A small carp lake of about 1 acre in size has been purchased by the club. The lake is full of small to medium sized carp and was previously used to supply fish to commercial fisheries. Due to its' size and limited number of pegs, it is not suitable for general access and is planned to be used as a breeding and stock pond.

It is planned to fit a gate with combination padlock to control access to the new meadow car park at Fladbury before the end of 2011.

The club is investigating the installation of a bore hole at Coppice Lake to help maintain water levels.

Spot that sign

This month has a Teme theme with the pictures obtained during Fisheries Battle of the Balsam activities on the river.





An old 'Ends Here' sign at the down stream end of Broadwas, just across the orchard from the lay-by. The other sign is upstream giving a good view of this lovely river.







This is a trip up the Teme above the Mill at Eardiston. The first sign is an old one gradually being covered by the tree bark; the second is another old one again becoming part of the tree that marks the boundary between the Eardiston and Lindridge fisheries; the last is on the same tree but on the Lindridge side.





Finally we have moved to Stanford Bridge with two views of the downstream 'Ends Here' signs next to the old bridge. Again the old metal sign is gradually becoming part of the tree.



Lost spec's claimed

The lost glasses we reported in last months edition that had been found by the Fisheries work party in the car park at Eardiston have been claimed and returned to their owner.

River Stour in top ten

The River Stour in Worcestershire has been listed by the Environment Agency as one of the top ten of most improved rivers.

The Environment Agency says;

Just a generation ago the Stour was in a sad state. Heavy pollution had taken its toll and turned it into a virtually lifeless river.

For years the Stour was famous not for its wildlife but for the rainbow-coloured dyes that flowed into it from the local carpet manufacturing units. The pesticides used for moth-proofing carpets also wiped out many of the water-borne bugs that fish depend on for food. Urbanisation and an out of date sewage system didn't help the pollution problem.

The Environment Agency worked alongside Wyre Forest District Council, Severn Trent Water, the Wildlife Trust and retailers to transform the Stour into a river that is healthy for wildlife as well as the local economy.

Water quality has improved so much in the river that wildlife, such as salmon and otters, has returned. Otters have even been spotted in the centre of Kidderminster.

These ten rivers are;

River Wandle, London River Wear, County Durham River Darent, Kent River Dee, North West, England and Wales River Stour, Dorset River Thames River Stour , Worcestershire River Nar, Norfolk River Taff , South Wales The Mersey Basin, North West

Other Fisheries news

The annual Battle of the Balsam continues, latest fisheries to be done are;

River Avon River Teme

Charlton 1-5 Cotheridge Swifts Water Broadwas

Fladbury new meadow access Eardiston (upstream of Mill)

River Severn Pools

Ladyham

Newhall Meadow, Stourport

Deerhurst Holt Fleet Birds Meadow

Ripple

0018

Apperley

20 pegs were created/restored at Deerhurst. As the river level rises and falls rapidly at high tide here, it is advisable to check tide times with British Waterways prior to fishing.



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.

When sending in a comment can you please let us know if you don't want your name included?

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

I see that the monthly newsletter is still going strong and I'm glad to see it. It's been a real breath of fresh air and I think it has the potential to be a really useful source of information.

Please keep it up.

Cheers.

Pete.

Ed: Thanks for your support. We are always happy to get emails, articles, pictures and ideas from our readers.

Grass Snakes at Hopwood!

With reference to the recent letters about grass snakes, here is my little story!

Yesterday afternoon (Tues 9th August) I decided to have a couple of hours fishing on the Birmingham Worcester canal at Hopwood.

Within a one hour period THREE grass snakes came swimming by!

The first was about three feet long and actually climbed onto and crawled along my keepnet, before going on its' way past my mate fishing about forty yards away!

The second one was about eighteen inches long and when it reached me it swam straight over to the far bank, as did the third one, which was about fourteen inches long.

Many years ago I was riding my bike along this same stretch of towpath when an adder came out of the grass and I rode right over it.

It just turned around and went back into the grass!

The owner of one of the canal cottages along there has told me that he has quite a few adders hibernate each winter, in the woodpile he has in his garden.

Albert Baker

Ed: Thanks for your email; it's been great how a letter on a non-angling topic has generated such interesting articles and feedback.

I have read with interest over the last couple of months, letters from members complaining about the overgrown state of some fisheries. Letters regarding Eckington on the Avon and Apperley pools particularly spring to mind.

I think many members fail to understand the enormity of the task involved, there must be hundreds of miles to cover, work all carried out by a team of volunteers! They surely have to prioritise the most popular venues and then work down the list. I'm sure I speak for the majority of members in that I'm hugely grateful for the work they carry out; work commitments prevent me from helping. But as I lurch towards semi-retirement, one of the first things I'll do is make sure I put myself forward.

As for Apperley, whilst I do sympathise with the disabled person mentioned in the letter. I fished there several times during the river closed season, it can be a bit of a struggle to get there with full 'kit', but there is an armchair peg on pool 2 that can easily accommodate 2 anglers. It's also worth noting that on virtually every occasion I fished (weekends and bank holidays), I was the only angler, so I can understand why this pool is not a priority for clearance.

Some years ago I became disillusioned with match fishing on commercial waters and re-joined the BAA because I wanted to get back to natural venues. The fishing is often challenging but so much more rewarding.

I suggest to members that want pegs cut and strimmed within an inch of their lives, that they cancel their membership and drive to the nearest commercial fishery. There they can pay their £6-7 day ticket money, drive right up to their pegs and sit in complete comfort whilst hauling carp out all day.

Whilst I prefer a day roving a wild river winkling out the odd chub and barbel, I may come back tired and covered in nettle stings, but I've had a proper day's fishing. Let's celebrate the fact that the BAA has some fantastic natural venues all available on a card that is an absolute bargain!

Let's also pay homage to the volunteer team and their 'Battle of the Balsam'.

John Snape.

Ed: Thanks for your support; we look forward to you joining the Fisheries team.

Hi there

I have had mixed experiences on BAA waters this week after returning to fishing this season after a ten year break.

Earlier this week I re-visited the Avon, just below Pershore Weir. I used to love fishing this stretch of the river and I was anticipating an enjoyable afternoon's fishing.

What I wasn't prepared for was the vast amount of litter disfiguring the banks - this wasn't just flood debris; luncheon meat tins were actually ditched in the water and crisp packets and plastic bottles had been discarded by uncaring anglers. Tangled floats and line were attached to nearby tree branches and to cap it all, two extremely noisy youngsters were fishing, without permits and were happy to leave the remains of their lunch, including sandwich wrappings behind them. What ammunition this would be for the anti-angling brigade I thought.

Yesterday, I decided to venture further afield (I live in Gloucester) and visit

the Trimpley stretch of the Severn. Helpful Mr Lewis at Bewdley pointed me in the right direction and off I went. After a very long walk and clear blue skies and even clearer water I wasn't over optimistic. Members of the public were paddling in the river and canoeists were providing amusement on trying to negotiate the rapids - the river is for everyone's enjoyment I thought. Six hours and twelve barbel later (up to 6lb) in the landing net and I was a happy angler again (my arms were aching by this time!). Hemp and caster did the trick and not a piece of bankside litter in sight! Wouldn't it be good if all angling experiences were like this?

Again, on a serious note, I feel that anyone who leaves litter on the banks should be punished severely and banned from fishing. Also, could BAA provide some guidance on how to tackle anglers who are behaving inappropriately? Regards

Neil

Gloucester

Ed: Welcome back to fishing and the BAA.

I share your frustration with litter at some of our fisheries. I also walked upstream from Pershore Bridge car park a few weeks ago and was absolutely disgusted at the amount of litter around the weir pool. We seem to have a few fisheries that suffer from this; one of the worst is Coppice Lake. Here some anglers wrap up their rubbish in carrier bags and then leave the bag tied to a tree rather than take it the short journey to the car park and then home for disposal in their dustbin.

The BAA takes litter very seriously, in last month's edition we reported that a club had been fined for littering as a result of not clearing up after a match on the Avon. Also when the Fisheries teams carry out work at a fishery such as vegetation cut back, they always collect and dispose of any litter they find. The problem is identifying the anglers who create the litter.

Match Reports

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

Blue Ball A.C. Sunday 14th August Barton, Meadow 1, River Avon

1st Dave Lloyd 9lb 1oz (inc' pike of 5lb 2oz)

2nd Brian Welling 3lb 2oz 3rd Ken Young 2lb 3oz

Good weather but a little windy. There were lots of little dace in the river with gudgeon, chublet and a few roach.

BAA Executive and Sunday 21st August Mythe Pool

Fisheries annual match

1st Dave Webb 2lb 5oz

 2^{nd} Glyn Price-Hunt 1lb 14oz 2dr 3^{rd} Brian Marsh 1lb 7oz 8dr

Dawleys A.C. Sunday 11th Sept Ripple No 2, River Severn

 1^{st} P Jones 19 lb 4oz 2^{nd} F Gossage 18lb 4oz 3^{rd} D Webb 12lb 12 oz

Nice to see the big bream back.