

THE BULLETIN OF THE CIVIL SERVICE ANGLING SOCIETY

VOL ; No: Spring 2013

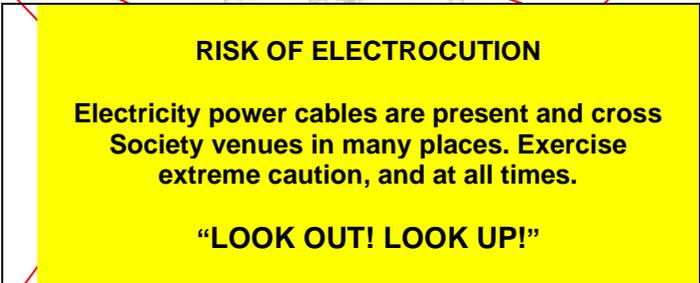
Edited by Mike Turner,
e-mail:csaseditor@gmail.com

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RISK OF ELECTROCUTION

Electricity power cables are present and cross Society venues in many places. Exercise extreme caution, and at all times.

“LOOK OUT! LOOK UP!”

**PLEASE OBSERVE THE
'COUNTRY CODE'**

**CLOSE GATES BEHIND YOU, AND DON'T LEAVE
ANY LITTER.**

Editorial

Welcome, to the spring edition of your Bulletin. Hello, to new members and welcome back to older members. I hope that you find it interesting and full of articles that inspire inform and simply educate you about the Society and angling generally. Once again I must point out that it's mainly me that writes all of this, with the usual contributions from the Chair and the Fisheries Officer, the rest is made up of my own ramblings, and this stuff isn't just thrown together you know!. So once, again I request that you send me stuff to include. Photos, jottings, memoirs anecdotes and angling reports. Anything will be considered and gratefully received really, just keep it clean!

Once again, I really must comment on the weather. In 2011 we reported on the over-extended experienced an incredibly warm and dry period. It was reported as being the lowest recorded rainfall for a March to September period in the South East since records began. The effect on our fisheries was alarming, with extremely low and clear water conditions. We hoped for high rainfall to get us through the year and prepared ourselves with plans for oxygen pumps and rescue plans should it all go pear shaped. In the spring 2012 Bulletin I reported that we need rain in biblical quantities to recover this recent water shortfall and replenish for the future. Well as I reported in the Autumn Bulletin - we certainly got a change! Since then it has been notable for the opposites. An incredibly wet 2012, although remarkably we had a dry Jubilee and relatively dry Olympics - coz I was there - although I am reminded particularly of last year's excellent ladies cycling event which had a very wet finish on The Mall. It didn't get much better through the winter which was then the coldest on record for the UK as a whole, and the second coldest for England with prolonged periods of cold and snow – even in April. The thing about weather is that as anglers as with gardeners, farmers and in my case campers, there is never the right weather – well maybe occasionally – but generally speaking it tends to be too dry, too wet, too cold or too hot, but such extremes in such a close period of time surely indicate something is awry with our weather patterns. I don't think there is any doubt that there are environmental reasons for this which cannot be explained away as simply being cyclical

variations. However, I hope that this year will have some more typical weather, and we can all get back to rivers which are not raging all summer, and lakes which are not frozen all winter. I did hear that one of our members tried to fish Windsor at the height of the floods, legering with a 5oz sea lead and a carp rod – despite this they had to admit defeat, the river was simply too fast and full of flotsam.

Will these extremes of weather affect this years fishing? We will have to wait and see. The early spawning species such as dace will almost certainly have been affected, and at the very least delayed, but the weather has lifted towards the middle of April and as I write this – sitting at a laptop on a South Devon campsite - the first migrant swallows are flitting past me, straight off the sea, a kestrel is hovering above me and I can hear a willow warbler. The sun is out, I am in shirt sleeves, and it's only 8am. Perhaps, things are looking up finally. Perhaps, I should have packed my spinning rod instead of the laptop - Ho-Hum!

I love the spring. I find it the most exciting of the calendar year – all that anticipation for the new season of angling in front of us. I tend to be someone who follows the traditional coarse fishing season, mainly because I fish rivers most of the time. Therefore, my spring is usually reserved for fly fishing. It is a time of year when I change lines, replace missing bits and bobs, and check my flies - if you excuse the pun!

But the best thing about the spring is anticipation of the seasons fishing to come. For me, last year was full of Olympics, Jubilee and lots of work with scarcely any time for fishing. Things should be better for me this year, and I have much more time off to escape the City and family commitments to do what I like to do best. Therefore, I have been planning the season, albeit loosely.

Firstly, I have promised myself a few days with my fly rod over the next week or three, and I am interested to see if the trout at Hambridge will be as frequent as they have been in recent years. However, in a break from tradition, I have promised myself a spring tench, something I also promised myself last year too, but never managed. I might try the ticket exchange with Godalming Angling

Society at Marsh Farm, possibly also the Newbury Ticket Exchange as both have excellent tench and crucian fisheries. I will then move on to summer chubbing and I hope to try my surface tactics again this year and have a new bait to try – but I will only tell you about it after I've tried it out! I will also try and catch a summer barbel [I am hopeless at catching barbel] and whatever else comes my way using the trotting gear. In the late summer and Autumn I will try to beat my perch record of 3lb 4oz, and then move on to my favourite species – grayling - in the winter. All of which can be achieved with the CSAS portfolio of fisheries.

I hope to see you on the bank. In the meantime, I hope you have time to get out there too and enjoy what the CSAS has to offer. Enjoy your spring bulletin; I hope it is informative and entertaining. Tight lines, wet nets, and don't fall in.

Mike Turner
Hon. Bulletin Editor

A WORD FROM THE CHAIR

A complete revision of the Rule Book is almost finished, and within the next few weeks an updated version should be available on the Society's website. Because so many changes are needed, it is estimated that the list of amendments would probably exceed five pages of A4 paper. Accordingly, a decision has been made to issue every member with a complete set of new pages, and these should be with you before the new Season, if all goes well. The project gave me an opportunity to look through the Society's portfolio of fisheries. Without going into details, we now can offer sport on the rivers Thames, Kennet, Great Ouse and Medway; three stretches of the Kennet and Avon Canal [including the new water at Woolhampton] and three lakes. Additionally, we have exchange permit, and other arrangements, which provide access to even more venues.

Our fisheries take a lot of work to keep them in good shape, and for many years Tony Paul very ably has discharged the difficult and time-

consuming post of Honorary Fisheries Officer. Tony has decided not to stand for this office at the forthcoming AGM, and he will also be giving up the post of Honorary Competitions Secretary. Additionally, Stuart Penny has also decided to step down from the Committee, and as manager of East Peckham, as from the AGM. We owe a great debt of gratitude to Tony and Stuart, and they will be very hard acts to follow. Nevertheless, we will certainly need to fill the vacancies and I hope that there are members out there who are prepared to volunteer their services. Please remember that the Society's fisheries are its biggest asset. Without effective management, they will deteriorate and we will lose members and income as a result.

Having mentioned the AGM, I do hope to see you on 23rd May. You will find the agenda in this issue and quickly you will see that the GPC is proposing motions that the Rules on publicity and reporting a catch to the angling press be withdrawn. Whether or not you support these motions, the AGM will provide you with an opportunity to voice your opinion, and to listen to what others have to say.

Tight lines!

David Kennedy

Tight lines.

David Kennedy

So much on offer...

Amazing discounts on theatre, cinema and days out for all the family

100,000+ members, and now your friends and family can join too!

Great savings on high-street brands you know and love

Sports and coaching subsidies to help you progress and save you money

Hundreds of activities - football, skiing, bike riding, golf, netball, eSports etc - there's something for everyone

Win a car and other fantastic prizes - all members are automatically entered into our prize draws



SOCIETY NEWS

Vacancy for Fisheries Officer

Following Tony Paul's decision to step down as Fisheries Officer the Society is looking for a replacement. The role is primarily organisational and involves:

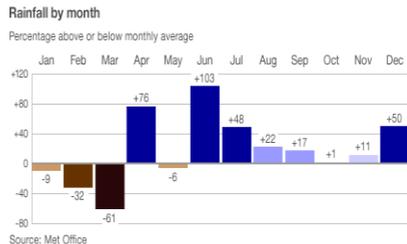
- planning working parties during the close season and overseeing them;
- liaising with local fishery managers and Tony Paul who has indicated he is still prepared to run mid-week mowing work;
- responsibility for the Society's stock of tools and machines and where appropriate
- sorting out maintenance arrangements; purchase of new tools and consumables as necessary
- attending meetings of the GPC to report on all of the above.

The position would ideally suit someone who fishes most of our waters on a fairly regular basis and who will therefore be aware work that needs doing. Possession of a large estate

type car fitted with a tow bar would be an advantage.

For more information contact David Kennedy.

Weather.....



As reported last year the water levels were perilously low. I suggested, perhaps unwisely that we needed lots of rain, and if I recall correctly I mentioned that we required biblical amounts. Well we certainly got it. Almost as the ink was still drying on the Spring Bulletin, down it came. The graph shown above obtained from the Environment Agency via the Met Office identifies the situation we had up to December, by which time the deficit had been restored.

Notable is the incredibly dry January, February and March, followed by the deluges of April. There followed a subsequent reduction in during May, which

heralded a return to lower than average rainfall, then back to even more rain through June and July. Only October was near normal.

GOOD ANGLING PRACTICE: HOOKS, NETS AND UNHOOKING MATS.

Recently, a new member asked why the Society had no rules on good angling practice, e.g., on hooks, nets and unhooking mats. The General Purposes Committee had mixed views on this, but there was a consensus that the topic should be opened-up for discussion. Accordingly, this article was written.

Hooks.

Most coarse anglers fish with one single hook. Some pike anglers use treble hooks, but snap-tackle appears to have gone out of fashion. Fully-barbed, micro-barbed, whisker-barbed and barbless single hooks are readily available. A barb can be filed-down, or compressed using pliers. While some fishing clubs and commercial fisheries totally forbid barbed hooks, Environment Agency Rod Fishing Byelaws – South East Region, dated 16 January 2013,

merely states that in the Thames byelaw area you must not use more than three separate hooks attached to the same rod and line, or use any device intended to hook a fish automatically [www.environment-agency.gov.uk].

On the other hand, The National Angling Alliance's [NAA] Code of Conduct for Coarse Anglers, published in October 2002 and currently being promoted by the EA, advocates the use of barbless or "reduced-barb" hooks. Currently, there is a strong belief amongst anglers that barbless hooks are kinder to fish.

Collective experience shows that barbless hooks are easier to remove from human tissue and clothing, and some anglers prefer them for this reason only. The EA's Angling and Wildlife leaflet, issued in 2010, known as the Golden Rules, points out that accidentally caught birds can free themselves more easily from barbless or reduced barb hooks, and rescuers will also find them easier to remove.

Nets.

There are strict legal requirements. The EA's byelaws document comments that most landing nets and

keepnets are designed with fish welfare in mind, and clearly it refers to items for sale today. It states that the nets must not have knotted mesh or be made of metallic material. Keepnets must not have any holes in the mesh greater than 25mm internal circumference; be less than 2.0 metres in length; have supporting rings or frames greater than 40cm apart [excluding the distance from the top frame to the first supporting ring or frame]; or be less than 120cm in circumference.

Keep sacks must not be constructed of a material other than a soft, dark-coloured, nonabrasive, water permeable fabric; be less than 120cm by 90cm, if rectangular; or 150cm by 30cm by 40cm, if used with a frame or designed with the intention that a frame be used.

Unhooking mats.

Their use is mandatory on some carp fisheries and at least one owner specifies the dimensions and thickness of the mat to be used.

The EA byelaws document does not require the use of unhooking mats, and some anglers argue that they are unnecessary where fish are

likely to be landed on soft grass, and are cumbersome things to carry when roving along a bank in search of fish. However, the NAA's Code recommends the use of "a quality unhooking mat suitable for large fish".

Your views on all of this? Please get in touch with the Editor [csaseditor@gmail.com].

David Kennedy
2 April 2013

Extract from Civil Service Angling Bulletin dated autumn 1997

NEWBURY SEWAGE WORKS
For many years now, the Society along with other local angling clubs have been in correspondence with Thames Water and the Environment Agency concerning problems with the outfall at Bull's Lock. The main problem in recent time is the shredded plastic waste that festoons weed, adheres to keepnets and obscures baited hooks. On 12th August, Chairman Ian Mathers and Fisheries Officer Tony Paul, along with other representatives from local clubs and the Environment Agency met at the Newbury Sewerage Works in

Lower Way for a conducted tour of the plant.

A frank exchange of views took place, the essence of which was that Thames Water had heavily invested in new plant to improve the quality of water discharged into the Kennet – as they needed to do to meet their discharge consent levels – and to control odours that were the subject of complaints by local residents. As a consequence there was no immediate money available to uprate the antiquated filtering system that is supposed to remove plastic waste before it enters the treatment process.

Once it enters the treatment process there is no machinery to remove it before it is discharged into the river at Bull's Lock. In an attempt to alleviate the problem trawl style netting has been placed over the final outlet to the outfall drain but, as the Chairman pointed out during our visit, there was clear evidence of plastic debris on the river side of the netting which would be deposited in the river once that particular outlet started running again. To reinforce this point he produced a bag of plastic bits collected at the Bull's Lock outfall earlier in the day.

On a more positive note the Environment Agency officials were able to confirm that their regular and unannounced sampling showed that the works were operating well within their discharge consents and they saw the problem as an aesthetic one. This is not an argument the Society can accept. Fishing at Hambridge is a very valuable amenity and one we prize highly. Anything which detracts from this amenity must be tackled head-on. Although it is unlikely Thames Water will be able to find the money to improve the initial filtering process in the short term, it must be possible to improve the end filtering process at a much smaller cost. The Society will be taking every opportunity to urge senior management at Thames Water to make immediate improvements.

If you see the photo below, recently taken at the outlet of Bulls Lock, it would seem that the protection referred to above is still not being heeded or if it is, there seems to be an issue with the mechanisms which protect the river. The Autumn issue of The Bulletin referred to the destruction of the restored River Wandle, and the River

Crane met a similar fate in 2011.



3670 vehicles. The potential sewage discharge on race days must be interesting (if such an event can be).

- An area known as Sandford is earmarked for approximately 1000 homes.
- Faraday Road and London Road are mentioned as possible sites for development. Together with various brown field sites.

My concerns relating to the STW are as follows:-

1. Are Thames Water planning any works on site to cope with the additional waste generated?
2. Will Storm Discharge Consents be increased from (as I understand it at present) 12 per annum?
3. Does the EA monitor Storm discharges?
4. Are storm discharges a manual or an automated process?
5. Are Copa sacks still used as the filtration system through which the Storm Water Holding Lagoon is discharged straight to river? If the answer is

Ian Mathers poses some questions in this assessment of the housing boom in West Berkshire currently.

Developing Disaster?

According to data taken from the West Berks Council website there is a proposed increase of 5400 homes to be built by 2026.

Made up of:-

- Newbury Racecourse has planning permission for 1500 homes plus a hotel to be built by 2016. Construction is already underway.
- New car parking facilities are proposed to accommodate

yes, then the question is WHY? Judging by the debris (generally plastic) that is frequently observed on the outfall grill below Bulls Lock, they obviously don't work.

6. The canalised riverbed is already littered with plastic debris downstream of the STW outfall. I appreciate that not all of it originates from the STW, but a lot does. We know that decaying plastic gives off endocrine disrupters which, in themselves, are not good for the ecosystem.
7. For all the improvement works undertaken on the riverine system by various bodies. It only takes one pollution event to decimate the ecosystem.

My concern relating to potable water is as follows:-

Where is the additional supply for these properties to be sourced from? [*Answer – The Kennet Ed.*].

Ian Mathers CSAS
March 2013

Fish with Names..

As you all know, CSAS have a certain famous carp which has been known to attract some attention. Various big names in the carp world have sought it out, worked out its secrets, and tempted it – most probably with something exotic.

There have been a few famous fish over the years, probably – although some of you might put me right – the first being Clarissa, caught by a certain famous, if not infamous, Dick Walker. In fact the fish was so famous it then spent its life in an aquarium somewhere. Perhaps someone can remind me where it was. I am assuming it is by now an ex-carp, and has shuffled off its mortal coil, although its memory lives on in the angling literature, possibly forever, due in part to its captor and where it lived. Since then there have been many others. Amongst these were Heather the Leather, and a poorer relation named Bazil which

was, I believe a Mirror with a few more scales, but I don't really know much about this sort of thing.

What I do know is that there was an outpouring of grief when Heather finally passed away into the echelons of angling history, despite her not being as famous or as long lasting in the memory as Clarissa, but then again, she didn't have the same sort of patronage. Again, some of you might put me right. I think it was at or around 2001, and I recall the angling press and even the non angling press, predominantly the tabloids – reporting the mourning of anglers as if a member of their own family had died. I did read somewhere that there was a 21 boilie salute fired into the air by some carpers, accompanied by the sound of bite alarms sounding the last salute but maybe this bit was made up. Personally, I'm not sure about the use of a human name; I prefer something else like the Dink or somethink [sic] which refers

to the breed or shape rather than a straightforward human name. I feel that the humanising - anthropomorphic [big words! ed.] - tendency can make us look a bit silly, particularly when we have a funeral with all the works. I suppose you could argue that it has a pet name as we then feel for it as a pet and give it special attention, but we should really give all our fish the same attention if we intend to put them back. I think this is because this contrary to our caring attitude for the fish, it still just that, a fish. It is an outstanding or remarkable fish, no doubt about that, otherwise it wouldn't be possible to give it a name, but it is not a pet. I am sure Clarissa was merely put in a case, or simply cremated. The creation of a shrine is taking it a little too far in my opinion.

Anyway, I digress, back to my thread. Why am I going on about all this? The reason is that I am sometimes bewildered by the anti angling mobs, who believe

that we are non-caring and angling is cruel. I am sure we would all argue that this is in fact missing the point, and to some extent, the evidence of fish being caught as many times as Heather the Leather demonstrates that they come to no great harm if handled correctly.

Over the years since Clarissa was amongst the first famous carp, the care of fish has evolved considerably. Dick Walker landed her in a knotted net, and probably had a very small carp sack in which he retained her. Whilst it survived, there are clearly better ways of looking after fish and the correct care and handling of fish is one of our great strengths, and as a group we can be proud that we encourage such things as knotless mesh, barbless hooks and unhooking mats. We have given advice about this in our latest best practice which was carefully written by your Secretary and published in this Bulletin. Please consider the care of the fish we have in a

fisheries as important individually, as we would for Heather the Leather, The Dink or any others. It is the one without the name that may become the remarkable fish of the future.

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The State of Our Rivers and a bit of predation.

The angling press portray a gloomy picture of the state of our rivers, well all our waters actually. By that I mean the state of the waters in terms of the national picture, not just those on the CSAS portfolio. Reading these articles, it is easy to fall into a gloomy state of mind. I am reminded of an article in one of the Angling Red Tops a year or so ago – Anglers Mail I believe it was – stating that that river fishing would be dead within five years. It was strange then that in the winter of last year I saw a headline stating that the “Rivers are on Fire” and we should all head down to our local river and pull out a netful of fish. That the rivers are suffering is not in doubt.

Crayfish, mitten crabs and other nasty invaders have certainly affected our ability to fish in the water successfully, and this certainly impacts upon what you are likely to catch as you can't fish successfully if a creature keeps removing the bait for you.

But are we expecting too much? We have become endowed with the catch a fish a minute culture of stocked fisheries and rivers have never really been in that league. These waters are stocked with large numbers of fish which make for good fishing, but they are not good fisheries. The numbers of fish in the water are generally far too many for the water concerned, developing a brown muddy colour as a result.

The predation is an issue, but let's not get bogged down in it. A well managed fishery free of pollution would tolerate predation. Lets also recall that cormorants have been an issue for freshwater since the late 1970's.

Nothing too drastic has happened.

OTHER NEWS

Angling Austerity...

In these days of austerity it can be little frightening to calculate the costs of a days fishing. Your CSAS membership is undoubtedly great value, and is probably considerably less than the kit that you carry to the bank. Good equipment is an investment and if looked after will give you years of good service and you won't need to change it unless the manufacturer updates it of course and you then need to get the new model.

However, despite all this so called tackle tart syndrome [I am as guilty as anyone with the exception that I have a penchant for vintage centrepins], it is probably fuel and bait which amounts to a considerable amount of our costs for a days fishing. I recently shuddered when buying a pint of maggots at nearly £4.00. Casters are even more.

Boilies and specialists pastes bought from angling shops are not much cheaper, and a days fishing on a summers day can cost us £30-40 – and this is before we have got in the car! Of course, one way of doing this is to use less bait, and I for one believe that there is too much bait used.

Clearly this isn't the view of everyone, and as discussed in the autumn 2012 Bulletin there does seem to be some evidence that the fisheries we have can be spoilt by overfeeding. It's not for me or anyone else to say how much is too much, but the more you use the more it costs. But it need not be like this, there are a large number of very cheap baits which can be used for a successful day out, despite what the angling press will have you believe. I have read numerous articles which say that fish can't be caught on the baits that used to be used, times have changed, and that you need something with a secret recipe to ensure that you catch anything other than tiddlers.

Whilst there may be true if you are trying to tempt that carp with a name that we are all

familiar with, this is otherwise nonsense.

The main reason the majority of the old fashioned baits don't work is because they don't get used any longer! A quick raid of the pantry [does anyone have a pantry anymore?] can raise enough bait for a day with very little cost. And a visit to a pet food or animal feeds merchant where horse-owners, farmers, bird-keepers and the like go. If you don't know where your local one is, take a look at your local Yellow Pages. You don't have to use a feed merchant, as most can also be sourced in pet shops, but you can save a lot more money by buying in bulk (assuming that you can store it!).

Here are a few baits that will catch you plenty of fish if presented well and used correctly. There are lots more but these are some that I have used. Give them a try!

Cheese paste; After bread, this is my winter favourite for chub, particularly in coloured water when bread doesn't work so well. My usual mix is 50/50 cheese and shortcrust pastry from the supermarket, you can use one type of cheese, but I add it at 50/50 Cheddar/Blue

Stilton, but you can use what you want really. Cheap powdered parmesan can add a bit of flavour too. Can be used in little pieces on a size 16, up to big blobs on a size 4 for winter chub – hold onto your rod!

Stewed Wheat and Pearl

Barley: Great for big roach [if there are any left] and works well in rivers and stillwater. However, don't overdo the loose feed as its very filling.

Hemp: Can be bought for less than £1 per kilo! Have a stock of boilies maggots or casters then use this as your loose feed. Pre-soak for 12-24 hours then bring to the boil and simmer until split (approx 30 mins). But don't use your best pans. I did this once when I was a 14 year old kid, and my mum wasn't happy!

Chick Peas: The original boilie! Soak for up to 24 hours then boil for 30 minutes. Chub and tench love them and they deter small fish as they are still quite hard. Don't use tinned ones as they are too soft.

Pellets: There are loads of different types of pellets but don't buy them ready made. For feed pellets cheap unbranded

micro, 2mm or 4mm pellets soaked in a tub of water for a couple of minutes and then drained works for me. If you want them to stick to something like a leger bomb, you can add powders to stiffen them, but I never bother.

For hookers you will either need to buy a pellet pump or buy ready made hook-able pellets. If you are using a lot of pellet directly on the hook then it's cheaper to invest in a pellet pump, as buying ready made hook -able pellets are expensive. These force water into the pellets and soften them for use on the hook.

There's a load more, cheap as chips. And I haven't started on pet food like dog and cat biscuits.

Feeling Shellfish?

It is with sad news that I have to report yet another invader to our fisheries. I have previously reported my dismay at the situation we find ourselves in with signal crayfish and mitten crabs taking over our waterways. It is a sad indictment of our society that alien species like this are

introduced to our waterways. We now have a confirmed presence of the Asiatic or Golden Clam (*Corbicula fluminea*) in the Thames. The source of this infestation is also boats, but these can be spread very rapidly as the larval forms are very easily transferred by boats, nets, waders or indeed anything that the tiny larvae may adhere to. Only one larva can start a population because this is a hermaphrodite and self-fertile species.

These clams can cause similar problems to those caused by zebra mussels (*Dreissena polymorpha*) and therefore do potentially pose a risk to our water management infrastructure where a build-up of clams can obstruct pipes and attach to bridges and structures. They also pose a risk to the ecological quality of our waterbodies and, as with other non-native invasive species, any record of these in non-Thames waters should be reported immediately.



ANGLING TRUST & RELATED NEWS

Angling Trust has published its 'Dossier of Destruction' detailing impact of cormorants. They thanked everyone who sent information about the impact of cormorants and goosanders on their fisheries over the past couple of years. AT have now collated all this information into an impact report which was published in April. It has been sent to the Fisheries Minister and MPs from all parties who have supported our three-year campaign to change the bureaucratic and inadequate licensing regime governing the control of cormorants and goosanders. To read the full story and download a copy of the report, please click <http://www.anglingtrust.net/news.asp>.

Support the campaign for reform of farm payments

Pollution from agriculture is recognised as being one of the most damaging impacts on our rivers and this is certainly causing the algae to cover the gravel in the Kennet at Hambridge. Yet it needn't be so, as farmers can be paid subsidies to avoid this happening. Angling Trust are lobbying to reform the way farmers are paid to ensure that our rivers are protected. The European Parliament will be voting on these reforms shortly and it is important that the AT ensures that we have our say as anglers.

Thames Water Pollution

Thames Water has been ordered to pay over £14,000 for a sewage pollution of Oxfordshire's Faringdon Stream.

Thames Water Utilities Limited (Thames Water) was fined £10,000 at Oxford Magistrates Court on (22 February 2013 for polluting Faringdon Stream in Faringdon, Oxfordshire between 14 and 16 August 2011. The company was also ordered to pay the Prosecution

costs of £4,488 and a victim surcharge of £15.

The court heard how a breach in a Thames Water sewage inlet pipe downstream of Faringdon Sewage Treatment Works caused sewage to overflow and discharge into an area of woodland and flow into Faringdon Stream. The discharge lasted for more than 48 hours and caused a significant deterioration in water quality and the invertebrate community.

Eels

The Angling Trust has renewed s Calls for a commercial ban of Eel/Elver Fishing following the prosecution of an angler for killing eels by the Environment Agency Eels and elvers, which have experienced a decline of some 95% in the last decade and need urgent protection from commercial fishing.

FISHERIES SECTION

GENERAL

REPORT OF THE GPC, 1
APRIL 2012 TO 31 MARCH
2013

On behalf of the GPC we have pleasure in presenting the 78th Annual Report of the Society.

Membership and Finances

A drop of around six percent in the total membership was disappointing, coming as it did on top of last year's larger loss. Despite this the Societies finances remain healthy. Increased interest on our savings and reduced spending on fishery rents and maintenance have offset the reduction in income from membership subscriptions.

Fisheries

Last year this report noted that our rivers were in desperate need of a good flush through, whilst our still water fisheries needed rain to fill them up. This year we got the rain with a vengeance with our rivers full to overflowing from autumn onwards. Nevertheless there was some excellent river fishing to be had at times, especially when there was a bit of colour in the water.

Working parties were held during the close season at Hambridge, Datchet, Windsor, East Peckham, Clifton Reynes and Crabtree Lake.

Attendances were down on previous seasons, but all the venues were in reasonable shape by the start of the new season, helped no end by the efforts of the mid-week mowing team. Having completed the major swim rebuild in the north east corner of Ellis Water, Ian Robinson and helpers built a second swim in the Divers' Bay so as to avoid anglers bivvying on the diving platform. As usual, venues such as Datchet and Hambridge needed to be strimmed several times during the season.

The Fisheries Officer was again grateful to Terry Gyngell and Ken James for their assistance with this work. Padlocks were a serious problem on most venues, both with malfunctions and vandalism. The GPC's thanks go to all those who gave up their time, often at short notice, to assist the Fisheries Officer throughout the year.

Clifton Reynes

The venue was strimmed prior to the start of the new season but the first heavy rains saw a spring open up on the railway embankment above the gate we use for access, and this turned the area inside into an impassable bog for vehicles for

much of the time. This was a shame as some good fishing had been reported early in the season.

Crabtree Lake

The working party again removed a couple of fallen trees, as well as pruning others. Encroaching reed beds were cut back to keep swims clear, and litter left by poachers was cleared up. Surface sport for carp during the summer continues to be the most successful method, whilst other tactics remain more challenging. The fine roach fishing during the warmer months noted last year continued with fish to over a pound being weighed in.

Datchet

The working parties again undertook the repair of several swims, mainly replacing rotten or damaged boards on the steps leading down to the water. Some over hanging trees were pruned and some trees blocking the pathways were removed. The venue was mowed several times throughout the close season and warmer months with the assistance of Terry Gyngell and Ken James. The early season dace fishing was poor with mainly tiny fish including bleak,

but August saw some decent roach fishing with quality fish showing in several places. This ended with the autumn floods which were made worse by the effect of the Jubilee River's discharge just upstream resulting at times with the river going over its banks. Despite this, those who persevered reported catching chub to around six and a half pounds. A few barbel and carp were also reported, along with bream, perch and pike.

East Peckham

The working parties were again poorly attended, and although the venue was mowed just prior to the start of the new season three further visits were necessary during August to cut back the bramble and re-strim the venue. An extra peg was cut out for the first time in many years at the far end of the venue. Some nice roach, along with the odd bream, fell to seed baits or sweetcorn during the summer months, although pike were often a problem. The odd good perch was also taken and a couple of decent carp were observed sunning themselves towards the end of the venue.

East Whitley Lake

Work to trim the venue and cut back overhanging vegetation was carried out mid-week by a small group of members. There were no problems with the water level this year. Rather it was the heavy colour that came in with the flood waters that sometimes put the fish down. Nevertheless the carp and silver fish continued to show on all but the hardest days. Biggish baits have to be the order of the day, as even the smallest of silvers have developed a taste for meat, pellets and sweetcorn.

Ellis Water

As well as the new swim in the Divers' Bay, plans are in place to build another at the end of the causeway when the weather improves. Needless to say there have been no problems with water levels this year. High winds in early March saw a very large willow fall across the bridge spanning the main lake and lagoon causing damage to the bridge railings. The tree surgeon brought in to clear the bridge dropped much of the debris into the lake, and a joint effort by the Sailing Club and Fisheries Officer was needed to prevent this floating all over the lake. Unfortunately

thieves broke into the Society's container just before Christmas and items including a mower, two strimmers and an outboard engine were taken. It is clear that the current container cannot be made secure and plans are in hand to site a new one. The bailiff team have generally kept things under control, but problems have again been reported with members' dogs on the Littleton Road side of the venue and particularly on the island. This is in contravention of the Sailing Club's rules, and they have also had problems with their members' dogs. Again, Bravington Close householders have been trespassing on CSSC's land and cutting down trees to improve their view of the lake. This matter was reported to CSSC headquarters for further action. Fishing reports suggest that the carp fed throughout most of the year for those prepared to put in the time and effort. Tench into double figures were reported, as were some bream. Cormorants continue to be a nuisance, but the extra weed growth should help juvenile fish to survive in greater numbers.

Hambridge



The working parties removed one large willow that spanned the middle meadow, as well as attending to other smaller obstructions. More trees have fallen into the water during the year. The Fisheries Officer was again grateful to George Martin for the use of his boat to enable treework work to be undertaken. The south bank from Hambridge to the Stakes was mowed again towards the end of July. One of the very large horse chestnut trees shed a big limb in the car park early in the season, but after having it inspected by an expert it was deemed to be in a safe condition. Contractors for the electricity company cut down all the trees in the vicinity of the power lines leaving much debris in the water, as well as blocking the pathway on the north bank.

Winter floods were the worst for many years with the river flooding out into all the adjacent lakes above Bull's Lock. Fortunately there does not appear to be any long term damage to the banks. Plenty of barbel were reported throughout the season, although as this wore on many of these became nocturnal catches.

The decline in the number of small chub caught continues, although there were some good ones taken including a fine specimen of 7lb 3oz when the Fisheries Officer was present. A roach of 2lb 7oz was reported to have been taken from above Tumble Bay and towards the end of the season another member telephoned the Fisheries Officer to report a huge one. There was some very good dace fishing from the top end shallows before the winter rains saw this area under water for much of the rest of the season.

Trout were very much in evidence throughout the year taking everything from maggots to boilies and meat.

12lb Kennet pike on lobworm.



Kintbury

Although four winter moorings were allocated on the stretch, none were taken up but this did not stop boats mooring up throughout the length for most of the winter months. Because of the heavy flows on most of the flowing pounds, the Canal Trust turned a blind eye to the flagrant breach of rules on mooring policy. The winter fishing was not up to its usual high standard with the fish seemingly unsettled by the extra flow. Along with this came the escape of many trout into the pound with no less than eleven being recorded in one match. Whilst this may be exciting sport, it is doubtful whether we can afford yet more predators into the canal. Plenty of perch to well over 2lbs were landed, but these seemed to be less evenly spread than before. The better roach were few and far between, and the skimmer

bream rarely showed in any numbers.

Midgham

The removal of all the tree cover on the top end peg noted last year does not appear to have completely ruined the swim, and a 13lb carp was taken just before the end of the season. Bream have occasionally turned up, but the roach fishing on the whole has been abysmal. As a consequence of the disturbance caused by contractors, the fishery rent was reduced.

Windsor Racecourse

The disruption caused by the Olympic rowing events was less than anticipated because we were allowed us access right up until the events started. The good working relationship the Society has with racecourse staff continued, although site security remains a problem. Several times the padlock on both the main gates and internal gates had to be replaced due to vandalism or malfunction. Again many parts of the millstream below the marina became choked with foals watercress in the late autumn, although this appears to disappear during the spring

and summer months. Work was undertaken to clear the worst patches to keep the flow moving and create fishable areas. The mainly wet conditions produced variable results. Some excellent barbel, to over fifteen pounds reported, along with good pike, bream and carp. Autumn saw some great silver fish catches in the coloured water from both above and below the weir. As usual these disappeared with the onset of the cold weather when even the millstream and the overflow stream ditch appeared to be devoid of all but the smallest fish.

River Beult

Ownership of this venue changed hands during the season and the Society decided not to renew the lease on this under-used venue.

Competitions

As a consequence of the significant reduction in attendance, the number of Sunday matches for the coming year has been reduced from 21 to 14, although the Tuesday series has been increased from 8 to 10. Despite the lack of competitors, Windsor produced a couple of winning silver fish weights of over twenty pounds,

whilst Datchet and Hambridge recorded winning silver fish weights of over fourteen pounds. The night match at Windsor was a disappointment in terms of attendance, bad weather and overall result. Weights at Crabtree were well down on previous seasons, possibly due to the cold spring. A few quality fish were caught in matches including barbel of 9lb 14oz (night match) and 9lb 6oz (Hambridge), several perch over two pounds (Kintbury), and roach over one pounds (Datchet and Crabtree). Tony Paul won The Sir Ernest Fass championship by virtue of fishing all seven rounds (one match was voided as only two competitors turned up) whilst John Ellyatt again won the mid-week league by a large margin. The winter championship, the Pratt Cup, was reduced to three rounds (due to the unfishable conditions on the Kennet) and was won by Terry Gyngell on a weight count back after a tie on points with Tony Paul. Congratulations go to all trophy winners. The Society was narrowly defeated by Old Windsor in our annual inter-club challenge match and having lost the away leg to Reed Thatcham AC, were also defeated in the return match at

Hambridge by the narrowest two ounce margin.

Fly Fishing Section

The annual stocking took place on 27th March when triploid trout were released at various points on the venue.

General

The season 2012/13 has been a challenging one for the Society's officers, who remain in desperate need of some younger volunteers to secure our long-term future. During the year, Tony Paul (Fisheries Officer and Competitions Secretary) indicated that he would not be seeking re-election at the end of the season after 28 years of service in various capacities on the GPC. Stuart Penny, another long-term GPC member, has also announced his intention to step down. Our thanks are due to these stalwarts for their loyal service to the Society. The future relationship between CSSC Sports & Leisure and the Society, has caused the GPC much concern. The situation is far from resolved, but we have been planning for all eventualities, including the prospect of having to pay a rental for the use of CSSC-owned fisheries. A new five

year licence to continue fishing at Datchet was negotiated with the Crown Estate Office. Stray golf balls from the Newbury racecourse continued to be a problem at the start of the season and on the advice of Fish Legal, representations were made to the owners. After the offending tee was re-sited, the issue appears to have been resolved. The question of the Society's insurance was fully investigated to ensure we had the cover we needed. Alternative quotes were sought, but in the end it was decided to remain with the CSSC's insurers. Following the decision to give up the licence on the River Beult it was agreed the Society should, in partnership with two small local clubs, take on the lease for a 1000 metre stretch of the Kennet & Avon Canal at Woolhampton. The cost to the Society would be less than the rent paid for the Beult. The GPC decided that due to the tiny number of members taking up the Turnford option we would withdraw from the Consortium at the end of the current season. The future of the Lea Valley Consultative waters is uncertain because the organiser has indicated he is giving up the post, and no replacement has been found.

The GPC continued to meet at the Civil Service Club which also proved to be a very acceptable venue for the AGM. Generally members were well behaved and observed the rules. The one or two exceptions were at Ellis Water, where the presence of dogs in unauthorised areas was reported. The Society were represented at meetings held during the year with the usual bodies such as the Civil Service Sports Council, Littleton User Group, Kennet Valley Fisheries Association, EA, and the Angling Trust. In addition we have also been in touch with representatives of Rivar Ltd, Old Windsor Angling Club, Newbury AA, Reading and District AA, Reed Thatcham AC, Nigel Berryman (Southleas Farm), Ian French (Lagoon) and Windsor Racecourse management.

However the exceptional growing weather meant the venues such as Datchet and Hambridge needed to be strimmed several time during the Season. The Fisheries Officer was grateful to Terry Gyngell and Ken James for their assistance with this work. The GPC's thanks go to all those who gave up their time, often at short notice, to assist

the Fisheries Officer throughout the year.

RELATED CLUBS AND ASSOCIATIONS

EXCHANGE PERMIT AGREEMENT WITH FELTHAM PISCATORIALS

The Society has an exchange permit agreement with Feltham Piscatorials.

More details of the waters included and availability of the permits can be obtained from Tony Paul, tel. 01932 563094, e-mail, tonythefish1@aol.com

WATER-SHARING AGREEMENT WITH NEWBURY AA

The Society has a water-sharing agreement with Newbury AA. The basis of the agreement is the exchange of 5 permits. Most of Newbury AA's waters are included in the agreement and all of the Society's waters are included, with the exception of the Fidler's stretch of the River Kennet at Hambridge. Fisheries will not be available

during the times that they are booked for matches. Trout fishing is allowed on Speen Moor from 1 April to 30 September using dry fly only. Newbury AA members may fish for trout at Hambridge providing they have paid the currently-agreed supplement.

While fishing on Newbury AA's waters, Society members must follow strictly all of Newbury AA's rules and regulations that apply to their waters. Please note that Newbury AA does not allow barbed hooks at some of their fisheries and the information is shown on notice boards at their car parks; Society members must read these carefully, and check what is says in the information pack before fishing. While fishing on the Society's waters,

Newbury AA members must follow strictly to all of the Society's rules that apply to our waters. Infringement of fishery rules and regulations by a visiting angler will be reported to their own society/association. It has been agreed that such reports will be investigated promptly and disciplinary action may be taken.

Sets of Newbury AA permits, and information packs giving details of fisheries, including rules and regulations applying to our Society members, will be distributed by; **Thatcham Angling Centre, 156 Sagecroft Road, Thatcham, Berkshire RG18 3BQ.**

Travelling from the east on the A4 [i.e., towards Newbury], turn right into Park Lane, then left into Sagecroft Road. The opening hours are 0730-1800, Monday to Saturday. Tony Franklin, the proprietor, can be contacted on 01635 871450.

Permits and information packs are available during the shop's normal opening hours. To obtain one of the permits and an information pack, a CSAS Member must produce evidence of full adult membership and must sign a register to indicate that they understand the rules and regulations applying to the waters that are part of the agreement. Permits must be returned before the normal closing time unless a prior arrangement has been made with the shop to return them later.

Under no circumstances are Society members permitted to

be on Newbury AA's waters without a valid permit. Newbury AA members are being informed that under no circumstances are Newbury AA members permitted to be on the Society's waters without a valid permit

COMPETITIONS

It was a very disappointing year for the matches with weather influencing attendance, not to mention the cancellation of matches due to the flooding.

David Steele was the runaway winner of The Sir Ernest Fass championship, whilst John Ellyatt again won the mid-week league. The winter championship, the Pratt Cup, was a much closer thing with Tony Paul and Eamon Capecci tying on points, and Eamon getting the verdict on a weight count back.

Congratulations go to all trophy winners. The Society again defeated Old Windsor in our annual inter-club challenge match, and having narrowly lost the away leg, comfortably beat Reed Thatcham AC at Hambridge.

MATCH RESULTS

21 October Williams East Peckham

Cancelled; venue unfit.

4 November Fass Kintbury

Result: 1 D Steele 7lb 14oz, 2. J Fisher 4lb.11oz, 3 E Copocci 5 Fished 4 weighed in a total of 15lb 2oz

18 November Robbins Hambridge

Result: 1. T Gyngell 1lb 3oz, 2. A Paul 1lb 2oz
5 fished, 2 weighed in a total of 2lb 5oz

2 December Pole Match Kintbury

Result: 1. J Fisher 2lb 14oz; E Copocci 2lb 10oz; A Paul 1lb 9oz.
5 fished 4 weighed in a total of 7lb 3oz.

16 December Fur'n Feather Windsor

Result: 1. D Cowling 7oz, 2= I Mathers, A Paul, D Barnard all 1oz
21 fished, 4 weighed in a total of 10oz.

20 January Pratt Hambridge Match cancelled

**3 February Pratt Kintbury
(switched to Colthrop)**

Result: 1 T Gyngell 11lb 15oz
5 fished, 1 weighed in a total of
11lb 15oz.

24 February Pratt Kintbury

Result: 1 J Fisher 5lb 10oz; 2.
A Paul 2lb 13oz

**10 March Pratt/Guthrie
Hambridge**

Result: 1. A Paul 6oz, 2, T
Gyngell 8dr
3 fished, 2 weighed in a total of
6oz 8dr.

**Final Fass points (best 6
results from 7 rounds)**

- | | |
|---------------|----|
| 1. A Paul | 71 |
| 2. = D Steele | 60 |
| = T Gyngell | 60 |
| 4. J Nash. | 55 |

Final Pratt points (3 rounds)

(decided on weight count back)

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| 1. T Gyngell | 9 |
| 2. A Paul | 9 |

Monthly match spoons

J Nash (3), R Lattimer, T
Gyngell, A Paul, D Steele.

TROPHY WINNERS 2011/12

Fass Trophy:

Winner: A Paul Runner - up T
Gyngell

**S King/J Speer Memorial
Trophy:**

Winner, J Ellyatt, Runner-up -T
Gyngell

Pratt Trophy:

Winner T Gyngell, Runner-up A
Paul

**Cyril Guthrie Memorial
Trophy:**

Winner, J Nash

**Steve Hayman Memorial
Trophy:**

Winner, Not won

Hurcomb Memorial Trophy

Winner, J Nash

T La Roche Memorial Cup:

Winner, J Nash

Williams Memorial Trophy:

Winner, T Gyngell

Robbins Memorial Trophy:

Winner, T Gyngell

|

Calkin Challenge Cup:

Winner, Not won

**Tony Devine Memorial
Trophy (Night Match):**

Winner, F McAdam

J Dean Memorial Trophy:

Winner, A Paul

R Dance Memorial Cup

Winner, R Lattimer

Pole Trophy:

Winner, J Fisher

CIVIL SERVICE NATIONAL ANGLING CHAMPIONSHIP Friday 6th September 2013.

Puddledock Farm near
Upminster Essex, with the
Snake Lake booked, which has
a total capacity of 100.

The national was fished here in
2011.

The draw will be as you arrive,
and fish 10.00 to 16.00.

Breakfast is available on site,
(but they are still slow
apparently). The peg fee is £6
(includes overheads). Should
you win and not entered the
"Main pool" then you only
receive the non-returnable
trophy.

MAIN POOL (Optional) £8

Will pay out the top 6 individual
weights (35% to the winner,
20% the second, 15% to the

third, 12.5% to the fourth, 10%
to the fifth and 7.5% to the
sixth.

Those who qualify for a main
pool payout will not be eligible
to receive a section win; this will
default to the angler with the
next highest weight in the
section. Only section wins are
in cash.

SECTION POOL (Optional) £3
Sections will be 10 anglers. Any
odd numbers will be added to
each section and the pool
increased pro-rata, (i.e. 11
would then be a pool of £33).

**PLEASE DOWNLOAD &
PRINT OFF THE
APPLICATION FORM,** as
below then post to me with a
cheque/postal order to Paul
Kitchen. No need for an sae.

CIVIL SERVICE NATIONAL ANGLING CHAMPIONSHIP

**Friday 6th September 2013
PUDDLEDOCK FARM)**

Name.....
.....

Address.....
.....

.....

Post Code..... e-mail address (for new
entrants 2013).....

Telephone number
(essential).....

Business.....
.....

B.T. (and contracted out staff), Post Office or Civil
Servant (CO, DTI, DEFRA, HO, FCO, DoH, EA.
etc.), or retired from any of the above. CSAS
Associate Members may also fish.

Mandatory Peg Fee £6.00

Optional Main pool £8.00

Optional Section pool £3.00

Total to pay.....

AGM SECTION

MINUTES OF THE 76TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE CIVIL SERVICE ANGLING SOCIETY HELD ON THURSDAY 26 MAY 2011, AT 1930 HOURS, AT CIVIL SERVICE RECREATION CENTRE, CHADWICK STREET, LONDON SW1P 2EP.

Minutes of the 77th Civil Service Angling Society AGM 24th May 2012

Civil Service Club
13-15 Great Scotland Yard
London SW1A 2HJ
GPC Persons present:

David Kennedy Hon. Secretary	Ian Mathers President	Ray Higginbottom GPC	Grant Milliam Hon Minute Secretary
Graham Sigley Hon, Publicity Officer	Stuart Penney GPC	G F Martin Hon Treasurer	A J Paul Hon Fisheries Officer
Mike Turner Bulletin Editor	Hon	Steve Haden Temporary Membership Secretary	

A Cunningham
L Pizzey
Stephen Hewitt
Kevin Jenkins
Andy Venn
Brian Du Casse
Steve Haden
Patrick Oakes
R. White

A. Cooper
Paul Kitchen
K James
T J Gyngel
Mr Jenkins (name not on register)
Mr Zvenn (name not on register, Andy Venn?)
David Shaw

Agenda

Ina Mathers advised that Dave Root passed away about a month ago. A minutes silence in memory of Dave Root was observed.

Apologies for Absence

Norman Day, Ian Campbell, Eddie Cox, Peter Stone, Les Mallinson, Dave Tester, David Trangmar.

Minutes of 76th Annual General Meeting. Ray Higginbottom proposed that they be accepted as a true record. Proposal passed unanimously.

Matters arising from the minutes

Ian Mather queried under AOB whether the American Signal Crayfish at Clifton Reynes had been commercially trapped. Tony Paul advised that the company who were going to do it needed a suitable place to launch their boat as the trapping was to be done from the river. There is no suitable place on the fishery to launch a boat so Tony asked them to contact Olney for a launching site and nothing has been heard from them since.

Ian Mather asked when the sewage pollution at Bull's Lock happened. He was advised that this was in February 2011 and was the same incident he had reported to the Environment Agency. He reported that Thames Water had received a derisory fine in respect of the incident.

Ray Higginbottom asked what was happening about the additional car parking at Hambridge. David Kennedy advised that the land in question is still leased by Tarmac, Tarmac refuse to negotiate on this with anyone and no progress is likely to be made on the issue until they formally pull out. Their lease finishes very soon and they have to do some restitution work. Riva the landowners are quite co-operative and are ready to go ahead when Tarmac go. The other problem is if we do anything now Tarmac have insisted that we will have to pay their legal fees. For the time being the additional car parking is on the back burner, but not forgotten.

Annual Report of the GPC

Ian Mathers asked for a proposer to accept the report in the absence of any comment. Proposer Ken James, seconder Mike Turner.

Statement of Accounts

George Martin said there were four things to mention.

1. Rentals remaining for 2011, £11900 of that money related to the 2010 rent for which we did not receive invoices in 2010.
2. Also relating to the Civil Service Sports Council and insurance they are equally slow at giving us invoices for insurance as they are for fishery rents. They eventually gave us an invoice for £1400, but hadn't charged us for the past two years. This is quite a high premium and we are going to get a quote from the Angling Trust
3. For the past two or three years we have had hardly any interest, Barclays regard the society as business and are paying the rates they pay to businesses. George reported he had managed to find a bank called Secure Trust Bank who pay around 3% on 120 days' notice. All the others wanted at least a year's

notice. So the interest has shot up to £887 and in a full year it will be about £2400. Looking at the cash in and out in 2011 we spent £475 more than went in. But as explained previously some of this related to rents and fishery maintenance in previous years. If we had paid everything that was due 2011 in 2011 we would have had £6600 in the bank which is a good result considering membership went down by 10%.

4. The final point relates to the auditor's opinion. They are satisfied that the accounts are an accurate record of expenditure and income but, they have said that there should be more detailed breakdown of money in, for example subscription income includes non-attendance at working parties, they want a breakdown of guest tickets, income for use of our fisheries from other fishing clubs, mooring fees. There wasn't time to do this before the AGM and we will discuss this at the next GPC.

Ian Mather asked for any comments, Terry Gyngell asked about the rent paid in respect of Datchet which he thought included an element for the upkeep of the road and that the farmer should be repairing it as it would either be him or his employees who had made the holes in the road. Ian Mather advised it was designated as a farm track and as such he does fill the holes in, but only as a farm track. The fact that we have a car park down the other end of it which cost us an arm and a leg is another matter. Ian asked David Kennedy if there was anything in the written lease. David advised that some years previously he had made a formal complaint the Crown Estates who are the riparian owners who had sent someone down to look at it and said as a farm track it was acceptable. David Kennedy was of the opinion that if the track was totally unusable and dangerous for cars we might have a case. Another member reported that work had been done very recently to fill in the holes in the track and it was now in good condition.

George Martin said the invoice we get for the fishery does not mention repairs to the road it is just a licence for the fishery. Ian Mathers asked if there were any other comments.

George Martin advised Due to the fact that CSSC are so slow in invoicing he is now paying the invoices directly so he does not have to have any dealings with the CSSC. Ian Mather confirmed with George that the invoices were coming directly to him. He advised that yesterday he had paid one directly that was from Allan Burton. Ian Mather asked for a proposer and seconder that we accept the accounts. Mr Cunningham proposed and Mr Jenkins seconded and the motion was passed.

Election of President

The GPC recommend that IE Mathers be re-elected as President. Mr Pizzey seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Election of Vice Presidents

The GPC proposes that Mr E W Cox, Mr N Day and Mr J Richardson be re-elected as Vice Presidents. Motion seconded by Mr. Jenkins. Motion passed.

Election of Officers

The GPC propose that Dr David Kennedy be re-elected as Chairman. Mr A Cunningham seconded the motion. Motion passed. The following officers are willing to serve again Dr D A Kennedy Hon Secretary, Mr G Martin Hon Treasurer, A J Paul Hon Fisheries Officer, Mr S Haydn Hon Temporary Membership Secretary, Mr I Campbell Hon Membership Secretary, Mr Graham Sigley Hon Publicity Secretary. Motion proposed by Mr L Pizzey, seconded by Mr Zvenn. Motion passed.

The following are willing to serve on the GPC again, Mr S Penney, Mr R Higginbottom, Dr. L Mallinson. Motion proposed by Mr Jenkins, seconded Mr Cunningham. Motion passed.

The GPC recommend that Mr G Milliam be elected as Hon Minutes Secretary, seconded by Mr Zvenn.

Election of Auditors

The GPC recommend that Mr D Shore and Mr D Kitchen be elected as auditors. Seconder Mr Cunningham. Motion passed.

Any Other Business

David Kennedy had three items for AOB. The award of the Neal Trophy to Ken James was proposed by Tony Paul who spoke to the award. For many years Ken has made a major contribution to the management of fisheries in dealing with trees and mowing the grass. A merit medal be awarded to Terry Gyngell for fisheries management. Tony Paul advised that no one had received a merit medal in over 40 years. Ian Mathers advised the award had been made for sheer hard work drive and determination in keeping the fisheries team going.

Stuart Penney to Ian Mather. Is it not the case that the Bulletin should be produced six weeks prior to the AGM which it was not the case this year can this be fixed for next year? I believe that any motions that should have been brought forward, this year there aren't any, should be produced six weeks prior to the AGM. Mike Turner explained there had been some editorial issues from the GPC which he had been unable to get round to. It was finished in March.

Tony Paul, Mike is not necessarily to blame here, before we moved the date of the AGM from April to May motions always had to appear in the autumn edition of the Bulletin. So as a note for the minutes it should be the

Autumn Bulletin for any motions and I would like to put this as a motion to the AGM.

Mike Turner; a further point here is we always have the forum and anything can come via the forum or email. I accept that not everyone uses electronic communication but there are plenty of ways to contact us. Graham Sigley against that can I just congratulate the Bulletin Editor for his work on the Bulletin.

Tony Paul wanted to sound out the meeting on the matter of dogs on society waters. For a long time we have tended to turn a blind eye to people taking their dogs onto places like Crabtree, Windsor and other venues. Although there is a rule in the rulebook which says no dogs on fisheries. It is a major issue at Ellis where the sailing club have got quite nasty; they are insisting we apply the rules. It has become difficult because not all officials are singing from the same hymn book. Some want action taken against our members and some are ignoring the fact. I would like to sound out the meetings feelings as to whether we should carry on as we are or whether we should apply the rules rigidly. Ian Mathers asked for comments.

Stuart Penney I believe the rule book should be adhered to as stated. David Shaw if you have a set of rules you have to adhere to them.

David Kennedy we have a slight problem in that the rule book is out of date and it is illegal in a way in that we have disabled discrimination legislation and when you go to Ellis Water I think it says something like no dogs except guide dogs. There are dogs, now called assistance dogs for people who are hard of hearing, people who are bit doddery like some of our members. I think the spirit of the rule is no dogs except assistance dogs, but it doesn't say that in the rule book.

Tony Paul the point that is being put that there are no dogs allowed on one side of the lake, but on the other side where there is a public right of way dogs are walked

up and down all the time. If you are on the Littleton Lane bank or on the other bank it might be wise to have a dog in your bivvy with you to avoid unwarranted intrusion by people onto your swim and stealing your tackle.
Steve Haydn the rules should be adhered to.

Tony Paul; can I suggest that the GPC look at this with and come back to the next AGM with a proposal one way or the other. Ian Mathers suggested that Tony would also have to firm this up with the sailing club and he would also have to take into the matter that David raised about assistance dogs. Tony Paul: it is very difficult you can go to a meeting with the sailing club where they will moan about dogs on the site and in the same meeting they will tell you that they have got a display of Newfoundland working dogs coming up. Mr Jenkins; at Crabtree for example some members will take their dogs with them for protection. Ian Mathers that is something for the GPC to take on board.

Another member asked what was the exact nature of the complaint from the sailing club.

Tony Paul It was that we have an old established rule which both we and the Sailing Club have ignored. Graham Sigley reported the main complaint was that one of our member's dogs had defecated on their lawn.

Mr Cooper reported trouble using the padlocks at Bull's Lock at night with a torch because of the reflective material that the lock was made of. Ian Mathers reported this was the latest design from the manufacturer of the combination padlock and all that was available. Tony Paul it is not just the lock that is a problem it is the length of chain on them.

David Kennedy; if anyone wants to do some research on padlocks and let the GPC know of any lock that we should take into consideration.

Paul Kitchen: every year at the National competition I give out non-returnable trophies, I have never asked for

any remuneration in respect of these. I have purchased five paperweights as trophies at £14 a piece which I would like remuneration for. If anyone would like to fish the National this year it is on 29th September at Monk Lakes, Monk Farm, Kent. Next year it will be at Marsh Farm in Surrey, date to be fixed.

Tony Paul asked David Kennedy to tell the meeting the reasoning behind the permit exchange scheme with Godalming Angling Club. David Kennedy explained that Godalming had a lot of waters mainly in Surrey. They also have Marsh farm which is a nationally renowned fishery which has a tackle shop and other lakes nearby which are full of fish. It struck us that it would be a good thing if we could have a deal with them whereby we can go their tackle shop which opens at 7.30 in the morning and pick up a ticket for their waters. There is an arrangement already in place for that. They are thinking of a mechanism where if the tackle shop is closed, it closes at 6 o'clock, the permit can be returned to a committee member who lives in one of the nearby cottages. Night fishing is not allowed but you can fish till midnight. The scheme is about four of their permits and four of our permits. David Kennedy advised Tony Paul that he had issued our permits to Godalming. David Bishop who is the Godalming head bailiff will issue our permits to Godalming members.

Unknown member: Do we have a list of waters so our members know where they can fish? David Kennedy the waters are available on line, but I would be happy to include a list of Godalming and Feltham waters in the next edition of the Bulletin.

Allan Cunningham thanked the GPC for their efforts and proposed the following honoraria:

Hon Secretary	£310
Hon Treasurer	£210
Hon Membership Secretary	£210
Hon Guest Ticket Secretary	£120

Hon Fisheries Officer	£210
Hon Competitions Secretary	£210
Hon Bulletin Editor	£120
Hon Assistant Fisheries	£120

Mr Jenkins seconded the motion. Ian Mathers pointed out that there hadn't been an assistant Fisheries Officer in the previous twelve months. David Kennedy advised this wouldn't be a problem as in that case it would not be paid. The motion was passed without dissent.

AGENDA FOR THE 78th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 78th Annual General Meeting of the Society will be held on Thursday 23rd May 2013, at 1930 hours sharp, at the Civil Service Club, Great Scotland Yard, London SW1A 2HJ.

All members, whether full or associate, are cordially invited to attend. Admission is with a current CSSC Sports & Leisure Card or current CSAS membership book. Associate members should note that under Society Rules they are not allowed to vote in elections or on motions, but they may speak in favour or against a motion.

1. **Apologies for absence.**
2. **Minutes of the 77th Annual General Meeting held on 24th May 2012** – please see this Bulletin.
3. **Annual Report of the GPC** – please see this Bulletin.
4. **Statement of Accounts** – this will be available at the meeting.
5. **Election of President.** The GPC recommends that Mr. I. E. Mathers be re-elected President.
6. **Election of Vice-presidents.** The GPC recommends that Mr. E. W. Cox, Mr. N. Day and Mr J. Richardson be re-elected as Vice-presidents.
7. **Election of Officers.** The GPC recommends that Dr. D. A. Kennedy be re-elected Hon. Chairman.

The following Officers are willing to serve again:-

Dr. D. A. Kennedy

Mr. G. Martin

Mr. S. Haden
Officer.

Mr. I. Campbell

Mr. G. Sigley

Hon. Secretary.

Hon. Treasurer.

Hon. Temporary Membership

Officer.

Hon. Membership Secretary.

Hon. Publicity Officer.

Mr. G. Malliam

Hon. Minute Secretary

The following are willing to serve on the GPC again:- Mr. R. Higginbottom and Dr. L. Mallinson.

8. Election of Hon. Fisheries Officer and Hon. Competitions Secretary.

9. Election of Hon. Auditors. The GPC recommends that Mr. D. Shore and Mr. P. Kitchen be elected.

10. Motion proposed by the GPC. That the following Rules be repealed and deleted from the Rule Book. Please see this Bulletin for rationale.

10.1 Para. 2.9, Rule on publicity.

10.2 Para. 2.10, Rule on reporting a catch to the angling press.

11. Any Other Business.

Agenda Appendix Additional/Supporting Information

Item 10.1. MOTION FOR THE AGM

Rule 2.9 PROPOSAL TO REPEAL THE PUBLICITY RULES:

In the past the Society maintained a general publicity ban and permitted catches to be reported only if strict conditions were adhered to. Rules 2.9 [Publicity] and 2.10 [Reporting a catch to the angling press] were introduced when the Society had a long waiting list and relied literally on word of mouth to inform prospective members of the quality of fishing it offered.

Today with falling membership, competition from commercial waters that have sprung up, and with diverse attractions they offer anglers, the GPC has decided to put to its members the repeal of the publicity ban, in total. Word of mouth, now via mobile phones and similar devices, will still be our main way of letting the world know of our quality fisheries, and any other form of advertising can but surely help to maintain a healthy membership list, thereby helping the Society to keep its big portfolio of fisheries.

At the AGM on 23rd May 2013, the GPC will propose that Rule 2.9 and 2.10 be repealed and deleted from the Rule Book. Whether you support this or not, you will have an opportunity to let your views be known at this important meeting.

CSAS FISHERIES, MAP REFERENCES & POST CODES

Fishery	Map Reference	Post Code
Clifton Reynes	SP 895516 – Robin Hood Pub	MK46 5DR
Crabtree Lake	TQ 017694	TW20 8RJ
Datchet	SU 986756	SL3 9DA
East Peckham	TQ 663477	TN12 5DU
East Whitley Lake	TQ 040412	GU5 0TE
Ellis Water	TQ 061674 – Club House TQ 067676 - Promontory	TW17 0JY TW17 0HY
Hambridge	SU 490672 - Road Bridge SU 498666 – Railway Bridge SU 507659 – Fidlers	RG14 2QG RG14 5TH
Kintbury	SU 386671 - Station	RG17 9UT
Royal Windsor Racecourse	SU 950771 – Entrance SU 944776 - Weir	SL4 5HE SL4 5HT
Midgham Water	SU 549663 - Lock	RG7 5XA
Yalding, River Beult	TQ 702485 – Woolpack Inn	ME18 6AS