Ongar & District
Angling Society

NEWSLETTER NO. 25 | MARCH 2020 FOUNDED 1948 | 72 YEARS OLD

ongardistrictangling.co.uk



DATES FOR THE DIARY

General Meetings
CANCELLED

Tackle Auction Night
CANCELLED

AGM Meeting
CANCELLED

Race Night and Presentation Night
CANCELLED

All start at 8.00pm at Budworth Hall - Ongar

Work Parties
Please ring Tommy Eldridge on 01708 768808

DAY GUEST TICKETS

Guest tickets are only available for day fishing at **Ongar No 1** and must be collected in person from any of the contacts below **before** fishing:

Mike Jenkins
07950 342674 (Epping)

Pat Holley
07772 258031 (Collier Row)

Robin Bundy
07956 568722 (Ongar)

NIGHT FISHING

For Night Fish - Members only Please ring or text **Robin Bundy** on 07956 568722 for your Authority to Fish.

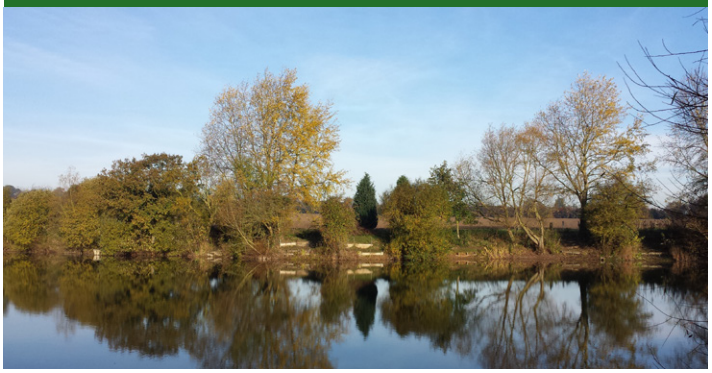
CORONAVIRUS

ALL WATERS CLOSED | MIKE JENKINS

ODAS Coronavirus Announcement – Following the UK Government's recommendations regarding the restriction of cross infection ODAS have to advise that from immediate effect all ODAS Fishing Matches are cancelled. This includes all Pit & River, Outings, OAP and Summer League Matches. All General, Committee and AGM Meetings plus the Race Night are also cancelled.

The Club Waters are now closed until further notice in accordance with Government and Angling Trust requirements. This will be reviewed in 3 weeks as from the 26th March. This is not advisory. This is a temporary ruling during the pandemic. Failure to follow this important rule could render any offending Members for expulsion from the Club.
Please make others aware. Stay safe. **Mike**

SPRING IS HERE!



Its gradually warming up and the buds are starting to appear on the trees. We have had a mild winter with lots of rainfall which has done wonders for all the Lakes and River. The small pit is at a very good level for the first time in many years and the River has had a good flush through.

The winter fishing has been very good with many double figure carp and pike being caught.

The Tackle Auction was very well attended but the number of items offered was down on last year.

The shadow of Coronavirus has appeared which has altered our lives considerably. Take care. **Editor**

MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY | TONY WESTGARTH

Within the next few weeks I will be sending out the Renewals Forms for this year but please note your current membership is valid until the end of May.

We have had a number of new Members join in the Winter months so keeping the membership numbers stable. All new Members get Fishery maps and a Rule Book. If you need a copy of either please contact me on 07828 132228. **Tony**

CHAIRMAN'S CHAT

Hi All,

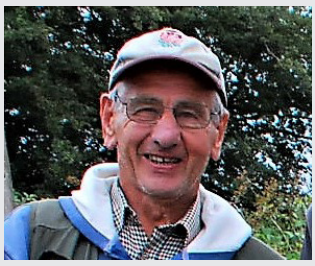
We took the decision to close all our waters and to call off all Club fishing matches and events owing to the Coronavirus epidemic.

Worrying times but as soon as we get the 'all clear' we can lift these measures.

The Committee are keeping things going so let's hope it clears up in the near future.

A big thank you to Pat Holley for the fantastic website keeping everyone up to date on matches and Club business.

Tight Lines
Tommy



FISHERY OFFICERS

If you need to contact the Club Fishery Officers:

New Moreton
Michael Jenkins
07950 342674

Old Moreton
Barry Etherington
07759 421051

Ongar No 1
Tommy Eldridge
07789 982711

Dave Wickings
07902 015057

NEW ODAS WEBSITE

We have updated our website to improve accessibility, security, ease of use, availability of Fishery information and soon the option to pay on line or by Bank Transfer for those that wish too.

Full details of matches and Work parties are now on one list now so Members know easily when events are planned on the waters.

The whole layout has been re-designed so we have more colour, better photos and better up to date news.

You can put your photos onto the front page of the website by using the club Instagram account. We hope you will send your photos and news into:

ongardistrictangling.co.uk.

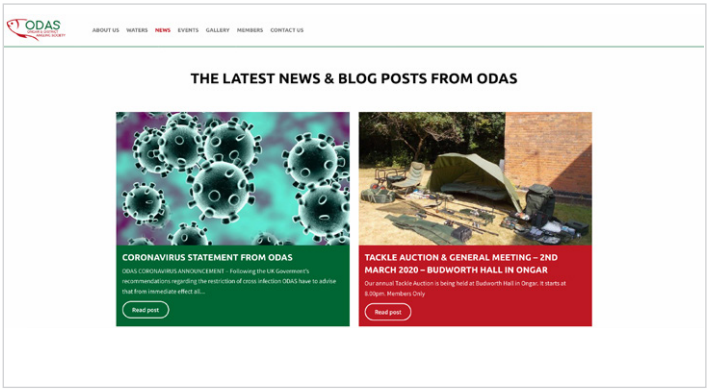
Try it out!

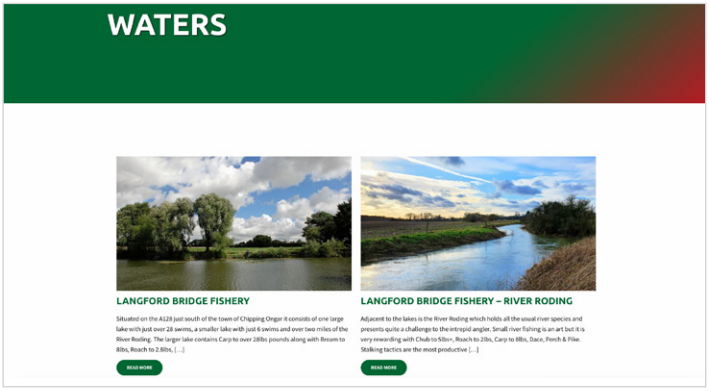


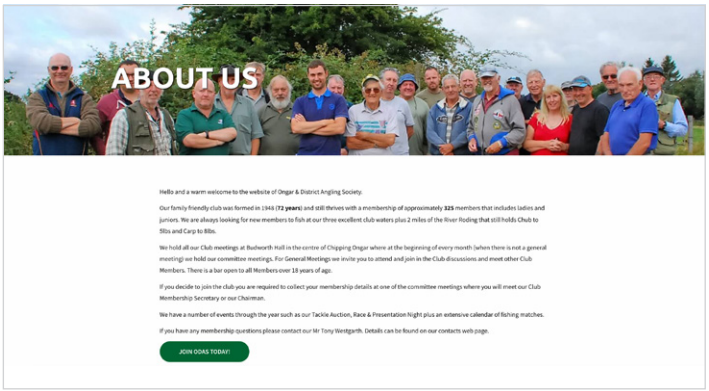
WELCOME TO ONGAR & DISTRICT ANGLING SOCIETY

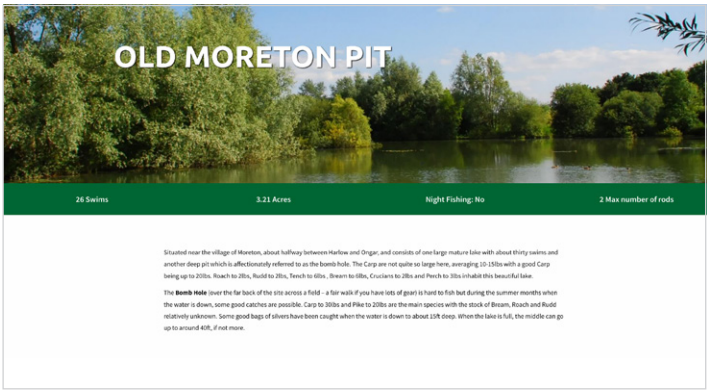
Hello and a warm welcome to the website of Ongar & District Angling Society.

Our family friendly club was formed in 1948 (**72 years**) and still thrives with a membership of approximately **325** members that includes ladies and juniors. We are always looking for new members to fish at our three excellent club waters plus 2 miles of the River Roding that still holds Chub to 5lbs and Carp to 8lbs.









WINTER CARP - ONGAR NO 1
DECEMBER & JANUARY SESSIONS

Steve Barnett and his Junior Member son **Luke** had two very good days fishing at Ongar No 1 in December and January.

In December Luke had three Mirror Carp at 28lbs 8ozs, 22lbs, 19lbs and a 12lbs.

On the 25th January Luke had Mirror Carp of 27lbs 12ozs, and two Common's at 25lbs and and 20lbs 8ozs while Steve had a Mirror Carp of 20lbs 8ozs and a Common at 18lbs.

Well done lads - nice fish!



STEVE BARNETT WITH HIS 20LBS MIRROR CARP



LUKE BARNETT WITH HIS 28LBS 8OZS MIRROR CARP



LUKE BARNETT WITH HIS 25LBS COMMON CARP



LUKE BARNETT WITH HIS 20LBS 8OZS COMMON CARP



LUKE BARNETT WITH HIS 27LBS 12OZS MIRROR CARP

NIGHT FISHING



Don't forget - you need to call **Robin Bundy** on **07956 568722** to book a Night Ticket at Ongar No 1. **Please telephone or text**.

Remember fishing at night after dusk without a Night Fishing Ticket is breaking club rules - which is punishable if caught by the Club Night Fishing Bailiff

OLD MORETON FISHERY MANAGEMENT

BARRY ELDRIDGE

Old Moreton fishes very well in the summer months but tends to get harder in winter - but a few hardy souls still try it out during the Winter.

Barry Etherington is the Fishery Officer for Old Moreton and he is tasked to manage the Fishery and the maintenance programme needed to keep the venue looking good and fishing well for all types of angling.

Barry has acquired a boat to help him and the other Work Party members to prune tree branches that cause obstructions to swims and also monitor weed growth in areas favoured for ledgering by anglers.

Recent rains have improved the depth and this will hopefully help reduce weed growth without resorting to using water dye.

Barry also has to ensure that locals using the fishing banks do not let their dogs foul the footpath. Barry has put up signs but they get pulled down again by the locals. Strictly speaking there is no public footpath around our fishing bank on the lake as it goes around the eastern edge of the lake and then south down to Moreton. However we have a Cormorant problem at Moreton so members of the public exercising their dogs helps to keep them away.

Thanks to Barry and his member work parties we have a great looking lake and excellent summer fishing.

Well done Barry.



BARRY ETHERINGTON (RIGHT) AND WORK PARTY



WEED INSPECTION BY BARRY FROM THE FRONT OF THE BOAT



OLD MORETON WINTER MIRROR CARP 8LBS CAUGHT BY TONY WESTGARTH



OLD MORETON IN THE SUMMER

PIT & RIVER MEMORIES

MIKE JENKINS

For the last 30 years I have run the home water matches. Seen lots of changes over the years.

For instance in 1993 we only had Langford bridge fishery, 65 members fished 314 times for a total weight of 355 lbs this is compared to last year, 2019, 18 members fished 103 times for a total weight of 1236 lbs. Imagine in 1993 everybody in the winter months fished the river, we fished the old close season June to March.

The farmer in 1993 had a herd of 60 Friesian cows which drank from the lake and small pit, this meant all bank side vegetation was kept down, the small shoots from trees never had a chance. We parked our cars around peg 32 to 42 which for some reason the cows loved in the Summer loved to lick. Only when John Cottis and his sons and friends started to spend a lot of time and effort on the lake did it improve to the fine mixed fishery we have today. They have managed the fish stocks and created the comfortable swims that we all enjoy. John has retired from activities for the club but we are all very lucky to have a dedicated committee who have now taken over the running of our waters.

I will be running this seasons home water matches with the help of Martin Reader on the OAP Wednesday matches - as and when they return again - and look forward to seeing old friends and any new members that would like to join in these light hearted affairs.

The Pit & River results are now published on our new website against the respective match date where a green button is clicked and the result appears.

Keep safe **Mike**



MIKE JENKINS



TERRY COMMER JNR AND TERRY WITHINGTON DRAWING HIS PEG

NATURE BOY - WILD LIFE AROUND OUR WATERS

Queen Bees buzzing around looking for nesting sites.

Large clumps of daffodils around Ongar No 1 and Old Moreton signalling spring is nearly here.

Red Kites visiting our lakes.







CHRISTMAS WORD FINDER

For those interested here are the 'hidden words' that were buried within the Word Finder puzzle from the Christmas Newsletter

Rudd, Roach, Chub, Tench, Carp, Eel, Bream, Perch, Minnow, Stickleback, Bleak, Catfish, Barbel, Dace, Trout, Ruffe, Hybrid, Char, Ide, Salmon.

Well done to all of you who completed the puzzle.

TERRY COMMER **BLOG**

These newsletters come around as quick as anything and I hope you've all had a successful winters fishing. In terms of the Outings this time of year there isn't much to say as during January and February we do not have any matches. Summarising last season,

I am thrilled that **Tony Westgarth** won, pipping me to the post. Despite his dreadful performance on the final match, he still done enough to win by a few points. Over the season he thoroughly deserved it and is currently holding the most amount of Outing Championship wins than anyone in the history of the club. Congratulations **Tony**!!

Going forward this season, all but 2 matches are confirmed. It is getting increasingly harder each year to find suitable venues for Outings. With our average match attendance at 25, with the potential to exceed 30 with no absences, lakes are becoming familiarly small! Also we have the problem of popular venues being booked up 2 years in advance in some cases as well as the likes of Coleman's moving to membership only.

It doesn't leave a lot left, so if anyone knows of venues that are big enough (35 pegs or more) and holds matches, then please let me know so I can investigate. For this year, I'm waiting to confirm the September venue and the November canal location. I anticipate that it will be somewhere on the GUC.

We had our first match of the season on Sunday 15th March. It was held at Slough House in Bulphan. 25 fished and the conditions were tricky with strong winds present. **Terry Commer Jnr** took the win with 44lb 4oz which included an 11lb 8oz Common and an 14lb 4oz Common with almost 20lb of skimmers caught on the waggler at 20metres to back up the weight. **Micky Binns** came 2nd with 39lb 8oz. **Richard Trott** came 3rd with 31lb 8oz. I'd also like to welcome back **Micky Binns** after having last season out and hope that he is able to get out as much as possible this year.

As always if you wish to fish the Outings then please text me (**07912 869651**) to book on or drop me an email at **terry_commer@hotmail.com**. Make sure you get a reply to confirm your booked on.

UPDATE: As you will be aware all Club matches are cancelled until further notice as a result of the Coronavirus (COVID-19).

Tight Lines **Terry**









KESWALL ANGLING CENTRE

Keswall Angling Centre of Collier Row sponsor ODAS on a number of mutual aspects:

- Spend over £10 - 10% Discount on Fishing Tackle
- Prizes for Club Raffles at the Presentation & Race Night
- Promotion of ODAS in the Keswall's Shop as a reputable fishing club to join

To claim your 10% discount at the shop please present your Membership Card **prior to purchase**.

EDITOR'S COMMENTS

Don't forget to send in details of your specimens and catches for the Newsletter.
Also tell us what you want to know about or see in the Newsletter.
We also need your e-mail addresses so we can get the Newsletter to you much quicker plus other communications about the Club activities.

Please send comments to: **ODASNEWSLETTER@OUTLOOK.COM**

Design and artwork | Agave Creative Ltd | michelle@agave-creative.co.uk