

News letter 2011/12



Well what a shocker!

After more than fifty years the new owner of Hollybush promised that we would be safe and he would give us a better lease that would give us more incentive to carry out work and stock the waters. He went on holiday "E" mailed me to meet when he returned and said we had to get off and would not allow any more night fishing from that day. I will not say any more about the water, other than to say how disappointed I am as I am sure a lot of you will be.

Alwyn Hugget went rather rash with the chain saw on the south end of Shawfields large lake, again to let light and wind through. Some of us tried in vain to keep up clearing and burning but were quite unsuccessful, leaving quite a task for this winter. Alwyn then set about trying to pull out the lilies that have become a bit of a problem. We found that the answer to the problem is to treat them with weed killer, which we did rather to late in the year. We intend to start earlier in 2012 with the hope that this will have a greater effect. We estimate that two or three years will see the problem well under control. With the loss of Hollybush it is hoped that the members who wish to stay can have some great days fishing for the carp that can be found there.

The small lake unfortunately got covered in green algae through August, which killed of the fishing.

In discussion with the EA I found that the algae locks up the nitrogen from the water and because of the coverage cuts down the amount of dissolved oxygen in it. There is also the problem that in the winter when it has died off it will sink, decompose and lead to lower oxygen levels and continue to build up the amount of silt. Problems-Problems!

This in turn can of course lead to fish mortality, which in our case did not happen as the water is not over stocked. In a short time when the large head of Crucian, (purchased) Tench and the silver fish from Aldershot Park grow on a little this may become a problem should it happen again.

In the spring we will put Barley straw into the water, which may stop the problem.

Shawfields larger lake has again been much under fished which we do not understand. There is a possibility that a fear of parking may be off-putting but it is a fear and not a reality. Those of us who do use the water have not had a problem at all.

I found it very interesting that Mark Farren can arrive for an evening session and take a couple of Carp but others can fish for the weekend and only get the same result. Pleasure fishing has been very fruitful with bags of 20lb plus being taken as can be seen from the 37lb top weight taken on the Bob Bennet charity match.

As explained the lily's do not help a great deal cutting off quite a lot of water, But again we have been asked to leave some of them as features to fish against.

The small lake has had a few ornamental lilies planted and so far two have taken. One of those just happens to be right in front of a swim. We think it was dislodged by fish or fowl and drifted along to that particular position. In February a 30lb of mixed Tench and bream were taken in an air temperature of 4 degrees. This sort of fishing continued through the early summer until the algae took over in August.

Once again the Loddon has been has been totally neglected by us and as a consequence is now very over grown. The amount of weed in the water is making it more and more difficult to fish. Thankfully it is still producing both large chub and barbel for those who wish to fish there. There is a possibility that the EA may take out some of the weed, as they are aware it is a problem.

Paul Wyatt in conjunction with the EA, have introduced some riffles into the River Whitewater to alter the flow and produce spawning areas for fish. As a trout fishery this has proved to be very successful, which is all a result of the work carried out by Paul and his few fellow members. You can join him for an annual fee of £100.

Should you as a course angler wish to hunt out the chub in the lower stretch of the river you may well need to fight your way through the undergrowth in some areas, but it is worth it for a bend in the rod as Chub larger than 5lb have been found.

In September an angler managed to catch an 18lb Carp from our short stretch of the Blackwater at the end of the Whitewater.

I must admit we are disappointed in the lack of use of the Webb Site by the members, I am sure that there must be quite a few members who can use the computer to access the forum. It is the quickest way for you the members to contact the committee in order to help you with any problems you or we as a society may have. It has also required quite a lot of arm-twisting on my behalf to get pictures for the gallery. This I find strange, as most Carp anglers appear to carry pictures of fish they have caught, be it in print or on cameras, which they are quite happy to show if asked. Please call this as an appeal for more pictures and gossip on the site next season.

Something that happened in September, which will not affect us as anglers.

A legal agreement was finally signed off between Surrey County Council and ourselves about access over the bridge at the end of Shawfields Lane. In fact nothing has changed except that we now have in writing our rights, which means we should have less problems with the residents of the lane.

Through the year some of the committee have attended the Loddon Fisheries & Conservation Consultative meetings. The objective of the meetings is to inform people about things that effect fishing and the water. At the same time for the Environment Agency to discuss with clubs what they would like to see happen and to inform us what is going to happen. In October I attended a consultation workshop along with Thirty other people at which time we where able to put our concerns in writing. A straw poll held after, revealed that the two things of most concern are Habitat/Physical modification and water quality in that order.

The whole object is in order for the EA to meet the water framework directive as set out by the EU. This is the standard of water quality that is to be achieved by 2015.

A point worth noting is that although we no longer support the juniors financially, one team was entered into the Nationals and came second with Danny Blackwell third overall.

Tight lines.

David, Secretary.

Treasurers Report 2011/12

This has been my first year as treasurer and an interesting one it has been. It has given me an insight as to how much work goes on behind the scenes to run the society.

Due to the loss of Hollybush pits this year, the cost of next seasons permits has been reduced. This year there has not been any major spending of funds other than the usual running costs IE; Stationary, canal permits, P.O. Box, Angling trust and insurance The final payment of rent for Hollybush, Some tools and chemicals, and of course Locks, of which we will not need to replace so many.

Due to the loss of Hollybush we did not have to pay the full terms rent which has left us more secure, fund wise, for next season, and could enable us to improve the waters we have.

I am willing to continue as treasurer if re-elected at the A.G.M. and if you would like to air your views, or feel you could help out on the committee,

Please let the secretary know before the A.G.M.

Tight lines

Tony

Hon Treasurer

Resolutions

Constitution:

13 (a) Remove the word Eight and replace with the word Four.

18 (a) remove the number 30 and replace with the word Ten.

General Rules:

25 And used on Hollybush pits only to be removed and replaced with after the 1st October

Night fishing rules:

1 Remove 50 per session and replace with 20 per season.

Competition rules:

Next seasons Prices.

As you are now all aware we no longer control Hollybush and with the loss of the water the price has got to be adjusted to suit what we have.

Taking a straw poll from members on the bank it would appear that anything from £35 to £45 is acceptable.

The price therefore based on what we feel is needed to sustain the society is to be.

Full member £35.00, Intermediate 16-19 £25.00 Senior Citizen /

Disabled £30.00 Junior (fishing without an adult) £15.00.

The BC AA permit (which would cost you £22.50) is still free.

The Committee

Please Note.

Should you as a member wish to add a resolution to this years AGM you are required to submit it in writing to the secretary not less than 14 days before the AGM. It must be signed by yourself your seconder, and both must attend the AGM in person.

Membership ETC.

This years membership has again enabled us to cover our costs but once again is down on previous years. As an example the number of adult members in 2009 was 201 and this year it was 155. We anticipate that the loss of Hollybush will have quite a dramatic impact upon these numbers possibly as much as 50%. There is talk in committee that we may need to restrict numbers this year to as few as 50. Shawfields lakes have only a restricted number of swims and we do not wish to have the water overcrowded.

I have created a topic on the forum page of the webb site entitled “next year-2012” were it would be good for you to post your intention to join next year and what is your preference for the type of fishing. Should you wish to re-join this coming season and you quote your current membership number then you can be allocated a place.

If you want help or have some information put onto the site I can be contacted my “E” mail at membership@fadas.org

Webb site (www.fadas.org)

The webb site has had some cosmetic changes this year but fundamentally is the same as ever. The way it has changed is in that we have provided up to date items of interest on the front page, about club activities as well as local information.

The great disappointment for me is the low numbers of members who are posting information/comments about the fishing to be had on our waters.

I have mentioned to people who wish to organise something (a match, work party ETC) and wish to inform others I am only to willing to get it onto the front page to let others know who may wish to join in.

On the forum (I am not a great fan of the way it is organised)which is part of the package I feel needs change. When I understand it better I will change it, but even so I can still write topics and replies.

Alwyn

Membership Secretary and Webb Master.