AN INTRODUCTION TO

THE WATERS OF

LYMM ANGLING CLUB

J PRESCOTT

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Appendices

This folder completes a reference to the waters not covered in the original publication.

These waters are as follows:

Water	**Plate**
Abbey Lake	AL
Crabmill Flash	CF
Manor Pool	MP
The Retreat	TR
River Dane	RD
River Dee	RDE
River Severn Atcham	RSA
River Wheelock	RW
Wincham Brook	WB

References…… Page 2

Acknowledgements…….. Page3

J. Prescott June 2007

ABBEY LAKE

Centuries ago the lake with an island was constructed by diverting a stream for the rearing of carp to feed the monks at the local abbey.

In recent years through a local heritage initiative along with heritage funding, transformed the site into a community recreation facility. However the problem of the slow silting up of the lake which has resulted in the island merging with the bank as a wet marshy link still needs to be addressed. A wide variety of wildlife including ducks, geese, swans and other wetland birds can be observed on the lake.

Information board

From an angling aspect there are fishing platforms around the lakeside. The water is stocked with roach, bream, crucian carp, tench and some pike.

Swans, ducks
And coots

AB

CRABMILL FLASH

Crabmill Flash is a recent acquisition (2007) to Lymm Angling Club's portfolio of fishing waters available to its members. The flash was formed due to land subsidence by the extraction of salt deposits as brine. The area around the flash is slightly saline making it an ideal habitat for a range of plants that can tolerate brackish conditions and because of this the area has been designated a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).

The effects of the undiagnosed carp disease that struck Cheshire waters in 2005.

The previous angling society that leased Crabmill Flash developed it into a specimen fish water that contains large carp, catfish, tench and bream.

In the area Watch End Flash Nature Reserve and other flashes including Crabmill support permanent breeding birds. In winter large numbers of wildfowl and wading birds use the flashes as feeding grounds.

30lb Catfish

(CF)

MANOR POOL

Manor Pool is situated on the edge of a pasture field in Thelwall Village. Horses from the nearby stables graze the pasture. Anglers going to the pool may find the horses ambling up to them expecting a titbit of food.

The pool itself is a typical farm pond, with trees dotted around its edges; one of the branches dips into the water, providing the perfect nesting site for a pair of moorhens.

The water is stocked with small carp and a few perch and it appears to be an ideal spot for junior members to fish.

(MP)

THE RETREAT

This pool was created by damming a small stream in a wooded narrow valley within the grounds of Savio House Bollington. A religious order uses the house as a residential retreat, hence the pool's name. Because of the nature of the site special efforts must be made to observe the tranquillity of the area.

Lymm Angling Club has stocked the water with roach, perch, bream, chub and barbel.

In the springtime the rooks in the nearby rookery ignore the request for peace and quiet, their cawing and squabbling can be heard when at the poolside. Ducks and moorhens can be seen on the water and a colony of Daubentons Bat has been identified on the site. The valley sides are covered with bluebells in May, along with rhododendrons in flower makes the pool an attractive setting to the angler.

Mallard duck with young

Bream

Roach

TR

RIVER DANE

The River Dane starts its journey from the lower Pennine Hills, twisting and turning through Cheshire's meadowland to reach the River Weaver at Northwich. Lymm Angling Club leases the fishing rights on two lengths of this river, one length at Daisybank Farm, Middlewich, the other upstream at Saltersford Farm, Holmes Chapel where the river flows under the Twemlow viaduct.

This narrow spate river, with overhanging willow trees, deep holes and fast runs provides excellent chub fishing and, in recent years has gained a reputation for its barbel fishing. Dace, roach, perch and gudgeon can also be caught along with trout and grayling.

Of the wildlife that can be seen along the riverbank one undesirable species is the wild mink; a vicious predator. Rodents, waterfowl and fish suffer as a consequence. During the summer months the meadows close to the river are alive with insects, especially the damsel fly (*Agrion splendens).*

Grayling

(RD)

RIVER DEE FARNDON/CHURTON

The fishery comprises of three single bank sections. The Churton length is downstream from the car park. This is a tree-lined section with a few holiday chalets along the bank and fishing is prohibited from the chalets riverside staging.

The upstream Farndon length is in two sections, bisected by two private dwellings. Access to the river is via the footpath that goes through the fish farm. These sections of the riverbank are more open with pastureland on both sides of the river.

The water holds both coarse and game fish. Species found include dace, chub, roach, bream, pike, the odd barbel as well as salmon, trout and grayling.

The gudgeon; one of the River Dee's smaller inhabitants.

RDF

RIVER SEVERN ATCHAM

The River Severn at Atcham flows through the National Trusts' Attingham Park Estate, as does the River Tern. Lymm Angling Club leases a section of the left bank and a short stretch of the River Tern just above its confluence with the River Severn.

Around Atcham the river is noted for its head of barbel which lie protected by the abundant streamer weed in the river. Specimen chub, pike, dace and roach are also present. Salmon and the rare sea trout pass through on the way to their spawning grounds.

Sea trout

Regarding wildlife, occasionally the otter may be sighted along the riverbank. Sometimes Muntjac deer emerging from the nearby woodland have been spotted.

Otter

(RSA)

RIVER WHEELOCK

This river appears to evolve from small drainage tributaries rising in the hilly areas around Alsager Cheshire. As it flows through the village of Wheelock it opens out into a small winding spate river, eventually merging with the River Dane at Middlewich.

Lymm A.C. controls a section of the River Wheelock that flows very close to their Crabmill Flash fishery. A travelling light, roving style of fishing is possibly a good way to fish this water. Some of the fish species the river contains are, dace, roach, chub and gudgeon.

Watch End Flash Nature Reserve being in the vicinity, encourages various types of duck and other wildfowl onto the river.

Dace

(RW)

WINCHAM BROOK

Wincham Brook, a small stream starting where Smoker Brook and Peover Eye merge at Lostock Gralem, discharges into the River Weaver at Northwich.

Lymm Angling Club has a stretch on Wincham Brook, set in woodland, at Lostock Gralem. The woodland in springtime has a pungent smell from the wild garlic growing in clumps along the banks of the brook. Summertime sees a change in the flora; the wild garlic gives way to large stands of Himalayan Balsam, which because of the tree canopy is drawn to well over 7ft in height.

Wild Garlic

A roving style of fishing best suits this small prolific brook which holds trout, grayling, chub, roach, perch and minnows.

Minnow

(WB)

References

1. Abbey Lakes heritage project details obtained from Up Holland Parish Councils local heritage initiative document.

2. Crabmill Flash background information researched from ‘The History of Wheelock Angling Society’ by Edward Howarth.

3. Crabmill Flash Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) information was obtained from Mr. P. Bennett Fisheries Officer Environmental Agency.

4. An Introduction to the Waters of Lymm Angling Club references page 6

Acknowledgements

I am grateful to Mr Corin Trivass for his suggestions in making my notes more readable for the general public.

My thanks go to the officials and members of Lymm Angling Club whose brains I have picked to glean information from them on the flora and fauna of the waters.