

Maldon Angling Society

January 2018

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE

Despite what you may think, it's not easy running an angling club, there are many aspects, situations, legal ramifications, relationships etc. etc. that have to be considered and acted upon.

It would be fair to state that this year hasn't been an easy one with disagreements within the committee, the loss of the Beckingham fishery, negotiations with fishery owners, all on top of the usual problems running the society. At the end of the day, the decisions the committee make are always made with the very best of intentions, putting the interests of the society as whole first and foremost. Everyone might not agree with all of these decisions but that is the nature of our sport and the committee have been voted in to do a job.

Pleasingly membership levels have again been stable this year, which is good news as it means that subscriptions can be kept at the same level again for another year. That said the small number of junior members, the society's future, is a slight worry. Hopefully next year there is a good chance of some coaching days on maybe a couple of our waters with fully accredited coaches. This may tempt some juniors away from their games consoles, phones etc. and join not only the society but also the great outdoors. We will keep you posted.

From the information I have received, the level of catches across all our waters has on the whole been at a good level with excellent bags and individual fish weights. Lots of satisfied members I hope. Much of this must go down to the fishery management team and their dedicated helpers that have worked extremely hard this year. Stocking and movement of fish, tree felling and removal, repairing steps, installing and repairing gates, and the usual general maintenance etc. has left society waters in great condition. Bailiffs have been out and about in numbers again this year doing a great and very necessary job for the society. From reports it seems that poaching, misconduct and rule breaking are at lower levels than previous years, which underlines their effectiveness. Well-done lads keep up the good work.

On a personal note, I have not done as much fishing this as I would have liked. This can partly be put down to both my daughters moving house this year. Stressful times as we all know as decorating (the anglers curse) also comes into play. Having eight holiday trips away also hasn't helped on the fishing front, but who's complaining, somebody has to go to the Munich Beer Fest and make a fool of themselves. When I have ventured out my catches have mainly been of carp around the 8 to 9lb mark with occasional fish to 19lbs. Whatever happened to that 2lb roach I promised myself, I'll just have to keep on dreaming. One day perhaps, one day.

Thanks for all your support of the society and here's hoping for some great catches next year.

Mal Gardiner
Chairman

Notice of AGM

The 2018 AGM is to be held at Great Totham Village Hall on Sunday 21st January starting at **3pm**.

It's your chance to catch up with the committee and ask any questions you may have and vote in the committee members for the coming year.

A number of proposals (see overleaf) have been received by the Secretary and will be voted on at the AGM.

Membership

Membership and night permit fees to stay the same

Once again we have combined this newsletter with the membership renewal notification and renewal form on the last two pages. You are probably reading this newsletter on your computer screen, tablet or mobile phone but if you would like to receive a paper version of this newsletter next year please enclose 2 stamped self addressed envelopes with your membership renewal.

As always I will be on hand at the annual general meeting at Great Totham village hall on Sunday 21st January to renew memberships and night permits. 60 Howells night permits are again available for next season along with 120 standard night permits. If you have either night permit, and want to hang onto it for the 2018-19 season, please can I urge you to renew before the end of this season to avoid any chance of missing out. Finally, if you know anyone who is not a member and wants to join please let them know that new members can join now and fish the end of this season free of charge.

Paul Kyffin
Membership Secretary

Secretary's Report

2017 was dominated by our efforts to manage the loss of Beckingham Hall reservoir. We were notified in February that the land was being sold, along with the fishing rights and we were therefore given notice to quit. This was particularly disappointing as we had started to use the smaller lake as a stock pond. Our efforts to agree a temporary lease with the agents in order to allow us access until the new owner took over were unsuccessful as their legal arm insisted on vacant possession. We did, however, manage to negotiate an informal arrangement allowing us access until mid-June. This was important because MAS owned the stock in Beckingham Hall and we wanted to move as many fish as possible. Moving fish in the warmer months is never advisable, but the circumstances forced us to attempt it. We hoped, of course, to negotiate a lease with the new owner, but could not take the risk of this not happening.

We undertook two nettings (one of which had the assistance of the Environment Agency for which we are grateful) plus the efforts of a small team who continued to move fish by rod and line until the deadline. In all, we moved around 150 carp (including many doubles and a couple of twenties) and about 50lbs of silvers. Most of the carp were introduced into Totham Pit, with others into Slough House and Slough House West. All the silvers went into Slough House West.

We made contact with the new owner and offered to continue the previous arrangements. Eventually, however, the new owner decided to allow a syndicate to take over the fishery. We maintain a good relationship with the new owner and have indicated our willingness to negotiate if the syndicate folds in the future.

We made efforts to find a new small water which could double as a stock pond, but these negotiations, sadly, were unsuccessful. We are also actively seeking a replacement fishery and would be grateful for any ideas that members may have.

Other, more planned, stockings took place in 2017; small Ide were introduced into Slough House West for the first time, small Ide were also introduced into Heron Hall as a topping up of the existing population. Silvers (including good sized Roach) were introduced into Little Parks upper lake, along with small carp and we now regard both lakes as being fully stocked.

David Spalding
Secretary

The following proposals have been received will be put to a vote at the 2018 AGM (Sunday 21st Jan):

Proposal 1 No carp are to be kept in nets or sacks on Society waters except during competitions organised by Society officials. In those competitions a maximum of 6 carp up to 8lbs may be retained in a net separate from other fish. Such nets must be made of approved carp safe material and be a minimum of 3 metres in length. All fish in excess of 8lbs must be weighed immediately and returned to the fishery.

Proposal 2 No carp over 5lbs should be retained in separate carp nets.

Proposal 3 All carp over 6lbs to be weighed in immediately and that no more than 4 carp under this size are kept in a keep net at any one time. Matchmen may have more than one net with the same regulation. All keepnets to be carp friendly type and be no less than 3 metres long by 45cms width (10ft x 18ins.) i.e. 2 cubic metres.

Proposal 4 7.2 all such rules repealed, amended or added by committee under 7.1 shall be binding on the members until AGM or SGM where they must be voted for and passed by the majority present. The members to be advised of such rule changes by the society newsheet, website and fishing location notice board as applicable.

Proposal 5 8.2 any such constitution / rule changes with relevant amendments must be voted for and passed by the majority of the members present voting at an AGM or SGM and cannot be repealed or amended by committee in that or coming season.

For the purposes of clarification, rules governing fish retention which have been amended since the rule book was published, are as follows:

Rule 6.8 Whilst fishing all anglers must be in possession of a landing net. Please dry your nets between trips to reduce the risk of spreading disease.

Rule 6.10 Carp sacks are banned on all Society waters and carp shall not be retained by any method (including keep nets).

Rule 9.3 All concessionary matches will be fished as silver fish only matches and ALL carp caught will count as 1lb so that they can be returned immediately without the need to be weighed. Any competitor who puts carp in their keepnet will be disqualified from the match.

Also for clarification, rule 7.1 reads; The Committee shall have the authority to repeal, amend and add to the Society rules as they think expedient for the internal management and wellbeing of the Society.

Kyff's consistently long Column

I ended 2016 with a between Christmas and New Years day trip to Bog Grove. I caught a solitary 7lb 7oz Common but noted in my log that I saw a kingfisher, some long tailed tits and two firecrests, or maybe they were goldcrests, they are so small it's difficult to tell the difference. I was back at Bog Grove on Bank Holiday Monday 2nd Jan and kicked off 2017

with an 11lb 3oz Common that was very distinctive as its pelvic fins were completely missing. I have caught a few Commons like this over the years from a number of different waters and hold them in high esteem, not least because they prompted me to submit a question to the resident fish expert working for one of the angling weeklies a few years back asking if he knew why this occurred. My question was published several weeks later and I won a 3lb test curve spod rod. I actually wanted the underwater DVDs but there is no pleasing some people! It's a funny old game as last season I landed 38 carp from Bog Grove before I landed a double and this season it was just six before lucky number seven made the grade.



11lb 3oz with no pelvics (that's the fish not Paul) from Bog Grove

I fished Heron Hall in mid February after a run of missed trips and blanks. A large carp leapt in front of my swim which boosted my confidence and half an hour later I had a take. Was it the big one? No it was a 5½lb Common but it had me going. It turned out the battery in my LH alarm had gone flat so it was just as well the take was on my RH rod.

I spent the end of February and most of March on Beckingham Hall mainly because we had purchased three dozen Commons from Jamie's Long Lake and had decided to stock them into Beckingham Hall to grow on before moving them to Totham Pit. I figured that the influx of new fish might prompt the others to feed. It did too and I landed ten carp over four visits with three of them doubles. Little did any of us know at the time that Beckingham Hall would be put up for sale soon after and we would ultimately lose the fishing rights.

Fortunately 150 of our carp were successfully moved to Totham Pit, Slough House Farm and Slough House West, along with 50lb of silver fish, before access to the lake was lost. I will miss fishing at Beckingham Hall, having spent many happy hours there, I even enjoyed fishing from the ankle twisting rockery on the left hand bank.

I finished the 2016-17 season back at Heron Hall, landing three carp and losing one to an early hook pull. The largest was a stunning 7lb 11oz heavily scaled Mirror that would brighten up any day, and as the clocks had just gone forward spring was now on its way.

My 2017-18 season started with an unexpected visit to Little Park, unexpected in that I had intended to fish Bog Grove but the access was blocked by an abandoned car which was sideways across the track. I opened my account with a fully scaled Mirror of 7lb 5oz, another slightly larger partially scaled mirror with one large scale, and a 9lb 2oz Common. The following week normality was resumed at Bog Grove and I landed six carp under 7lb. The two night anglers on the far bank also landed six carp and the fish were on the feed so I suspected they wouldn't be getting much sleep that night.

Another unexpected change occurred at Whitehouse Farm where the owner asked us to enforce a dawn to dusk rule for safety reasons, this scuppered my usual early season evening sessions so I decided to concentrate my attentions there on a week off work at the end of April. My plan worked perfectly as my first fish on the Monday, just minutes after casting out, was a 23lb 2oz Common. This was a landmark fish for me, being my 100th lifetime twenty pound carp. If I hadn't landed that fish the 19lb 14oz Mirror that I landed later on would have put me within touching distance of the century, but the pressure was already off and it would take more than the rain that fell for the final hour of my session to dampen my spirits.

On Bank Holiday Monday 1st May I ventured over to Rook Hall and landed three carp to 11lb 6oz and lost a fish that felt larger, having landed 41 consecutive carp without a loss going back to the start of the season I couldn't really complain too much, although as often happens it felt larger than most of them.

I don't fish Totham Pit half as much these days as I used to, probably because I was too attached to the original stock (who can forget Bismark and the Goddess, the two big fully scaled Mirrors) and I am yet to get well acquainted with the current residents. However at the end of July I found myself back on the banks and decided to fish the drop off from peg 19 which 'back in the day' was peg 16. The peg number might have changed but the underwater topography hasn't and I positioned a couple of hookbaits on two of my old favourite spots, one on the drop off on the edge of the weed and the other by the RH bush. Several hours passed without event and my sister asked if I should be recasting, but I said I had no reason to think I wasn't presenting my hookbaits effectively and I would leave them where they were. Fortunately I was proved correct (OK so I wouldn't be typing this now if I hadn't been) and a steady take on my LH rod was met with solid resistance on the strike.



A 23lb 2oz common from Whitehouse farm makes it a 20lb ton

The fight wasn't without incident as the carp buried itself in the weed twice, the first time steady pressure got it moving and the second time I had to apply pressure from the swim nextdoor as slackening off hadn't worked. Pulling from the direction that the carp had entered the weedbed thankfully got it moving again and a chunky 13lb 15oz 'one scale' Mirror was soon in the net. This weed laden encounter was definitely at the forefront of my mind when the topic of whether or not we needed to proceed with the weed cutting boat was raised at the following month's committee meeting.

My next two sessions both turned out to be very rewarding. The first of these was at Slough House West where I have been striving since the fishery opened in 2014 to catch a double figure carp. Several more adaptable anglers will undoubtedly have achieved this on their first visit but I was now into my fourth season of trying, having landed several Commons up to 9lb 11oz along the way, but no doubles. In mid September I was inspired to try again when one of our life members Dennis emailed me with the details of his recent exploits there. Those of you who have viewed the pictures in the gallery on our website will be familiar with Dennis, with his unique take on photography he tries to vary his submissions from the norm. Now at this point I need to mention that it wasn't the photo of Dennis in his underpants as he landed a carp after wading out into the lake to free it from a snag that switched my attentions to Slough House West but the carp he was catching, so I crept over there late one afternoon and was very pleased to land a mint 11lb 10oz Common on one of Jamie's excellent 10mm white pop-ups.

My next trip was my first visit of the season to Little London and sometimes you just get lucky. There were two anglers float fishing when I arrived but the first swim on the RH bank was free and there was a warm southerly breeze blowing into the car park bank. I dropped my gear in the swim and was fully expecting to have to move it again when I found the swim choked with slimy silkweed as it had been the previous season. To my surprise my lead landed with a firm donk and subsequent casts revealed that most of the swim was firm gravel. Happy days indeed, I positioned my hookbaits and spodded out (underarm of course) some particle. I didn't get so much as a bleep for four hours and then I had a screaming take out of nowhere. After a spirited fight I landed an immaculate 20lb 11oz Common which beat my previous venue best by 5lb 7oz and put Little London on my growing list of venues where I have landed a twenty pound carp.



20lb 11oz from Little London

I managed three carp to just over 10lb from Slough House Farm in late October and as I write this we have already had snow and another season will soon be drawing to a close. Hopefully I can winkle a few more fish out before the season ends on Sat 31st March, after all I'm yet to bank my 2017-18 season double from Bog Grove (with or without pelvic fins).

All the best for 2018.

Paul Kyffin

Letter from Latvia II

Latvian resident Richard Thompson kindly returns to the MAS newsletter for more carp action

After 2016's adventure on the weedy lake (as detailed in the last winter's newsletter) I thought my limited time in 2017 would once again be spent tracking down the scaly inhabitants of this under-fished place. On my first visit back to the UK in April, from my current home of Latvia, I managed three short sessions on a tiny nearby farm pond, catching each time - although the fishing seemed very slow in comparison to previous years. These trips enabled me to have a walk around the weedy lake, but unfortunately, it was a bit uninspiring. Perhaps it was the time of year, being early-Spring - nothing was stirring in its depths. Even on the sunnier days I did not manage to spot any of the handful of carp that live in there - not even in their usual haunts amongst the snags.

I contemplated spending some time on Slough House, having enjoyed a good winter there a few years previous, catching lots of good doubles to just over 20lbs. However, apart from an urge to head back to catch one of the bigger 25lb plus fish in there, again, I just wasn't feeling it. There was one other MAS venue that piqued my interest though.

Further out in the wilds of rural Essex, where the tidal breezes can be felt, is a small farm reservoir. Rather inconspicuous from a distance, this tiny venue was rumoured to contain a number of very attractive mirror carp. A couple of reconnaissance visits the previous year found it to be a busy water. During those two warm sessions a number of hours were spent watching the carp cruise the reed lined margins, seemingly not interested in the patch of bait that had been quietly deployed with my bait spoon and pole. It wasn't until the evening, when the banks became quieter, that the first bites came, just at the point where I had to leave the lake due to the 'day time fishing only' rule.

There were several factors which drove the logic of the tactics I would choose. Firstly, the lake had a very good stock of fish, the local anglers did not use a lot of bait - in fact it was rare to see anything more than PVA bag and a handful of boilies being chucked in, and the lake was tiny, the carp would immediately know when a new food source was available. Also, with the numbers of silver fish I'd seen, I thought that using a particle style approach would enable everything to come to the feast.

My first trip of June was blisteringly hot and sunny. I'd brought along a large bucket of mixed trout pellets coated in hemp oil, plus a couple of kilos of halved Shrimp boilies. The idea was to form a single, large bed of bait at the bottom of the marginal drop off, about 20ft out into the lake. In one swim in particular I'd found really soft clay at this distance. It was as if it had been turned over regularly by feeding fish.

I started by baiting very heavily. A bit of a gamble if it didn't work, but I went on a gut feeling. Half the bucket of pellets went into the swim, plus a kilo of boilies. The rods were re-rigged, light leads attached and then I went for a walk around the lake, taking my time to check out other areas, but also, as the lake is small, watching the baited spot. After thirty minutes, a fish poked its head out. There seemed to be more silver fish activity there too. It was time to flick the rods out, which I did after attaching a small pva stringer, wrapping the hook with pva to mask the hook point from stones. The light leads meant that the cast could be feathered to drop with minimum disturbance. Finally, the lines were pinned down with back-leads before being slackened. I watched silver fish top in the oil slicked water. It didn't take long before the first take materialized. From past experience I knew that these fish fought hard in the deep water, usually stripping a lot of line on the initial run and then kiting; the latter being quite an issue with flooded brambles and reeds on both sides of the swim, coupled with large rocks on the marginal shelf and the farmer's pump, the venue gave the carp many options to give an angler anxiety.



A beautiful 11lb fully scaled mirror

This first fish seemed to know all the tricks and despite my best efforts, after a long run and a hard fight back to the bank, it decided to kite to my right, straight into the reeds. Fortunately, I was wearing my waders, so I grabbed my landing net and quickly ran down the bank, rod in hand. Now in the water and close to the reed-line, I could see the carp sitting quietly, thinking it was safe, so I scooped it up and unhooked it in the water, an act made easier because the lead had discharged.

It turned out to be a stunning fully-scaled mirror of around 11lbs. The next two hours saw a flurry of activity. After every bite ten more pouches of halved boilies and pellet would go out. This disturbance didn't seem to put the fish off feeding, with huge patches of bubbles appearing regularly. In total, I landed five carp to 15lbs in two hours, before the activity died.

The next session was just a short two hour trip, but again the same tactics. Bait up, wait thirty minutes, then cast out gently. This resulted in three fish on the bank to 15lbs. I knew I'd only manage a few more sessions and was really hoping for one of the venues 20lbbers to appear. It was just a case of wading through the smaller ones until that happened. Stalking opportunities seemed quite difficult to achieve due to the amount of ducks.

Three days later, on a Wednesday evening, I once again trod the banks, this time with my partner Sabine, who was along on a guest ticket. The weather had turned blustery, with a cool wind blowing across the hill top. Even so, the rods were flicked out to the same spots along with a feast of pellets and shrimp boilies. Within ten minutes of casting I had a double take. Taking to the shallow water with the first rod, I tried to coax it into the net, whilst Sabine grabbed the second rod. With the first fish bundled into the net, she passed me the other rod and we swapped roles. Soon, two fish were in the folds of the net. I was feeling quiet gratitude that they hadn't ploughed down the margins and caused difficulties. Having helped land the fish, I thought it only right Sabine got to hold it for a photo – the first time she'd ever had to lift a carp like that.

With but thirty minutes left of the session I thought those two fish would be it, but a ripping take on the right hand rod resulted in prolonged and heavy fight. This fish felt heavier and stronger, causing no end of frustration when it neared the net, only to power off on another run.

It was only when netted did I realize its size. Unlike the majority of the other carp I'd caught, this was a lot fuller in body, with thick shoulders and a length that denoted it could easily be a mid-twenty. And so it was, pulling the scales around to 23lbs.

Whilst my goal had been achieved, there was one more session planned before I disappeared back to the other end of Europe. This was more of a social affair, as Paul Kyffin would be popping down.

The weather pulled back around to sunnier temperatures and the runs continued, with an unprecedented ten takes and nine carp banked. I didn't fish for the last hour or so, but just chatted to Paul and watched more fish top over the baited patch. I really felt like I'd had my fill, with well over twenty carp caught in four sessions.

However, the question remains, where do I head in February? Perhaps a return to Slough House for a winter bite, or a trip to Bog Grove to try and beat my venue best from there, maybe even a return to Howells after 18 years.



Sabine bringing a touch of glamour to the banks



Way less glamour but the 23lb common looks good

Richard Thompson

Photo Competition



Clearly in an attempt to appear inclusive the carp photo selection committee has veered away from an odd bias towards Mirrors and has chosen a Common. The winner is Simon Putnam for the look of joy on his face, the size of his carp cradle and the sun shining on the trees in the background, not to mention the huge carp he is holding. A half price 2018-19 membership is his for the taking. The 'non-carp' category winner is Julie Stuart with this magnificent Totham Pit pike, again a half-price membership is the prize. In terms of other fish the submissions have been low, please submit your big chub, bream, tench, roach, perch etc. pictures via the web site. It helps promote the club and of course it's not just about winning a half-price membership, it's really about showing off your angling and photographic prowess.

Concessionary Match Report

The last Tuesday in each month is when we end the day at the Duke of Wellington for our meal and a beer, always well attended. Our numbers have grown again with regular attendances in our matches at around the 20 mark and that is at all the venues. Away matches have also had good numbers attending.

The season started off well with good results from our own waters. A lot of work had been done at Slough West with swims being trimmed and bankside heavily strimmed. Fish stocks have been increased with quality roach and bream and our own carp. The matches that have been held there have been well attended with good catches of roach and carp but the bream have been a bit shy.

Slough House Farm has produced excellent catches; the best individual carp at 22lbs, best tench 7lbs and good numbers of skimmer bream around the 1lb mark, roach in good numbers and ide over the 2lb mark.

Bog Grove still produces quality carp, many into double figures plus roach, skimmers, gudgeon and specimen perch into the 3lb size bracket. There have been good tench from the margins and quality eels to 4lbs.

White House, a first for us for a while. With water levels the lowest for a very long while 20 fished with only a few carp being caught, weighed and released. The day was bright and calm which gave us a chance of some quality roach catches, the best fish of the day was a one pound fish plus some skimmers were showing.

Rook Hall still very weedy but most swims very fishable. One carp was caught around the 10 pound mark, weighed and released. The tench this year have been a bit on the small side, 1lb 8oz a good average, ide to 2lbs quite common, several bream to 8lbs and continuous roach and rudd.

London reservoir; had some good days with plenty of roach and perch some knocking 2lbs. Skimmers showing until the pike move in, bream to 6lbs and some good carp amongst the catches.

Little Parks has produced plenty of carp to double figures, bream to 8lbs also quality roach from the small lake many around the 12oz mark. Tench making themselves known 5lbs a good size.

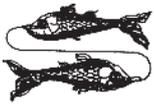
River matches started well this year at Papermill Lock with 6lbs a good winning weight. At the Tesco's stretch it was a case of good days and bad days. A lot of reeds pulled out by work parties and laid along the banks and parking not a problem.

It has been a very exciting day out for most of us and we are looking forward to next year.

Tight lines for the new year.

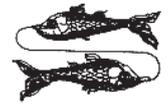
Keith Leverett

Concessionary Match Secretary



Maldon Angling Society

Membership renewal notification for the 2018-19 season



Your current 2017-18 membership expires on Saturday 31st March 2018. To renew your membership, and take full advantage of the all year round fishing that we offer, please use the renewal form overleaf. This will help us to retain the fishing rights on the 16 lakes and ponds and 14 miles of river that we currently lease on your behalf.

We have been able to keep our membership fees the same for next season as the cost of the additional portaloos at Totham Pit and the annual application of Siltex has been offset by the unforeseen loss of the fishing rights on Beckingham Hall.

We prefer to receive your payment by cheque made payable to Maldon Angling Society but you can pay your membership fees in cash at one of our agents. Alternatively you can carry out a bank transfer using the following details:

Sort code: 20-54-30

Account number: 30601632

Reference: Your name and membership number

Please write 'Paid by bank transfer' on your renewal form. Once the treasurer confirms receipt of your payment to the membership secretary your renewal will be processed. Unfortunately our agents cannot accept payment by credit card.

Night fishing permits - The number of night tickets issued will remain the same next season with 60 for Howells and 120 standard night permits. The standard night permit allows night fishing at:

Totham Pit all year round

Slough House Farm all year round

Little London all year round

Bog Grove between 1st Oct and 30th Apr

Standard night permits are sold on a first come first serve basis so please renew early to avoid disappointment.

At the time of writing there are 14 members on the waiting list for a Howells night permit and the membership secretary will contact members by email, text or telephone as places become available. All existing Howells night permit holders have been **reserved a place until the 1st April 2018.** Any remaining places will be advertised from this date and the availability of both night tickets will be updated regularly on the night permit page (the first tab) of our website. The Howells night permit costs £95 in addition to your subs and Howells night permit holders can night fish all other night fishing venues. To add your name to the Howells night permit waiting list please contact Jamie Smart or Paul Kyffin or email your name and membership number to webmaster@maldonas.co.uk.

New members will not be considered for a Howells night permit until they have been a member with a clean record for at least two consecutive seasons and have held a standard night permit during the previous season.

Due to the restricted number and eligibility of Howells night permits they will not be sold through our agents and all 60 of the individually numbered Howells night permits will be issued by the Membership Secretary. JP Tackle will hold a limited supply of standard night permits.

Members who have received a written warning or suspension / ban cannot apply for either night permit. Members who have received a verbal warning cannot apply for a Howells night permit.

The maximum length of a night session on Slough House Farm is 2 days / 1 night followed by a 24 hour break between 1st Apr and 31st Oct and 3 days / 2 nights followed by a 24 hour break between 1st Nov and 31st Mar. All other night venues are 4 days / 3 nights followed by a 24 hour break.

Please remember that members under the age of 16 cannot buy either night permit. These must be purchased on their behalf by a current adult night permit holder.

Both night permits allow you to use 3 rods between 1st October and 31st March on all venues but anyone who wants to use 3 rods in the winter and does not night fish can do so by purchasing a **3 rod winter upgrade for £30** (less than half the price of a night permit).

If you are an occasional night angler please remember that as a member you can still night fish at the Railway Pond in Heybridge (weed permitting) or the Chelmer and Blackwater Canal (16th June to 14 March only) at no extra charge.

Agents - If you prefer to rejoin in person you can do so at **JP Tackle** in Maldon or **Angling Essentials** in Witham.

Please remember that with the exception of the Railway Pond and the Chelmer & Blackwater Canal our fisheries are **members only** although you can take a guest with you on a guest ticket purchased in advance of fishing. These can be bought from tackle shops, from the membership secretary or from the club website using Paypal.

Merchandise - We have hoodies, beanie hats, polo shirts and baseball caps available featuring the society name / badge. Please contact Denise or Paul Kemp for availability and prices.

For more information visit www.maldonas.co.uk

