

AGM Report & Members Newsletter for April 2008

Dear Member

May we take this opportunity in welcoming you to another season with the Linton Angling Society. Firstly a brief report on...

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - This was it was held at the Bull on Friday 8th February 2008. It was attended by **47** members.

Our Chairman, **Tony Spall** opened the meeting at 8.04pm. There being three apologies of absence **Mick Cullen, Warren Muckell & John Carter**, the minutes of the 2007 AGM were then read by Assistant Secretary, **Mark Chapman**. There were no matters arising.

Chairman's Report:

He started his lengthy report with a resume of the fishing at our various venues.

Still waters: These have produced very well at times with quite a number of good Carp from 20's up to 30lbs.

Certain waters produced very well with quite a number of fish coming off the top in the summer months. Tench have been caught to 9½. Bream to 10½. Perch to 4½. Roach to 2, these were amongst the mentioned catches. Some excellent bags of Bream (80lbs)

River Medway: had fished very well with some really good mixed bags. Hemp & Tares produced some excellent bags of Roach (35lbs). The Carp boys did well again with fish up to 27lb. Pike were a pain for those general fishing in the summer, however Autumn/Winter has produced some good fish up to 26lb.

Royal Military Canal: Disappointing with the weed problem in mid summer & low water in autumn/winter, however those of you who did fish it had some action, there's has been some excellent bags of Roach, Bream & Tench with a number of Pike & Carp coming out.

River Beult: There were some reasonable catches of Tench (7½lb), Roach & Chub (6lb), the Jack Pike provided good sport, again fish reported up to 23lbs.

Our new section of the River at **Cross-at-Hand** proved to be very successful.

River Tiese: For those who are prepared to walk & explore there is good fishing with excellent Chub fishing to be had in the winter months.

Continuing on to talk about new waters, the maintenance at Linton, working parties, litter problems, matches, web site, monthly raffle & the junior teach-in. Concluding his report he thanked the other officers & committee for all their work through out the year.

Treasurers Report: The accounts & report on last year figures was presented & read out by **Chris Knowler**. There was an excess of expenditure over income, this was full expected due to the restocking & other expenses incurred on the new water also some items of maintenance equipment purchased. He then went on to give a full breakdown of these. Membership was also down a bit on last year; it's vital that we maintain membership. The commercial waters are having a marked effect on all angling clubs.

Elections: Committee. **Barry Andrews, Jason Tuckey, Don Brown** were returned & **John Carter** was officially voted onto the committee for a further 3 year term. There were no new Rules or Directives.

Any other Business: The following points were raised: One or two members were having difficulty in accessing the Forum page on our web site, it was pointed out by **Chris** that you're required to enter a user name & password to access & use it, any problems to contact **Warren** or himself. **Tony** explained that we are dropping the levy to **new members** as this caused administration problems last season also the new members rarely attended working parties anyway; it has now been decided to **include** it as part of the **one off joining fee**.

Trophy Presentation: **Mark Chapman** presented the **2007** trophies. Congratulations to **Don Brown** for 'Premier Cup' Overall point's & Winter Trophies, **Barry Andrews** KO Trophy winner, **Don & Barry** shared the Summer Trophy & **Ralph Cheeseman** - Summer Evening Comps winner. Further copies of 2007 Trophy winners & Points chart are posted on our web site or can be obtained by sending an S.S.A.E. to **Kevin**.

WATERS: We no longer lease **Oakapple Fisheries** at Benover or the **Woodchurch** waters. Our new section of the **River Beult at Cross-at-Hand** proved to be very successful. Both **Stallance** reservoirs at **Sutton Valance** come fully 'online' as from January 2008. We are continuing our stocking programme in February/ March/April & again in the autumn.
(Refer to the March Newsletter)

We envisage retaining the fishing rights on all our remaining waters for the next season. However you will be advised of any changes by newsletter or on the web site.

COMPETITIONS: Our Match Secretary **Barry Andrews** has organised the dates & venues for the League matches in 2008. A list of all events appears on your membership cards & on the web site. There are **7** Summer League matches. The best **6** matches count, this allows for one match to be dropped or missed due to illness or holidays. This also applies to the **7** winter matches, best **6** count.

The Knockout comp will run from the first Summer League match.

Don't forget the **Carp Comps** on **May 24/25th** & **September 20/21st** as well as the '**Junior Teach-in day**' on **May 4th** Details are on your card.

LINTON 'OUTSIDE VENUE' CLUB MATCHES

There are two Linton organized matches on commercial waters. This gives all members entering a chance to 'bag up' on a different venue.

These will be held on **Saturday - July 12th** at **Hartley Lands Fishery**, Cranbrook. & on **Sunday - September 7th** at **Chart Fishery**, Chart Sutton.

All are welcome; you don't have to be a match expert to catch on these waters, plenty of Carp!
For further details & to book contact **Barry Andrews** on **01622-858722** or **07870-227723**.

LITTER: *Again, that same old problem, we still keep finding bags of litter at the Lake, Manor & the River Medway. Take it home...Please!*

EXCREMENT: *If you have to go at least BURY IT! Away from the swims, not in the middle of one like one low-life member this year!*

POACHING: *Last year there were a number of poaching incidents. If you have any problems let the bailiffs know straight away!*

PARKING: Please park your vehicle sensibly; don't block tracks, drives or entrances especially in wet conditions... THINK BEFORE YOU PARK!

ACCESS: Lock all gates behind you especially at Manor Farm Reservoir. Membership cards with you at all times.

LINTON LAKE NIGHT FISHING: (only 6 permits allowed) Most Friday nights, especially in the summer months can get booked up quickly. To avoid disappointment **Jason** advised that members should try to book well in advance.

WEB SITE! This continues to be a great success, especially the Forum Page. Please send in more of your Linton fishing photos.

MONTHLY RAFFLE: The more entries we receive the bigger the prizes! You've had an entry form. It will only cost you **£12** for a whole year's entry; that works out at only 25p a week! ANYONE can join ANYTIME & have as many entries as they like.

Wishing you all a successful forthcoming season.

Tony Spall

Chairman - for & on behalf of LAS Officers & Committee

1st April 2008