



North, South and Long Pond Newsletter 2014



We've written this Newsletter to provide additional background information about the **North, South and Long Pond Syndicates** and to bring everyone up to date about how the **North Lake** has progressed since opening on **1st June 2013**.

2014 promises to be another exciting year for us, we are on schedule to open our second water the **South Lake** to fishing on **1st June 2014**, and are very much looking forward to seeing Members visiting, fishing and enjoying catching some of our carp from both of our Lakes in the months ahead.

Included is a write up about the limited test fishing we did prior to the **North Lake** opening, and a brief review of 2013 along with a Catch Report, which we hope will give you an indication as to how things are going at the venue and be of interest to you.

Have a great year and enjoy your carp fishing wherever you wet a line.

Best regards,

Chris Bowman and Steve Jackson



Steve with the first fish caught from the North Lake, 12lb 8oz in late November 2012

Test Fishing Report

The **North Lake** received its first stocking of carp towards the end of July 2012, with a further stocking being made in late September 2012, and additional carp being introduced from our stock pond in March 2013.

Naturally since then we have been very keen to see how the fish have settled into their new home and gain an insight into how they had fared since being stocked.

We decided to do some limited test fishing over the winter and spring months of 2012/13 before the fishery opened. During this time we fished a total of five nights and one short four hour session and managed to hook and land a total of twenty five carp which ranged in size between 6lb 2oz and 17lb 8oz.

Fish from both strains of carp stocked were caught and all seem to have made good progress.

Fourteen of the twenty five carp banked were doubles, the largest captured was a 17lb 8oz mirror that was stocked at 14lb 8oz, it's not just the larger fish that are doing well though, the smallest fish we stocked was a 4lb mirror which was caught in January 2013 at 7lb 4oz!



Chris with the then North Lake record 17lb 8oz caught at the start of May 2013

The combined average weight of the fish captured during the test fishing was 9lb 5oz, and all the carp we caught seem to have gained a comfortable 2 - 3lb in weight since being introduced into the water.



An 11lb Mirror caught at the start of May 2013 stocked at 8lb end of July 2012

We are pleased with the initial progress the carp have made at this, the start of our journey to create and develop all the Lakes on site into Syndicate waters we can be justly proud of, and we look forward to meeting those of you who are interested in becoming Members of the **North and South Lake Syndicates** in due course.

Chris & Steve



2013 Review

When the North Lake opened to fishing on 1st June 2013 the fish were starting to become ‘frisky’ and were more interested in their forth-coming nuptials than the baits the Members presented to them, consequentially the fishing was slower than expected as the carp prepared themselves for and entered into two periods of extended spawning activity over the month.

Understandably Members were keen to wet a line, and there was lots to be learned about the Lake its features, the fish their habits and movements in and around their watery environment during the opening weeks.

We requested Members to weigh and photograph any carp caught and email their catch reports to us. The aim of gathering this information is to maintain an accurate stock assessment and calculate the biomass of the water, which is very important if we are to get the best out of the venue and develop it into a specimen fishery.

Knowing the biomass and number of fish in the lake enables us to document the progress individual carp are making and establish a base line to measure, record and monitor growth rates and weight gains of the fish against. This ensures that the right fishery management decisions and policies are implemented and helps us decide future stocking policy.

We know this request was something the majority of Members hadn’t encountered before, and we were very grateful for and appreciated the catch reports made to us, and we really look forward to receiving many more catch reports and photos from all the Members in 2014!



This 22lb 8oz Common was Stocked into the North Lake on 28th November 2013

Catch Report 2013

Between June and December 84 carp were captured, 74 of which were caught before the end of July, which was co-incidentally when the fish made their final spawning attempt of the year.

Unsurprisingly a fair percentage of the captures made were post spawning and included numbers of the 5-8lb fish that were stocked in March, this was reflected in the catch reports that were received.

Of the 84 fish caught 81 were weighed which ranged in size between 5lb 7oz and 18lb 8oz. More than 53% of the captures reported were of double figure carp averaging over 13lb and the overall average weight of all the fish captured to the year end was 10lb 6oz.

The combined average weight of the fish when stocked during the summer of 2012 was just over 7lb, so it seems that our prediction that the majority of fish stocked would become doubles quickly was correct!

With very few Members fishing throughout the hot summer months and early autumn period it remains to be seen how the carp will have progressed during the latter half of the year.

We did however gain a small insight into the weight gains that a couple of fish had achieved at the start of November when a mirror stocked at the end of July 2012 @ 7lb 4oz, was caught at 11lb along with a 14lb 4oz mirror that was first captured at the start of June @ 10lb showing weight gains of 3lb 12oz and 4lb 4oz respectively.

The first carp landed in 2014 was a 15lb mirror caught on 5th January, and was a fish that was last captured on 23.6.13 @ 12lb 6oz providing another tantalising indication of the growth rate that at least some of the fish have attained, it would be nice to think the other carp in the North Lake will have achieved a similar growth rate.....



June 2013 12lb 6oz



January 2014 15lb

We are hopeful that the carp will continue to make good progress in all of our waters, and although a considerable amount of work lies ahead of us we look forward to continuing to develop our venues and maybe even find time for some test fishing on the South Lake.....

Keep checking the website to find out how the carp, the fishing and the other Lakes on site are progressing in the months ahead.