

# **PETWORTH & BOGNOR ANGLING CLUB**



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**We recognise this is a challenging time for many people. Our priority is the wellbeing of our anglers and members. We are monitoring and responding to the information from the UK Government and Public Health England and when appropriate we will publish updates on our website and Facebook**

## **EGM and Other Dates**

### **EGM**

**Due to the situation with Covid 19 (Corona Virus ) we have no option but to cancel the EGM scheduled for 23rd April. We will move the business we intended to cover into our AGM in November. We know that not all members have internet access, we would ask that if you know any members that do not have internet access give them a call to let them know. We will also put notices up in the tackle shops and on the website and hopefully this way we will save the cost of having to post a notice out to all members - approximately £500, money that we would much rather spend on fish stocks or building new swims.**

### **AGM**

**Those of you who have already joined might have noticed an error on the back page of the handbook. Unfortunately we have printed the wrong date for the AGM. It should be Thursday 19th November later handbooks have had the date amended.**

### **Work Parties**

**At this moment work parties are a bit up in the air. The work party scheduled for Stemps & Cart on 29th March is definitely off, but the work party scheduled for Hurston on 19th April is on. At the moment the Coultershaw work party on 26th April is a bit up in the air and we will get back to you when we have any more definite news for this and work parties scheduled beyond it.**

### **Coultershaw Social**

**We are considering whether this can go ahead and will get back to you with a definite decision in a month or so.**

### **Early Season Matches**

**At the moment we see no reason why matches cannot take place, however we will continue to review the situation alongside government guidelines / requirements and keep you updated.**

## Specimen Fish Winners from 2019 / 20

Our Chairman Roger Poole has the task of judging our specimen fish entries for the 2019 /2020 season. We have two trophies and the winners also receive a complimentary membership for the coming season. We had some interesting entries this year including Pike and Roach that equalled the current club records and certainly the best Chub that has been entered for a few years, although we suspect that there are still those among you who are reluctant to let us know what you have caught let alone send us pictures.

A season of big Barbel was topped by the biggest of all and there was little doubt that Colin Smithson's British record fish would also be the club Barbel of the year. It is a shame that the weather through January to March was so foul and the river conditions so variable which put off all but the most hardy of our Barbel anglers. This is quite often when we see our Barbel at their heaviest and you never know somebody might have given Colin a run for his money!



After a fair degree of deliberation Roger decided that the other species trophy should go to Dan Bolton for this Club record Crucian Carp from Petworth Park. Dan fished a number of early season sessions at Petworth and had some great Bream, Tench and Crucian Carp sessions with this record fish coming in May.

Congratulations to both winners and we hope you enjoy a years fishing on us. I'm sure that there are lots of fish out there that will challenge this years winners (perhaps not that many bigger Barbel!). So if you fancy the chance of a complimentary membership for next season were are now taking entries for 2020 - 2021. Please send your pictures together with details of your catch and any witnesses to us [HERE](#). We look forward to seeing your entries.

## Our Rivers

We can only say that the last three months on the rivers have been a disaster with only the odd fishable day and because of the conditions not a great deal coming out. We were amazed by some of the pictures that members sent us of our venues (or where our venues should be).



**Those that fish Coultershaw will recognise the gate but surely there's a field behind it and not a lake. We know at least one eagle eyed angler who rescued fish from the field and returned them to the river**



**The mill stream at Coultershaw is somewhere in this picture but I'm not sure where!**



**One member finds a small window of opportunity at Fittleworth**

## The Close Season

Those that fish the rivers should be well aware that it is now close season to all fishing, although you will be able to fly fish on the Arun at Watersfield and Stopham and the Rother at Fittleworth, Coates and Shopham from April 3rd. The rivers reopen for coarse fishing on June 16th.

We recently had a reminder from the EA that the close season is upon us and to remind us that they will be out patrolling the rivers for any illegal fishing. They have asked that if our members see illegal fishing taking place they should report it **immediately** on 0800 807060.

## Match Scene

We have just come to the end of Keith's first season in charge of matches. He has done a superb job in keeping things together particularly at the back end of the season where we have had some many disruptions due to the weather.

We should also remember that Keith is not alone and spends a lot of time prior, during and after matches making sure his grandson - Cody; is set up, untangled or sorted out with a new rig, should the worst occur during a match and then packed up at the end of the match. Even so Keith manages to be ready to do the weigh-in before some of us have managed to pack up. So, well done Keith, not only for your work as Match Secretary but also the extra work encouraging and keeping a young angler going entails.

When Keith took over he promised a radical shake up of the match schedule and this has proved the case. General Match categories have been created such as home, away, still water and river; then matches were fitted into each category. We now have the final tables for the 2019 - 2020 season

### Still Water

	Name	Points / Weight
1st	Keith Hughes	73 Points
2nd	Graham White	44 Points
3rd	Mick Greenway	39 Points

### Still Water Evening

	Name	Points / Weight
1st	Mick Greenway	51 Points
2nd	Keith Hughes	47 Points
3rd	Cody Hughes	41 Points

### River Evenings

	Name	Points / Weight
1st	Mick Greenway	34 Points
2nd	Cody Hughes	30 Points
3rd	Steve Simmonds	27 Points

### Away Days

	Name	Points / Weight
1st	Keith Hughes	81 Points
2nd	Paul Ward	75 Points
3rd	Mick Greenway	69 Points

### Pole Only

	Name	Points / Weight
1st	Mick Greenway	27 Pts (38 - 12)
2nd	Keith Hughes	27 Pts (36 - 10)
3rd	Graham White	19 Points

### Club Points

	Name	Points
1st	Keith Hughes	160
2nd	Mick Greenway	157
3rd	Phil Tubb	121

### Matchman Points

	Name	Points
1st	Keith Hughes	2253
2nd	Mick Greenway	2191
3rd	Phil Tubb	1443

### Total Weights

	Name	Weight
1st	Keith Hughes	556lb 11oz
2nd	Mick Greenway	550lb 13oz
3rd	Phil Tubb	362lb 8oz

Unfortunately we lost a couple of match series; we only managed to fish one of the River series the other matches were lost to the weather and we were not able to fish any of the Canal series due to adverse conditions.

## At least I can still go fishing!

Angling is a sport and pastime that takes place outdoors and can be carried out alone. Now, more than ever angling can play a part in keeping you active and outdoors in the fresh air. While reducing anxiety and stress associated with the Covid-19 (Coronavirus) outbreak. So at the moment there is absolutely no reason to stop going fishing.

We would recommend that you take a few sensible precautions

Travel solo to your selected venue.

If you intend to fish with others maintain space between you and fellow anglers, we would recommend at least two metres. Avoid walking from car parks to the water together, set off in 10 second intervals, most of our swims are at least two metres apart so stick to your swim and avoid going to other anglers swims.

Follow the guidelines with regard to; coughs (use a tissue and get rid of them when you get home), avoid touching your face and keep your hands clean.

If you are fishing where there is public access - Chichester Canal or Petworth Park (from 1st April) discourage members of the public from getting too close to you. Please be polite, but just remind them that they should keep a responsible distance away from you or indeed other people.



Shen Zhou, *Solitary Angler on an Autumn River*, 1492

You don't have to be quite like this but you get the idea!!