FOUNDED 1948
[77 YEARS OLD]

ONGAR & DISTRICT ANGLING SOCIETY

ODAS
ONGAR & DISTRICT ANGLING SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER NO. 34 | DECEMBER 2025

ongardistrictangling.co.uk



DATES FOR THE DIARY

General Meetings
Please see the website for details

AGM Meeting
Please see the website for details

Race Night and Presentation Night
Please see the website for details

All start at 8.00pm at Budworth Hall - Ongar

WORK PARTIES

Jason Derry
07745 221322

Dave Wickings
07902 015057

DAY GUEST TICKETS

Book via Clubmate App

NIGHT FISHING

For Night Fish - Members only

Please ring or text **Robin Bundy** on 07956 568722 for your Authority to Fish prior to fishing.



Hi Everyone,

Another year end is nearly upon us. The poorer weather means less fishing trips and time to get our fishing equipment cleaned up, repaired or exchanged for something new - all to be ready for the warmer weather. Improved fishery swim access at Ongar No 1 has started allowing for better space, access and comfort. We hope to carry out further improvements next year to the Little Pit at Langford Bridge and along with further support works from our River Roding Group along the river. Plenty to do!! The ODAS Committee wishes every member and the their families a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS | ROBIN BUNDY



Our club membership is still growing with new applications still being processed in November but I have now closed the membership as the new year approaches.

More than 95% of our membership are now on Clubmate which has improved our processing and management of our club members and our communications to members. Don't forget to tell me if your car registration, email or address changes.

Merry Xmas. And A Happy New Year.
Robin Bundy - Membership Secretary

GATE SECURITY AT ONGAR NO 1 FISHERY

Unfortunately we still see regular instances of gates left unlocked at Ongar Langford Bridge.

Please take the time to tumble the padlock numbers after you secure the main gate padlock at Ongar. Ensure the shank is securely latched home in the padlock after locking. Pull the chain against the padlock to ensure this has happened.
Please do not leave the padlock unlocked and hanging.

Thank you. **ODAS Committee**

CHAIRMAN KEVIN'S CHAT

Hi Everyone,

Despite the drier weather during the summer with very low water levels the club lakes have continued to fish well.

The club matches have now centred around Langford Bridge where the OAP Shield matches have seen the bigger individual winning weights.

My congratulations to all the competition winners during 2025. I would also like to thank the committee for their support and service to the club over this last year.

Merry Xmas & A Happy New Year to you all.

Kevin Withington



FISHERY OFFICERS

If you need to contact the Club Fishery Officers:

Moreton
Tom Eldridge
07789 982711

Ongar No 1
Jason Derry
07745 221322

Brick House Farm
Dave Wickings
07902 015057
or
John Storr
07754 960703

FISHING HIGHLIGHTS IN 2025



KEVIN WITHINGTON WITH A 29LBS MIRROR CARP AT ONGAR ON THE 9TH APRIL 2025



ROBERT LINWOOD WITH HIS 28.5LBS MIRROR CARP AT ONGAR IN APRIL 2025



JOE ILOTT WITH HIS 28LBS 10OZS MIRROR CARP 'LUMPY' AT ONGAR ON 18TH OCTOBER 2025



JEREMY KEMP WITH A LOVELY COMMON CARP AT ONGAR ON 2ND AUGUST 2025



ROBIN BUNDY WITH A SUPERB 20LBS 8OZS COMMON CARP AT ONGAR IN JUNE 2025



SCOTT LAMBERT WITH A RARE 20LBS LINEAR MIRROR CARP AT ONGAR ON 20TH AUGUST 2025

2025 HOME MATCHES ROUND UP
MIKE JENKINS

Overall Match Summary



Home Waters – Due to difficult fishing conditions at Moreton Lake, and apart from the first Pit and River competition all other matches were fished at Langford Bridge. Kevin Withington swept the board winning both the Pit and River competition and the OAP competition. The fish tended to hold up in the deepest part of the lake, so a good draw was essential. See the web site for all the details

The final Pit & River competition was won by **Kevin Withington**, 2nd was **Neale Duncan** and 3rd **Terry Commer Snr**. Well done to Kevin and the two runners-up.



Outings – Our new outing organiser **Paul Blatch**, did a great job in finding us suitable venues with enough water in them to fish due to the very dry weather.

The last match at Stambridge was a nail-biting finish as there was only two points in it between **Paul Jenkins** and **Terry Commer Jnr** for the title. Paul had a good weight of 41lbs and won the match. However Terry came second with 22lbs so he is the Champion by one point.

The John Cox Trophy Knockout Final was also fished for during the same match in a 3 way final and this was won by **Terry Commer Jnr.** Well done Terry on winning 2 trophies!!

Here are the booked venues for the season commencing March 2026:	
March Stambridge	April Aarons
May Rayne Lodge	June Southend Farm – Main Lake
July Puddledock	August Colemans Wood Lake
September Blashford Hills	October Tylers Common – Willow
November Canal / River	December Stambridge

Many thanks for all the members who have supported the matches. We look forward to seeing you. New members are welcome.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

Michael Jenkins

ODAS COMPETITION WINNERS 2025



KEVIN WITHINGTON



TERRY COMMER JNR

ONGAR NO 1 RENOVATIONS
NOVEMBER 2025

The lower water levels at Ongar Langford Bridge enabled a survey to be carried out on all swims at the Big Pit. The conclusion was that a high number needed rebuilding and renovating to ensure safe fishing and a stop to further deterioration. **Jason Derry** acted as our Project Manager to arrange the survey, get quotations for the work and oversee our club contractors Woodwards. The work was carried out over 6 days prior to which a Work Party was held to reduce adjacent overlapping swim foliage from shrubs, bushes and trees. The results can be seen in the photographs. The work will need a period of settling in which has not been helped by the recent late November rain.

A big thank you to Jason and his support team for ensuring the work was carried out on time and to a high standard. Thanks to all those involved and to the **Woodward Bros** for their 1st class work!!

See them below.

Jason summarises the project to date:

We the committee are happy to say that we have started a much needed improvement works on our Langford bridge fishery. The new swims are looking great albeit needing time to settle and dry. We greatly appreciate your patience during the process and with the members participation and support we can achieve our goals of a maintainable and safe environment for all our members. Work had been completed in extreme weather resulting in the banks being muddy, but you cannot make an omelette without cracking an egg! We will endeavour to repair the paths as soon as possible. We hope with further support we can continue the works to all swims achieving our goals by early next year.

How can you help? If you have construction or landscaping skills and equipment and could give a day to the club, please contact us. You can always fill a hole with soil or spread woodchip on paths on your visits to the lake, If we all do a little, we can achieve a lot.

Thank you. Jason









OUR NOMINATED CLUB BAILIFFS

It is essential we have bailiff's not only for carrying out card checks on the banks but also for checking on the condition of the fishery and dealing with any security issues during their visits.

The Committee has made two of our members nominated Club Bailiffs and they are **Johnny 'Joe' Ilott** and **John Ilott**. Both live local to the Ongar lakes.

While every member is a honorary bailiff so allowing members to check other members cards if a situation requires identification of a member or poacher. However the Club wants our two nominated bailiffs to provide additional guidance and support for members needing help on the bank.

John and Joe can be contacted direct for support - their details are on the website - and from next year on your Club cards. Don't forget to say 'hi' to them.



JOHNNY 'JOE' ILOTT



JOHN ILOTT

MIKE'S ODAS RIVER RODING GROUP

Hopefully you will have all seen the new WhatsApp group for members interested in the fishing on the River Roding that passes through the farm. We are lucky to have some dedicated Members who have taken not only an interest in the river for fishing but are helping to maintain it and alert others to the condition of the river and the banks. There are many specimen fish in the river particularly chub and pike but other species such as roach and dace are also present.

Please see the website ODAS Members section for the link to the WhatsApp Group and try it out.

If you are unsure what tactics to use just ask in the group chat. There is nothing better than catching a 5lbs chub in a small river. **Mike Jenkins.**

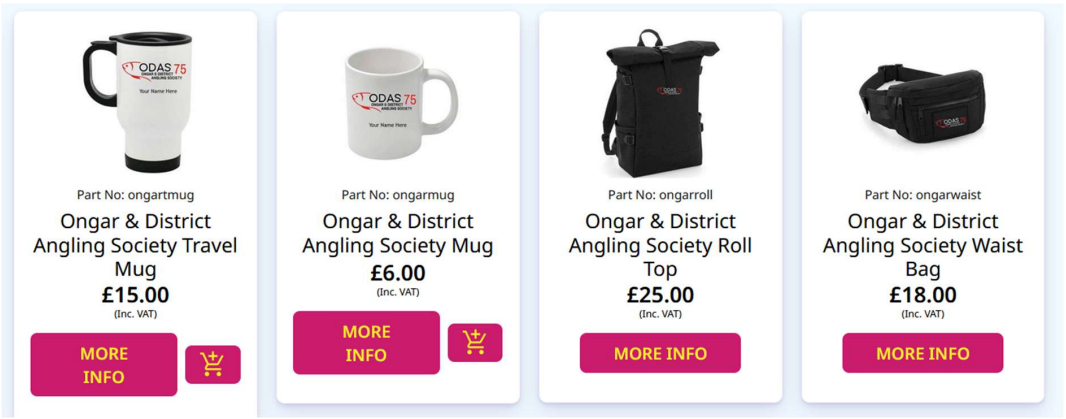


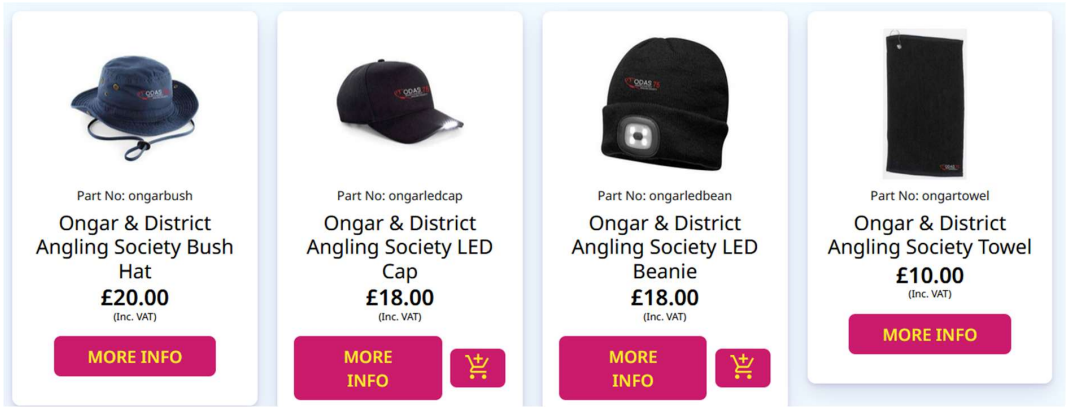


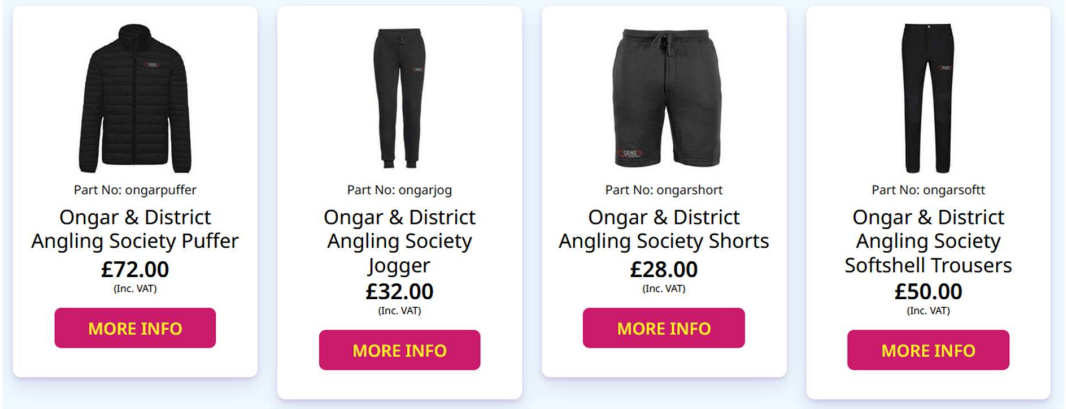
2025-26 CLUBMATE MEMBERSHIP
ROBIN BUNDY

Hello everyone! We have had a good year asking our members to renew, join and use Clubmate on their laptops or smartphones. 95% of our membership are now on Clubmate. Every member enrolled via Clubmate has an ODAS Clubmate Membership card that has replaced the old card version. You will receive a prompt via your Clubmate app next year to renew your club membership. Once you have paid via within the app you will get a new card with the new gate codes giving you access to our fisheries for 2025/6. Hopefully all members on Clubmate will take advantage of the new ODAS branded merchandise that is now on offer. Check them out on your app. All items are with the club logo and here are some examples:









Please note we will not be sending out renewal forms to those members with email addresses. Everyone who has an email address is on Clubmate. We will be sending out instructions to help you renew your membership via Clubmate next April/ May. Alternatively we can complete or set up your Clubmate profile if you send us your ID photo.

Thank you.
Robin Bundy - Membership Secretary