



# Gillingham and District Angling Association

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## **Gillingham & District Angling Association Newsletter.**

### Secretary's Address.

Hello and welcome to the Association's newsletter for the 2005-2006 season, and I hope you all enjoyed the fishing that the Association provided this year.

I must start this newsletter by paying tribute to our Match Secretary, Dave Hillier, who died in tragic circumstances at the end of January. I have known Dave and his family for many years, and he will be sorely missed by everyone who knew him. He was a great servant of the club, always working to improve the facilities and fishing of our Associations' waters, be it work at Lodden Lakes or on his beloved River Stour. As our Match Secretary, Dave possessed all the requisite qualities, a good sense of humour and a very thick skin! God rest your soul Dave.

The Associations' waters have again fished well this year, and I would say that the river has fished better this year than in any year since I started fishing. There are large numbers of small fish to be caught, which bears testament to the stocking policy over the last few years; as well as the inevitable big Chub, Perch and Roach. Bream are also becoming more of a feature in catches.

Our still waters have also fished well again this year with Turners Paddock still producing big bags of Bream and Tench on the feeder, pole or waggler, for the pleasure angler or match angler. The Mappowder complex produces good mixed bags of Carp, Crucians, Tench, Roach and Bream and still proves very popular. Lodden Lakes have fished brilliantly this year and the work done over the last couple of seasons has paid handsome dividends with individual Carp coming out to 25lb, and match weights up to 140lb. This year we are also going to rent the two, well stocked, White Post lakes at Todber, which will give our members somewhere different to fish.

The junior instruction course was run last year and proved a great success, with all the juniors who took part receiving some free tackle, and thanks must go to those who gave up their time to help the juniors especially Michael Hunt, Jason Mills and Dave Sealy, and to all those who donated prizes especially Todber Manor Fisheries, Preston Innovations and M5 Angling. It will be run again this year, so anyone wishing to bring a junior to the course, turn up at The Youth Club Cemetery Road, Gillingham, on Friday May 5<sup>th</sup>. Watch the local press for details of time of the course, or phone Michael Hunt on (01747) 823071.

I must thank all those who have served on the committee this year and who have ensured that the Association runs as smoothly as it does, with very few problems to deal with at Committee meetings. The A.G.M. is on Wednesday 10th of May at the Coronation Club, (7.30pm for 7.45pm) Gillingham, and any proposals should be given to me, in writing, 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) 821218 or (07990) 690613, or e-mail at [ditch@ham5.fsnet.co.uk](mailto:ditch@ham5.fsnet.co.uk).

Regards,

**Simon Hebditch.**  
(Hon. Secretary)

**Club Cups Presentation R.B.L Gillingham May 6<sup>th</sup> at 8pm**  
**All Welcome**

**Assistant Match Secretary Report**

Hello Members

Due to the very sad loss of Dave, I have stood in to finish the season & reflect on the matches run by Dave & Myself previously. The season got off to a very good start with our summer series, visiting venues both on home waters and re-trying venues like Avalon, Sturminster's river, and Wadmill at Todber. The fishing was reasonably good at all venues, giving a good diversity of fishing from big bags of Carp at Todber to bags of small Roach on the rivers, testing everyone's all-round abilities. After a very hard-fought six matches a good result for the old seadog Joe Searle, Well done Joe, closely followed by Ade West and in third place Bob Gullick.

**Summer Outings Match Winners**

1<sup>st</sup>, Adam French, 25lbs 1oz, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sam Trevis 6lbs 11 oz, 3<sup>rd</sup> Barry Taylor 28 lbs 6oz,  
4<sup>th</sup> John Candy 55lbs 8oz, 5<sup>th</sup> Jason Mills 19lbs 11oz, 6<sup>th</sup> Rob Randall 13lbs 6oz.

Going into the winter series the river was low and clear, but with the intensive stocking of the Stour with small Roach, Chub, and skimmers, the river seems to be going from strength to strength with weights increasing annually. The league was very tight throughout, with it finishing in a tie between (zimmer frame champ) Tony West and Mike Trevis, but Westie got it on weight (fat git) no, I mean weight of fish, with Mike Hunt tying with Charlie Walters for 3rd with Mike also taking it on weight. Well done to all those who fished.

**Winter Championship**

1<sup>st</sup> Tony West 9lbs 8oz, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ade West 14lbs 14oz, 3<sup>rd</sup> Tony West 11lbs 7oz,  
4<sup>th</sup> Neil Kerley 12lbs 5oz, 5<sup>th</sup> Sam Trevis 12lbs 2oz, 6<sup>th</sup> Charlie Walters 6lbs 10oz.

**Christmas Match**

Joe Searle 25lbs 5oz.

Final note..... Thanks to all those who helped on the work parties and anyone wishing to fish our matches will be made welcome, GIVE IT A TRY !!!

I hope to see you on the bank, cheers,

Dave Sealy.

**For all the up to the minute news and match results go to**

[www.theanglingclub.net](http://www.theanglingclub.net)

where you can also see photos and maps of the best venues to fish in your area.

Any interesting facts and figures, or news you would like to see included on the website,

please e-mail to

[Blogs@theanglingclub.net](mailto:Blogs@theanglingclub.net)

**Chairman's Comments**

There is very little for me to say, Simon has already summed up the highs and the low of our season. Dave Sealy has reported the Match Scene and I hope that he will carry on in the coming season, with the aid of Mike Hunt in organising the matches, and with Jason supervising the Junior Matches, I'm sure they will do a great job. I would like to thank the aforementioned for re-starting the Junior Instruction Courses, the lack of these Instruction Courses in the last few years has been reflected in the fall of Junior Memberships. I would also like to applaud the efforts of our whole committee for all their efforts over the year. The setting up of the club website is certainly paying dividends, it has produced new members and general enquiries. So... Well Done to the committee and Officers, the attendance at our committee meetings have been the highest I can remember over my many years as a member of the committee. Thank you to all members; I am sure we shall be able to provide the high quality of Angling for everyone as long as we keep our memberships up.

Tight Lines and success for us all in the future.

John Stone.