



NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2025

We have reached a milestone at the LDAS – we now have over 500 members. Our membership has not been this strong for many years, and we, the committee, thank you for choosing our club. Historically, many fishing clubs were popular with Matchmen, and the LDAS boasted a strong contingency of these dedicated members. However, times change, and we are now mostly a ‘pleasure fishery’ for individuals and families. Whatever your preference, we hope you are enjoying fishing our waters at the LDAS, and will continue for many years to come.

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Water Conditions.

Ponds can experience natural pollution from a range of sources, such as decaying plant matter, animal waste, or soil erosion. These processes often result in the accumulation of nutrients and organic material, which can affect water quality and the balance of aquatic ecosystems.

At this time of year you will find that due to natural Occurrence Of leaf fall and acorns and the summer Algae dying off you will find brown lumps of algae floating to the top of the water and a film on the water which is a natural occurrence of tannins from the trees, this year has been one of the driest on record with low water levels, due to this you will get more bottom algae growing as less water means more light can get to the bottom of the ponds usually ponds over a meter deep will have less algae growth than those under a meter deep.

Whilst unattractive and potentially harmful, algae are important members of a healthy, well-balanced pond ecosystem, providing food for species at the lower end of the food-chain, including dragonflies.

There are many different types and species of algae which tend to present seasonal problems, depending on the pond type, but all indicate enriched water. Less than 5% algae cover should not have an adverse effect.

There are three main algae types:

- Filamentous algae (multi-cellular ‘blanket weed’) become established and dominate before other species can get a hold. As the algae plants mature, they float to the surface forming unpleasant smelling algal mats of decaying algae.
- Planktonic algae (single-celled) prefer organic, enriched turbid waters – such as those inhabited by duck or fish, making the water brown or green.
- Blue-green alga (single or multi-celled) resemble spilt green paint on the pond surface. If you have any concerns the first port of call is the club’s fisheries officer **Stuart Stafford** who can be contacted on 07450 125 334 or Email stuart15@hotmail.com

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Fish of the month: BREAM

The month of October can be an excellent time to get out on banks to target a few bream, both Long Copse, and Ashtead in particular, have a good stock of Bream.

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Now the bream, a deep bodied shoal fish, isn't everyone's favourite, but feeling the heavy thump of a big slab on the other end has to be one of the most satisfying feelings in fishing.

At this time of year all species will now be preparing for winter, feeding up and piling on the weight ready for the colder months ahead and the bream is no exception. It needs very few excuses to feed and a shoal of hungry bream can provide a fantastic day's sport.

In general they are a fairly easy fish to target and catch. They certainly aren't fussy when it comes to bait and they can be caught on all manner of different methods.

Tackle Bream can be caught on all manner of different tactics but without doubt feeder fishing for them is best. A standard feeder fishing rod, around 12ft in length, with a softish quiver tip will be more than ample. Match this with a 4000 sized reel, loaded with around 6lb mono, and you'll have a perfect bream fishing set-up.

Rigs Rig wise, it's probably best to keep things nice and simple, and a simple running feeder rig will be absolutely fine. Use a standard open ended feeder, choosing a caged model if the water is shallow (4-5ft) and a solid bodied model if the water is deeper (6ft+). In the deeper water, the solid bodied feeder just helps keep the bait in the feeder, especially as it's falling through the water column for longer.

Use a 2ft hooklength tied from around 4lb mono and a hook size of between 12 and 18, depending on what hook bait you are using on the day and how delicate the bites are.

Bait Obviously the tackle and rigs you are using are important but probably the most important thing is bait, especially if you want to enjoy a bumper day's fishing! A shoal of bream are probably best compared to an underwater herd of cows, slowly drifting from spot to spot grazing on anything that looks remotely tasty!

A groundbait laced with worms, casters, maggots, pellets and corn is perfect! Take a wide selection of bait as it keeps the fish interested and keeps them rooting around the bottom. By using feed particles of different sizes it also means they won't become pre-occupied on one particular bait, which can sometimes be the case if you're just using one thing.

A key point is always ensure you take enough and feed enough bait. If you have a hungry shoal of bream in front of you, you need to keep them there, so cast regularly and keep the feed going in. One feeder full really isn't a lot, it's probably only two mouthfuls for a fish of say 5-6lb and you could have 20-30 or even more fish of that size and smaller in your swim at once!

Accuracy Another key point is accuracy; it's essential that you keep all your feed in a concentrated area. Pick a marker on the far bank and use the line clip on your reel to ensure you are casting to the same spot every time. It's no good having all the bait but then spreading it over an area the size of an Olympic swimming pool! You need to hone the fish into an area and get them competing for the food.

Keep things simple... All in all, keep things simple, they aren't the hardest fish to catch and if you do the simple things well, you could enjoy a bumper bream day!

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Xmas Match

We have resent the email and [booking form](#) for our annual **Xmas Match** on the 21st December. Places will be awarded to members who have contributed to the club in various ways during 2025. Please complete the form via the above link ASAP.

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Work Party – Long Copse

We have added a Work Party of 16th November at Long Copse. 9.00am start

Stuart Stafford will meet and advise on work projects. If you have waders that would be good as we need to cut back some vegetation. Other light work required for litter picking and trimming.

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If you have a good fishing story to tell or a photo of your best catch, please send in to me for the next Newsletter in December.

Tight lines

LDAS