



CIVIL SERVICE ANGLING SOCIETY
SPRING NEWSLETTER, 2018



<http://www.civilserviceas.org.uk>

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

The Annual General Meeting of the Society is on 24th May 2018. You will find the agenda in this Newsletter, as well as the annual report of the General Purposes Committee and the minutes of the last AGM. On the agenda are some proposed rule changes and in the GPC's annual report the emphasis is on the state of our fisheries. The report illustrates the tremendous amount of work that goes into running the Society and I am sure that you will join me in thanking all those members who helped out during the past season.

It is sad to recall that Tony Paul died at the end of February. He had served in many positions on the General Purposes Committee over the years, but it was his role as our Fisheries Officer and Competition Secretary in which he made his mark with his enthusiasm and hard work in looking after our fisheries. Tony's funeral was on 22 March and it was very well attended by members of the Society. Tony's Obituary can be found below.

It has been another good season with a number of quality fish caught, including recently, an exceptional 8¼ lb. chub taken at Windsor by Frazer McAdam. The membership numbers have improved on the previous year and we now have nearly 600 on the books, an increase on the previous season. Let us hope we can build on that this season, especially as we have become members of the Thames Valley Angling Association [<http://thamesvalleyaa.webs.com>] and the Rother Fisheries Association [<http://www.rfa.freesevers.com/waters.html>]. All members can fish their waters, but for the latter, which will be of particular interest to our members living in Kent and East Sussex, you will have to indicate on your renewal form that you require the relevant sticker to attach to your membership card.

It was unfortunate that the Fur n' Feather and Christmas Sides Match had to be cancelled because of very bad weather conditions on the day. Interest in competitions has declined and the only competitions we shall be running in the new season will be the night match at Windsor in July and the Fur n' Feather in December. Details of these will be available in due course.

I hope to see you at the AGM. I wish you all tight lines for the forthcoming season and would encourage anyone who hasn't been fly fishing before to try their hand at Hambridge from April.

Grant Milliam

Hon. Chairman and Membership Secretary

TONY PAUL: AN OBITUARY

Sadly, Tony Paul died on 25 February 2018 in Woking Hospice. He was a victim of cancer. His funeral was held on 22 March 2018 at Woking Crematorium, which was packed with members of the Society who had come from far and wide to pay their last respects to him.

Tony lived for angling and was an expert at it without doubt. His continued success in various matches and catches of specimen fish, over the years, will testify to this. As a bachelor, he could go fishing whenever he liked and a few years ago he spent Christmas Day fishing at Hambridge and probably had the place to himself, which undoubtedly was his intention!

Our records show that Tony was a member of the Society for at least 38 years. Indeed, he first appeared in the Bulletin as the runner-up in a Fass Trophy match in 1980, when he managed to coax 2lb 5oz of fish from the River Medway on a November day. He was first elected to the GPC in 1986 and served in various positions. At times, he was Bulletin Editor, Competitions Secretary and Fisheries Officer. He was a dedicated, conscientious, versatile, loyal member who worked very hard in different ways to keep the Society running and our fisheries in good order. At the time of his sad passing, because of a shortfall in volunteers, he was Acting Competition Secretary and Acting Assistant Fisheries Officer. In all, Tony served as a GPC member for 32 years – a hard to beat achievement. He had an encyclopaedic knowledge of the Rules, custom and practice of the Society and the GPC did not hesitate to consult him on difficult administrative issues when necessary. He was also an expert in the use of a chainsaw and had mastered the difficult and arduous task of removal of fallen trees from rivers and lakes, for which he had gained much respect.

Essentially, Tony was a very private person who sometimes played his cards close to his chest. He was more a man of action than of words. In his own way he was a great leader who inspired others in various practical ways in support of the Society. For example, with Terry Gingell, he organised the safe and legal removal from Ellis Water of some dumped asbestos waste, thus saving the Society a great deal of money. Although he sometimes presented a gruff exterior, he was always ready to help people and to lend his hand. Tony did not hesitate to pass on tips to people who wished to know how to catch fish as he did. A stoical person, he must have been suffering and in great pain when he organised the Fur n' Feather Match at Windsor last Christmastide. On the day, he got to the riverside in blizzard conditions which eventually led to the competition being called off. Such dedication was typical of Tony. And, it will be long-remembered. The Society will not see the like of Tony Paul again.

AGM SECTION

MINUTES OF 82ND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE CIVIL SERVICE ANGLING SOCIETY, ON 25TH MAY 2017, AT THE CIVIL SERVICE CLUB, GREAT SCOTLAND YARD, LONDON SW1A 2HJ.

Before the meeting started, the Hon. Secretary, Dr. David Kennedy, who was in the Chair, called for one minute's silence in memory of Alan Cunningham, formally Hon. Membership Secretary and long-term GPC member, who sadly passed away in the last year.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Messrs. Ian Mathers, Norman Day, Grant Milliam, Graham Sigley, David Shore, Dave Tester and Ken James.

2. MINUTES OF 81st AGM. 2016

These were formally accepted by the meeting.

3. MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising.

4. ANNUAL REPORT OF GPC

The Report was formally accepted by the meeting.

5. STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

Mr. George Martin, Hon. Treasurer, and other GPC members responded to various questions from the floor. It was confirmed that CSSC Sports & Leisure Ltd. had not charged the Society for use of the East Peckham fishery last Season. The introduction of PayPal, although charges were incurred, made it easier for would-be members to sign up. The Society's website and social media were being used to recruit more members. There was evidence that fewer younger people in England were taking up fishing. There were 15 berths at Ellis Water for anglers' boats and the fees were paid to the Society. While the sale of temporary membership tickets was down on previous years, there was evidence that temporary membership led to full and associate membership after the Society's waters had been tried. The Statement of Accounts was formally accepted by the meeting.

6. ELECTION OF PRESIDENT

Mr. Tony Paul, Vice-President, took over the Chair and Mr Ian Mathers formally was unanimously re-elected as President.

7. ELECTION OF VICE- PRESIDENTS

Mr. Norman Day and Mr. Tony Paul formally were unanimously re-elected as Vice-Presidents.

8. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The following formally were unanimously re-elected:-

Mr. Grant Milliam	Hon. Chairman & Hon. Membership Secretary
Dr. David Kennedy	Hon. Secretary
Mr. George Martin	Hon. Treasurer
Mr. Steve Haden	Hon. Temporary Membership Secretary
Mr. Ian Campbell	Hon. Fisheries Officer
Mr. Neil Depledge	Hon. Publicity Secretary
Mr. Ray Higginbottom	Committee Member
Dr. Les Mallinson	Committee Member
Mr. David Weeks	Committee Member

9. ELECTION HON. COMPETITIONS SECRETARY AND HON. MINUTE & NEWSLETTER SECRETARY.

No advanced nominations for these posts had been received, and none were forthcoming from the floor. Mr. Tony Paul agreed to continue as the Hon. Competitions Secretary in an acting capacity. Dr. David Kennedy agreed to discharge the duties of the Hon. Minute & Newsletter Secretary for the time being and was confident that Mr. Grant Milliam would help him with this.

10. ELECTION OF AUDITORS

Mr. Paul Kitchen and Mr. David Shore formally were unanimously re-elected.

11. MOTIONS PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

11.1 **Rule change, Membership.** After discussion, the following rule change formally was accepted by a majority vote.

New rule 1.4.5 ***“The minimum age for full or associate membership is 18 years”***.

11.2 **Rule change, Conduct and responsibility of members.** After discussion, the following rule change formally was accepted by a majority vote.

New rule, ***“Fishery Managers. From time to time, in the interest of fish welfare, a fishery manager may, with the approval of the General Purposes Committee, introduce rules about angling methods on his fishery”***.

11.3 **Rule Change, Datchet Fishery.** After discussion, the following rule change formally was accepted by a majority vote.

Delete existing para. 3.1.2 and first bullet point at para. 3.1.3 and replace with ***“Under no account must members travel down the farm lane, either in a vehicle or on foot between 2100 hours and 0500 hours.”***

11.4 **Rule Change, Ellis Water, anglers’ boats.** After discussion, the following rule change formally was accepted by a majority vote.

Delete existing “N.B., These rules apply to all boats, including those that are kept there and those taken to and from the venue by trailer, or on top of, or inside vehicles” and replace with ***“No angler’s boat may be used at Ellis Water unless it is kept in an official berth”.***

11.5 **Rule Change, Sheepwalk Lakes.** After discussion, the following rule change formally was accepted by a majority vote.

Insert new rule 3.15.1 ***“Anglers boats [with the exception of bait boats] are not permitted on Sheepwalk Lakes under any circumstances”.***

11.6 **Rule Change, Temporary membership tickets.** After discussion, the following rule change formally was accepted by a majority vote.

Delete para. 5.6, 5.10 & 5.11 and replace 5.6 with ***“With the exception of those for the Royal Windsor Racecourse, a temporary membership ticket will be valid for 24 hours from the time requested by the member. After expiry of this, no temporary membership ticket will be issued to the same member until 24 hours have elapsed”.***

11.7 **Rule Changes, Junior facility tickets, etc.** After discussion, the following rule changes formally were accepted by a majority vote.

Para. 6. Delete existing title and replace with ***“JUNIOR FACILITY TICKETS & SPOUSES’ TICKETS”***

Para. 6.2 Delete existing clause and replace with ***“Junior facility ticket holders under the age of 16 are permitted to be on a Society water only if accompanied by the sponsoring member[s] who shall at all times be held responsible for their behaviour. While junior facility ticket holders over the age of 16 may fish unaccompanied by their sponsor, they may not fish at night.”***

Para. 6.3 Delete existing clause and replace with ***“Junior facility ticket holders shall not be members of the Society but will become eligible for membership on their 18th birthday.”***

Para. 6.4 Delete existing clause and replace with ***“Although not members of the Society, junior facility ticket holders shall be bound by the Society’s rules which are on the Society’s website.”***

Para. 6.5 Insert new clause ***“Spouses’ tickets are available to the spouses and partners of full and associate members. Spouses’ ticket holders are permitted to be on a Society water only if accompanied by their spouse or partner who shall at all times be held responsible for their behaviour. Although not members of the Society, spouses’ ticket holders shall be bound by the Society’s rules which are on the Society’s website.”***

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

12.1 Dr. David Kennedy announced that the GPC had awarded Mr. Graham Sigley honorary membership in recognition of his work as Hon. Membership Secretary and Hon. Publicity Secretary.

12.2 Mr. Paul Kitchen reported that he would be stepping down as organiser of the Civil Service National Match in 2018 and was seeking somebody to take over from him. This year the Match, on 22 September 2017, would take place at the Puddledock Fishery in Essex and entry forms were available from Mr. Kitchen at the meeting. Dr. David Kennedy agreed to ask Mr. Neil Depledge, the new Hon. Publicity Secretary, to put details of the Match and Mr. Kitchen’s contact details on the Society’s website.

12.3 The following honoraria were proposed by Mr. Tony Paul and formally were unanimously accepted by the meeting. Hon. Secretary, £405, Hon. Treasurer, £270, Hon. Membership Secretary £270, Hon. Fisheries Officer, £270, Hon. Temporary Membership Secretary, £135, Hon. Minutes Secretary, £135 & Hon. Publicity Secretary, £135.

REPORT OF THE GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE, 1 APRIL 2017 TO 31 MARCH 2018

On behalf of the GPC we have pleasure in presenting the 83rd Annual Report of the Society.

Membership and Finances

Membership has shown a gradual increase and more full members have been recruited. Income is satisfactory and reserves are sufficient to meet predicted outgoings.

Fisheries management

Negotiations with CSSC Sports & Leisure Ltd to secure 25 year leases for Hambridge and Ellis Water were completed and it is expected that the solicitors acting for the different parties will be able to finalise the arrangements soon.

Ian Campbell, our Fisheries Officer continues to arrange working parties and consequently our fisheries are being kept in good shape. Again, fishery managers and bailiffs have resolved local management issues and have addressed poaching incidents. The expertise and dedication of Tony Paul, who died recently, is a great loss to the Society in the management of its fisheries. The Society's fisheries are its biggest asset and need to be preserved. The GPC is grateful to all members who gave up their time to help in this important work.

Crabtree Lake

Work to improve security, in collaboration with Elmbridge Model Club, continues. Arturas Gulbinas, Fishery Manager, and bailiffs Kevin Wells and Vidas Valkauskas have worked hard to deter and to apprehend poachers. Reports indicated that bags of carp continue to be taken, the roach fishing continues to improve and perch up to 1½ lb. were taken.

Datchet

Security is improved. The car park gate was inadvertently left open and this caused concern to the farmer's wife. Members have been alerted always to close and lock the gate. Reports indicated that there were good catches of silver fish in the autumn and that big carp were being pursued above the weir.

East Peckham

This fishery was sold at auction on behalf of CSSC and is no longer part of the Society's portfolio.

East Whitley Lake

This quiet and peaceful rural water remained popular with members, especially in the warmer months. Nigel Watson, the Fishery Manager, reports that it provided good sport and that carp up to 10 lb. were taken.

Ellis Water, Sheepwalk and the Lagoon

Security issues included the removal of fence panels by residents of Bravington Close to gain access to the adjacent bank. These were replaced and the situation is being closely monitored. At Sheepwalk, amazingly, the new gates installed by the Society were stolen! These were replaced by our landlord, Surrey Wildlife Trust, and Ian Campbell welded extra fixings to make it even more difficult to remove the gates. Dye treatment of Littleton Lake by Littleton Sailing Club to control aquatic weed growth did not appear to have an adverse effect on the fishing. The stocks of large carp, bream and tench continued to attract dedicated specimen hunters who were prepared to put in the time and effort in pursuit of a personal best. Additionally, a pike of 28 lb., taken on a lure, was reported from Little Sheepwalk and quality pike were taken from the Lagoon. The GPC

considers that the use of bait boats at Little Sheepwalk puts hooked fish at risk of being snagged on underwater tree branches and will propose at the AGM that their use should be banned at the venue.

Hambridge

Fallen trees in the river remained a problem and there are hopes that a programme of selected tree removal will address this, as well as allowing more light to fall on the shallower parts of the river, thereby to encourage the growth of aquatic weed that will provide a better environment for fish. No progress was made in creation of a car park in the "Stakes" area. Trout remained plentiful but there were few reports of specimen barbel and chub being taken. However, reports indicated that dace and grayling made a comeback last year, mainly in the faster water.

Kintbury

Despite assurances from the Canal and River Trust that there would be no winter mooring at the venue, this was not enforced and illegally-moored boats reduced the number of fishing places available. Jeff Fisher has protested to the Trust about this. Additionally, the Trust has taken his advice on tree pruning and bank work to improve the fishery.

Midgham and Woolhampton

Again, no reports were received on these stretches of the Kennet & Avon Canal. Members are reminded that the GPC needs information on catches to appraise the value of fisheries on the Society's portfolio.

Windsor Racecourse

Poaching has been taking place because often there is little in place to stop unauthorised access. Gate locks are now chained to prevent loss. The Racecourse management has provided a contact number so that members can inform the duty officer if they encounter trespassers. Clearly this is a popular venue, especially in the summer months. However reports of good catches are down on previous years. The notable exception was a magnificent chub of 8¼ lb. chub taken at the end of the season by Frazer McAdam.

Competitions

The only events this season were the Night Match in July and the Fur n' Feather and Christmas Sides Match, which unfortunately had to be called off because of blizzard conditions. At the time of going to press, the results of the Night Match are not available because of Tony Paul's sad and untimely death. The GPC will continue to run these competitions and this year the Night Match will be run as a charity event in memory of Tony. Details of this will be available later.

Fly Fishing Section

No reports were received. Again it would have been interesting to learn whether trout at Hambridge were as easy to take on the fly as they were to catch in the coarse fishing season.

General

The season was another challenging one for the Society's officers. None of the GPC is getting any younger and there is a need for some new blood. Recently decisions were made to renew our CALPAC affiliation and to join The Thames Valley Angling Association and the Rother Fisheries Association for the forthcoming season. It is hoped that the increased range of fisheries will be appreciated by existing members and will encourage others to join. Generally, the Rules were observed and there was no need to convene a disciplinary committee. As most members are on email, to keep costs down, it is likely that the Newsletter will be distributed mainly by this route in the near future. However printed copies will be posted to the few members who are not on email. The Society will need to comply with the General Data Protection Regulation which comes into force on 25 May 2018 and will need to seek the express permission of each member to keep relevant information on file to enable it to keep in touch. The next issue of the Newsletter will address this [see below]. The Society were represented at various meetings including those with CSSC, Littleton Sailing Club, the Civil Service Sailing Association, Kennet Valley Fisheries Association, Rivar Ltd. Windsor Racecourse management, the Environment Agency, The Canal and River Trust and Nigel Berryman of Southleas Farm [Datchet Fishery].

AGENDA FOR 83RD ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

OF THE CIVIL SERVICE ANGLING SOCIETY, ON 24TH MAY 2018, AT THE CIVIL SERVICE CLUB, GREAT SCOTLAND YARD, LONDON SW1A 2HJ.

- 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
- 2. MINUTES OF 82ND AGM. 2017** - please see this Newsletter.
- 3. MATTERS ARISING**
- 4. ANNUAL REPORT OF GPC** - please see this Newsletter.
- 5. STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS** - This will be available at the AGM.
- 6. ELECTION OF PRESIDENT**

The GPC recommends that Mr. Ian Mathers be re-elected as President.

7. ELECTION OF VICE-PRESIDENTS

The GPC recommends that Mr. Norman Day re-elected as Vice-President.

8. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

The GPC recommends that Mr. Grant Milliam be re-elected as Chairman.

The following are willing to stand again:

Dr. David Kennedy	Hon. Secretary
Mr. George Martin	Hon. Treasurer
Mr. Grant Milliam	Hon. Membership Secretary
Mr. Steve Haden	Hon. Temporary Membership Secretary
Mr. Ian Campbell	Hon. Fisheries Officer
Mr. Neil Depledge	Hon. Publicity Secretary
Mr. Ray Higginbottom	Committee Member
Dr. Les Mallinson	Committee Member
Mr. David Weeks	Committee Member

9. ELECTION OF HON. COMPETITIONS SECRETARY AND HON. MINUTE & NEWSLETTER SECRETARY.

10. ELECTION OF AUDITORS

11. MOTIONS PROPOSED BY THE GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

11.1 Rule change, Sheepwalk Lakes. *Bait boats are not permitted on Little Sheepwalk Lake under any circumstances”.*

Proposed effect. To prevent hooked fish being put at risk of being snagged on underwater tree branches and to ratify the relevant decision by the GPC.

11.2 Rule change, Permitted Use Of Lasers. *At 2.3.7, Prohibited activities, delete “use of any laser device” and replace with “use of any laser device except as authorised by the Hon. Fisheries Officer for deterrence of cormorants”.*

Proposed effect. To enable the Hon. Fisheries Officer to authorise the use of lasers for deterring cormorants, e.g., from roosting at the Society’s waters.

11.3 Rule change, night fishing at Datchet. *Delete “Under no account must members travel down the farm lane, either in a vehicle or on foot between 2100 hours and 0500 hours” and replace with “Under no account must members travel down the farm lane, either in a vehicle or on foot between 2200 hours and 0500 hours.”*

Proposed effect. To enable members to use the farm lane one hour later.

11.4 Rule change, Temporary Membership tickets.

11.4.1 Delete all of 5.6, and replace with “*With the exception of Royal Windsor Racecourse, 24 hour Temporary Membership tickets may be requested on waters where night fishing is permitted. If a 24 hour Temporary Membership ticket is requested, its starting time must be stated. After expiry of a 24 hour Temporary Membership ticket, another Temporary Membership ticket will not be issued to the same member for the same venue until 24 hours has elapsed.*”

11.4.2 At 5.7, add another bullet point “*membership number*”.

11.4.3 At 5.8, third bullet point, delete “*postal order or*”.

11.4.4 At 5.14, second sentence, add “*and membership number*”.

11.4.4 At 5.14, penultimate sentence, delete “*or postal order*”.

Proposed effect. To enable Temporary Membership ticket holders to night fish where permitted, to facilitate the issue of Temporary Membership tickets and to ratify the relevant decision by the GPC.

12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

* * *

NEWS

NEALE TROPHY

The Neale Trophy has been awarded to Arturas Gulbinas, Kevin Wells and Vidas Valkauskas for their work at Crabtree Lake which has resulted in reduction of poaching and trespassing.

WORKING PARTY CANCELLATION – WINDSOR, 19 MAY 2018

Please note that the working party at the Royal Windsor Racecourse scheduled for 19 May 2018 has been cancelled because of predictable traffic problems resulting from the Royal Wedding on the day.

COSTS OF TEMPORARY MEMBERSHIP TICKETS

The costs are as follows.

Day tickets for Ellis Water, Sheepwalk and Hambridge - £10

Day tickets for other waters - £5

24 hour tickets for Ellis Water, Sheepwalk and Hambridge - £20

24 hour tickets for other waters - £10

GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATION 2018

The General Data Protection Regulation will come into force on 25 May 2018. To enable the Society to comply with this new legislation your written permission is required for the Hon. Membership Secretary to keep on file your postal address, your email address, and your phone number. This information will be kept securely and solely for the purpose of keeping in touch with you, e.g., by sending membership renewal information, sending the Newsletter and, if necessary, getting in touch with you in an emergency.

Accordingly, **as soon as possible**, please send an email or a letter to Grant Milliam:

grant_milliam@blueyonder.co.uk

Mr. Grant Milliam,
3 Sarsen Avenue,
Hounslow,
Middx. TW3 4JN

stating:

"I authorise the Civil Service Angling Society to keep on file my postal address, email address or telephone number that I have provided solely for the purpose of keeping in touch with me.

My full name is [insert full name]

My membership number is [insert membership number]

My postal address is [insert postal address]

My email address is [insert email address]

My phone number is [insert phone number]"