



Dear Member - Hopefully you have had an enjoyable Christmas and on behalf of everyone connected with the society may I wish you a very happy and prosperous New Year.

It goes without saying that 2020 has been extremely challenging for many and it looked at one stage that the society would not be immune to this. However, thanks to your generous and appreciated support through your 2020 membership, a reduction in some significant annual costs and success in receiving a grant, I am pleased to report the society has survived the pandemic to date and looks forward to the opportunities in 2021.

Subscriptions 2021



I am writing to advise you that subscriptions for 2021 are now due and you'll be pleased to note that there is no rise. We trust you still consider these prices extremely good value for money – with full membership less than £1 per week! Please study overleaf for the methods of payment available to you.

Type/Cost	Description
Full Member - £45	Between 16 – 65 years old
Senior – £30	Senior rate applies at 65 years + on 1 st January but ONLY after a 3 year qualifying period as a Full Member
Ladies – £16 (£8 with family discount)	Family discount – wives/partners of full members or Senior members receive the 50% reduction
Juniors (under 16) – FREE	Juniors are free but MUST still have a permit for insurance purposes. If renewing or introducing a junior member, please make this clear to ensure you receive a permit for that individual
Keys – £2.50	To enable access to all society waters
BACS admin fee – £1	If choosing to renew via BACS, and admin fee of £1 needs to be added to the transaction. See overleaf for more information

I must respectfully remind everyone of Society Rule 8 which states “Any member failing to pay by the 1st March may be expelled from membership at the discretion of the Committee. Only bona fide members, carrying a valid subscription receipt, are entitled to fish Society waters.....”.

Please avoid any unpleasantness by paying promptly.

NOTE:

Expect a delay in membership permits if incorrect remittance is sent.

Forms for new members can be found on the website www.stjohnsas.org.uk

PTO

Subscription Collecting Arrangements



Members have 3 methods to renew their subscriptions for 2021, but regrettably we will **not** be running the subscription collection evenings as a result of unknown future restrictions and for the safety of attendees to the pub we hold them at.

1) By Post

St Johns Angling Society, 1 Cowleys Way, Cherry Orchard, Pershore, WR10 1EY

Cheques should be made payable to "St Johns Angling Society".

Please enclose a self-addressed envelope for return. Please note: This is not a home address, therefore posting-by-hand is not possible.

2) Payment at Alan's Tackle Shop, St Johns

From **Monday 28 December**, renewals can once again be made at Alan's Tackle Shop on Malvern Road.

We are very grateful of their assistance so please show patience when renewing at the shop.

****Please bring along your previous year's permit****

3) Online – via BACS

Members can pay for their renewals via BACS, with the **addition of an admin fee of £1** (please note this is only required once, not per member if renewing multiple at the same time). This is to cover the additional postage and stationery that the society would not typically fund.

A follow up email should be sent to stjohnsas@outlook.com stating that payment has been made and outlining which members have been paid for and which address documentation needs to be sent to. Failure to provide clarity may result in a delay of receiving 2021's documentation.

BACS payment details:

Sortcode - 20-98-61

Account – 3076 9967

Reference – payee name.

Rule Revisions



Members are reminded that any suggestions/proposals for rule revisions should be presented to the secretary by email or post, by 1 February 2021 in order to be considered at the AGM.

Written proposals should be sent to St Johns Angling Society, 1 Cowleys Way, Cherry Orchard, Pershore, WR10 1EY.

Emails should be sent to stjohnsas@outlook.com

AGM 2021



As things stand under the tier 2 restrictions, we would be unable to hold a physical AGM. The committee will consider either holding a virtual AGM, or more likely, postpone the event until the summer where restrictions will hopefully have eased, or an outdoor version is more viable with the weather and light.

As soon as the conditions and restrictions allow, the committee will set a date and notify members through the usual invitation

correspondence. We hope you all understand this undesired change from normal protocol, but we are left with no other choice.



Parking Permit Holders



Together with members' usual permit and parking pass, you will also this year receive a complimentary adhesive permit holder to use on your windscreen to hold your parking pass.

It has been noted by bailiffs and the committee that a number of our members are not displaying their parking passes. This is the easiest way for bailiffs to understand that only our members are fishing our waters, so please utilise the gesture and give your parking pass a safe home.



Fish Stock and Condition



Following the reduction in rent expenditure negotiated last year and coming into effect this year, the committee were keen to reinvest the saving into the society. The two significant items considered were that of fish stock and maintenance.

Unfortunately, because of the pandemic and being unable to meet regularly, both these desires haven't been developed at the rate we would have hoped. However, we can assure members that they are very much at the top of the committee's agenda.

Over the last few months, the society has received comments from members and the committee that some of the condition of our fish stock is of great concern, particularly around their mouths. It should be remembered that many of our fish are well over 10 years old, so this opportunity to review the stock and condition is certainly due.

The committee will be researching into options and will look to take on advice from experts (such as the Angling Trust and the Institution of Fishery Management) to ensure the appropriate stock relating to species and quantity are suitable for our different waters. There is still an intention to keep our still waters as distinctive as possible, providing members will a fantastic variety of pools to fish.



Once the initial research is complete, proposals will be formulated, and we will be conducting consultation with members particularly if any differences to the status-quo are being considered. The downside of having four still water pools is that an investment in all of them will be costly, so it's likely to be over multiple years, but the plan will no doubt be formulated next year as soon as realistically possible.

Carrington Bridge



The society continues to be updated from the project contractors (Alun Griffiths) with significant updates that will impact on our members.

As done previously, these updates will be posted on our Facebook page and website if they can't be incorporated into a scheduled member correspondence.

River Maintenance



Another significant venture that has fallen victim to the pandemic is that of the maintenance improvement project for the River Teme. Members will note that in 2019 we invested heavily into the creation of improved pegs along the River Severn, with assistance from Alun Griffiths.

The reception to these pegs has been overwhelmingly positive and proved the catalyst for more improvements performed by our committee and some members. The result now is over 17 high quality pegs for our members.

Following on from the success, the plan for 2020 was to replicate the improvement works on the River Teme – the society's most favoured water according to our 2016 member survey. Members should note that the situation with the River Teme is complicated with it being a site of special scientific interest (SSSI). As such, various permissions are required from Natural England before any works can be performed. This will mean that the materials used are very unlikely to replicate those involved with the Severn pegs – instead, natural products or utilising the existing earth is likely to be a preferred method.

The committee will therefore have to formulate a plan as to the exact locations of the peg improvements, carefully choose the materials and construction methods before an application can be made.

Ideally, we'd like to have the work performed in readiness for the opening of the 2021 river season, but naturally, a lot of this pre-planning and implementation will heavily depend on the restrictions imposed through the pandemic.
