

### Find us

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When myself and my wife had an opportunity to buy a lodge on Billing Aquadrome in 2009 and especially one on a lake I jumped at the chance. I have always loved fishing at Billing and first fished here in 1970 and being an avid angler for over 50 years and having fished as a pleasure angler and at top competition level I felt that this was the time to pack up the competitions and concentrate on some real pleasure fishing and what could be better than walking out of your lodge and walking 15 paces and sitting down for an evening session of Tench and Carp fishing.

Having been on the park for over 8 years, the fishing and management of the waters, had in my opinion deteriorated and I did complain on a number of occasions to the Park management who must have seen that I was passionate about the fishing on Billing and in 2015, asked me along with George Harper to take on the running of the lakes and River Nene and it was a case of put up or shut up in my instance. However, this was going to be a tough ask as I was, and still am employed as a Health and Safety Advisor in the Construction industry and could only do evenings and week-ends, so I decided to ask for volunteers from other anglers who had holiday Homes here on Billing and who were just as passionate as I was about angling and especially here on Billing.

There was no shortage of volunteers and we soon gathered a number of people together and held a few meetings to decide the best plan of action to improve the situation from both the angling and environmental perspective.

Once we were all happy with the plan we set about organising netting and electro fishing on Kingfisher lakes to remove and relocate the excessive amount of predatory fish and carry out a programme of weed and bankside clearing, some of which involved organising outside specialist contractors to clear the massive lily pads and weed on several lakes, all of this had to be financed through the sales of day tickets and season permits and the peg fees and day tickets were collected by the volunteer bailiffs and as we were told that we could not be for profit set up, all of the monies taken have been and continue to be ploughed back into the management and running of the fisheries.

We have carried out a restocking of the Kingfisher lakes and have introduced 4,000 small Carp with the intention of farming these when they are much bigger and restocking other lakes on the fishery.

We have purchased specialist weed cutting tools, a boat and outboard to help with water management and a number of life preservers for the volunteer bailiffs when working waterside.

My overall objective is to bring Billing Aquadrome fisheries back to its former glory and to attract more anglers onto our waters and to give anglers a first class angling experience and although this will not happen overnight I like to think that with the continuing support of the volunteers and Billing Management we can turn the fishery around and make it once more, a Premier fishery in the UK.