

R&DAA

INFORMATION SHEET

JULY 2021

GENERAL SECRETARYS REPORT

2021-22 PERMITS & CONCESSIONS

The 24 Hour Platinum, North and South Permits are sold out and we have a reserved list at present. It was not an easy road but we are now in a position where next year will be a lot easier unless our Fisheries Officer changes his mind again.

The General permit sales seem to be going well but it is difficult to compare with last years excellent year's sales.

We did not receive one application for a covid related concession permit.

DISCIPLINARY

We received complaints of noise on Farnham Flint via Facebook at 11pm on Friday 4th June. It was investigated on the Saturday morning and subsequently the transgressor who did not have his current permit with him was asked to leave but strangely he did have next years which was taken.

FISHERIES OFFICER REPORT

FISHERIES

As is the way at this time of year, We've spent most of the month strimming and trimming our venues.

By the 16th we should have most, if not all of our river venues cut, however there maybe the odd venue picked up after the 16th. It's extremely difficult to plan our strimming as there always is the odd issue with equipment etc. We purposely leave the first cut of the year on the rivers to the last minute, this is due to the bank sides simply growing over so quickly, if we start too soon, come the 16th it would look like we haven't been there. There is also the fact that we have a few new/or re-opened venues. One of which is the 'Upper Whistley' stretch on the Loddon. This venue has around 35 pegs spread over around a mile of bank. Certainly, while we were there on Wednesday last week it looked stunning and I think the venue will be a welcome addition to our portfolio. The other venue is the upper end of Lower Benyons, if you remember last year the landowners agreed to clear the banks of the 'crack'willow' that has blighted the venue for a good number of years. With the willows now gone, there has been a resurgence of bankside vegetation. We have cut a good number of quality pegs in this section and the venue looks very promising for a day's stick float fishing. In fact every time I have visited the venue lots of fish can be seen rising.

CLASSROOM AT FARNHAM FLINT

We have taken delivery of a 32ft x 10ft office/container, which is sited adjacent to the hut at Flint. This is the last piece in the jigsaw in developing the Willmotts/Callows/Flint complex. It will provide us with a meeting room, office, storage, somewhere to hold the monthly association match draw and most importantly a classroom for our junior days.

The whole complex is proving to be extremely popular with our membership and I'm certain this will only go from strength to strength in the future. In fact I accompanied a friend while he was fishing Willmotts a few weeks back. Where we were sat afforded me a different perspective and the time to just sit and watch.....the footfall in and out of the hut, the anglers, of all abilities and ages, sat catching fish and just the general atmosphere around

the complex has changed massively and something I have never witnessed on an RDAA venue in the past. Our investment in this venue/s is certainly money well spent.

CARP LAKES

Around the lakes the fishing has been a little 'patchy', three weeks ago fishing, particularly carp fishing was outstanding with a lot of fish over the magical 40lb mark coming to the bank. A good few Tench were also being caught. However, in the last week or so things have slowed up somewhat. With a lot of the fish starting to spawn, I think they've got other things on their minds.

RANUNCULUS

On my travels around our Kennet venues, strimmer in hand, I've been encouraged by the amount of Ranunculus I have seen. It's been gradually increasing within the river for a number of years now but, now for pretty much the first time in 25 years or more it's flowering! After years of trying to get this important chalkstream plant to re-establish in the lower river I can't tell you how happy I am to see it!