

**ISLE OF WIGHT FRESHWATER ANGLING COMPANY
NEWSLETTER MARCH 2021**

**PLEASE TAKE TIME TO READ THIS NEWSLETTER IT CONTAINS
IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

Hello Members

As you are aware we have been unable to hold our AGM 2020 & 2021 due to Covid 19 restrictions - In view of this we have not had the usual feed back from members.

The Board would therefore like to give each member the opportunity to give us some ideas as to what you want from your club.

If you have ideas as to how things could be done better, please let us know. We ask that any suggestions are constructive and explain exactly how you would achieve your suggestions.

We are responsible for spending your membership fee in the best way possible, so it is important for us to know what you consider important, and what we can do to achieve those goals.

Please bear in mind with a membership of 623, we can never please everyone, but we would like you to help us shape the direction in which this club takes.

Please put your opinions/ideas in writing and address them to the Secretary Mr J Creaser, 3 Hamilton Road, Ryde, Isle of Wight PO33 3QX he will then collate all the responses and bring them to the board for consideration.

Renewals

It is now time to renew your membership you can do this online iwfac.co.uk available from 1/4/2021 or complete the enclosed application form. **Due to the large number of new members who are asking to join our company it is necessary for your renewal to be returned and payment made no later than 23rd May 2021 - Renewals received after this date will be added to the new application list which opens on 1/5/2021 this will incur the administration fee to be paid also (No exceptions will be made so please ensure your renewal and payment are back in time) There is no guarantee for new members once**

we reach our maximum number there will be no more memberships. No applications will be accepted after the 31/5/2021

Guest Tickets

These still remain available for Holliers lakes only. If you require a guest ticket please read rule 23 in your Membership information booklet. The Board will review guest tickets once Covid 19 restrictions cease.

Merstone

The Board intend to address the erosion of the banks on kingfisher lake.

this season peg 1 - 8 will be repaired and a trial using “carex riparian” plants which embed into the soil and prevent bank erosion these plants are believe to be the best way to prevent the bank erosion continuing.

Heron Island will be cut back, whilst it is accepted that some members do not like the banks to be cut back, it is necessary to prevent falling debris, oxygen levels are crucial to the health of our fish stocks and too many overhanging bushes and trees cause oxygen levels to fall quickly. We ask that members accept that this action is necessary to ensure the fish you love to catch have a better life within the waters. The work will be carried out as sympathetically as believed possible, some of the lily pads will also be removed from the lake.

Minnow requires some general maintenance and the disabled bay edging needs to be repaired.

Holliers

Holliers site continues to look stunning with continuous work done by your Board members, Bailiffs and a few members and our members should be very grateful to them for the work that they continue to do for the benefit of us all.

As many members are aware the Board managed to source some good stock for Holliers site 425lb of Bream and Tench 3-5lb and further delivery of smaller Tench and Crusian carp 8”-10” these have been introduced to Old Lake. We have also sourced 155lb of C2 carp and these have been introduced into New Lake

The stock ponds at Holliers are currently being drained and a further 102lb of carp up to 9lb have also been transferred into Old & New Lakes.

It is intended that works are carried out on our stock pond sometime within July/Aug removing silt and some drainage works need to be done on these lakes. Once complete the Board will look to stocking, C2 carp, Bream Roach, Crucian etc.,

Hunters Pond was successfully dug during the last year and is a credit to those involved! This lake currently remains empty but the Board plan to stock it over the next twelve months. It is also planned to build a disability platform on this lake 4mtrs x 3mtrs and to install a good pathway down to this platform.

Nesting boxes have been put up around the site. We thank Gordon Read who during the initial lockdown made us 6 and also 6 were made by one of our board members.

There have been some problems with the electricity supply a new cabinet has been purchased and fitted and new timers need to be installed, power supply and lights will also be installed into the container.

The driveway down to Holliers lakes has been scraped back, further work is also planned once discussions have taken place.

The bank at the bottom of new lake will also be rebuilt with clay and drainage issue address.

Lily Pads will be reduced considerably in both lakes.

Overhanging Elders will need to be cut down.

Gunville

The Board intend to address the fencing issues, and will also be repairing the gate.

Some of the swims need to be reshaped to ensure they can be fished in the winter and summer months, the banks are going to be built up to make access to the site easier.

3 large trees will be felled.

The housing estate side will be prepared for the hedging plants to be planted in the Autumn, this work had been planned for this year but some things have had to be postponed due to the current circumstance.

It is also intended to source 3/4 large Common Carp apx 20lb to introduce next winter, we are also looking at introducing some Tench and Perch for this lake.

As you can see the Board have big plans again for the improvement of our sites/lakes. We are very lucky to have the Board, Bailiff and a few members that we do who complete this task with no payment for their time, work just done for the benefit of the Company and its members. Some work does require assistance and payment is made for these resources.

This Board has made a pledge that it will ensure that the income that is received in membership is what is spent each year and that our Capital does not fall - The Capital is there for an emergency, should one occur and not for every day expenses.

Subscriptions

Members will be aware that the Board had intended to increase membership for Full and Senior & Disabled members by £20 this year, however the Board accept that many have had a very difficult year financially, and have therefore decided that the increase should be £10 per annum. This is a weekly cost of £2.12 per week for full members and £1.54 per week for senior/disabled members. There is no change in Associate members (£5) Student (£25), or Juniors (£0).

It is our intention to always ensure that there are fish to catch in our lakes, these fish come at a cost. Our sites must be maintained, electricity bills and portaloos costs covered, fish fed, this list goes on and the accounts are always available for membership scrutiny if they wish.

It is hoped that members understand and accept that the Board are doing the best they can for everyone not just the few.

We look forward to seeing you on the bank

Tight Lines