

COFTON LAKE CONSERVATION LIMITED

NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2012



Dear Member,

We are pleased to report that when British Waterways did their 6 monthly inspection in October both valves were working as they should be. The water level is now to full capacity especially after the recent rainfall.

A committee meeting was held in September and it was decided that now that the water level is up, work needs to be done around the lake area to ensure that the pathways are kept clear and a full maintenance programme put into force. Quotations are to be obtained from fully qualified tree surgeons to look at the trees and any that may be dangerous be felled.

Thanks must go to Colin Jones for his excellent work on building the boathouse and jetty. Now that this is complete it was agreed that gravel be purchased which can be transported by boat and scattered along the pathways in order that access be more accessible. We are always after volunteers to help, anyone with any free time please get in touch with one of the committee members. A date for working parties will be arranged in the Spring.

Thanks must also be expressed to the Fishing Club for their continued hard work and also for allowing us to use their container for storing our equipment. Keys will be held by the Treasurer Sue Garvey, Diane Carr and Colin Jones as well as the Fishing Club.

Thanks to Irene and Alex Barclay for the work carried out on the maintenance of the notice board and also for the wonderful photographs they have installed.

Planks have been installed along the boardwalk which is a great help for people walking with dogs.

We would like suggestions from members, anything they can come up with, ideas for enhancing the area.

FISHING CLUB REPORT – Dave Townshend

Well, thankfully it's been a much quieter year following recent problems with the repairs to the valves. We completed our restocking of the lake in the spring with a 100 bigger carp between 10lb and 23lb. We did have a few fish die following their introduction to the lake, but this is nothing unusual during the stocking process. As a precaution, we did test the water and found it to be excellent quality for fish to thrive. If you've walked around the lake, you will have seen thousands of fry in the margins, which bodes well for the future. I'm sure the herons, grebes and coots will appreciate them too!

Our members have been enjoying the lake also. Our Facebook page is full of reports and photographs of huge carp, and the inevitable tales of the ones that got away.

Maintenance activities have consisted of general improvements to the pathways. You will have seen that we have widened the pathway in a couple of places on the Reservoir Road side of the lake.

Now that the lake is full, we also began replanting of the floating islands. We started with the two island groups at the dam end of the lake. It has proved to be quite expensive so we wanted to see how the plants fared before completing them all. The islands themselves were in quite a poor state, and we had to carry out repairs to them and improve their floatation before replanting them. All seems to have gone well so far, and we'll review progress in the spring and plan to replant the others if all is well.

**DATE FOR YOUR DIARY – AGM WILL BE HELD AT COFTON HACKET VILLAGE
HALL ON SUNDAY 28TH April at 4.00 pm**

The Committee thank all members for their continued support and welcome new members who have recently joined and invite you all to the AGM and also remind everyone that subs are due by the end of January. This money needs to be in by the end of January in order that our Public Liability Insurance is paid on time and all other bills paid.

The Committee wish you all a Happy Christmas and Healthy New Year.
PLEASE SEND THIS FORM WITH YOUR ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION

PLEASE ENSURE THIS IS IN BY END OF JANUARY

Annual subscription is £12 but the Committee would like to thank all members who pay more – they can be assured that this money is put to good use.

Name.....

Address.....

Subs to be in by end January. Cheques to be made out to Cofton Lake Conservation Limited and sent either to Sue Garvey 58 Ashmead Drive Cofton Hackett B45 8AB or the registered office 19 Cofton Lake Road, Cofton Hackett B45 8PL