

Southdown Angling Association

Members of the Angling Trust

www.southdownaa.co.uk

Welcome to your latest newsletter that covers everything you need to know about upcoming events, membership renewal, what happened at the AGM and more.

Social Evening & Prize Giving, Saturday 14th April 2018, Eastbourne Fishermen's Club, Royal Parade, Eastbourne, BN22 7AA

If you weren't there, you missed a great evening with good company, food, a raffle and a number of laughs including recent new granddad Peter Gabbitas dancing (allegedly☺). Steve Izzard did a great job comparing proceedings and Alan Dean presented the cups and trophies. Principal prize winners this year are:

Club Matches

Bill Walder:	Rod Brown 4-1-0	Cuckmere Cup:	Trevor Ramsden 149 points
Pole Shield:	Steve Izzard 4-15-0	Marsh Shield:	Chris Copeland 243 points
Roger Weston Memorial:	Nigel Parks 55-10-0	Waggler only:	Chris Copeland 148 points
New Years Challenge:	Tim Crowdey 1-11-0	Percy Baron:	Chris Copeland 203 points
Southdown Challenge:	Malcolm Faulkner 36-1-0	Xmas Cup:	Chris Copeland 143 points
Roy Andrews Memorial:	Gary Flint 25-11-0	Evening Cup:	Gary Flint 249 points
Roger Izzard Memorial:	P Gabbitas 24-2-0	KO Cup:	Neil Post 0-11-0
Aggregate Weight Cup	Chris Copeland 85-12-0	Fred Glazier Memorial Shield	P Nest 8-11-0

Specimen Fish

Clive Copeland caught a new record Tench of 7-0-0 from the Wallers Haven and scooped a number of other cups for his efforts. Tim Crowdey tamed a big carp from Curl's Farm. See pictures in Gallery on website.

Best Fish/Specimen:	Clive Copeland Tench 7-0-0	Most Specimens:	Clive Copeland Tench, Bream, Pike
Best Pike:	Clive Copeland 21-12-0	Best Tench:	Clive Copeland 7-0-0
Best Bream:	Clive Copeland 4-12-0	Best Carp:	Tim Crowdey 21-0-0

It would be nice to have a few more specimens weighed in, photographed and submitted. We know they are being caught!

Club Matches

Chris Copeland supports Steve Izzard in running the club matches and he has written a summary piece for you all as follows.

The club competitions throughout the season continued to attract good attendances even in the depths of winter, it

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seems from the start of November to the middle of March the weather has been very up and down. In general most weekends we've had to suffer gale force winds and rain or a biting easterly wind coupled with very low temperatures. Remember the Beast from the East? Well as I write this we are awaiting the arrival of "The son of the Beast", another weekend of sub zero temperatures a chilly wind with snow showers and it's mid March ! (sounds very enjoyable Ed)

Pleasingly the regular match guys have enjoyed many great competitions throughout the year. The first match of the season back in June at Boreham Street was won by Malcolm Faulkner with a decent bag of bream. Malcolm securing the Southdown Challenge trophy with 36lbs of our slimy friends. At the same venue a month later 27 anglers turned out for the Roger Weston Memorial match, the bream showed again with Nigel Parks romping home with 55lbs, Tim Relf at the next peg landed 53lbs and lost 8 fish! Chris Copeland won the night match with 24lbs of bream at Middle Bridge and Neil Post had 15lbs of them in the first round of the Marsh shield at Middle bridge in August.

It's not only been all stretches of the Wallers producing, decent weights were also recorded on stretches of the Cuckmere. A number of good sized carp also being landed here along with tench and bream.

At Marle Green the carp are certainly putting in an appearance, Peter Gabbitas securing the Roger Izzard Memorial trophy with 24lbs and in late summer Gary Flint the Roy Andrews memorial trophy with 25lbs.

During the winter months the weights on the Wallers held up pretty well with 10lbs of roach and skimmers winning a match in January.

If you want to fish the matches the competition guys are a nice friendly bunch who will gladly welcome you along. All match fixtures are listed in the club card with details of times and venues. Pools entrance is optional but if you like to enter the pools the cost is £5. Matches in general are held on most Sunday's during the season, including several away matches fishing against other clubs. We also have 6 Evening Cup matches in the summer along with a Pole Shield evening match. If you'd like more information please contact either Steve Izzard or Chris Copeland whose numbers can be found in the club card.

Membership Renewals

We are making some changes to the arrangements for paying membership subscriptions to make it easier for you to subscribe and to make it easier for us to manage. Next year we may take a further step and move to a comprehensive on-line platform that will facilitate payment by debit card and Paypal etc.

For the 2018 to 2019 membership year, the available methods of payment are in order of preference as follows: -

1. By Internet Banking via the Treasurer. Complete your membership form(s) and send them with a covering e-mail to saa.subs2018@btinternet.com. You will receive a reply confirming receipt, the total membership subscription due, a payment reference and our bank account details for payment. Once we have received your monies, your membership book(s) will be sent to you by post. You should allow for a 7 to 10 day turnaround period to receive your membership book(s);
2. By post via the Membership Secretary. Complete the form(s) as necessary and forward with your cheque remittance and a self addressed & stamped C5 envelope for the return of your membership book(s) to: -

SAA Membership Secretary

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Members of the Angling Trust

www.southdownaa.co.uk

c/o 12 Harold Avenue

Hailsham

East Sussex

BN27 1EL

Please do not send cash. You should allow for a 7 to 10 day turnaround period to receive your membership book(s). Note that renewal in person via the Membership Secretary is not available and postal memberships are no longer available from Polegate Angling Centre (PAC). Any latent submittals via PAC will be accepted but may be subject to an extended turnaround; and

3. You can renew in person via our agents at the Polegate Angling Centre in Eastbourne or Anglers Den in Pevensey Bay.

Your 2018 Membership Form is enclosed with this newsletter (attached if received via e-mail) for you to renew your membership for a further year. It is also available via our website if you need additional copies (www.southdownaa.co.uk).

Contacting You

The easiest, cheapest and most efficient way for us to contact you is by e-mail. It's true that an e-mail can be lost among many others and even get directed to your spam folder, but if you add SAA e-mail addresses as safe senders and or set-up rules to direct our messages to a SAA folder, they are easily managed and recognised. Many of you have already provided an e-mail address and will have received this newsletter electronically and that's great. If those who haven't yet can do so, that will save us a lot of time, effort and money. If you haven't registered an address with us, but would be quite happy to receive information this way, simply send an e-mail to:

saa.subs2018@btinternet.com

with "SAA Newsletter" as the subject and you will be included for the future. If you change your e-mail address, please don't forget to let us know.

21st Annual General Meeting on 8th February 2018

We had a businesslike AGM attended by 21 members held at the Eastbourne Fishermen's Club. Most importantly, we elected John Stanbury and Michael Wood (returning) to the committee. John, Michael and Chris Copeland will be taking on secretarial type duties going forwards, with both Mike Richardson and Laura Angell standing down.

Mike particularly has been a long standing servant of the SAA, being Secretary for a number of years and being heavily involved in the inauguration of SAA in 1997. He has been wanting to stand down from Secretarial duties for a number of years and it is pleasing that we can now give him a well deserved rest! We are grateful for everything that he has done for SAA and delighted that he will continue to be available in a consultancy type role to help the new management team find their way. We should also thank Laura who undertook a number of duties for us last year, fitting this around looking after her two young children.

The other main point of note is that membership numbers continue to hold at a good level and accordingly finances are currently sound.

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Web Site

Our website is at www.southdownaa.co.uk. It is regularly updated with contemporary information including news of events and match reports. It also features an impressive array of photographs of your catches. This is where you can help. We would be very grateful to receive your news for our features. Your report could be about a recent fishing trip when you enjoyed a fantastic days sport, it may be about the capture of a club record or specimen fish, your success in a recent competition, or you may want to feature a specific club venue or tackle tip. You can also send us pictures of fish you've caught or photos you've taken of our terrific waters, whatever, it's entirely up to you. Please try and get involved by sending us any items you are happy to share with the wider fishing world, by e-mail to: webmaster@southdownaa.co.uk.

Water Maintenance

Important swim clearance and general water maintenance is carried out by a few members all year round. There are times however, when we need more helpers to carry out more comprehensive maintenance work. With this in mind we have scheduled the following dates and venues for water maintenance this year:

29th April 2018 at Curl's Farm; 6th May at Marle Green; 20th May at Marle Green; and 10th June at Pevensey Haven (bypass end/Sheepwash Piece)

All these dates are Sundays and if you can help, please contact our Water Maintenance Manager, Peter Gabbitas, telephone 01323 440734, to volunteer your services, or just turn up on the day, armed with suitable tools and clothing. Normal start time is 9am.

Thanks to Peter, Michael Wood, Alan Woods, Alan Law and others for everything that was done during 2017 and to Michael for everything he has already done in 2018☺.

Padlock Codes

Just to remind you padlock access codes are changed every year on or before 1st May to maintain security of access to some of our waters. You will find the new general access code in your year book when you renew your membership.

If you are a Disabled Member holding a Concessionary Rod Licence issued by the Environment Agency and you need access through the second locked gate at Curl's Farm, please contact the Secretary, John Stanbury, Tel: 01323 371388, email: johnstanbury@talktalk.net. Note that presently, access down to the water at Curl's Farm is very muddy, uneven and deeply rutted in places. If you choose to drive down it is at your own risk and SAA can provide no assistance if you get stuck.

North Farm Pool, Marle Green – Water Closures

As always, due to other activities taking place on this site, there will be occasions when this venue is closed to Association members. The closure dates for this year are listed below. Please note that there may be additional closure dates during the year and these will be advised to members via e-mail and on our website.

Saturday 7th April, Saturday 21st April, Sunday 22nd April, Sunday 13th May, Saturday 26th May, Monday 28th May to Friday 1st June inclusive, Saturday 30th June, Saturday 7th July, Sunday 8th July and Friday 14th September to Sunday 16th September inclusive.

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Car Stickers

We are providing you with a car sticker this year to help landowners and bailiffs identify members. It looks similar to the image here. Please help by including this in your front windscreen somewhere convenient that does not obstruct your view.

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2018 - 2019

Super Steve!

Steve Izzard organises club matches, helps with water maintenance, arranges for our cups and trophies to be engraved and does a whole lot more for SAA. Here he is (left) collecting the Pole Shield from Alan Dean at the recent social evening. He can fish a bit too!



Thanks to Tim Crowdey for the photograph.