

# The Sussex Angler



Spring 2015

Issue 11

News

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The Petworth & Bognor Angling Club Magazine

[www.sussexangling.co.uk](http://www.sussexangling.co.uk)

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# Welcome to The Sussex Angler

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Time flies and in my welcome message in last year's "Sussex Angler" my opening sentence mentioned my predecessor and long term club Chairman Nigel Chapman. Nigel, a carpenter by trade, always nursed a desire to learn the skills of how to build wooden sea going boats so he signed up for a ten month course in Devon. Whilst down there he had the misfortune to suffer from a series of minor strokes and then one more serious which has left him hospitalised in Cosham where he is receiving treatment which, hopefully, will eventually return him to good health. I know a lot of you met Nigel and he was a regular contributor to the "Sussex Angler" with his 'tales from the rod room', so I'm sure you would wish me to pass on your best wishes for a speedy recovery. When something like this happens to a close friend it makes you realise the importance of making time to enjoy your fishing and in my experience it's one of those rare pastimes that provides an opportunity to forget the cares of the busy world we now live in. I don't know about you, but when I go fishing, then fishing is all I think about; this thinking doesn't necessarily bring the desired results, but it certainly concentrates the mind.

Apart from KHV, which meant we had to take quick and costly precautionary measures, the fishing has been exceptionally good on both still and running waters with something for everyone, be they pleasure or our keen

match anglers. These match anglers, unlike us more passive leisure folk, get out there in all weathers and conditions to pitch their skills, and judging by the amount of silverware that was passed over at our AGM they seem to do very well. However, I hope it's not left to their wives to keep those trophies bright and shiny; talking of the fairer sex where are our lady anglers? It wasn't so long ago they featured quite a lot in the angling reports, let's be hearing more from them, besides which they're better looking...no comments please!

You will find some interesting pieces to read in this edition, more from the fascinating diaries of Reginald Addison compiled by Steve Simmonds, who also makes aware to our growing number of fly fishing enthusiasts that we have opened up quite a lot more of the Rother to accommodate them. The Rother, whilst never a chalk stream in itself, does have numerous chalk based tributaries many of which have been restored thanks to the Wild Trout Trust; so the main river now has a healthy population of brown and rainbow trout. There are also the sea trout that find their way from the Arun, along with most coarse fish, aided by the new fish passage installed by the E.A at Hardham. I'm interested to learn more from you on how successful the fly fishing is, indeed all catches of every variety need to be recorded in the Log books now in place - no rude comments please even if you have had a bad day, remember our landowners also read them.



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I'm often asked about re-stocking the Rother, well it's not the policy of the E.A. to re-stock a river unless there has been a major loss of fish due say to pollution. The answer is that the river will increase it's own fish population if the water quality and river are in good condition. We now have two riffles on our excellent stretches at Coultershaw and more recently just below Shopham bridge. There are now five silt traps upstream from Coultershaw, as a result the silt and sand levels are slowly being reduced so fish have a better chance to spawn especially in or near the riffles. Catches throughout both the Rother and Arun have on average increased considerably, although tell that to someone who has had a blank day! To cheer you up take a look at some of the recent huge fish that come out of these wonderful rivers....value for money, you bet it is.

If you prefer ponds to rivers then we have enough to keep you occupied, we own Hurston and work very hard to maintain this lovely three pond complex. Just up the road is The Granary a favourite for a growing number of enthusiasts, and of course Stemps and Cart ponds where our long serving Nelson Keet has spent so much time and effort to keep this in tip top condition. Then there's Bethwins, and who can overlook Petworth Park, so give them all a try, we all have our favourites.

Tim Nudds from Arun Angling has an interesting column on what's new in the way of tackle

etc..an ever changing picture and a reminder to make sure everything is in working order, having lost a large barbel due to a duff reel I know the feeling.

Like it or not we live in a fast moving world with many new ways to communicate. The desire to spread the word about our club has led us to get on board with our e-mailers and Facebook page.

We simply cannot ignore the fact we need to attract those anglers who wish to join a club rich with some of the finest waters in the area and also rich in the friendly atmosphere we strive to achieve; so let's all enjoy our fishing.

Thanks to you all for your support, and thanks to my fellow committee members, wardens and bailiffs and most important those who turn out to lend a hand at our work parties.

Finally don't forget to check our web-site for up to date information and news.

Good fishing.



Roger Poole - Chairman



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# Fishery Improvements

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## An exciting project at Hurston and a bit of a grumble

As you probably all now know we had a big set back at Hurston last summer when we found that we had KHV in the water. However, we are working with Cefas to solve the problem and have a few projects which we are sure will improve the water quality and environment, and hence reduce the risk of the disease returning. Continued undue stress to our fish can be a problem; poor water quality and low oxygen levels can significantly contribute to this. We feel that getting more oxygen in the water will help. We are using a two pronged approach as far as this is concerned one natural, the other is more artificial but is an approach that has helped many fisheries across the country.

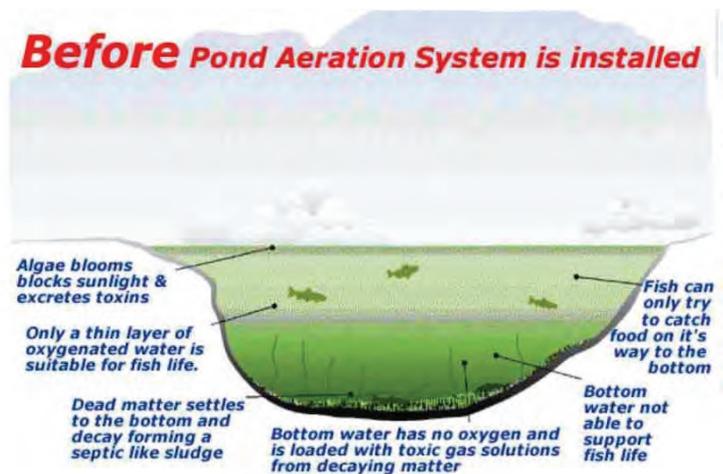
### The Natural Approach

Those that fish it regularly will know that Hurston is very well sheltered, high banks with extensive tree cover all along the south west of the fishery deflect wind over the top, leaving conditions at ground level quite calm. We cannot do anything about the high bank but we can thin out the trees a bit to get more air on the water. This project has already started and we are already seeing a bit more ripple on the water. This movement gives the water more chance to absorb oxygen from the air and can be considered as a gentle form of aeration.

### The Artificial Approach

The aeration we achieve using the natural approach relies upon there being some wind and does not work on still (in particular) summer days. We have therefore taken the decision to install aerators at Hurston. This is not a simple task and is going to cost us some money. The aerators will be electrically powered so the first part of the operation is to get

electricity onto the site. We have already started this. Once we have electricity on site then we will be cabling to each of the ponds so we have the facility to have aerators or indeed other electrical equipment in use on the site. Our target is that we get this all installed before next summer. We have not included this work on our work party schedule yet as we are reliant on outside contractors for supplying power to the site. But we will be asking for your help at some stage.



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# The Fisheries Team

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These pictures are a bit stylised (they come from an American company need I say more!) but they illustrate what we would like to achieve.

Now for that grumble;

Nelson Keet who has run the Fisheries Team for many years has now stepped down, although he will continue to oversee Stemps. Over the last couple of years a great deal of work has been done by Nelson to build platform to give us a stable and flat area to fish from. Unfortunately these do not appear to satisfy some of our members who have drilled holes in them prised up boards and have generally undone a lot of the good work that has been done. This has lead to valuable time and resource going into repairing existing platforms when further platforms for other swims could have been built. Please do not take it upon yourself to modify these platforms, if you are unhappy with them, let us know what you want and we will see if we can incorporate it into the design for the future.

Secondly it has become particularly noticeable on some of our river venues, but all suffer to some degree - we are seeing a marked increase in litter. Empty drink cans, and food wrappers are the most frequent but we also find the packaging associated with fishing tackle. So please remember to pick up your empties and wrappers and dispose of them responsibly, it only takes a minute and if you do see other peoples litter we would really appreciate it if you could pick it up and dispose of it as you would your own. This is not a big problem but we must not allow it to get worse, we do not want it to become noticeable to our riparian owners as it could jeopardise our fishing rights in the future.

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# Fishery Improvements

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Our scheduled work parties for the year ahead are set out in the table below and we would really appreciate your assistance. The work is not necessarily hard and we can find tasks to suit all abilities so please make the effort and come and give us a hand.

## Scheduled Work Parties for 2015

Date	When	Venue	Main Tasks
22/03/2015	Sunday	Hurston	General Maintenance
12/04/2015	Sunday	Hurston	General Maintenance
12/04/2015	Sunday	Coultershaw	General Maintenance
26/04/2015	Sunday	Hurston	General Maintenance
19/05/2015	Tuesday	Hurston	Weed Clearing
07/06/2015	Sunday	Stemps	General Maintenance
21/07/2015	Tuesday	Hurston	Weed Clearing
18/08/2015	Tuesday	Hurston	Weed Clearing

Sunday work parties start at 08.30 and run to around midday - we normally try to provide a sausage sandwich or similar.

Weekday work parties start at 17.30 and normally run to 21.00.

If you have any questions or queries please do not hesitate to contact Mike on **079454 257527** or **fisheryofficer@sussexangling.co.uk**

We also have occasional extra work parties, so please keep an eye on the website and look out for notices in the **Arun Angling** shop.

Finally a really important part of our Fishery Management scheme are our bailiff team. We have some bailiffs that look after particular waters and others that have a more roving brief and are likely to pop up at any of our waters. We would ask that you cooperate fully with them at all times.

We are also always looking to strengthen our bailiff team, the more we have the better we can cover our water to make sure they are in good condition and are not being poached. If you are interested in becoming a bailiff, please contact Mike on **079454 257527** or **fisheryofficer@sussexangling.co.uk** for more information.



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# Life Membership

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**At our AGM in November 2013 we were asked to consider whether the club could offer a Life Membership.**

We are pleased to announce that the club are now able to offer a Life Membership programme and initially we will be running this for two membership seasons.

Unfortunately for tax reasons we need to limit the number of Life Memberships to 20 per year and these will be offered on a strictly first come first serve basis.

The cost of a Life Membership has been set at **£1350** for this season and this will be reviewed alongside all other membership categories for next season.

Applications for Life Membership may be made on your standard membership form **but must be made directly to the Membership Secretary.** This can be done either by post to

Membership Secretary  
The Old Blacksmiths Yard  
Water Lane  
Angmering  
West Sussex  
BN16 4EP

or by taking your form to the **Arun Angling shop in Angmering.**

Unfortunately we will not be able to offer our normal instant membership service if you apply directly at Arun Angling so please allow 5 working days for us to process your application.

**As a Member what's in it for me?**

Life Membership would not give any extra rights nor any extra entitlements apart from the member not having to pay for membership again for as long as the member shall live and the club exists.

Life Memberships are not transferable

**If you require further information you can e-mail the Membership Secretary with your questions at [membership@sussexangling.co.uk](mailto:membership@sussexangling.co.uk) Or telephone the Secretary on **01243 583179****



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# A Year at Longford

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I love the Rother and Arun, both challenging rivers where our club have probably the best stretches to test our skills, however rivers can drive an angler mad.

But that's the challenge nature lays down and sitting round a stocked commercial carp lake is not for me, but that's not to deny others to enjoy.

For me, real fishing started on the Thames at Kingston and my first bream caught under Kingston bridge really lit the bug back in the fifties. However, spurred on by 'Mr Crabtree Goes Fishing' in which it featured, the Hampshire Avon has always remained the queen of the rivers in my mind. I joined Ringwood Angling Club which has good stretches of the Avon and later the Hale syndicate just south of Downton. I was captivated by this famous river where during the summer you could see shoals of roach, dace and chub and if lucky spot the barbel, tantalisingly close and so easily spooked, especially when I cast a line in their direction.

The one stretch of water I longed to fish which was always being mentioned and appearing in many videos and books was of course Longford; so started a long wait having written to the fishery water keeper for my name to be added to his long waiting list of hopeful anglers anxious to join the estate's syndicate. That was five years ago and last year my name finally came up. I suppose it's very much dead men's shoes as the members are few in number and made up of both game and coarse enthusiasts. Having spent a day being shown the various stretches of some fifteen miles of Lord Radnor's estate where you are spoilt for choice, I signed and paid up for both. Talk about whet your appetite, I was drooling to get down there, so first week in May I was on the famous Beat 1, a trout stretch, covered with rising mayfly. Although not venturing into the gravel shallows, I caught my first brownie with some pretty poor fly casting from the bank. Watching the experts spurred me on to seriously improve my technique with the help of Phillip Ellis, a good friend of mine, who knows a thing or two about how to cast a fly. Most of it took place in our garden much to the delight of Bev (my wife) who typically, as only a women can, very quickly picked up the art of casting much to my dismay and much grinding of teeth.

At heart though, I'm a coarse angler, so come the 16th June I'm down there, crack of dawn, at Standlynch Weir. Close by is the famous anglers fishing room, complete with tea making facilities and somewhere to yarn and discuss nothing else but fishing. There I met a bunch of keen anglers some of whom had been in the syndicate since Tom Williams' days, Tom being one of the earliest keepers and author of "A River for All Seasons" when salmon upwards of thirty five pounds were regularly caught. Nowadays Salmon are rare in all our southern rivers for lots of reasons, many are lost to Atlantic overfishing and commercial estuary netting. River water extraction during the summer months has not encouraged the few salmon left, back to spawn.



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# By Roger Poole

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**Standlynch weir on the Longford Estate**

Having said that, I watched salmon leaping the weir pass whilst fishing only quite recently, so all is not lost.

So, what of a year's fishing at Longford, well in truth the challenge is just like any other river, first get to know the river by walking as much of it as possible; there's fifteen miles of it including stretches of the River Ebble and Britford Navigation. Wherever I went, I met fellow anglers and chatting with them plus spending a day with Peter Orchard, the keeper I picked up tips on where to fish and what bait is best. For me, being a trotting enthusiast, I've had most of my chub, roach and grayling this way with maggot or bread over the shallow gravel beds. The barbel are there, but wise and fussy as to when they decide to join in the fun. To catch the barbel I use a back stop over the weed and had most of them during the warm summer evenings. My favourite spots are the weir pools and ledgering meat and worm has caught barbel mostly in the 8-10lb bracket. The

chub are huge, seven pounders are quite normal, the lively perch come and go, one weekend they are abundant, the following not a sign of them. The roach are making a comeback, but it's a slow process and I've yet to catch one over a pound in weight. I have also had a couple of twenty pound pike both from the same weir pool.

One thing is certain, you need good strong line and tackle when fishing the Avon, anything under eight pound breaking strain will lose the fish. Very often they are caught well downstream when trotting, except in the winter the water is clear, so the fish can spot you before you spot them and they swim in and out of the weeds, so getting the depth right is really important, trial and error is the only way.

As my first season draws to an end, I must admit it hasn't always been as good as I imagined it would be, but that's my fault because the one thing I realise is the need to change the way you fish, the ways and means of the Rother don't work on the Avon. So expectations were dashed in the first place, but as the season progressed I got the hang of things, changing the way I fished and gradually my catches improved. It's a dream come true, an hour and fifteen minutes and a following wind see's me back down there, many say the Avon is not the river it once was, and that could be true, likewise it's said about most rivers, but for me it's another challenge.



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# Junior Angling

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**Junior's are the future of angling and as a club we encourage them to enjoy their angling with us.**

We launched a Junior angler barbel challenge in the first e-mailer of 2014. Where we asked junior anglers to tell us why they went fishing and what they enjoyed about it. The winner was Jack Winslade and his winning entry is reproduced below.

I was inspired to take up fishing when I was 10, I am 14 now. I said to my uncle who fishes a lot that I would like to go fishing with him some time. Before I knew it I was on a trip to the river Avon at Britford. After a fair journey, I had arrived. Grabbed my bags and my uncle grabbed the rods out of the car and we were off. We had walked for quite a bit along the bank of the river, when I saw this black moving shadow over the far bank. I pointed out and he told me that it was a Chub; I looked a bit harder and could see that there wasn't just the one. I could see another and another. Also making out smaller fish that I now know as dace and grayling. My face had lit up by then and had made my day already I had never seen fish like this before. What made it even better at that moment I heard my uncle say do you want to try and catch one of them. My instance response was yes but also how? After about ten minutes of me throwing bread and maggots to them and seeing them splash and gulp the bait down like there was nothing there. My uncle gave me a rod and said there you go. He slowly told me what to do and after one or two casts or shall I say a lot of casts I finally got the bait into the prime position and the fish almost took it straight away. I had caught a small dace. I was pleased but could still see those elusive chub on the far bank. I tried again. Another dace, then a grayling was on the bank. After numerous small dace and grayling my bait was finally gulped down by one of those chub. The rod bent double. And the clutch started to scream with an adrenaline rush noise. I started to panic but my uncle said to take my time. And finally after an intense battle with the fish it was in the net. It was well and truly the biggest fish I had ever seen this close. It was a 5lb 8oz chub. I was delighted. And this had got me hooked for the rest of my life.

Jack prize was in two parts

Part 1 A day's barbel fishing tuition with two of our top anglers at Coultershaw. The level of their expertise showed as on a very wet day and Jack's first barbel fishing expedition he actually managed to put a nice fish of 5lb 13 oz in the net

Part 2 Jack was presented with an Avon rod and Shimano reel at the AGM.

These will be absolutely ideal for him to continue his barbel fishing exploits



**Well done Jack!**  
**Jack Winslade with his first barbel**



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# By Secretary

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In August last year we organised a really successful junior taster day in association with the ARC project. The day was lead by Richard Burbidge our qualified angling coach and provided a great experience for the youngsters all of whom caught fish from Cart Pond. We will be running a similar event in 2015.



**To the left Richard shows a group of juniors how to tie a rig and above river expert Mick Mills turns his hand to helping out on Cart Pond**



**Ollie with a 2lb plus perch**

Mike Kitchener our new Fisheries Manager has been taking his son, 8 year old Ollie along to quite a number of matches this season. Ollie has had a firm grounding in angling practice from his dad. Ollie has fished and had some success in his age class at the MBK Junior matches, which provided a pathway for the likes of Alex Clements a current England under 25 angler. Ollie turns out in all weather and has shown his mettle by not only beating his dad but also regular club match anglers on a variety of venues. We look forward to seeing more of Ollie in the future and hope that his exploits inspire other club juniors to come along.

If you have any ideas for junior events or ways to get juniors fishing we would love to hear about them, please contact us and we will see what we can do.



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# In Depth - Fittleworth part 2

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Another in our series where we ask an angler to focus on one of our venues

In our last issue we looked at the stretch down to the 90° left hand bend at the end of the second field. Since writing that article a number of anglers have had good barbel including the Rother and club record fish from swims in this top section.

As we move down from where we left off last time we round the bend into a section with quite high bank. There is quite a bit of weed along here and I have only fished it a few times, I found it best when the water was pushing hard and had a few fish on the tip. My next swim of note is past the trees and partway down the next straight. You have a largish far bank bush and you can get down the bank nicely. There is a little cut back too your right. Les Elder from the Rother club did particularly well here in an RVS match a few years ago fishing a pole to the bush and being able to hold his float virtually static in a small slack. When we were looking at places for the newly installed riffles at

Fittleworth this is one of the areas that was rejected. I decided that I would give it a go and returned a few days later. This would have been mid August, as all and sundry know the pole is the last thing out of my tackle bag, so I decided upon a stick float approach. Trotting across the front of the bush and letting the float run a bit further downstream. I was rewarded with a very comprehensive mixed bag of fish with everything that you would expect to catch from the river apart from carp and barbel, both of which normally prefer a static bait. There is then a fairly impenetrable copse



**If it swims in the river you can catch it here!**

of trees before you get to the next big left hand bend. There used to be a big oak tree in this area (you can still see the remains of it on the ground). The swim on the corner was a renowned chub peg with deeper faster water running along the far bank. If you could get into this area you could normally guarantee a couple of decent chub. The character of this swim has changed quite dramatically over the last few years and I don't know whether the chub are quite as prevalent. The straight after the corner has always been quite 'chubby' with good cover on both banks. This runs into a shallow fast flowing section with a very healthy lily bed which I sure holds fish but it is



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# By Steve Simmonds

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virtually impossible to fish. The next big left hand bend has the first of our two new fish refuges just below it. Again this is a renowned chub swim, fishing from the high bank on the apex of the bend into the corner, Phil Tubb had a particularly good match catch here consisting of 8 or 9 chub and weighing in at around 25lb. A little below this bend there is a reed lined straight with two or three swims, this area is probably the most consistent for bream at Fittleworth. You are unlikely to find the massive shoals that are present in the Arun but 3 or 4 fish in the 3 to 5lb bracket would be a decent session. At the end of this straight there is a large tree in the water



**The 'bream straight'**

and then round a couple more bends and you come to the second fish refuge and what was one of my favourite swims on the river which I understand was historically peg 15. I first found this swim many years ago on a roving expedition. It is right on the corner of the bend with deep water on the inside. It was quite difficult to get to the waters edge but the overhanging trees along the far bank with a clear trot underneath them was enough incentive for me to persevere. Having got myself set up I catapulted a couple of pouches of hemp and a few maggots so that they would drift down under the trees and then using my trusty 'John Allerton' 8 x No6 alloy stemmed stick float trotted down under the trees. It was probably only a couple of trots before I had my first bite and had a small roach, a couple of trots later a small dace, then a small chub. I was putting in a pinch of maggot and hemp every trot and the fish just kept coming and I ended up with a really nice bag of small silver fish, there were not many netters among them but the numbers made up for that. I fished the same peg a couple of other times that season and early in the next season as well with the same sort of results every time. About a year later we had our leg of the RVS match at Fittleworth and we drew the envelope with this peg in it.



# In depth continued

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I told my colleagues that I knew the peg and reckoned I knew how to fish it so would be happy to take it. There were no objections so I went off full of confidence. I was carrying the scales that day and I'm not sure why but it was decided that pike would be eligible for weighing, unfortunately this was to prove my undoing. I got to the swim set up as I had done on the previous occasions and sure enough the fish started coming as they had done before. By three quarters of the way through the match I had built a very respectable bag of silver fish and was still getting a bite virtually every run through. I was having thoughts of getting close to 20lb of silver fish which would be some achievement. Then disaster struck. An angler from one of the other teams fishing the



**The old peg 15**

match had caught a pike and he did not want to put it in with the rest of his catch so he requested that it was weighed so he could return it. I reluctantly left my swim and went and weighed his pike - a whole 11lb 6oz if my memory serves me well, then hurried back to my swim to find my keepnet 'dancing'. I was obviously receiving the attentions of a pike and one much bigger than the one I had just weighed. I lifted my net to chase the pike out and found two big holes and about 6 fish left! Running repairs were made on the net with cable ties and in the last hour I managed to catch just under 4lb which was still a good weight on the day, but if only.... The far side cover has now grown in a lot more making it very difficult to fish now but I must go back and try again sometime. We are almost at the end of our stretch now and the pegs in the last straight have changed quite a bit over the years. The very end peg on the fence regularly produces a chub or two but also seems to have more than its fair share of trout, I know more than one match angler who bemoaned the fact that they were all he could catch.

This has been a fairly whistle stop tour of the Rother at Fittleworth and I'm sure that I have missed some favourite pegs, so if you would like to tell us your experiences, I'm sure that we could publish them either here or on the website.



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# Fly fishing the Rother

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News of more waters available on the Rother for those that enjoy  
'The Contemplative Man's Recreation'



For some time we have been able to fly fish on Shopham. We are pleased to announce that we have now extended this to two other sections of the Rother and you can now fly fish on the Coates Castle and Fittleworth stretches.

The club's fly fishing season commences on 4th April and extends through to 31st October. During this period you will be able to fly fish for trout on our waters. Please note that as with other species we operate a strict catch and return policy.

Over the last year we have seen a really significant increase in the number of trout in the river, probably as a result of the floods last winter so it is well worth having a go for them. There were a couple of coarse matches on the river last season where as many if not more trout than coarse fish were caught, much to the frustration of the anglers taking part as of course they were not allowed to weigh in the trout.

It is interesting to note that during the coarse season we also have a number of anglers who enjoy pitting their wits and fly fishing technique against the dace and chub in the river and I have heard of a number of anglers who have had good catches of both species on the river, in particular during late July and August when I suppose the insect life is at its most active.

But back to the trout and we are particularly interested in the numbers of trout caught so if you do go for a fly fishing session or two, please remember to fill in the fishery log book at the end of your day on the river. You don't need to be specific with details of the fly used etc. we really just want to know what sort of numbers of fish are being caught.



# Diary entries from 1981 & 1982

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## Sunday 20th September 1981 - Fittleworth River Rother

Glen had been here while I was away and hooked a big pike, which he lost and was anxious to go again. But heavy rain at the end of the week ruined our prospects. I suggested going to Burton Park lake instead, but he was obsessed by the big pike, so we went.

As I expected, the river was bank high and quite hopeless, and when we reached the first bend downstream and found a quiet eddy behind a sunken willow, I decided to stay there. Glen continued—"I'm going to where the big pike is," but later I went down and found him frustrated by the river overflowing and running into the field behind, preventing progress any further.

Two other anglers said they were getting eels on maggots, but they would not touch worms, so I returned and replaced my worm with some maggots, and at once got an eel. But I had no more. The river rose another foot and no other fish were caught.

## Sunday 1st August 1982 - Fittleworth River Rother

Glen was anxious to try for the pike again, but I thought it would be too hot to be hopeful, and he only had one small run, though a few fish rose and splashed on the corner opposite.

I went to my usual spot and float fished, and in the afternoon about 2.30 began to get some bites on casters. After pricking something which I thought was a perch, I got one of 7" next cast but had no more. However dace began to feed and for an hour I had good sport, getting about ten and one or two gudgeon but nothing large. Then they began to bite more shyly, and I got two small ones of about 5" and after that they ceased altogether. But I kept getting the odd bite on maggot, and these proved to be from eels. I caught the smallest one I remember - about 6" but also had one of about ½lb which I took home, and a couple of others bit the hook off.

I saw three small chub about 10" feeding on the surface upstream, but then one dropped back, and saw me and dived with a splash. Also saw a mink moving along the far bank making a continuous muttering noise I'd not heard before. The sun shone for a while in the afternoon, but it came over very dull later, though the threatened rain never materialised.



# Reginald Addison

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Wednesday 29th December 1982 Shopham Bridge River Rother with Ted

River clear but very boily and fast. However Ted got a chub of 2lb 10oz on bread on the float, in the run below the hole at the junction with the old river. He also had a couple of bites on worm on the first corner upstream. We began there but moved up after an hour, and I fished the deep hole, where I had one bite, but only caught a 6" grayling on maggot.

It was a very dull, windless day, with no frost. The grass across the fields had been laid flat by floods, with sand piled against the hedge across the field.



**The bridge over the canal at the junction with the old river**

## Editors Note

These extracts demonstrate that things don't change that much over the years, we are currently seeing a lot of mink at Fittleworth and of course last winter we had very significant flooding on the Rother with lots of sand on the fields.

The new silt traps installed above Coultershaw will hopefully reduce the amount of sand we see in the river which will improve spawning prospects.

That pike must have been very memorable to go back almost a year later for it!



# Tackle News

## Tim reviews what's new in the tackle and bait world

This year it is very difficult to look beyond Preston Innovations for new tackle ideas, they have launched around 2000 new products for the 2015 season, admitted some are just small tweaks of old favourites but all in all this represents their biggest ever launch.



**Quick Release Accessory Block (above) and Pro Tool Bar**

We'll start off with something for the match angler - the Pro Tool Bar utilises their new snap lock technology,. Designed to fit across the front legs of your footplate with extending side arms and supplied with three quick release accessory blocks, this is likely to become the a must for the serious match angler.



**Code Red Boilies & Pop-Ups**

Every year we see a must have bait innovation and it looks as if the Code Red range from Sonubaits (the bait arm of Preston) is likely to be this years winner. The range consists of boilies in sizes from 12mm to 18mm, pellets from 2mm upwards, various sizes of pop-ups together with accessories such as glug and oil.

Do you have a two wheel shuttle and fancy four wheel drive, Preston now make this conversion kit which contains two adaptors and two wheels to convert your trolley quickly and easily. If you want to go back to two wheels for a particular venue then changing back is easy. Makes your shuttle ideal for almost any venue.



**Shuttle conversion kit**



# By Tim Nudds



Drennan might just have stolen a march on Preston with their latest pellet band expander, without the holding band on the outside (it's part of the internal mechanism) it's easier to use and there is no chance of the band slipping off.



**Mystery Item - Tell us what the above is for and the first one to come into the Arun Shop with the correct answer will get one as a prize.**

**HINT: We need to know all its uses!!**

Jag is a relatively new name in the world of carp angling. But they produce really top notch products. These buzz bars are



an example. They are about the lightest but most durable that I have seen. Their products are not cheap but are really well made and finished and likely to last a lifetime.



A really nice little baitrunner reel from Wychwood the Extricator 6000 has a smooth action, comes with two spools (capacity 180yds of 10lb) and two handles (a single and a double). This reel is ideal for barbel fishing on the Rother and comes in at only £59.99

The Ringer family - father Geoff and brothers Steve and Phil are synonymous with pellet technology in angling. They have now produced their own pellet pump and those that have used them to date tell me they are the best.



**Finally, I am looking forward to my first delivery of Frenzee products. They have some really innovative and neat stuff. Come down to the shop and have a look.**



# Match Scene

Our Match Secretary gives an update on what is happening at the matches

Current Points Table	Keith Hughes	Vince Herringshaw	Mike Kitchener
Clubman (points)	136	131	122
Matchman (points)	1064	852	760
Weight (pounds)	231 - 12 - 0	184 - 3 - 0	164 - 4 - 8



**Kevin Dowell shows just how much match tackle you can get on a trolley**

We are now moving into the last three months of the match calendar and fortunately have not had the weather problems we had last season, although we have had a couple of very wet matches. The fortunate thing is that we have had a mild winter again although as I write this the forecast is for a period of lower temperatures.

The season started off with the Pibworth Cup series at Hurston. The first leg on the match lake was won by Steve Hanson with a mixed bag of carp, tench and bream. Mike

Kitchener, who with his son Ollie have now become a regulars at matches, won the second leg on the Tench Lake with a bag of carp and tench. This match also saw a 5-1-0 tench caught by Steve Speller. The final leg was fished on the Match Lake on a warm balmy night and was convincingly won by Keith Hughes with an excellent catch of the newly introduced bream and skimmers from Peg 1. Overall the series was won by Keith Hughes.

The fishing was much improved in the evening Rother series probably due to last winter's floods. Sizeable chub were caught at all the venues including a superb catch of 27 pounds recorded by Mike Kitchener at Coultershaw. Kitch showed his knowledge of the Rother and fishing expertise to easily win the series. We also fished an evening match at Stemps for the first time in several years and this was won with a bag of 25 pounds of carp from favoured peg 15.

The fishing at Petworth Park was very variable this year with two of



# By Mick Greenway

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the matches being won with 30 pound plus catches but in the others the weights struggled to reach double figures. Kevin Leighfield showed his mastery of the venue winning several of the matches there on the feeder. This year we struggled in



**Keith (currently top of the table) with a winning bag from the Selsey Tram section of the canal**

the matches at Bethwins with a noticeable absence of the large number of perch seen several years ago. Even the carp seemed to be absent although one of the Upper Lake matches was won by Vince Herringshaw with a feeder caught bag of carp and Steve Simmonds caught an 11 pound carp on the lower Lake to easily win that match. Steve has become something of a carp fishermen winning one of the Three Counties matches at Stemps with a 50 pound catch of carp from peg 1.

Attendances continued to be low for the Chichester Canal series but this is a very good venue with very fair matches and normally lots of bites. The series was won by Keith Hughes closely followed by Mick Greenway. The two matches on the Arun at Watersfield saw some good bags of silverfish with one of the matches having three double figure bags recorded.

Non club waters were also fished this year and the Committee/ Ottaway Cup/ Bailiffs match, fished at

Bernies, has become a regular feature of the match fishing calendar. This year the match was won with a 50 pound plus feeder caught bag by Dan Bolton.

In November we originally had two matches scheduled for the Match Lake at Hurston but with this venue closed these were moved to the bunker straight section of the Match Lake at Passies. Some good catches of F1s and carp were had and the series was a tie between Paul Ward and Phil Tubb with Phil winning overall by virtue of the heavier weight, having close on 100 pound of fish in total.

The pole only series on Stemps and Cart was won by Glen Riley with a second and first having drawn favoured Peg 16 on Cart and Peg 1 on Stemps where he caught 50 pound of carp to easily win that match.

The season finishes off with the pairs match on Stemps and Cart, a silverfish match at Passies, matches on Hurston Match Lake and then an away day at Petersfield AC's Nyewood lake.



# Match Scene continued

## TROPHY WINNERS FOR 2013 - 2014 SEASON

Trophy	Name	Venue	Weight	Points
Pibworth Cup	Steve Speller	Hurston Match	17-8-0	
M Sampson Cup	Vince Herringshaw	Hurston		23
BBQ Shield	Mike Kitchener	Stemps and Cart	9-13-0	
Caine Cup	Vince Herringshaw	Petworth Park		19
Ransome Tankard	Vince Herringshaw	Hurston Match	10-7-0	
W. Sampson	Vince Herringshaw	Hurston Match	28-1-0	
Kingsbury Tankard	Keith Hughes	Stemps	13-4-4	
Charles Tankard	Keith Hughes	Chichester Canal	3-1-0	
Jubilee Cup	John Williams	RVS		
Parfremment Cup	Vince Herringshaw	Nyewood	50-8-0	
Milliard Cup	Vince Herringshaw	Bethwins		19
Daniels Cup	John Williams	Coultershaw	3-7-4	
Daniels Rose Bowl	Dave Herbert	Petworth Park		18
Presidents Cup	Keith Hughes	Hurston Match		20
Pairs Tankard	Keith Hughes / John Williams	Stemps & Cart		20
LEC Cup	Vince Herringshaw	Chichester Canal		27
Kirby Bott Cup	Ray Huskisson	Watersfield		26
Pole Only	John Williams	Stemps & Cart		19
Moss Cup	Vince Herringshaw	River Rother		28
Ottaway Cup	Vince Herringshaw	Bernies Lake	31-11-0	
Bailiffs Trophy	Mick Greenway	Bernies Lake	18-10-0	
Committee Cup	Phil Tubb	Bernies Lake	43-0-0	
Matchman Trophy	Vince Herringshaw			1091
Aggregate Weight Trophy	Vince Herringshaw		235-0-8	
Club Champion	Vince Herringshaw			152
Specimen Cup	Phillip Blunsum	18-6-0 Barbel - River Arun		

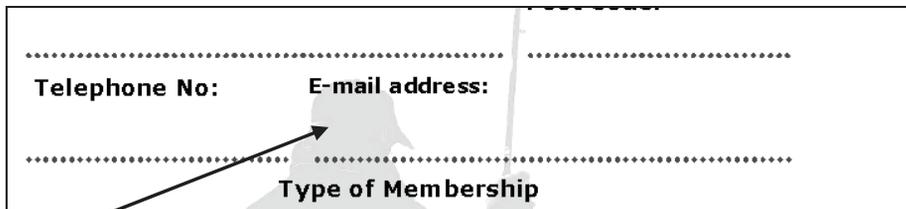


# 21st Century Communications

**We are keen to utilise e-mail communication to keep in regular contact with our members but we need your help!**

In December 2013 we sent our first e-mailer out to members past and present. This was sent to around 530 addresses but we did get around 10% bounced back. We have since updated our systems and had an influx of new e-mail addresses and are now sending to around 720 addresses, we still have issues with a few, around 5% are now bouncing back, these are probably due to typos or difficulty in reading handwriting. If you have an e-mail address but are not getting the mailers from us and would like to please follow the instructions below and hopefully we will be able to add you to our database.

.....	.....
<b>Telephone No:</b>	<b>E-mail address:</b>
.....	.....
<b>Type of Membership</b>	



Please enter in **BLOCK CAPITALS** We will transfer to lower case unless you tell us otherwise

An alternative way of ensuring that we have your e-mail address correctly is for you to drop us a quick mail via the website. Hover over contact us and you should get the drop down as per the screen grab to the right. Then click on 'Secretary' and this will automatically open up an e-mail message. Just drop us a quick line to say that you are confirming your address and would like to receive e-mail news from us and then send - simple!

We certainly think that communication via e-mailers is the way forward and look forward to compiling and sending these out through 2015. Of course if you have news that you would like to send us, feel free and hopefully we can include it.



In November 2014 we launched our facebook page which can be found at

<https://www.facebook.com/petworthandbognor>

If you are a regular facebook users and have any comments or posts please submit for consideration.



# Our Rivers

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## River Arun - Watersfield

The river shows many facets along the one mile stretch at Watersfield. Depth and flow can vary greatly from swim to swim. In general terms the top section starts relatively shallow gets deeper and then shallows up again. The mid section is very difficult to fish due to a combination of reeds and low lying ground, although there are a few really interesting swims to be found. The lower section tends to dry out on the inside in places as the tide falls but find the deeper glides and you will be in to some serious fish. Virtually at the end of



our stretch there is a gem of an inside line gravel run. Roach, dace and perch can be caught all through with bream liable to show virtually anywhere. We have always seen the odd chub and plenty of chublets, more recently anglers have been reporting bags of good chub from this stretch. There are also big barbel, carp and pike here.

## River Arun - Stopham



This stretch of the Arun above Stopham bridge is approximately one mile long and although still tidal the conditions are quite different from Watersfield. We have had reports of excellent roach fishing with plenty of fish in the ½ to 1 lb bracket with specimens approaching 2lb, there are good numbers of bream and chub as well. There are some good sized carp with fish to certainly 15lbs and quite possibly

better, we have not heard of any barbel on this stretch but there is nothing to suggest that they are not around. Of particular interest during the winter months is the size of pike with fish approaching 20lb.

**Fly Fishing** is permitted on both these sections of the river.



# Our Rivers

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## River Rother - Coultershaw

Probably the most well known stretch of the Rother. This stretch of approximately one mile offers a rich variety of fishing. As well as the barbel for which it has become famous there are quality chub and bream on this stretch together with all the other species that you would expect with some fish at specimen or close to specimen size there are even a few double figure carp which give as good an account of themselves as the barbel.



## River Rother - Shopham

Immediately below Coultershaw and offering similar opportunities. There are fewer barbel on this stretch but more chub and this is probably our best water for grayling. The section is on the north bank both above and below Shopham bridge..



## River Rother - Coates Castle

This is our longest section of the river running for approximately 2 miles on the south bank from Shopham bridge to just above Fittleworth bridge. The variety of fish on Coates is unusual with double figure carp, chub to 6 lb and bream to 8 lb being supported by a good head of roach, dace, grayling and gudgeon with the odd barbel as well.



## River Rother - Fittleworth

The lowest of our stretches and offering the north bank for just over a mile and approximately half a mile of the south bank.. There are plenty of chub, roach and dace to be caught with pockets of good bream all the way through the section.. This stretch also produced the club record barbel in November 2014.



**Fly Fishing** is permitted on Shopham, Coates and Fittleworth



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# Our Still Waters

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We have 10 individual waters on 6 venues ranging from the beautiful estate lake at Petworth Park to tranquil farm ponds at Bethwins and Stemps & Cart.

**Hurston Lane** Our Hurston Lane fishery consists of three well stocked ponds with something for everyone. **This fishery is currently subject to Cefas controls please observe all notices.**



**Tench pond** A further stocking of tench was made at the end of 2012. These added to the crucian carp rudd and perch should ensure plenty of bites most of the year.



**Carp Pond** This was reopened at the back end of 2011 having been extensively restocked with a fine range of carp to 20lb. There is also a good head of rudd and big perch in this pond. We may need to close the lake for a couple of days in the late spring for weed removal. Look out for notices.

**Match Pond** The match pond has been extensively restocked over the last three years with carp and silver fish. If all goes to plan this should become our flagship mixed fishery. Catch reports would be appreciated so we gauge how the new stock has settled in.



**Chichester Canal** We enjoy several miles of fishing on the Chichester Canal. During the warmer months good mixed bags of roach, rudd, perch, tench and skimmers supplemented by the occasional large bream or carp can be taken from almost anywhere. In winter the fish tend to move up towards the canal basin and this becomes one of the prime spots as it remains ice free for all but the hardest winters. The basin is also particularly noted for its pike during the winter months.



# Our Still Waters

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**Bethwins Farm** Situated near Chiddingfold, Bethwins Farm offers two attractive ponds in a tranquil setting surrounded by woods and farmland. The Lower Pond contains good sized carp to 15 lbs, together with a lot of perch. The Upper Pond has a good stock of tench and some decent sized carp to 10 lb. This is a great spot for a day “away from it all” in beautiful un-spoilt surroundings.

## Stemps and Cart



Stemps Pond (left) is stocked with common carp, crucians, tench, roach, rudd and bream. Cart Pond (right) is stocked with carp, roach and skimmer bream. Both ponds provide good year-round sport!



**Petworth Park** This glorious 7 acre lake set in the picturesque grounds of the Petworth Park Estate holds a good stock of tench, bream, and crucian carp. Pole, waggler or feeder tactics all prove productive and with light but regular feeding mixed bags exceeding 70 lbs are not



uncommon. Bream are generally in the 3 lbs to 6 lbs bracket with some fish approaching double figures, the tench go to 5lbs and crucians to 3lbs!

**The Granary** A lovely secluded lake set on farmland with a stock of mainly carp and rudd. The carp run from a few ounces to 20lb and rudd up to a pound have been caught.



# NOTICE OF AGM

The club will hold its Annual General Meeting  
at  
The White Swan, Chichester Road (A27) Arundel BN18 0AD  
on  
Thursday 19th November 2015  
at  
7.30 pm

Please submit any motions or matters for consideration in writing to The Club Secretary (address as per your handbook) by Thursday 29th October 2015

## Interested in Joining the Club

Fill out a membership form and send it with the appropriate fees and photos to;  
Arun Angling, The Old Blacksmiths Yard, Water Lane Angmering BN16 4EP

Or join on the spot at the following tackle shops;

Arun Angling, Angmering	01903 770099
Prime Angling, Worthing	01903 821594
SAS Chichester	01243 531669
Tropikoi Angling, Bognor	01243 842660

## Membership Fees for 2015 - 2016

Membership Type	Full Year	Half Year
Full Adult	£94	£58
Family (2 adults & 2 children)	£160	£100
Senior Citizen	£52	£32
Student	£52	£32
Registered Disabled	£52	£32
Junior (aged 13 - 16 inclusive)	£22	£11
Juvenile (aged below 13)	Free	Free
Associate (non fishing)	£2	£2
Life Membership (see page 7)	£1350	