



NEWSLETTER

AUGUST 2025

Our annual Parent/Junior match on the 27th July was well attended. Congratulations to **Andy & Niall Gibbs** for taking the Trophy with a winning weight of 89.10lbs. Runners up were **Alex & Isabella Ross** with 72.07lbs. All results can be seen on the **Junior** page of our website.



WINNERS: Andy & Niall Gibbs receiving the Parent / Junior Trophy and complimentary memberships.

RUNNERS UP Alex & Isabella Ross also received complimentary memberships. Isabella recorded the heaviest fish in the competition - a common carp at 10.00lb. Coincidentally, this was exactly the same result she had last year for the heaviest fish.

All Juniors taking part received a copy of the novel 'The Wrong Cheese' by local author [David Morton](#).

Long Copse is fishing well, as seen in the Parent/Junior match results. Many caught were of course carp, both common and mirror, but a good number of crucian were caught on the small pond. Sometimes this species is overshadowed by its larger cousins, the common or mirror, but the crucian is worthy of taking seriously, and become familiar on how to 'stalk' them. Usual approach is a 'waggler' rig with sweetcorn or pellet. Although small in comparison to other carp, they can fight well, and will head to the nearest reed bank for protection. Here are some tips on fishing for crucians:

Float fishing for Crucian Carp is the traditional approach. Use a 12-13ft float rod balanced with a small fixed spool reel loaded 4-5lb line. A hook length of around 3lbs and a size 16 hook is a great starting place.

Plumb the depth accurately at the start of your session. Look for the bottom of the marginal shelf and fish here. Ideally there will be some bankside cover and/or weed beds nearby. Set your float so the bait is just touching the bottom.

Bait for catching Crucian Carp can be almost anything. Everyone has their favourite but try maggots, sweetcorn, luncheon meat, casters and pellets. If the water holds lots of small fish, avoid maggots.

Use a delicate presentation and set your float so only the tip is showing. You're likely to be fishing close in so a small float can be used. Strike quickly as the float is going down.

If you have any suggestions for catching your favourite species, let me know so we can share your experience.

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ANNUAL OPEN DAY 2nd August. On this day we invite non-members to come and try fishing for an hour or two, with an experienced senior member or coach. Please note Long Copse **WILL BE CLOSED UNTIL 5.00pm** on this day across both ponds.

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Friday Evening Summer Matches. Two more are planned for August. These 'friendly' matches are for just two hours and a great chance to bond with other members. (Minimum age 17). All dates available [here](#) – no booking required.

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Are there any of our river anglers out there who would be interested in participating in **River Fly monitoring** our stretches of the Mole? Would be just a few hours in the year. For more information visit the [Riverfly Partnership website](#).

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Want to look the part this summer in some **LDAS garments** – all branded with the **LDAS logo**,

The range of Garments and Accessories can be found via the **Clubmate App**. The LDAS has no financial connection with the supplier or printer, so you will order via Clubmate and pay in the usual way. Please just ensure the garments ordered are the correct size against their sizing chart, to avoid returns. Happy Shopping.

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SWIM MANAGEMENT – When fishing on ponds such as Long Copse where some 'swims' are close to each other, please remember to fish within the limits of that swim – i.e not 20 feet to the left or right of you. Cast directly in front, and to **NO MORE THAN HALF WAY BETWEEN YOU AND THE ADJOINING SWIMS**. This also applies to 'feeding' a swim. **DO NOT** encroach on next door's swim. They do not want your bait.

Here is a brief reminder of some of our essential Rules;

- ***Bread or any floating bait may not be used***
- ***Ground bait cannot be used – just a modest quantity of free offerings***
- ***Barbed hooks are not to be used nor any hook larger than size 8***
- ***Only one rod (which must not be left unattended) to be used at any one time***
- ***You must have a suitable landing net and unhooking mat in your swim***
- ***Keepnets may only be used in published matches***

If a member would like to talk to a bailiff or a coach about the correct tackle, please ask.

If in a Family Membership please ensure other members also have access to this Newsletter.

Tight lines

David Balaam