

# The Sussex Angler



Spring 2017

Issue 13

News

Articles

Information

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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As Chairman may I extend a warm welcome to both new and regular members.

This year marks the 10th anniversary of the merger of the Bognor Regis & District Freshwater Angling Club and Petworth Angling Club to form our current club Petworth & Bognor Angling Club. The two original clubs were well known to each other as members of the Hants & Sussex Anglers Alliance which had four member clubs but this had reduced to three at the time that it was dissolved and the new club formed. Since the merger we have gone from strength to strength and are now one of the largest and most active angling clubs in the south of England offering a wide choice of river and still water venues for both the newcomer and experienced angler.

We attract members from all over the country especially those seeking the challenge of the Rother and Arun two rivers that are very different in character but both are renowned for their variety and quality of fish and the beauty of the countryside through which they run.

The tidal Arun is home to large shoals of bream, there are roach, chub, dace, pike and barbel all found from our stretch at Watersfield, further upstream at Stopham there are carp and good roach to be caught as well as big pike. Fishing a tidal river requires some specialist knowledge and skills, for a

start a good knowledge of the local tide tables is needed, the Arun is one of the fastest flowing rivers in England with a very significant tidal range. An approach that takes these factors into account is essential.

The Rother is very different to the Arun, it's a small winding non tidal river that runs west to east across the country joining the Arun near Pulborough. Our Rother stretches are; from the highest, most westerly, Coultershaw through to the lowest most easterly at Fittleworth. Coultershaw is our most popular barbel venue, but the barbel do move throughout the river and the current river record actually comes from the lowest section. Below Coultershaw we have both banks of Shopham and Coates where the river meanders through largely open fields. These venues produce good roach and dace fishing with some excellent chub and the odd big bream and carp. There is also a significant head of brown trout through these stretches. Fittleworth the lowest section is probably the most mixed fishery and has a good stock of chub, roach, perch and dace and an increasing head of bream.. Sea trout run through from the Arun, and together with increasing numbers of brown trout provide plenty of sport for the fly fisherman.

There have been a number of fish related improvements by the Arun & Rother Rivers Trust in co-operation with the Environment Agency with the support of



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local landowners and farmers, the object is to continually improve the passage for fish throughout the length of the rivers, as a result I'm pleased to say that these measures are really taking effect as we see a significant increase in fish population right through the river.

will complement our carp, rudd, bream, tench, crucian carp and roach. Petworth Park pond is renowned for it's tench and bream, so there's something for everyone.

There is more information about all our waters towards the back of this magazine.

As well as specimen and general pleasure angling we have an active match scene so if you fancy some match angling then contact our Match Secretary you will be made very welcome.

Finally our hard working committee and bailiffs ensure the smooth running of our club and the high standards of our waters. As with any club we rely in part upon those that are prepared to give up a bit of their time and volunteer to help with administration or at work parties. So if you join the club and would like to give a little back then please contact any of the club officers to let us know how you can help we really appreciate those that come forward.

We are a friendly bunch of anglers and extend a warm welcome, to all who join us and wish you good luck and hope you enjoy your fishing with us.



Roger Poole - Chairman



**Part of the new fish passage easement at Fittleworth which means that fish can now freely move up and down the river from the Arun all the way up to Coultershaw**

The most recent at Fittleworth mill, has been a long time coming and effectively means that the Rother is joined from the confluence with the Arun to Coultershaw. Most of this is our water so we now have free movement of fish throughout our stretches of the river Rother.

However we are not just a river club and our still waters at Walberton, Petworth Park, The Granary and Hurston Lane all have good stocks of most varieties of fish. Perch have been introduced to the Granary and at Walberton, they



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# Fishery Improvements

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## Hurston Lane - Weed

We hope that we have taken a major step forward in our efforts to control the weed that has plagued us at Hurston for many years. During the autumn of last year we trialled the use of a dye in the match pond. This dye blocks the wavelengths of light that stimulate photosynthesis and hence slows or stops weed growth. It is important that before application as much of the weed as possible is removed, this can be done either mechanically by raking the weed out or naturally during the winter when the weed will die back in the cold. On the match lake because we wanted to start the trial we opted for mechanical removal and at the beginning of August we spent about 90 man hours clearing weed from the pond. We were not looking to remove the lilies but the sub surface weed that had choked a lot of the swims. It was hard work but we managed to get about 95% of the weed out which was our target for the dye introduction. We also had to stop the flow of water in and out of the pond as this would mean that the dye would be diluted and we would lose the level required to be effective. Stopping the water flowing out was reasonably easy, we could increase the height of the boards in the monk at the tail of the pond where it was flowing into the middle pond. Stopping the water flowing into the pond was more complicated and we had to dig a new ditch from the field above our land to the stream. We also needed to retain the option of letting water into the pond if needed.



**The match pond had a definite blue tinge after the dye was added**

Since we introduced the dye we have seen very little re-growth of weed and this has given us the confidence to extend the treatment to the other ponds. At the time of writing we have had a couple of cold spells and the weed in the middle pond is dying back however there will still need to be quite a big effort to remove what weed is left and work parties have been planned to do this. Once the weed has been removed we can treat the water with dye and hopefully it will prove as effective as in match pond. By the time you read this the work should have been done.

Because of KHV we are still being regularly visited by Cefas and the inspector expressed great interest in the work we are doing and has asked us to keep him updated.





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# The Fisheries Team

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## Hurston Lane - Stock

For the last couple of years we have not been able to introduce further stock to Hurston Lane but after discussions with Cefas and the EA they allowed an introduction of fish at the end of last year. We put around 600 fish into the pond which consisted of skimmer bream, tench and roach. There were around 100 each of the tench and skimmer bream and the rest were roach. We hope that the roach and skimmers will improve the winter fishing while the tench will add to the variety during the summer.



**A net of the new Hurston stock**

## Coultershaw

We widened the bridge over the ditch by the first cattle drink, so that it is now much easier to cross particularly if you use a trolley or barrow. There has been quite a bit of tree clearing on the far bank a number of trees that were dangerously close to falling into the river have been removed. At first glance this looks a bit severe, but we know that the bank will quickly recover and by next summer will look much better.

## Coates

Last spring in a joint venture between the Woodland Trust, ARRT, ARC and the club we planted a lot of trees (100+) at Coates. These trees will replace some of the large number of trees that have been lost from the river side over the past few years. A mixture of Common Alder, Goat willow and Grey Willow were planted. In time they will provide shaded areas over the river, encourage insect life and help bind the river bank to prevent erosion.



**One of the planted areas at Coates**

Following the planting the areas were fenced to protect them from cattle. We continued the planting willow whips in the riffle area and these are beginning to take well.

## Watersfield

Last season was the first time for some years that we have done any work at Watersfield, But with continuing problems with the path under the railway bridge, now was the time to act! All the large bits of rubble etc have been removed from the path and the surface levelled. Shuttering was then put in place between the stream and the path. It was felt that we might need to top dress the path but so far it is holding up well. This year some work is required to improve the car park .



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# Fishery Improvements

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## Stemps and Cart

Nelson our long time bailiff and custodian of all things Stemps and Cart is taking a step back and we now have two new bailiffs looking after the water. Dave Tomkins and Alan Graham have really stepped up to the plate and you will see that a lot of work has been done to open up the water a bit more and remove a lot of the overhanging snags. Dave and Alan can be found at Walberton most days when they combine a bit of fishing with some work around the site. In particular they have refurbished / rebuilt a lot of



**I did manage to get a picture of Dave fishing the other day. Alan was off swim building!**

the platforms, but again we have to appeal to all members not to start modifying these platforms Yet again some thoughtless anglers seem determined to modify the platforms for their own benefit without thinking about others members or the amount of work that goes into their building and maintenance.

Following very high numbers of silver fish fry in both Stemps and Cart we introduced around 200 perch to the venue right at the beginning of this year. This fish should grow on really well in the ponds and give good sport as well as controlling the over population of small fish.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all those members who have helped out at work parties over the last year and also those that responded to the questionnaire on the application form. We haven't forgotten you and be prepared for a phone call or e-mail to let you know what is happening and hopefully enlisting your help. We are lucky to have the likes of Dave and Alan at Stemps and Cart who do a bit almost every day. On other waters we have to make concentrated efforts to get particular jobs done and this is when we need maximum help. We can find jobs for everyone to suit their ability and the amount of physical work they can do. A work party is also a great way to find out more about our waters as you will normally find those with the greatest interest in the water present. We always find that there are a few minutes during which you can pick their brains with regard to the best way to fish a venue. Listed on the next page are the scheduled work parties that we intend to hold in the coming year.



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# The Fisheries Team

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Work Party Dates for 2017	
Sunday	Where
2nd April	Hurston
23rd April	Hurston
7th May	Coultershaw
14th May	Stemps & Cart
4th June	Coultershaw
2nd July	The Granary

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 general questions or queries with regard to our work parties please do not hesitate to contact; Mick Greenway on **07932 694876**, Steve Simmonds on **07794 699539** or e-mail [fisheryofficer@sussexangling.co.uk](mailto:fisheryofficer@sussexangling.co.uk)

If you require information about a specific work party, please contact the bailiff for the particular water who will be able to give you more details. Bailiff details are on the water pages in the 2017 Handbook. We have occasional extra work parties, so please keep an eye on the website or facebook page and look out for notices in the local tackle shops.

Finally a really important part of our Fishery Management scheme is our bailiff team. We have bailiffs that look after particular waters and you can find details of these in the club handbook. Others bailiffs have a more roving brief and are likely to pop up at any of our waters.

Although our bailiffs are the eyes and ears of our waters they cannot be everywhere all the time so if you see or hear anything amiss then in the first instance you should contact the specific water bailiff and let them know. It is also useful to put a note in the Fishery Log Book.

We would also ask that you cooperate fully with our bailiffs at all times.



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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.**

In 2014 we were pleased to announce that the club were able to offer a Life Membership programme for a limited period of time and we decided that this should be 3 years.

Therefore 2017 is the last year during which we will be offering life membership.

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 **£1480** for this final season.

Applications for Life Membership may be made on a 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 Life 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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# Riverfly

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We first brought Riverfly to your attention in our e-mailer of May 2015 when some of us were involved in the launch of the project that is running around the UK with similar groups.

Since then there have been a number of training schemes and monitoring has commenced on the Rother. Recently the running of the scheme has passed from ARC to ARRT and locally it will be headed up by Petworth & Bognor club member; Phillip Ellis who has a great deal of experience of the scheme having monitored sites on the River Itchen for a number of years. There are a number of sites on the Rother that are monitored (see map below) and Phillip is hoping that these can be extended around the catchment in the future to give better coverage of our stretches of the river.



## What does the scheme do?

The scheme calls for regular sampling of river bed using a technique known as a three minute kick sample. The invertebrates caught are counted and identified. Changes in the pattern of invertebrates found are monitored and can indicate an improvement or reduction in water quality which can then be investigated by the EA.

## What does this mean to the club?

This is a useful means of monitoring our water quality and can help track pollution incidents should they occur.

## What can we do as members?

Firstly if you see someone with sampling trays and nets, please let them get on with it. Secondly if you would like to get involved you can register your interest by contacting Phillip by e-mail: [elsteadbysea@btinternet.com](mailto:elsteadbysea@btinternet.com)



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# ARRT Update

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As a Trustee of ARRT I have seen it grow from a meeting in a garden shed to a charitable trust (reg No. 1147477) that has been responsible for raising the funding and managing projects such as the Shopham riffles and the fish passage easement at Fittleworth Mill. We are lucky to have the river trust looking at the environment surrounding the Arun and Rother as a lot of the work that the trust does directly benefits us as anglers. Since the trust was formed we have seen great improvements in the numbers and variety of fish recorded by the EA in the Rother and I firmly believe that this is a direct result of the works that the trust has undertaken on the river.



**Fish passage easement at Fittleworth Mill (also see page 2 for another view)**

## **Digging the fish refuges at Fittleworth**

Obviously this work takes money and although we have been successful in making bids for funding every little bit of money helps.

### **How can club members help?**

You can become a supporter of the trust for an annual fee of £25, as a supporter you will get regular updates on the work that the trust does and also have the opportunity to attend events organised by the trust.

You can make a donation to the trust, this can be done through MyDonate or you can download a donation form from the trust website [www.arrrt.org.uk](http://www.arrrt.org.uk)

If you are a business or organisation that would like to consider sponsoring the trust in some way then please contact me to discuss further

**Roger Poole**



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# Social Media & Communications

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These days social media has become a vital means of communication and more and more people rely upon social media for the latest news stories

Over the last year we have worked on making our facebook page more up to date and interactive. Our next project has been a complete revamp of our website to make it viewable on portable devices such as mobile phones and tablets; which are increasingly the main way that people browse the internet. Therefore we have completely updated our website to embrace these new forms of viewing. We tested the site on a good number of devices but if you have any issues on your particular device please feel free to contact us.



Our website can be found at  
[www.sussexangling.co.uk](http://www.sussexangling.co.uk)



Our facebook page can be found at <https://www.facebook.com/petworthandbognor?fref=nf>

You can e-mail us directly via the website, just follow **Contact** from the menu bar across top of every page and follow the instructions. We normally respond back to you within 48 hours.

You can submit posts to our facebook page - these will be moderated and if accepted will normally be uploaded within 48 hours.

Please also fill in our fishery log books we look at these regularly and they help us, decide upon stocking, sort out any issues at our fisheries and produce our fishery reports,

We have been producing the fishery reports for a couple of years now and we get enough information during the summer months to produce the reports. But the information is sparse during the winter, we know you are out there fishing so although it's cold spare a couple of minutes at the end of your session to tell us how you have fared.



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# Notable Fish

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A quick look at some of the notable fish featured on our website over the last season.  
Take a look at our gallery for more.

It's good to some of our younger members with their catches



**July: Young Seth Oglethorpe with an excellent Granary rudd**



**July: It looks as if it was a wet day when Ewan and Finlay Hayes had this carp from Hurston**



**December: Jack Winslade with a Rother pike of 14lb 1oz**





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# By Webmaster

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**July: Coultershaw stalwart and bailiff, Martin Cornish with a nice Rother barbel**

**July: Coultershaw again, and regular contributor Stephen Gray with a lovely looking river carp**



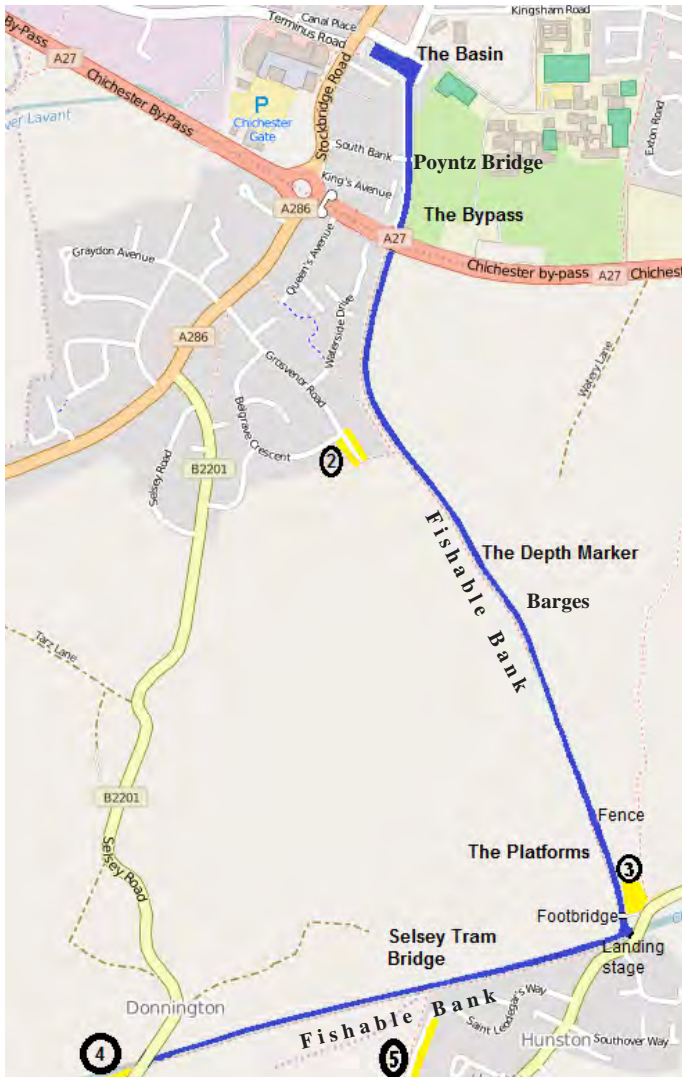
We are always pleased to see and publish your pictures on the website and don't forget that a year's membership is available for the best barbel and best other species submitted over the year. You can send pictures to our webmaster or if you don't have internet access give one of the officers a phone call to discuss how we can transfer your pictures.

Please also remember to record your sessions in our log books, this really helps us with our fishery management programme.



# The Chichester Canal

The Chichester Canal is perhaps overlooked as a fishery as it does not have the head of big fish that we have in other waters, however it can still provide a rewarding days fishing if you approach it the right way



## Parking and Access

Just to remind readers where you can park to access the canal. In the previous issue we identified five parking areas however the area identified then as **1** now seems to have restricted parking so I have removed it from the map. Parking areas are marked on the map in **yellow**. There is some limited parking in the area of the basin but this is time restricted and does not really allow enough time for a proper session. It is probably now best to access the basin from area **2**. Parking area **2** is at the end of Grosvenor Road, this is a residential area so make sure you don't block any residents access if you park here. Area **3** is the Hunston car park and from here you can either cross the footbridge to get to the platforms or a short walk along the road south will take you to the landing stage and the lower section.

There are two other places to access the lower section. There is some parking on the verge on the opposite side of the road from the fishable section of the canal at point **4**. Finally you can park in Orchardside at point **5**, again this is residential so ensure you do not block access.



# By 'In Depth'

## Session 1 - The Depth Marker

This is best accessed from parking area **2** it is then a two to three minute walk along the canal. Just before you get to the marker there is a bed of lilies on the inside and a patch of lilies on the far bank. I would set up just to the right of the inside lilies and from here I have three or four options.

Option 1 - Just to the right and slightly in front of the inside lilies. This is where I will definitely start and I will continue fishing here until the fish stop coming. I can then go on to explore the other areas. This area is ideal

for a short pole 4 / 5 sections or a whip. The water here is around 3' deep and I will start by feeding some liquidised bread and use punched bread on the hook. I would expect to catch almost immediately and would be looking for a run of small roach with possibly the odd skimmer. It is worth trying a pinkie as a change bait on the hook and if the bites start coming as quickly on the pinkie as on the punch I would then stick with pinkie. At this point I would also change my feed and mix a bit of red lake groundbait in with the liquidised bread and add a pinch or two of pinkies. This should bring the better fish in and I would expect a few more skimmers. When this starts slowing down it is worth thinking about option 2.

Option 2 When I started fishing I would have put a couple of cups of hemp down the middle of the canal and as option 1 is slowing I will start catapulting 8 - 10 grains of hemp every minute. I really want to be doing this for at least 10 minutes before I go over it. I could possibly get away with 5 sections of pole but more likely 6 and I will need to adjust the depth by another 9 - 12 inches to be fishing about 1 inch off the bottom. I would normally start on a maggot or caster just to see if the fish are there and if I get bites move over to hemp or tare on the hook. This relies upon the water being still and with the boats making fairly regular trips you will find that once the boat has gone through you need to wait 10 minutes or so before the swim settles down again. I would continue during this time with feeding hemp and look at option 3. There is a bank of lilies on the far shelf and it is worth having a look in front of these with a caster or red maggot. This is about 10 - 11 metres across and I would normally look to feed a small pot of groundbait laced with a few maggots and casters. As the canal towpath is quite regularly used by walkers and cyclists I look to ship sideways along the canal bank and in two lots of three or four sections finally ending up with my top two. I would hope to get some decent roach and perhaps a skimmer or two from this line. During the session it is worth alternating between the three lines and hopefully catching a few fish on each visit.



**The Depth Marker**



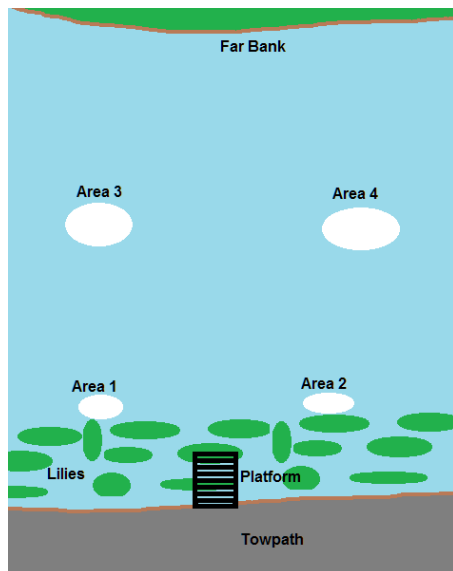
# The Chichester Canal

Don't forget to top up the feed in the lines that you are not fishing. There is a 4th option here for the brave, to your right on the far side there is an overhanging tree and I have regularly seen 4 or 5 carp here. Much heavier tackle is required and it is not really reachable with the pole but worth putting a pellet cone or a method feeder here, there are a lot of snags so you have to hang on tight.

## Session 2 - Hunston platforms

Easily accessed from the Hunston car park and after crossing the canal just a couple of minutes walk to the platforms. Because you are sitting out over the water here lengths are that much shorter than on Session 1. The inside bank in particular is lined with lilies and the end of the platforms are normally a metre or so short of the end of the lily growth. Here I would concentrate on 4 options 2 inside lines and 2 lines down the middle. The inside lines will be around 3 - 4 metres to the left and right just over the edge of the lilies. In one of these I will feed liquidised bread and fish bread punch. The other I will feed chopped worm and fish maggot or caster over the top. The two swims down the middle will be around 6 - 8 metres on the pole and on one I will feed hemp and fish with either hemp or tares over the top. In the other I will feed a small amount of groundbait (Sensas red lake) with a few pinkies and I will fish maggot or pinkie over the top. Having put the initial feed into each area I will start on the bread punch area and fish this for probably around 45 mins when I would expect the bites to slow down. I would then re-feed all areas and move on to area 2 and I would expect a similar pattern. While fishing here I would also start regular feeding of a few grains of hemp to the hemp line before I go over it. I do not waste much time here, if I don't catch almost immediately I will move on to the groundbait line.

By rotating round the lines I would hope to keep fish coming for the whole of the session.



A typical Hunston platform swim



A Chichester Canal net of roach and skimmers





# By 'In Depth'

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## Preparation and using hemp

The easy way to prepare hemp is to buy a tin from the tackle shop, you can even get flavoured options. I find that this is OK for feed but the grains tend to be quite small and are not so good for hooking. Your best bet is to buy some 'giant' hemp seed uncooked and prepare it yourself.

Soak overnight in cold water, rinse and then put into fresh water, add a teaspoon of sodium bicarbonate, bring to the boil and simmer gently for around 10 mins and then check every couple of minutes until the grains start splitting. Stop cooking and rinse with cold water. It is worth retaining the cooking liquor as this can be mixed into groundbait.

Hemp is quite difficult to hook there are a number of ways you can do it. Generally I would use a size 18 or 20 hook;

1. Select grains that have just split and gently squeeze them so the shell opens up and bury the hook inside when you release the pressure the shell will close up to grip the hook.
2. Requires a bit of preparation, again select grains that have just split and with a fine sewing needle pierce a hole in the blunt end of the seed I do this at home before my session, you then pass the hook into the seed through the hole and bring it out through the split.
3. This requires the most preparation and is quite fiddly to do but does mean that you



The hemp tying method

can get a few fish for each grain of hemp. With your fine sewing needle carefully pierce right through the shell of the seed and then thread some fine line through the holes and carefully tie line using a double overhand knot reasonably tight to the shell. Trim off the ends and when you come to use slip your hook point between

the line and seed. You can normally have quite a few fish before you either lose or have to replace your seed. I would normally tie about 20 per session to make sure I have enough. Another option is to use the artificial hemp seed that is available in most tackle shops.

## Tares

Tares are much easier to handle and quite easy to hook, these again need to be cooked and the process is similar to hemp but you are looking to cook until the grains are reasonably soft but the skin remains intact. I would use either an 18 or 16 wide gape hook for tares and hook by passing the hook through the softened flesh until it sits under the bend in the hook.



# Reflections on June 16th 1983

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I've recently had the privilege and pleasure of being given access to the diaries, photographs and press cuttings of Reginald Addison. Extracts have appeared before in previous newsletters and on the website, and I'm sure members will be familiar with them. I was inspired to want to read more, especially as the diaries cover such a long period from 1933–1990 and relate to places I have fished. I was also interested because of my own involvement in an oral history project run by Arun and Rother Connections and because I have recently been reading the *River Diaries* and *The Lost Diary* by Chris Yates, which together cover the seasons 1981-84, a period during which Reg was also, like Yates, fishing the Arun and Rother, as well as other local venues.

I thought it might prove interesting to compare diary entries from this period when both were fishing locally and at the same time, so where better to start than on opening day? *River Diaries* actually begins on the eve of the 1983 season as Yates meets up with his mates in a pub close by to Sheepwash Pond in preparation for an early start.

*Got down to the farm at 7.30 pm and dumped some gear by the Sticks. Put 'reserved' tickets on the bank, by the favourite pitches of the committee, then went to meet the club, who were sitting in the garden of the Black Horse, looking pleased with life.*

*At 9 pm it began to rain, so we went into the bar to finish our refreshments, then drove off to the farm as it got dark.*

[After some research, I have assumed this Black Horse to be the one in Nuthurst, close to Horsham.]



The Black Horse at Nuthatch



# Peter Foster

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After a night of steady, heavy rain, Yates woke to the sound of birdsong – ‘a full, clear dawn chorus ... a cloudless blue-grey sky – a perfect dawn’. He chose to start by shimmying to the end of a tree trunk and swinging out

*a crust accurately enough, just beyond the fish. As he continued sucking at the surface-growth, I slid the bait next to him and he took it in his stride, without a moment's hesitation. I struck as soon as he sank from sight and he bolted along a narrow channel between two massive beds of weeds.*

With the assistance of one of his companions, the fish was duly netted and recognised as ‘the Stick, a fish I had in July last year,’ but which ‘didn’t weigh as much as last year: 7 lb 12 oz.’

Meanwhile, Reg had chosen to start the season with his friend, Joe, at Broadwater Lake, which I take to be a Godalming AS fishery.

*The coarse fishing season seemed to come quickly this year perhaps because of the trout fishing.*

*It was a warm, dull day with no wind to speak of, but rather surprisingly there did not seem to be as many fishing as usual, and Joe and I were able to get the swim between the lilies and the oak tree on the far side. I legered with sweetcorn for a start, and got three carp about three pounds, and when I made up my float rod and used bread close in I had four or five nice crucians. Then roach and rudd followed, and occasionally a carp would take it, sometimes with the inevitable loss in the lilies. I finished with nine carp, four or five crucians, about six roach and twelve rudd, and a gudgeon, so was kept busy.*

By one o’clock Chris Yates and his companions had ‘decided the sun had become much too hot for good fishing’, and that it would be ‘better to be sitting in the beer garden of the Black Horse, drinking good ale and eating a hearty meal’. Following the ‘excellent lunch’, three of the party decided to return home, while the other three enjoyed a ‘pleasant sleep under the shade of the trees’. Not much more fishing was done, although one was lost. So ended the session at Sheepwash.



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# Reflections on June 16th 1983

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Meanwhile, back at Broadwater:

*Joe also did well, but lost a lot on maggots and a 16 hook. We both had a biggest of about 5 lb, but a lad next to us had one of 11 lb, one 10 lb and one 8 lb, Joe said he got the bigger ones on luncheon meat. Quite a number of tench were also caught in the morning, but only up to about 1 ½ lb.*

*Fish were cruising about all day, some very close in. There is not a very big growth of lilies, and the leaves seemed rather small, probably due to the cool Spring.*

It is clear from Reg's diaries and his book of press cuttings that his interests in fishing ranged across the country, and he visited many lakes, rivers, and ponds over sixty years. Close to home, there are several cuttings about local venues including places on the Arun and the Rother, which we hope to include in future issues of the Newsletter. For the time being, I hope readers will find these short extracts of interest.



**Broadwater Lake - a beautifully atmospheric photograph  
from the Godalming AS website**





# By Peter Foster

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As a barbel enthusiast, I was particularly interested to find tucked away in the pages of the diaries several small press cuttings detailing catches of double figure barbel, two of which were caught by matchmen. The most impressive of these was an 11 lb 10 ½ oz Dorset Stour fish which fell to maggot on a size 20 hook to 1.7 lb line. Unsurprisingly the lucky 18 year old angler won the match. I wonder how one of our current match anglers would fare if he were to hook one of our Arun or Rother Leviathans. Despite their undoubted skills and the advances in modern tackle, I think my money would be on the fish.

Incidentally the same clipping (from July 1982) also reported a phenomenal catch of pike from the Severn at Tewkesbury Weir. Fishing from 5 am to 7 pm a Birmingham angler took 14 fish, ten of which were doubles, totalling nearly 200 lb. All the pike fell to either floatfished chub livebait or sink and draw chub deadbait.

You can also see a video from the 1980's of John Sidley catching pike in the weir on YouTube at

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kz4853\\_FtR0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kz4853_FtR0)

Another press cutting featured a letter from nearly fifty years earlier.



**Tewkesbury Weir on the river Severn**

## ***Barbel in March – a letter to the Angler's News, 24 March 1934***

Dear Sir, - Mr Cullimore .... whilst fishing a private water at West Drayton on March 11th, with seven other anglers, had a remarkable experience. In the morning, spinning for perch, he hooked and landed a barbel of 2 lb., and in the afternoon, spinning with a dead gudgeon, hooked and landed another, about 2 ½ lb., both fish were fairly hooked. – Yours, D Stevens, Secretary, Chippenham and District AS

Look out for more Addison diary extracts in future newsletters or on the club website.



# Tackle News

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

You can always rely upon MAP to come up with something special each year and this new seat box system is a real winner. The quality of construction is fantastic and it should last a lifetime. We have one in the shop if you would like to take a look. The leg and feet system is particularly innovative and will give you a comfortable and stable seat on pretty much any bank. The standard package includes

1x Shallow drawer unit

1 x Deep drawer until

1 x Shallow tray unit

1 x Stacker lid with carry handle

1 x Padded carry strap

If you are interested you can pop into the shop and have a look - we are sure you will be impressed with the quality of workmanship and the innovative features.



MAP Z 30 Elite seat box



Manilla is the latest flavour range from Sticky Baits. Available in a range of products They are offering their full range of products in this flavour which has elements of caramel and vanilla. Come in and see what we have got.



# From Arun Angling



## The Guru pole sock

Last year we featured the Preston mini pole sock (otherwise known as 'The Secretary's Landing Net'!) and suggested that you might consider buying two. Well Guru have obviously listened to us and have come up with this brilliant bit of kit for pole anglers. The two socks side by side are just right for holding larger pole sections and if you have a tight swim where you need to break down as you are shipping in having two socks is really useful. The middle section between the two socks is a great 'tulip' grip for holding smaller sections. Although it is solidly built there is plenty of foam around the frame to protect the ends of your delicate sections.

Also from Guru is their Pure branded fluorocarbon line. Specially developed for use as hook lengths or for pole rigs. Guru Pure is available in 10 diameters which should cover all eventualities. It is virtually invisible in water, offers excellent knot strength and the higher diameters are recommended for quick sinking leaders.



# Tackle News

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## More from Tim and Simon on what's new in the tackle and bait world

RidgeMonkey have been going for just on three years during that time they have developed a range of products that are sometimes an update of a simple product, but updated to make them much more angler friendly and usable, other times they are truly innovative and award winning. Two of their products are set to be iconic and will certainly put their name on the map, the sandwich toaster and the boilie crusher which we are featuring here.



The Deep Fill Sandwich Toaster, shown here with the optional utensil kit is a must for those planning long sessions. It is not only great for preparing toasted sandwiches but can be used for cooking a wide variety of foods up to a full English breakfast! The toaster is so good for sandwiches that Tim even has one at home for use in the kitchen! It is made from die cast aluminium with a high quality non stick coating so cleaning is easy, in most instances just a wipe round is all you need.

You can toast a proper man sized sandwich in the toaster with thick sliced bread and plenty of filling. A particular favourite is the bacon, cheese and pickle;

*Firstly grill four rashers of back bacon (smoked or un smoked—your preference) for a few minutes with the toaster open.*

*While doing this butter two thick slices of bread and load the cheese (good old cheddar) and finally a layer of Branston pickle onto one slice, then put the bacon on and finally the second slice of bread on top. Return to the toaster, close up, cook and enjoy.*

You might find that you need to double up as any angler who is close is likely to be very interested!!

The tool set is specially designed not to damage the non stick surface and conveniently, fits inside the toaster for transport. Don't forget to let the toaster cool down before putting the utensil set away.



# From Arun Angling



This picture shows the fearsome looking business end of the RidgeMonkey Advanced Boilie Crusher. This piece of kit has an array of stainless steel crushing blades and goes through a kilo of boilies in less than a minute. The blade pattern is designed to give you a variety of particle sizes in the final crumb, making it ideal for spodding and feeding in the margins.

The crusher is designed to fit on the RidgeMonkey 17 litre modular bucket system and there is also an optional 5 litre hopper extension available.

The whole system is built from tough ABS, the stainless steel blades are corrosion resistant and the unit is supplied in a hard wearing drawstring carry bag so it should give many years of use.

If you are thinking of renewing the line on your carp reels then take a look at the latest offering from Berkley.

CF 600 is their latest advanced Fluorocarbon line and is available in a range of breaking strengths.

CM90 is their new grade on monofilament, it has excellent abrasion resistance, low stretch and casts really well.

Both are available on 1200m spools





# Match Scene

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

As well as the match trophies and series trophies, we have three trophies that are based on match performances over the whole season.

The Matchman trophy is based on the position that the angler achieves in each of the matches fished together with points awarded for the catch weights in each match.

The aggregate weight trophy is self explanatory and is awarded for the highest combined weight of catches over the season.

The Clubman trophy is awarded to the angler that scores the most match points in their best 16 matches over the season.

The current positions at the end of January are;

**Matchman Trophy:** Keith Hughes is well ahead in the Matchman Trophy on 1607 points with Mick Greenway in second on 1175. Keith's lead is probably sufficient to ensure a victory but if Mick wins a couple of the final matches of the season with big weights then he could catch up.

**Aggregate Weight:** Again Keith Hughes is well out in front with 377 - 12 - 0 From Mick Greenway who is over 100lb behind. Keith is ahead after some excellent weights from Petworth Park and Hurston.

**Clubman Trophy:** This is altogether a closer affair and could go either way, at the moment Keith Hughes is top on 146 points, but Vince Herringshaw is very close on 141 points. It will be interesting to see how this plays out over the last few matches of the season.



**Mick Greenway (left) is trailing Keith Hughes in both the Matchman and Aggregate Weight trophies. Mick is pictured with a chub haul from Coultershaw, whilst Keith shows a carp net from The Granary.**



# By Mick Greenway

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**Colin Bridger with a superb roach of 2lb 1oz caught in a match on the Arun**



**Vince Herringshaw with the current club record perch at 2lb 6oz**

Match angling is not always about masses of small fish, it is amazing the number of specimen fish that are caught in matches. Colin Bridger had an excellent net of quality roach from the Arun in a match with the best fish beating the magical 2lb mark, Two of our current club record fish have come from matches. Keith Hughes holds the crucian carp record with a 3 - 1 - 8 specimen from Petworth Park and Vince Herringshaw holds the perch record with a Watersfield fish of 2 - 6 - 0.

For the coming season we have a varied programme of still water and river matches, over the season we visit most of our waters as well as taking in some local day ticket venues for our away days. Our matches are friendly affairs, all are made very welcome and the regulars are always happy to offer a bit of advice if needed. We run a team in the local Three Counties League and although this sounds very grand it is not much more than a bunch of anglers from different clubs enjoying a days fishing together. Although the fishing is reasonably serious there is plenty of time for banter which is always amusing. The league fishes a variety of local waters with each team nominating their home venue and it is a great chance to try some other waters in the area. Again new anglers are made welcome and locals are always forthcoming with a bit of advice. If you are interested in either our club or team matches and would like more information; contact the Match Secretary - [matches@sussexangling.co.uk](mailto:matches@sussexangling.co.uk) or the Club Secretary - [secretary@sussexangling.co.uk](mailto:secretary@sussexangling.co.uk)



# 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 8 individual waters on 5 venues ranging from the beautiful estate lake at Petworth Park to tranquil farm ponds at Stemps & Cart.

**Hurston Lane** Our Hurston Lane fishery consists of three well stocked ponds with something for everyone. Weed is partially controlled using a blue dyestuff here so don't be put off by the water colour.

**This fishery is currently subject to Cefas controls please observe all notices.**

**Tench Pond** Stocked with mainly tench, crucian carp and rudd this pond fishes best during the summer months. There are plans to introduce further species for more year round sport.



**Middle Pond** Although considered to be mainly a carp venue with fish to 20lb. There is also a good head of rudd and some big perch in this pond.

**Match Pond** We have recently put a further stocking of roach and skimmers into the match pond along with some more tench. This water has a reputation for producing excellent nets of good sized bream along with plenty of carp.



**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. 3000 skimmers and tench were stocked into the canal at the end of 2015 to provide additional sport.



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# Our Still Waters

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**Stemps and Cart** One of our most popular fisheries which provides excellent all year sport.

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 have recently had an introduction of perch to provide some control of the massive head of small silver fish. It is hoped that these will grow on to provide some specimen perch fishing in the next few years.

**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. We have recently supplemented the stock with some perch which we hope will grow on to control the rudd and also provide more varied sport.



# NOTICE OF AGM

The club will hold its Annual General Meeting  
at  
The White Swan, Chichester Road (A27) Arundel BN18 0AD  
on  
Thursday 22nd November 2017  
at  
7.30 pm

Please submit any motions or matters for consideration in writing to The Club Secretary (postal address or e-mail address as per your handbook) by Thursday 2nd November 2017

## 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;

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

## Membership Fees for 2017 - 2018

<b>Membership Type</b>	<b>Full Year</b>	<b>Winter</b>
<b>Full Adult</b>	<b>£99</b>	<b>£62</b>
<b>Family (2 adults &amp; 2 children under 18)</b>	<b>£172</b>	<b>£107</b>
<b>Senior Citizen</b>	<b>£57</b>	<b>£36</b>
<b>Intermediate (aged 18 - 24 inclusive)</b>	<b>£57</b>	<b>£36</b>
<b>Registered Disabled</b>	<b>£57</b>	<b>£36</b>
<b>Junior (aged 13 - 17 inclusive)</b>	<b>£22</b>	<b>£11</b>
<b>Juvenile (aged below 13)</b>	<b>Free</b>	<b>Free</b>
<b>Associate (non fishing)</b>	<b>£2</b>	<b>£2</b>
<b>Life Membership (see page 8)</b>	<b>£1480</b>	