

Copthorne & District Angling Society – July 2016 Newsletter

Your Committee agreed it would be informative to keep the membership updated as to recent and planned developments, in addition to the usual annual newsletter which accompanies the AGM agenda and following season application form being posted out. This is the first of a periodic newsletter series which will be posted on the Society's web-site.

We are pleased to report that a delivery of approximately 300 3lbs + tench have been stocked into Rowfant Mill Pond. These fish supplement a similar stocking of bream undertaken in November 2015. We plan to make a further stocking later this year dependent upon fish availability and weather conditions.

For those members who have fished at Little Rowfant recently, they may have noticed the works undertaken at peg 6, where we have dredged out the swim, cut back the over-hanging trees & bushes & repaired the small bridge & path. Once the bank has settled we will likely create a further swim. A number of large trees that had fallen into the Top Lake, Road Lake and Wilderness or were dangerously overhanging, have also been removed. Our thanks to Les Eggleton & his team who did a great job. Also a special thanks to Pete Tuppen who expertly drove the excavator.

The competitions have thus far been very well attended, and the weights good – full details are available on the 'Match Section' of the Society's web-site. One notable catch included a 21lbs carp caught by Dave Whitehouse on the pole from the Wilderness lake at Little Rowfant.

From reports we have received, all fisheries are producing good catches, with consistent weights of fish & also some large fish being landed, especially carp, tench & bream.

We continue to use a licenced operator to remove a significant number of signal crayfish from Rowfant Mill. If anglers catch any of these, they must be destroyed and not returned to the water.

Looking ahead, we are conscious of the proliferation of lilies at Little Rowfant & Rowfant Mill Pond. We have plans in place to reduce the lilies, but to do this effectively we need to wait for a period of dry weather – the current summer has thus far not been ideal for the purpose.

As always, we are keen to accept offers of help with basic maintenance works so as to free up time & resource for the larger more complex works for our Maintenance Team. The battle to keep grass cut in the car parks & trees / bushes trimmed back is a never ending battle, & any help would be of great assistance in this regard. Additionally, we wish to prepare the car parks for winter & the expected flooding, so any help to spread the scalpings delivered in the more vulnerable areas also would be much appreciated. Please contact Les Eggleton on 07746 960209 if you are able to assist.

Tight lines

Paul Whitfield

General Secretary