



# WASPSNEWS

## Little Mountains 2013 Newsletter

[www.w-a-s-p-s.com](http://www.w-a-s-p-s.com)

### WET WET WET

At the end of last season it was a mild spring and we were in the longest drought in history facing a hosepipe ban. As soon as the hosepipe ban came into effect it started raining and apart from a brief break in July it has continued on and on and on, consequently the banks are absolutely waterlogged, the lake is chocolate brown and the car park is muddy and churned up, although John and I have recently been laying several tons of "MOT type one" gravel to the car park/track to help firm it up. Hopefully once it dries out it should compact and be better for next year.

What a fantastic turnout we had on last years work party with over 20 people contributing to the work effort. Prior to the work party John Morley arranged for workers to come down and cut back all the brush around the lakes thereby removing that task on the work party. Refreshments were supplied by Ricky Ager keeping us topped up with hot drinks, Sausage rolls were supplied by Sally Stronge and cakes supplied by Kevin Baileys family. other attendees included Alan Wilson, Andrew Fleet, Frank Hammond, Steve Ellis, Roger Warren, Paul Lawrence, Nik Victor, Peter Loe, Peter Otley, John Brench, Adam Roberts, Kevin Bailey (and son Garin), Terry Cutts and my son Jack (eventually). I hope I have not left anybody out but if I have please accept my apologies.

Due to the high number of helpful volunteers we managed to brick the bend leading to the back lake, brick and fill the ruts in the track around the back lake also repair the track by the front lake, clear all the dead branches from around the lakes, remove some overhanging obstacle branches from the front lake, repair the front of the "Bench & Front Lifebuoy Swims", re-cut and repair the steps to several swims and re-secure the bench on the dam wall of the front lake.

All in all a tremendous effort which is much appreciated and shows the commitment of the members of our small and friendly club.

Following the work party our swim builder extraordinaire Richie Hughes (assisted by labourers John Brench and Steve Ellis) set about building some new swims on the back lake and I am sure that those of you who have seen or used them are very impressed at the high standard of Richies's work.

For the dedicated anglers who braved the weather some good catches were reported. The new Tench have been keen to eat the bait and one in particular "Lumpy" (nicknamed because of its noticeable deformed spine) as it has been caught by some of the members several times. I believe John Morley has captured it the most times, mind you he does fish there a lot.....

### NEST BOXES

As part of a conservation effort I have made and fitted numerous nest boxes around the lakes and if anyone would like to make or donate a nestbox there are several suitable sites.

### GRASS CUTTING

If anyone want to lend a hand at grass cutting around the lake please let me know.

### THE LODGE

John and I have erected a shed at the end of the front lake for use by the members where they can go and make a cup of tea etc and maybe have a chat if they want to get out of the weather. It can also be used if members want to stay overnight and not put up a bivvy, allowing members to fish till late, get a good nights kip (in the dry) and start again at first light.

It (and other constructions) have been painted Forest Green so that they are unobtrusive and blend into the background, the inside has been painted white to make it more light and comfortable.

### LINO OR VINYL AND CUSHIONS WANTED

To make the lodge more comfortable and easy to clean I am hoping to fit some suitable floor covering (i.e. lino or vinyl) if any of you are replacing yours and have enough to cover an area of 10' x 6' please feel free to donate it.

I will be making a bench to sit on in the shed and it would be nice to put some large cushions on it to make it more comfortable, if any of you have or know of a three piece suite that is being disposed of the cushions would be very handy.

### 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.

### SLABS WANTED

If anyone has any unwanted paving slabs they would certainly come in hands at the lake, please let me know if you have any.

### HARDCORE AND STONES WANTED

At the top of the track behind the houses is an entrance to another field, I would like to use this entrance as a passing place but it needs some hardcore or stones to fill in the holes and to make it suitable for cars to drive on. If you have any unwanted suitable material feel free to put it in this area.

### WORK PARTY

I have one work party planned this year for Sunday 31st March (9am til 1pm) with the main emphasis on improving the access track to the back lake, rebuilding the swims on the back lake, routine cutting back of vegetation. and possibly a good old fire. I realise that this is Easter Sunday but as the work party is always held on the last Sunday in March this is a rare coincidence.

### FISH STOCKS

In an effort to prevent our lakes becoming yet another big carp venue I have been exchanging carp from the front lake on a lb per lb basis with Tench from another venue (ranging from 3lb to 7lb), the Tench are introduced from March til June. 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 to cater for the Tench. The Keepnet is 1 mtr wide by 5 mtr's long and will be located in the Apple tree corner. Any carp over 5lb should be placed in the net, I would appreciate being informed of any carp being put in the net by either telling me or John that you have done so.

## 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, Please note anyone not using email will be required to supply a stamped addressed A5 envelope, alternatively they will be subject to a £1 levy on their membership fees.

Therefore could any member who uses the internet please update me with your email address and name to:

[kim@w-a-s-p-s.com](mailto:kim@w-a-s-p-s.com)

## MEMBERSHIP & FEES

There will be a minimal increase of £1 to the fees. As I have to pay the lease in April the fees are conditional on the renewal date. I don't want to borrow money to pay the lease as it can be expensive.

- For members renewing before the end of March will get a early payment discount and the fees will be £45 and £68 for family tickets.
- Anyone joining after the 1st April will pay the higher rate of £50 and £75 for family tickets.
- £1 supplement for non email members or a stamped S.A.E. (preferably A5).

Membership places are limited and renewal is available at the shop now, your current membership expires on 31st March after which it may be offered to the next person on the waiting list .

## WEBSITE

We have a website [www.w-a-s-p-s.com](http://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.

## NEWSLETTERS ETC

All newsletters, rules, lake map etc can be downloaded in pdf format from the Little Mountains page of the website.

[www.w-a-s-p-s.com/mountains.htm](http://www.w-a-s-p-s.com/mountains.htm)

## FACEBOOK

For those of you who use Facebook I have created a page "W-A-S-P-S Little Mountains" where members can upload their own pictures and stories.

## 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/pdf/mountains\\_lake\\_map.pdf](http://www.w-a-s-p-s.com/pdf/mountains_lake_map.pdf) either follow the link or go to the Little Mountains page on the website and download the map.

## 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 slope between the two lakes (**STRICTLY ONE WAY, MEMBERS MUST NOT DRIVE UP THE EXIT SLOPE**).

We have several lay-by style 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.**

## SHINGLE WANTED

If anyone has any unwanted shingle or small stones they don't want (even if it is just a bucket full) feel free to take it down the lake where we can spread it on the car parking area to toughen the parking surface or fill in ruts.

## 5mph SPEED LIMIT

For safety and to prevent track erosion please can members not exceed 5mph when driving.

## COMMON SENSE RULE

If the "Road Closed" sign is up or in wet weather please to not drive past the sign or around to the back lake. **Anyone ignoring the sign will have their membership terminated immediately.**

## 6am til 10pm

I have been made aware by the residents that some people are driving to/from the lake outside of the time limits. **Be aware any offender will face automatic expulsion from the club for breaking this rule as it is a term of the lease.**

## 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

## KEEP ON THE HARD STUFF

When the ground is wet please do not park your cars on the soft grass behind the swims, try and park on the harder areas.

## 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 once again has worked tirelessly throughout the year to keep our little venue special. The list of his efforts has been virtually endless and he regularly spends several days a week doing or getting things for the club.

We would be lost without him

## VOLUNTEERS

If any of you feel you would like to do more for the club and feel that your services would be helpful please feel free to contact me.

## LOST N FOUND

If you have lost a bite alarm and bank stick or a pair of gloves come and see me at the shop.

## FINALLY

I hope you all enjoyed fishing at our friendly little club this this season (despite the appalling weather) 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