

PETWORTH & BOGNOR ANGLING CLUB



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November 2020

AGM

Just a reminder that our AGM scheduled for Thursday 19th November has been cancelled.

We hope to be able to reschedule for April in the new year. We will keep you updated with the situation via our e-mailers, the website and our Facebook page.

LATEST COVID SITUATION

Following the new lockdown announced by the government on 31st October, we have been seeking guidance from the Angling Trust with regard to fishing. This has now been published and the good news is that we can continue to go fishing.

There are a number of points to note:

Going Fishing

you can only leave home to fish with members of your own household, your support bubble or with one other individual. The Rule of Six is now effectively the Rule of Two for most of us. The tightening of the rules on 'gatherings' means that match fishing or any other organised fishing event is prohibited by law during lockdown. However, competitive fishing will be able to resume once there is a return to the three tier system of restrictions.

Travel

Whilst the government have chosen not to write their travel guidance into law we should respect the advice which states that it is permissible to travel in order:

"to spend time or exercise outdoors – this should be done locally wherever possible, but you can travel to do so if necessary (for example, to access an open space)"

Put simply, you can travel to go fishing but long journeys should be avoided 'wherever possible'. Our interpretation is that if you live within the area of Hampshire, Sussex and Surrey then you are able to travel to and fish at any of our waters. If you live outside this area then you should carefully consider travelling to our waters. It is up to the individual to apply common sense and act within the spirit of the government's guidance.

You absolutely cannot leave home to fish if you have Coronavirus symptoms or are self-isolating.

Times

There are no limits on the time that can be spent on outdoor recreation which means that we are able to continue fishing for the times we would normally. Please note that the only waters that allow night fishing are:

River Rother	Shopham
River Arun	Watersfield
Still Water	Hurston Lane

All other fisheries are subject to time restrictions, for these times refer to the individual water pages in your club handbook.

Water Reports October 2020

As we have not yet re-introduced our log books it is quite difficult to pull together catch reports for our waters, so please let us know how you are getting on during these strange times.

Rivers

October was one of the wettest on record, this has meant that the river has been carrying more water, however levels are quickly dropping off although not back down to the levels seen during the summer.

Coultershaw

Barbel activity continues to be slow, with the fish only really feeding when the water is up. As it has been getting colder the Roach and Dace have been a little less prolific, although once they get used to the colder water they are likely to become a bit more active. One or two members are now Pike fishing and I have heard of a few being caught but nothing of particular note

Shopham / Coates

There have been some notable catches of Sea Trout to coarse tactics with one angler reporting four good sized fish in a day and three other anglers catching as well.

Fittleworth

There are still some reasonable Roach and Dace catches and a few Chub are now coming out to static baits, bread or a bunch of maggots seems the favoured baits. There are some good perch being caught on worms.

Arun

We have seen a lot of water in the fields so the Arun has been difficult to access. With a few frosts forecast and generally a bit more settled weather the Roach should start shoaling up at Stopham and the water will be more accessible. Where the Roach shoal up the Pike are not far behind and Stopham usually produces good pike fishing for mid doubles at this time of year.

Still Waters

Over the next couple of weeks as the water temperature drops we will be suspending the need to dip nets at venues where we have dips in place. Please check the notice boards at individual waters for the latest information.

Petworth Park

The Bream have continued to show even as it has got colder. Petworth Park has also sparked some pike anglers to have a go and most interestingly a couple of members have been fly fishing for the pike with some success.

Stemps & Cart

Levels are pretty much back to normal at Stemps & Cart and the water has settled down following the recent work carried out. Some members have questioned the degree to which we have cut back some of the vegetation but as we all know it grows back very quickly.

The Granary

As it gets colder the Carp are not quite as active at the Granary, perhaps now is the time to have a concerted effort to find some of the big perch.

Hurston

We have recently applied for a change in our stocking permit at Hurston and have recently had verbal confirmation from the EA that we will now be able to stock further Carp into the water. We are just waiting to get this confirmed in writing. We can then formulate a stocking plan to hopefully revitalise the fishing and improve winter sport particularly in the Match Pond.

Holmbush

Works

We recently had another session with contractors on site. Further work was done to improve the outflow from the lake so that the water levels do not get too high, we are fairly confident that we have broken the back of this as flow from the lake has greatly improved.

We have also created an area for a new car park close to the swims behind the houses, although the area has been cut out and some hardcore laid the car park needs to settle so for the moment please just use the existing car park until the new car park is ready.

We have also started working on a fully accessible disabled swim behind the car park, there is still a lot of work to do before it is up and running but when finished it will give wheelchair bound anglers the opportunity to fish Holmbush.

To improve access in other swims we have carried out some more tree work on site and a number of swims are now much easier to fish. A number of dead and dangerous trees have also been removed.



Jake Walsh with a new club record Carp which weighed in at 25lb 12oz (left) he also had this 25lb 8oz clonker in the same session.

Fishing

The Carp are still coming out well and putting on weight, Jakes new record fish was recognised by one of our regular Carp anglers who had the same fish as a high twenty four earlier this season.

The silver fish continue to produce good sport, although they seemed to be more interested in maggots rather than sweet corn as the temperatures drop. There have also been some good Bream and a few good sized Tench and Perch reported. A couple of anglers have been targeting the Perch on light lures and drop shotting techniques and have had a few around the one pound mark, however, they are confident that there are better ones to be had

As we have been fishing Holmbush for a few months now and have got to know the water a bit better we have decided that the fishery rules need to be tightened up particularly when fishing for Carp.

You will find these revised rules on the notice boards - take a couple of minutes to read them and ensure you are conforming, we have reproduced them on the next page.

Holmbush Lake

Access

Please park in one of the two car parks – no cars to be left on roadway.

Disabled anglers should be given priority in Car Park No 2. *(see note below)*

WARNING Do not enter forested areas as open manholes are still here.

WARNING Do not enter abandoned buildings at any time.

If walking around lake, please keep to paths.

Waterside

WARNING DEEP WATER – please take extreme care.

Juniors & Juveniles should not be left on their own and we recommend Life Preservers or those under 12.

Fishing Rules

General Rules

All members must use dip tanks before and after fishing – no exceptions.

No braided mainline except when lure fishing for perch.

Maximum of 2 kilos of feed per session.

No bait boats.

Carp Fishing Rules

All general rules apply.

Rods – minimum 2.5lb test curve.

Line – minimum 15lb.

Landing Net – minimum 36”.

You must have a large padded unhooking mat or carp cradle.

Bailiffs will be checking that you are following these rules

Note: Car Park No.2 is still under construction and should not be used until completed .

Found at Fittleworth

A landing net was found on the roadside at Fittleworth on Wednesday 3rd November, it was spotted there in the morning so had probably been left from the night before. If you think it is yours please contact the Secretary who will put you in touch with the person who found it