

# Thameside Newsletter October 2011

Well it has been a frustrating few months from a fishing point of view, with reports from you of erratic catches, with no obvious reasons why. Various suggestions have been made, inc very low water levels, sudden changes in the weather, etc. The Committee are trying to find an explanation, if there is one!!

Good specimens are however being caught with carp to 18lb from Cobham, and Carp to 20lb plus and perch up to 3lb from Inn on the Lake, plus Crucians up to 2lb 14ozs reported from Shorne.

Details below of the work carried out by Waterplant Ltd at both Shorne and Inn on the Lake show that your Committee are dedicated to improve the fishing on offer on all waters as required.

Thanks must go to all those who were able to help at the various venues.

## SHORNE COUNTRY PARK

Waterplant Ltd reed cutting and raking boat was used on the 10<sup>th</sup>/11<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup> October in both lakes to great effect with major root removal carried out as well as opening up the area to the right of peg S14. Hopefully nearly all the sunken logs have been removed as well.

## COBHAM

The new lease has been agreed. Work parties have been held at Cobham on the bottom and middle lakes removing bramble and nettles to open up pathways, as well as removing some of the rushes from the bottom lake to alleviate any chance of another fish kill should we get another freeze this winter. The dangerous sycamore tree by B2 has also been removed and new swim numbers are to be installed soon.

## INN ON THE LAKE

Waterplant Ltd went into the Big Lake on the 12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> October and removed a substantial amount of plant life, sunken trees and other obstructions. Overhanging trees have been cut back as required and at least two new swims partly cleared. Access paths have been cleared and more bank work has been identified for future work.

## RIVER BEULT

Thanks to members who have contacted the Chairman to say the Beult is unfishable due to bank to bank weed. The Environment Agency has identified this as Waterfern (*Azolla filiculoids*) which is a non native plant which will out compete natural plants, can totally block water bodies, cause severe oxygen depletion resulting in fish deaths and is so dense it can give the appearance of solid ground !!.

One method of control is to introduce a small North American Weevil, *stenopelmus rufinasus*, that only feeds on this plant and no others thus reducing the need for pesticides.

**Members attempting to fish the Beult must make sure that any item of tackle in contact with this plant must be thoroughly cleaned before being used in any other water.**

## Blue Lake

The new lease has been agreed and from reports received it is fishing well particularly for large perch. Keys are still available from Phil Townsend on 07879 854030, refundable deposit of £25.00 required.

Please note that an up to date Specimen Fish Form is now available for download from the website or from the Bailiffs. See General Bye-Law 25, page 13 in your rule book.