Est. 1883

B.A.A.NEWS

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June 2013

Coarse fish survey in the middle Severn -

See pages 17 – 19

How is Nordley fishing? -

See Fishing News pages 3-4 and Readers Letters pages 15-16

Have you renewed your BAA membership for 2013? You will need it for the 16th!

New waters at Bewdley

In the May edition of the BAA News we reported on the new Northwood Fishery. In addition to this new fishery, the following areas around Bewdley on the River Severn fisheries will also be available to BAA members;

1. River Severn left bank, downstream of the Environment Agency River Measuring Station to Bewdley Rowing Club. Please note that there is a private fishery and private house gardens on this stretch of the river bank. The BAA areas will be clearly signed.

2. On the River Severn right bank alongside the car park approached via Pritchard Court off the junction of Severn Side Street and Lax Lane about 400m downstream of Bewdley Bridge. The BAA area will be clearly signed.

3. On the River Severn right bank, upstream of Bewdley Bridge about 300m alongside the open grassed area just passed the car park off Dog Lane. The BAA area will be clearly signed.

The new fisheries are shown in green on the map on the next page. We will include a map showing the new fisheries in better detail when available.

Fishing news

Nordley carp

Mirror carp 9lb 12oz

Mirror carp 11lb 8oz

Common carp 12lb 4oz

Common carp 13lb 1oz

Mirror carp 9lb 14oz

Common carp 16lb 4oz

Hi

Just thought I would share some photos from a couple of short sessions at Nordley No2 Pool.

The First four were from 20/05/13 an after work quick 2.5 hours and back home for 8:00pm for tea, all off the top on Dog Biscuits.

The second two were early on 27/05/13 Holiday Monday morning being cold over night and a cold NE wind blowing which didn't go to plan as I couldn't get them feeding confidently enough on the top. So I switched to a small PVA bag with filled with pellets and a hair rigged Cheesy Hemp and Garlic Pellet fished tight in the margins. Again back home for 9:30am for a bacon butty.

Not a bad couple of sessions all in all. Cracking venue.

Bring on the 16th and see if the Barbel are as accommodating but I may have to try and get a few more Carp first.

Regards Andy Marsh

Fishing news record

for last 12 months

fish/catcher	lb	oz	location	method	date caught	BAA News edition
Barbel						
			River Severn			
Malcolm Ford	12	3		Luncheon meat	28/07/2012	Aug 2012
Brian Rossiter	11	12	Severn Stoke	Cage feeder & banded pellet	19/10/2012	Nov 2012
? Nichols	10	8	Severn Stoke		21/08/2012	Oct 2012
Brian Rossiter	10		Severn Stoke	Cage feeder & banded pellet	19/10/2012	Nov 2012
Karen Summerfield	9	2	Ribbesford		?	Oct 2012
Roy Price	9	1	Arley	2 x 8mm halibut pellets over bed of 3mm pellets	13/07/2012	Aug 2012
Bob Bennett	9	1	Erdington	2 x 12mm halibut pellets	13/07/2012	Aug 2012

Andy Lea	8	9	Danery	3 x 8mm halibut pellets over pellet and hemp mix	28/06/2012	July 2012
Chris Manns	6	12	Underdale	Water at 5°C	03/03/2013	April 2013
				River Avon		
David Holland	10	12	Wasperton		14/07/2012	Aug 2012
Rob Holland	10	8	Wasperton		14/07/2012	Aug 2012
Mike Bothwell	10	2	Wasperton	1 inch cube of meat	03/01/2013	Feb 2013
Brian Rossiter	10		Fladbury	Banded pellet & feeder	07/01/2013	Feb 2013
Brian Rossiter	7		Fladbury	Banded pellet & feeder	07/01/2013	Feb 2013
				River Teme		
Steve Welland	10		Stanford Bridge		July 2012	Aug 2012

Bream

				River Severn		
Ben Keen	6		Ladyham	Maggot/groundbait feeder	16/06/2012	July 2012
				River Avon		
Graham Beck	6		Marlcliff	Maggots/maggot feeder	Aug 2012	Sep 2012
				Pools		
Colin Weed	4		Coppice		14/08/2012	Sep 2012
Kevin Smith	3	13	Coppice		28/04/2013	May 2013

Common Carp

				River Severn		
Andy Keen		9	Ladyham	Stick float fished tight to bank, single white maggot, 18 hook, 1.7lb hook length, 3lb mainline	17/09/2012	Oct 2012

			River Salwarpe			
Martin Dugmore	6	2	Claines	Ground bait feeder with maggots on 16 hook & 3lb hook length	08/03/2013	April 2013
				Pools		
Graham Sheldon	22	1	Coppice		Oct 2012	Dec 2012
Graham Sheldon	20	8	Coppice		Oct 2012	Dec 2012
Sam Chapman	19	6	Mythe		26/07/2012	Aug 2012
Kevin Smith	17		Coppice		14/08/2012	Sep 2012
Andy Marsh	16	4	Nordley Pool 2	PVA bag filled with pellets and a hair rigged Cheesy Hemp and Garlic Pellet fished tight in the margins	27/05/2013	June 2013
Kev Abel	15		Coppice		18/08/2012	Sep 2012
Kevin Smith	14	10	Coppice		02/11/2012	Dec 2012
Kevin Smith	14	4	Coppice		02/11/2012	Dec 2012
Kevin Smith	14	1	Coppice		Oct 2012	Nov 2012
Kevin Smith	13	9	Coppice		Oct 2012	Nov 2012
Andy Marsh	13	1	Nordley Pool 2		20/05/2013	June 2013
Kevin Smith	12	13	Coppice		Oct 2012	Nov 2012
Andy Marsh	12	4	Nordley Pool 2		20/05/2013	June 2013
Colin Weed	9	12	Coppice		Oct 2012	Nov 2012

Leather Carp

			Canals			
Jonathan Albutt	19		Birmingham Worcester	Stalking tactics in the margins	?	Oct 2012

Mirror Carp

Pools

Scott Lote	20		Coppice		?	Oct 2012
Andy Lea	17	13	Coppice	Single dumbbell with no free offerings	22/04/2013	May 2013
Kevin Smith	15	13	Coppice		28/04/2013	May 2013
Kevin Smith	15	7	Coppice		Oct 2012	Nov 2012
Kevin Smith	13		Coppice		27/04/2013	May 2013
Andy Marsh	11	8	Nordley Pool 2		20/05/2013	June 2013
Colin Weed	11		Coppice		14/08/2012	Sep 2012
Andy Marsh	9	14	Nordley Pool 2	PVA bag filled with pellets and a hair rigged Cheesy Hemp and Garlic Pellet fished tight in the margins	27/05/2013	June 2013
Andy Marsh	9	12	Nordley Pool 2		20/05/2013	June 2013

Chub

River Avon

David Wood	6	7	Marlcliff		?	Sep 2012
Paul Wood	6	5	Marlcliff		?	Sep 2012
Matthew Smith	6	0	Pershore	2 x 12mm halibut pellet	04/07/2012	Aug 2012

River Severn

Chris Manns	4	0	Underdale	Water at 5°C	03/03/2013	April 2013

River Teme

Cameron Preece	4	4	Broadwas		Aug 2012	Sep 2012

Perch

River Severn

Joe Boles	2	8	Arley RB Harbour		15/09/2012	Oct 2012

Pools

Mark Latham	3	8	Coppice	Float fished double maggot	06/11/2012	Dec 2012
Dave Beasley	3	0	Coppice		03/02/2013	Mar 2013

Roach

River Severn

Andy Lea	2	4	Danery	3 x 8mm halibut pellets over pellet and hemp mix	28/06/2012	July 2012

Tench

River Avon

Derek Gabb	3	14	Pershore LB	Hair rigged cut down boillie and swim feeder full of pellets	Aug 2012	Oct 2012

Pools

Tony Barnett	5	4	Uckinghall	Float fished single red maggot	06/10/2012	Nov 2012

Executive update

Nordley shoot

The winter shoot has now completed. At the request of the shoot organisers; the brambles at the back of pool 4 car park will be removed and replaced with bird friendly grass and vegetation and a bridge put across the ditch at the back of pools 3 and 4.

Roach boards

The Angling Trust is to install roach boards at Claines in order to assist spawning success. These are wooden boards covered in netting and tethered to the bank. The board will only remain in place during the spawning season.

Bailiffing

New Superintendent Bailiff

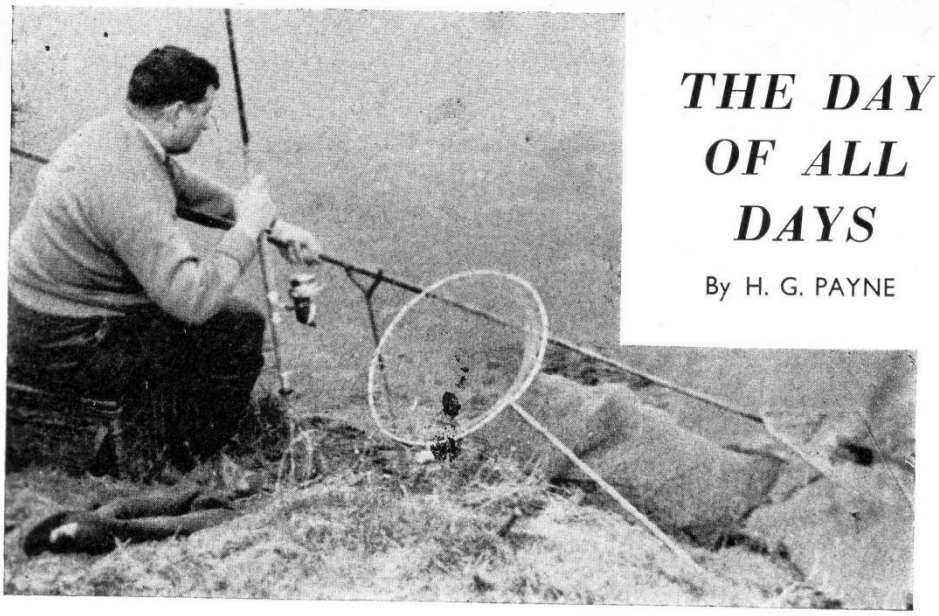
Kevin Pearson has been appointed Superintendent Bailiff with immediate effect.

Kevin replaces Dave Webb who recently resigned as Superintendent Bailiff after many years in the role.

Archive extracts

Midland Angler

Below is an extract from the June 1963 edition, the forerunner to the BAA News.



THE DAY OF ALL DAYS

By H. G. PAYNE

"TOMORROW I'll be fishing!" How those words echo through your head on the day before **THE** day. The kit is assembled, the rod lovingly touched up where marred by scratch or bump. Gradually, piece by piece, minute by minute, the equipment is added to until—Eureka! its done.

To bed, to sleep (you hope), but at first excitement defeats the calls of slumber. Eventually, though, you succumb to the inevitable and dream . . . big fish, small fish, fighting fish, lazy fish, all are caught in that dream-built wonderland.

Trrrrrrring!!! A strident ring wakens you with a start. "Blast that alarm clock." Then you rememberr it does not call you to work but to go fishing. The house sleeps on, sombre and quiet, but not you. Quickly out of bed, dressed and downstairs almost before the first breath of early morning air is tasted. The coffee made, the bag packed, and away.

Not far now, you think, but those last yards are miles and the minutes gone are precious time. Surprise! Another angler, and at this time of the morning! You stroll past with feigned nonchalance until out of sight, then the pace quickens and the dew-silvered lush grass swishes past your feet. The birds sing as if they too are welcoming a new season. Then you are there, the water is surveyed and appraised and you have to admit it looks good.

With trembling hands and fevered brow the rod is built, the line run through the rings; float, weights and hook are added quickly and with ease, your fingers still remembering the lessons of past seasons. The bait is attached; a practised flick sends it smoothly away to land with a light delicate splash in the slow-moving, murmuring water.

The float stands up, proud, dignified, yet somehow waiting, waiting to slide under the sun-played, glistening surface. Nothing else matters any more—all you can see is that bright red float moving slightly in the stream.

You wait. One hour, two hours, three hours. Time slips by quickly. What does it matter when you're fishing?

After a while the float dips once. You tense, sit forward, your heart beating painfully under those aching, breath-holding ribs. Every atom of concentration is focused on that small piece of painted wood. Then it happens. The float glides away, faster and faster, sinking lower in the water as it goes, yet still retaining its dignity and looking prouder than ever. A grab at the rod, a jerk—and back comes the baitless hook. That smooth, easy action of former years was forgotten in the excitement of that first bite.

The waiting goes on and on and then, whilst the last lingering rays of sunlight cling lovingly to the ground as if afraid to go, the float again dips and slides away. The strike is a smooth rhythmic movement, the line taughtens, the rod bends and a fish is on; fighting, fighting for those weeds it cannot reach, dodging here and there, but all to no avail. The past months of inactivity have not affected your skill; you play the fish easily, joyfully and before long it comes into the waiting net.

Not a big fish, but nice as roach go. About eleven to twelve ounces and in perfect condition. The scales, like silver, reflect the little sunlight that is left. "Might as well put it back." You do so gently and it moves away sedately with the fluid grace of its kind.

"That's it then," you say. The kit is quickly packed and you stroll along in the gathering darkness, the green grass a soft carpet beneath your feet. You are happy, contented, because, well, that was **THE** day that was.

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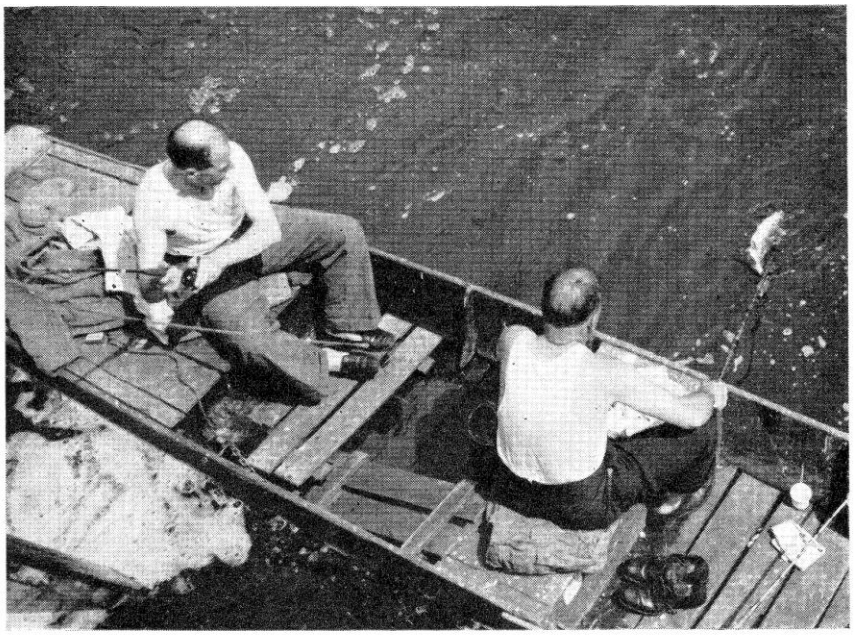
Below is an extract from the June 1957 edition.



Just look at the bend in that rod as a lusty Thames barbel is brought safely to the net. This year it may be the Severn's turn to provide such exciting sport.

Ledgering Is The Only Way With Barbel

. . . . says WILLIAM J. HOWES

DURING the past few seasons there has been a marked increase in the number of anglers who specialise in barbel fishing. More and more of us have learnt to appreciate the thrilling sport the barbel can provide as it bores and plunges and stubbornly resists every effort to draw it to the net.

But angling for barbel, like angling for carp, can be a disappointing business; even the best of experts fishing a water teeming with this unpredictable species can all too often experience a blank day. Many of those disappointments are unavoidable; when the fish are "off" nothing will induce them to feed. In many cases, however, lack of success is due to the fact that many newcomers to the game do not adopt the right technique; they use tackle and methods which are both unsuitable.

As a case in point, I might mention a recent visit to a well-known barbel water where I met an angler who had been fishing for barbel for three days. Considering the Spanish Reed match rod and the tiny 18 hook baited with a single maggot he was using, it was probably fortunate that he had still to hook his first fish!

The first point newcomers to barbel fishing must consider is that a strong rod with plenty of action is absolutely essential. It should be at least 11ft. in length in order to ensure a firm strike and adequate control over the fish once it is hooked. Secondly, and equally important, there is only one style of fishing that consistently produces results—ledgering. It would be safe to say that more barbel, which are inveterate bottom feeders, are caught by this method than all the other styles put together.

The strength of line depends to some extent upon personal choice, the type of rod used, and the water to be fished. I normally use an old type "Ambidex" fixed-spool with a 4 lb. nylon line, but in waters where the barbel run to a good weight or snags are likely to be encountered, something stronger is advisable.

I remember visiting the Hampshire Avon and losing four good fish because I was unable to stop them dashing into a nearby bed of weeds. The fish were lying in a fast run of water between long trusses of tough grass-like weed, and although pressure was applied immediately the fish was hooked there was sufficient action in the rod and stretch in the line to

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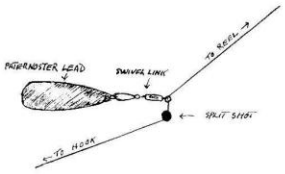
enable those barbel to reach safety. Once in the weeds they managed as usual to free the hook and leave me hopelessly snagged.

However, I did manage to land six fish by hurrying down the river as soon as I felt a fish "on" and applying maximum pressure as directly downstream as possible. This manœuvre brought the fish below the weed bed and into a clear run where they could be played in safety.

The amount of lead to be used depends entirely upon the type of swim to be fished and whether the bait is intended to remain stationary or to roll along the bottom. Some anglers are extremely cautious and reduce the weight of lead used to the absolute minimum, fearing that the barbel will object to any resistance felt when it picks up the bait. My experiences do not support them, for I have found that the amount of lead makes little difference to a taking barbel provided the ledger is free-running.

Fig. 1

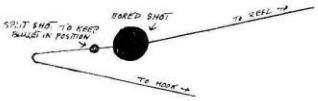
The ideal method. A pear-shaped paternoster lead and link swivel ensure a free-running line and a speedy change-over of leads.



One of the best methods of ensuring this is to use a pear-shaped paternoster lead in conjunction with a link swivel, as shown in Fig. 1. The line passes through the thin wire loop of the swivel, thus ensuring that it runs quite freely. Compare this arrangement with Fig. 2, which shows the normal ball-ledger set-up, and it is obvious that the weight is much less likely to be felt if a paternoster lead and swivel is used. An added advantage is the fact that the swivel link permits the weight of the lead to be increased or decreased according to the prevailing conditions.

Fig. 2

Not so good. A rather clumsy set up more likely to cause line drag.



The arrangement shown in Fig. 3 I do not recommend because it does not allow the line to run as freely as the other two methods and, in addition, there is much risk of a breakage due to the "coffin" becoming wedged between stones or any other snags that abound in rivers—especially in the best barbel swims!

Most barbel anglers pin their faith to ready-whipped hooks to nylon, but there seems to be a growing tendency towards eyed or spade-end hooks tied direct to the line. One advantage of the latter is that it reduces the number of knots to one only. A useful tip if you prefer a "tie-on" is to attach it the night before fishing. It will save precious time early next morning and it also makes threading the line a much easier process.

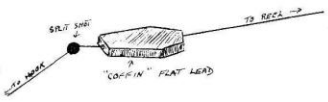
As for bait—well, almost anything can take a barbel. Nevertheless, lobworms, maggots, cheese and bread in its various forms are the most popular. Groundbait is, of course, absolutely essential. A good method is to use a stiff mixture of bread and bran moulded into the shape of a cup, the inside being filled with pieces of hook bait and the top closed over before being cast in.

A rod rest can be used, but when the barbel are "on" it is as well to hold the rod in the hand in readiness for bites which at times can be nothing more than sharp dace-like "touches." In the main, however, a barbel takes the bait right into his mouth as it moves along the bottom rooting out and sucking in anything resembling food, in which case the rod bends quickly towards the water.

When this happens and the hook is well and truly struck home into a good fish, the odds are that the novice barbel fisher will be convinced that he has snagged the bottom. Then, irresistibly, the fish will start to draw off line and begin to roll, bore and plunge and try all manner of antics to free itself from the hook. It will fight like a demon to the very last gasp and provide you with a battle you will never forget—a battle which is certain to ensure that you, too, will in future concentrate all the attention you can on this game and gallant fish.

Fig. 3

Avoid this at all cost. The 'coffin' lead is certain to find all the snags that are going.



WHERE TO FIND THEM

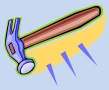
The 509 barbel transferred to the Severn from the Kennet last September were placed in the river in equal quantities at the following points:

Bewdley, Arley, Hampton Loade, Bridgnorth, Jackfield, Ironbridge, Atcham and Underdale.

The first fish caught was reported from Alveley Bridge, Highley, a point 1½ miles downstream from Hampton Loade ferry, the nearest restocking point—an indication of the distance the fish are likely to travel before choosing their new home.

The Severn River Board is anxious to obtain details of any fish taken during the coming season in order that some indication can be obtained of the places where other fish have settled down satisfactorily.

Fisheries report



The Fisheries Work party has carried out work at the following fisheries since the last edition;

River Avon

Wasperton, Barton and Bidford RB – platform repairs and rebuilds.

Pensham and Fladbury – cut back of vegetation.

Strimming cow parsley at Pensham and rebuilding a peg at Hallow.

Willows planted by Local Authority at Hallow to reduce flood damage to river bank.

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.

Hi John

Went along to Coppice Lake on Wednesday 1st May pm, the carp were behaving in true spring like fashion!

I was able to witness their leaping and slurping in the afternoon sun. This is the time that they must be thinking of procreation as they were not particularly interested in feeding! However I would like to let you know that they are on the move and if the conditions of little rain over the last few weeks have an effect on oxygen levels then maybe it might be worthwhile keeping and eye on this during this 'stressful' time. I believe that the losses were attributed to stress and oxygen levels last year so it might be worth the effort to monitor this.

Cannot believe the rubbish that is being discarded amongst the trees, what sort of attitude prevails amongst us to do this?

Yours sincerely

Andy Reeves

Hi Andy,

Thanks for the up-date on Coppice. I have alerted our Fisheries Team who have plans to monitor the oxygen levels this coming spring and summer.

Cheers

John Williams

Once again congratulations to the BAA for a wonderful newsletter. I went to Stubbs Pool with a friend recently. First time we had been and I must say it's a very attractive fishery. Pity the solid fishing platforms have been built underwater! Only joking, I know water levels in lakes are very much higher than normal. I blanked but my colleague had a common carp of 10lb 12oz which was in superb condition. The only thing that worried us a little was the lack of bites. Has anyone been recently and fared better than us or do I need to wait for warmer water?

Regards

John Lane

Hi John,

Yes we are aware that there is a lack of smaller, 'silver' fish in Stubbs Pool and we have plans to remedy this with a comprehensive re-stocking of roach, bream and tench next winter.

Ed.

Hi BAA,

The May newsletter headlines "Coppice Back on Form" got me thinking about my recent experience on another association water, Nordley Pool 4. Just 2 years previous we were informed of 750lb of silvers being stocked into lakes 3/4. On May 18th this year my club gathered for a contest on this water. Only 8 fished so no massive pressure on the lake and the results were extremely poor. The average weight was around 6oz! The silvers that we may have expected to catch simply did not show as predicted.

Also, 2 week previous I and a friend paid a visit to this lake and once again the silver fish were absent. The only fish we were able to tempt were perch. So I ask the question, does anyone know where all the stocked fish have gone? Are you aware of any decent nets being caught on these lakes? I was warned by others who declined to fish this match that catches were poor.

A trip to Nordley is a decent return journey of around 60 miles for a lot of Birmingham anglers.

Unless there are improvements, are lakes 3/4 really worthy as a match venue?

A solitary 3lb Carp was caught to easily win the match by about 2lb.

Best regards,

K Jones

Mini 20 AC

Hi Keith,
I'm sorry your club had a disappointing day at Nordley. I have known these pools ever since the Association acquired them over 20 years ago and during that time I can, hand on heart, say that we have stocked thousands of pounds of fish into them. Carp, crucians, bream, tench, roach and even chub! Pools 1 and 2 have thrived and the fish populations have grown well, however the same cannot be said for pools 3 and 4. The reason we do not know, the pools use the same water as 1 and 2 and are of similar size and depth. Over the years we have taken a range of steps to try and help the fish, including introducing bird scarers and artificial refuges but it would appear to no avail. We will continue to strive to improve all our fisheries for the benefit of members.
Thank you for your comments.

John Williams

Ed; the reply below is from Mike, one of my Fisheries colleagues.

I found the email regarding the match at Nordley interesting but not surprising. I have fished Nordley regularly for many years and I think I know the pools as well as most anglers. There are two factors which could well have determined the weights. Firstly, we had very heavy rain on the Tuesday and Wednesday preceding the match and even yesterday the pools were still very coloured and full. In fact you could say they were typical winter conditions and when the pools are like this they do not fish well. Despite bright sunshine at times, I saw no evidence of fish on the surface whereas normally at this time of year you can expect to see at least a few carp cruising around. Secondly, unlike Coppice, the pools do not fish well when the water temperature is low and the heavy rain will undoubtedly have lowered it, plus it will have probably introduced a fair amount of natural food. Nordley only seems to fish well when it has lost its colour and it is warm.

Match Reports

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

Companions AC Sunday 26th May Uckinghall

1st	Tony Edkins	8lb	2oz
2nd	Dave Webb	3lb	10oz
3rd	Dave Gumbley	2lb	11oz
4th	Ian Loveridge	2lb	6oz

Report from Dave Gumbley

Chasing fish in the middle Severn

Environment Agency survey of coarse fish in the middle Severn

Last week, as part of a major survey of coarse fish in the mid Severn (from Shrewsbury to Worcester), we used a special piece of monitoring kit we borrowed from our friends in the South East region of the Environment Agency.

It's called an electrofishing boom boat and has been specifically designed to sample larger rivers. Catching fish in a big river presents lots of problems. It's too deep and wide to net effectively, too big and deep for normal hand held electrofishing gear, and debris, obstructions and depth changes make sonar equipment unreliable. The boom boat is effective as it greatly increases the effective size of the electric capture field. The two large multiple rings arrangements on the front of the boat with metal prongs dipping into the water are the anodes and electricity passes between them and the cathodes (metal plates situated under the boat). This electric field then attracts fish towards the anodes and then immobilises them. The fish are caught by two people with nets on either side of the boat, and placed into an aerated storage tank on board the boat.

Last week we fished between the County Showground and English Bridge in Shrewsbury. At various locations along this section fish caught were unloaded to colleagues on the bank.

The team on the bank identify and count the fish, measure their tail fork length and take samples of scales which are sent for analysis. This tells us how old the fish are and how quickly they are growing. They are then released back into the water.

We caught good numbers and a wide selection of fish including some large pike and perch, a shoal of roach, dace, chub, ruffe, gudgeon, European eel and juvenile Atlantic salmon as well as plenty of bullheads and minnows. A large adult Atlantic salmon was also seen but not caught.

The results from this investigation will be combined with match catch data from anglers and fry surveys to get a better appreciation of the fish population of this important fishery. We hope to produce a report on our findings later this year.

Note:

The above article was written by Dave Throupe, Environment Agency Manager for Hereford and Worcestershire and is available via the following hyperlink;

http://davethroupea.wordpress.com/

Entry Fee £25.00 per qualifier

(Payable in advance with completed entry form.)

Anyone wishing to apply for tickets **must** be an individual member of the Angling Trust.

The Angling Trust, in partnership with Dave Harrell, is delighted to announce a new competition for this year. 20 x 60 peg river matches with three anglers from each match to qualify for the RIVERFEST 2013 final.

Additional £20 is payable on the day of each qualifier for pools and peg fees.

Grand Final

Each qualifier will be split into three zones of 20 anglers with the winner of each section going through to a two day final on the River Wye at Hereford on 16th/17th November 2013.

(Please note the final date has had to be changed due to unforeseen circumstances from what was originally advertised).

Prizes

1st £10,000, 2nd £5,000, 3rd £3,000, 4th £2,000, 5th £1,000
plus 10 sections of 6 x £150 prizes each day.
***Subject to entry**

Date	Venue	Number of Pegs
Saturday 20th July	**River Yare**	60 Pegs
Sunday 21st July	**Great Ouse**, Littleport	60 Pegs
Sunday 28th July	**River Calder**, Mirfield	60 Pegs
Sunday 4th August	**Bristol Avon**, Newbridge and Saltford	60 Pegs
Saturday 10th August	**River Trent**, Torksey, North Clifton, South Clifton	60 Pegs
Saturday 17th August	**River Swale**, Morton	60 Pegs
Sunday 18th August	**River Ure**, Ripon	60 Pegs
Sunday 18th August	**River Trent**, Burton	60 Pegs
Saturday 31st August	**River Tees**, Bowesfield	60 Pegs
Sunday 1st September	**River Derwent**, Borrowash, Darley Park, Pride Park	60 Pegs
Saturday 14th September	**River Severn**, Bridgnorth	60 Pegs
Sunday 15th September	**River Severn**, Bewdley	60 Pegs
Saturday 21st September	**River Calder**, Altofts	60 Pegs
Saturday 21st September	**River Severn**, Upton-Upon-Severn	60 Pegs
Sunday 22nd September	**Warwickshire Avon**, Evesham	60 Pegs
Saturday 28th September	**River Trent**, Burton	60 Pegs
Sunday 29th September	**River Thames**, Medley	60 Pegs
Saturday 5th October	**River Severn**, Shrewsbury	60 Pegs
Sunday 6th October	**River Trent**, Laughterton, North Clifton	60 Pegs
Saturday 12th October	**Warwickshire Avon**, Evesham	60 Pegs

PEGS ARE LIMITED AND WILL BE ALLOCATED ON A FIRST COME FIRST SERVED BASIS

Angling Trust RiverFest 2013 - All Systems Go For New National River Competition

A brand new competition, which will carry the biggest ever individual river competition first prize of £10,000, plus more big main list and section cash prizes in the final gets underway in July.

RiverFest 2013 is the brainchild of river expert Dave Harrell who has been working closely with the Angling Trust to put the competition in place. Twenty qualifiers of 60 anglers on various river venues around the country will see three anglers from each match qualify for a two-day weight aggregate final on the fish rich River Wye at Hereford on the weekend of November 2nd and 3rd 2013.

Dave Harrell said: "While it's been great to see some big money events created on commercial fisheries over the past few years, natural fishing has been largely ignored. This new competition is an idea I've been thinking about for a while and it's now going to happen thanks to the involvement of the Angling Trust."

"The response to date has been fantastic as river match organisers from all over the country have come forward, keen to get involved with the competition. We've got 20 qualifying matches this year and it is the Trust's intention to make the competition even bigger in the years to come."

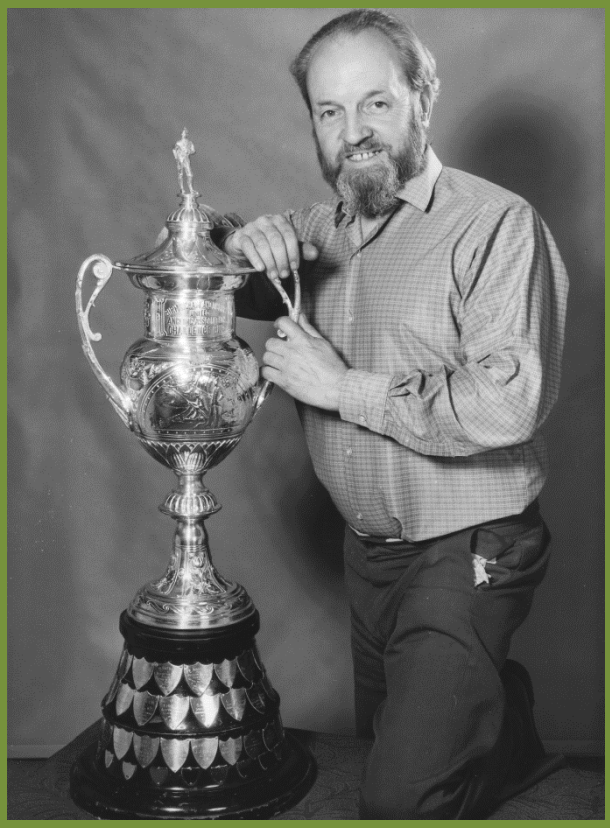
"We gave a lot of consideration to the choice of venue for the final and eventually settled on the River Wye as it's a place that lends itself to various skills and methods. We felt this was important, as we didn't want to alienate anyone who qualified by putting him or her on a venue where they had little or no chance of competing. With a two-day total weight final as well this will make it much fairer for everyone to compete. The main target species in the final will be chub, barbel, roach, dace and perch and approaches will include both float and feeder tactics depending where you draw."

"We are now actively looking for a sponsor for the competition as we have a lot to offer in terms of company, or product exposure and promotion. Any interested party is invited to get in touch with me through my email address at: info@daveharrellangling.com in the first instance."

Mark Lloyd, chief executive of the Angling Trust said: "We're all very grateful to Dave for spearheading the launch of this new competition and for helping us launch it so rapidly. It's an exciting new addition to our match calendar and we hope it will recruit some new members to the Angling Trust to support our work fighting to protect fish and fishing and recruiting the anglers of the future."

From Tuesday 14th May entry forms to apply for the qualifying matches will be available from the Angling Trust, and a coupon will also be available in the two weekly angling publications. There will also be further details and entry details available on the Angling Trust website at www.anglingtrust.net

Bob Miller



Sad news to report; a former winner of the BAA Annual River Contest Bob Miller passed away on Tuesday 14th May aged 88. Bob was a member of the East Warks (Longbridge) AC and an electrician foreman at Longbridge.

Miller caps his career with big Avon catch

Bob Miller, a 54-year-old Bromsgrove club angler, won the big Birmingham AA annual championship with a mighty 44lb. 10oz. catch of bream from the Avon at Pensham.

A foreman electrician at the Longbridge Leyland plant, he legered bread and maggot baits for the biggest win of his four-year-old match angling career. All told, he caught 14 fish weighing up to a best of 3½lb.

This event is reputed to be the biggest pegged down angling match in the world. Again the Seven ran high and coloured, ruining the chances of 2,000 anglers staked along its banks. For the fourth year, the Avon, running at summer level, yielded the bigger weights and the winners.

The runner-up at Defford was Erdington angler, Kevin Pepper, with a 26¾lb. bream catch and he was followed by a clutch of anglers staked at Charlton, just below Evesham.

There, Stourport farmer, Bob Taylor, float fished to find 25lb. 14oz. of chub while nearby, his Broadwaters clubmate, Bill Bagnall, from Rowley Regis, netted 23½lb. for fourth place.

These two catches spearheaded another Broadwaters victory in the three-man team event. With Peter James's haul, they totalled 62lb. 10¾oz.

The topweigh t from the Sevehn was the 15lb. 13oz. return from Worcester angler, Maurict Dutfield, staked at Bushley, near Tewkesbury.

Mrs. Joan Buckerfield, of the Starlets club in Birmingham, completed the double. She added the ladies' section title to the one she won recently in the Birmingham AA canal championship. This time staked at Hallow, she weighed in 3½lb. The Veterans' section winner at Seven Stoke was Richmond AC member, A. Bennett, with 2½lb., and at Charlton, Len James, of the Broadwaters club, won the disabled anglers' section with a 14oz. return.

The Birmingham Anglers Association Limited

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A Company Registered in England. Registration Number 1140952

Our ref: FAJ/PAT 5 October 1978

Mr R Miller
12 Foxwalks Avenue
Rockhill
Bromsgrove

Dear Bob

The Annual Presentation of Prizes will take place at Thorp Street on Thursday, 30 November 1978.

We trust you will be aware that by virtue of having won the Annual River Contest you are entitled to a special prize and, whilst the price of gold stopped us presenting gold medals several years ago, we now allow the persons concerned, which includes yourself, to choose a prize to the value of £15.00.

Many of the previous winners have taken advantage of an arrangement we have with H Samuel to purchase watches etc., at trade prices, and in order that we might purchase a prize to suit yourself before the date of the presentation, I would be pleased if you could contact me by 'phone if possible, as soon as you can.

I would add for clarification that it would be quite in order for you to pay the difference of a prize costing more than £15.00.

Yours sincerely

Fred

F A Jennings
Executive Chairman