



WASPSNEWS

Little Mountains

2012 Newsletter

www.w-a-s-p-s.com

JOHN SYME

Last year was marred by the sad death of one of our original members John Syme (Old John as he was often affectionately known as). John was instrumental in me taking over the water as he used to fish there when it was controlled by Jim Pardy. He constantly asked me why I couldn't take on the water and when Jim decided to give up running the water John nagged me into taking it on (a move that I am very glad I did). John was over the moon when I took it on and eagerly fished there, coming into the shop and reliving his exploits. He always attended the work parties and over the last few years he made the teas and coffees for the members at these events. I really miss John with his comical cockney sense of humour, never too slow to throw his abuse at me, particularly when I was fishing and as I write this I can smile at the pleasant memories he leaves behind. 2012 is the Diamond Jubilee year and to commemorate this thousands of trees are being planted. With this in mind I have been given permission by the landowner to plant some fruit trees in between the two lakes and in memory of John I will be planting a Victoria Plum tree (I spoke to Johns family and they said they would like a plum tree), this tree will be known as "Johns Tree".

WHAT A YEAR

Well that was a strange year, it started with a spectacular spring which unfortunately faded into a drab summer. The summer although not hot was particularly dry, which resulted in heavy pumping of water from the front lake by the farmer, lowering it around 3 feet below its normal level (the first time since I have controlled the venue). Although this was an inconvenience it gave Me, John and Steve Elliss the opportunity to re-lay and level all the railway sleepers around the lake and pack them up with bricks underneath the waterline. Once the pumping finally ceased the water rapidly re-filled the lake and within three weeks it was back to normal. The autumn and winter up to January was incredibly mild. and lulled into a false sense of security until February hit us with a big cold bang with a severe combination of snow and very cold temperatures, freezing the lake solid with thick ice. Hopefully that is all behind us now and fingers crossed it will be warmer from now onwards.

MEMBERSHIP & FEES

All places were finally filled on the 10th June 2011 and the waiting list is in operation for future membership. The fees for the club have remained the same for the past four seasons however inflation has finally caught up and reluctantly I am forced to increase the fees. As I have to pay the lease in April the fees are conditional on the renewal date.

- For members joining by the end of April will get a early payment discount and the fees will be £44 and £66 for family tickets.
- Anyone joining after the 1st May will pay the higher rate of £50 and £75 for family tickets

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 list .

WORK PARTY

I have one work party planned this year for Sunday 25th March with the main emphasis on improving the access track to the back lake, hopefully enabling us to have all season vehicle access. There will also be the routine cutting back of vegetation and some repairs to the access track..

PLANTS WANTED

Several members have previously 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.

SAFETY & LIABILITY

Please be aware that in this ever increasing litigious state ALL members are responsible for their actions and are required to sign a liability disclaimer accepting responsibility for their actions.

WEBSITE

We have a website www.w-a-s-p-s.com where members can exchange info, report lost or found, for sale & wanted, display pictures and keep up to date with any changes or important information.

PHOTOGRAPH GALLERY

Please send me your photo's so that I can upload them onto the website gallery, I would particularly be interested in some of the specimen silver fish.

EMAIL AND NEWSLETTERS

To help reduce costs of postage and printing etc it would be helpful if I could email newsletters and updates etc to members who use the internet, therefore could any member who uses the internet please send me your email address and name to:

kim@w-a-s-p-s.com

IMPROVED ACCESS & PARKING

I have implemented a one way system so that access to the back lake is via the far entrance slope and exit via the new slope between the two lakes (STRICTLY ONE WAY).

We have cut in several lay-by parking places at the rear of the front lake to allow members to park in their swim, however anyone using these parking places is to ensure that their vehicles are tucked right in to allow other cars to drive past.

Parking is NOT permitted on the access track around the rear lake except in designated areas.

LAKE MAP

I have now created a detailed Lake Map showing swim names and parking locations. This has been posted on the Notice Board and can be viewed or downloaded from the website www.w-a-s-p-s.com .

FISH STOCKS

In an effort to prevent our lakes becoming another big carp venue this year I will be exchanging carp from the front lake on a lb per lb basis with Tench from another venue (and some of these tench are very big). Once the water warms up (July onward) I will be placing a very large keepnet in the lake to allow carp to be placed in for removal/exchange with the Tench. The tench started arriving in October with specimens so far up to 6 1/2 lb in weight this stocking will continue from March onwards.

W-A-S-P-S CLOTHING

We have a selection of polo shirts (£18) and hoodies (£30) 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.

THANKS JOHN

I am sure you will all join me in thanks to John Brench (our bailiff) who works tirelessly throughout the year to keep our little venue special.

FISH WELFARE

Can all members note .:

- Landing nets must be big enough to be used on any fish you might catch..
- Landing nets are assembled and ready for use before fishing commences and not packed up until all rods have been removed from the lake.
- Do not swing in quality fish that should have been landed using a landing net. Under no circumstances should fish such as tench or crucians be swung in.
- Do not aggressively strike or play fish aggressively as this potentially damages the fish's mouths.
- When unhooking fish on the bank unhooking mats **MUST** be used, it is totally unacceptable to lay the fish on the grass or even worse on the paving slabs!!!.
- Under no circumstances should members ever leave their rods unattended, including walking to the next swim.
- Anyone found to be damaging fish through negligence or brutality will have their membership terminated immediately.
- Members are only permitted to use two rods regardless of how many rod licences they hold.
- In an effort to prevent mouth damage to the fish could **ALL** members please use **barbless** hooks.

These points are critical to fish welfare and with fish costing up to £18 per pound they are a precious and valuable commodity. I am sure that you will all agree that none of us like to see a fish that has been damaged through angling.

PLEASE KEEP OF THE GRASS

The access track leading to the lake has been significantly repaired over the last few years, so in an effort to protect the access can all members please keep to the track and not drive on the grass otherwise ruts will be easily created in the softer grass

FINALLY

I hope you all enjoyed fishing at our friendly little club this this season and I hope that you have a successful forthcoming season and enjoy your fishing. I look forward to seeing you in the shop or at the lake.

Best Regards
Kim