



Gillingham and District Angling Association

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Secretary's Address.

Hello and welcome to the Association's newsletter for the 2000-2001 season. I hope you have all had an enjoyable year and caught plenty of fish. The Association waters have fished fairly well this year, and we hope to keep up our policy of restocking which has seen some sections of the River notably Eccliffe, and the Mappowder complex fish particularly well this year. As usual Turners Paddock fished very well this year with Tench and Bream making up the bulk of catches.

Unfortunately, due to the Foot and Mouth situation, we had to shut most of the River, the Mappowder complex and Turners Paddock for the last two weeks of the season, but I'm sure that you would all agree that this was a small price to pay to stop any possibility of the disease being spread to our landowners livestock and land. At the present Lodden Lakes is open and Spring, Upper and Lower Meadow lakes are open at Mappowder, and I sincerely hope that the crisis will be under control by the start of the new season.

I must give thanks to all those who have served on the Committee in the previous year and who give up their time to do such good work to make the Association run so smoothly, and it is the sign of a healthy club that there is no shortage of people who want to join the Committee and meetings are very well attended. It is with great sadness that I have to report that Jerry Martin is resigning from the Committee this year, due to ill health. Jerry has put in an enormous effort in the last few years; running the junior matches, organising presentation night, running raffles at matches and organising the work parties at Lodden Lakes to make this venue one of the most pleasant to fish at in the South West.

Thanks must also go to John Stone, the Chairman, who keeps us all in order at Committee meetings; Paul Stone, the Treasurer, who has kept the Associations' finances under control; and Dave Hillier who again has had brilliant attendances at the Summer and Winter match series, and who must have been pulling his hair out at some of the weather we had last year!

The A.G.M. is on the 2nd of May at the Coronation Club, Gillingham, and any proposals should be given to me a week before.

I hope to see some of you on the bank in the next year, and if you have any questions, complaints or feedback about the Association please do not hesitate to phone me on (01747) 824817, or e-mail at ditch@ham5.fsnet.co.uk.

Regards,

Simon Hebditch.

(Hon. Secretary)

The club website can be found on www.excaliburproductions.freeserve.co.uk/gdaa1.htm

(Match. Secretary)

Gillingham and District Angling Association's match fishing season began on 21st May 2000 with a charity match held on Turner's Paddock, in aid of Shaftesbury Hospital. £120.00 was raised. The lake did not fish as well as anticipated but results were....

1st. Steve Lovell 12 lb 14 oz 2nd. Ben Dukes 20 lb 15 oz 3rd. Jason Mills 12 lb 8 oz

Our Summer Series began in earnest on 18th June 2000 at Witherington, near Salisbury. We fished on top 2 lakes. 29 anglers took part and a lot of fish were hooked and lost. The largest fish of the day went to Bob Machin with a carp of 9lb 8oz. The results were....

1st. Ricky Searle 55 lb 5 oz 2nd. Rob Randall 54 lb 3rd. John Candy 30 lb 12 oz

A fortnight later we moved to a new venue to us. Roud Ashton near Trowbridge. We arrived on the bank to find an all-night match coming to an end. This did no good to our fishing. The lake being very shallow and mainly dominated by carp. I do not think we shall return to this venue. 29 anglers fished and the results were....

1st. Dave Wylde 23 lb 9oz 2nd. Ricky Searle 19lb 7 oz 3rd. Rob Randall 15 lb 12 oz

Sunday 16th July 2000 found 32 anglers lining the banks of another new local venue, John Candy's Silver Fish Lake at Todber, although only a few months old. I personally think this will be a good venue for the future, cormorants permitting. Although a struggle for some, the results were....

1st. John Candy 22 lb 2 oz 2nd. David Stone 10 lb 0 oz 3rd. Richard Chave 8 lb 14 oz

30th July 2000 and 28 anglers took the drive to Palington Lakes near Dorchester. Purpose built for anglers with toilets, snack bar, tackle shop, match lake and specimen lake. Also at this venue for the lazy angler like myself, for £1 you can be taken by quad bike and trailer to your peg. A scorching hot day followed and weights were probably below par for the venue.

1st. Richard Fripp 21 lb 0 oz 2nd. Roy Vassie 17 lb 4 oz 3rd. Jason Mills 16 lb 2 oz

The fifth summer series. A very local event. We fished on our own venue, Turner's Paddock. 30 fished on the day. Unfortunately Turner's fishing this season has been below par. Huge stocks of Bream and Tench only grudgingly feeding in any numbers. Results were....

1st. Dave Sealy 37 lb 13 oz 2nd. Ben Dukes 23 lb 9 oz 3rd. Mark Leslie 22 lb 10 oz

We now had a three week interval before the last round fished on 3rd September 2000. Another new venue, Witherington match lake. This lake is designed with match fishing in mind. 2 canal squares, one inside the other, providing 90 odd pegs. On this occasion we fished on the outer circuit. Another club fished on the inner circuit. The match was double pegged and although every peg was very similar, most of the weight came from one bank. Species – wise, stocked very heavily with small Carp to 7lbs, Roach, Rudd, Tench and a very colourful and numerous Golden Orf. 34 anglers fished, 21 of whom got into double figures, 11 of which were over 21lbs.

1st. Alan Gates 38 lb 2 oz 2nd. Kev Phillips 37 lb 12 oz 3rd. Roy Vassie 32 lb 3 oz

The final tally for the series with successful with 43 anglers taking part. In at least one match best specimen went to Bob Machin with a Tench of 5 - 1.

Series results were best 5 out of 6 counting.

1st. John Candy ... 483 points
2nd. Dave Wylde ... 470 points
3rd. Richard Fripp ... 470 points
4th. Ben Dukes ... 468 points
5th. Roy Vassie ... 467 points

Also through the month of July, evening matches, 3 hour sprints are fished at Loddon Lakes. Average attendance of 17 made these matches more popular for this past season.

Results were
1st match..... 1st. John Candy 7 lb 6 oz 2nd. K. Grant 6 lb 15 oz
2nd match... 1st. Mark Harper 10 lb 2 oz 2nd. Rich Chave 9 lb 13 oz 8 drms
3rd match.... 1st. Ben Dukes 22 lb 13 oz 2nd Roy Vassie 17 lb 1 oz
4th match.... 1st. Dave Wylde 20 lb 11 oz 2nd. Rob Fletcher 10 lb 1 oz

Also to bring the summary of the summer matches to a conclusion. On Sunday 20th August 2000, members of Gillingham and Sturminster clubs fished the Jim Debnam Memorial match. 31 attended.

Results were..... Most fish, John Candy with 68 fish.

Heaviest specimen, Roy Vassie, Grass Carp, 7 lb 8 oz
Heaviest Weight, Roy Vassie, 14 lb 8 oz

1st. Roy Vassie 14 - 8 2nd. Jason Randall 8 - 14 3rd. Brian Neave 6 - 11

Having completed the summer series a gap of 6 or 7 weeks gives a chance for work parties to commence on the Stour. A fantastic turnout this season, many swims cleared and new pegs made fishable. I would personally like to thank all those who took part and hope for as good a turnout for the coming season when we will be targeting the bottom half for some major swim clearing. Many hands make light work.

With the start of the winter series approaching all dedicated river anglers are looking forward to some good fishing. Luckily the matches started about a fortnight earlier than usual. Few of us could have imagined the awful weather that was going to make fishing on the river so difficult. Having spoken to all previous match secretaries, none of them had ever had to contend with such awful conditions, even when the river was fishable, we would get a stiff frost or heavy rain the night before.

Despite all this all the matches in the series managed to take place, although the river fished well below its potential. Many river anglers who could fish the river mid-week between floods reported good catches of Chubb,

Roach, Dace, Gudgeon, Bream and Perch. The upper part of the Stour certainly has improved dramatically with Dace and Chubb and some large Roach showing in very good numbers. Let us hope this trend continues. Bream are now showing all along our stretch and even smaller specimens showing they are breeding successfully. One final thing, I give the results with 3 weeks of the season left to run, and preparing to fish the Open, Foot and Mouth bursts onto the scene. Bringing with it an end to the river fishing this season. Hopefully by June 16th this will all be under control and I will look forward to seeing you out on the banks once more. In the meantime, spare a thought for all our landlords, their whole livelihoods are at risk.

Winter Series Results.

1st Match 48 fished 15th October 2000

1st. Mark Pierce 8 lb 1 oz 2nd. Charlie Barnes 7 lb 0 oz 3rd. Dave Sealy 4 lb 6 oz

2nd Match 43 fished 29th October 2000

1st. Dave Hillier 8 lb 6 oz 2nd. Bob Snow 7 lb 14 oz 3rd. Jason Randall 7 lb 8 oz

3rd Match 45 fished

1st. Tony West 5 lb 7 oz 2nd. Dave Sealy 3 lb 10 oz 8 drms 3rd. Alan Rendall 3 lb 9 oz 8 drms

4th Match 36 fished 7th January 2001

1st. Dave Hillier 13 lb 2 oz 2nd. Nigel Alford 8 lb 4 oz 3rd. Ken Wilson 4 lb 11 oz 8 drms

5th Match 36 fished

1st. Jason Mills 12 lb 6 oz 8 drms Joint 2nd place, Steve Lovell 5 lb 0 oz Charlie Walters 5 lb 0 oz

6th Match 28 fished

1st. Dave Hillier 8 lb 13 oz 2nd. Ben Dukes 6 lb 6 oz 3rd. Ken Wilson 6 lb 0 oz 8 drms

This left the final table, best 5 of 6 counting

1st. Dave Hillier 489 points.
2nd. Dave Sealy 475 points
3rd. Charlie Barnes 463 points
4th. Ken Wilson 454 points

Full results displayed at Todber Manor Tackle shop. Several other matches run through the winter.

For the first time, a team – of – 4 event attracted 9 teams, unfortunately switched to a Stillwater because of severe flooding. Winning team..... Ken Wilson, Bob Snow, Steve Lovell, and John Woodruffe.

An Open Pairs match fished on New Year's Eve in freezing snow attracted 19 pairs. Won by Charlie Walters and Dave Hillier.

And finally, the Club Pairs. 12 pairs contested. The title going to Bob Snow and Ken Wilson.

And finally, to sum up. I would like to say a big thank-you to you all, for making the running of all these matches a pleasure, that you all take part in the right manner, that's made our match scene the popular on the Stour.

Thank you,

Dave Hillier.

Junior Match Report

Hi,

Well another season of junior matches comes to an end. And once again we had two very hotly contested championships, both going down to the wire. We had twenty two different juniors taking part overall. As always very well behaved and a credit to the club. We started with our first match at Cowslip Farm on 17th June 2000. It was a very hot day with strong wind, and Rudd and small Carp were the fish of the day.

1st Jack Stamp 13lb 14oz. 2nd Adam Trevis 10lb 5oz. 3rd Tim Koch 10lb 1oz.

Moving on to the second championship match. Everyone always looks forward to going to Turner's Paddock, but it never seems to fish too well for us. July 1st 2000 was no different.

1st Gavin Day 5lb 5oz. 2nd Adam Trevis 3lb 1oz. 3rd Jack Stamp 1lb 1oz.

The third match in the championship is also the challenge match against Sturminster juniors. This match is always fished on Lodden big lake. It rains most years for this match. Gillingham team were keen to hold on to the shield. We were outnumbered as always. July 8th 2000, the top three in the match were.....

1st Gavin Day 10lb 3oz (inc 3lb 8oz Tench) 2nd Jack Stamp 7lb 14oz 3rd Jonathon Churchill (Sturminster) 5lb 13oz

Top three in the championship

1st Gavin Day 10lb 3oz 2nd Jack Stamp 7lb 14oz 3rd Adam Trevis 3lb 2oz

It was a very nice day and all had fish. We did it again..... But it was a lot closer than usual, Gillingham total weight 41lb 2oz, Sturminster total weight 38lb exactly.

Well done Gillingham Team.

Fourth match, 22nd July 2000 at Todber Manor. Well, this is where my trouble started, 18th July saw me rushed into hospital. So I must thank John Genge and Mike Trevis for running the match for me, and what a match!!

1st Jack Stamp 28lb 5oz 2nd Sam Chinn 24lb 15oz 3rd Adam Trevis 24lb 14oz

Fifth match 12th August 2000, Back at Turners again, very hot and still no Bream showing.
1st Adam Trevis 4lb 9oz 2nd Jack Stamp 3lb 8oz 3rd Sam Chinn 3lb exactly

Sixth and final match was on September 2nd and anyone could win the title. Where better to fish than Todber Manor. It was a very nice day with the high pegs taking the best fish.
1st Liam Day 24lb 3oz 2nd Sam Trevis 15lb 7oz 3rd Sam Chinn 13lb 6oz

Adam Trevis had the best fish of the day, Carp of 4lb 11oz. After a very nice series of summer matches the final top three are.....

Champion..... Jack Stamp 496 points Runner-up Adam Trevis 494 points 3rd place Gavin Day 486 points

With a date exchange with Sturminster I took the juniors down to Highbench for a pleasure match on 23rd September. It was very hot and windy and the lake did not fish at all.

1st Jack Stamp 3lb 7oz 2nd Andrew Gould 2lb 8oz 3rd William Gilbert 1lb 8oz

The Pairs match was on 9th September 2000 at Cara's lake at Cowslip Farm. It was a nice dry day, with lots of small fish.

1st Jack Stamp 8lb 12oz 2nd Tim Koch 8lb 5oz 3rd Lawrence Woods 7lb 14oz

This was 10 year old Lawrences first ever match, "didn't he do well"? Pairs winners were Jack Stamp and Liam Day with 7 points.

Junior Winter series 2000 / 2001

Here we go into the 4 match winter series. 17th October and I'm back in hospital, the clock missed a few beats again. So, I have to thank Pete Trowbridge for running the match on 22nd October 2000 at Cowslip Farm. Pete said it was a very good match. Thanks to all the juniors for the card.

1st Jack Stamp 15lb 8oz 2nd Sam Trevis 6lb 7oz 3rd Andrew Gould 6lb 5oz 8 drms

2nd Winter match 19th November 2000 Cowslip Farm (still laid-up) Thanks to John Genge and parents for running the match.

1st Gavin Day 13lb 5oz 2nd Jack Stamp 4lb 13oz 3rd Adam Trevis 3lb 10oz

3rd Winter Match, 21st January 2001 at Chantry. Frost the day before, then turning to rain, the river rose 1 foot during the match.

1st Gavin Day 2lb 15oz 2nd Adam Trevis 2 minnows 3rd Andrew Gould 1 minnow

4th Winter match 18th February 2001, Chantry again. This was a very hard match, everything was on this points-wise. Andrew Gould broke up on two good fish.

1st Adam Trevis 8 ½ oz 2nd Jack Stamp 3oz 3rd Tom Carter 2 oz 8drms

The final top three in the winter series, after having a bad last match, long time leader Gavin Day dropped down and Jack Stamp "did-the-double"

Champion....Jack Stamp 298 points Runner-up.... Adam Trevis 297 points 3rd place. Gavin Day 294 points

Well, that's it for another season, once again thanks to all of those who helped me out this last few months. Let's hope for another good season ahead. Presentation night was at the Stour vale Bowling Club on 14th April and everybody had a good evening.

Thanks,

Jerry.