

R&DAA

INFORMATION SHEET

JUNE 2021

GENERAL SECRETARYS REPORT

NICK BABINGTON

Nick has become our Media manager and is responsible for all new content of the website and Facebook page and the use of video footage of our venues. He has also agreed to be a member of the RDAA Executive Council and we look forward to working with him.

PERMITS & CONCESSIONS

General Permits were available from the beginning of May and appear to be selling very well with plenty of new members. 24 Hour Bronze permits are still available but these are online only and we have already passed last season's total number.

The 24 hours permit has sold out and we have a fairly long reserved list.

FISHERIES OFFICER REPORT

As I sit here writing this the sun is finally out! I can't remember a wetter, windier, miserable May. Things around our lake fisheries have start to grow big time in the sunshine and showers, so the work that has consumed most of our time this month, has been mainly trying to keep it in check. The strange weather has played havoc with the roach spawning and it's looking like we're heading for the worst year since we started.

FRIDAY CLUB

Our Friday club has once again been busy tidying up Willmotts, Cottage Lane and Callows, so a big thanks to all those that have attended.

COTTAGE LANE

It became apparent over the winter that the water levels seemed a little high on the lakes. On investigation the drainage ditch system across the fields toward the railway had become blocked and silted up. After negotiating a deal with the landowner, I spent a few days clearing them out, which should solve the problem. While I had the machine on hire I took the opportunity to scrape the track however, as seems to be the theme this year when I decided to do work on tracks, the heavens opened. This means the finished job wasn't as good as I had hoped. The landowners have been pretty accommodating at the moment and have put in a concerted effort to mitigate the historic issues we have with motorbikes using the fields around the lakes. Although I think we'll never get completely on top of the issues, they certainly have reduced in numbers.

FLOATING PENNYWORT

The work to manage the Pennywort in the Kennet, Foudry Brook and associated ditches is going well, so well in fact, that I have been asked to sit on a national technical group advising others on best practice etc. This is obviously a great advert for RDAA and shows that with the support of a forward thinking committee what can be achieved.

PINGEWOOD LAKES

The final piece of the jigsaw creating Willmotts and Callows has now gone in, in the shape of a classroom/meeting room. This has been funded by us along with a sizeable donation from the 'Get fishing Grant Project Fund'. Willmotts and Callows are proving to be extremely popular, both our older and younger members are using the venues on a regular basis, which is exactly as we imagined when we first started the project.