

Millan Waters

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Dear Member,

Welcome to the second Newsletter of the 2004 and the first of the 2004/2005 season. The new season is well underway and as you can see from the attached monthly returns we have had a cracking season so far. At the end of July, 3474 have been caught so far, which is slightly down on the same period last year. 437 fish have been killed to date, which is a pleasing 23% down from last season. Given the current stocking policy to stock with fish at 2lb minimum, a brace is quite a meal or two and my comments regarding killing and taking of fish has had some effect

1164 fish have been stocked so far this season over 3 separate stockings in late March, prior to opening day with subsequent stockings in May and early July with the next stocking scheduled for September. We have been fortunate to obtain some lovely browns, blues and tigers to add some variety in addition to a wide range of rainbows which continue to provide the majority of the sport. As pumping will only continue until the end of August it is pleasing to find we will not be faced with the water level we encountered last season. The warmer weather encountered over the past few weeks have coloured the water a little and the fish have gone deeper resulting in a few more blanks. Sorry guys but there's not a lot I can do about the weather!

The monthly summary confirms in addition to 1022 rainbows, we have stocked 101 browns, 14 blues and 27 tigers. As our browns, blues and Tigers are all **CATCH AND RELEASE ONLY**, they should provide additional sport for future seasons. The "average" guide I have used over many seasons shows we were down in March/April and May with June and July both up. Our overall average to date is 3.30 compared to last year of 3.61 so we

are not far adrift. Given 1.37 tonnes of fish have been stocked so far, all I can state is the fish are there!

An amazing 42 fish over 7lb have been caught this season, with 8 10lb or over. Best rainbow to date was caught by Roy Seeley, tipping the scale at 12¼lb. Peter Barton's 12lb 2oz rainbow was not far behind. To qualify for our trophies please try and have the fish witnessed and note the witness in the book. If you are alone at the fishery, note "not witnessed" in the book. 9 browns over 7lb have been returned with Alan Pleasance's capture at 8lb 10oz currently being the heaviest. Well done Alan but can anyone top it before the end of October?

One thing I should mention are the regular visits we are now seeing from the Environment Agency bailiffs. They have requested a key for easier access, which I have supplied. I know they have visited the fishery at least four times since opening day. If you don't have a licence I strongly suggest you do. They will prosecute everyone found without one. In addition should you take a guest to the water (with prior agreement) ensure they have a licence. It could be a fairly expensive day if they are caught without one!

Whilst on the subject of the Environment Agency, I have spoken to their local Fisheries Manager regarding the following two issues:

Poaching – Could they assist with Patrols? The response was they are overstretched and do not have the resources to help. However if we can identify any poachers or obtain the registration numbers of their vehicles they would attempt to prosecute. As this scenario is somewhat unlikely, I do not feel much assistance coming from the Agency. More on poach-

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Syndicate Returns 2000 to 2002 / 2003 Season

7lb + Role of Honour

Blank Visits + Monthly Brown, Tigers & Browns

ing later.

Current Rudd Population – I explained our native Rudd population was continuing to grow and asked if the agency would be prepared to relocate some. They can arrange to do this but first would need to remove a sample (around 20/30) to carry out various tests to ensure they are disease free. They are suggesting taking the sample in September. However I will need to check with Tom Ledger first as he has legal ownership of the water (and presumably the Rudd in it). I will keep you appraised of developments.

Back to poaching. Peter Attwood is to be congratulated in trying to organise some patrols this year. Many thanks to those members who volunteered. I spoke to Pete a few weeks ago by e-mail and he explained the problem was gaining access from the boat end of the lake. The landowners are reluctant to let us have keys so patrols have been somewhat limited. If anyone else is interested please contact Pete on 01795-872608 (home) or 07799-413999 (mobile).

Not surprisingly we have a waiting list for next season. Same rules apply and everyone on the waiting list will be offered a place for next season.

In addition to the monthly summary figures, the usual Brown, Blue and Tiger Roles of Honor (and monthly returns) are attached, together with the over 7lb list and visits v blanks returns.

The summary figures to digest are:

BROWNS:

1st	S. Emptage	8
2nd	A. Hauxwell	7
3rd =	P. Haynes	5
3rd =	R. Law	5
3rd =	R. Seeley	5

HEAVIEST: *A. Pleasance 8lb 10oz*

BLUES:

1st	G. Dickson	4
2nd	R. Seeley	3
3rd =	J. Black	2
3rd =	M. Fisher	2
3rd =	J. Haynes	2

HEAVIEST: *D. Taylor 4lb*

TIGERS:

1st	G. Dickson	6
2nd	P. Haynes	5
3rd	J. Haynes	4
4th	R. Seeley	3

HEAVIEST: *A. Friar 6lb*

Well that's about it for now. The only reminder I would like to make is an old chestnut. Litter and Leader line. Several members have commented to me about this. Please take it home with you. Nobody will clear it up for us! Some member should be ashamed of themselves tipping builders rubble in the car park. It might not be much but the car park was obtained to park cars not to be used for fly-tipping. If anyone is caught doing this they will have their membership terminated immediately.

As always a quick list of thanks

- Roy Seeley, Daran Guy and Tony Russell for assistance with the stockings
- Clive Belson, Roy & Daran for assisting with the tree pruning and especially Clive for removing the debris
- Mal Pratt and Bill Francis for putting in the Clarosan once again
- David Murray (and his dogs) for keeping an eye on things!

To you all for your continued support

You will recall the application form this year again asked for an e-mail address as this communication medium cuts down paperwork. I have now 37 members on e-mail which assists me greatly. If you prefer a paper copy just let me know. However remember to advise me of change to e-mail addresses and of course postal addresses.

Just one final item to mention. You may not be aware that Bob Goble, a member for many years is now a fully qualified fly casting instructor. Should anyone feel the need of Bob's services, he can be contacted on 01474-352653 (home) or 07743-054711 (mobile) or e-mail him at r.goble@btinternet.com

Tight Lines to you all,

Gordon Dickson
Manager & Secretary

