

## SHEFFORD & DISTRICT ANGLING ASSOCIATION LTD

Whether you are a specimen hunter, pleasure angler, fish stillwaters or rivers, membership of SDAA provides you with quality fishing for a range of species across a wide variety of venues.



*4lb 11oz perch from Broom River*

In recent seasons, SDAA's own fisheries have produced an enviable list of specimen fish (catfish over 50lb, carp over 30lb, pike over 25lb, barbel over 12lb, bream and tench over 10lb, chub over 7lb, perch over 4lb and roach over 3lb).

Annual membership for the 2013/14 season is available from May 2013 and remains valid until 15<sup>th</sup> June 2014 (i.e. up to 58 weeks fishing). Membership provides you with access to all the club's fisheries, which include 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 membership also gains access to all Ivel Protection Association (IPA) controlled waters stretching along several miles of this beautiful river, noted for producing specimen barbel over 18lb, chub over 7lb 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 5 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 are planned for spring 2013 ahead of the new season. This will hopefully allow anglers to drive around the lake and park directly behind their pegs for most of the year.

Broom Lake's plentiful fish stocks have been further boosted by recent stockings. 75 C3 mirror carp from AJS Fisheries were introduced in 2009 (6-10lb) and 2011 (4-7lb). 600 large roach in the 8-10 inch range were introduced in March 2013 and a significant number of good sized tench were due to be stocked in April 2013.



*9lb 6oz tench from Broom Lake*

## The Airman

Originally dug as a clay pit, The Airman is around 3 acres in size 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, often including several fish over 1lb. Indeed, specimen roach to over 3lb have been caught in the past. The lake also holds a good head of bream, tench, rudd and perch to target.



*54lb 8oz catfish from The Airman*

## 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. During the summer months the weed growth can put some anglers off. The amount of weed growth varies from year to year. However, the abundance of natural food means this lake is capable of producing some impressive specimens of several species, and these can often be tempted from the shallow margins.

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 stockings of top quality

English carp from both VS Fisheries (36 C4 carp averaging 9.5lb) and AJS Fisheries (57 C3 carp averaging 7.5lb). With the plentiful supply of natural food the new carp have shown excellent growth rates with several rapidly reaching 20lb and now heading towards the 30lb mark.



20lb+ VS Fisheries Willington Lake 'stockie'

Willington Lake has a large tench population and on the right day multiple bags are possible, with fish to double figure a realistic possibility. The bream continue to grow in size with double figure fish regularly featuring in catches. Large beds of bait laid down by carp anglers often attract the tench and bream shoals. A good head of pike adds interest for the predator anglers.

The lake has also seen a dramatic recovery in the numbers of silver fish being caught, with good bags of roach, rudd, perch and skimmer bream taken on float tactics, often featuring roach and rudd over the pound mark.

### RIVER VENUES

All our river venues are closed from 15<sup>th</sup> March to 15<sup>th</sup> June, inclusive. Only our major river fisheries are mentioned overleaf and SDAA has a number of narrow sections of the **Hit** and **Flit** in and around **Shefford** and **Clifton** to explore. These sections received an injection of 500 juvenile barbel from the EA as part of a 3 year stocking programme to help establish this species, plus 500 chub and 500 dace.

### 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. In common with other Upper Ouse stretches, the barbel fishing is not as prolific as it was but it still regularly produces double figure specimens. The number of specimen chub has been on the increase with fish over 6lb regularly featuring, with some outstanding specimens exceeding 7lb.



7lb 2oz chub from Pavenham

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 a good head of 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 its vast bream shoals but many section of the river remain unexplored despite its growing reputation for specimens for several species.

### Ivel and Ivel Navigation

The **Broom River** and **Stanford Canal** sections are noted for perch to well over 4lb, with several specimens featuring on the Perchfishers' website. The club perch record was raised to 4lb 11oz in 2011. 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 with specimens to upper double figures. Chub to over 6lb are caught each season. Bream, carp and tench also regularly feature in catches.

#### 2013/14 MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTIONS

Club books are available from local tackle shops or postal application to the Registrar, SDAA Ltd, PO Box 59, Shefford, SG17 5UZ from May 2013.

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

\* **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](http://www.SheffordDAA.org.uk)