

SHEFFORD & DISTRICT ANGLING ASSOCIATION LTD

Membership of SDAA provides you with access to quality course fishing across a range of stillwater and river venues in and around Bedfordshire. Whether you are a specimen hunter or pleasure angler, SDAA waters can cater for virtually all your needs with access to all major species.



4lb 2oz Broom River perch – December 2013

Annual membership for the 2014/15 season is available from May 2014 remaining valid right through until 15th June 2015 (i.e. up to 58 weeks fishing). This gives you exclusive access to several excellent lakes and premier stretches of the rivers Great Ouse, Ivel and its tributaries in and around Bedfordshire. Members wishing to night fish our premier stillwater fisheries will need to purchase the optional Night Permits.

SDAA's own fisheries have produced an enviable list of specimen fish (catfish 50lb+, carp 30lb+, pike 25lb+, barbel 12lb+, bream and tench 10lb+, chub 7lb+, perch 4lb+ and roach 3lb+). SDAA membership also gains access to all Ivel Protection Association (IPA) waters noted for producing specimen barbel over 18lb, chub over 7lb, perch over 4lb and roach to well over 2lb.

STILLWATER VENUES

Our stillwaters remain open all year round. In addition to our three major lakes featured below, SDAA has **Stanford Pit** a shallow 1 acre gravel pit, which is an ideal water for beginners to practice their skills containing a good head of silver fish and carp to double figures.

Broom Lake

A beautiful 6 acre gravel pit that offers the feeling of seclusion thanks to its tree-lined banks and five islands. The lake has a fairly even depth of 7-9 feet and contains specimen carp to 30lb, plus tench and bream into double figures. There are plentiful shoals of silver fish and pike to good sizes, making Broom Lake a real pleasure to fish whatever you want from your days out.

Significant improvements to the track have been made that allows anglers to drive cars and small vans around the lake and park directly behind their pegs for most of the year.

The plentiful carp stocks of predominantly commons have recently been boosted by stocking 75 mirrors (averaging ~7lb). 400lb of roach, rudd and bream to 1lb were due to be stocked in Spring 2014, with a batch of tench also on order.



22lb 8oz Broom Lake common – October 2013

The Airman

Originally dug as a clay pit and now owned by SDAA, The Airman is around 4 acres with depths to 30 feet. Stocks include a thriving population of Wels catfish with specimens to well over 50lb, which are usually active from late March through to late October. Stunning carp to 30lb and pike to over 25lb add further interest for the dedicated specimen angler and both species feature all year round. For the pleasure angler quality roach regularly feature in catches with fish over 2lb a realistic possibility. The lake also holds a good head of bream, tench, rudd and perch to target. The Airman is stocked every 2 to 3 years with 10-12 top quality carp and 300lb of roach and rudd to 1lb were due to be stocked in April 2014.



53lb catfish from The Airman – July 2013

The Airman has recently seen the entrance resurfaced and the roadside footpath renewed. Our next priorities are to complete the footpath around the lake and resurface the car park.

Willington Lake

At 12 acres this makes Willington Lake our largest fishery. This is a classic gravel pit with gin clear water and a range of depths. The amount of weed growth varies from year to year, but provides an abundance of natural food that ensures this lake is capable of producing impressive specimens of several species.

The lake has produced carp to well over 40lb in the past and there are still specimens well over 30 lb to target. The resident carp population has been boosted in recent years by a significant investment in new top quality English carp from both V&S Fisheries (36 C4 carp averaging 9.5lb, another batch due winter 2014) and AJS Fisheries (57 C3 carp averaging 7.5lb). The new carp have shown excellent growth rates with several rapidly reaching 20lb and now continuing towards 30lb.



25lb 2oz Willington Lake mirror – May 2013
(stocked at 11lb 8oz – November 2010)

Willington Lake has a large tench population and multiple bags are possible throughout the summer. Bream into double figures regularly featuring in catches. Good bags of roach, rudd, perch and skimmer bream can be taken on float tactics, often featuring roach and rudd over the pound mark. These fish ensure a good head of pike making it a popular venue for pike anglers during the winter.

RIVER VENUES

All our river venues are closed from 15th March to 15th June, inclusive. Our major river fisheries are mentioned overleaf. SDAA also has a number of narrow sections of the **Hit** and **Flit** in and around **Shefford** and **Clifton** to explore. The EA have stocked 700 barbel over the last two winters to establish barbel in these sections, to complement the existing chub, dace, roach, perch and pike.

Great Ouse

Upstream of Bedford, SDAA controls a mile of bank at **Pavenham** most noted for its specimen barbel, chub and perch. It is best to travel light to get the best out of this venue. Typical of the upper Ouse, each swim is seemingly different with large deep pools and shallow fast glides. Barbel well into double figures still feature along this length, but are rarely publicised. The number of specimen chub has been on the increase with fish over 6lb regularly featuring, with some outstanding specimens exceeding 7lb.

We have a 400 yard stretch behind the lake at **Willington** where chub are reliable feeders through the winter with fish to over 6lb. The disused lock cutting often remains fishable when the main river is in flood. Occasional barbel are also caught along with usual river species of roach, perch, pike, dace and bream. This stretch also contains plenty of hard fighting river carp.

Moving further downstream the club controls over 2 miles of bank at **Little Paxton**. The weir pool pegs produce a wide range of species including barbel (12lb+), carp (20lb+), chub (6lb+), bream, perch, roach, pike (20lb+), zander, eels and even the occasional catfish. Upstream of the weir pool, Lammas Meadow is noted for 100lb+ bags of bream to over 7lb, but many less accessible sections remain largely unexplored despite its growing reputation for specimen fish.



11lb 10oz barbel from Paxton – August 2013

Ivel and Ivel Navigation

The **Broom River** and **Stanford Canal** sections are renowned for regularly producing perch over the 4lb mark, with the club perch record now standing at a very creditable 4lb 11oz. Good nets of roach and dace can be taken throughout the season and odd pockets of specimen roach still exist with some fish exceeding 2lb. There are numerous pike to upper double figures. Specimen chub to over 6lb, bream, carp and tench also regularly feature in catches.

2014/15 MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS (SAME PRICES AS LAST YEAR!)

Club books are available from local tackle shops or postal application to the Registrar, SDAA Ltd, PO Box 59, Shefford, SG17 5UZ from May 2014.

FULL (aged 17 and over)	£65
CONCESSIONARY	£45
PARTNER	£35
JUNIOR* (aged under 17)	£20
KEY	£5

* **FREE Associate Junior** membership is also available from the Registrar for under 17s, but can only fish with a single rod when supervised by a member aged 18 or over in the same swim, and cannot night fish or fish IPA waters.

Night Permits are required to night fish The Airman, Broom Lake and Willington Lake, and are only available from the Registrar. Separate Night Permits for The Airman and Broom Lake are available (cost £45), both allow members to night fish Willington Lake. Members wanting to night fish all three venues can buy their second night permit for £22.50. A Junior Night Permit covering all three venues costs £22.50.

For further details on all the above and to download application forms please visit:

www.SheffordDAA.org.uk

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