

WASPSNEWS Little Mountains 2010 Newsletter <u>www.w-a-s-p-s.com</u>

T H A N K Y O U, T H A N K Y O U, THANKYOU....

Where do I start, Firstly thankyou to everyone who helped out on last years work party, to John Syme for making the hot drinks, to Mark and Chris Orrin for removing the fallen tree and cutting it up, to Gary & Wayne Dyer for the large bench and the woodchips, to Ray Raybould for the scaffolding used on the back lake jetty, to Tony Smith for all the pebbles etc. to Alan Wilson for the hardcore and lilies, to James Hewitt for the sapling trees, to Paul Lawrence for giving me shit (Horse manure actually), to Harry Denshaw for the plants, to James Bohn for rebuilding the trailer and welding the Lawnmower, to the water company for donating 40 tons of crushed concrete, to my son Jack for his help in moving the hardcore and finally a very special thankyou to John Brench for his multitude of work (too numerous to list) carried out over the season. If I have forgotten anyone please accept my apologies but my memory is not as good as it used to be and to the scale of the work carried out this season.

WHAT A YEAR

Despite a very cold winter last year we were fortunate to have a warm dry spring which gave us the opportunity to get out fishing early, unfortunately when July arrived the heavens opened and everyone stayed at home. It eventually dried up in August and although we didn't have the hottest of summers at least it was dry and it enabled us to get in a lot of fishing, I spent many evenings fishing after work and had some very spectacular catches of roach and rudd just as the sun went down. The bream have obviously spawned very well as there were loads of small bream being caught particularly down at the shallow end of the front lake. Unfortunately the Gudgeon seem to have exploded in there as well, now don't get me wrong I do have a passion for the quirky little

devils but last year we saw a dramatic increase in the number of them being caught., to the stage where they were becoming a nuisance. If this continues this year I will employ measures to reduce their numbers probably by leaving a very large bream net in the water where members can donate their Gudgeon for removal by the fish dealers. With the dry weather the water level in the back lake certainly dropped significantly. In December it got very cold and hasn't warmed up since.. Consequently not many of you have ventured out over what has been a long protracted winter. On the good side at least all the recent snow and rain has filled up the lakes, with the back lake the highest Ive seen it for a long time. All we want now is for that old currant bun to come out

FEES

Fees for the 2010/11 season will remain at the same price of £40 for Adults and £60 for family membership. Renewal is available at the shop now, your current membership expires on 31st March and will be held open until the 14th April after which it may be offered to the next person on the waiting.

WORK PARTY

I have <u>ONE</u> work party planned for Sunday 28th March 2010 so if any of you would like to lend a hand please come along, it will run from 9am till lunchtime and with a bit of luck we will have tea and coffee on tap. The work scope includes minor work to the track, repairs to some of the swims where a few of the railway sleepers have subsided, removing some reeds from the front lake and planting them around the back lake, cutting back some of the vegetation, removal of a fallen tree in the front lake and hopefully the obligatory bonfire.

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PLANTING

During the season we added many young trees and shrubs along the north of the back lake which in time will hopefully give us a screen and cover provided the rabbits and deer don't eat them first. I have also planted numerous lilies in between the swims to try and give the fish cover where it had previously been overgrown with the Norfolk reeds.

PLANTS WANTED

Last year some members donated young trees, shrubs, reeds and water lilies which were planted in or around the lakes. If any member has any surplus plants, lilies, reeds or water iris suitable for the lakes, or knows somebody who has some they want to get rid of please let me know.

BENCHES

Last year we were kindly given a very substantial bench which has been positioned at the end of the front lake, I also purchased a few more to scatter around the lake, they can be used to sit on when fishing or for use as social gatherings of members which often occurs whilst fishing..

WEBSITE

The club has a website <u>www.w-a-s-p-s.com</u> where members can exchange info, report lost or found, display pictures and keep up to date with any changes or important information..

RE-LAID TRACK

The water company generously gave us around 40 tons of crushed concrete when they finished their work on the other side of the entrance gate. Thanks to this donation we have been able to dress the whole track leading to the lake and give us full 12 month access despite any weather conditions. Previously the track used to get very muddy and was prone to get pretty dodgy at the bottom car park where we turn round and park. Using this material we have also created a new parking area at the bottom of the slope on the back lake and filled in the ruts that were beginning to form around the back lake.

KEEP OFF THE GRASS

The resurfaced track to the lake should give us many years of use however I have noticed tyre marks where some members have been driving off-centre on the grass, which in time will cause unnecessary erosion therefore can people please drive only on the hardcore area of the track.

FISH STOCKS

As mentioned earlier the bream seem to be breeding well and the Gudgeon situation will be monitored, One of our members even caught an ornamental catfish last year, god knows there that came from, fortunately it is of a type which doesn't grow too big. Recently there was a 3lb perch caught which confirms that there is at least one big one in there. Some very good roach and rudd have been netted, and many carp are regularly banked, particularly in the back lake. The crucians continue to be elusive but I haven't forgotten the large Crucians, they are still on order and will be stocked when available.

CLOTHING

During the long cold winter I re-drew the club logo and on completion I decided it was good enough for use on clothing, so I have had a selection of polo shirts (£15) and hoodies (£23) made up bearing the club logo. Other garments such as sweat shirts or fleeces can also be ordered. Please come and see them at the shop.

RUBBISH

For the first time ever, this season we have noticed some rubbish left around the lake, stuffed in the bushes, this included bait tins and groundbait bags also empty bottles of "Liebermein" & "Sanbruzio" wine and "Barnd X" brandy, which I saw on sale at Netto. If anyone sees or knows of a litter bug please let me know so that the offender can be ejected!!

FINALLY

Good luck to everybody and I hope that you have a successful season and enjoy your fishing. I look forward to seeing you in the shop or at the lake. Best Regards

Kim