

BDAC NEWSLETTER



AFFILIATED TO THE ANGLING TRUST FEBRUARY 2018

Night Fishing will be allowed at Laundry Lake for a trial period starting on 1st May 2018 (a fee will apply). See more information on this later in the newsletter.

Major works on the small lake at Straits Mill are scheduled during the April closed season. Weed clearance, better access from the car park, 4 new platforms, 11 new or rebuilt swims and 2 disabled swims are planned for the start of the 2018/19 season. The Club has applied for Angling Trust grant aid to assist with the costs of this work.



Member James Higgins with a beautiful condition Common of 33lb from a 6 fish catch during May 2017 from Laundry Lake, Little Easton.

BILLERICAY & DISTRICT ANGLING CLUB

As General Secretary and under the constitution of the Club I hereby give notice to all members that the 2018 Annual General Meeting will be held at the **Wickford Community Centre, Market Road, Wickford, SS12 0AG** on Wednesday 14th March 2018 commencing at 8.00 p.m.

AGENDA

1. Apologies for absence
2. President's address.
3. Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 15th March 2017.
4. Chairman's address.
5. General Secretary's report.
6. Treasurer's report and adoption of the accounts for the year ending 31st December 2017 (Copies will be made available at the meeting) plus a Membership report.
7. Junior Secretary's report.
8. Senior Match Secretary's report.
9. Retired and Disabled Match Secretary's Report
10. Ladies/Pairs Match Secretary's Report
11. Presentation of Trophies
12. Resignation of Officers and Management Committee. The President temporarily taking the Chair. Appointment of 2018/19. Officers and Management Committee.

Nominations received and seconded are as follows: -

Chairman	K. Collard
Vice-Chairman	S Mahoney
General Secretary	R. Driscoll
Treasurer	D. Howard
Membership Secretary	Nomination approved
Match Secretaries	D. Mansfield/J Byford
Junior Secretary	N Mitchell
Newsletter Editor	F. Barnes
Website Editor	C. Short
Minute Secretary	C. Short
Telephone Helpline Officers	G and D Howard

The Management Committee shall consist of the above Officers and one representative from each of the Fishery, Finance and Junior sub-committees, plus six ordinary members.

Nominations received and seconded are as follows: -

REPRESENTATIVES & ORDINARY MEMBERS

Derek Sweetlove
Geoff. Latham

Calvin Elder
Roy Mills

Ray Nicholls
Dean Mansfield

13. Election of Auditors.
Sigma Chartered Accountants be appointed auditors to the Club for a further year.
14. Management of Fisheries Report
15. Any other business.

The Chairman has the discretion whether to accept from the floor of the meeting amendments to any resolution.

1st February 2018

Robin Driscoll

Hon. General Secretary

FISHERS GREEN CONSORTIUM

The Club will again be purchasing a **limited supply** of Consortium tickets, and these will be sold to members on a first come, first served basis at £10 per person in addition to their normal subscription. This year members can pay for their ticket on their renewal form in the appropriate box.

Details of Consortium waters can be viewed on their website: www.fishersgreencon.co.uk.

Please note this is not a BDAC venue so it is policed by FGC bailiffs and any disciplinary matters are handled by the Consortium only.



A nice Barbel for Jerry Green from Fishers Green.

GUEST DAY PASSES

These are only available for the Club's freehold waters **Southminster, Asheldham and Straits Mill, Braintree**. To apply phone the Club's Helpline (giving at least 24 hours notice) to book and ensure that a guest pass is available for a certain date (during busy times their issue may be restricted).

Fee:

Day passes (6am to 10pm) £10 per guest.

Two day pass at Southminster only (6am on day 1 to 10pm on day 2) £18 per guest.

Payment can only be made by bank transfer to BDAC sort code 20-37-83 account number 90158224 with the member's name being the reference.

Rules:

The pass must be taken with the guest on the day.

These passes are non-transferable and non-refundable.

The member must be responsible for the guest adhering to the Club's bylaws and venue's rules.

All guests must be accompanied by the fully paid up member.

WATER SHARE WITH BISHOPS STORTFORD & DISTRICT ANGLING SOCIETY (BSDAS)

The Club has again agreed with BSDAS for a water share arrangement. 100 BSDAS members will again be able to fish our water at Straits Mill, Braintree (both lakes and river), and 100 of our members will be able to fish their water "Malcolm Barker Lake" and a short stretch of the River Stort. Full details of these fisheries including directions can be viewed on www.bsdas.org.uk. Only the following classes of members of this Club will be eligible; Ordinary, OAP, Disabled and Intermediate. This will be on a strictly first come first served basis and successful applicants will receive a BSDAS card in May and will be valid from 1st June 2018. Last year this was oversubscribed and the Club understands a number of these tickets were not used. This year please only apply if you are going to use the ticket on a regular basis so those members who live nearby and would like to fish this venue will stand a chance of getting a ticket. Also last year some members were not able to get a ticket because they did not send in a SAE envelope and their envelope was too small.

The BSDAS card will show the gate padlock combination for Malcolm Barker Lake for the 10 month period together with their club rules and directions relating to the lake and river. Complete the application form on **page 10** and return, together with a **C5 Stamped addressed envelope**, with your completed renewal form.

IMPORTANT—MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

NO MEMBERSHIPS WILL BE SENT OUT UNTIL 21ST MARCH (AFTER THE CLUB'S AGM)

Write your name on the reverse of your photo and **sign your cheque** (if used). To help process and speed up your renewal the Club would prefer payment to be made by bank transfer either through internet banking or by paying at a Barclays Bank branch. Ensure that your name and ID number (see renewal form) is sent as the reference so that the Club knows who the money is coming from and don't forget to send in your completed renewal form and photo. Note that this year the Club's bank account sort code has changed to 20-37-83, the account number remains 90158224. Any new non-fishing member will require a separate form available from our website or via the Club's Helpline.

This year we have included boxes for the night fishing fees and Fishers Green Consortium. To avoid changing your membership card during the season and incurring an admin. fee, make sure that you include these additional fees with your renewal subscription.

Memberships will be processed in the order they are received but cheques will take at least a week to clear. You have until **30th April** to renew after that a £10 entry fee will be charged as your membership will have deemed to have elapsed. If you wish to fish from **1st May** you must ensure that your renewal form is received by the membership dept. by **7th April** to guarantee your membership card will be back in time.

Memberships are only issued by post. No photos are required for Associates or Juniors.

Any Junior becoming an Intermediate must fill out their details in the Junior box and include a photo. Disabled members **must** send the required proof showing current eligibility, any member who does not send this will have their application returned. Please provide either phone numbers or preferably an email address in order that we can contact you if there are any problems with your renewal and to help the Club keep you up to date with any urgent news.

FISHERY REPORTS

STRAITS MILL, BRAINTREE

The year at Straits Mill:

Numbers were up on previous years, with the small lake proving the most popular after the introduction of a second lot of Tench, these are now showing in most catches along with the Bream, regular bags around 40lb with some topping 60lb We will continue to remove the Pike and carp from this lake, and put them into the big lake. The big Lake fishes well for the Carp in the summer and we seem to have a good head of fish around the 10 to 18 lb range. These fish are putting on weight at a fair pace and I hope to see these fish into the 20s in the near future, some anglers are catching 5 to 7 fish in a day, but it is a lake you have to get to know where the fish are and how they behave under particular conditions. Bream to 6lb and Roach 1lb 10oz along with loads of Rudd to 1lb 8oz, have been banked.

The Pike are well fed, due to huge shoals of silver fish, making this one of our best Pike waters, with the number of members fishing for them all year around.

Lots of work has taken place at Straits this year. The reinstatement of the overflow pond by the Essex Wildlife trust and the EA being one of them. The other large job was the removal of around 40 large trees most of these were cricket bat willows, with a few rotting and dangerous trees. These have now all been replanted with more cricket bat willows.

Geoff Latham 07745 454758

HENNY STREET RIVER STOUR

On the Stour this summer the dry weather has not helped the fishing, that said the clear water has favoured the hemp and tare approach for roach which do seem to be making a bit of a come back along the whole of the middle Stour. Fingers crossed this will continue. Early Autumn was also dry and cold so the chub fishing has started very late. In between the high water and on the fine down a few specimen fish to 5lb 13oz have been caught so far. This sums up the Stour as fishing a day too early or catch it too late and you can all too easily miss the good fishing. Enjoy the rest of the season (as its the best time - in my opinion) but also take care as the banks are slippery in places.

Steve Howell. 01376327711

SHALFORD PONDS

Shalford Road Lakes

Fishing on the Roadside Lakes has been very good this year. Lots of mirror and common carp caught weighing over 10lbs. Also plenty of crucian carp, roach, rudd and occasional perch. More members appear to be using the lakes this year and more are always welcome. However only two people turned up for the working party this year. Special thanks to Alan for his hard work on the day. More help would be appreciated for next year. Working party dates for 2018 will be Sunday 15th and Thursday 19th April at 9.30am to 1pm. Members who attend the working party are welcome to fish the lakes in the afternoon.

Please contact Derrick Marriott on 07463 219567 if you are able to help.

Thank you.

Shalford Church Ponds

Fishing on Church Ponds is good all year round. Common and mirror carp being caught up to 10lbs. Lots of silver fish and crucians up to 1lb. Occasional Chub have been caught. There will be no working party in 2018 as the owner of the ponds is undertaking work on the waters. Many thanks to Tony the bailiff for the hard work he carries out around the waters. Any queries.

Please contact Fishery Officer Derrick Marriott 07463 219567.

RIVER PANT

Few anglers are fishing the river with chub, dace and brown trout being caught.

Derrick Marriott 07463 219567

BARLEYLANDS

This year has been a really good year at Barleylands, with almost every member fishing there playing by the rules. Of course like every fishery there is the odd one who thinks the rules apply to others and not to them. Such members are infrequent and have been dealt with by the Club. Leaving the remaining regulars to enjoy some great fishing. Barleylands Fishery at Crayshill is a small oasis sitting close to Wickford, Billericay and Basildon. It is a really stunning fishery giving a real chance of catching a thirty pound carp. Productive baits at this venue are all types of boilies, maize, with natural baits also playing their part. I have had a minor problem there this

year with getting the grass cut. However, this is something the Committee has in hand and should be resolved for next season. Just as a reminder, Should any member catch a catfish, it must not be returned to the lake. You must inform a BDAC Officer and the fish placed in the cage provided at the water. **It is illegal to introduce catfish or any non indigenous species to any water.**

I would also like to remind members of the 72 hour rule that applies to Barleylands. There is more information on this contained in the newsletter.

With that I would like to thank all my bailiffs for their hard work and hope to see you all on the bank again next season. Until then, tight lines.

Peter Fox
07570781126

SOUTHMINSTER

This has been a busy year at Southminster. Thanks to all the wonderful volunteers who gave up lots of their time to turf and chop fallen trees, repair and remake swims and all the other jobs that needed doing. Pit 9 now has 4 more useable swims and the new reservoir is fishing well. All pits producing large perch, roach, rudd, bream and carp. Pit 2 is due to open again in May after many years of closure. This is also due to the hard work of the dedicated team that I am privileged to know and work with. The reservoir which opened for fishing this season has produced good quantities of fish for those who have wet a line there. The new swims are comfortable and safe and good reports are being received from those fishing this our largest water at Southminster. Many large perch, bream, roach and rudd have been landed and on one particular day a catch of over 40 lbs of tench bream roach and Rudd were caught from the dedicated disabled swim and this is without mention of the carp that are being caught on a regular basis by those that fish for them, which made it all worth while. Work parties start Sunday 1st April and all are welcome to attend. Please phone me if you want further details.

See you on the bank next season.

Regards
Dave Harman
07961114847

FISHERY REPORTS

RIVER RODING

Its been an indifferent year on the river this year, with some good fish coming out just before the end of the last season. Then there was a very dry cold spring which saw the water level drop and the fish spawned late May. The river level at Mitchells Farm right through to the end of section at Stanford Rivers remained the lowest I have ever experienced since becoming fishery officer right though to December. The only plus side was I was able to cut 5 new swims in from Mitchells. There have been several large trees which have gone across noted swims at Stanford Rivers and need contractors to pull them out and this section would have great potential. Despite all this I have had the pleasure of putting members who have turned up onto good swims where they have been impressed with the size and quality of the fish they have caught. One member reported three Chub from two swims fished between 4 and 5 pounds along with a 14 ounce Roach. It made a difference that the new owner of Mitchells farm allowed me to drive up the track and park outside the swims I was working on. Its a pity there is no track along Stanford Rivers, because it is back breaking work even to get tools to the swims to keep them open. Patch Park has been un-fishable all year and apart from the kids and picnickers playing in the Brook I have not seen anyone fishing it on my visits there. Its my last year as Fishery Officer and its been a pleasure meeting members and giving any advise I could to catch them more fish. I hope the future incoming Officer enjoys this great little River, half as much as I have.

John Lesurf 07836 673379

RIVER WID

I am glad to report that over the last year I have seen an increase in the number of members fishing this delightful stretch of Essex River. I am also glad to report that the Environment Agency have recently stocked our stretch of this river with 3 year old chub and dace. This should reflect well for future fishing. Catch returns for 2017 include chub to 3lbs+, large dace, roach, rudd. A 7lb carp, eels, small pike, brown trout and gudgeon. A small crucian carp and a small tench have also been landed. I advise a mobile travel light approach either on the float – if the water is flowing and coloured or on the link ledger/small feeder – when the water is low and clear. Catch three or

four fish from each swim then move on. Maggot, caster and worm work well. Other members recommend ledgering cubed luncheon meat, cheese/paste and feed hemp or mashed bread and bran. I wish to thank my bailiff Barry Stringer also my neighbour Andy for helping out on the last work party. Please forward your catch returns, observations and updates together with availability for the next work party weekend - Saturday 9th/ Sunday 10th June 2018.

Many thanks

Fishery officer Peter Yates Mob 07465 429877

HICKS FARM

I have really enjoyed my first year as fishery officer and meeting the many knowledgeable anglers who have fished at the lake. Most importantly, this venue has a really good head of fish in it. There are carp ranging from 1lb to close to 20lbs and for those who like silver fishing, there are plenty of roach, rudd, gudgeon, perch and also some tench and bream. This fishery is probably the best for taking young children to as they will catch fish of all sizes in the summer months and by various methods. Pole fishing and feeder fishing are really popular here, but I find margin fishing late afternoon in the summer months, can give some really great sport. Hicks Farm is also a popular match fishing venue where winning weights are often 100lbs plus and because of this you should always check your handbook to check when the venue is free. As a rough guide, most matches are often held on Wednesdays and Sundays although on the odd weekend, it is closed by the owner to allow the caravan club to enjoy the venue. Those of you, who know this fishery, will be pleased to know we have at last been able to expand the bottom car park. During our close season (April 2018), we will be repairing a number of swims on the field side of the fishery and I will be placing “chicken” wire over the wooden platforms as they can become slippery particularly during the colder months. Please check the notice board during the season and remember to close and lock the gate each time you enter and leave the venue. Enjoy!

Robin Driscoll 07732695586

DODDS FARM

This report only up until middle of August as I only looked after lakes for 5 months. First I would thank everyone that turned up for work parties during the close season enabling all swims to be fishable and thanks for those that helped during the months following. Fishing was very good in both lakes, with many fish being caught. Carp in excess of 20lb. Tench to 5.1/2lb. Good size Roach and Perch were also caught on a regular basis and the lakes were well attended throughout the months leading up to end of August. As summer progressed the water level fell quite low and weed growth ruined a lot of swims along with the lily pads and bank side vegetation becoming overgrown. Lack of rain made the fishing much harder and on some days only a few fish were landed. Almost every angler cleared their swim so litter was not a problem this year. However a number of anglers were warned for not having a rod licence with them and for using floating baits. I had to ask 2 anglers to leave due to not having a unhooking mats when carp fishing. One thing that I asked for was that a suitable landing be used for the large fish on these lakes. Many anglers turned up with tiny nets for roach or perch and then could not land large carp.

Good luck for all anglers fishing these specimen waters.

Colin Pearce.

PARSONAGE FARM

Another excellent year at the fishery, with mainly tench the quarry, with bags of 100 lbs caught on quite a few occasions. It's a bit different for the match boys, but they do know the fish are there ! Also good nets of roach, Rudd, perch, and crucians can be caught. The skimmers that were stocked a couple of years ago have been caught up to 3lbs. There are also some nice hybrids. A good sign on the skimmer front is that quite a few small ones have been caught, so they must have spawned. We hope to put in another couple of swims at the far end before the new season. Lastly, but most importantly a big thanks to my bailiffs and others who helped me. Your work does not go unnoticed. Also a big thanks to all the anglers, it's such a friendly place to spend a few hours. Many thanks

Steve Swallow 01245231396

FISHERY REPORTS

THOBY WOOD

It has been a good year for fishing at Thoby big carp and bream and tench and pike and I had some lovely comments to how the lake is looking which make it a pleasure to be Fishery Officer there let's hope next year brings the same.

Ron Cook 01708377420

WINDMILL LAKES

Field and Swan Lakes have been slow to warm up this year however, there has been good quality silvers with the good specimen bream showing. In Field Lake the carp started to shown later than normal, and those who persevered were rewarded with a pleasant day. My bailiff found the lily pads with a paste ball the best spot for fun on the carp pole. (Even if this can be a little nervy!) Swan Lake's Tench have started to show, but they still remain temperamental to conditions and bait. Bream are still showing and carp up to 22lb, however, you can bag up with silvers on half a pint of maggots for an enjoyable session. The best baits for this year have been meat, paste and maggots. Thanks to all members who have been regulars at this venue, and a big thank you to all for being vigilant with the cleanliness of the lakes and respecting the one rod only rule. A few work party's will be organised and posted on the face book page nearer the time.

Old Island Lake has fished well with carp to 8lb and some nice roach. Long Lake has also fished well for carp for those who know the lake and the tench have also been showing again.

Tight lines.

Ralph Turner

LITTLE EASTON, RECTORY/LAUNDRY

Laundry Lake

Has turned into a very popular venue with Carp Anglers there most days. Carp ranging from 1lb-30lb have been caught on most baits i.e. boilies and sweet corn. Please use unhooking mats to care for the fish. Many thanks to my Bailiffs for all the hard work removing trees from the lake and keeping the fishery tidy of litter.

The 'Works Parties' will be on the 7th, 14th, 21st, and 28th of April 2018 with an 08.30 start all are welcome

Steve Smith

Rectory Ponds

Unlike Laundry, Rectory Ponds has seen decline in use by Anglers. The people who have fished, have had good bags of Carp and Silver Fish to over a 100lbs. If anybody had any pictures of any size fish or reports of large catches then please give me a call. On the downside of things, there are still reports of illegal fishing. So if you see anybody fishing and you think that they may not have Club Membership, just call my mobile number in the hand book. Remember we are all bailiffs! The 'Works Party' for Rectory Ponds is the 28th April 2018 at 08.30. All are welcome.

Kind Regards - Steve Smith

01371 879158 07875 523214

ASHELDHAM

This fishery is one of the quietest waters the Club has. It's a hidden gem, with good comfortable swims, an abundance of fish, with perch up to 2.5 lbs, tench up to 5 lbs and good roach and rudd. Although we lost some carp this season there are still many showing themselves. Should anyone catch bream please let me know, or about any other interesting catches. Anyone who fancies some mid-week exercise, please call me, as there is always plenty of work to do there. I would welcome your help.

Derek Sweetlove 01621778236

JACKLETTS FARM, BICKNACRE

A good number of people fished the lake last year and it is good to see a mix of fish being caught. I do like to see mixed bags of roach and rudd and bream up to about 4lb+ coming out. There has also been good size carp being caught. Night fishing has been very popular with plenty of fish caught. Unfortunately on the bleak side there is still a lot of litter. Take it home. I've had a couple of phone calls about the litter but they haven't left a name or number.

Work party dates:

Sunday 1st April 9.00am

Sunday 8th April 9.00am

Sunday 15th April 9.00am

Sunday 22nd April 9.00am

Richard Stanley 01268470967



Stocking by the Environment Agency of three year old chub, dace, roach and a few tench in the River Wid December 2017. See Peter Yates' Fishery Officer's report on page five.

RETIRED & DISABLED SECTION

Once again it is that time of year where all of our matches come to an end. In all it has been an interesting and in other ways sad season. The year started at Southminster with weights around 70lbs, then on to Bicknacre, where Paul Mortimer won the match with 120-10-0, which included two incredible carp of 27-6-0 and 29-6-0. Parsonage Farm came next, where weights never seem to change much, averaging 20lbs plus. Hicks farm always pulls one out of the bag with 100lb plus most matches. Then on to the nightmare of Shalford which never fishes well on matches and we had a few moans, so these matches have been moved to Thoby Wood, so we will give that a go. Straits Mill, what can you say, love it! Well looked after, with a golf cart to help tackle transport. Well done Geoff. Windmill Lakes are now picking up with some decent weights. Rectory Ponds was in a bad way on match day and most swims on the top lake had to be cleared. We had two matches against Bishop Stortford, the first at Hicks Farm which BDAC won by 109 to 91 points and the second at their Beggars Hall Lake (their venue), which we also won 107 to 102 points. Well done BDAC old boys. Then came the Maldon Canal which was won with 2-13-0. Not a lot to say about that one as I was not there, thanks! Finally our last match was at Hicks Farm again this year on December 6th. 21 fished and top weight was John Dennison with 36-6-0. After the match we all got together at the Ship PH down the road for a few drinks and a three course meal, which I hope they all enjoyed. On to silly things, we still have a few members taking swimming lessons on our lakes, including myself. This has to stop, or at least wait until the match is over. There may be a trophy next year for the best dive in! However, on a sad note we have a few guys falling ill this season. I won't mention names, but they know who I mean, so get well lads, I need you on the bank. Finally, sadly we lost one of our regulars this season. Peter Jones, last year's champion, who I have known and fished with for over 40 years, past away suddenly. He was well loved by all and will be sadly missed. Our thoughts are with his family. God bless you Pete.

I must say it has been a pleasure to be on the bank with such a great group of guys, so I hope to see you all at Southminster on March 21st 2018, or on the bank sometime before. Ray Nicholls, Match Secretary.

POS	ANGLER	POINTS	POS	ANGLER	WEIGHT
1	Shaun Mahoney	442	1	Tony Read	560.5
2	Steve Foster	416	2	Shaun Mahoney	524.1
3	Fred Groves	402	3	Paul Mortimer	498.25
4	Tony Read	390	4	Fred Groves	496.1
5	Calvin Elder	383	5	Steve Foster	473.1
6	Paul Mortimer	376	6	Ray Nicholls	440.5
7	Ray Nicholls	370	7	Bert Blackwood	377.25
8	Derek Howard	358	8	Derek Howard	363.25
9	Bert Blackwood	341	9	Calvin Elder	325.43
10	Fred Barnes	315	10	Dave Tosley	274.56



Paul Mortimer with one of his two match winning carp from Jackletts Farm, Bicknacre, May 2017
120lb of fish including 56lb + of carp



Ray Nicholls Retired and Disabled Match Secretary shows off a nice bream, part of a match winning catch at Straits Mill, July 2017

SENIOR SECTION END OF SEASON MATCH REPORT 2017/18

With 20 league matches fitted into the season, first was at Rayne Lodge. Chris Ward would go on to win this match with 104lb 8oz, also taking 3 more wins during the season. Match 2 Committee Cup, Mick Brown would make his first appearance of the season one of only a handful of appearances. Mick Brown won with 77lb 6oz. Match 3, Tylers Common (Horseshoe). Ray Ankin won this with 109lb 2oz. Match 4, Monks Lake 1, only 6lb 12oz would separate the top 4. Winner Ray Strutt, with 106lb 12oz. Match 5 Churchgate Lakes, Mick Brown won - 222lb 4oz, 2nd place was a huge 135lb behind Mick. Match 6, Windmill Lakes, Mick Brown won with 38lb 2oz. Match 7 Colemans, (Wood), Ben Bray won with 139lbs 8oz. Match 8 Hicks Farm won by Shaun Mahoney, 128lb 10oz. Match 9, Southminster, winner Ray Ankin with 126lb 4oz. Match 10 Puddledock, winner, Len Goulding with 115lb. Match 11 Hicks Farm, winner Mick Brown with 105lb. Match 12, Orchard Farm. Only 15 turned up but what a days fishing. Winner on the day Shaun Mahoney 198lb. The total weight caught between 15 anglers was 1563lb 8os. Match 13, Monks Lake, winner Tony Eustace 113lb. Match 14, Hicks Farm, winner Shaun Mahoney 128lb 10oz. Match 15 Tylers Common (Horseshoe), winner Chris Ward 205lb 8oz. Match 15, Southminster Winner - Chris Ward 114lb from pit 1. Match 16, Hicks Farm. This was Chris Wards 3rd win on the trot with 60lb. Match 17 Colemans (Stepfield), winner Keith Furze with 33lb 8oz. Match 18 Straits Mill (river), winner Steve Gunner 6lb 8oz. So it was down to the last match of the season who would be BDAC Senior League Champion for season 2017. Only 5 points separated 1st and 2nd place between Chris Ward and Shaun Mahoney. This was a silvers match only. It was bitterly cold day with ice covering half the lake. Chris Ward drew what is considered flyer in normal conditions !! But as I said this was not normal conditions. Shaun Mahoney really struggled as did so many. Shaun ended up 11th with 2lb 11 oz, with Chris just edging Shaun with 10th place with 2lb 14oz. So well done Chris for becoming BDAC Senior Match champion for 2017. Much deserved! It was also great to see some new faces. Ben and Lewis Bray and Jaz Powell. I hope to see more of you on the matches in 2018. I would like to thank Jamie Byford who is joint match Secretary with myself for all of his help and thank you also to everyone who attended in 2017 and look forward to seeing you all in 2018.

Dean Mansfield.

POS	ANGLER	POINTS	POS	ANGLER	POINTS
1	Chris Ward	648	6	Jamie Byford	581
2	Shaun Mahoney	642	7	Dean Mansfield	577
3	Tony Eustace	614	8	Alan Walton	573
4	Ray Ankin	593	9	Calvin Elder	544
5	Ray Strutt	584	10	Robin Driscoll	525

LADIES AND MIXED PAIRS END OF YEAR REPORT

Another year of good fishing and enjoyable matches, with plenty of ups and downs and with some new members joining our matches and the existing ones having the same domestics over the correct fishing methods. With a change to our usual venues for this year's matches, this made them much more interesting with closer results and we never really knew what to expect, but that was not to say that the season was not enjoyed by all. The competition between those fishing will surely be continued throughout next season. That said we have had our usual laughter and had some good catches and even the odd water dip. Overall the end of Season Aggregate results are as follows:-

Ladies Results Kathy Chisnall - 30lb 5oz Debbie O'Flynn - 17lb 10oz Yoyo Orrin - 7lb 0oz

Mixed Pairs Results Kathy Chisnall & Nick Mitchell - 84lb 10oz Debbie & Kevin O'Flynn - 75lb 6oz

Ray & Yoyo Orrin - 14lb 2oz

Over the past few seasons the numbers attending **Junior, Ladies and Mixed Pairs Matches** has reduced. There are a good number of junior members as well as lady members of the Club, but for reasons unknown, the attendance to these matches is not what it used to be. Those who do attend the matches enjoy the day not only for the great fishing but also for the great company and banter that takes place. We have in the past had some absolutely amazing results with some wonderful weights being caught and a varied species of fish. For the Junior Matches, prizes are given to every Junior who attends and if you would like to attend, but if your parent or guardian cannot stay for the duration of the match there are plenty of us to help with the days fishing, coaching if needed and even setting up or packing away for pick up. Beginners and intermediate juniors are welcome. The mixed pairs matches can be attended by any mixed pair; mum & son, daughter & dad, friends and couples. For the ladies matches, the partners can assist in all aspects of the match, for those who would like it or just be on tea and coffee duties. All of the matches are very light hearted and everyone comes away with a smile and a tale of the 'one that got away' If you would like any information about any of these matches, which are listed in the Club Handbook and Club's website, or to talk about attendance, please contact Nick Mitchell at nickmitchell38@aol.com or 07970 606558

JUNIORS END OF SEASON REPORT

The Junior Matches as always were held on the same date and at the same venue as the Ladies and Mixed Pairs Matches and were thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended, but sadly we are lacking in numbers. This season we have had only two attendees and for various reasons, there was never the 'Head to Head' we had hoped for with them fishing together, so each match was won by a sole Junior. Even with the lack of numbers, they enjoyed every match and had good catches with lots of fun. Andrew Strutt had attended matches before, but our new Junior attending these matches, Hannah Dakin, showed us all how things were done, out fishing all of us and smiling the whole time. Congratulations to both Andrew and Hannah and we look forward to both of you and other juniors attending matches in the 2018 Season. The final ends of year results are as follows:-

Hannah Dakin 29lb 7oz
 Andrew Strutt 10lb 2oz

Any Juniors who wish to attend these Matches or for any information about these Matches please contact Nick Mitchell on 07970 606558



On the left is Kath Chisnall with a great catch of match tench from Parsonage Farm



Above is young Hannah Dakin 2017/18 Junior Champion with a lovely looking common carp banked in a junior match.

CARP MATCH REPORT

This years' Spring carp match was held at Straits Mill and after a period of warm weather the temperatures had dropped over the previous few days. Eight members turned up on the day and although it rained early on and a cold night was predicted the weather held and there was no frost. Carp were showing throughout the match all round the lake even over baited areas but they didn't seem to want to feed. Maybe the change in the weather put them off the feed. Eight carp were caught between 6lb and 16lb and the winner was James Ledgerton with two carp for 28lb 4oz.

PIKE MATCH REPORT

The usual band of regulars plus one new member turned up for the fourth annual charity pike match. It was a crisp bright day with a light breeze blowing but quite nice if you were sat in the sun! As always the fishing was slow compared to pleasure sessions and everyone experienced finicky runs and missed them. Dave Twitchett ran out the winner with one pike of 9lb 13oz. Our very own fishery officer Geoff Latham was a close second, also with one fish going 8lb 8oz. Thank you to all who turned up to raise a few quid for charity. Thank you also to the anonymous donor of our new trophy. Now we have something to fish for so hopefully we can get a bigger turnout next year! Tight lines for the rest of the season. Ken Brown.

SOUTHMINSTER PIT 2

This is to confirm the good news that after considerable work by Dave Harman and the Southminster Team, and after many years of closure due to a non-indigenous invasive weed, our small Pit 2 at Southminster will re-open for the 2018/19 season.

CHARITIES

The Club's charity fund, which has built up over 2016 & 2017, was distributed before Christmas. The total of **£2400** was made up from various sources, including; match and individual member donations and the beneficiaries are as follows:-

St Luke's Hospice	£250	Little Havens Children's Hospice	£300
SENSE (for those both hearing & sight impaired)	£250	Hopefield Animal Sanctuary, Brentwood	£350
Truelove's Supported Living (Learning Difficulties)	£250	Essex & Herts Air Ambulance	£1000

CHECK OUT THE NEW BDAC WEBSITE ON www.bdac.co.uk

NEW NIGHT FISHING FEES

Laundry Lake

After some tough negotiation with the owners of Laundry Lake, they have agreed to allow night fishing on a one season's trial basis from 1st May 2018. Their concerns are about litter which may be left by members who spend longer periods at the water. Our team stressed that with night fishing the water would be policed 24 hours a day as there have been reports in the past of non-members on the water overnight. It will be up to members to ensure there is no litter or excess noise or the Club will lose this concession (possibly before the end of the season's trial). To avoid overcrowding and to protect the welfare of the fish the Club has decided to charge a fee for the night fishing (9.00pm to 6.00am). Only members who pay the extra fee will be allowed on this water during these hours.

Barleylands

The Club has for several years been concerned about the pressure of overcrowding and the welfare of the fish stocks at this water. The Club has therefore decided to introduce a charge for night fishing at this water to try to ease the pressure. From the 1st May 2018 a fee will be payable for those members who wish to fish between 9.00pm and 6.00am. Only members who pay this extra fee will be allowed on this water during these hours.

Members who wish to night fish both these waters can purchase a joint night fishing permit at a discounted fee.

For both of these waters the Club has decided to introduce a bylaw saying that members can spend **no more than 72 hours on the fishery then no return to that fishery for 48 hours.** All new fees will be shown on your application form.

DODDS FARM

Ensure that you read your 2018/19 handbook for new relaxed rules on use of baits at Dodds Farm.

RECTORY PONDS LITTLE EASTON

The owners of Rectory Ponds have agreed to clear away overgrown banks and remove silt from the top lake in April 2018.

SHALFORD CHURCH LAKES

Work to clear excess undergrowth, unblock feeder pipes and repair and improve swims is continuing through January to March 2018. Both lakes will be closed whilst the works are in progress.

RIVER PANT

The Club will be giving up the upper section of the R. Pant from the Shalford road bridge down stream to the fence at Shalford Church at the end of the current season.

KEEP NETS

Due to an outbreak of Koi Herpes Virus (KHV), keep nets are prohibited on all BDAC waters until further notice. The exception being for official Club matches. See the website for further information on this issue when available.

BISHOPS STORTFORD & DAS APPLICATION FOR WATER SHARE CARD

Complete this form (or photocopy) and return with your renewal form together with a stamped addressed envelope - **C5 size.**

Cards will be sent out during May.

Name..... I.D. no.....

For office use only

BS&DAS no. Rec. no



Jason Mills with a fine 5lb tench from Thoby Wood



Peter Brett with a 2lb Perch from Southminster Reservoir.

Due to the retirement of the current officers, the Club is inviting applications for the post of Fishery Officer for the following waters - **River Roding** and **Dodds Farm**. Please contact Shaun Mahoney on 07522096393 to declare an interest. The Club would like to thank both John Lesurf (R Roding) and Colin Pearce (Dodds Farm) for their services as Fishery Officers for the Club. John in particular has managed the Club's stretch of the Roding admirably for many years and would be happy to discuss what is involved with his successor.

REMEMBER ALWAYS TO TAKE YOUR HANDBOOK WHEN FISHING BDAC WATERS